

GF-TADs

GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE
PROGRESSIVE CONTROL OF
TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASES

Africa



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



World Organisation
for Animal Health
Founded as OIE



Outcomes of the 4th meeting of the SGE for ASF

Mercredi 12 mars

Viola Chemis (WOAH)

- ▶ Global Initiative identifies coordination at regional and global levels as key to enhancing national control programmes.
- ▶ The *Standing Group of Experts* (SGE) format allows countries with similar socio-economic and epidemiological situations to share information, challenges and best practices, and to discuss regional solutions and approaches to enhancing control.
- ▶ *Terms of reference* (ToR) of the SGE for ASF for Africa were adopted during the 10th *Regional Steering Committee* (RSC) meeting for Africa, held in October 2021.
- ▶ Launch: Founding members: Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Dem. Rep. of Congo, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Togo, and Uganda; Mali and Cabo Verde (observers)
- ▶ Purpose: To guide on ASF control technical aspects at the national and regional level, through the SGE ASF for Africa
- ▶ The Inaugural/launch meeting was held online, 23 -24 March 2022 (over 2 days) and agreed on a list of technical topics to guide the series of subsequent meetings

LIST OF TECHNICAL TOPICS FOR THE SGE FOR ASF, AFRICA - DELIVERED:

Topic		Date/Venue/Format
1. Value Chains	Understanding the production features and pig/pork value chains in Africa	21 - 22 September 2022, Online (Zoom)
2. Biosecurity	Strengthen biosecurity for the control of ASF along the value chain	01 - 03 August 2023 Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire
3. Surveillance	Enhanced surveillance and diagnostic capabilities for ASF control	
4. Outbreak Management	Outbreak response capability and capacity for ASF control	15-17 October 2024, Online (Zoom)

LIST OF TECHNICAL TOPICS FOR THE SGE FOR ASF, AFRICA: IN-PIPELINE

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Topic		Date/Venue/Format
5. Socioeconomics	Regional ASF risk assessment and socio-economic impact for effective prevention, control and evidence-based advocacy	2025 - TBC
6. Cross-border	Official border control measures and informal cross-border transit and trade of pigs and pig products, leading to spread of ASF	2025 - TBC
7. Policy	Policy issues, control strategies and National and Regional Strategic Plans	2026 - TBC
8. Transparency	Issues related to transparency and sharing of information between neighboring countries and with trading partners	2026 - TBC

Introduction to 4th SGE for ASF, Africa

Outbreak management

Outbreak response capability and capacity for ASF control

- Training on 3Ds (depopulation, disposal, decontamination);
- Financial incentives such as compensation of farmers, restocking and insurance schemes;
- Compensation plans (CP) as part of emergency preparedness and response plans;
- Risk communication (awareness in producers and actors in value chain).

▶ Attended by:

- 9 /10 member countries, i.e. Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Dem. Rep. of Congo, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Togo and Uganda
- Average of 35 participants per session (46 unique participants in total)
- 60 participants overall registered for the event;
- 18% Female

RSC Overview SGE Deliberations:

