



# Joint Risk Assessment implementation in AFRO- case of Cameroon

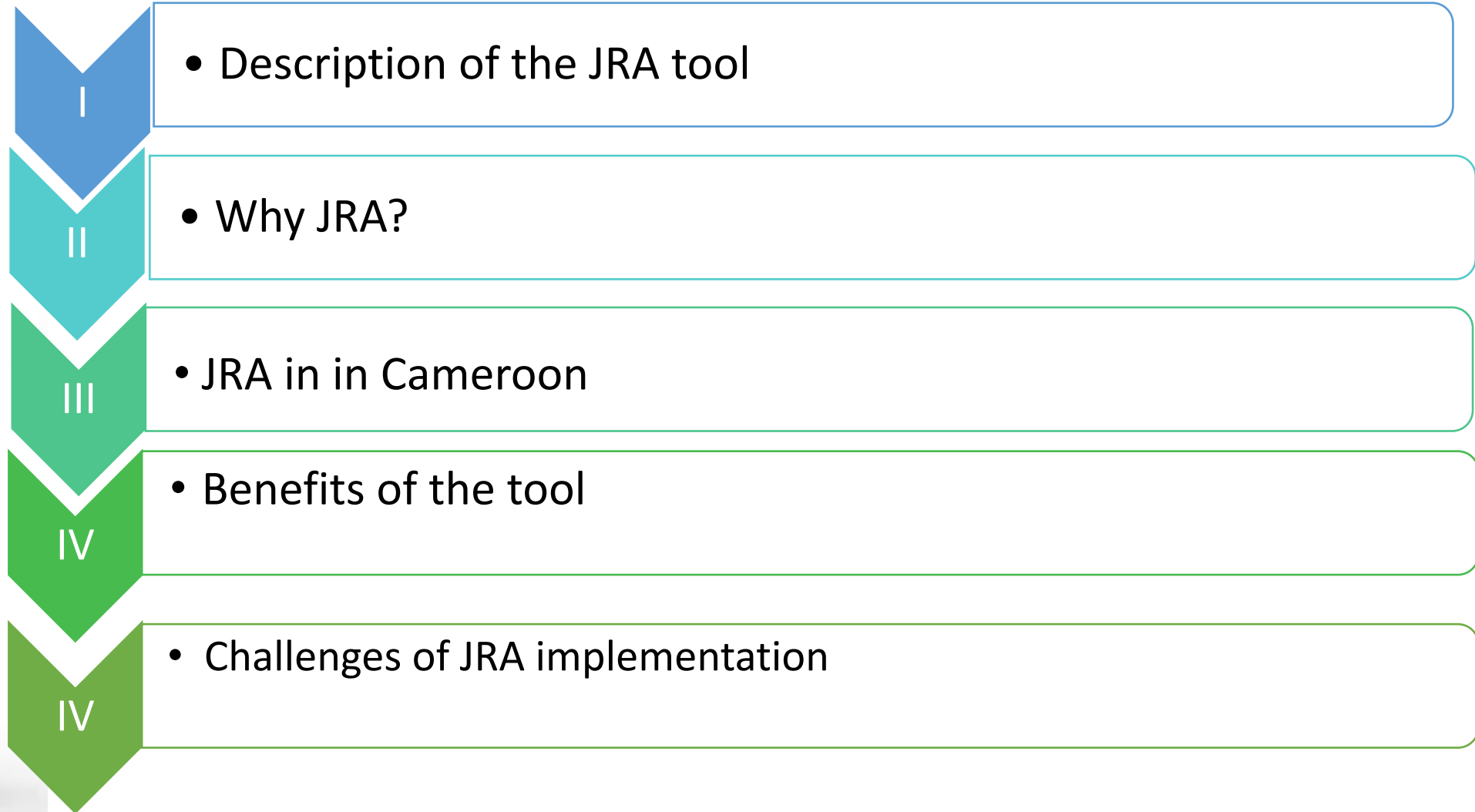
## EPIWIN Webinar

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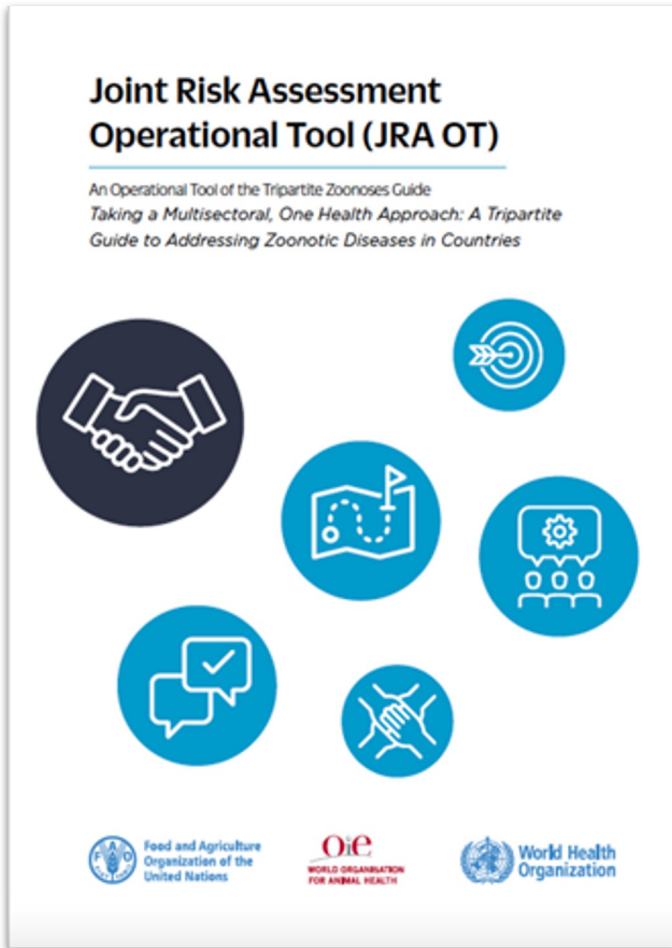
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# What is Joint Risk Assessment?



Published in all 6 UN languages

- One of the three Operational Tools (**MCM OT**, **JRA OT**, **SIS OT**) developed to support national staff in the implementation of the Tripartite Zoonoses Guide (TZG)
- used independently or in coordinated efforts to support national capacity for preparedness and response
- Specifically, the JRA OT provides additional support on the area of risk assessment to countries implementing the TZG
- Developed from existing tools

# JRA: Modules and steps

- A tool with 10 steps divided into 4 modules to evaluate risk at the human-animal-environment interface



JRA modules and steps (required: ●, recommended: ●)

## MODULE 0 Introduction



## STEPS

### Introduction

## MODULE 1 Setting up



- 1 Establish and convene a national steering committee
- 2 Identify a lead
- 3 Establish and convene a technical team
- 4 Establish and convene a stakeholder group

## MODULE 2 Risk framing



- 5 Risk framing

## MODULE 3 Conducting



- 6 Identify and diagram the risk pathway
- 7 Formulate and document risk assessment questions
- 8 Characterize the risk

## MODULE 4 Utilizing the outputs



- 9 Identify risk management options and communication messages
- 10 Document the assessment



# Why Joint Risk Assessment?



**While many sector-specific risk assessment methodologies exist, when technical staff are separated by sector they will generally estimate risk differently when asked the same question**

For example: likelihood of zoonotic influenza infecting a person and infecting an animal:

