



The Global Health Security Agenda: AFENET's Contribution

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Presentation Outline

- Overview of the GHSA
- AFENET's contribution to the GHSA action packages
- Conclusion

The Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA)

- Is a global effort launched in 2014 to strengthen the world's ability to prevent, detect, and respond to infectious disease threats
- A group of more than 70 countries, international organizations and private sector that have committed to working together to ensure a world safe and secure from infectious disease threats

GHSA Action Packages : 9

- Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR);
 - Biosafety & Biosecurity;
 - Immunization;
 - Laboratory Systems;
 - Legal Preparedness;
 - Surveillance;
 - Sustainable financing for preparedness;
 - Workforce Development;
 - Zoonotic Diseases
- They facilitate regional & global collaborations towards GHSA in line with IHR (2005)

AFENET's contribution to GHSA

- Workforce Development
- Immunization
- Biosafety & Biosecurity
- Laboratory Systems
- Surveillance

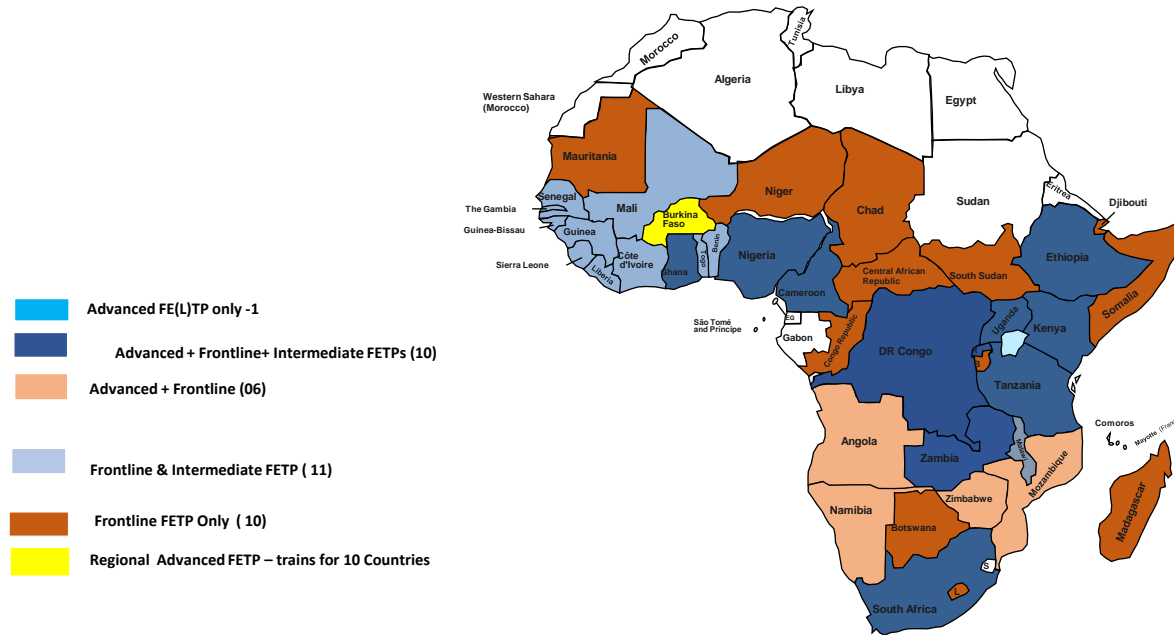
Workforce Development (1)

- FETP = Field Epidemiology Training Program
 - Competency-based, mentored workforce development training programs
 - improve field epidemiology knowledge, skills of public Health workers
 - Improve Country's epidemiologic capacity to prevent, detect and respond to public health threats
 - Key Competencies
 - Public Health Surveillance
 - Field Investigation
 - Planned epidemiological studies
 - Scientific writing and communications
 - All the above directly contribute to global health security through strengthening national, regional and international public health systems

Workforce Development (2)

- Target: one trained field epidemiologist per 200,000 population, and one trained veterinarian per 400,000 animal units (or per 500,000 population)
- seeks to develop prevention, detection, and response activities conducted effectively and sustainably by a fully competent, coordinated, evaluated, and occupationally-diverse multisectoral workforce.