1 ASF remains endemic and widely distributed

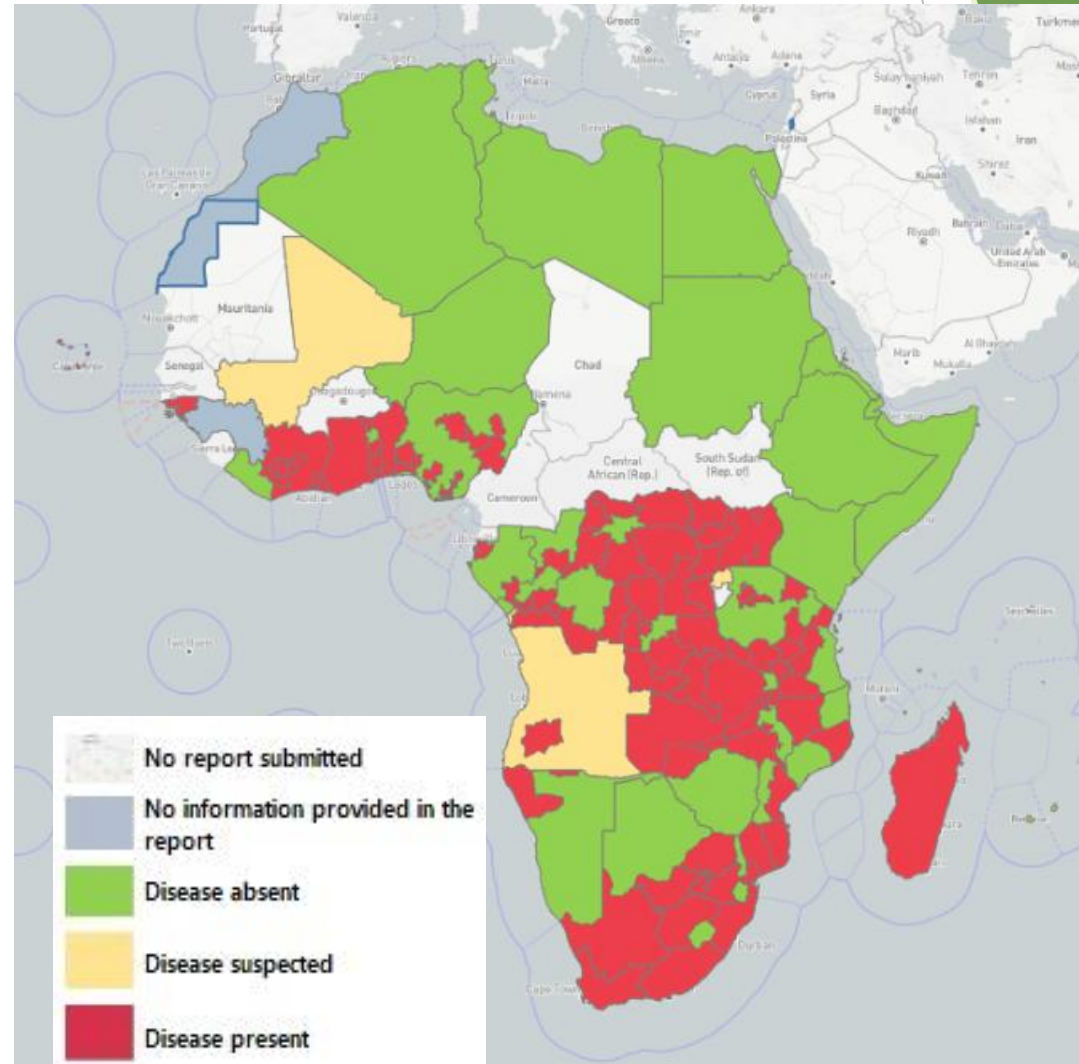
ASF was reported in Angola, Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon, South Africa, and Zambia as a first occurrence in a zone or compartment or as a situation of recurrence of an eradicated disease between 2022-2024.

Partly corroborated in the [ASF Situation Report no 57 by WOA](#).

Reflection on national capability and capacity for ASF outbreak response, financial incentives, compensation, risk communication and post-outbreak recovery.

Cross-border pig-trade an important factor in ASFV transmission necessitating the need for enhanced bilateral and regional collaboration and coordination.

- Update on African swine fever in the region (2022 – 2024) based on WAHIS database



RSC Principles of Outbreak Management:

