

# Avian Influenza in the Netherlands:

Lessons, Measures and Strategy

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# Lessons learned outbreak 2003

- H7N7 HPAI infection from wild waterfowl
- Late detection, wide spread of disease
- 30 million birds destroyed (1/3 commercial stock and backyard birds)
- Vaccination trial: reaction varied in species

# Destruction of 30 M poultry



# Research on human infections (RIVM Institute)

- 600 people tested (front-line workers, farmers)
- 89 virological positive (PCR test)
- 50% serological positive, incl. relatives
- most people positive without symptoms
- some people light symptoms: conjunctivitis
- one veterinarian died

# Measures taken now (1)

- Early warning awareness campaign
- Increased monitoring wild birds & poultry
- Indoor housing commercial & backyard flocks
- Bio safety campaign
- Import ban for affected area's / wild birds
- Information to international travellers

# Monitoring animal health



# Measures taken now (2)

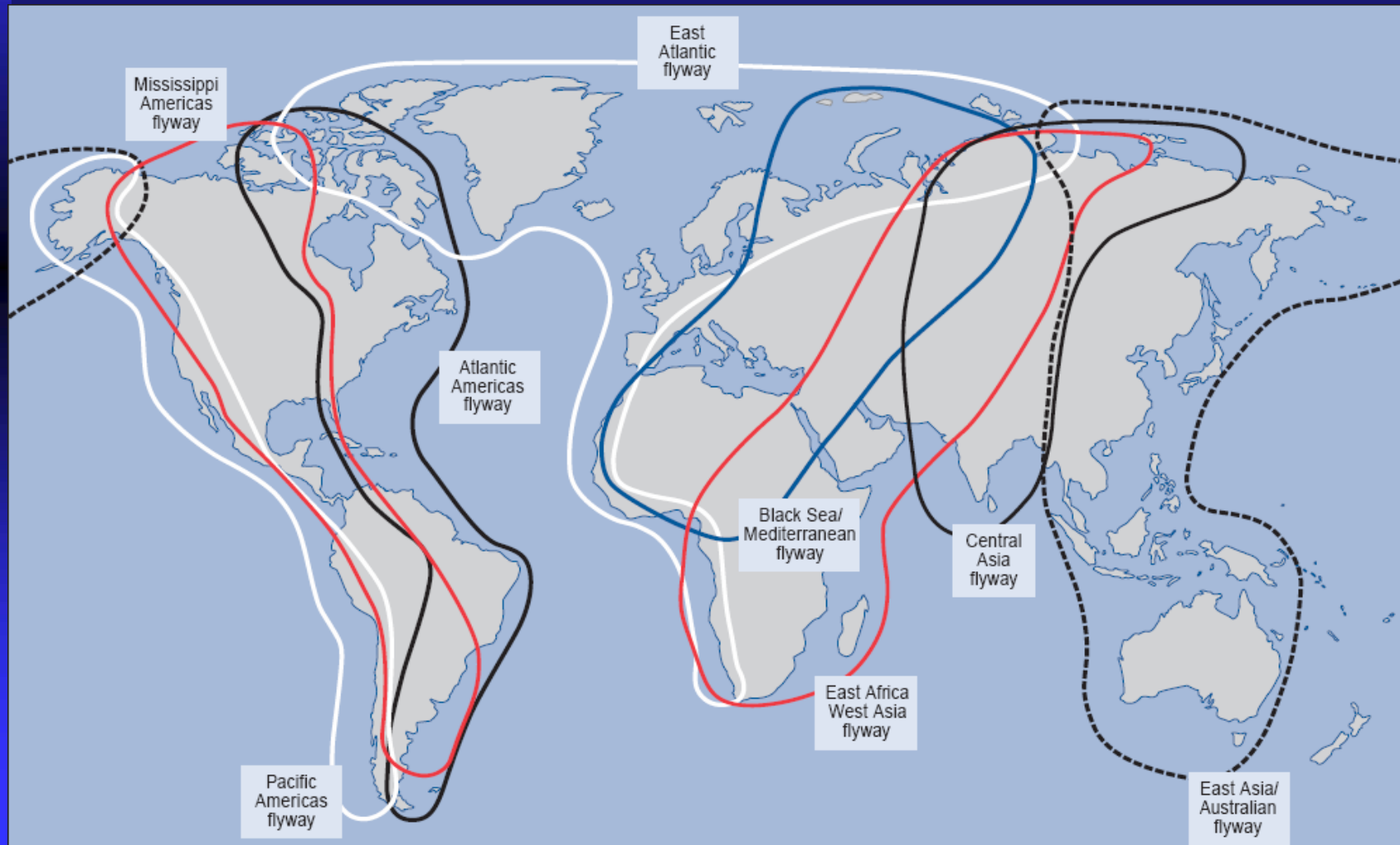
- National/regional contingency plans
- Stock of Tamiflu
- Contract with vaccine suppliers
  
- Support to develop FAO/ OIE/ WHO global strategy for HPAI control
  
- Technical assistance project for the Control of Avian Influenza in Indonesia
  
- Advisory missions to infected countries

# Strategy (1) Fight the sources

- Early warning systems
- Detection and diagnostics
- Quality national veterinary /medical services
- Bio safety measures
- Structure poultry rearing

# Strategy (2)

- Increased monitoring worldwide of wild birds, share information (Library)



# Strategy (3) Vaccines

- Flexible response to moving target
- Identification of viruses (monitoring birds)
- Development of veterinary & human vaccines, pre-competition phase
- Field trials
- Commercial production

# Strategy(4) Intern. cooperation

- FAO/ OIE/ WHO Global Strategy
- National eradication plans
  
- Indonesian/Dutch Project Western Java:
  - Strengthening veterinary infrastructure
  - Improve eradication strategies
  - Research vaccination effectiveness
  - Production of vaccines and reagentia
  - Human infection monitoring

# Recommendations

- 1. Fight the sources / capacity building
- 2. Stimulate research (precompetitive research on moving target; human and veterinary)
- 3. Exchange information / coordinated actions (FAO/WHO/OIE/World Bank)