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12th Meeting of the Global Steering Committee of the Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs)

Activity report

November 2020 to October 2021



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Foreword

This report presents:

- the main activities of initiatives to control several global priority transboundary animal diseases (TADs) since the 11th Global Steering Committee (GSC11) in November and December 2020;
- a concise summary of the events carried out under the Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs) since GSC11. It focuses on three main items:
 - the follow-up on the recommendations of the action plan determined during GSC10;
 - the main activities at the global level from the Management Committee and the Global Secretariat;
 - the main activities at the regional level from the Regional Steering Committees and the Regional Secretariats.



GF-TADs Initiative for the Global Control of African swine fever, 2021–2025

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INITIATIVE

Following an appeal made at the 87th General Session of the World Assembly of Delegates of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, founded as OIE), WOAH and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) developed [an Initiative for the Global Control of African swine fever](#) (ASF) under the umbrella of the GF-TADs. This Global Initiative, officially launched in January 2020 during the 85th International Green Week in Berlin, was publicly released in July 2020. The Initiative and the associated two-year action plan are published in the ASF section of the [GF-TADs website](#), where information is regularly added and updated.

The goal of the Global Initiative is to achieve global control of ASF, which is defined as a combination of the following criteria:

- no new countries affected by ASF
- decline in the number of countries affected by ASF
- decline in the number of ASF outbreaks
- reduced losses due to ASF.

Three objectives are defined as preconditions for achieving global control of ASF:

1. Improve countries' capabilities to control (i.e. prevent, respond to and eradicate) ASF using WOAH standards and best practices that are based on the latest science.
2. Establish an effective coordination and a cooperation framework for the global control of ASF.
3. Facilitate business continuity.

These objectives form the framework under which the outcomes and outputs are defined and the Operational Plan of activities is established.

THE ASF WORKING GROUP

In July 2020, the GF-TADS ASF Working Group was formed to coordinate, monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Global Initiative, and to develop and support ASF control strategies at global and regional levels. The Working Group is composed of three members of the FAO and three members of WOAH, from the headquarters and regional offices of the two organisations. The Working Group is supported by the GF-TADs Global Secretariat and

reports to the GF-TADs Management Committee. Strategic decisions are made in consultation with and under guidance from the GF-TADs Global Steering Committee. The progress of the Global Initiative will be monitored through a dedicated monitoring and evaluation framework that is currently being developed with the support of monitoring and evaluation experts. It is expected to be fully functional in 2022.

The ASF Working Group meets regularly and monitors the two-year Global Initiative Operational Plan that is made available on the [GF-TADs website](#). The plan includes activities at global and regional levels.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SITUATION UPDATE

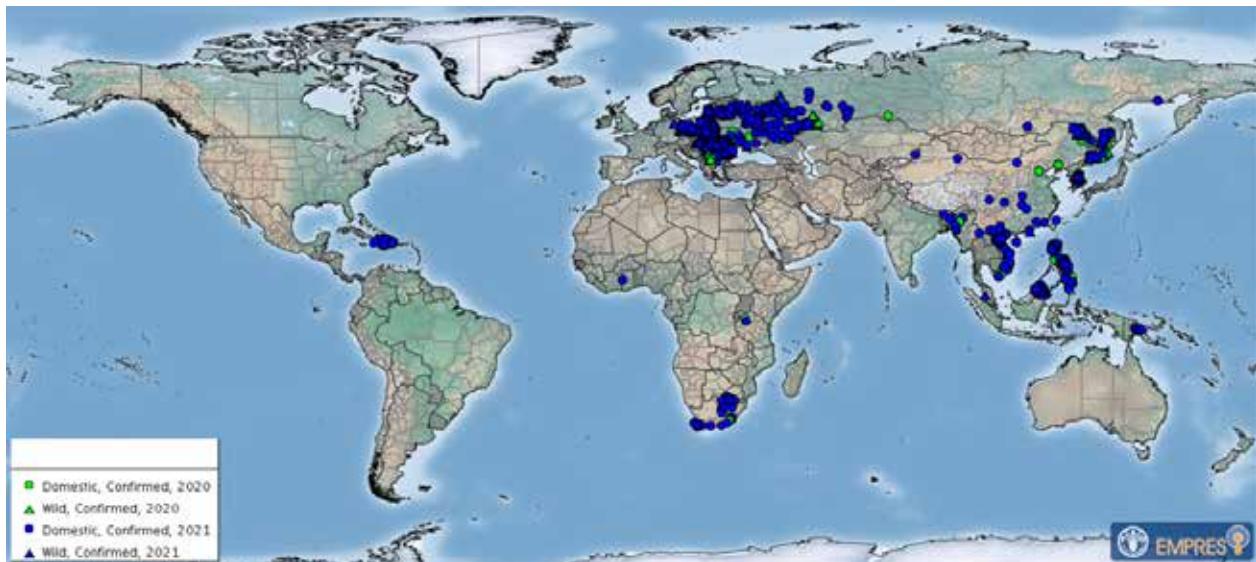
African swine fever is present and continues to spread in Africa, Europe, and Asia and the Pacific. After 40 years of absence, ASF was confirmed in the Caribbean: the Dominican Republic and Haiti notified WOAH on 29 July and 20 September 2021, respectively. Anthropogenic activities and the lack of biosecurity along the value chain in many countries play major roles in the progressive spread of the disease. Movements of infected animals due to trade, sale of infected meat, swill feeding and free-range pig-raising are some of the main risk factors in this system.

Apart from 24 genotypes of ASF viruses present in Africa, the current epidemiological situation in Europe, Asia and the Pacific and the Caribbean is caused by genotype II. Detection of chronic infection caused by genotype I in domestic pigs in China (specifically Shandong and Henan) is a concerning development. This situation requires enhanced surveillance to detect genotype I and II as well as low virulent strains that are reported to be circulating in Asia. Efforts are being made to prevent the use of unauthorised vaccines.

PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES IN THE LAST YEAR

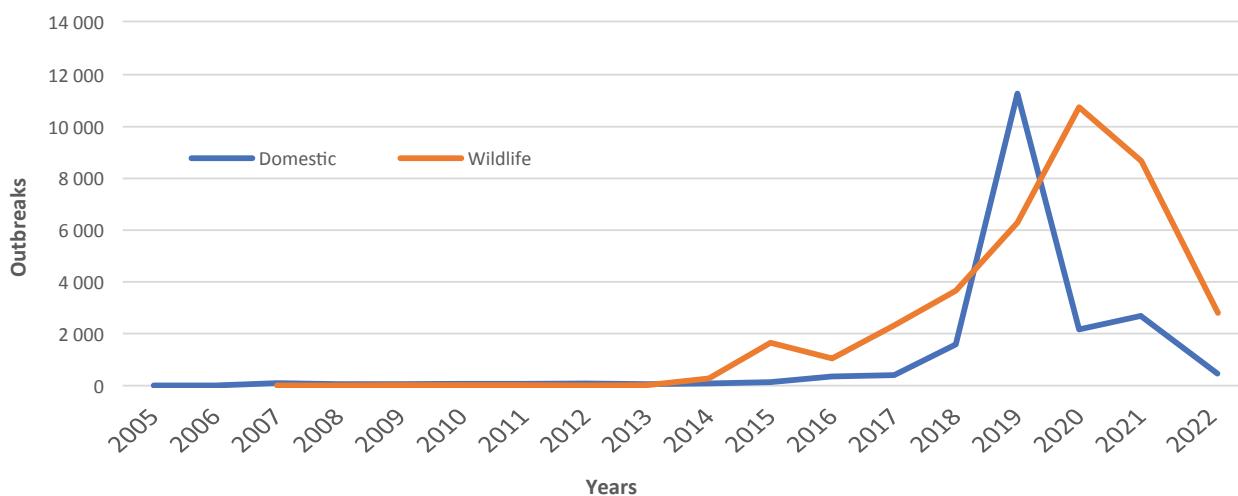
The first annual report was published with the aim to highlight the progress achieved in 2020. It describes the key output indicators under the three main objectives of the Initiative. Progress is illustrated by showcasing some of the activities conducted in 2020.

Figure 1. African swine fever cases in domestic pigs and wild boar from 1 November 2020 to 1 November 2021



Source: UN. 2021. Modified with data from EMPRES-i, WOAH and National Authorities.

Figure 2. African swine fever outbreaks reported from 2014 to 2022



Source: WOAH. 2022. WAHIS. In: WOAH. Paris. Cited 31 May 2022. <https://wahis.woah.org/#/events>

Countries improved their capacities through trainings on risk assessment and risk management along value chains. Five online ASF preparedness courses were implemented through the FAO virtual learning centre for Southern Africa (in English, 15 countries, September 2021), Canada (in English and French, 3 countries, September 2021), the Pacific Islands (in English, 11 countries, October 2021), the Americas (in Spanish, 11 countries, November 2021), Europe, the former USSR (in Russian, 12 countries, November 2021). WOAH paired regional reference laboratories with national reference laboratories in ASF-endemic or high-risk countries. Their collaboration strengthened lab diagnostic capacities.

An ‘ASF Kills Pigs’ communication campaign was implemented with the objective that ‘all actors involved in the dissemination of the disease are aware of and take the necessary precautions to prevent its further spread’. An awareness video for smallholders called ‘Be a Champion Farmer’ is available in 12 languages local to Southeast Asia.

One of the key factors for sustainable control of ASF is the creation of an intelligence framework to share disease information effectively. The Standing Group of Experts on ASF proved to be a relevant regional network to gather decision makers and experts who could coordinate

regional efforts, share best practices, promote inter-sectoral cooperation and thereby address the disease in a collaborative, transparent and harmonised way. Standing Groups of Experts on ASF have now been established in Europe, Asia & the Pacific, and the Americas and are in the process of being formed in Africa. GF-TADs is promoting stakeholders' engagement in ASF control, including the International Meat Secretariat, Interpol, the International Air Transport Association, the World Customs Organization (WCO), the World Veterinary Association and the Global ASF Research Alliance.

WOAH and FAO, in collaboration with the International Meat Secretariat, organised a virtual event between 14 and 28 June 2021. The event highlighted the central role of public-private partnerships in the ASF Global Control Initiative. From 132 countries, 1,351 participants registered to attend the two-week event.

The ASF Working Group identifies the following challenges inherent to the GF-TADs Initiative on Global Control of ASF: lack of a monitoring and evaluation framework to gather evidence of impact, travel restrictions and a lack of resources to promote the Initiative.

Major challenges to ASF disease control include competing priorities (ASF is not a zoonotic disease), a lack of resources among Veterinary Services to detect and control the disease early (including surveillance, diagnostics and compensation for a 'stamping-out' approach), low biosecurity in pig production and along the value chain (e.g. free-ranging pigs, swill feeding, home-based slaughter, sale of contaminated pork), involvement of wild pig and boar populations, illicit vaccines, emergence of low virulent strains and a lack of tools to monitor strain evolution.

The COVID-19 crisis has limited ASF control activities, especially with continued movement restrictions, additional workload and economic pressure. In this context, the control of ASF is even more important to ease the economic burden on the swine sector and the many livelihoods depending on it.

Publications

- WOAH & FAO (2021). – Global Control of African swine fever. A GF-TADs Initiative – 2020 annual report. Paris and Rome.
<https://doi.org/10.20506/ASF.3011>
- WOAH & FAO (2021). – Stop African swine fever (ASF): Public and private partnering for success. Report of the online event on 14–28 June 2021. Rome. <https://doi.org/10.20506/ASF.3248>



Global Foot and Mouth Disease Control Strategy

THE GF-TADS FMD WORKING GROUP

The GF-TADS Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Working Group is composed of three members from FAO, three members from WOAH and a representative from the European Commission for the Control of FMD (EuFMD).

