



- Mediterranean Animal Health Network (REMESA) is the result of an initiative of the chief veterinary officers of 10 western mediterranean countries aiming at developing and implementing animal health regional projects and programs.

Specific objective of REMESA:

- improvement of prevention and control against the major transboundary animal diseases and zoonoses through :
 - the strengthening of the national and regional resources and capacities,
 - the harmonization
 - the coordination of surveillance and control activities.

Priority disease that appear in North of African Countries

- Rabies
- Peste de Petit Ruminant (PPR)
- Brucellosis
- Blue Tongue (BT)
- Sheep Pox
- Tuberculosis
- Foot and mouth disease
- Avian Influenza (AI)
- Leishmaniasis
- Rift Valley fever (RVF)
- African Horse sickness (AHS)

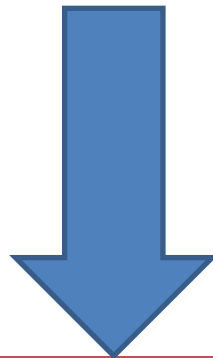
South European Countries

- Animal health concerns are the spread risk of these diseases from the South (FMD, PPR, rabies, etc...), and shared surveillance and control issues (vector-borne diseases such as BT or West Nile Disease WND).



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- Within the framework of REMESA activities:
 - The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
 - Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD)
 - and the World Animal Health Organization (OIE) Sub-Regional Representation



Offer the secretariat and required support of activities.

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PARTICIPANTS

- The 7th joint permanent committee (JPC) meeting of REMESA took place the 13th and 14th June 2013 in Faro and was attended by representatives of FAO, OIE and EU, besides the CVO of the 10 REMESA countries and the CVO or representatives from Greece, Cyprus and Malta.
- Representatives of farmers, private veterinarians and the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) attended and participated in the discussions.

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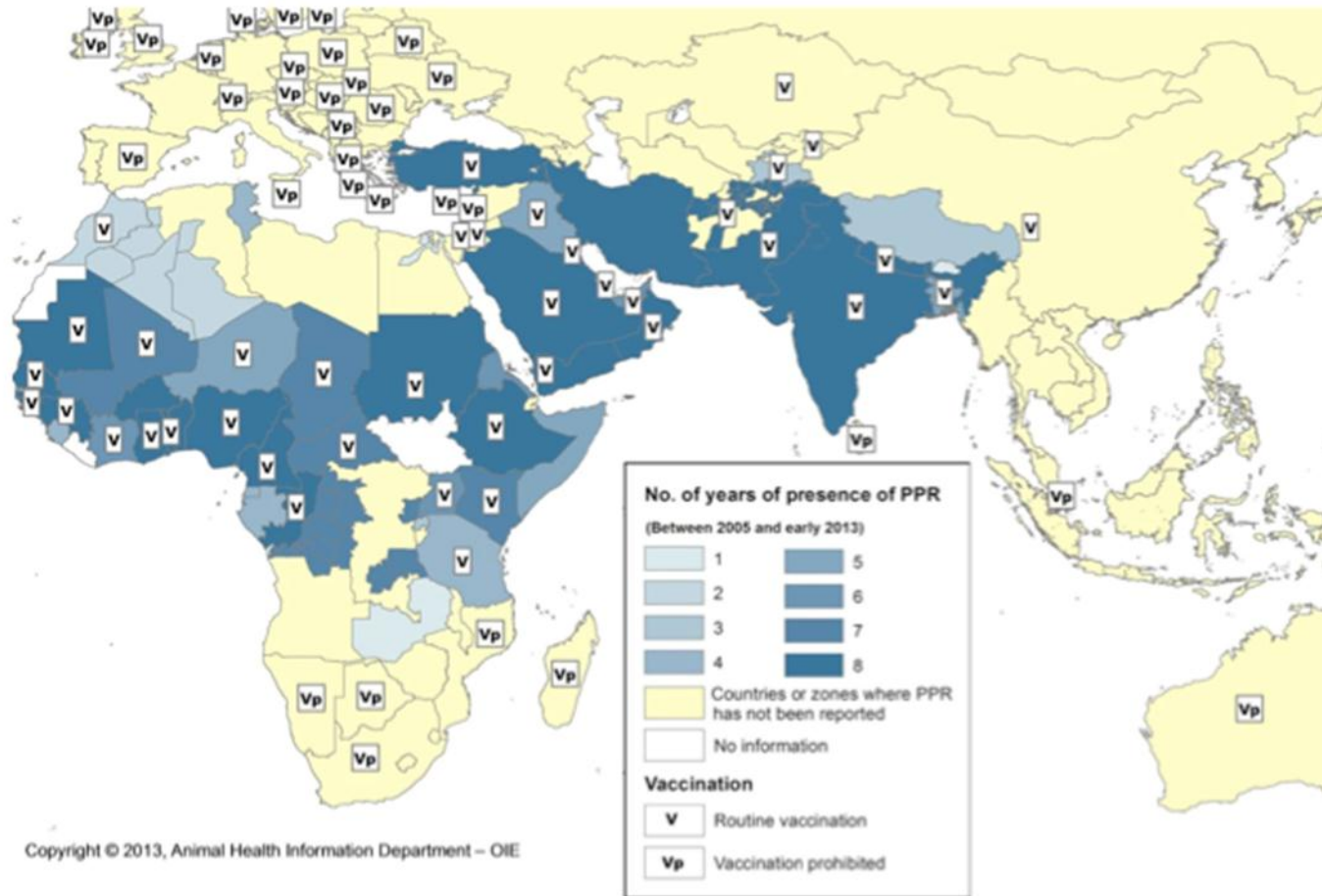
PPR session

