

Regional Strategy for the Control of African swine fever in Africa-Recent Endorsement and Update

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**12th Meeting of Regional Steering Committee (RSC12) of
the GF-TADs Africa**

Mbabane, Eswatini



Outline

- **Introduction;**
- **Current status of ASF in Africa;**
- **Challenges towards prevention and control;**
- **ASF control approach;**
- **ASF Control Strategy in Africa;**
- **Net Steps/Way forwards**
- **Call for action;**
- **Conclusion.**



Introduction

- **Pig production is increasing in most parts of Africa, contributing to better livelihoods for millions of families and supporting the Agenda 2030 for the sustainable development goals.**
- **The potential of the sector is however hampered by under-financing compared to other agricultural sectors as well as occurrence of diseases, including African swine fever (ASF).**
- **ASF is a viral, haemorrhagic fever causing severe disease and death in domestic pigs.**
- **No cure or effective and safe vaccines exist. All direct and indirect contacts between infected**
- **Its propensity for rapid spread and high mortality makes it cause crippling socio-economic consequences**
- **pigs, their products, or contaminated objects and naïve pigs constitute a risk for disease spread.**

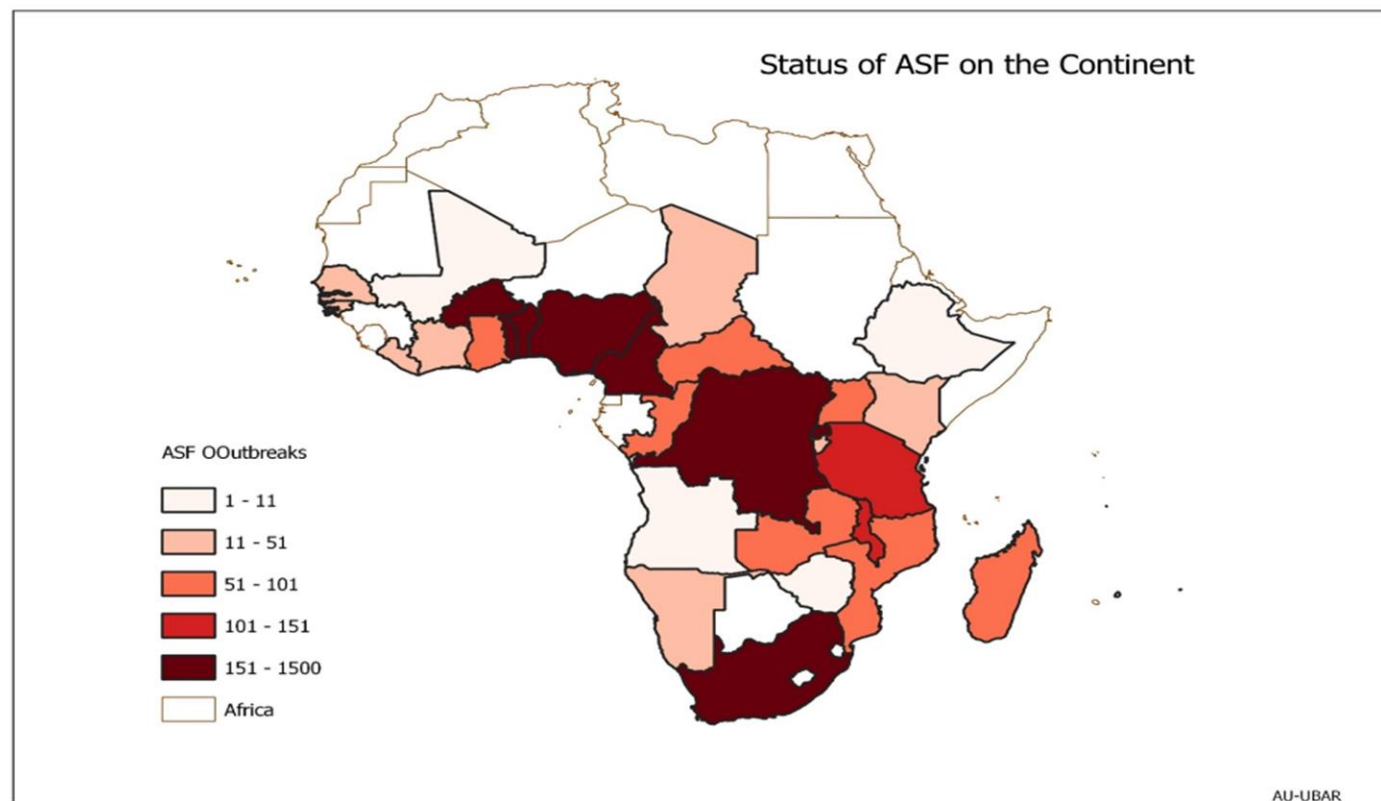


Current Status of ASF in Africa

- **ASF 2nd largest distributed disease in Africa**
- **One of the major endemic disease in Sub-Saharan countries especially in all Central, West and Eastern Africa and partially in Southern Africa**
- **Almost all the outbreaks in recent decades and spread in Africa and beyond has been due to movement of infected pigs and pork products**
- **Key drivers of the diseases spread are not well understood,**
- **Increasing importance of the domestic cycle in ASF spread across the continent**
- **Disease is largely underreported by MSs therefore its real spatial distribution remains unknown**



Current Status of ASF in Africa



Challenges towards prevention and control

- **Disease is highly underreported in the region;**
- **High demand of pork meat and products mainly in cities**
- **Over 90% of pigs are free range; Mostly backyard systems managed by women and children – poor biosecurity;**
- **Over 90% of producers are smallholder farmers and free range;**
- **Few medium and large scale piggeries applying biosecurity measures mainly in urban and per-urban areas**