The current members are:

- FAO: Dr Melissa McLaws (co-chair), Dr Madhur Dhingra and Dr Muhammad Arshed
- WOAH: Dr Neo Mapitse (co-chair), Dr Moetapele Letshwenylo and Dr Bolortuya Purevsuren
- EuFMD: Dr Fabrizio Rosso

SUMMARY OF THE STRATEGY

The Global FMD Control Strategy, developed under the FAO-WOAH GF-TADS, was endorsed in 2012 for a 15-year period. The overall objectives of the Strategy are to alleviate poverty and improve livelihoods in developing countries and to protect and further the global and regional trade in animals and animal products. The specific objective is to improve FMD control in regions where the disease is still endemic, thereby protecting the advanced animal disease control status in other regions of the world.

Under the Strategy, countries work to reduce the burden and impact of FMD by building adequate laboratory and surveillance systems, strengthening veterinary service capacities, supporting quality-controlled vaccination programmes and creating possibilities to control other priority animal diseases through practical and cost-effective combinations of activities. The Strategy includes three components: 1) improving global FMD control, 2) strengthening Veterinary Services and 3) improving the prevention and control of other major diseases affecting livestock. Concerning the first component, 80 countries are engaged in implementing the Progressive Control Pathway for Foot and Mouth Disease (PCP-FMD) with the goal of reducing or eliminating FMD virus circulation by 2027. Other regions not overseen by the FMD Working Group are engaged in other regional initiatives, e.g. South-East Asia and China Foot and Mouth Disease (SEACFMD) and the South American Commission for the Fight against Foot-and-Mouth Disease (COSALFA).

The Global FMD Control Strategy emphasises a regional approach to exchanging information and experiences, to coordinating efforts and to developing regional roadmaps

showing a country's ambitions and allowing regular progress assessment.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SITUATION IN THE PAST TWO YEARS

Foot and mouth disease continues to be widespread in many parts of the world. Globally, seven regional virus pools have been identified. Within these pools, similar viruses circulate and evolve. Countries within a pool will thus have similar requirements for selecting appropriate vaccines. Periodically, viruses spread between pools and to new regions.

Pool 1 (East Asia): Serotypes O & A are endemic in South East Asia. No new lineages were identified in this region in the past two years. No new outbreaks due to serotype Asia-1 were detected in 2020. This serotype has been absent since 1998, except for outbreaks in Vietnam (2006) and Myanmar (2017).

Pool 2 (South Asia): Serotypes O, A and Asia-1 are endemic in South Asia. A new serotype O lineage was described for samples collected in Sri Lanka. New data provided by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research Directorate of FMD during the WOAH-FAO FMD Laboratory Network meeting provides further evidence that this lineage, tentatively named O/ME-SA/SA-2018, is widely distributed in South Asia.

Pool 3 (West Eurasia): Serotypes O, A and Asia-1 are endemic in West Eurasia. New strains within these serotypes have been detected, requiring ongoing vigilance to ensure that vaccines used are appropriate for the circulating strains.

Pool 4 (East Africa): Serotypes O, A, SAT1, SAT2 and SAT3 circulate in this region. There have been new FMD outbreaks in Libya in North Africa, from where the disease threatens the Maghreb countries. A new initiative launched during late 2019 and early 2020 aims to motivate vaccine producers to supply good-quality FMD vaccines into the East African market (see <https://agresults.org/projects/fmd-vaccine>).

Pool 5 (West Africa): Serotypes O, A, SAT1 and SAT2 circulate in this region. It remains challenging to collect good-quality samples from this region. Network laboratories

have implemented novel approaches using nucleic acid recovery from lateral-flow devices as well as RNA transfection methods to characterise the FMD viruses causing outbreaks and to fill gaps in surveillance. The emergence of O/EA-3 and A/AFRICA/G-IV (in 2017) in the Maghreb is a significant change of epidemiological status which may substantiate new trans-Saharan connections between North and West Africa. These raise the onward risks to FMD-free countries in Europe.

Pool 6 (Southern Africa): Serotypes SAT1, SAT2 and SAT3 circulate in this region which WOAH was made aware of by notifications through WAHIS. There was an emergence of FMD serotypes O/EA and A, which were historically not known to occur in Southern Africa. Serotype O/EA-3 was reported in Zambia and then in northern Namibia in 2021.

Pool 7 (South America): Except for Venezuela, there have been no suspected cases of FMD in South America during 2020–2021.

For further details, see:

1. [WAHIS Reports](#)
2. [Quarterly and country reports \(Detection and Serotyping, Genotyping and Vaccine matching reports\) produced by the FAO World Reference Laboratory for FMD](#)

PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES IN THE LAST YEAR

Achievements:

• Global coordination

The Global Coordination Committee on FMD was launched and held its first meeting virtually under the umbrella of the GF-TADs in September 2021. The Global Coordination Committee on FMD is composed of representatives of global and regional organisations, institutions, technical entities, development partners and other relevant stakeholders involved in implementing FMD control initiatives. Key objectives are to exchange experiences, facilitate coordination, align the regional FMD control initiatives and develop a harmonised five-year global FMD action plan.

• Strategy review

An external review of the Global FMD Control Strategy implementation was initiated with the publication of the Expression of Interest for a dedicated consultancy. The objective is to review the Strategy's implementation at national, regional, and global levels in the seven regions where it has been in

effect since 2012. The review will, among other tasks, identify gaps and make recommendations for the Strategy to effectively achieve the set goal of reducing or eliminating FMD virus circulation by 2027. The EuFMD has established a support unit to assist the FMD Working Group in the daily implementation of its activities and to ensure that it can effectively support the countries it serves.

• Progression along the PCP-FMD

In the reporting period, two new Members advanced to full Stage 1, and one to full Stage 2. Regarding WOAH status, three Members had their FMD zonal status recognised, and one official control programme was endorsed. In 2021, WOAH recognised six zonal statuses from three different Members (Figure 3).

• Meetings

The **3rd FMD Community Roadmap Meeting for Southern Africa** was successfully held in November 2020. The meeting underscored the increasing incidence of FMD in the sub-region, and in particular the emergence of FMD serotypes O/EA and A, which were historically unknown to occur in Southern Africa. Consequently, recommendations and priority areas were developed. Vaccination programmes were implemented against the recent outbreaks due to serotype O. Efforts are ongoing within the region to determine the type of targeted support needed in the sub-region.

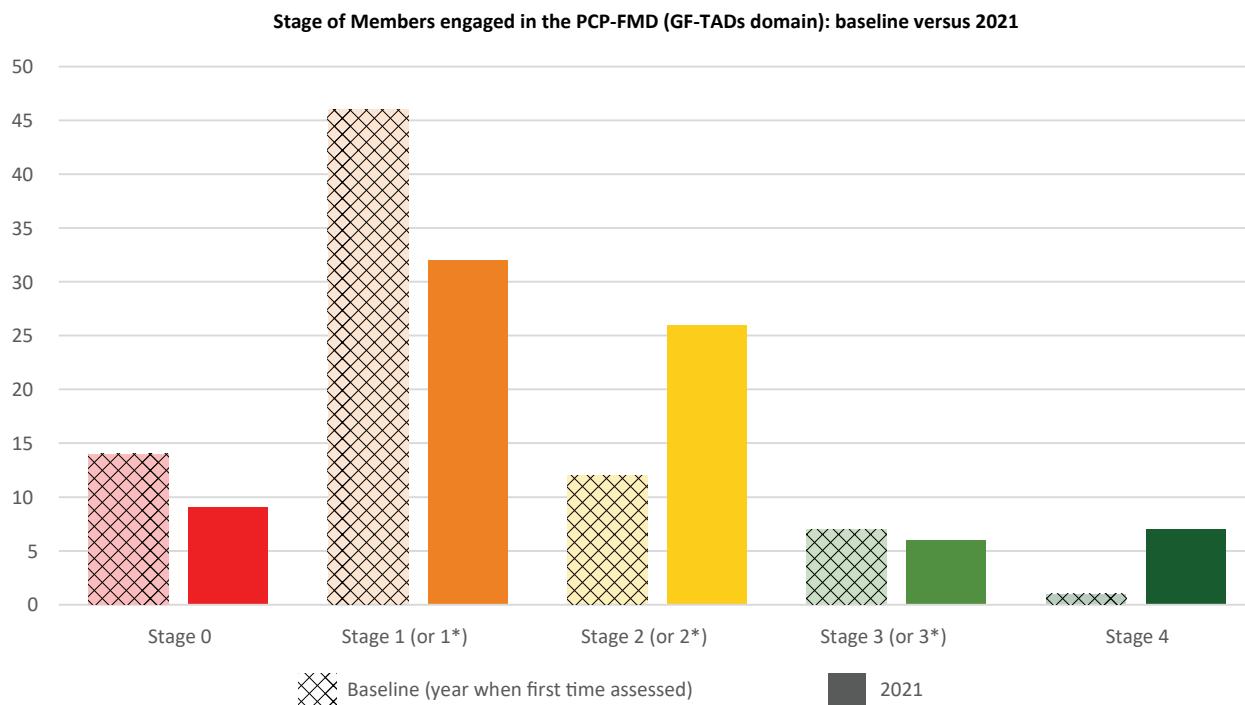
The **3rd FMD Epidemiology and Laboratory Networks Meeting for West Eurasia** (FMD virus Pool 3), and the **3rd FMD Roadmap Meeting for West Africa** were successfully held in August and November 2021, respectively. Key messages were the introduction of two exotic FMD virus lineages from Pool 2 comprising A/ASIA/G-VII and O/ME-SA/Ind-2001e, where the latter is expanding into West Eurasia; SAT viruses establishing in West Africa; the diverse range of FMD vaccines and vaccine strains used in the regions. The key areas of capacity building and technical assistance were developed and integrated into the biennial work plans for the networks, taking into consideration the regional priorities.

The FMD Working Group met with Regional Advisory Groups to discuss the FMD situation in each region and ways to support each country.

• Other

An **open-access course** 'Introduction to the RBSP' was produced under the umbrella of the GF-TADs. PCP-FMD Support Officers (PSOs) are assigned to provide tailored assistance to countries. Currently, 13 PSOs are assigned to 32 countries, with three new

Figure 3. Evolution of PCP-FMD stages between initial assessment and 2021



Note: The year for initial assessment may differ according to the country.

Source: Data from the GF-TADs FMD regional roadmap meeting reports (2012-2021).

countries supported during the reporting period. A review of the PSO system was conducted by senior PSOs, who developed recommendations to further improve support to countries.

Challenges:

- Advancement along the PCP-FMD is hampered by the slow development of national FMD risk assessment plans and risk-based strategic plans. Members reported challenges in implementing surveillance activities, laboratory testing and shipping samples due to COVID-19 restrictions. As a result, sample submissions to FAO–WOAH Reference Laboratories for FMD was relatively low. The lack

of financial resources has been reported regularly as a limiting factor in implementing FMD control activities, especially vaccine procurement and the establishment of vaccine banks. Countries have also raised other competing priorities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Publications

Various PCP-FMD guidelines and supporting tools were developed, updated and shared with the members to facilitate their work and that of the Working Group, including templates for strategic plans as well as meeting reports. The resources are published on the [GF-TADs website](#).



