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Overall picture of oral vaccination campaigns of foxes against rabies in the region

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- Objectives
- Current situation
- Main constraints identified
- Recommendations

Objectives of rabies programmes in the EU

- Eradicate rabies in the EU in 2020
- Prevent reintroductions from bordering countries where eradication has not been achieved
- Support eradication in bordering countries

Current situation: main elements of rabies programmes

- Oral Vaccination (purchase/distribution)
 - Coverage of the right areas with the right methods of distribution
- Monitoring/Surveillance (sample collection and lab testing)
 - Knowledge of situation, dynamics, effectiveness of measures, corrective measures if needed
- Quality control
 - Check vaccine before spreading, control of the cold chain and and timely control of the bait distribution

Current situation: vaccination

- Member states: Italy (2009-2017), Slovenia (1995), Croatia (2011), Hungary (1996), Slovakia (2000), Romania (2011), Bulgaria (2009) and Greece (2013).
- Non-member states: Albania (**2014**), Bosnia and Herzegovina (2011), Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2011), Montenegro (2011), Kosovo* (2010) and Serbia (2010)

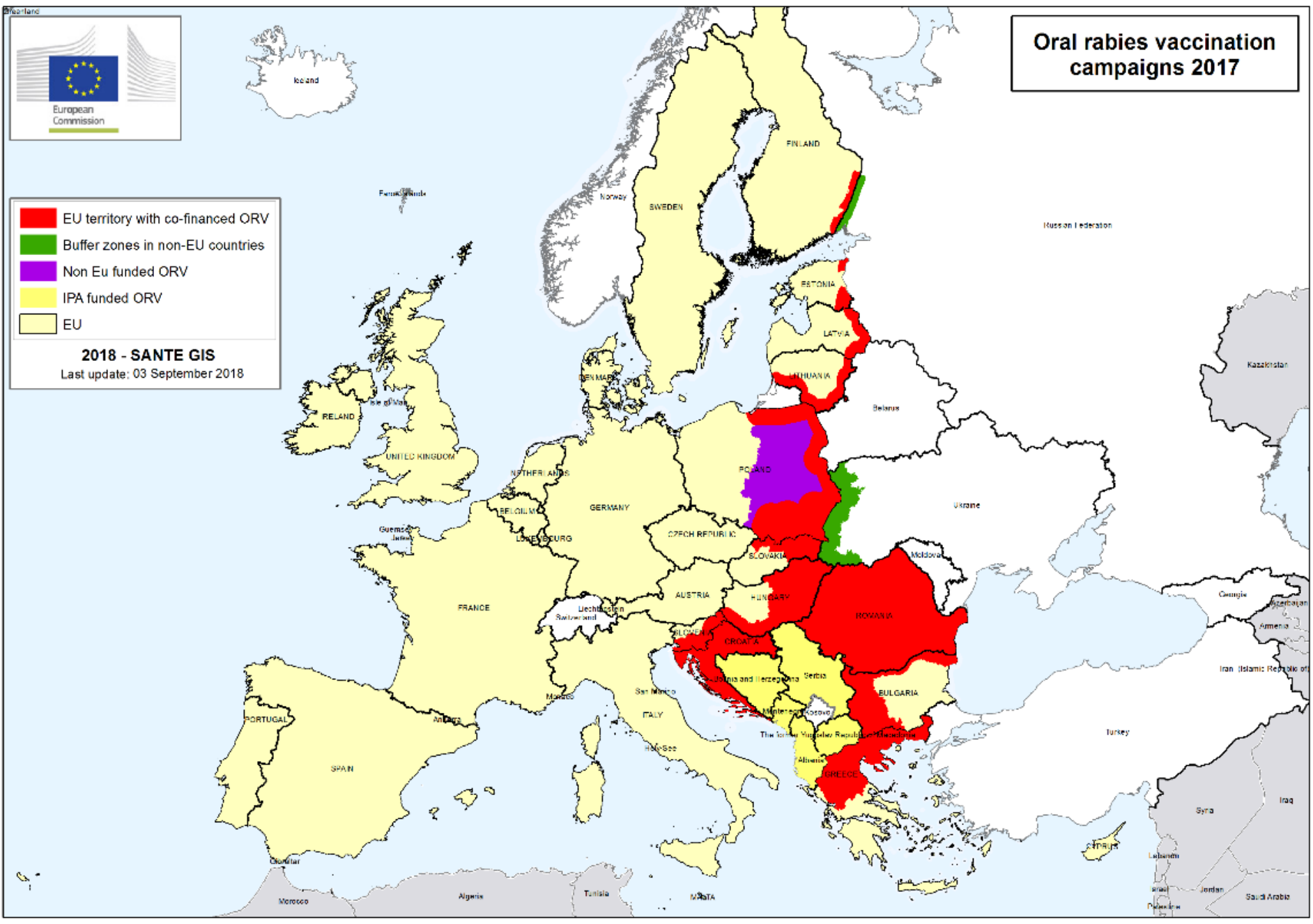
* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSC 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence



