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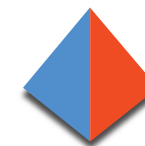
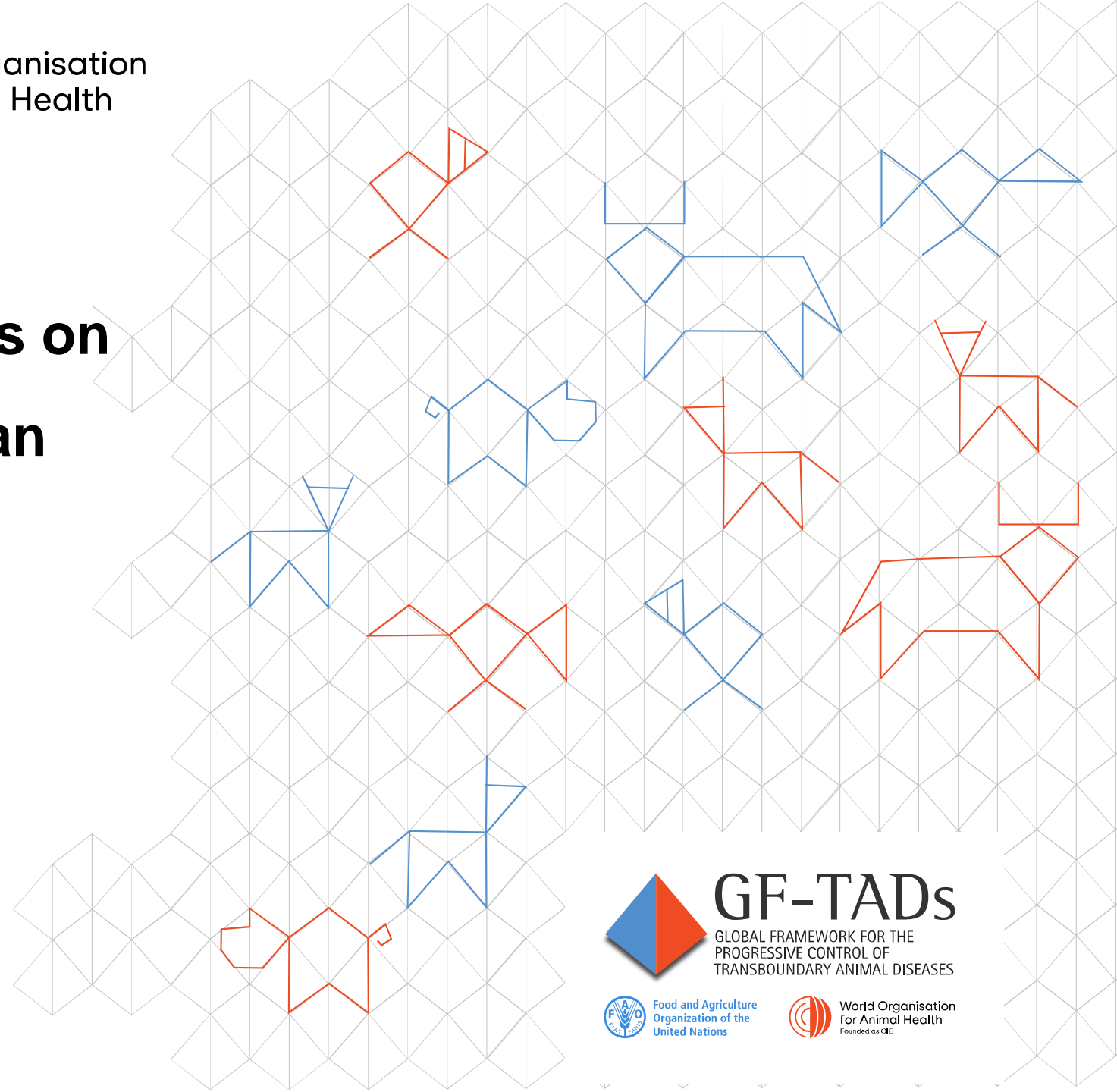


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# Standing Group of Experts on High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza in Europe

*Terms of Reference*

**02.05.2023, 10.00 am (CEST)**



**GF-TADs**

GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE  
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Introduction  
Objectives  
Terms of Reference  
Composition of the SGE HPAI for Europe  
Meeting Observers  
Secretariat  
Chair of the SGE HPAI  
Funding Mechanism  
Meeting Mechanism  
Minutes of the Meeting  
Communication and Visibility



