

GF-TADs

GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE
PROGRESSIVE CONTROL OF
TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASES



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



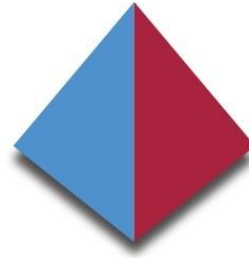
Fabien SCHNEEGANS

Former OIE Sub-regional representative in Brussels

GF-TADs updates

Tenth meeting of the Regional Core Group (RCG10), London
2-3 December 2019

GF-TADs activities since RCG8 (April 2019)



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- ❑ 28 May 2019: **SGE LSD8**, Paris
- ❑ 29 May 2019: **SGE ASF13**, Paris
- ❑ 16 – 19 June 2019: **ASF Expert Mission** to Belgium
- ❑ 10 – 11 September 2019: **SGE ASF14**, Sofia
- ❑ 16 – 17 October 2019: **SGE LSD9** including a session on **Rabies**, Athens

ASF

29 May 2019: SGE ASF13

- **Venue:** Paris, France
- **Participation:** representatives of the 13 affected countries in Europe, and over 100 observers
- **Main objectives:**
 - update on the epidemiological situation in each affected country,
 - Information on the current GF-TADs initiatives in Asia and Americas

June 2019: ASF Expert Mission to Belgium

The conclusions are overall very positive

Recommendations include

- upgrading the level of cooperation between the veterinary services and the environmental / hunting organisations in the Flemish part of the country
- enhancing the passive surveillance at farm level
- Considering the possibility to establish additional incentives for hunters involved in the depopulation strategy

Mission report presented and approved in Sofia, 11 September 2019

Next steps on ASF expert missions

Serbia (December 2019)

Slovakia (early 2020)

10-11 September 2019: SGE ASF14

- **Venue:** Sofia, Bulgaria
- **Participation:** 35 countries (including China), >80 participants
- **Main objectives:**
 - Raise the political awareness on ASF, via a high level session for coordination and preparedness in South-East Europe:
 - 2 ministers (Bulgaria and North Macedonia),
 - one vice-minister (Albania),
 - two State Secretaries (Montenegro and Serbia),
 - EU Commissioner
 - OIE General Director and an FAO representative.
 - update on the epidemiological situation in each affected country – addition of Serbia and Slovakia in the club (now 14)
 - to address the topic '*Outbreak investigation and relevant data collection*'.



- **Main outcomes:**

- A ministerial statement which calls for:
 - the Balkan to significantly raise the level of awareness on ASF and take appropriate initiatives to address the situation,
 - all European countries to ensure transparency, coordination and cooperation, support to the Veterinary authorities, awareness campaigns
- Bye bye CZ, welcome RS and SK
- update on the epidemiological situation in each affected country (14)
- An SGE set of recommendations, also addressing '*Outbreak investigation and relevant data collection*'.
- *Also interesting:*
 - update by China on the ASF situation, and by OIE RR Tokyo on the overall situation in Asia
 - Update by FLI on vaccination prospects – not ready anytime soon.

Next steps on ASF

- Expert mission in Serbia – December 2019
- Expert mission in Slovakia: early 2020
- SGE LSD15 to meet in March in Slovakia, LSD16 in May in Paris
- Drafting of a GF-TADs guidebook on ‘ASF outbreak investigations and data collection’.

GF-TADs activities on ASF in other regions

➤ ASIA

- Launch meeting of the SGE on ASF for Asia on 10 April 2019, China
- 2nd meeting on 30-31 July - biosecurity and border control, Japan
- 3rd meeting on 26-28 November - risk communication and socio-economic impact, Vietnam

➤ AMERICAS

- Preliminary step: Ottawa forum on 30 April – 1 May 2019
- Creation of a SGE for ASF for the Americas on 17 September in Panama
- 2nd meeting during the week of 2 December in Bogota, Columbia