- The situation of the disease in **Algeria, Egypt and Tunisia** was presented by each CVO.
- FAO and OIE present the related on-going activities and an update of the situation and control measures was also presented and discussed.
- PPR was added to the list of diseases for which the OIE has put in place a specific procedure for official recognition of disease status.
- The relevance the disease has within the mediterranean framework is of utmost importance for both european and african countries

<http://www.remesanetwork.org/remesa/en/>

Disease relevance

Evolution de PPR en Afrique, au Moyen-Orient et en Asie entre 2005 et début 2013, et les stratégies de vaccination



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The evolution of PPR in Africa, in the Middle East and in Asia between 2005 and 2013 and the vaccination strategies followed, revealed reasons for concern, since the disease is evolving toward northern African countries.

Countries are reacting hopefully on time to overcome the situation.

It is visible the role that may be played by different vaccination strategies:

- In Europe and Middle East countries the vaccination is generally prohibited,
- In African countries the vaccination is routinely used.
- Still, in some countries there is no straight vaccination policy

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ECONOMIC IMPACT and FARMERS SUBSISTENCE

- Animals affected by the disease play a major role in the overall rural economy;
- Represent a none negligible source of income for farmers and their families.
- The system of production is also quite important for the type of environment where small ruminant animals are produced.
- The PPR is though of increasing importance has a strong negative impact, of the most economic importance, particularly in areas that rely on small ruminants animals to subsist.

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ENZOOTIQUE DISEASE and ANIMALS AT RISK

- The enzootique transmission from infected animals in endemic areas to immuno-naïve animals, may be associated to migratory populations, while the role of wild animals need to be better studied.
- In any case healthy animals are put at risk every year and the disease affects larger areas in Africa, Middle East and Asia

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CONTROL MEASURES IN AN EPIDEMIC SITUATION (EGIPT)

STRATEGY

PASSIVE SURVEILLANCE

ACTIVITIES

VACCINATION

ACTIVE SURVEILLANCE

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PROJECT OUTPUTS (Mr. Bengoumi from FAO):

- Strengthening the surveillance of the disease in North African countries

ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS

- Determine what are the effects on the rural economy, as well as on food security.
- Reinforced coordination, harmonization of regional strategies for the control of the disease
- training workshop on epidemiology and on the use of epidemiology software and also training on GIS. National workshops.
- Professional enhancement on laboratory analysis as the provision of laboratory equipment
- Another import component of the project was focused on setting a strategy to be discussed in November this year, including National and Regional Contingency Plans, harmonization of the vaccination protocol and setting a regional antigen bank.

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FAO'S PPR REGIONAL PROJECT (TCP/RAB/3302)

CONCLUSIONS:

- there is a urgent need to stop the spread of the disease; the vaccination may be a good control tool and finally there is a need for harmonization the national strategies used to control PPR among North African countries and neighbouring countries.

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REMESA

Mediterranean Animal Health Network



Al-Beidha, Jordan - May 9, 2013: young shepherd boy and flock of sheep near Al-Beidha in Jordan middle east on may 9th, 2013