Cysticercosis Working Group in Eastern and Southern Africa (CWGESA)

Increasing Awareness and Addressing the Cysticercosis Problem

Description

The CWGESA is a forum for multidisciplinary scientists, government authorities, health and veterinary officials, community leaders, and other international delegates who recognize the agricultural and potential public health impact of cysticercosis (caused by *Taenia solium*), its regional nature, and the scarcity of resources for investigating and combating the problem. The group convenes researchers at a General Assembly every two years and provides guidance in adopting a regional approach to address the *T. solium* cysticercosis problem in Eastern and Southern Africa, in particular focusing on translating research information into intervention research for control.

Purpose

The overall objective of CWGESA is to increase awareness and improve human health and well-being, pig production, the domestic food supply, and export opportunities for pork in Eastern and Southern Africa and elsewhere by developing and implementing an appropriate and sustainable surveillance, prevention and control program for cysticercosis.

Scope

Regional – Eastern and Southern Africa.

Primary Funders

Principle sources of funding include membership fees, annual subscriptions, grants, donations and other contributions; the most recent General Assembly was financially supported by the DBL-Centre for Health Research and Development (DBL, formerly the Danish Bilharziasis Laboratory) and the Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines (GALVmed).

Participants & Key Collaborators

The working group is composed of members from universities and research institutes throughout the region; the World Health Organization (WHO)/Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Collaborating Centre for Parasitic Zoonoses in Denmark is also a key collaborator.

Definition of One Health

None

Monitoring & Evaluation Strategy

CWGESA has adopted a Regional Action Plan that describes actions to be taken at the country level (in the areas of epidemiology and impact, diagnostics, and prevention and control) as well as support functions of the international working group. A country reporting format has also been developed that reflects core elements for evaluation and monitoring (e.g., current activities, achievements, and future plans).

Sources of Information

CWGESA Website: http://www.cwgesa.dk/

Contact

CWGESA
Tel: 255-23-260-4617
cwgesa@yahoo.com

Helena Ngowi
Secretary/Treasurer
hngowi@suanet.ac.tz