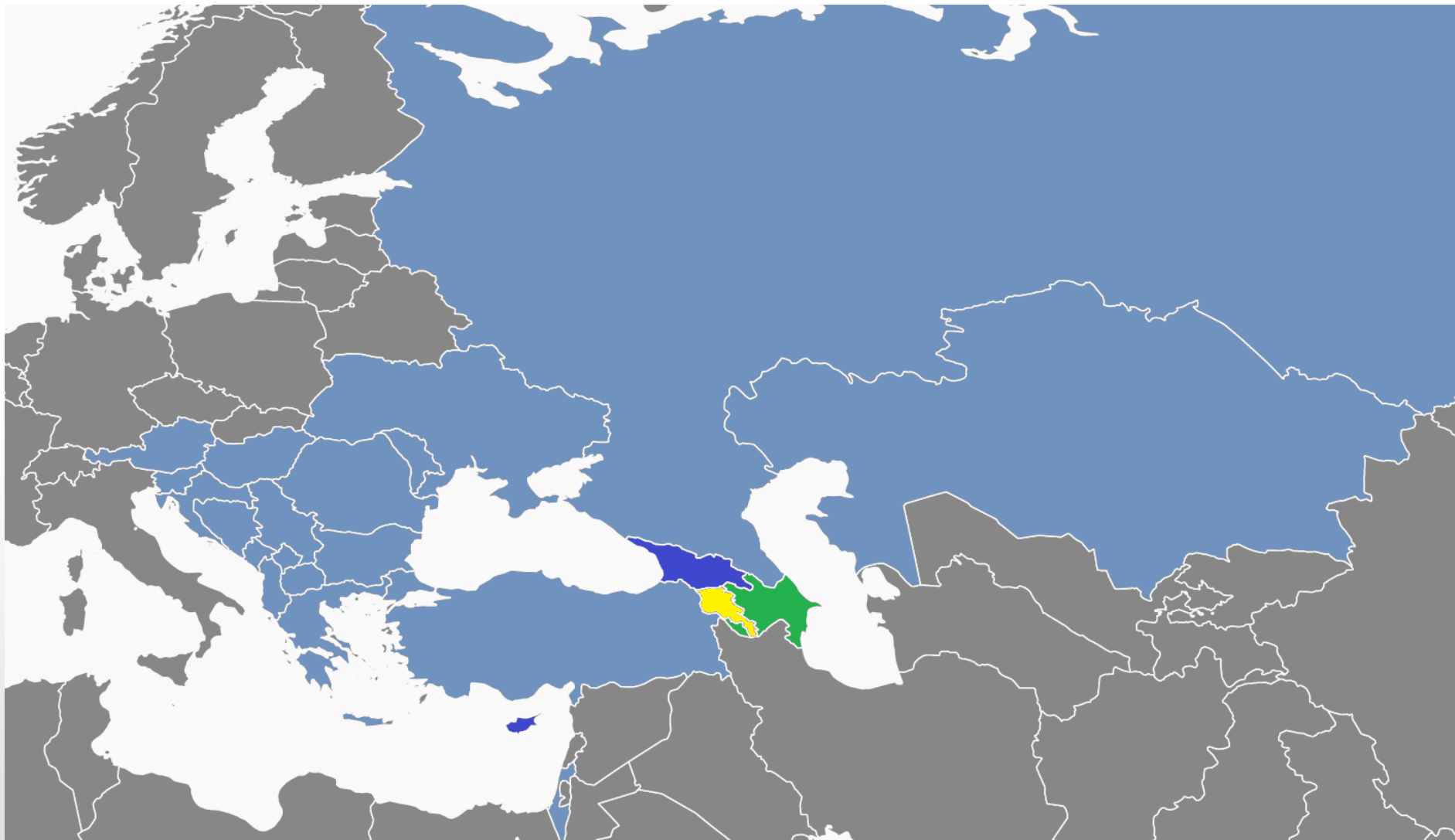
LSD

28 May 2019: SGE LSD8

- **Venue:** Paris, France
- **Participation:** representatives of 16 of the 21 members of the SGE LSD, + a number of observers
- **Main objective:** update on the epidemiological situation in each affected country
 - favourable situation in the Balkans,
 - a few outbreaks in North and East of Anatolia (Turkey)