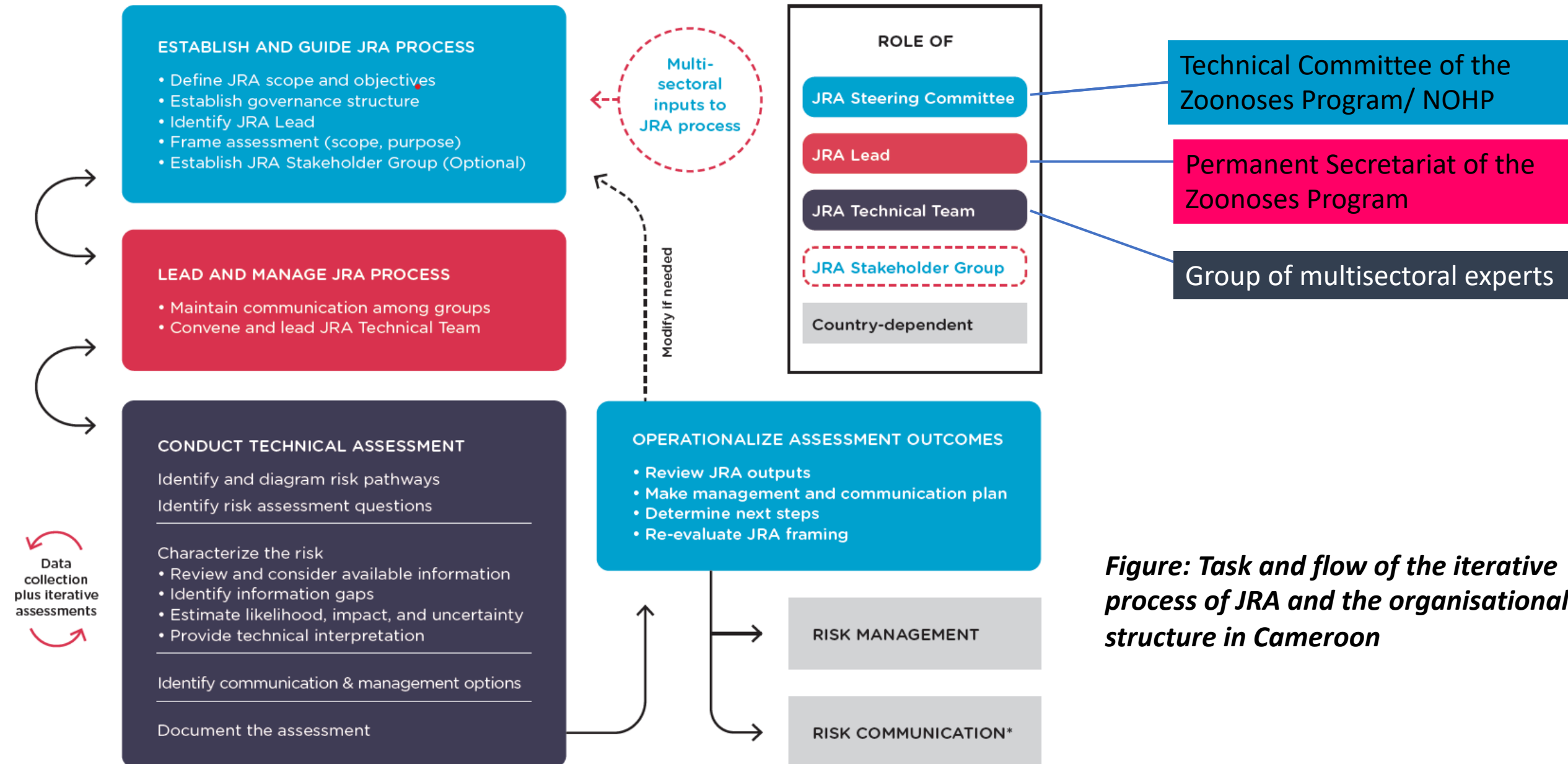
**Animal health sector  
assessment:**



**Human health sector  
assessment:**



# JRA in Cameroon: Entities implicated



**Figure: Task and flow of the iterative process of JRA and the organisational structure in Cameroon**



# JRA in Cameroon

- The JRA is usually carried out over a 4 day workshop
- The technical team is usually constituted of experts from the following sectors and entities:

- ✓ Human health
- ✓ Animal health
- ✓ Environment
- ✓ Communication
- ✓ Forestry and wildlife
- ✓ Territorial administration
- ✓ Universities
- ✓ Scientific research
- ✓ Laboratories (CPC, LANAVET, CREMER, CRESAR, NPHL)
- ✓ Civil Society Organisations
- ✓ Technical and Financial partners
- ✓ Cameroon One Health Platform



# JRA in Cameroon

Cameroon has conducted three JRA:

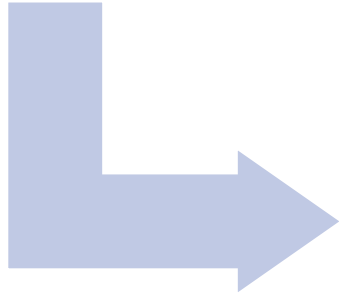
- JRA on the emergence of monkeypox in the Centre, South and East Regions and the spread of COVID-19 at the human-animal-environment interface (February, 2021)
- JRA on the emergence of Brucellosis and Bovine tuberculosis ( by *M. bovis*) at the human-animal-environment interface (August 2021)
- JRA on the emergence of Lassa Fever and Ebola Virus Disease at the human-animal-environment interface (August 2022)



