



**GF-TADs**

GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE  
PROGRESSIVE CONTROL OF  
TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASES



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



OIE  
WORLD ORGANISATION  
FOR ANIMAL HEALTH



# GF TADs Europa – Lesson and Experience

**10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Regional Steering Committee of the GF - TADs for the Americas**

Panama City, Panama, Tuesday September 17, 2019

Paco Reviriego - Bernard Van Goethem  
President GF-TADs-Europe



# Introduction / Reminder

Regional governance → Regional **Steering Committee** of the GF-TADs for Europe

## Composition

President: B. Van Goethem (EC)

Vicepresidents: E. Nepoklonov (RF), U. Herzog (AT)

Members:

- OIE – FAO - WHO
- Countries (4): RF – KZ – AT\* - BE
- Bureau of the OIE Regional Commission for Europe (4)
- Regional Specialised Organisations:  
EC - EuFMD – REMESA
- Donors (EU, France, Italy, etc)
- Observers (ad hoc)

## Meetings

RSC1 (Paris, October 2005)

RSC2 (Paris, December 2007)

RSC3 (Brussels, February 2010)

RSC4 (Brussels, January 2012)

RSC5 (Brussels, October 2013)

RSC6 (Brussels, September 2015)

RSC7 (Brussels, October 2017)

RSC8 (Tbilisi, September 2018)



# Standing Group of Experts on **ASF**

## **Members (2019) :**

### **- countries:**

- Belarus
- Bulgaria
- Estonia
- Latvia
- Moldova
- Romania
- Ukraine
- Serbia
- Belgium
- Czech Republic\*
- Hungary
- Lithuania
- Poland
- Russian Federation
- Slovakia