Oral rabies vaccination campaigns 2017

- EU territory with co-financed ORV
- Buffer zones in non-EU countries
- Non Eu funded ORV
- IPA funded ORV
- EU

2018 - SANTE GIS
Last update: 03 September 2018





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Surveillance: Cases in MS

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Finland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Estonia	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Latvia	69	16	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lithuania	63	33	14	5	1	0	2	0	0	1	0
Poland	6	145	156	254	196	98	92	16	2	4	1
Slovakia	0	0	0	0	7	0	5	0	0	0	0
Hungary	2	10	0	0	24	23	0	1	2	0	0
Romania	515	469	342	457	486	142	29	14	2	3	1
Bulgaria	58	6	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Croatia	784	652	375	166	37	1	0	0	0	0	0
Greece	0	0	0	9	29	10	0	0	0	0	0
Italy	68	209	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Slovenia	34	12	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1602	1552	891	897	781	276	127	31	6	8	2



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Surveillance: Cases in MS/2017-2019





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Surveillance: Cases in WB + Turkey

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Albania	1	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0
BiH	25	18	27	13	6	1	0	0	0	0
Kosovo*	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
FYROM	0	0	6	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Montenegro	49	69	16	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Serbia	181	104	46	19	5	3	3	4	1	1
Turkey	64	167	300	496	560	714	563	419	485	339

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Quality controls

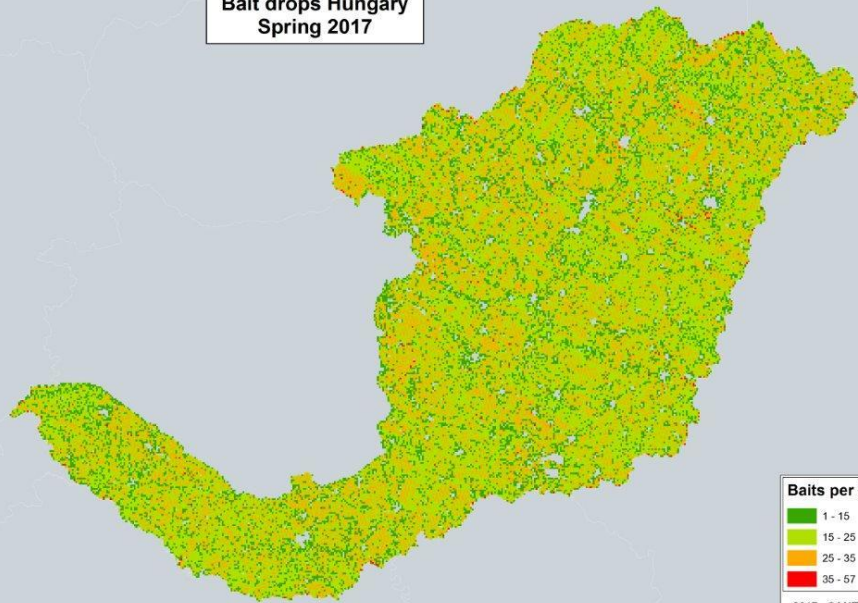
- Viral titration of all vaccine batches before the campaigns
- Control of the cold chain
- Bait distribution: timely control to correct problems



