

GF-TADs

GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE
PROGRESSIVE CONTROL OF
TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASES



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



Rabies surveillance and control

GF TADs SGE RAB4

Conclusions of the Regional action on animal disease eradication in the Western Balkans” (ADEWB)

EUROPEAID/140314/DH/SER/MULTI

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ADEWB – Results relevant to rabies

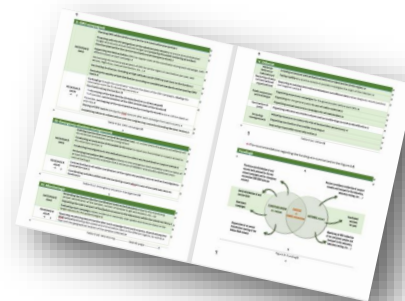


Target animal diseases

- Rabies
- Classical Swine Fever
- African Swine Fever
- Lumpy Skin Disease
- Bluetongue
- Avian Influenza
- Peste des petit ruminants
- Sheep pox and goat pox



Activity	Start	End	Status
...
...
...
...



- Strengthen laboratory network (continuous)
- SOP for sampling (prepared)
- Regional strategy (prepared)
- Strengthen regional cooperation (continuous)



New regional project in the Western Balkans

- Continued support to enhance capacities of veterinary services
 - Regional cooperation
 - National surveillance plans for transboundary diseases aligned with the regional strategic approach
 - Support implementation of vaccination programmes (if applicable)
 - Communication on all levels (within and outside veterinary services)
 - Information management system
 - Strengthen laboratory capacities and cooperation



Recent activities on rabies in the Western Balkans – ORV

	2022		2023	
	Spring	Autumn	Spring	Autumn
Albania	No (delayed tendering procedure)	EUD (confirmed)	EUD (confirmed)	EUD (confirmed)
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Yes	EUD (confirmed)	EUD (confirmed)	Not planned
Kosovo*	Yes	Yes	EUD (confirmed)	Not planned
Montenegro	Yes	EUD (confirmed)	EUD (confirmed)	EUD (confirmed)
North Macedonia	Yes	EUD (confirmed)	EUD (confirmed)	MK Budget (planned)
Serbia	No	No	No	

* This designation is without prejudice to the position on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the IJC Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence



Conclusions on the rabies situation in the Western Balkan region

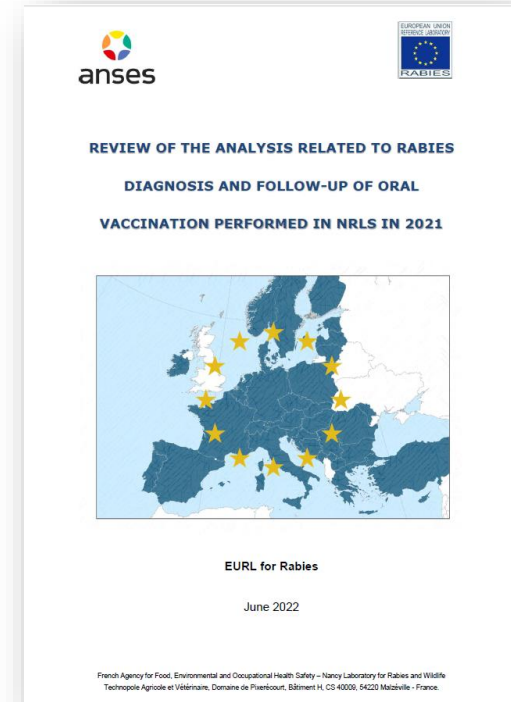
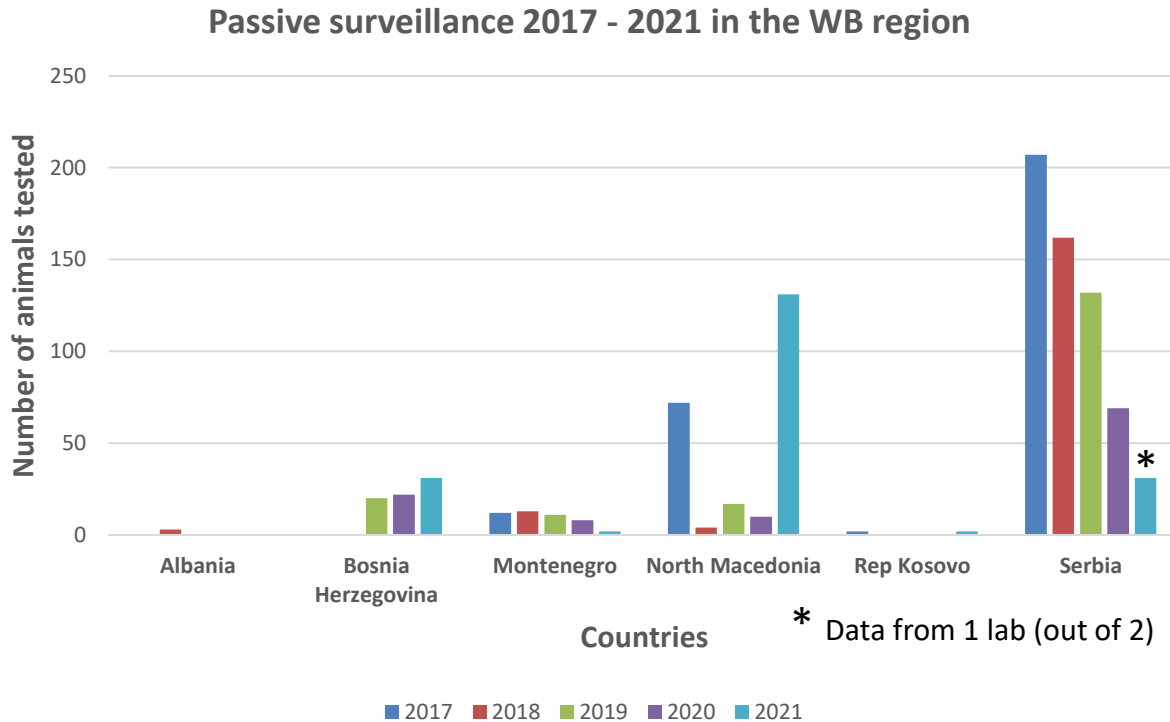