### **- organisations:**

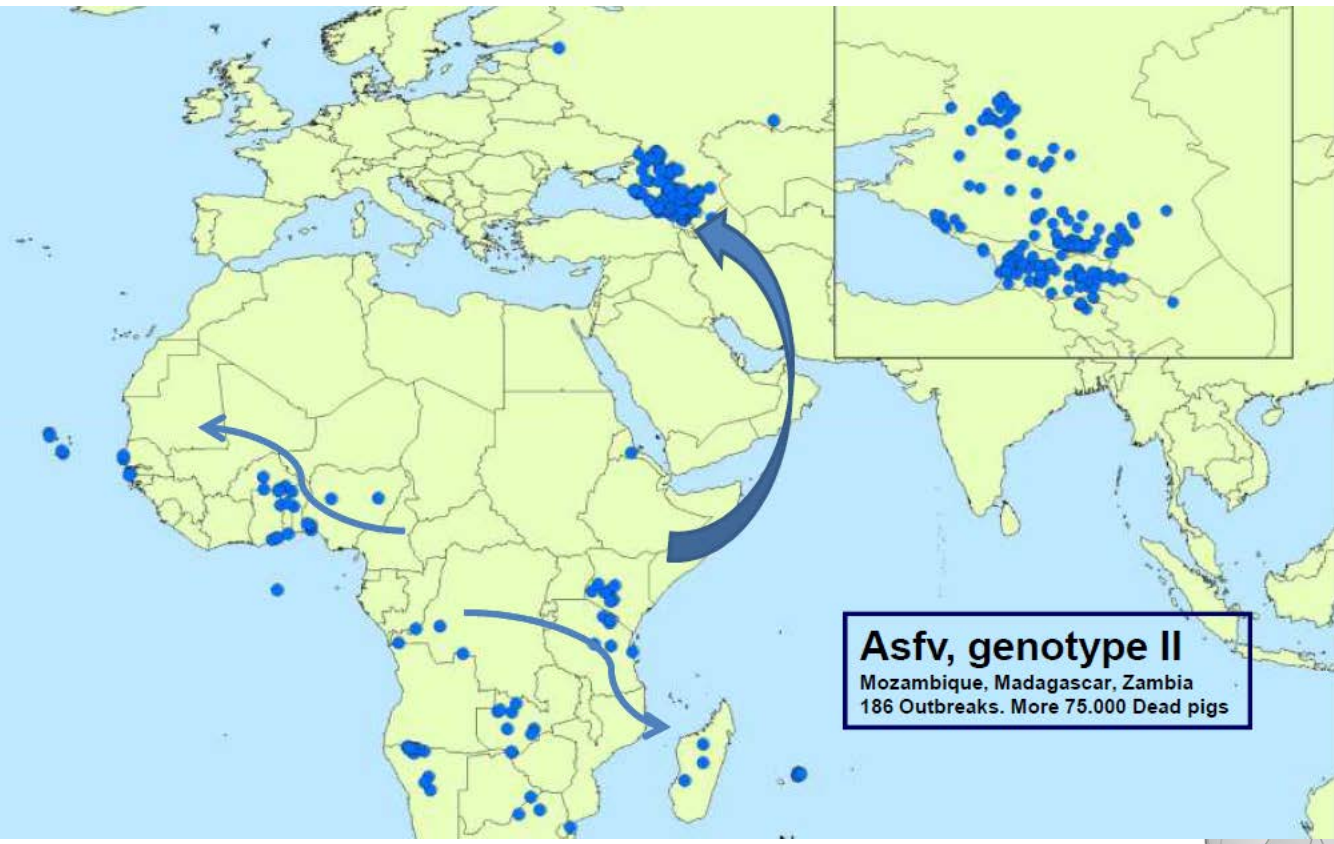
- EC
- OIE
- FAO

**Secretariat:** OIE sub-regional Representation in Brussels

### **Observers:**

- Any country in the Region or other regions
- Selected stakeholders





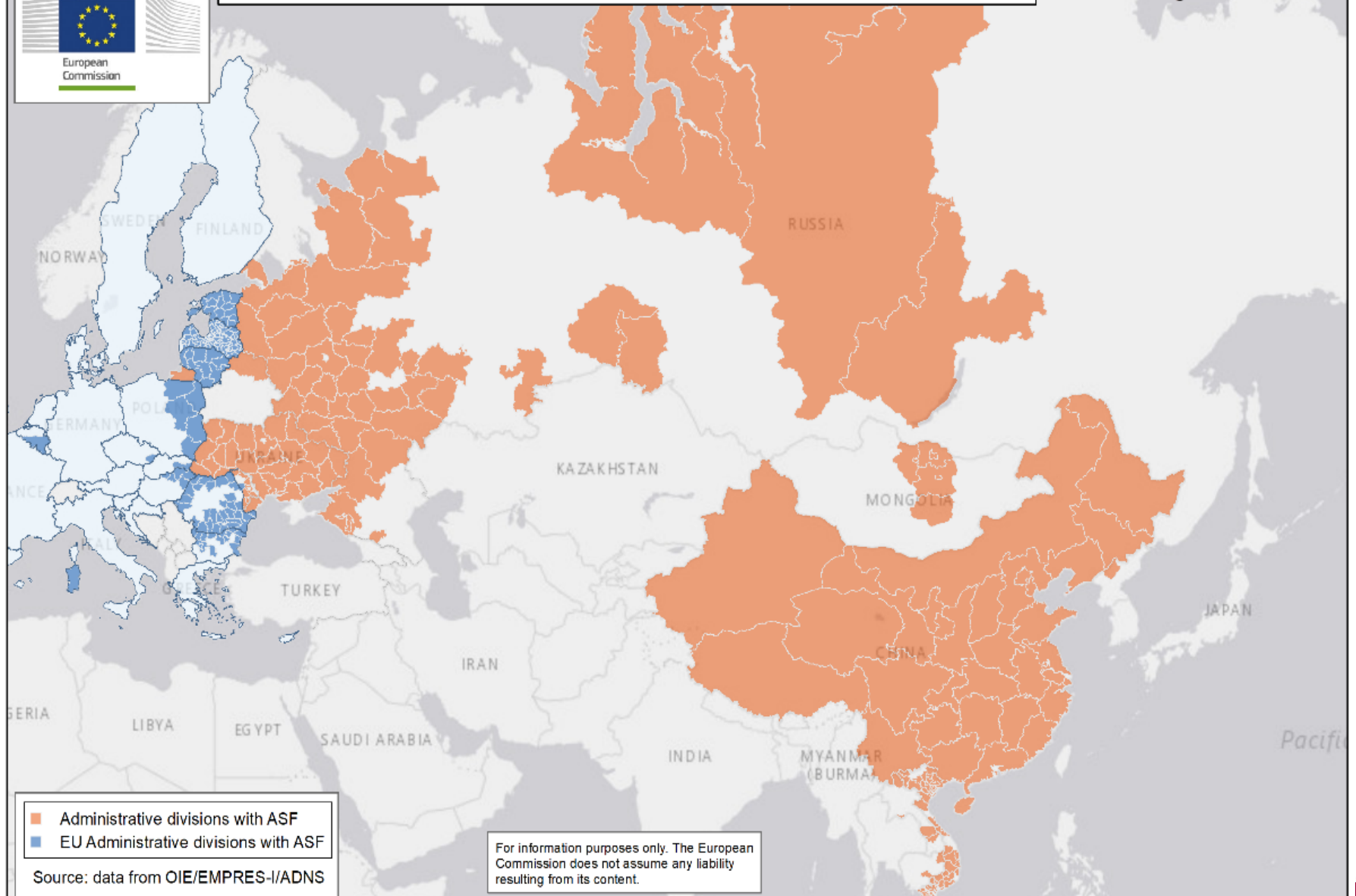
- 2007

# ASF global spread: 2007-2019



African Swine Fever