- **High movement of pigs and pig products including cross-borer movements;**
- **Lack of adequate and harmonized control measures (stamping out and compensation scheme policy);**
- **Predominantly unsupervised slaughter houses with no meat inspection in local market, road-side butchers and roasters.**



Challenges towards prevention and control

- **Inadequate and uncoordinated trade and transport;**
- **Lack of biosecurity measures and poor compliance;**
- **Protection of business/source of income and lack of knowledge about ASF control measures-reasons for lack of disease reporting or underreporting; and compliance to animal mobility control**
- **No pig value chain actors would want to incur the cost of associated with pig losses following ASF outbreaks without compensation – compensation as an incentive??**
- **Most of the country have stopped control measures such as stamping pout and compensation**
- **Socio-economic impact of ASF outbreaks on farmers livelihoods and other value chain actors is not well understood**
- **Limited data on the contribution of the pig sector to national GDP and countries' economy – compelling evidence for increased investment in development of the pig industry**



ASF Control Approach in Africa

Develop and implement ASF Prevention and Control Strategy

- National level
- Regional level
- Continental level



ASF Control Approach in Africa

REGIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE CONTROL OF ASF IN AFRICA

- **Published in 2017**
 - **Revised in 2023**
 - **Handed over to IBAR for validation**
- At Continental level**



ASF Regional Control Strategy for Africa



.STRATEGY SUPPORTS GRADUAL AND STEADY PROGRESS TOWARDS THE OBJECTIVES VIA ACTIVITIES IN THREE THEMATIC AREAS: **PREVENTION AND CONTROL, INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY AND SUSTAINABLE PIG PRODUCTION** AND BUILDING ON THREE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES: **EVIDENCE-BASED ACTION, VALUE CHAIN APPROACH AND PARTICIPATORY ENGAGEMENT**



EXACT ACTIVITIES NEEDED TO REACH THE OBJECTIVES OF THE STRATEGY IN EACH COUNTRY WILL VARY DEPENDING ON LOCAL ASF SITUATION AND EPIDEMIOLOGY, PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE AND CAPACITIES, SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONTEXT, PIG PRODUCTION AS WELL AS THE VALUE CHAIN STRUCTURE AND NEEDS. THEREFORE, EACH COUNTRY NEEDS TO CONSTRUCT INDIVIDUAL, LOCALLY ADAPTED NATIONAL AND REGIONAL ASF CONTROL PLANS ALIGNED TO THIS STRATEGY.