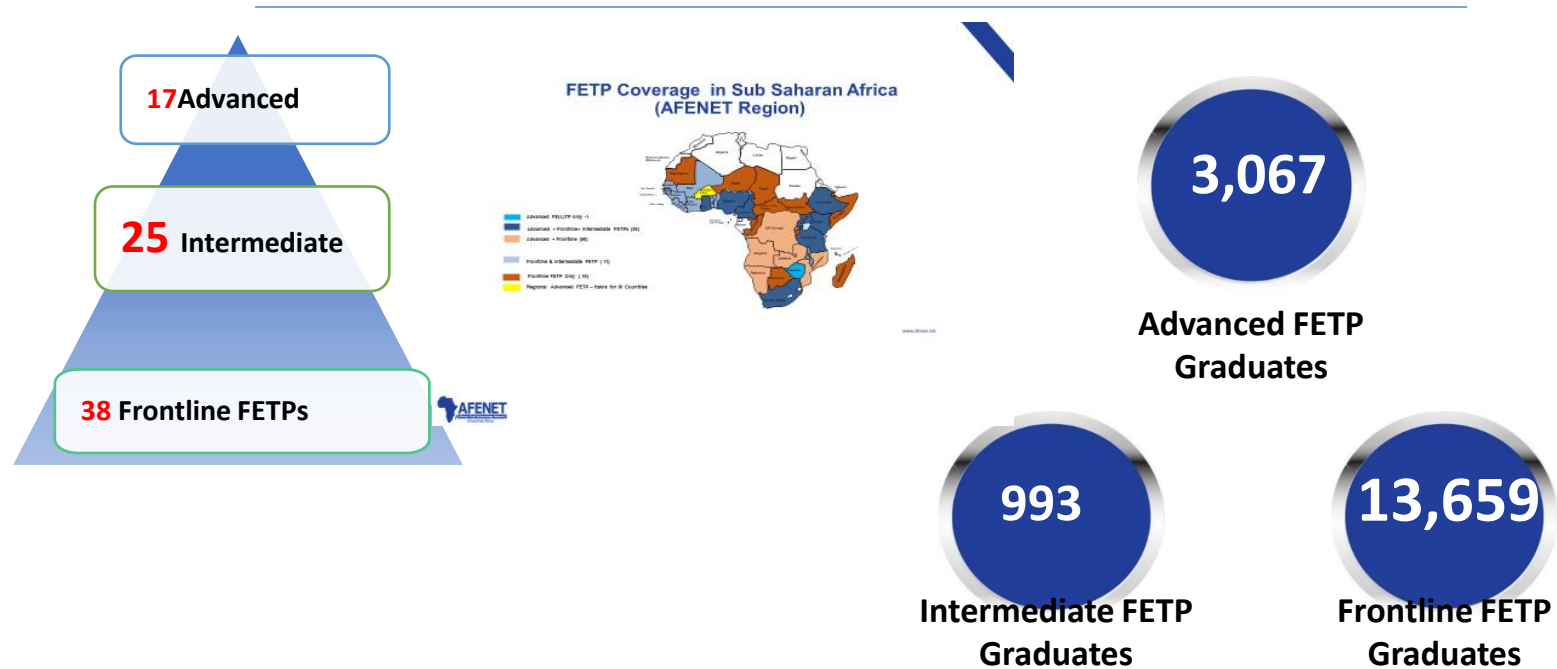
AFENET & FETP Coverage in Sub Saharan Africa