by administrative divisions affected in the period 2014-2019

August 2019



- Administrative divisions with ASF
- EU Administrative divisions with ASF

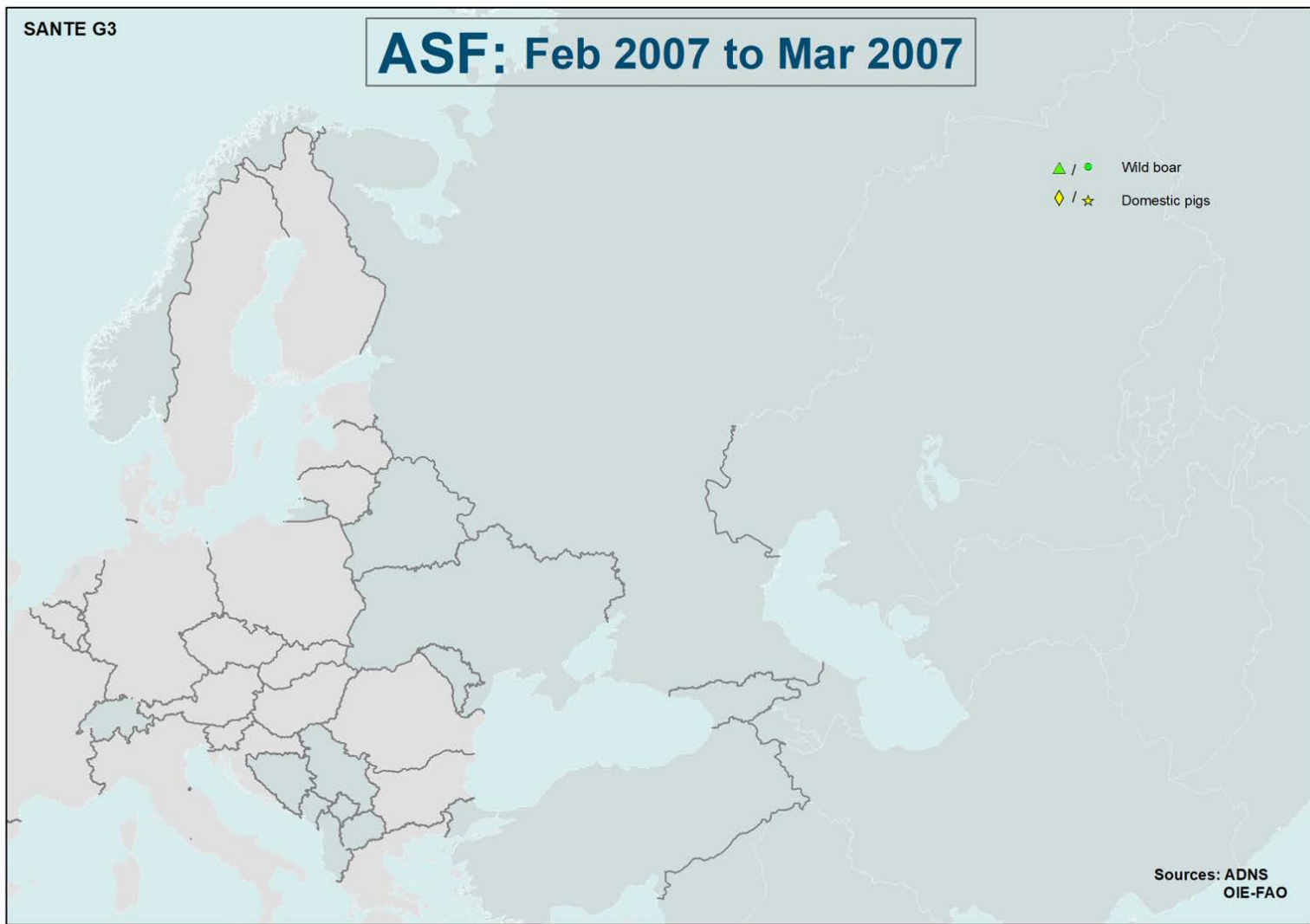
Source: data from OIE/EMPRES-I/ADNS

For information purposes only. The European Commission does not assume any liability resulting from its content.