Peste des Petits Ruminants Global Eradication Programme (PPR GEP)

PPR SECRETARIAT

The FAO-WOAH Joint Secretariat was established by FAO and WOAH in March 2016 to drive the peste des petits ruminants (PPR) eradication effort on a global scale and support countries in fighting the disease under GF-TADs. The Secretariat reports to the GF-TADs Management Committee for coordination with other GF-TADs initiatives. Currently, the PPR Secretariat is composed of two WOAH staff members and five FAO staff members, all based in their respective organisations. The Rome-based UN ambassadors and Permanent Representatives 'Friends of the PPR Global Eradication Programme' (GEP) since 2018 have been advocating for the programme at all levels including during governing body meetings. Their next meeting was planned for 10 December 2021, with six ministers invited to share their views on controlling PPR.

The work of the Secretariat is supported by two governance structures, namely the PPR Advisory Committee, established in 2017, which provides to the PPR Secretariat strategic guidance and recommendations, and the PPR Global Research and Expertise Network (PPR-GREN), which met for the first time in 2018 and has another meeting planned for 7-9 December 2022. The GREN serves as a forum for scientific and technical consultation, debates and discussions about PPR, encouraging innovation and supporting the PPR GEP.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE STRATEGY

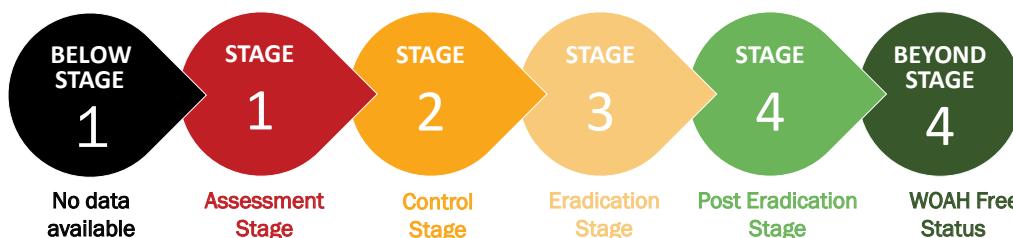
The PPR Global Control and Eradication Strategy (PPR GCES) was endorsed at the International Conference for

the Control and Eradication of PPR organised by FAO and WOAH in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire in April 2015. The three components of the PPR GCES are 1) the eradication of PPR globally by 2030, 2) the strengthening of Veterinary Services and 3) the control of other small ruminant diseases prioritised by stakeholders.

The overarching PPR GCES at the national level is based on four stages that combine decreasing levels of epidemiological risk with increasing levels of prevention and control. In Stage 1, the epidemiological situation is assessed. In Stage 2, control activities, including vaccination, are implemented. PPR is eradicated at Stage 3. In Stage 4, vaccination is suspended; the country must provide evidence that no virus is circulating at the zonal or national level and that it is ready to apply to WOAH for official recognition of its PPR-free status (Figure 4).

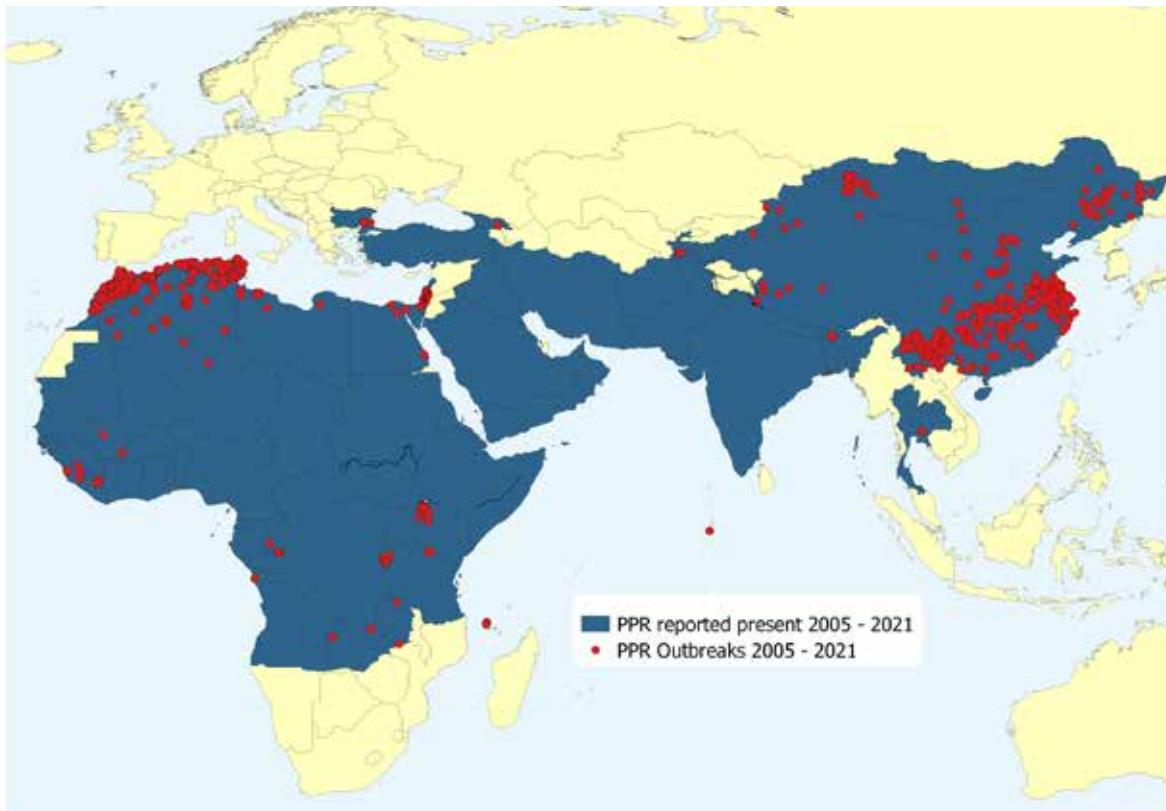
To implement the strategy, the first five-year PPR GEP was launched in 2017. The GEP is a multi-country, multi-stage process that implements the GCES. The four stages it sets out in GCES involve assessment, control, eradication and maintenance of PPR-free status. Regardless of the stage in which a country initially places, it will be supported to achieve the capacity it needs for each of the five key elements of PPR prevention and control, namely the diagnostic system, surveillance system, prevention and control system, legal framework and stakeholder involvement. Putting these five elements in place will enable any country to move with confidence to the next stage of control and eradication.

Figure 4. Progressive PPR control and eradication – the four stages of the PPR GCES



Source: FAO, OIE. 2015. Global Strategy for the Control and Eradication of PPR. Rome, FAO. <http://www.fao.org/3/i4460e/l4460E.pdf>.

Figure 5. PPR distribution up to 2021



Source: World Organisation for Animal Health (2022). Peste des Petits Ruminants distribution during the period 2005 - 2021. Data retrieved from the World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS) - <https://wahis.woah.org/#/home> (date accessed October 2022)].
Disclaimer: The official disease status recognized by the World Organisation for Animal Health for disputed areas may not be reflected in the current map but can be consulted at the following link: *Official Disease Status - WOAH - World Organisation for Animal Health*.

To categorise a country within these four stages, the PPR Monitoring and Assessment Tool (PMAT), a companion tool of the PPR GCES, is used. It measures activities and their impacts at each stage by requiring countries to input epidemiological and activities-based evidence, which it converts into guidance and milestones.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SITUATION

Currently, 59 countries, plus one zone, are officially recognised as PPR-free; 67 are infected, and 71 have not reported PPR. Between 2015 and 2019, 12,757 outbreaks were reported to WOAH by 59 countries. By 2020, this number had shown a marked decrease. For example, 21 of the 67 infected countries have had no reported PPR outbreaks for more than 24 months, and ten of these have had no outbreaks between 2015 and 2019. The conclusion is that control measures have had a significant positive impact. Figures 5 to 7 show the current PPR distribution; the countries position according to PMAT and WOAH official recognition. Since 2015, many countries have moved from Stage 1 to Stage 2 or 3.

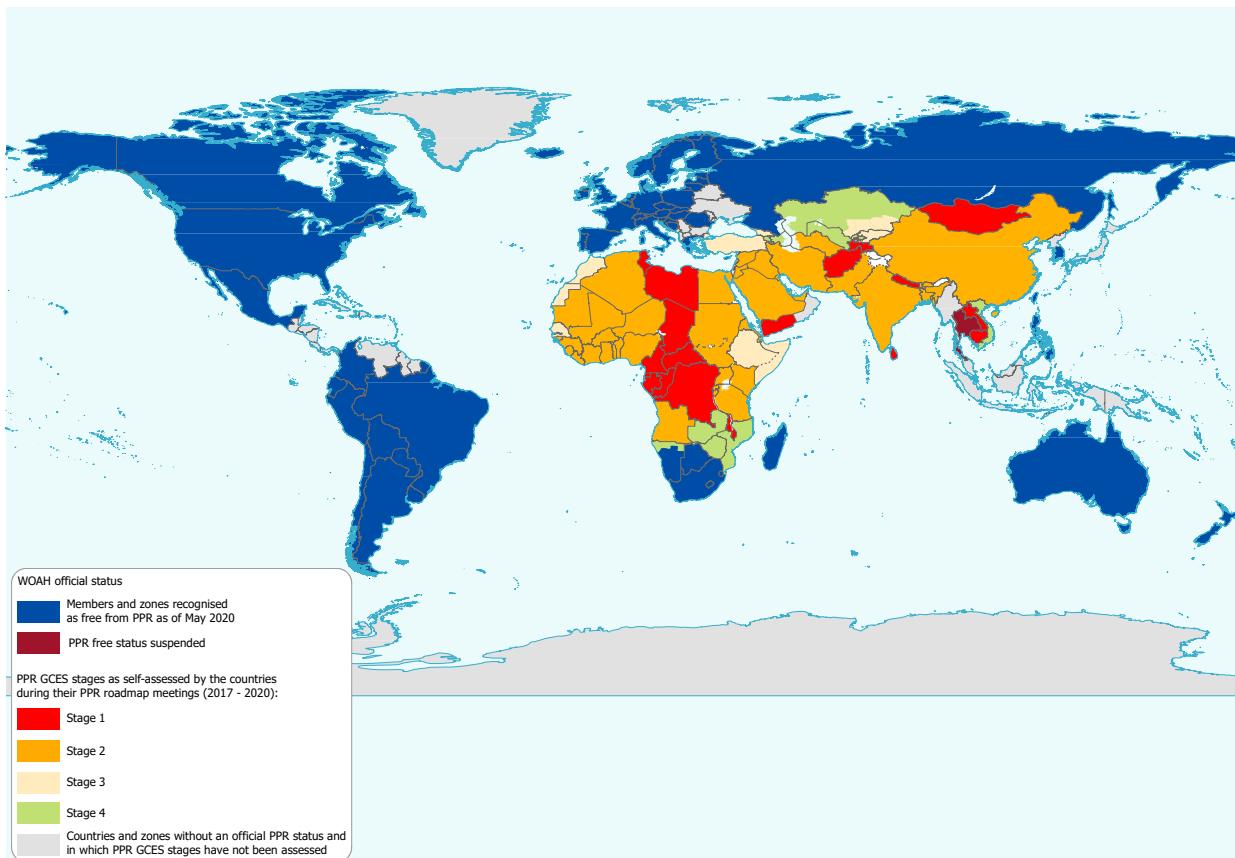
PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES IN THE LAST YEAR

In-depth PMAT review

Countries have viewed the PMAT as a complex questionnaire that was difficult to implement. Following these observations, confirmed by countries' testimonies, that the PMAT was not as widely used as anticipated, FAO and WOAH launched in March 2020 an in-depth review of the tool. The objectives of this process were to identify why the PMAT had not been applied as widely as originally intended, to develop a new version of the tool that would be easier to understand and more user-friendly, to enhance its implementation and usefulness and to support the PPR GEP.