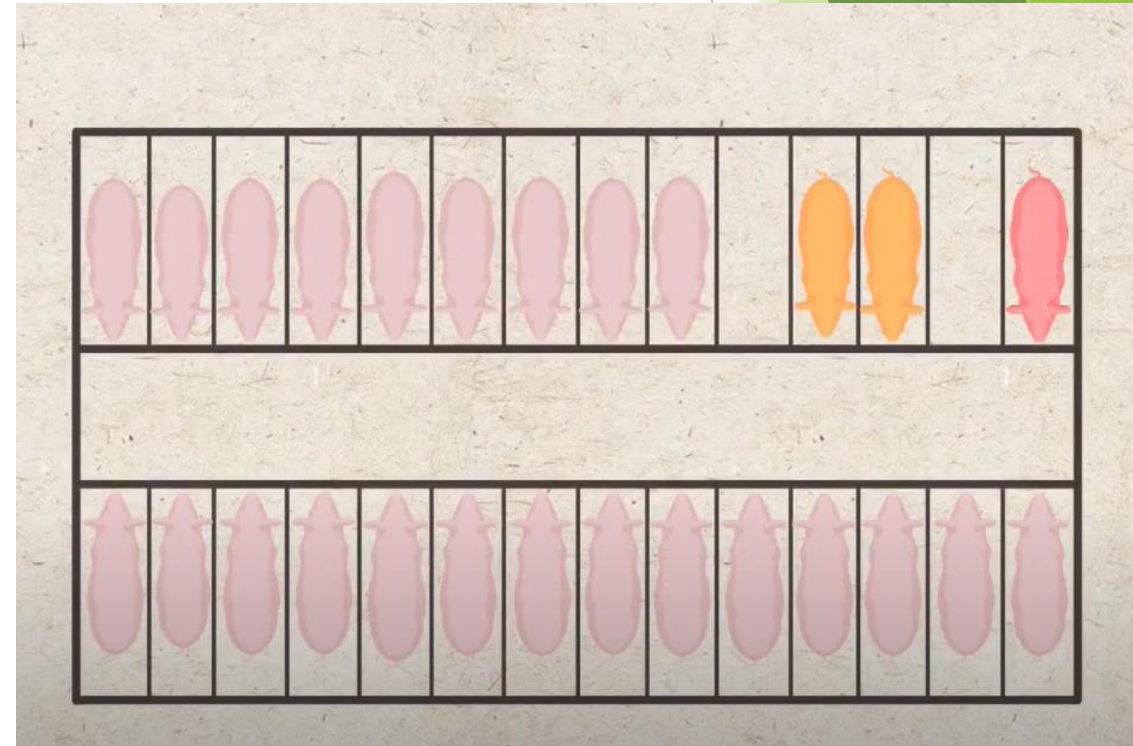
12 Partial or selective Culling strategies

- ▶ Case studies in Vietnam, parts of Africa, lessons from Americas
- ▶ Selective culling, also known as the “tooth extraction approach”, is implemented by removing only sick and suspect animals instead of the entire herd, practiced in Vietnam – individually housed animals.
- ▶ Also described as Modified stamping out
- ▶ This adaptation allows for the retention of pigs that test negative for ASF
- ▶ Control measures confined to affected epidemiological units (farms, village)
- ▶ Mitigate the environmental consequences of mass carcass disposal, and preserve the economic stability of farmers’ operations
- ▶ It prioritizes preserving healthy animals, particularly valuable breeding pigs
- ▶ Success of partial/selective culling is based on rapid detection, removal and destruction of infected pigs

Partial culling: targeting only pigs within a specifically infected epidemiological unit;

Selective culling: where only those pigs exhibiting signs or suspected of infection are culled

Selective culling is an alternative if ASF has already spread too far on the farm and partial culling is no longer an option



RSC

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Take aways from SGE IV: Partial culling, compensation

Total stamping out: has had **negative effects** on peoples' welfare, pig welfare and the environment.

It has traumatised pig farmers, from high bio-secure level compartments to family-level backyard farmers, whose pigs were 'like our children', contributing to **resentment** and **mistrust** by farmers when pigs are culled with no compensation, resulting in lack of reporting and continued illegal movement of pigs and pork.

Market-related compensation can be an incentive for cooperation with outbreak control measures, knowing that financial compensation is not always practical

Support with **replacement stock** and **feed** would be a better option - money from compensation often spent on short-term needs and no longer available for restocking by the time the pens are released.

The package could include **training** in sustainable and bio-secure pig production practices, and resilience-building.