2019 - SANTE G3  
Last data update: 07/08/2019

0 550 1 100 2 200 3 300 4 400

# ASF in Europe: 2007-2019

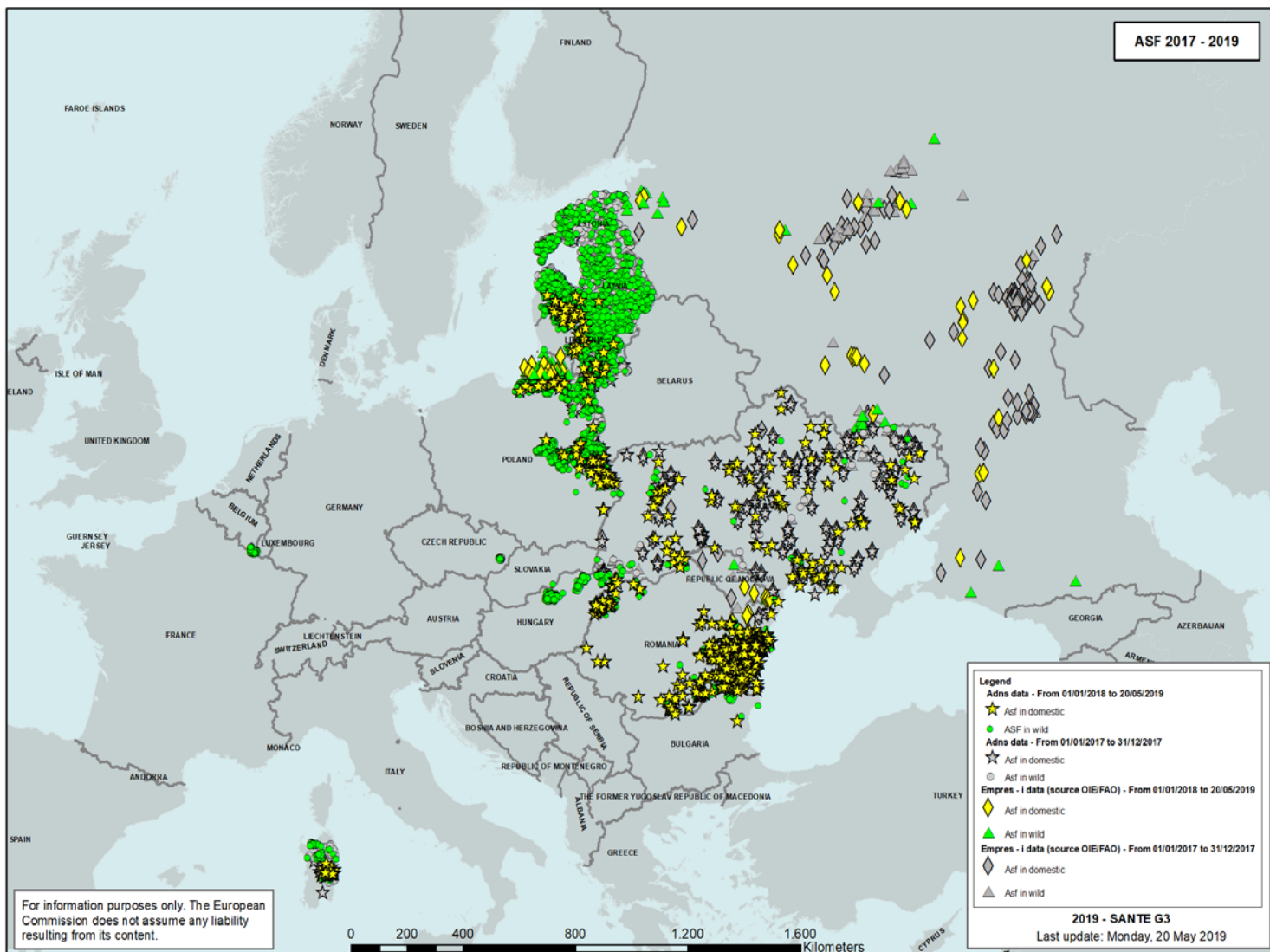




# African Swine Fever situation (June 2017 – September 2019)

## Infected European countries in 2017 - 2019:

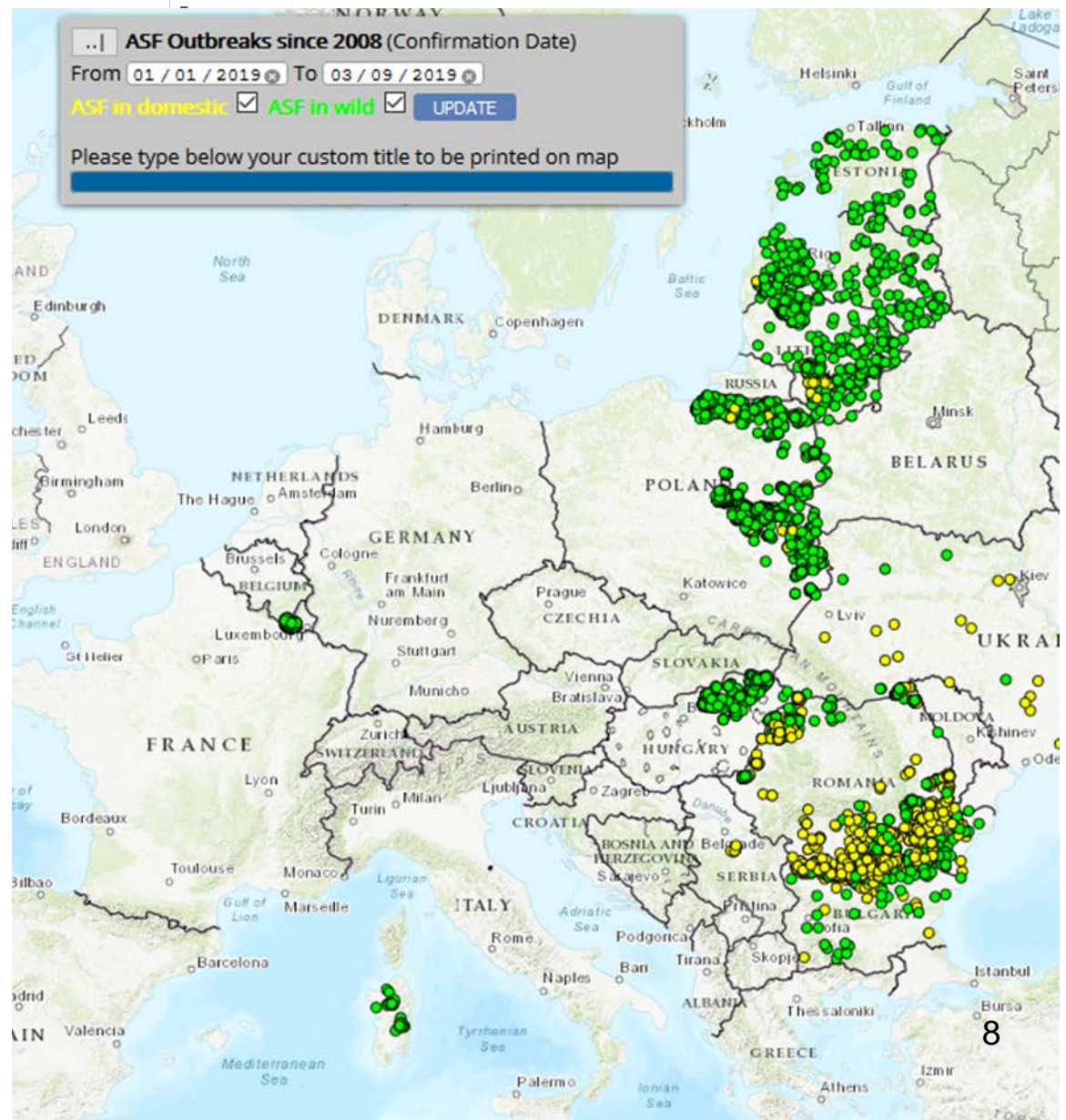
- Estonia
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Moldova
- Poland
- Russia
- Ukraine
- Czech Republic\*
- Hungary
- Romania
- Belgium
- Slovakia
- Serbia
- *Italy*



# ASF in the EU in 2019



- Sardinia (IT)
- Lithuania
- Latvia
- Estonia
- Poland
- Romania
- Hungary
- Belgium
- Slovakia
  
- Czechia – free from 02/2019







# Standing Group of Experts on **ASF**

## **Objectives:**

to build up a closer cooperation among countries affected by African swine fever (ASF) and thereby, address the disease in a more collaborative and harmonised manner across the *Baltic and Eastern Europe sub-region* [the Europe Region].