A PMAT expert team was formed consisting of four independent experts designated by FAO and WOAH, who had equal footing to revise the tool in collaboration with the joint FAO-WOAH PPR Secretariat. The work of the PMAT team was supervised by the chairman of the PPR GREN.

Figure 6. The PPR global situation with respect to the GCES stepwise approach, as reported by countries during roadmap meetings until January 2021



Source: UN. 2021. Data are based on the list of PPR free countries according to the provisions of Chapter 14.7 of the WOAH Terrestrial Code, and PPR Monitoring and Assessment Tool results submitted to the FAO/WOAH Global PPR-Secretariat.

Figure 7. Countries having an officially recognised PPR-free status from WOAH, as of October 2021



Source: World Organisation for Animal Health (2022). Map of Peste des Petits Ruminants Official Status. <https://www.woah.org/app/uploads/2022/05/ppr-world-eng.png> (date accessed August 2022)].

Disclaimer: The official disease status recognised by the World Organisation for Animal Health for disputed areas may not be reflected in the current map but can be consulted at the following link: [Official Disease Status - WOAH - World Organisation for Animal Health](#).

Questionnaires were sent to countries to assess their perceptions on filling out the PMAT since 2015. The expert team revised the PMAT and produced a new format for the questionnaire. In parallel, the expert team developed a User Guide, accompanying the questionnaire, which defines the optimal use of the tool at the country level and in the context of Roadmap and Epizone meetings.

The PPR Secretariat and the expert revision team presented the revised PMAT in various regional and epizone PPR consultation meetings held for the Middle East, Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), Southern African Development Community (SADC), Northern Africa, Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) (plus Russia, China and Mongolia) and Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), as well as in the stakeholder workshop for the presentation and review of the revised PMAT, which was held in June 2021. The feedback from these consultations was positive and illustrated the need to fine-tune the new questionnaire further and provide clarifications on the intended use of the tool through the PMAT User Guide. Currently, the revised PMAT is undergoing a final refinement by the expert team, based on observations from the meetings. It will be finalised and forwarded to the GF-TADs Management Committee for validation.

Review of the PPR Global Eradication Programme

The first five-year PPR GEP, which covered 2017–2021, laid the foundation for implementing the PPR GCES. From the end of 2021, the second phase of the programme, PPR GEP II, will guide the next phase of control and eradication. As recommended at the 2015 Abidjan PPR conference, “*a GCES mid-term review shall be conducted after the five first years of implementation of the GCES (2020) as well as indications whether the vision can be achieved by the proposed timelines, with ‘corrective actions’ if needed*”. The FAO and WOAH agreed to revise the first five-year implementation of the GCES by the end of 2020, in order to formulate the second phase of the PPR GEP and a blueprint towards 2030.

The FAO and WOAH established a core expert team (CET) of six independent experts to formulate and draft the second phase of the GEP jointly with the PPR Secretariat. A detailed modus operandi developed by the Secretariat (with the technical support of the Advisory Committee and the GREN bureau) was shared with the CET for concurrence. It was subsequently validated by the GF-TADs Management Committee. The modus operandi provides a roadmap for carrying out the PPR GEP II.

To consider the views of all stakeholders regarding the formulation of the PPR GEP II, virtual consultation meetings have been held in each region or epizone, jointly with African Union InterAfrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) and Regional Economic Communities. The consultations have targeted Central Africa, West Africa, Eastern Africa, Northern Africa, Southern Africa, the ECO (plus Russia, China, and Mongolia), South Asia and the Middle East. So far, meetings have been held in all these regions except South Asia, which is now in the planning phase. For each regional consultation, the following participants were invited, along with members of the GF-TADs Regional Platforms, Regional Economic Communities and Resource Partners: the national chief veterinary officers, PPR national coordinators, epidemiologists and/or national livestock (small ruminant) development officers; national laboratory coordinators; wildlife conservators, veterinarians and research institutes; and representatives from civil society organisations, traders and any other stakeholders of the small ruminant value chain. To complement the regional consultative meetings, a series of global meetings is also being organised, with the aim to build awareness and advocacy, sensitise partners and stakeholders for the PPR GEP second phase and communicate the benefit of PPR eradication as a global good and enabler of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

The results of the consultation meetings were as follows:

- There are strong partnerships between the African Union (IBAR and Pan African Veterinary Vaccine Centre [PANVAC]) and the Regional Economic Communities on that continent and in Asia, as well as with several other partners.
- AU-IBAR may use the outcomes of the consultations to review its Africa region PPR strategy.
- PPR national strategic plans have been formulated in almost all countries. National PPR Coordination Committees are only in place in a few countries. The national strategic plans need to be transformed into investment plans for PPR GCES.
- All African countries are members of the regional network of national epidemiological surveillance systems and laboratories. These networks need to be strengthened in Asia and the Middle East.
- ‘Episystem’ was defined in relation to PPR epidemiology and socioeconomic factors, as presented by the CET.
- Technical support is needed in PPR management activities.
- Resource mobilisation is insufficient locally and externally.

- The 2030 target should be clearly defined if it envisages that each region will achieve official recognition as being PPR-free rather than to simply suspend field operations at this deadline.
- Certain countries that are at high risk lack transparency when sharing information on PPR. This directly affects meeting the 2030 target.
- Challenges are insufficient funding, insecurity, uncontrolled animal movement, inconsistent vaccine procurement and usage followed by post-vaccination evaluation, animal identification, lack of reagents, lack of equipment, weak surveillance capacity, weak implementation and enforcement of legal frameworks and cross-border collaboration among some countries.

The last PPR regional consultation meeting was scheduled for the countries of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation in November 2021. However, this Regional Economic Community is less involved in PPR activities compared to other regions, as they are currently facing political issues regarding animal health. Their participation in the meeting could not be secured for the initial dates. The meeting has been postponed to January 2022.

Other activities conducted or launched in 2021

- As an outcome of the 4th meeting of the PPR Advisory Committee in September 2020, a resource partners meeting was organised and attended by the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA), European Commission, International Fund for Agricultural Development, Islamic Development Bank and World Bank. All of them showed interest in funding PPR and called for more national engagement.
- Regular communication is ongoing among the Secretariat, Advisory Committee and GREN.
- A virtual training workshop on PPR outbreak investigation in wildlife was organised in March 2021 in partnership with the FAO and WOAH Regional Offices for Asia & the Pacific and the Wildlife Thematic Group of the PPR GREN. The aim was to help countries develop a capacity to detect, investigate and respond to suspected PPR events in wildlife. The training focused on Bhutan, Iran, Mongolia and Nepal. The training material and report from the workshop were published on the [GF-TADs website](#).
- The 4th meeting of the PPR Advisory Committee recommended that a mechanism should be introduced for assigning dedicated consultants to countries who will provide concrete and tailored technical support for drafting, revising and

implementing their PPR national strategic plans and implementing the PMAT. During recent regional consultation meetings, some countries expressed their interest to benefit from such support. The PPR Secretariat is currently developing the terms of reference for PPR and will soon submit to the GF-TADs Management Committee proposed terms of reference for review and validation.

- A side event ‘Coping with climate change: the key role of livestock ownership’ held before the twenty-sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 26) was organised by FAO, WOAH and the African Union Department for Agriculture Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment. It was attended by nearly 200 participants and highlighted 1) how small ruminants can protect rural households against climate shocks and 2) how animal health initiatives such as PPR GEP can enhance the livestock sectors’ contribution to climate resilience.
- Each institution has been implementing its activities based on task sharing agreed upon in 2019.
- At the 42nd Session of the FAO Conference, a specific resolution was adopted on PPR.
- At the first session of the FAO Sub-Committee on Livestock of the Committee on Agriculture, which will be held in March 2022, member countries will discuss a policy paper ‘Progress on efforts for the eradication of peste des petits ruminants’.
- As part of the experience sharing, a webinar was organised for the government of India to provide an update on the implementation of their PPR national strategic plan.
- Each of the four GREN thematic groups has been meeting regularly to guide activities in its research area.

Publications

In 2021, the ‘Guidelines for the Control and Prevention of Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) in Wildlife Populations,’ drafted by the WOAH Working Group on Wildlife and the PPR GREN in collaboration with the PPR Secretariat, were published on the [FAO](#) and [WOAH](#) websites.

Each year since 2019, a special issue of a peer-reviewed journal has been dedicated to PPR. In 2019, the journal was *Frontiers in Veterinary Science*, and in 2020, *Virus*. In 2021, *Animals* was selected for the special issue on ‘Peste des Petits Ruminants: Five Years Implementation of Its Global Eradication Programme’. Currently, four papers have been published and four are under revision.



Rinderpest post-eradication

THE FAO-WOAH JOINT RINDERPEST SECRETARIAT

Samia Metwally (FAO), Shija Jacob (FAO), Kasumi Sudo (FAO), and Mariana Marrana (WOAH)