RSC Lessons on Risk Communication & Behaviour Change

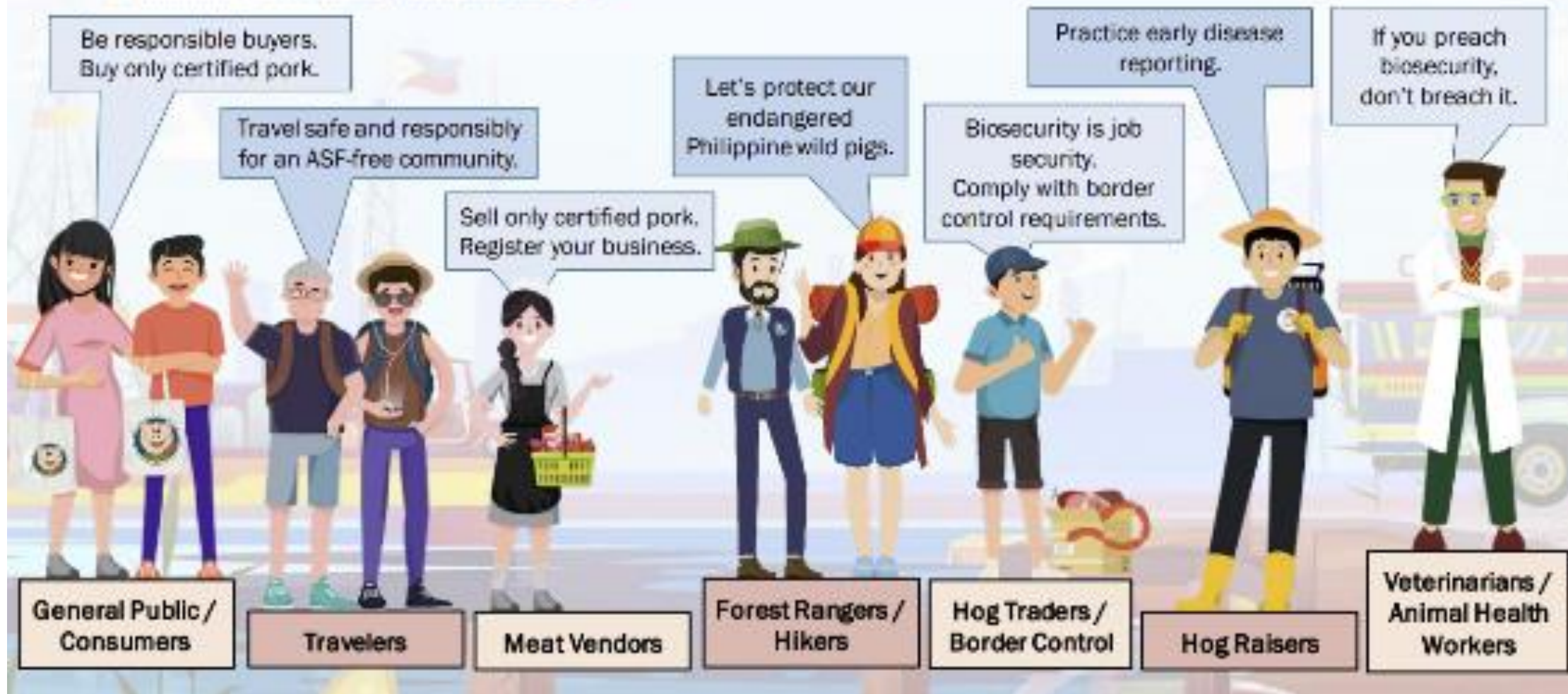
12 Manage public perceptions and guide protective actions during ASF outbreaks.

- In practice, risk communication should address **misinformation**, **mistrust** and **cultural barriers**.
- Behaviour change should target **specific actions** at individual, community and organisational levels, utilising applicable change models, such as:
 - theory of planned behaviour that factors **motivation** (what's in it for stakeholders and impact) or,
 - theory of change looking at **risk**, **causes** and **process**.
- Incorporate **targeted messaging** using various means like social media/mobile platforms, workshops for outreach, engaging community leaders and **influencers** (respected community leaders/gate keepers) targeting different value chain actors



We all have a role in preventing ASF

Stakeholder analysis and key messages



RSC Summary: Conclusions

- ▶ Studies show that fear of **losing business and income** and **lack of knowledge** were the main reasons why farmers were not complying with outbreak management measures.
- ▶ The practice of **biosecurity** should be emphasised and maintained throughout restocking.
- ▶ Biosecurity - affordable, implementable and culturally acceptable
- ▶ **Control measures** should be **risk-based** informed by epidemiological studies, types of production system and the context with a focus on prevention and supporting business continuity
- ▶ **Vaccination** is **not** yet an option for the region considering concerns raised with live attenuated vaccines, increased virulence at field level and development of chronic infections. There is certainly need for more evidence on vaccines
- ▶ Some countries have legislation in place to support outbreak management, but implementation and enforcement remain a challenge, partly due to limitations with financing, skilled personnel, low facilitation for field investigation, sample collection, diagnosis
- ▶ Some members have developed control strategies (consideration compartments, Risk Communication, Emergency Preparedness/Contingency Planning) and policies, but face challenge of implementation and enforcement of policies to support early detection and outbreak management

- ▶ **Improved market access can be an effective incentive for disease control and should be encouraged, ideally through a public-private partnership arrangement**
- ▶ **Compartmentalisation is a more practical tool for disease control with better feasibility if applied by the private sector**
- ▶ **Report with Conclusions and action points (QR Code)**



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MERCI!
THANK YOU!