## **Actions:**

- **Regular exchange of information** on the ASF situation and control measures applied, both as regards the domestic pig sector and wild boar;
- **Regular review of national control strategies** by experts based on scientific risk assessments, experience and best practice in the region, with a view to harmonising control policies and building a science based regional control strategy;
- **Collaboration on laboratory diagnostics** (exchange of best practice on methodology; support and training / capacity building as needed);
- **Collaboration on awareness raising campaigns** in the affected countries (exchange of best practice and communication tools).





# Activities of the Standing Group of Experts on **ASF**

## **Technical guidance based on science provided**

**Technical meetings with renowned experts providing key recommendations on:**

- Wild boar
- Biosecurity
- Control measures
- Stamping out procedures; carcass disposal and disinfection
- ASF risk communication, laboratory diagnostics/capability
- Preparedness
- Cross border cooperation, legal and irregular movements of pigs/ products
- Awareness, communication

## **Country situation and control measures assessed**

**All countries assessment missions** by renowned experts

## **Trust among countries in the sub-region increased**

**Coordination meetings**

## **Prevention and control capacity of countries (to be) improved**

**Capacity building programme** under development (BTSF workshops)



# Standing Group of Experts on **ASF**

## Meetings of the SGE ASF – main issue discussed (2014-2019)

- Kick-off meeting (Bern, September 2014) Launching
- SGE ASF1 (Minsk, Belarus, December 2014) ASF management in Wild Boars
- SGE ASF2 (Tallinn, Estonia, February 2015) BIOSECURITY in pig production systems (including backyard)
- SGE ASF3 (Moscow, Russia, March 2016) Present and discuss findings of the SGE ASF missions conducted by experts
- SGE ASF4 (Paris, France, May 2016) Discuss any new development with regards to ASF epidemiology in the region
- SGE ASF5 (Lisbon, Portugal, September 2016) Revise evolution of epidemiological situation and control measures in place.
- SGE ASF6 (Vilnius, Lithuania, November 2016) Depopulation/stamping out procedures; practical aspects carcass disposal, disinfection
- SGE ASF7 (Paris, France, May 2017) updates on epidemiological ASF situation; and preventive and control measures
- SGE ASF8 (Chisinau, Moldova, September 2017) ASF risk communication', and 'laboratory diagnostics and capability
- SGE ASF9 (Kiev, Ukraine, March 2018) Cross border cooperation addressing (legal and) irregular movements of pigs and products
- SGE ASF10 (Paris, France, May 2018) update on epidemiological situation and control measures
- SGE ASF11 (Warsaw, Poland, September 2018) in depth review of the current knowledge on wild boar
- SGE ASF12 (Prague, Czech Rep., March 2019) eradication ASF: focus on the Czech Republic experience
- SGE ASF13 (Paris, France, May 2019) update on epidemiological situation and control measures
- SGE ASF14 (Sofia, Bulgaria, September 2019) epidemiological investigations



# Standing Group of Experts on **ASF**

## GF-TADs experts missions in the countries:

- **March 2015 - Lithuania**
- **April 2015 - Belarus**
- **May 2015 - Latvia**
- **July 2015 - Russia**
- **September 2015 - Ukraine**
- **September 2015 - Estonia**
- **October 2015 - Poland**
- **October 2016 - Moldova**
- **October 2017 - Czech Republic**
- **December 2017 - Romania**
- **January 2019 – Bulgaria**
- **August 20149 - Belgium**

## GF-TADs experts:

- **Silvia Bellini (IT)**
- **Vittorio Guberti (IT)**
- **Klaus Depner (DE)**
- **Konstantin Gruzdev (RF)**
- **Sergei Khomenko (UA)**
- **Marius Masilius (LT)**
- **Ago Pärtel (EE)**
- **Aleksey Igolkin (RF)**
- **Petr Šatrán (CZ)**
- **Krzysztof Jazdzewski (PL)**





## EXAMPLE I: Recommendations on biosecurity

- Biosecurity in pig production systems
- Hunting biosecurity
- Biosecurity during stamping out
- Biosecurity in the laboratory
- Biosecurity at the borders



## Recommendations SFE GFTADS Europe on Biosecurity in pig production systems (I)

**The SGE ASF2 (Tallinn, Estonia - 11-12 February 2015) focused on BIOSECURITY in pig production systems (including backyard):**