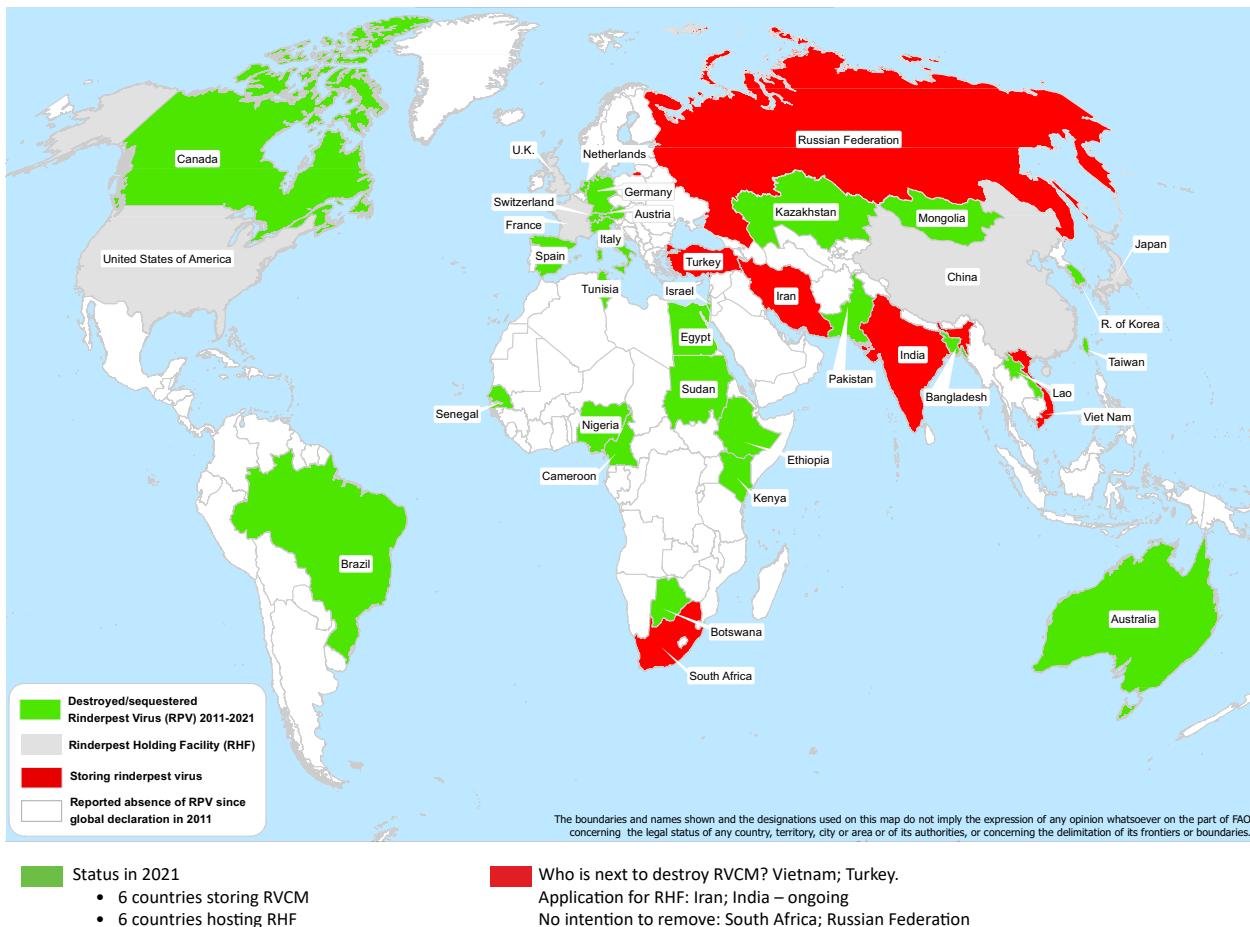
SUMMARY OF THE STRATEGY

Following the declaration of global freedom from Rinderpest in 2011, members entrusted FAO and WOAH to implement precautionary measures to maintain rinderpest global freedom. The FAO-WOAH Rinderpest Secretariat and the Rinderpest Joint Advisory Committee were established in 2012 to coordinate a post-eradication strategy and mitigate the risk posed by the release of rinderpest virus-containing material (RVCN) from laboratories.

Post-eradication priorities:

- Establish and monitor FAO-WOAH Rinderpest Holding Facilities (RHF) for safe storage of the remaining RVCN stocks;
- Prepare and implement an international preparedness plan, referred to as the Global Rinderpest Action Plan;
- Continue to advocate for destruction and sequestration of RVCN in the remaining countries and reduction of RVCN holdings in RHFs, while keeping the RHF network active;
- Maintain a global inventory of RVCN stored in and outside RHFs;
- Establish vaccine reserves and build diagnostic capacity;

Figure 8. Rinderpest virus in laboratories of member countries in March 2021



Source: UN, 2021 modified with Rinderpest Virus in Laboratories of Member Countries.

Notes: **Status in 2012:** 36 countries storing RVCN. **Status in 2021:** 6 countries storing RVCN (plus RHFs).

- Approve essential research projects relevant to the post-eradication era;
- Ensure the existence of adequate surveillance systems and follow-up on suspect cases;
- Communicate and advocate to strengthen awareness of rinderpest and the impacts of the disease re-emergence and ensure that the campaign tools remain available.

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL SITUATION

The last case of rinderpest in the field was reported in Kenya in 2001. The disease was declared eradicated in 2011.

In 2021, Kazakhstan was the last country to notify the Rinderpest Secretariat of the destruction of its RVCM from their laboratory. Kazakhstan submitted a destruction report per the FAO-WOAH standard operating procedure.

PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES IN THE LAST YEAR

FAO-WOAH joint activities:

- The number of countries storing RVCM outside of RHF's was reduced to six.
- A special online event to commemorate the ten-year anniversary of rinderpest eradication was held on 28 June 2021 with the International Atomic Energy Agency.
- The RHF network and Joint Advisory Committee meetings continue to give updates each six months.
- The RHF network has continued to decrease their RVCM inventory and to reduce the risk of re-emergence.
- A FAO-WOAH co-branding agreement for communication materials was developed and is being validated by FAO and WOAH. The agreement covers all communications tools to be co-branded and jointly promoted.
- Advocacy continued with the six countries holding RVCM.
- A hybrid advocacy meeting was planned with the remaining countries storing RVCM to assist in removing their RVCM stocks or applying for RHF designation.
- RHF's were extended and the RHF mandate updated.

FAO-led activities:

- Vietnam agreed to destroy their RVCM and requested FAO's assistance (put on hold due to COVID-19). The FAO is exploring the timing for the virus destruction mission in Vietnam.

- The FAO rinderpest vaccine seed bank was established at the French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development (CIRAD).
- Support continued for the National Institute of Animal Health and National Agriculture and Food Research Organization (NIAH-NARO) in Japan to maintain the rinderpest vaccine reserve for regional and global deployment. There are currently 0.5 million doses of manufactured vaccine and 1 million doses of antigen concentrate as rinderpest vaccine reserve in Japan.
- A new letter of agreement was made with NIAH-NARO, valid until 2026.
- Plans were laid to develop a FAO framework for activating the rinderpest vaccine reserve and deploying the vaccine.
- Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale del Lazio e Toscana in Italy applied to become a rinderpest vaccine reserve for storing vaccines and the material for its production.
- FAO is implementing rinderpest advocacy in Pakistan, Vietnam and Kenya.
 - Pakistan – Hired a national communications consultant; completed needs assessment surveys in three districts; led an inception meeting with government representatives, academia and livestock-keepers associations; developed the communications strategy; held a meeting with stakeholders;
 - Vietnam – Hired a communications agency to implement in-country activities agreed upon under Global Rinderpest Post-Eradication Security: Phase II; conducted a needs assessment survey in two districts with livestock keepers; developed the communications strategy;
 - Kenya – Hired a national communications consultant for dissemination of a FAO e-learning course, book chapter, PowerPoint and other communication tools to veterinary professionals and laboratory personnel.
- The second e-learning module modelled on the Global Rinderpest Action Plan was developed. FAO is running sustained promotions of the e-learning course on FAO social media, geo-tagging target countries and their official Twitter accounts.
- A PowerPoint and fact sheet on rinderpest were published and are to be included in academic curriculum.
- On the new [FAO animal health website](#), the rinderpest page was updated with resources and archives.

- A beta version of the rinderpest mobile app was developed.
- A facility inspection has been planned at the National Veterinary Institute in Ethiopia to produce rinderpest vaccine for the AU to stockpile.
- Historical PPR samples were tested for rinderpest contamination.

WOAH-led activities:

- The Rinderpest Virus Tracking System was launched in 2017 and is hosted by WOAH with access granted to FAO. In 2020, a technical intervention was done to ensure the system's continued functionality.
- WOAH commissioned a progress review of RVCM sequestration and destruction and a risk assessment of rinderpest re-emergence ten years post-

eradication. A consortium of WOAH Collaborating Centres (Texas A&M University, USA, and the Royal Veterinary College, UK) was awarded the project after an open call for tender. The Royal Veterinary College will use the information from the review of progress to update the model used in the 2012 risk assessment. The work will be published in the first half of 2022.

Publications

FAO (2021). – Vaccine for eradication and in post-eradication of rinderpest. Available at: <http://www.fao.org/animal-health/news-and-events/news/detail/en/c/1606526/> (accessed on 27 September 2022).



Activities at the global level

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The GF-TADs Management Committee is the decision-making body of GF-TADs for all final decisions regarding the GF-TADs initiative at global and regional levels. The Management Committee validates and follows recommendations provided by the Global Steering Committee where possible and appropriate in the over-all strategy and financial possibilities. The Management Committee validates the work plan of the GF-TADs Global Secretariat, supervises the work of the Global Secretariat as guided by the Global Steering Committee and reports on progress to the Global Steering Committee. Under the guidance of the Management Committee, the Global Secretariat coordinates the global activities of the GF-TADs and connects to all the governance bodies when necessary to strengthen collaboration between global and regional levels.

The Management Committee is chaired by the Director General of WOAH, Monique Eloit, and Deputy Director General of FAO, Maria Helena Semedo. Management Committee meetings are chaired by a co-chair from FAO (Keith Sumption) and a co-chair from WOAH (Jean-Philippe Dop). The Management Committee is composed of a WOAH delegation and an FAO delegation, both composed of three members (FAO: Dr Sumption, Dr Dhingra, Dr Berhe Tekola; WOAH: Dr Dop, Dr Montserrat Arroyo, Dr Mapitse). The two co-chairs are also delegation leaders. The Global Secretariat prepares and moderates the Management Committee meetings.

Since the 11th Global Steering Committee, nine Management Committee (MC) meetings have taken place (MC30: 21 January 2021, MC31: 5 March 2021, MC32: 15 April 2021, MC33: 12 May 2021, MC34: 24 June 2021, MC35: 8 July 2021, MC36: 16 September 2021, MC37: 14 October 2021, MC38: 18 November 2021). The main outcomes, not related to specific TADs, of these meetings were as follows:

- Development and adoption of the GF-TADs Strategy 2021–2025;
- Revision of terms of reference for disease working groups;
- Validation of standard operating procedures on labelling;
- Decision to identify and follow up with disease groups on synergies, not limited to areas of funding and partnership;

- Development of a GF-TADs Partnership and Financing Panel;
- Interactions with disease working groups;
- Strengthened interactions with Regional Steering Committees and Regional Secretariats;
- Improvement of the GF-TADs website;
- Consultations with regions on a survey for avian influenza.

GLOBAL SECRETARIAT

The GF-TADs Global Secretariat works under the supervision of the Management Committee. All proposals by the Global Secretariat must be agreed upon by the Management Committee before being implemented.

The Global Secretariat is composed of Dr Henk Jan Ormel (global coordinator, FAO), Dr Alexandre Fediaevsky (regional coordinator, WOAH) and Dr Bouda Vosough Ahmadi (deputy coordinator, FAO).

The Global Secretariat meets weekly and coordinates the day-to-day activities of the GF-TADs. The Global Secretariat also supervises the global GF-TADs website with the help of the website coordinator Ms Cecilia Murgua (information management and web officer, FAO).

The follow-up on recommendations adopted during the GSC10 is presented in Annex II.



Activities at the regional level

REGIONAL SECTION OF THE GF-TADS FOR AFRICA

Website: [Africa GF-TADs](#)

Institutional activities

- The last Regional Steering Committee, RSC10, was held 6–8 October 2021. The meeting successfully reactivated the GF-TADs in Africa:
 - the terms of reference of the Regional Steering Committee and the Regional Secretariat were adopted;
 - Dr Nick Nwankpa, Acting Director of AU-IBAR, was appointed chair of the Regional Steering Committee;
 - the terms of reference of the Standing Group of Experts for ASF and the regional strategy were discussed and adopted through an online majority vote.
- The region's priority diseases are FMD, PPR, ASF, contagious bovine pleuropneumonia and Rift Valley fever.

Technical activities

- I. A regional training workshop, Import Risk Analysis for ASF, was held virtually in six sessions at one-week intervals between 9 November and 14 December 2021. The workshop's audience was the 56 designated representatives from English-speaking African countries (28 countries, two participants per country). The broad objectives were to

- 1) build capacity for understanding the epidemiology of ASF;
- 2) build capacity for the national Veterinary Services in member countries to assess risk;
- 3) review the current knowledge of ASF in English-speaking African countries;
- 4) qualitatively assess the risk of ASF spread associated with entry and exposure, the consequences of ASF virus and the risk pathways, in order to strengthen ASF control.

More information is available here: <https://rr-africa.woah.org/en/events/regional-training-workshop-import-risk-analysis-for-african-swine-fever/>.

