





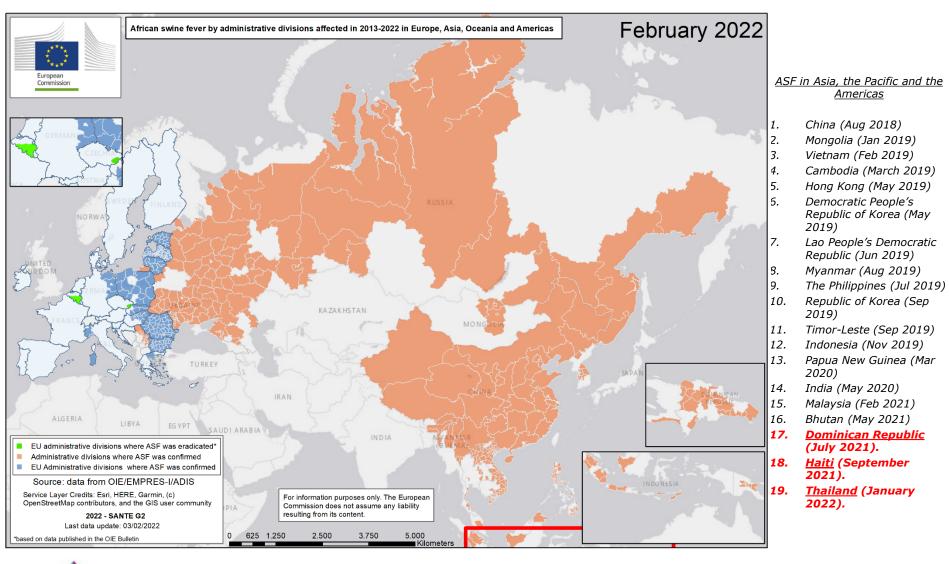
Standing Group of Experts on ASF in Africa

under the GF-TADs umbrella

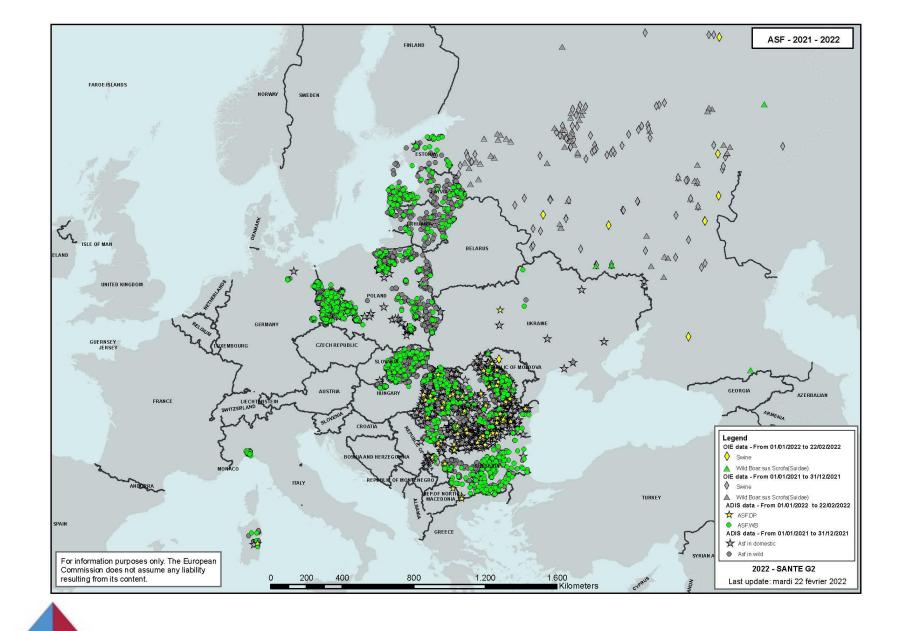
1th meeting

23 March 2022

Experience of the SGE on ASF in Europe







The **SGE ASF** was set up in **2014**, under the **GF-TADs umbrella** and with the support of the European Commission.