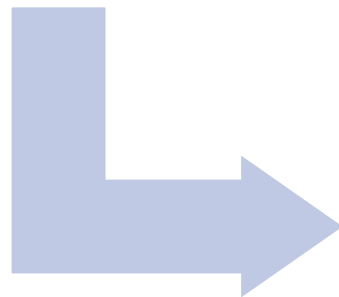


# JRA in Cameroon

Training of trainers  
by FAO in 2019



First JRA in 2021  
conducted with  
FAO



2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> JRA  
facilitated by  
trained facilitators

# JRA in Cameroon

## Major steps



## Preparatory phase

- ✓ Identification of the facilitators
- ✓ Identification of technical team/participants
- ✓ Preparatory meetings with facilitators to train/brief, review ToR, challenges of previous JRA, recommendations for the current JRA, attribution of tasks among facilitators
- ✓ Identification and sharing of documents to on the two zoonotic diseases to participants

# JRA in Cameroon

## Major steps

### During

- ✓ Presentation of the tool
- ✓ Presentations on the situation of the hazards in the country by the various sectors
- ✓ Constitution of two groups (each group per risk)
- ✓ Conduct the joint qualitative JRA process with national participants for the identified hazards in group work



## Outputs from the workshop

A final report including:

- ✓ A **detailed technical assessment** of the risk for each selected hazard
- ✓ **Risk management and communication options**
- ✓ A plan to reconvene participants for **additional follow-up and risk assessment**