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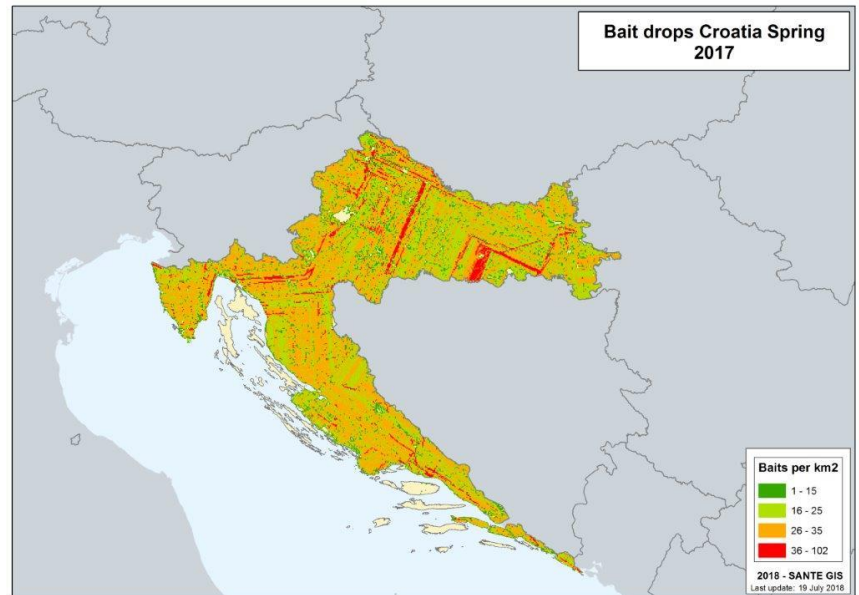
Quality controls: bait distribution