- II. Regional consultations to formulate the second phase of the PPR GEP, 'Towards Global PPR Eradication: 2022–2027', were held virtually for the ECOWAS, ECCAS, SADC, Arab Maghreb Union and IGAD regions. Objectives were to

- 1) provide an update on the GEP progress for each country, including stage in the stepwise approach based on the revised PMAT, epidemiological status, vaccination status and challenges and priority areas for support;
 - 2) define cross-border activities and harmonisation;
 - 3) incorporate lessons from the Global Rinderpest Eradication Programme and other animal and human disease control programmes for that country,
 - 4) trace the evolution of the PPR GEP from lessons learned from new knowledge regarding PPR.
- a) The ECOWAS regional PPR consultation was held virtually on 14–16 July 2021. The meeting was attended by 56 participants. Among them were WOAH delegates from 12 out of the 15 ECOWAS member countries. Regional FAO and WOAH offices co-organised the meeting with the PPR GEP Secretariat. The Secretariat, along with the CET reviewing the PPR GEP, attended the consultations.
 - b) The ECCAS regional PPR consultation was held virtually on 18–20 August 2021. The meeting was attended by 34 participants. Key participants were delegates from ECCAS member countries. Representatives from the AU (IBAR and PANVAC) as well as the Regional Economic Communities ECCAS and CEBEVIRHA participated. Representatives from the FAO and WOAH regional offices, the PPR GEP Secretariat and the CET attended.
 - c) The SADC regional PPR consultation was held virtually on 13–15 September 2021. The meeting was attended by 52 participants, among them delegates and representatives of the delegates from SADC member countries. The consultation was attended by representatives from the AU (IBAR and PANVAC) and the SADC secretariat; FAO and WOAH regional representatives; the PPR GEP Secretariat and the CET.

- d) The Northern Africa PPR consultation was held virtually on 27–29 September 2021 with an attendance of 34 participants. Key among them were delegates from North African countries. The meeting was attended by representatives from the AU (IBAR and PANVAC), the Arab Maghreb Union secretariat and the Mediterranean Animal Health Network (REMESA); FAO and WOAH regional representatives; the PPR GEP Secretariat and the CET.
 - e) The Eastern Africa PPR consultation was held virtually on 21–22 October 2021 and was attended by 49 participants. Out of the 11 countries in the region, only six were represented in the meeting. Key participants were WOAH delegates, representatives of the AU (IBAR and PANVAC), IGAD secretariat and East African Community; FAO and WOAH regional representatives; the PPR GEP Secretariat and the CET.
- III.** The PPR Global Eradication Programme Secretariat presented the PPR GEP II CET to the GF-TADS Management Committee in a meeting on 12 July 2021. The meeting was attended by the GF-TADS Management Committee, a PPR advisory committee representative, the PPR GEP Secretariat and members of the CET. The objective was to introduce the CET to the Management Committee and present the CET work plan.
- IV.** PPR Global Eradication Programme Secretariat organised a stakeholder workshop for presenting the revised PMAT on 3–4 June 2021. There were about 64 participants, including the PMAT expert team, rinderpest and PPR specialists and representatives from WOAH Members, Members' Veterinary Services, the Regional Economic Communities, AU-IBAR, IGAD, PPR Regional Advisory Groups, the PPR Advisory Committee and the GREN. The objectives were to
- 1) review the structure and content of the revised PMAT Questionnaire and suggest modifications if needed;
 - 2) review the User Guide and provide recommendations to improve the guidance for the optimal use of the PMAT.
- (The preparatory meetings and regular coordination meetings between FAO and WOAH are not included in this list.)

REGIONAL SECTION OF THE GF-TADS FOR THE AMERICAS

Website: [Americas GF-TADS](#)

Institutional activities

- The last Regional Steering Committee was organised in December 2020. This meeting was aimed to revise the region's list of priority TADs. The regional priority diseases are FMD, ASF, classical swine fever (CSF), avian influenza and screwworm.
- Following the emergence of ASF in the Americas (in the Dominican Republic and Haiti), the Regional Steering Committee met on several occasions since 31 July 2021 to
 - raise awareness among all countries from the region,
 - organise an Emergency Management Regional Committee under the umbrella of the GF-TADS,
 - adopt an ASF regional strategy framework.
- Dr Jaspinder Komal (Vice-President of the Science Branch of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and former Delegate of Canada to WOAH) has been re-elected as President of the GF-TADS Regional Steering Committee of the Americas.
- Representatives participated at the 11th Regular Meeting of the Interamerican Board of Agriculture, coordinated by the Instituto Interamericano de Cooperación para la Agricultura (IICA). As a result, Ministerial Resolution No. 14 was released recognising the role and relevance of GF-TADS and urging prevention of the spread of ASF to the Continent.
- Several meetings were held to coordinate training to veterinarians and pig producers on ASF preparedness, prevention and control.

Products or publications

- Regional framework for the containment and prevention of ASF spread in the Americas: https://rr-americas.woah.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/esp_eng-estrategia-regional-ppa-2021_.pdf
- Communication tools prepared in collaboration with partner organisations: the International Air Transport Association, WCO, International Maritime Organization (IMO) and Interpol
- IMO circular letter distributed to all IMO Member States and Associate Members, intergovernmental organisations and non-governmental organisations in consultative status: [https://wwwcdn.imo.org/localresources/en/MediaCentre/Documents/Circular Letter No.4445 - Information On African Swine Fever \(Asf\) And Call For Measures To Prevent The Spread Of Th... \(Secretariat\) \(1\).pdf](https://wwwcdn.imo.org/localresources/en/MediaCentre/Documents/Circular Letter No.4445 - Information On African Swine Fever (Asf) And Call For Measures To Prevent The Spread Of Th... (Secretariat) (1).pdf)

- Article published in the WCO internal magazine: <https://mag.wcoomd.org/magazine/wco-news-96/oie-african-swine-fever/>
- Article published in *PorciNews*: https://issuu.com/grupoagrinews/docs/libro_porcine_latam_octubre_2021?fr=sZjg3NzQzMDQwNDI
- Joint press release from WOAH, FAO, IICA and the Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria (OIRSA): <https://rr-americas.oie.int/en/news/int-ags-support-dominican-haiti-to-asf/>

REGIONAL SECTION OF THE GF-TADS FOR ASIA & THE PACIFIC

Website: [Asia & Pacific GF-TADS](#)

Institutional activities

- The last normal Regional Steering Committee was held in June 2020. The meeting was aimed to revise the terms of reference for the Regional Steering Committee and the list of priority TADs for the region. A follow-up meeting was organised in July to adopt the revised terms of reference.
- In July 2021, a regional consultation was held to update the regional strategy. After the consultation, a drafting committee of volunteers was formed to help develop the regional strategy.
- As of June 2021, Dr Baoxu Huang, Delegate of China to WOAH and president of the WOAH Regional Commission, is the new chair of the Regional Steering Committee.
- The regional priority diseases are defined by sub-regions.
 - Southeast Asia: FMD, avian influenza, swine diseases (ASF, CSF, porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome, porcine epidemic diarrhoea), rabies
 - South Asia: FMD, avian influenza, PPR, rabies
 - Pacific: TADs (ASF present in Papua New Guinea)
 - East Asia: FMD, avian influenza, PPR, swine diseases (ASF, CSF, porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome, porcine epidemic diarrhoea), rabies
- GF-TADs meetings for each of the four sub-regions were planned for November–December 2021 to update sub-regional priorities and set work plans for 2022–2023.
- During the 32nd WOAH Regional Conference for Asia & the Pacific in September 2021, discussion was held about GF-TADs priorities. The discussion confirmed that WOAH members support the development of a generic framework to combat TADs and the inclusion of lumpy skin disease (LSD) among the regional priority TADs.

Products or publications

- Alert letter on an atypical ASF strain
- Video on unlicensed vaccines and biosecurity for ASF: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cvaw0OISs4>

REGIONAL SECTION OF THE GF-TADS FOR EUROPE

Website: [Europe GF-TADs](#)

Institutional activities

- The last normal Regional Steering Committee was held in November 2020. The meeting was aimed to revise the terms of reference for the Regional Steering Committee and the list of priority TADs for the region.
- The meeting was attended by all members, and the new Regional Steering Committee terms of reference were accepted.
- Bernard Van Goethem, Director of Crisis preparedness in food, animals and plants at the European Union Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE), was elected as chair of the Regional Steering Committee in December 2020.
- The priority diseases for the region are FMD, ASF, PPR, LSD, rabies in wildlife and avian influenza.
- A draft of the regional GF-TADs action plan was presented.

Technical activities

Events organised under the GF-TADs umbrella in 2021 were mostly regular meetings, such as for the Standing Groups of Experts, and could be held online.

The FAO suggested at least two events that were not possible to hold:

- one workshop in the Western Balkans in February 2021 for Veterinary Services;
- one training event in Russian on ASF and FAO guidelines, spread over November and December.

REGIONAL SECTION OF THE GF-TADS FOR THE MIDDLE EAST

Website: [Middle East GF-TADS](#)

Institutional activities

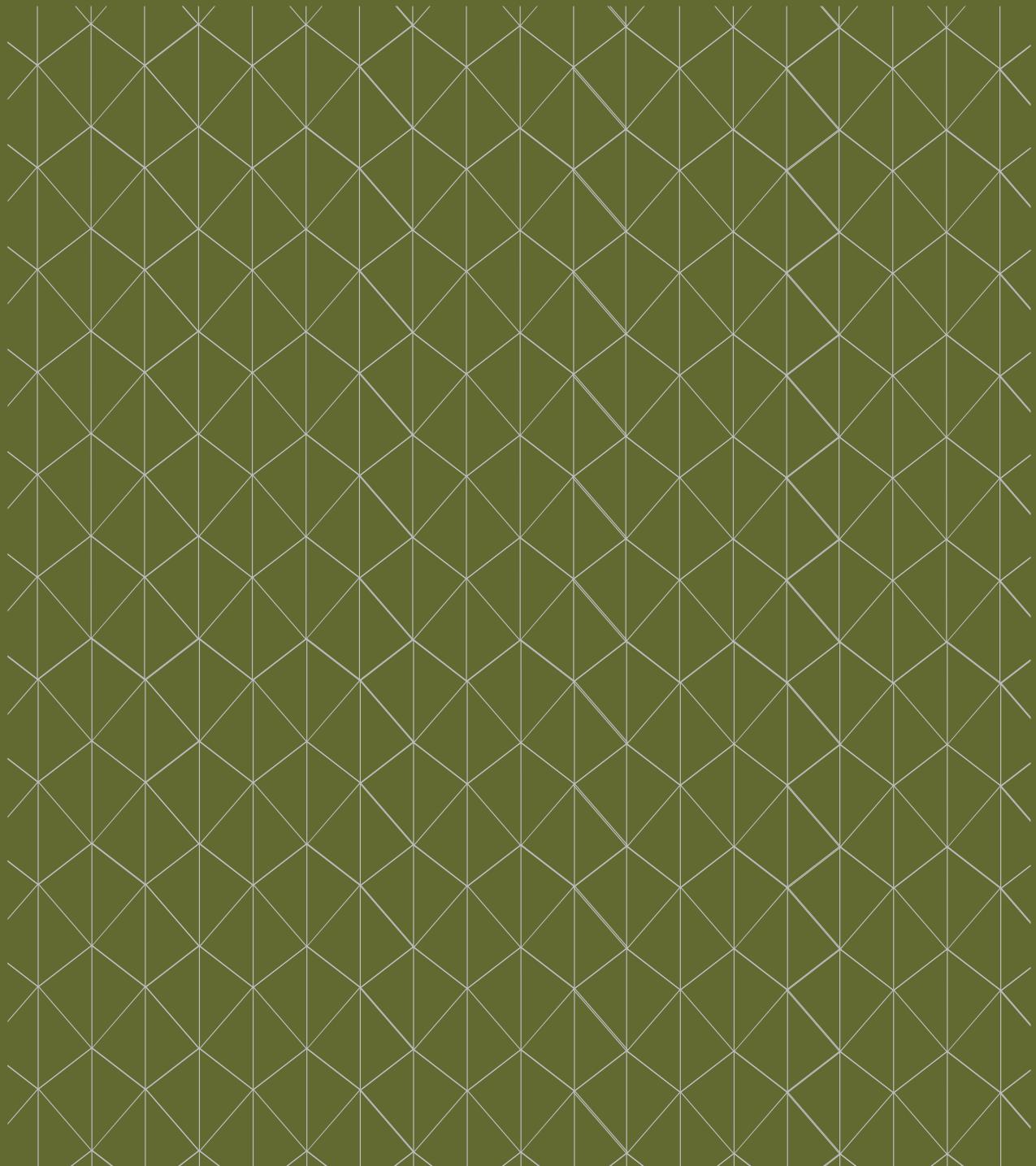
- The last normal Regional Steering Committee was held in November 2020. The meeting was aimed to finalise and adopt the regional strategy.
- Ibrahim Qasim, Chief Veterinary Officer of Saudi Arabia, chairs the Regional Steering Committee for the Middle East.