Rationale:

- **ASF impair pig production and animal welfare**
- **secondary negative effects on rural development and livelihoods**
- **sustainable pig production has the potential to contribute to income creation, empowerment of marginalised groups of people**
- **improved pig health reduce the use of antibiotics and the risk for antimicrobial resistance**

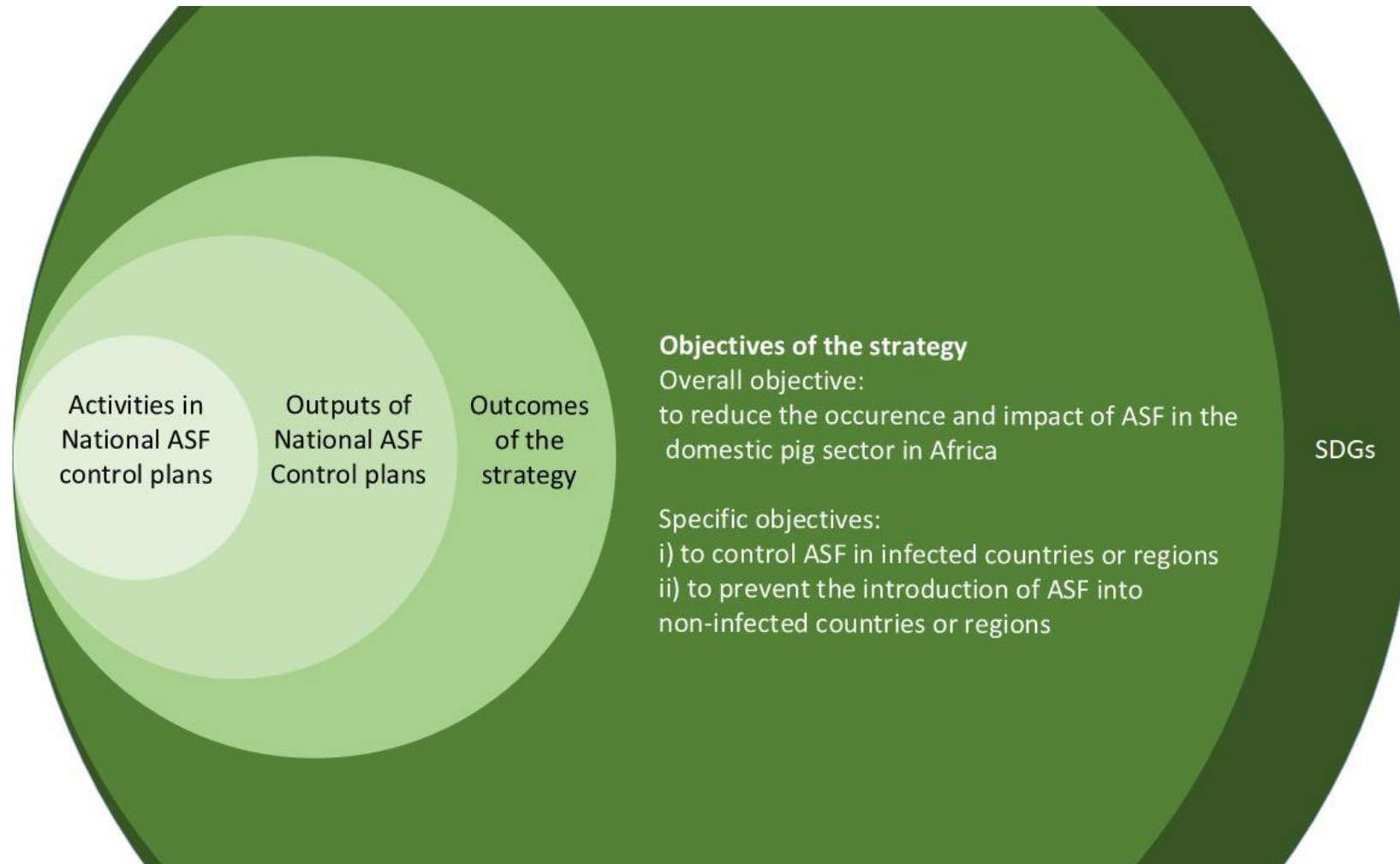
Overall objective: reduce the occurrence and impact of ASF in the domestic pig sector in Africa

Specific objectives:

- control ASF in infected countries or regions**
- prevent the introduction of ASF into non-infected countries or regions**



The strategy is formulated to provide a common plan for reaching the overall and specific objectives



Outcomes

- 1) better understanding of local ASF epidemiology;
- 2) better understanding of social, economic and cultural factors that influence ASF prevention and control;
- 3) strengthened capacities of veterinary services in disease detection, diagnosis, surveillance, emergency response and outbreak management;
- 4) strengthened capacities of authorities in risk analysis, risk management and contingency planning.
- 5) improved awareness of ASF for all stakeholders in the pig value chain;
- 6) improved biosecurity at all nodes in the pig value chain;
- 7) strengthened capacities to produce healthy pigs and high quality, safe pork without contributing to ASF spread.