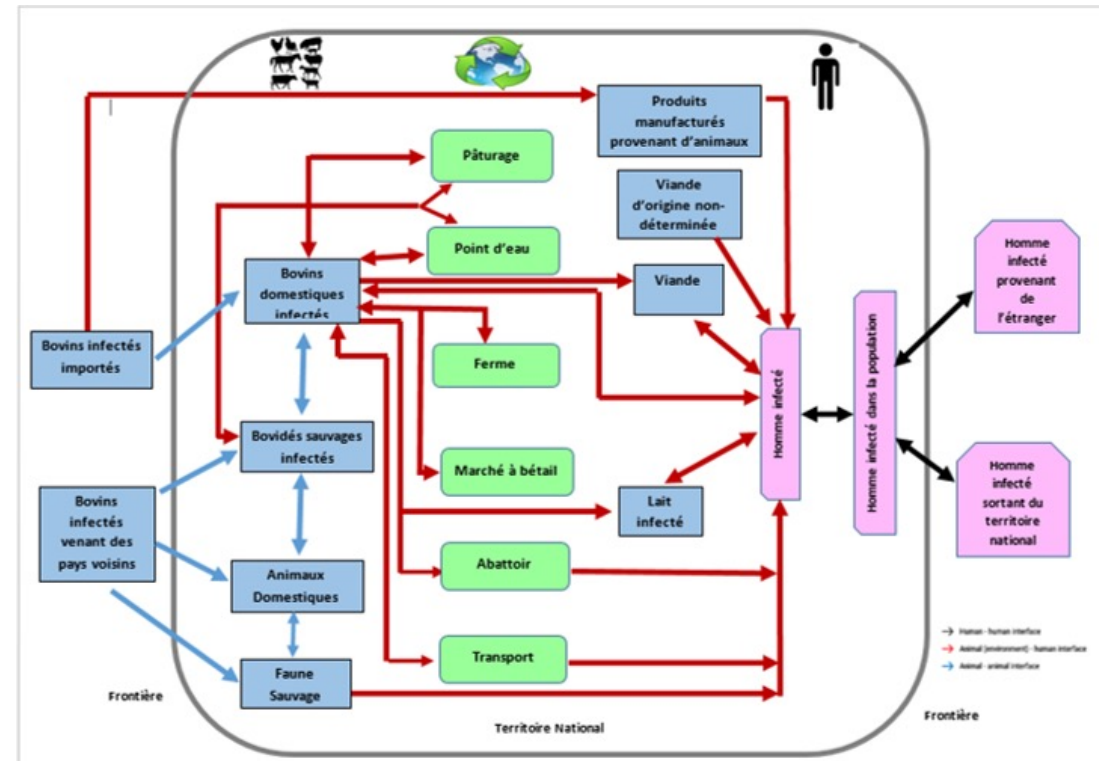
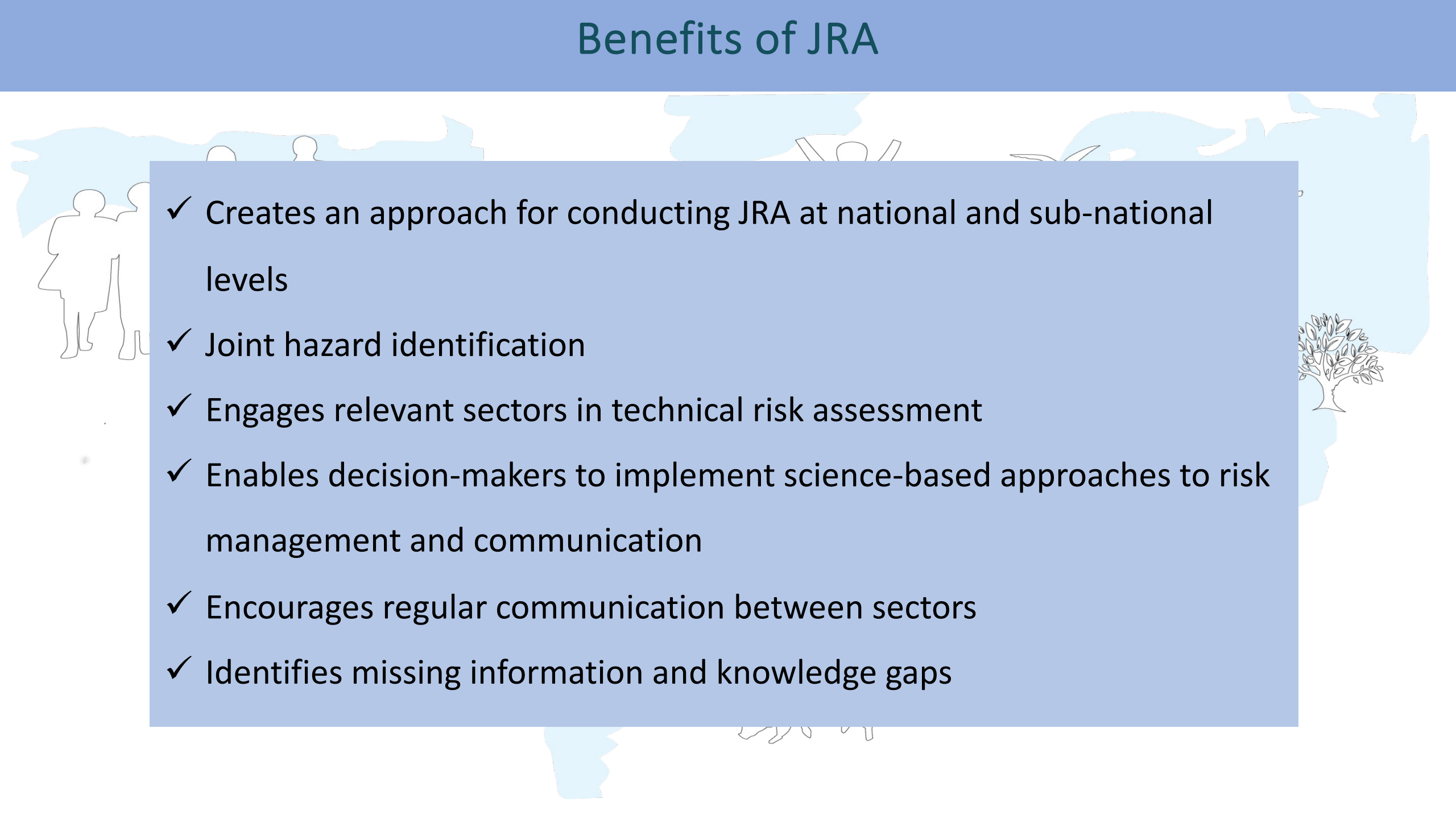