Source : ADIS, 2020

- Last case recorded in the WB region : a dog in Bosnia Herzegovina (Srebrenica) in May 2020
- No rabies case detected in bordering areas of the region
- Regarding ORV :
 - In 2021, 3 countries implemented ORV in Spring and in Autumn
 - In 2022, ORV continued in the WB (with some exceptions)



Data on rabies passive surveillance in the Western Balkans



Source : *Compilation of data issued from the Report annual Reviews of the analysis related to rabies diagnosis and follow-up of oral vaccination performed in NRLs*

Conclusions on rabies passive surveillance efforts in the region in 2021

- Evaluation of the pressure of the passive surveillance in 2021 in:
 - The 6 Western Balkan countries
 - Countries bordering the WB region and having satisfactory situation
- Calculated by using the same source of data (number of laboratory diagnostic tests)

« Index » of surveillance effort calculated as the ratio of the number of laboratory diagnostic tests done for rabies in 2021 divided by the size of the area (in km²) and multiplied by 100

Some countries (Greece, Bulgaria) not totally infected, so surveillance index underestimated

Areas	Index of surveillance effort
Bulgaria	0,21
Croatia	1,80
Greece	0,76
Hungary	0,96
Romania	1,23
Slovenia	1,75
6 WB countries	0,090

Source : Compilation of data issued from the Report annual Reviews of the analysis related to rabies diagnosis and follow-up of oral vaccination performed in NRLs

Adequate passive surveillance of rabies?

Surveillance indicators:

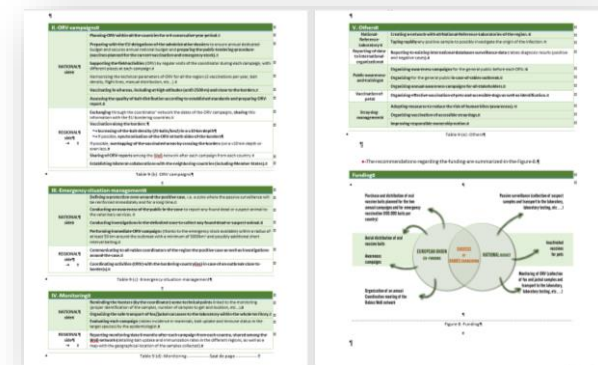
- Do we have sufficient surveillance data to assess the real situation?
- Are data on negative cases sufficient?
- Is surveillance pressure enough regarding the size of the reservoir population?
- Are awareness campaigns enough?

Achieving a sufficient level of surveillance to assess the *true* rabies situation is the priority : is rabies still in the country, even in small areas, or is rabies eliminated?



Recommendations done during the ADEWB project (in the report)

- Surveillance :
 - The pillar to prove the disease free status and to implement control measures
 - A political priority
- ORV campaigns : for at least 4 consecutive years (with no gaps)
- Emergency situation management in case of rabies resurgence
- Public awareness
- Vaccination of pets
- Stray dog management
- Reporting of data to international organizations



Source : Report Regional action on rabies eradication in the Western Balkans, 2021

A regional approach, key of the success and cost-benefit

Rabies is a trans-boundary disease

Political and administrative borders are not barriers to rabies spread

- Limited geographical size of the beneficiary countries (219.000 km²)
- High number of borders
- Rabid foxes are able to move outside their territories (20-60 km/year)
- Countries are all close to rabies elimination

A regional approach means that all countries must have harmonized principles and methods for the surveillance and elimination of rabies

Development of a formal, long-term and sustainable collaboration supported by OIE, EC and FAO