- The priority diseases for the region are FMD, PPR, RVF and brucellosis.
- The GF-TADs Regional Steering Committee was present at the 16th Conference of the Regional Commission for the Middle East, held virtually 3–4 November 2021. The chairman of the Regional Steering Committee presented the GF-TADs activities and next steps.
- The GF-TADs Regional Steering Committee was invited to the inter-regional workshop on vector borne diseases, organised jointly by the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD) and the WOAH regional representatives for the Middle East, with technical assistance from the EuFMD, held 8–9 November 2021.
- Reports from these events will be published on the regional website: <https://rr-middleeast.woah.org/en/>.

Technical activities

- I. Middle East Webinars on PPR were held by AOAD, 24–25 March 2021, and GF-TADs, 31 March – 1 April 2021. The objectives and aims of the meetings were
 - 1) to inform member countries on the updates and revision at the global level of the PPR PMAT evaluation process;
 - 2) to assess the present PPR situation in member countries and the achievements of the related control activities within their national strategic plans, as recommended by the previous meetings in Doha 2015 and Amman 2017;
 - 3) to identify the gaps and lessons learned from the first five years of implementing the PPR GCES and to stimulate the formulation of harmonised national and regional strategic control plans.
- II. A workshop was held 7–9 June 2021 to provide an update on the FMD strategic plan and the PCP roadmap in AOAD TADs project countries. This was a refreshment workshop and could be preparation for the next roadmap meeting. The participating countries presented their progress along with the PCP. The challenges that they encountered could be taken into consideration before the roadmap meeting.
- III. The Fifth GF-TADs Roadmap for FMD and Second Epi/Lab Network meeting took place 6–9 December 2021. Its main objectives were as follows:
 - 1) Assess and map the progress on FMD control in Middle Eastern countries by reviewing the outcomes of the ongoing FMD control activities at national levels (outputs of the Self Assessment Tool);
 - 2) Support the development of regional epidemiology and laboratory networks work plans.
 - 3) Update the roadmap for regional FMD control in the Middle East until 2027, using the principles of the PCP-FMD.
 - 4) Encourage discussions to identify regional priorities and key support that countries need from their development partners in order to control FMD and strengthen their surveillance systems and laboratory capacity.

Annexes



Annex I

Source of funding for global priority TADs programmes

The following sections reflect financial contributions to the disease-specific control strategy. The FAO and WOAH acknowledge the contributions of countries that host physical events, and they recognise that several donors and countries (Canada, China, the European Commission, France, Japan, Italy, Spain) provide significant logistic or human resource contributions that cannot be added to the table.

FUNDING FOR ASF

1. The Global Initiative lists the various activities that are underway or are being planned under each objective of the Global Initiative in the [Operational Plan](#) available online in the GF-TADs website. The Operational Plan shows allocated funds and funding sources for each activity and funding gaps in view of efficient coordination. Activities that have identified donors are shown. Although the activities are coordinated under the Global Initiative, the management of the activities and the funds are under the responsibility of the relevant FAO or WOAH headquarters or regional offices.

2. Table 1 is a summary table of the funding available on activities related to ASF. It covers the past two years and the coming years.
3. Draft the Working Group action plan for 2021–2022, with involvement from the regional advisory groups.

FUNDING FOR FMD

FAO-funded projects:

- DTRA-funded project (GCP/GLO/074/USA): March 2020 – September 2022
 - Total Budget for FMD global (USD 273,000) and West Africa (USD 919,000)
- Control of TADs FMD & PPR in Pakistan (UTF/PAK/139/PAK): USD 36,530,335
- Risk-based control of FMD in Pakistan (UTF/PAK/145/PAK) 2019–2025: USD 0 (The donor will implement the project through its own department, the National Veterinary Laboratory. Hence no funding will go to FAO.)
- Critical support to the cold wave and One Health emergencies (desert locust, fall armyworm and FMD) in Pakistan (TCP/PAK/3801): February 2020 –

TABLE 1. Funding to support activities related to ASF, by donor, amount, region and status or period of end if any specified.

Organisation	Donor	Amount	Beneficiary Region	Time period ending
WOAH	Canada (CFIA-AAFC)	CAD 672 000	Americas	2023
	China (People's Republic of)	EUR 950 000	Asia Pacific; Global	open
	Japan-Trust Fund	EUR 150 000	Asia Pacific	June 2021
	Korea (Rep. of)	EUR 40 000	Asia Pacific	open
	EU-DG SANTE	EUR 160 000	Europe/Africa/America	Dec. 2021
	OIRSA	EUR 50 759	Americas	2022
	USA-DTRA	USD 355 000	Global; South East Asia; Africa	Oct. 2022
	Italy DoD DTRA (USA)	EUR 150 000	Global	29 Sep. 23
		USD 371 800	Global	
		USD 901 000	South East Asia	
	Korea (Republic of)	USD 803 500	East Asia	21 Dec. 24
	Korea (Republic of)	USD 3 763 147	SEA	21 Dec. 24
	OFDA (USA)	USD 1 775 000	SEA	15 Sep. 21
	FAO	USD 500 000	Balkans	30 Nov. 21
	FAO	USD 500 000	Pacific Islands	21 Jan. 23

December 2021, USD 500,000

- Technical assistance to mitigate the impact of FMD incursions in Zambia (TCP/ZAM/3802): November 2020 – November 2022, USD 251,000
- Risk reduction of FMD in the Northern and Southern Provinces in Zambia (GCP/ZAM/083/CEH): December 2020 – November 2021, USD 184,179
- FMD emergency aid programme (MTF/INT/004/MUL): 1995–2023, USD 3,130,691
- Regular programme funding

EuFMD-funded project:

- European Union–funded activities by the European Commission for the control of FMD (GCP/GLO/026/EC) to improve preparedness, reduce risk and sustain global strategy: 2019–2023, EUR 11,200,000, of which EUR 2,650,000 is for the Pillar III Programme to sustain the FMD Global Control Strategy and EUR 2,698,000 is to improve FMD and similar TADs control in the European neighbourhood (North Africa, Middle East and Southeast Europe)

WOAH-funded projects:

Donor	Scope	Amount	Period covered
EU-DG SANTE	Global	EUR 80,000	2019–2020
EU-DG SANTE	EU-neighbouring countries	EUR 80,000	2020–2021
EU-DG SANTE	Global	EUR 75,000	2022*
China	SEACFMD	EUR 620,000	Open
DTRA	Global	USD 510,000	2020–2022
NZ-MFAT	Lao PDR/Myanmar/SEACFMD	NZD 14,935,123	2015–2022
Italy	Global	EUR 150,000	Open
Germany BMZ	Namibia/SADC	EUR 1,000,000	2022–2026
Japan JTF	AP	To be determined	2021–2022

*Under negotiation

FUNDING FOR PPR

FAO: France (2017–2020; USD 330,891), DTRA (2019–2022; USD 384,926), FAO regular funds and several trust funds at the country level.

WOAH: DTRA (2019–2022; USD 600,000; geographical scope: global), World Bank Regional Sahel Pastoralism Support Project (2015–2021; USD 3,140,060 to ensure the regional coordination of the animal health component; geographical scope: Sahel), Germany Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (2020–2024; EUR 2,500,000; geographical scope: East Africa), EU-DG SANTE (2019–2020; EUR 80,000; geographical scope: global), Italy (December 2021; EUR 150,000; geographical scope: global).

Note: The World Bank funded Regional Sahel Pastoralism Support Project launched in 2015 (2015–2021; USD 248 million; geographical scope: Sahel) is currently under negotiation for a second phase for 2022–2027.

FUNDING FOR RINDERPEST POST-ERADICATION

FAO

- DTRA: September 2017 to March 2022; around USD 1,243,191; global)
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan: March 2021 to February 2026; around USD 285,000; global

WOAH

- DTRA: September 2020 to September 2022 (base period); USD 579,300 (base period).

Annex II

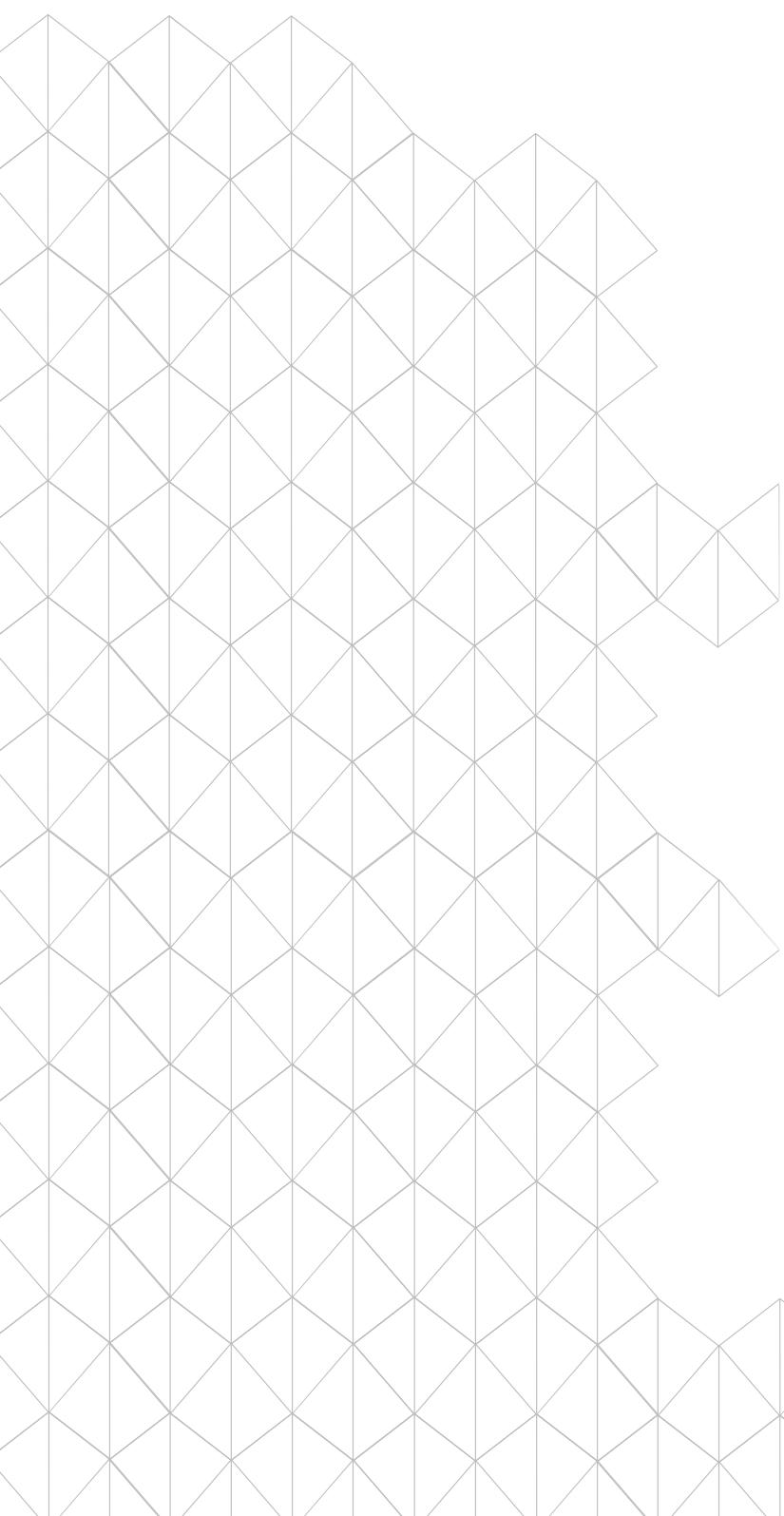
Follow-up on the action plan adopted at GSC10 following the 3rd external evaluation

