

Integrated Program to Control and Eradicate FMD

Strategic Activity	Key Actions / Details	Progress Achieved	Next Steps	Responsible	Timeframe
Emergency FMD Control and Containment					
Mass Vaccination Programme (Risk Based National Vaccination Strategy)	Implement national vaccination campaign targeting 910 000 livestock, vaccinating 58 000 animals per week using 16–20 teams	- Vaccination strategy developed. - 120 000 vaccine doses secured from BVI thus far, and vaccination campaigns initiated	- Secure remaining 790 000 doses and fully deploy vaccination teams across infected and buffer zones	PS / DVLS	April – July 2026
	Vaccine Procurement through BVI and alternative suppliers	- 120 000 doses delivered and 80 000 more doses expected to arrive in March 2026.	- Initiate discussions with Argentina (PANVAC certified, WOAHI compliant) and Saudi Arabia - Indicate an intention with South Africa for procurement of vaccines from Onderstepoort Biological Products (OBP) or other South African approved imported vaccines, should supply from BVI become insufficient.	PS / DVLS	March – April 2026

			- Collaborate with South African agencies in overseas bulk orders (if possible) in the event there is a shortage from BVI		
	Vaccination Team Formation	- II teams currently operational	- Recruit 7 additional teams to reach operational requirement	DVLS	Mar-26
	Camping Facilities for Vaccination Teams	- Currently using Mpisi VFTC, Manyonyaneni, Gesawu, Nhlangano FTC	- Additional facilities identified including CODEC, Caritas, Mphophoma, Tjaneni Country Club, Simunye Country Club, Magadzavane Lodge	PS / DVLS	Mar-26
	Food Provision for Teams	- Groceries are supplied for Mpisi, Manyonyaneni and Nhlangano teams. Gesawu provides meals and accommodation	- Expand food provision as vaccination teams increase	NDMA / PS	March – July 2026
	Vaccination Supplies and Equipment	- Procurement requirements identified	- Vaccination supplies not yet delivered (see LI procurement list)	NDMA	March – July 2026
	Transport for Vaccination Teams	- 24 vehicles available (double cabs, SUVs, sedans, kombis)	- 16 additional vehicles required for full deployment	NDMA	March 2026

	PPE and Biosecurity Equipment	- PPE requirements quantified	- Procurement required: 522 protective suits, 402 gumboots, 201 safety shoes, 201 raincoats, 201 jackets, 201 hats, 240 leather gloves	NDMA	Mar-26
Movement Control and Biosecurity Enforcement	Quarantine of Dip Tanks within 10 km radius of outbreak areas	- Implementation initiated	- Continuing enforcement and monitoring of quarantined dip tanks	DVLS	March – July 2026
	Establishment of Full Checkpoints	- Operational at Sganganyaneni–Buhleni, Lozimvu–Buhleni, Tempest–Nhlangano, Ngwane–Nhlangano, Magalonini, Mahhoshe, Mashayekhatsi, Jerusalem–Mbulungwane, Sandleni–Mbulungwane, Gum Tree–Manzini and Nhlangeni–Manzini	- Maintain enforcement and expand as necessary	NDMA / DVLS	March – July 2026
	Mini Checkpoints	- Operational at Tjendlovu, Mbelebeleni and Lwandle/Mathayini–Manzini	- Additional checkpoints required at Herefords–Buhleni, Mdvonsa–Ndzingeni and Holneck–Mahamba	NDMA / DVLS	March – July 2026

	Checkpoint Operational Logistics	- Limited personnel, transport and food support available	- Recruit additional personnel, provide food and secure 7 additional transport units	NDMA / DVLS	Mar-26
Rehabilitation of Sanitary Cordon Fences	Repair and strengthen veterinary cordon fences	- 7 km rehabilitated at Mkhwakhweni and 19 km rehabilitated at Sitsatsaweni (outer cordon)	- Remaining 600 km outer fence and 171 km inner fence (veldspan) to be rehabilitated.	DVLS / NDMA	March 2026 – March 2027
	Microprojects – Fence Rehabilitation	- Rehabilitation of Sitsatsaweni– Mhlumeni cordon fence underway.	- Engagement is required to supervise remaining sections of cordon fence.	DVLS / NDMA	March 2026 – March 2027
Disease Surveillance and Monitoring	Fortnightly or weekly submission of temporal and spacial analysis maps and trends for FMD situation in the country i.e. infected, buffer, surveillance and free zones Monthly submission of FMD socio-economic analysis and impact in the country	- Passive surveillance nationally and active risk-based surveillance ongoing	- Continue monitoring and strengthen reporting systems	DVLS	March – July 2026

