

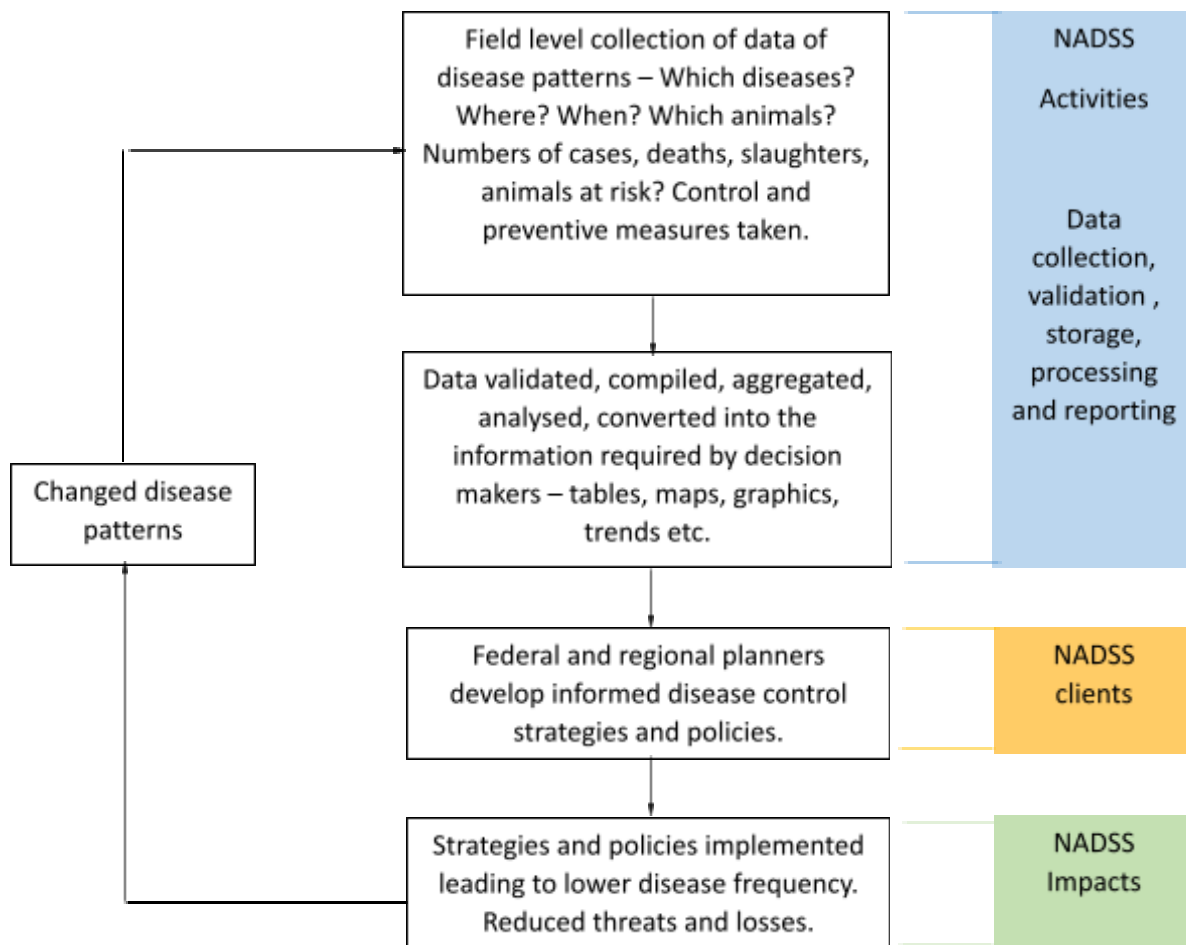
THE NEW ETHIOPIAN NATIONAL ANIMAL DISEASE SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM (NADSS)

PURPOSE AND STRUCTURE

The purpose of a national animal disease surveillance system is to provide the information required by decision makers to formulate risk-based and cost-effective disease control strategies and to monitor the impacts of these strategies.

NADSS will provide this information to regional and federal planners who are the clients of the system.

Figure showing the activities, clients and impacts of NADSS



Thus NADSS produces information for use by regional and federal level decision makers. These clients determine priorities for NADSS – what information the system should produce for which diseases and in which livestock populations.

NADSS COMPONENTS

The new NADSS comprises:

- A custom-built and web-based computerized data management system called Dovar 2. Users at different levels have defined privileges. Specified users at the federal and regional levels can access all components of the system and generate information, maps, charts, tables etc for use by federal and regional decision makers. Wereda level users will be restricted to data entry.
- A mobile-phone-based disease notification and investigation system, called ADNIS. This is being piloted in 60 weredas.

ORGANISATION AND INDEPENDENCE

It is important to differentiate (i) the technical work of NADSS which will be carried out by the Veterinary Laboratory Service and (ii) the clients who will use NADSS output. An objective and independent approach must be taken towards NADSS and disease control. For this purpose it is best that the organization responsible for the implementation of NADSS is completely separate from that which uses NADSS output. Hence the organization of the new NADSS responds to this need as follows:

- At the regional level the client, the Regional Agricultural Bureau and the Livestock Agency, is separate from the regional veterinary laboratory (ies).
- At the federal level the client, the Veterinary Services Directorate is separate from the National Animal Health Diagnostic and Investigation Centre regional veterinary laboratory (ies).

DECENTRALISATION

NADSS will be decentralized and the regional veterinary laboratories will serve as surveillance hubs, each responsible for surveillance activities and performance in an average of 60 weredas. This will be far more efficient and effective compared with the former system in which there was only one surveillance hub – at the federal level – from which it was difficult to supervise surveillance activities in >800 weredas.

The new system will enable each region to tailor NADSS to address its disease control priorities – as long as this does not compromise federal priorities.