16-17 October 2019: SGE LSD9

- **Venue:** Athens, Greece
- **Participation:** 23 countries, 65 participants
- **Main objectives:**
 - update on the epidemiological situation / vaccination / surveillance in each country – addition of Armenia and Azerbaijan as members (now 23)
 - Next steps of the vaccination exit strategy in the Balkans
 - Additionnal session on Rabies surveillance



- New addition to the SGE and present in Athens: **Armenia**
- New addition to the SGE but absent in Athens: **Azerbaijan**
- Already member but absent in Athens: **Cyprus, Georgia**



- **Main outcomes:**

- LSD situation

- Balkans : no outbreak since 2017 (Albania)
- Turkey: concerns in the Eastern part on Anatolia mainly
- Russia: outbreaks along the border with Kazakhstan
- Israel: reoccurrence of LSD last summer

- LSD vaccination exit strategy in the Balkans

- Vaccination to be maintained in 2020 at least in Turkey, Albania and the high-risk areas of Greece and Bulgaria
- To be confirmed based on the vaccination coverage achieved in 2019 and LSD surveillance plans for 2020 – both to be documented by 31 January 2020

- Welcome of Armenia and Azerbaijan, in order to better cover the LSD risk in the Caucasus region

➤ *Also interesting:*

- update by OIE SRR Nur-Sultan on the situation in Central Asia
- LSD historical perspective and experience in Israel
- Scientific developments in Russia about the LSD vaccine-like strain occurring next to the border with Kazakhstan (direct contact transmission?)

Next steps on LSD

- Teleconference in February 2020, TBC. Will focus on the final results of the 2019 vaccination campaigns (coverage) and on the surveillance plans
- SGE LSD10 in May in Paris

Rabies

17 October 2019: additional session in the margins of the SGE LSD9

- **Venue:** Athens, Greece
- **Participation:** 13 members of the SGE RAB (Balkans) + observers
- **Main objectives:**
 - Quick update on the situation and oral vaccination campaigns
 - Focus on surveillance activities

- **Main outcomes:**

- Passive surveillance must be the top priority for competent authorities both in free and non-free areas.
Good surveillance is crucial to take informed decisions on the phasing out of vaccination
- Importance of a close collaboration between neighbouring countries on vaccination programmes for the successful eradication of Rabies in the whole sub-region.

Next steps on Rabies

- SGE RAB2 to meet on 18 June in Croatia

GF-TADs governance

GF-TADs Regional Steering Group – RSC9:

- **Venue:** Brussels, Belgium
- **Tentative dates:**
 - Cancelled last November
 - ??? Before the OIE general session 2020 ???

Upcoming GF-TADs activities - 2020



- ❑ Week of 9 December 2019: **ASF Expert Mission** to Serbia
- ❑ Before the OIE GS 2020: **RSC9 (Regional Steering Committee)**, Brussels, TBC
- ❑ Before March 2020: **ASF Expert Mission** to Slovakia, TBC
- ❑ February 2020: **SGE LSD Teleconference** on LSD vaccination and surveillance programmes
- ❑ March 2020 : **SGE ASF15**, Slovakia, TBC
- ❑ May 2019: **SGE ASF16** and **SGE LSD10** Paris
- ❑ 18 June 2020: **SGE RAB2**, Zagreb, Croatia
- ❑ September 2020 : **SGE ASF17**, location TBD
- ❑ October 2020: **SGE LSD11**, Israel TBC

Overall remarks

- SGE meetings attract a growing number of participants
- Increased visibility of GF-TADs activities, even at political level (ASF)
- Dissemination of the European model to Asia and Americas

BUT...

- Meetings are increasingly complex to organise (Secretariat and host country)
 - ***Reinforcement of the regional secretariat needed***
- Funding in Europe rests almost exclusively on the European Commission
 - ***Possible diversification of the financial support?***
- Lack of leadership from the global GF-TADs in the past years
 - ***Revitalisation of the Global Secretariat needed***