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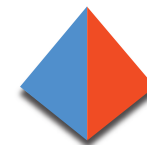
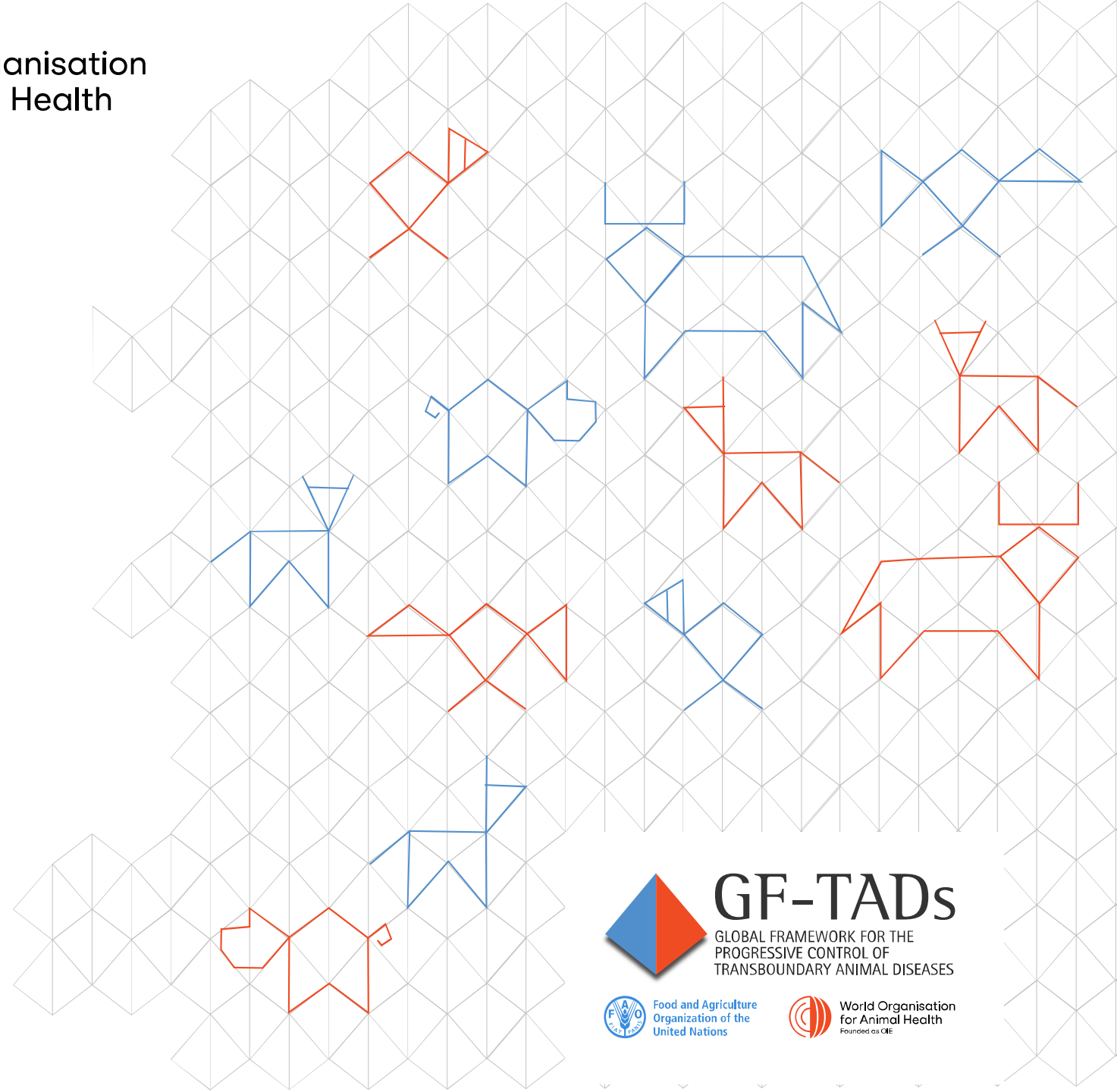


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# ToR - Introduction



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Highly Pathogenic Avian influenza (HPAI) is a highly contagious transboundary animal disease with zoonotic potential caused by a RNA virus (influenza Type A virus) that meets the criteria of high pathogenicity, affects both kept and wild birds, and can sporadically spillover to mammals and to humans.

HPAI, as a transboundary animal disease, requires coordination and action among all stakeholders at national, regional and global level for its effective monitoring, prevention and control. Across the world, Veterinary Services of Member Countries are taking measures to prevent and control the spread of the disease, in accordance with WOAHP international standards, in close coordination with their partners.

European Members requested WOAHP to include HPAI in the programme of the 30<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Regional Commission for Europe in October 2022 as a Technical Item and adopted “Recommendations on Highly pathogenic avian influenza and vaccination”.

The Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs) provides a platform for regional and interinstitutional coordination and cooperation, and its current strategy aims to strengthen actions adapted to priorities, capacities development and relevant cooperation partnerships.