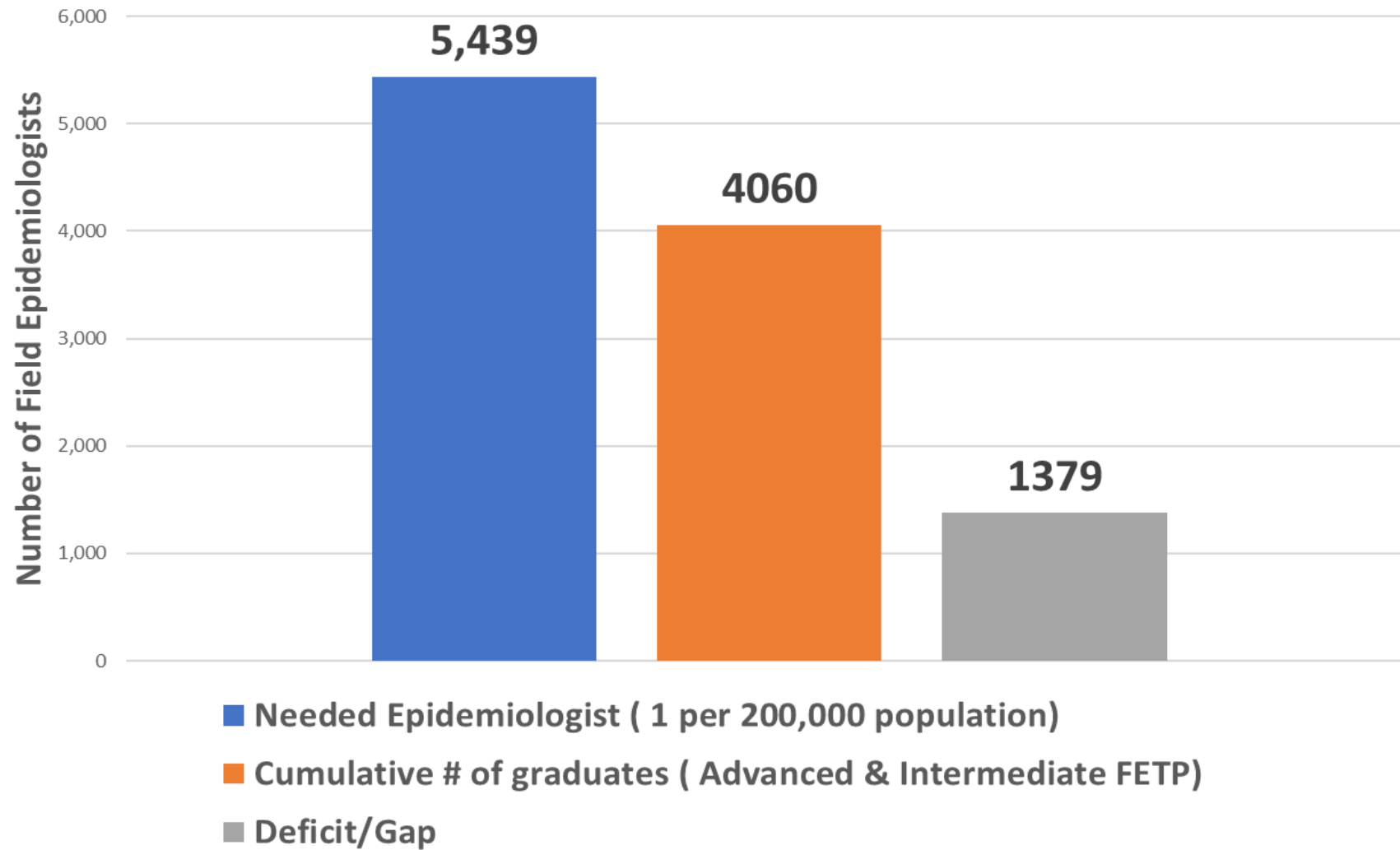
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