Bait drops Hungary
Spring 2017



2017 - SANTE GIS
Last update: 20 April 2018

Bait drops Croatia Spring
2017



2017 - SANTE GIS
Last update: 19 July 2018



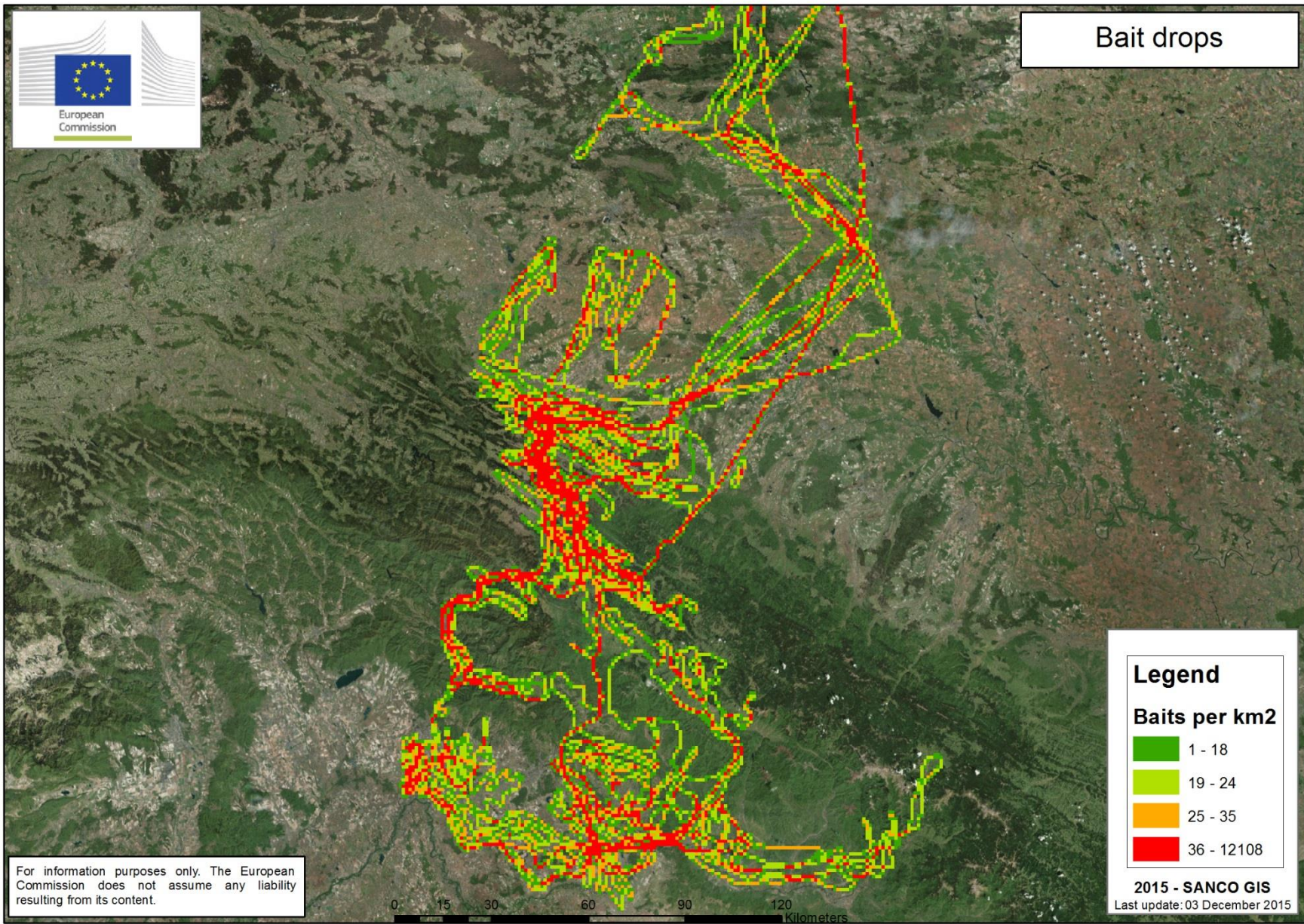
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Main constraints identified: MS+WB

- Procurements:
 - ❖ **Missing campaigns**
- Aerial distribution:
 - ❖ **Weak controls led to suboptimal bait densities**



Bait drops



Legend

Baits per km2

- 1 - 18
- 19 - 24
- 25 - 35
- 36 - 12108

2015 - SANCO GIS
Last update: 03 December 2015

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0 15 30 60 90 120 Kilometers

Main constraints identified (MS+WB)

- Surveillance/monitoring :
 - ❖ **number of samples taken is decreasing:**
hampers freedom declaration
- Coordination:
 - ❖ **Need to take a regional approach to decide future steps**

Recommendations:

Guidelines to design an EU co-financed programme on eradication and control of Rabies in wildlife

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/health_food-safety/funding/cff/docs/animal_vet-progs_guidance_rabies.pdf

- The ORV programmes in MSs should be conducted for a **period long enough**
- A large-scale approach is the most effective strategy, and there must be a guarantee that the ORV programme can be sustained for at least **six years** and be ceased not earlier than **two years** after the last confirmed case of rabies.

Recommendations:

- An area should not be considered as free of rabies unless **robust surveillance** data indicates the absence of the disease.
- Special attention should be given to maintain the **sufficient sample size of animals** of all susceptible species (wild and domestic) submitted for rabies surveillance (suspect cases, **indicator animals**) to be able to adequately assess the rabies situation.



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Many thanks