Expected outcomes of the regional strategy

- 1) better understanding of local ASF epidemiology
- 2) better understanding of social, economic and cultural factors that influence ASF prevention and control
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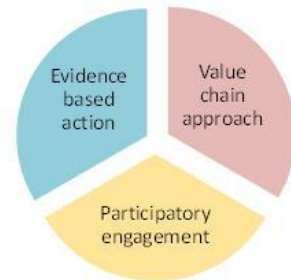


REGIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE CONTROL OF AFRICAN SWINE FEVER FEVER IN AFRICA

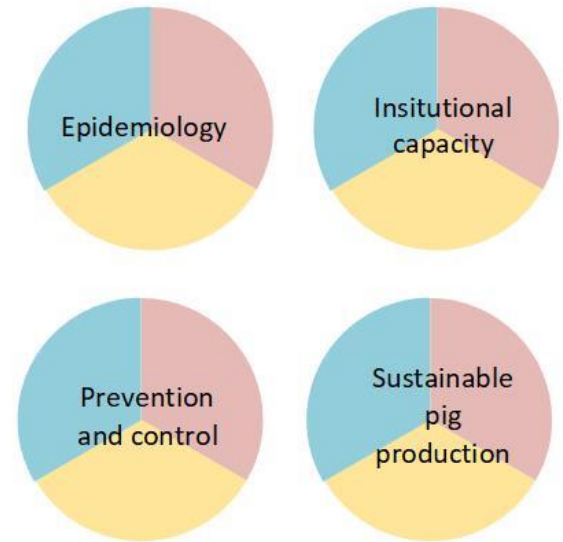


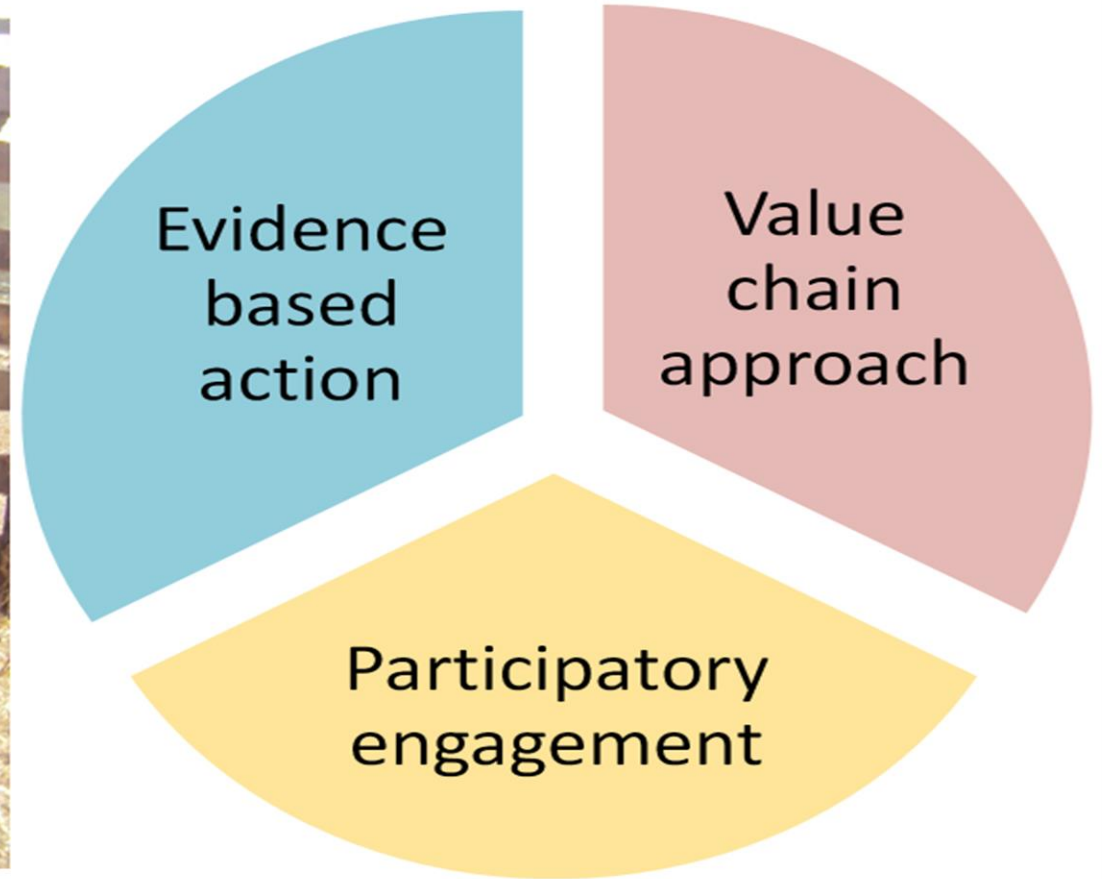
Accra, 2017

Fundamental principles



Thematic areas





Action Plan

Action plan

a risk and evidence-based plan for gradual and steady progress towards achieving the **expected outcomes** and **objectives**

One size does not fit all - each country needs to customize their own **National ASF control plan**.

Depending on the **local situation**:

- structure of the pig sector and the value chains
- urban and rural poverty levels
- social and cultural contexts
- available funding (outCost)

ASF status in the country:

- knowledge about ASF occurrence (unknown, sylvatic/domestic cycle regional variations, endemic or free)
- existence of a prior control strategy
- laboratory and veterinary sector capacities
- the countries' particular goal in addressing ASF (compartmentalisation, control or living with endemic disease status)



Next Steps/Way Forward

- **Provide a “Modified stamping out Model” during outbreak management in limited resource settings;**
- **Support the implement the FAO Regional ASF Control and Containment TCP**
- ✓ ***LoA with FAO under finalization and workplan developed and submitted for a regional workshop On Coordination, partnership and resource mobilization for the implementation of regional control strategy, networking as well as harmonization of cross border control measures***
- ✓ ***Regional ASF risk assessment and socio-economic impact for effective prevention, control and evidence-based advocacy-to collect socio economic data from target countries with significant pig/pork value chains.***
- ✓ ***Conduct workshop to share, lessons learnt and best practices on ASF that will serve to strengthen regional collaboration/cooperation, coordination and information sharing through technical networks***