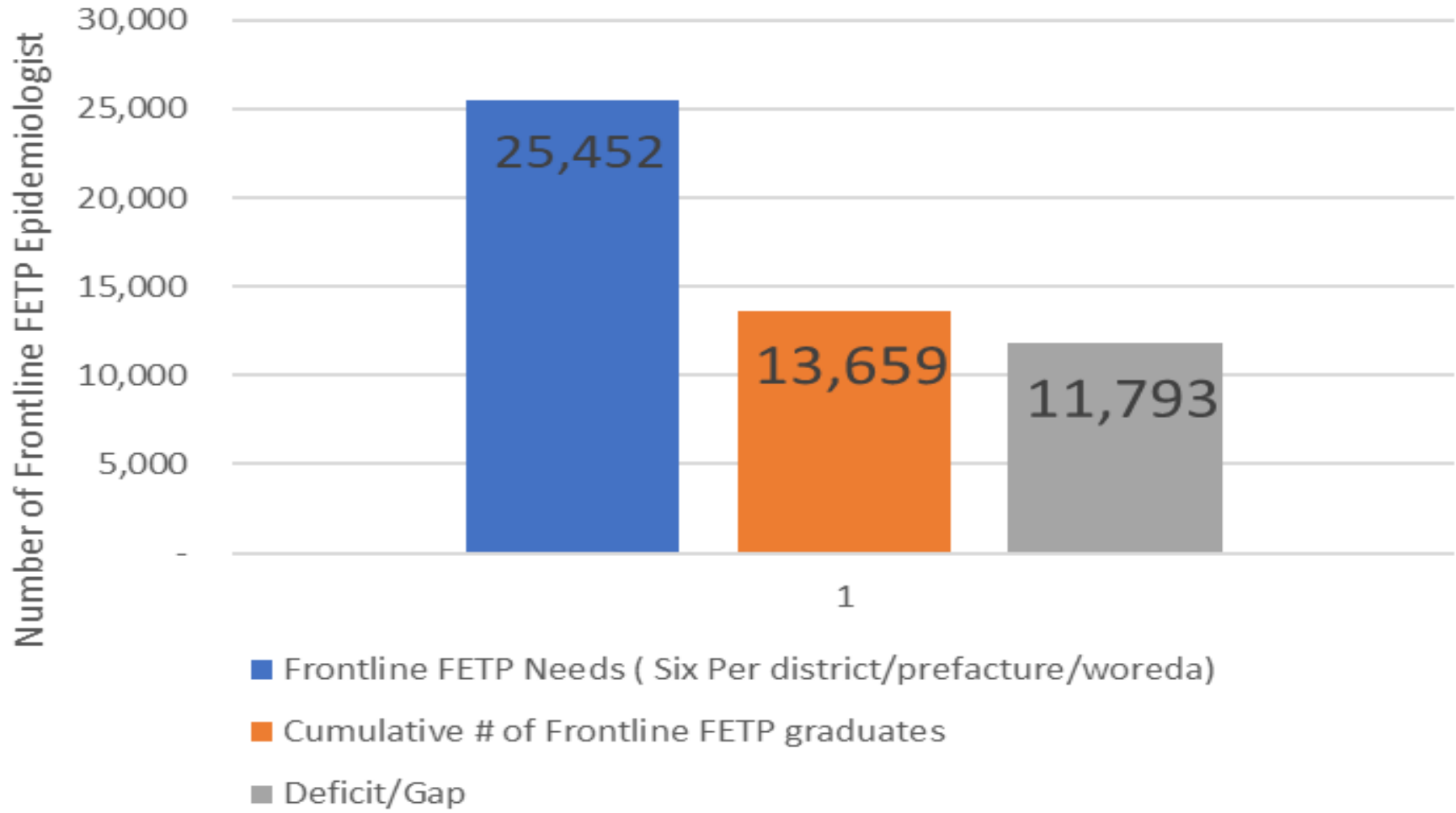
Field Epidemiology Capacity Development