Action number	Action	Status	Comments
Recommendation 1	To assure the relevance, effectiveness and sustainability of GF-TADs, FAO and WOAH as leading partners must reconfirm and strengthen their commitment to this collaborative instrument of strategic importance		
Action 1	To ensure proper funding and staff for the sustainable functioning of the Global Secretariat – including salaries, missions, a budget for the website – and support to the Regional Secretariats	In progress	As of December 2019, the Global Secretariat is a mixed FAO and WOAH team, led by FAO. The number of staff involved increased from one to four. However, the total full-time equivalent in 2021 ranged between 1 and 1.5. There is not yet a clearly dedicated budget for the Global Secretariat's basic functioning, and the available staff and resources depend on grants and secondments. Despite important advances, the basic mechanism is not yet fully sustainable.
Action 2	To draft a proposal to ensure strengthening and sustainability of the Global and Regional Secretariats, to be submitted to FAO and WOAH management. FAO and WOAH are to run the Global and Regional Secretariats with flexibility, according to funding and staff availability.	Addressed	A draft proposal was transmitted to the Management Committee in December 2019. The Global Secretariat is led by FAO and includes WOAH staff, and Regional Secretariats are led by WOAH and include FAO staff.
Action 3	To revise the terms of reference of the Global Steering Committee, Regional Steering Committees, Management Committee and Global Secretariat	Addressed	Done for the Management Committee, Global Secretariat and Global Steering Committee. A template for Regional Steering Committees and Regional Secretariats was drafted, adapted and adopted in all regions. Regular updates will be needed.
Action 4	To reposition FMD, PPR and rinderpest as the core diseases addressed by the GF-TADs and to ensure a harmonised approach to the related activities by strengthening interactions between the Global Secretariat and the three programmes, clarifying the linkages between the Joint FAO-WOAH PPR Secretariat and the overall GF-TADs, and ensuring proper labelling	In progress	ASF has been added as a global priority disease, as recommended by the Global Steering Committee. The linkages between the global priority TAD programmes and the Global Secretariat have improved but not yet reached full fluidity.
Action 5	To include systematically, on the agenda of the Management Committee meetings, an update on all other WOAH and FAO projects, programmes and initiatives that might have an impact on the work of GF-TADs	In progress	Virtual meetings allowed more ease in organising meetings and exchanging information, yet the recommendation is still only partially addressed. More information should be shared on the supporting tool developed by each organisation.
Action 6	To achieve greater engagement of senior FAO and WOAH management with GF-TADs and raise its profile and visibility at, for instance, relevant high-level events and meetings	Addressed	Done on several occasions: Green Week, the G20 Agriculture Meeting, the 88th WOAH General Session, conference on livestock at FAO
Action 7	To propose AU-IBAR as President of the GF-TADs Regional Steering Committee for Africa	Addressed	Done. The Regional Steering Committee for Africa under chairmanship of AU-IBAR was reactivated in October 2021.

Action number	Action	Status	Comments
Recommendation 2	The Global and Regional Steering Committees should review and adjust membership, processes and activities and take leadership and responsibility to ensure impact in all regions and coherence and synergies at the global level		
Action 8	To focus only on the three priority diseases and programmes (FMD, PPR and RP) at the global level and establish collaborative linkages in a Tripartite meeting; to update and exchange information about rabies, avian influenza, Rift Valley fever and other zoonosis of global concern through the participation of the relevant Tripartite focal points in Management Committee meetings	In progress	Partially addressed. As recommended by the Global Steering Committee, ASF has been added as a global priority disease. Collaborative linkages with the Tripartite are not operative or not well-communicated. Linkages are not being addressed at the level of the Management Committee, as regional leadership have requested.
Action 9	To limit the list of diseases addressed by the Regional Steering Committees to the global TADs plus only a few priority TADs	Addressed	Ongoing. The regional strategies have been revised but the update of regional priority TADs remains an ongoing process.
Action 10	To finalise and share the prioritisation tool 'Sequential approach to identifying and prioritising of TADs on a regional/sub-regional basis' within the Regional Steering Committees and make it available on the GF-TADs website	Addressed	A tool has been proposed to regions and is available upon request.
Action 11	To simplify the key performance indicators framework to make it more user-friendly	In progress	Revising the key performance indicators framework is included in the task to develop the new strategy, but it is not yet operational.
Action 12	To report the disease situation annually using key performance indicators	In progress	The GF-TADs is a coordinating platform; indicators cannot be based on reduced disease occurrence. New key performance indicators are defined under the GF-TADs strategy.
Action 13	To reassess the input of the supporting tools (GLEWS, EMC-AH, OFFLU) and synergies with GF-TADs in an effort to better exploit them and establish coordination mechanisms and regular communication channels with these platforms (with participation in Management Committee meetings as appropriate)	In progress	Not addressed. This should be a cornerstone for the new strategy. Other tools should be considered, including Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS), FAO Tools, Global Burden of Animal Diseases programme, etc., considered under the GF-TADs new strategy.
Action 14	To identify non-governmental organisations, farmers organisations and regional organisations to be invited to technical meetings undertaken under the GF-TADs	In progress	Ongoing. This objective has been taken into account in the list of participants to the Global Steering Committee and private-public partnership events.
Action 15	To establish communication mechanisms between relevant Regional Economic Communities and GF-TADs Regional Secretariats, in particular by sharing and updating information on the GF-TADs website, and stimulating their active participation in Regional Steering Committee meetings	In progress	Contacts are established and the GF-TADs regional websites are regularly updated. Regional Economic Communities are being invited to meetings, including the Regional Steering Committees, regional advisory groups and Standing Groups of Experts. More engagement is needed.
Action 16	To encourage working groups on specific topics, such as the Standing Group of Experts in Europe or Asia	Addressed	Addressed, and more Standing Groups of Experts are to be established
Action 17	To add a GF-TADs discussion item to the agenda of the biannual meetings of WOAH Regional Representatives with the participation of the Global Secretariat	Addressed	Addressed, and to be continued
Action 18	To identify and share success stories through relevant channels: the GF-TADs website, WOAH Newsletter, FAO EMPRES News, etc.	In progress	Postponed, to be implemented with the new strategy. Progress has started with the regional and global report and ASF report.

Action number	Action	Status	Comments
Action 19	To assess the relevance of regional laboratory networks and epi-networks established when regional animal health centres were functional and, if deemed not operational, to mobilise existing FAO structures (e.g. ECTAD, regional and sub-regional offices) and WOAH representation to support the GF-TADs	In progress	There are some initiatives via FMD or regional networks (e.g. Mediterranean Animal Health Network [REMESA], ASEAN Laboratory Directors' Forum, SAAR epi and lab network), but efforts are not systematic. An inventory should be taken in the context of the GF-TADs strategy 2021–2025.
Action 20	To develop and implement a strong programme of engagement, communication, outreach and advocacy with donors on an ad hoc basis for specific diseases and needs	In progress	Postponed, to be implemented with the GF-TADs strategy 2021–2025
Action 21	To ensure proper information is available on the GF-TADs global and regional websites and that GF-TADs partners are informed of the existence of the websites	Addressed	Addressed, and to be continued
Action 22	To improve communication among GF-TADs institutional bodies, the global tools and FAO and WOAH staff working on TADs	In progress	In progress. Communication has improved between the institutional bodies and the disease-specific bodies, but improvement is needed as regards the global tools and communication from disease-specific bodies and to regional levels.
Recommendation 3	The GF-TADs secretariats must be strengthened to assure responsiveness, effective operation, improved communication and implementation of the action plans and other activities agreed upon at global and regional levels		
Action 23	To formalise documentation (on the website), particularly at the global level, including minutes, actions and general documentation from the Global Steering Committee, Management Committee and Regional Steering Committees	Addressed	Addressed. The reports of the Global Steering Committee and Regional Steering Committees are published. Reports from the Management Committee meeting are not intended to be published on the website but are shared with disease-specific bodies and regional secretariats. Standard operating procedures on labelling are published.
Action 24	To plan quarterly teleconferences between the Global and Regional GF-TADs Secretariats in order to exchange information on regional and global progress and other GF-TADs activities	Addressed	Addressed: there are not quarterly conferences but regular exchanges are organised before and after management committee meetings, plus additional exchanges on an ad-hoc basis.
Action 25	To hold Regional Steering Committee meetings annually or at least biennially to promote responsiveness and relevance in association with other regional and sub-regional activities	Addressed	Implemented in the Americas, Asia-Pacific, Europe, and the Middle East; planned for Africa since reactivation in October 2021
Action 26	To enrich content and better communicate the existence of the GF-TADs website by referring to it on WOAH and FAO websites	In progress	Partially addressed. Enrichment of content is ongoing at global and regional levels. Reference to GF-TADs website need to be increased on the WOAH and FAO websites.
Action 27	To advocate for improved gender balance in all GF-TADs committees	In progress	Improved, but insufficiently. Committees are far from parity in number and positions.
Action 28	To increase staffing of the Global Secretariat to three	In progress	Partially addressed, as appointed staff have only limited time dedicated to the GF-TADs
Action 29	To identify relevant WOAH and FAO staff who can provide, as need be, a comprehensive portfolio of competencies (technical expertise, managerial competencies and communication skills) to the Global Secretariat and more broadly to the GF-TADs	In progress	Ongoing. Resource mobilisation, publication and internal meetings will increase engagement.
Action 30	To modify the terms of reference for the members of the Management Committee and regional Secretariats so to ensure time to be allocated to GF-TADs activities	In progress	Not implemented for Management Committee members; ongoing implementation for the Regional Secretariat at the WOAH level (pending final approval)

Action number	Action	Status	Comments
Action 31	To include GF-TADs systematically on the programme of the biannual meetings of the WOAH Regional and Sub-regional Representatives so as to increase networking, information exchange and joint learning among Regional Secretariats	Addressed	Implemented, and to be continued



This document has been produced under the umbrella of



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