- ✓ ***Support Official border control measures and informal cross-border transit and trade of pigs and pig products, leading to spread of ASF-Harmonization of official border control measures at regional level and effective control of Informal trade and movement of pigs and pig products across borders;***
- **Establish and operationalize a continent specific ASF Research Alliance for Africa-Tor developed and 1 meeting organized in July 2024 led by AU-IBAR**



Call for Action

- **Need to carry out regional and national risk factors assessment and analysis and management, including contingency plans;**
- **Development of country specific strategies/Action plan to include National ASF control plans**
- **Build capacity of MSs for prevention, early detection, and rapid response;**
- **Develop and implement of compensation policies to support the recovery of the pig industry;**
- **Maintain a high level of awareness of the ASF risk factors among farmers, veterinarians, butchers, traders, hunters, inputs suppliers and other value chain actors;**
- **Foster and support the implementation of good biosecurity practices**
- **Support improvement of laboratory diagnostic capacity;**
- **Reinforce and maintain border inspection and mobility control of live animals and pork products;**
- **Foster public-private partnership for investment in ASF risk mitigation and management**
- **Foster partnership, solidarity and cooperation between countries, regional and international institutions including donors**



Conclusion

- **ASF is a complex disease that survives in pork product and persists in environment for long periods, making the control and eradication very difficult;**
- **Promote and encourage Strategic PPP in Animal disease control programs and projects-Pork value Chain/interprofession actors provided support to CVO to control HPAI and ASF outbreak in Cote d'Ivoire**
- **Support research to develop efficient vaccine for the effective control and eradication of ASF**
- **Develop Joint continental and regional ASF control programs**
- **Need for resource mobilisation to implement continental and regional program/project that will lead to the ultimate of improving capacities to anticipate and mitigate the negative impacts of ASF on Food safety, Food and nutrition security; and sustainable economic growth.**



Thank you

Merci

شكراً لك

Obrigado

Gracias

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