- Biosecurity is of crucial importance to prevent the entry and spread of ASF in pig holdings, both in the commercial and so called backyard pig sectors. **There are minimum biosecurity measures that need to be and can easily be implemented even by smallholder pig owners**, such as restricting access to visitors, preventing contact between domestic pigs and wild boar, using separate shoes and clothes when entering the pig house, and having disinfectants ready on site. Precondition to achieve this is for the Veterinary Services to provide basic information to pig holders by way of appropriate communication campaigns;
- Backyard holdings with low bio-security in place are currently playing an important role in the spread of ASF. Given the economic relevance of these holdings in certain areas, **the control and biosecurity measures to be applied in such production systems need to be carefully evaluated** (annex);
- There are **different ways/strategies to strengthen and promote biosecurity measures**, including **positive stimulus for compliant holdings**, that should be applied taking into account the different levels of risks of each type of holding, area/zone and in peace/emergency/endemic situation. Failure to comply may entail **enforcement measures including administrative sanctions or other actions**.



# Recommendations SFE GFTADS Europe on Biosecurity in pig production systems (I)

**The SGE ASF2 (Tallinn, Estonia - 11-12 February 2015) focused on BIOSECURITY in pig production systems (including backyard):**

## **Measures to minimize the risk of ASF introduction into a pig holding**

- No swill feeding;
- Pigs should be introduced from trusted and certified sources;
- Visitors should be discouraged to enter the pig holdings, specially the commercial ones;
- Personnel should be well trained/informed and contacts with other pigs or wildboar forbidden,
- Perimeter fencing preventing contact with feral pigs (double fences) should be install on a pig holding in outdoor farms;
- Carcasses, discarded parts from slaughtered pigs and food waste should be disposed off in an appropriate manner;
- No part of any feral pig, whether shot or found dead should be brought into a pig holding;
- Sharing of equipment and tools between the holdings should be avoided;
- Appropriate means for cleaning and disinfection have to be placed at the entrance of the holdings. Effective disinfectants shall be available in the holding;
- Vehicles and equipment should be properly cleaned and disinfected before entering into contact with pigs and leaving the holdings; however in general they should not enter the holding;
- Appropriate hygiene measures have to be applied by all persons entering into contact with pigs (domestic and/or feral)



## Recommendations SFE GFTADS Europe on hunting biosecurity

**The SGE ASF6 (Vilnius, Lithuania, 28-29 November 2016) devoted time to practical aspects related to carcass disposal and disinfection of holdings:**

**Measures to minimize the risk of ASF spread by hunting:**

- **Regional and/or local trainings and awareness campaigns** be provided to hunting community, forestry and environment agencies and Veterinary Services (public and private components) should be organised with the support of experts as soon as possible, to ensure that common disease prevention, biosecurity and eradication goals are understood and shared.
- **Hunted wild boar should remain in the premises of the hunting ground until tested;** only negative carcasses must be released. The carcasses should be individually identified.
- Unless a specific hygienic removal protocol is in place, **offal from hunted wild boar should not be removed from the animal in the field**, which should be brought to dedicated authorised dressing facilities in the hunting ground equipped with water, waste collection equipment and freezers. Transport of hunted animals to the dressing facility should be carried out using only properly equipped vehicles. Dressing rooms should have sufficient effective disinfectants available.





## Recommendations SFE GFTADS Europe on biosecurity during stamping out

**The SGE ASF6 (Vilnius, Lithuania, 28-29 November 2016) devoted time to depopulation/stamping out procedures and disinfection of holdings:**

**Measures to minimize the risk of ASF spread during stamping out:**

- Disinfection techniques should comprise thorough **soaking of bedding and litter as well as faecal matter with the disinfectant; washing and cleaning by careful brushing and scrubbing of the ground, floors and walls;** then further washing with the disinfectant; washing and disinfecting the outside of vehicles.
- **The choice of disinfectants and of procedures for disinfection should be made taking into account the causal agents of infection** and the nature of the premises, vehicles and objects which are to be treated. **Specific precautions should be taken in case of freezing temperatures.** For ASF virus inactivation, recommended disinfectants are listed in the **OIE technical disease Card.**



## Recommendations SFE GFTADS Europe on biosecurity in the laboratory

**SGE8 (Chisinau, Moldova, 20-21 September 2017) was dedicated partially to laboratory diagnostics and capability:**

**Measures to minimize the risk of ASF from laboratories:**

- Reference laboratories should have the **adequate biosecurity level to deal with either liver virus or inactivated samples.**
- Diagnostic labs performing **routine screening tests for surveillance purposes may operate under biosecurity level 2.**



## Recommendations SFE GFTADS Europe on biosecurity at the borders

**SGE ASF9 (Kiev, Ukraine, 22-23 March 2018) was dedicated to Cross border cooperation addressing (legal and) irregular movements of pigs and their products**