Field Epidemiologists needed per 200,000 Population, Current graduates and Gaps in Sub Saharan Africa, June 2024



Frontline FETP Needs, Cumulative number of graduates & Gaps in Sub Sahara Africa, June 2024



AFENET Corp of Disease Detectives (ACoDD)



- Established in 2018
- Is a civil voluntary professional service of culturally competent field epidemiologists
- Built on the One Health Approach
- Membership- Graduates and Residents of FE(L)TPs in Africa
 - Advanced FETP
 - Intermediate FETP
 - Frontline FETP

FETPs and Response

6th EVD outbreak in Uganda, 2019



10th EVD Outbreak in DRC, 2018/20



Cholera outbreak in Zimbabwe, 2018



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Immunization (1)

- Polio-Eradication and immunization strengthening system in Africa
 - capacity building in the African region with a focus
 - on polio eradication
 - routine immunization strengthening
 - new vaccine introduction
 - strengthening of disease surveillance
- Over 100 projects in 20 countries in Africa
- Implemented with the financial and technical support from the US CDC

Immunization (2)

1. NSTOP Nigeria
2. NSTOP Uganda
3. GHSA Uganda
4. Polio Outbreak Response- Somalia and Madagascar
5. NSTOP South Sudan
6. Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS)- Kenya
7. Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS)- Homabay Kenya
8. Data Improvement Teams - Uganda
9. The Zambia Civil Registry and Vital Statistics & Immunization Project
10. Strengthening Technical Assistance for Routine Immunization Training (START) – Kenya
11. DRC
12. STOP
13. Data Quality project, South Sudan, Kenya

Biosafety & Biosecurity

- Trained 100 health care staff in Botswana
- Equipment maintenance and servicing (biosafety cabinets) for Uganda, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania
- Procured equipment maintenance tool kits for Tanzania

Laboratory (1)

- Supported the implementation of quality management systems for public health laboratories
 - Over 45 labs attained international accreditation
 - Developed National lab strategic plans for 10 Caribbean region countries
 - Supported over 30 labs to attain different star ratings using the SLIPTA checklist
 - Implementation of EQA schemes using DTS panels and Digital PT panels from One World Accuracy

Laboratory (2)

- Laboratory information management systems
 - Development of an electronic equipment maintenance tracking tool for laboratory diagnostic equipment. (Nigeria)
 - In Jamaica, the project is supporting scaling up of the SENAITE LIS platform and linking it to all the laboratories in Jamaica. This is being carried out in partnership with Caribbean region CDC office, Ministry of Health Jamaica and CARPHA
 - COVID 19 dashboard development In Dominican Republic

Laboratory (3)

- Response to COVID 19 pandemic (Horn of Africa(Somalia, Djibouti, Eritrea), Dominican Republic, Angola, Caribbean Region. South Africa)
 - Supported procurement and distribution of COVID 19 diagnostics kits
 - Implemented Quality Assurance for COVID 19 diagnostics
 - Developed guidance documents and training materials for COVID 19 (Recently Africa CDC,AFENET, ASLM, CHAI launched training materials for COVID 19 Rapid Antigen Diagnostic kits)