By bringing together the CVOs of countries affected by ASF at least twice a year, it made possible the building up of a closer cooperation across the region and thereby, addressing the disease in a more collaborative and harmonized manner across Europe.

The SGE ASF engaged affected countries and observers into a fruitful regional dialogue and increased transparency.

The **GF-TADs** offers the **ideal framework** to discuss, coordinate and agree common / harmonized mitigation measures **based on scientific and technical grounds only**, with the support of a number of **renowned ASF experts** from the region.

On top of the **formal members** of the SGE ASF (the countries in Europe affected by ASF), representatives from **any other country in Europe** and from the **SGE on ASF from other regions (Asia, Americas and Africa)** are welcomed to attend as **observers**.

- 19 meetings of the SGE ASF in Europe since 2014
 - Discussion of **dedicated technical topic** at each meeting (*e.g. biosecurity, wild boar management, ...*), followed by adoption of relevant **recommendations**
 - The most recent (remote) meeting: February 2022 (Update on the countries' situation and ASF situation in North Macedonia and Italy)
 - The next (remote) meeting: June 2022 (on ASF vaccine and vaccination strategies)
- 12 field visits by experts in Belarus, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, the Czech Republic, Romania, Bulgaria, Belgium.

Trust – transparency – science based technical guidance – improved preparedness and control capacity - best practises – sharing of knowledge, success stories and exchanges with other regions worldwide



Some **Examples** of structural **recommendations**:

- It is essential to ensure transparency and full cooperation among countries. The Standing Group reiterates that trust and cooperation can only be built when full access and timely sharing of the relevant information is provided. (SGE 14)
- Preparedness, passive surveillance, early detection and prompt reaction are essential when ASF is detected for the first time in wild boar or in the domestic pig population. All countries should develop and implement their preventive, control and eradication measures based on scientific advice and make use of best available expertise. (SGE 16)
- All countries should actively share best practices, guidelines, and other relevant tools on the management of ASF in the framework of the Covid-19 crisis in the specific section of the e-depository on the GF-TADs page of the OIE Europe website, to make them available to other countries. (SGE18)

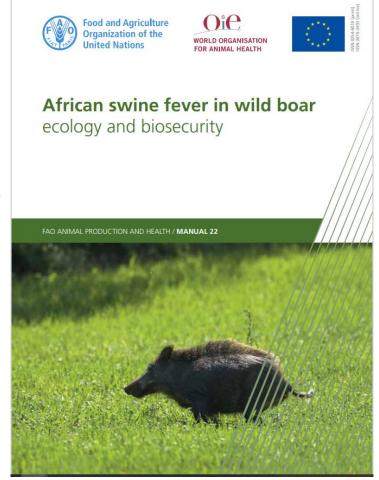
SGE ASF serves since 2014 as an effective regional platform to

- Inform each other
- Share best practices
- Promote successful and science based approaches, that led to the eradication of ASF in certain European countries
- Development of concrete guidelines for the management ASF in wild boar
- SGE on ASF expert visit on-the spot to concretely support for affected countries

The control of ASF when wild pig populations are involved represents a big challenge for the veterinary and wildlife authorities

The idea of this publication was proposed by the European Commission as a follow-up to the recommendations of the SGE ASF11 (2018)

The Handbook is regularly updated in order to reflect new scientific findings, technology innovation and best practices





https://rr-europe.oie.int/en/news/asf-and-wild-boar/

Conclusions:

- Collaboration and coordination at regional level is key
- High level of transparency on disease situation needed at the meetings and via OIE-WAHIS
- Regular meetings at CVO level to allow on-the-spot decisions on regional control strategy
- Central role of experts to guide science based discussions and decision-making
- Collaboration with other affected regions through SGEs

THANK YOU

For more information, visit the dedicated SGE ASF regional website:

https://rr-europe.oie.int/en/Projects/gf-tads-europe/standing-groups-of-experts-on-african-swine-fever-in-europe/