**Measures to minimize the risk of entry/spread of ASF at borders:**

- **Coordinated border management among border Inspection posts and customs officials** should be encouraged in order to tighten the cooperation among these two bodies across the border and within the country.
- **Specific visible tools and procedures should be in place at border checkpoints** in order to **screen the required number of travellers** and consignments to fight/control illegal movements. In addition to **awareness campaigns**, **amnesty bins** should be displayed at borders as incentive measures to get rid of at risk products. A system for **recovering costs or setting deterrent fines should be in place**.
- In order to optimise the use of available resources, **risk analysis and risk profiling for borders control personal luggage and vehicles should be carried out**.
- **Empty animal trucks should be disinfected** according to a well-defined procedures, using disinfectants recommended by OIE and the competent authorities should be informed in order to enhance cross border coordination on these procedures. The disinfection procedure can take place in a different location other than the border check point or the edge of the restricted area.



## EXAMPLE II: Recent recommendations on epidemiological investigations

- Countries should have tools and **must always perform investigations and collect relevant data after each new outbreak in pigs or confirmation of the infection of wild boar in a new zone.** In view of:
  - Identifying the source of the outbreak / infection and ways of transmission.
  - Mapping the potential spread of the disease using tracing back and forward methods.
  - Implementing the most appropriate control and preventive measures.
- **Countries should always share the outcome of outbreaks investigations** and data collection to fill knowledge gaps on ASF epidemiology and in view of strengthening prevention and control measures.
- All countries, even not affected by ASF, should build **teams of highly skilled experts** and provide them the tools to perform outbreaks investigations.
- Countries **should share check-lists, questionnaire and other relevant tools for outbreaks investigations and data collection. A specific repository will be created on the GFTADs website** to make them available to other countries.
- OIE, FAO and all member countries in Europe should devote efforts to produce **GF-TADs a guidebook on 'ASF outbreak investigations and data collection'**, as a way to provide technical specifications for competent authorities.



- More information (dedicated webpage):

**Oie**  
World Organisation for Animal Health

Regional Web Site for Europe

**GF-TADs**  
GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE  
PROGRESSIVE CONTROL OF  
TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASES

Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

**Oie**  
WORLD ORGANISATION  
FOR ANIMAL HEALTH

**Standing Group of Experts on African swine fever in Europe**  
under the GF-TADs umbrella

**Presentation / objectives**

A new initiative called **Standing Group of Experts on African swine fever in Europe** (hereafter referred as 'SGE ASF') was set up under the GF-TADs umbrella to build up a closer cooperation among countries affected by African swine fever (ASF) and thereby, address the disease in a more collaborative and harmonised manner across Europe.

The Standing Group of Experts on African swine fever in Europe is a unique opportunity to engage affected countries into a fruitful regional dialogue and increased transparency. The GF-TADs offers the ideal framework to discuss common / harmonized mitigation measures based on scientific and technical grounds only.

**Members** (as of September 2018) :

- countries: BE - BG - BY - CZ - EE - HU - LT - LV - MD - PL - RO - RU - UA
- organisations: EC - OIE - FAO

**Secretariat:** OIE sub-regional Representation in Brussels ([rsr.bruxelles@oie.int](mailto:rsr.bruxelles@oie.int))

<http://www.rr-europe.oie.int/>  
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World Organisation for Animal Health

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# Main initiatives and policy of the EU on ASF

- Preparedness
- Scientific advice
- Research
- Legislation
- Regionalization
- Border controls
- Audits
- Financial support
- Guidance to MSs
- Public awareness
- Urgent intervention
  - EUVET
- International cooperation
  - GFTADS



**EASY STEPS FOR PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF AFRICAN SWINE FEVER**

**GF-TADS**  
GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE PROGRESSIVE CONTROL OF TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASES

**efsa**  
European Food Safety Authority

For more information consult ASF topic page and story map on EFSA website  
<https://goo.gl/oU3EdD>

European Commission | **@Food\_EU #AfricanSwineFever**  
<https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/anim/>



ASF regionalization as per Commission implementing Decision 2014/709/EU

2014 - SANTE 03



**KEEP ANIMAL DISEASES OUT OF THE EU**

For more information consult ASF topic page and story map on EFSA website  
<https://goo.gl/oU3EdD>



**African swine fever: sharing best practices is critical to stop spread**

Sharing best practices in fighting African swine fever is critical to halt the spread of the disease. These include early detection methods and rigorous emergency measures.