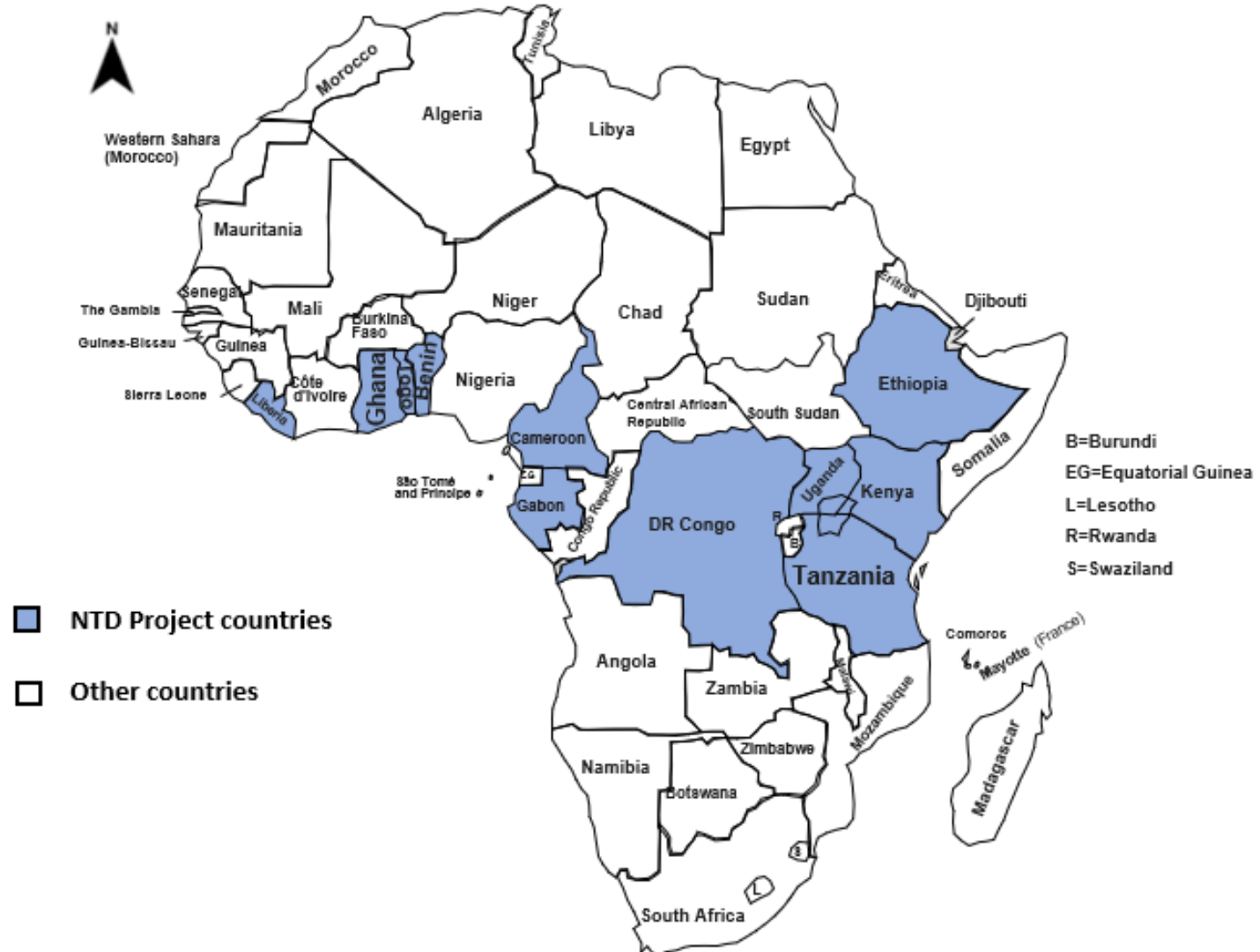
Laboratory 3

- Prequalification of diagnostics
 - Supporting evaluation of test kits in selected countries
 - Field validation of multiplex assay in Nigeria and Cameroon
 - Supported Acute Febrile Illness study.

Surveillance (1)

- Operational research projects to support the control and elimination of onchocerciasis and LF were conducted in this period:
 - Comparison of PCR Methods for *Onchocerca volvulus* Detection in Skin Snip Biopsies, DRC
 - Evaluation of Onchocerciasis Transmission in Tanzania, 2015
 - Characterizing Reactivity to *O. volvulus* Antigens in Multiplex Bead Assays, Uganda and Ethiopia
 - Detection of *Onchocerca volvulus* in Skin Snips by Microscopy and Real-Time Polymerase Chain Reaction, Cameroon

NTD Surveillance and Operational Research in 11 countries



Surveillance 2

- Operational research projects to support the control and elimination of onchocerciasis and LF were conducted in this period:
 - Comparison of PCR Methods for *Onchocerca volvulus* Detection in Skin Snip Biopsies, DRC
 - Evaluation of Onchocerciasis Transmission in Tanzania, 2015
 - Characterizing Reactivity to *O. volvulus* Antigens in Multiplex Bead Assays, Uganda and Ethiopia
 - Detection of *Onchocerca volvulus* in Skin Snips by Microscopy and Real-Time Polymerase Chain Reaction, Cameroon

Conclusion

- AFENET has made huge contribution to the Global health security agenda
- There is still a need to train field epidemiologists in the continent
- AFENET is open to collaborate with partners in the following areas:
 1. Workforce development
 2. Epidemic preparedness and response
 3. Public health informatics
 4. Strengthening the global control to climate change ...etc

THANK YOU