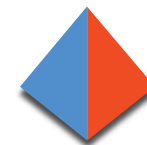
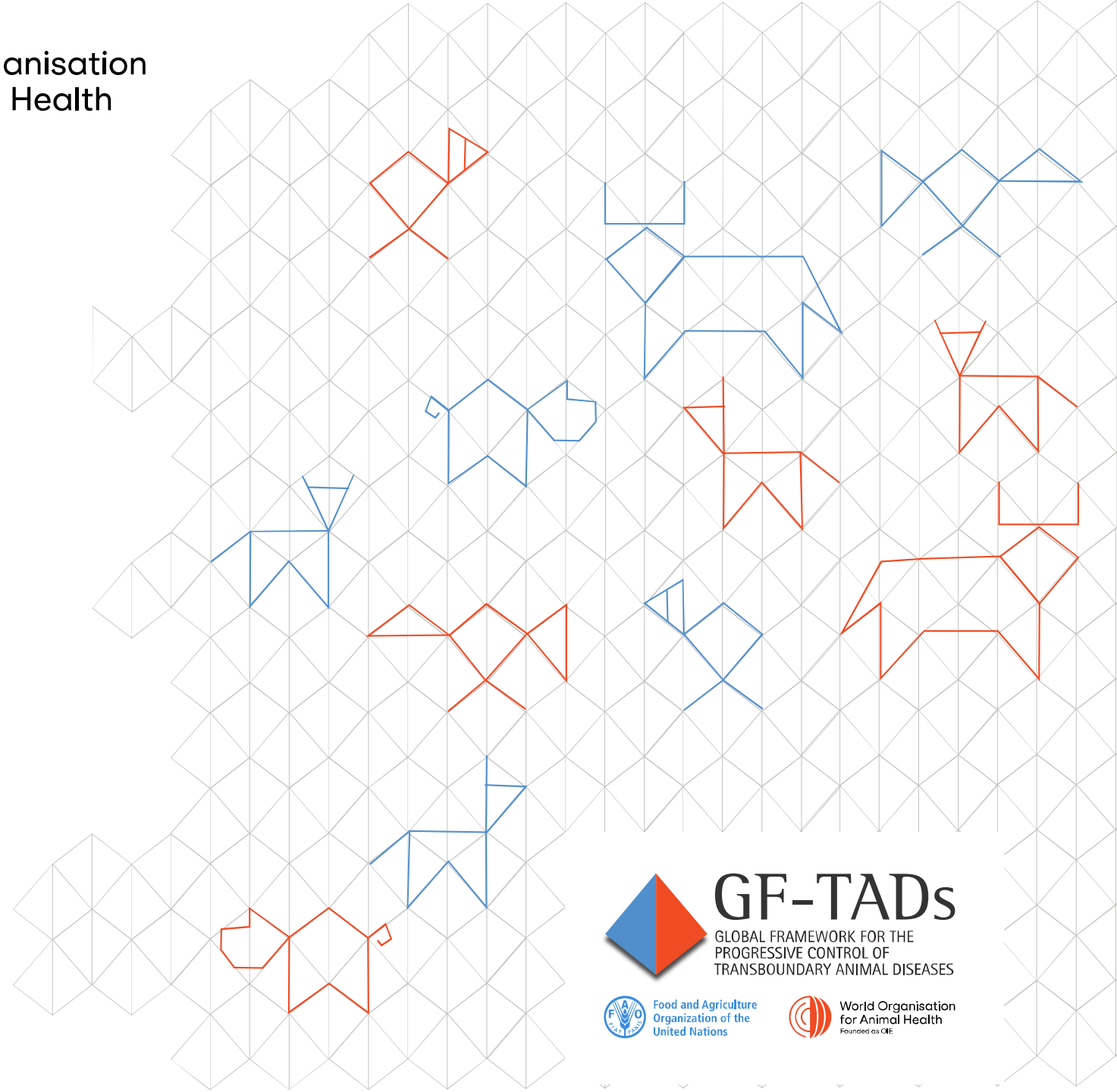


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# ToR - Objectives



## GF-TADs

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- ❑ To strengthen regional cooperation between Veterinary services, with consideration to the One Health approach on HPAI prevention.
- ❑ To develop an integrated regional protocol and One Health strategy for collaboration to control HPAI and prevent increasing the risk for the health of other animal species and humans. This protocol and One Health strategy should include milestones for the reaching of regional collective goals.
- ❑ To regularly exchange information on the surveillance and monitoring in poultry, in both resident and migratory wild bird populations, and in potentially affected mammal populations.
- ❑ To support Members by setting up a list of SGE experts that could undertake field mission at the request of countries.
- ❑ To constitute a platform for sharing experience with prevention and control programs, considering effective control measures and best practices, as well defining the optimal One Health surveillance system.
- ❑ To collaborate in laboratory diagnostics, by sharing of experience and knowledge, participation in proficiency testing with reference laboratories, and capacity building.
- ❑ To promote the WOAHA international standards on surveillance, diagnostics, vaccination, notification, regionalization/zoning and safe trade to support Members.