Veterinary Systems and Biosecurity Strengthening					
Capacity Building – Diagnostics and Laboratory Systems	Diagnostics and Laboratory Systems Strengthen diagnostic and laboratory capacity for Foot and Mouth Disease detection and confirmation.	- CVL is currently operational and conducting screening diagnostics.	- Short term: Ensure the Central Veterinary Laboratory (CVL) is adequately financed, resourced, capacitated and equipped to conduct all required screening tests and rapidly submit samples to internationally approved reference laboratories for confirmation.	DVLS / PS	March – July 2026
	Develop and document national guidelines on the windows of susceptibility and safety for FMD infected, vaccinated, disease free and dead animals, as well as animal products, in line with WOAHI standards, to guide farmers, traders and regulatory authorities.	- Technical guidance is partially available through existing veterinary protocols. -	- Mid to long term: Upgrade CVL to perform both screening and confirmatory diagnostic tests and obtain international laboratory approval. - Develop comprehensive national guidelines and disseminate them to farmers, veterinary officers, traders and relevant institutions. -		

Disease Zoning and Compartmentalization	Establish national guidelines and frameworks for disease compartments and zones in accordance with WOA H standards.	- Zoning concept recognized under FMD control framework and WOA H standards.	- Develop and implement national compartmentalization and zoning guidelines.	DVLS	2026 – 2027
Quarantine Infrastructure	Rehabilitate and operationalize national and regional livestock quarantine centres and stations.	- Existing facilities identified but underutilized.	- Upgrade infrastructure and operational capacity of quarantine centres.	DVLS	July 2026 – December 2027
Dip Tank Strengthening	Strengthen dip tank areas as centres for disease control, livestock businesses, training and community empowerment.	- Existing dip tank infrastructure operational.	- Improve management systems and expand dip tank services.	DVLS	2026 – 2028
Awareness and Sensitization	Community awareness programmes on FMD transmission and biosecurity	- Community sensitization campaigns ongoing	- Continue nationwide outreach and farmer engagement	DVLS	March – July 2026

Regulatory and Policy Reform					
Legislative Reform for FMD Control	Update FMD legislation including penalties and enforcement measures such as Stamping out, Modified stamping out, Vaccination etc and penalties in line with current measures and offences.	- Legislative review required	- Align legislation with WOAHP FMD control standards	Ministry of Agriculture	April 2026
Livestock Policy Reform	Review and update the Livestock Development Policy (1991) to respond to current livestock sector challenges and FMD emergency.	- Policy review recognized as necessary.	- Initiate policy review process and stakeholder consultations.	Ministry of Agriculture	July 2026 – June 2027
Regional Cooperation and Diplomatic Engagement	Trilateral communication with neighbouring countries through Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Agriculture	- Eswatini's Ministry of Agriculture has requested the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to engage with South Africa regarding the maintenance of the frontier fence lines.	- Awaiting formal response and feedback from Ministry of Foreign Affairs	PS	March 2026

Regional Technical (Veterinary) Cooperation and Engagement	Communication and engagements with neighbouring countries through the Department of Veterinary and Livestock Services	- Eswatini's Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Veterinary and Livestock Services) to engage with their counterparts from neighbouring countries regarding collaborative efforts in controlling and eradicating FMD.	- Formal engagements response and feedback	DVLS	March 2026
Livestock Identification Systems	Amend the Livestock Identification Act to introduce phased electronic tagging (E-tagging) and digital livestock movement permits.	- Initial discussions underway.	- Draft legislative amendments and develop digital livestock identification system.	Ministry of Agriculture / DVLS	January 2027 – December 2028
Livestock Movement Permit System	Update the livestock movement permit system to facilitate trade within infected, vaccinated, non-vaccinated, buffer, surveillance and free zones.	- Current permit system operational.	- Develop revised permit framework aligned with disease zoning and WOAHI guidelines.	DVLS	August 2026 – June 2027
Livestock Import Regulations	Review and update livestock import permits in line with national biosecurity and trade requirements.	- Existing import permit system in place.	- Update regulatory framework and strengthen inspection procedures.	DVLS / Ministry of Agriculture	August 2026 – June 2027

Trade Recovery and Market Systems					
Livestock Trade Recovery	Facilitate transition to normal livestock trade	- Strategy under development	- Develop trade recovery framework aligned with disease control measures	Ministry of Agriculture	April 2026
Trade Recovery and Market Access	Consider establishment of private quarantine facilities with strict registration, monitoring and supervision by veterinary authorities.	- Concept proposed.	- Develop regulatory framework for private quarantine facilities.	DVLS	June 2026 – December 2028
	Facilitate transition to normal livestock and livestock product trade following disease control.	- Strategy under development.	- Develop phased trade recovery framework aligned with disease status.	Ministry of Agriculture	January 2027 – December 2028
	Revise permits for the importation of animal products in line with national demand and disease status to promote trade facilitation consistent with international standards.	- Existing system operational.	- Update import permit guidelines and strengthen sanitary controls.	DVLS	August 2026 – June 2027
	Support local traders of livestock and livestock products to meet requirements of importing countries.	- Initial engagement with traders.	- Provide technical support and certification systems for export compliance.	Ministry of Agriculture / DVLS	January 2027 – December 2028
Harness technology in Livestock Management e.g. Livestock Tracking	Harness modern technology to improve livestock production and disease management, including livestock	- Conceptual framework exists through existing livestock development and	- Develop and implement a national livestock technology adoption programme; introduce livestock	Ministry of Agriculture / DVLS	July 2026 – December 2028