Fig. : CHEMINEMENT DU RISQUE DE LA TUBERCULOSE BOVINE

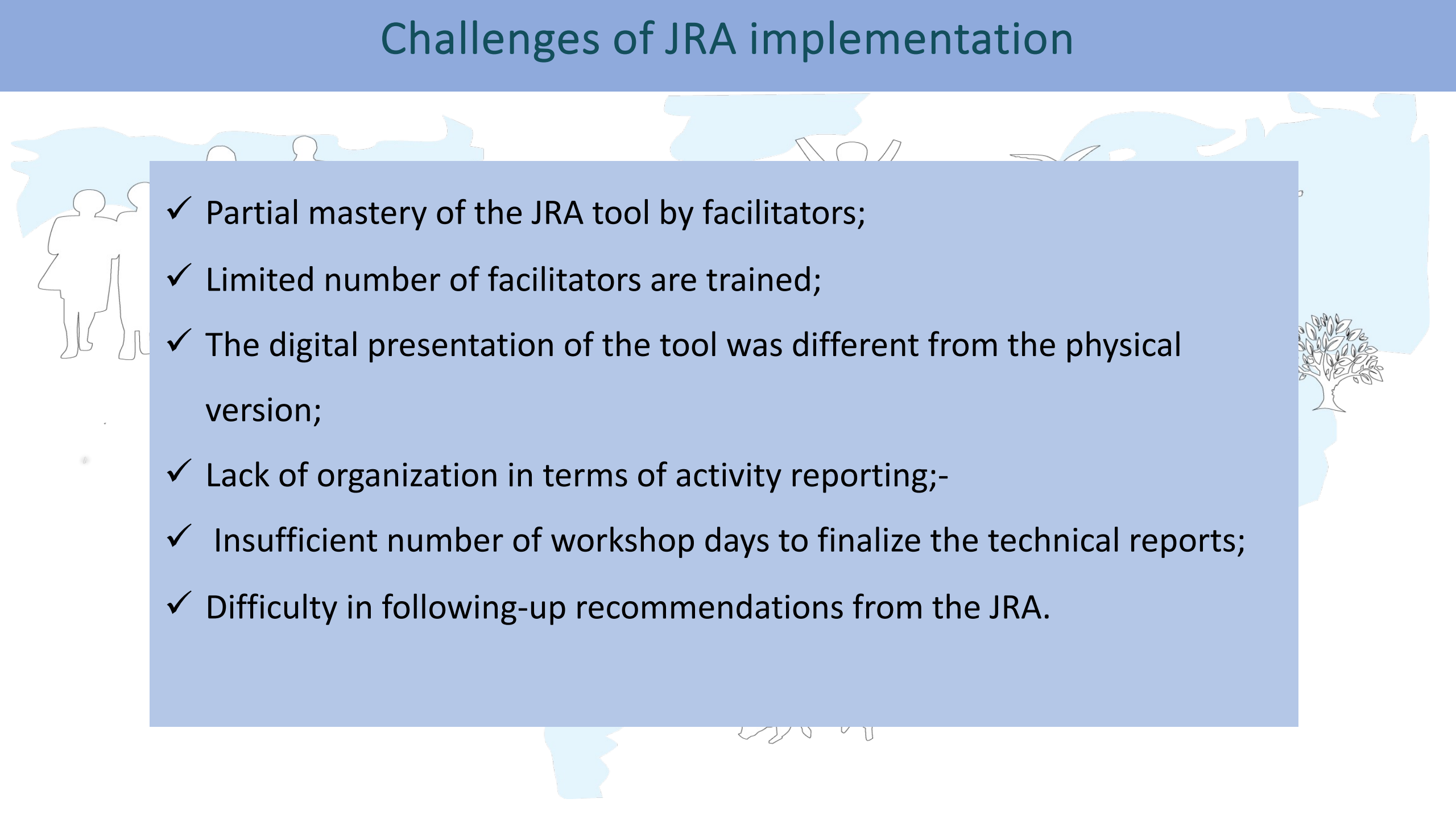
*Risk framing of Bovine tuberculosis*



# Benefits of JRA

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- ✓ Creates an approach for conducting JRA at national and sub-national levels
  - ✓ Joint hazard identification
  - ✓ Engages relevant sectors in technical risk assessment
  - ✓ Enables decision-makers to implement science-based approaches to risk management and communication
  - ✓ Encourages regular communication between sectors
  - ✓ Identifies missing information and knowledge gaps

# Challenges of JRA implementation

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- The background of the slide features a light blue and white illustration of a park. On the left, there are stylized trees and a person walking. On the right, there is a tree and a person sitting on a bench. The central text is overlaid on a semi-transparent blue rectangle.
- ✓ Partial mastery of the JRA tool by facilitators;
  - ✓ Limited number of facilitators are trained;
  - ✓ The digital presentation of the tool was different from the physical version;
  - ✓ Lack of organization in terms of activity reporting;-
  - ✓ Insufficient number of workshop days to finalize the technical reports;
  - ✓ Difficulty in following-up recommendations from the JRA.



**Thank you for your kind attention**

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