	tracking systems, pregnancy diagnosis technologies, improved breed selection, feed and fodder flow planning (nutrition management), improved feeding systems and herd health management programmes.	veterinary programmes.	tracking systems, strengthen health monitoring, and train farmers and extension officers on the use of modern livestock management technologies.		
Livestock Production and Sector Development					
Livestock Development programme	Increase national herd through ELVIS and Artificial Insemination programmes	Programmes currently operational	Expand herd rebuilding initiatives nationwide	DVLS	Ongoing
Institutional Realignment of Livestock Sector Parastatals	Review and realign livestock sector parastatals to strengthen coordination in production, marketing, distribution, food safety, food sovereignty, trade promotion (import and export), poverty alleviation, job creation, economic development, reduction of rural–urban migration, import substitution, research and effective service delivery in the livestock sector.	Initial recognition of need for institutional alignment within the livestock sector.	Conduct institutional review of existing livestock parastatals; develop restructuring framework to improve coordination, service delivery, and execution of livestock development programmes.	Ministry of Agriculture	January 2027 – December 2028

Veterinary Medicines Production and Supply	Establish national capacity to produce approved veterinary and medicinal products.	Concept proposed.	Medium term: partner with an approved international or regional establishment to source and produce veterinary medicines. Identify strategic partners and develop investment framework for veterinary medicine production facility. Long term: establish a national facility to produce approved veterinary and medicinal products.	Ministry of Agriculture / DVLS	January 2027 – December 2028
Structural realignment and strengthening of the Department (DVLS) to align with FMD control strategy	Realignment of operational structure of DVLS to align with FMD control strategy for efficiency and effective service delivery.	Need identified. Concept to be develop.	Engagements with relevant departments and ministries	PS	May 2026
Professional Capacity Building	Continuous professional development programmes for veterinarians, para-veterinarians and extension officers.	Existing training programmes implemented periodically.	Expand training programmes and strengthen technical capacity across veterinary services.	DVLS	May 2026
Farmer Capacity Development	Continuous farmer training programmes on livestock production, disease control and biosecurity practices.	Farmer training programmes ongoing.	Expand training coverage nationwide.	DVLS / Extension Services	May 2026

Herd Health and Production Services	Strengthening herd health and production services to reduce mortalities in Government farms, TDL and SNL (ENL).	Veterinary services currently provide herd health support.	Expand herd health programmes and improve veterinary service coverage.	DVLS	May 2026
National Livestock Restocking Programme	Increase national herd through ELVIS and Artificial Insemination (including sexed semen) programmes.	Existing breeding programmes operational.	Scale up national restocking initiatives and breeding programmes.	DVLS	July 2026 – December 2028
	Strategic livestock imports for breeding purposes, immediate slaughter, and embryo transfer programmes.	Import frameworks exist.	Identify strategic livestock sources and expand breeding centres.	DVLS	July 2026 – December 2028
Government Supported Livestock Sales	Introduce government subsidized imported livestock sales to promote compliance with FMD control measures.	Concept proposed.	Develop subsidy framework and implement guidelines.	Ministry of Agriculture / DVLS	July 2026 – December 2028
Farmer Organizations and Cooperatives	Promote farmer groups such as associations, cooperatives and companies to improve service delivery and training access.	Some farmer organizations already exist.	Facilitate formation and strengthening of livestock farmer groups.	DVLS / Ministry of Agriculture	July 2026 – December 2028
Livestock Import Source Development	Department of Veterinary and Livestock Services to identify, assess and approve	Preliminary import sources known.	Conduct international scouting and establish approved import supplier list.	DVLS	July 2026 – December 2028

	strategic livestock import sources.				
Livestock Value Chain Infrastructure Development	Establishment of mobile abattoirs and mobile cold room facilities to improve slaughter access, maintain meat quality, and support livestock marketing in remote areas.	Concept proposed as part of livestock sector development initiatives.	Conduct feasibility assessment; identify strategic locations; mobilize public and private sector investment for mobile abattoirs and cold storage facilities.	Ministry of Agriculture / DVLS / Private Sector	June 2026 – December 2026
	Deployment of refrigerated trucks through public and private sector partnerships to support transportation of meat and livestock products under proper cold chain conditions.	Initial concept identified under livestock value chain strengthening.	Develop public–private partnership framework and mobilize investment for refrigerated transport systems.	Ministry of Agriculture / Private Sector	January 2026 – December 2026
Strengthening Livestock Value Chain coordination	Establish a coordinated livestock value chain network to strengthen industry activities and ensure regulation and support.	Initial concept identified under livestock value chain coordination.	Develop industry (public–private) partnership frameworks and mobilize investments into the livestock value chain.	DVLS	January 2026 – December 2026