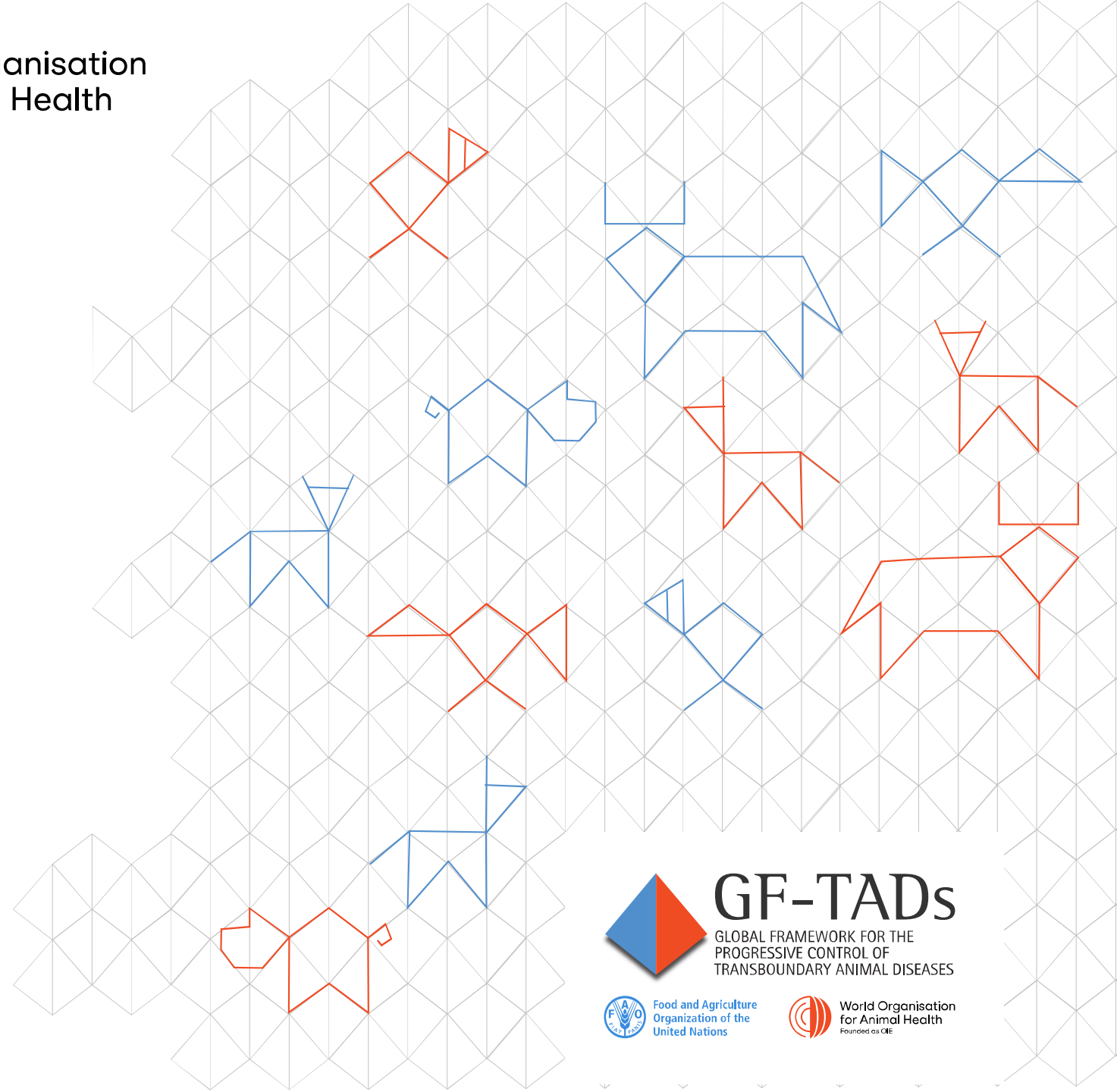


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# Terms of Reference



## GF-TADs

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- ❑ The Standing Group of Experts on HPAI (SGE HPAI) for Europe will be established under the umbrella of the regional GF-TADs.
- ❑ The GF-TADs Europe Regional Steering Committee will lead SGE HPAI.
- ❑ The Regional Representation for Europe of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) will act as Secretariat of the SGE HPAI.
- ❑ WOAH Delegates will be members of the SGE. They could propose their experts with proven experience on Avian Influenza to take part in SGE activities on an ad hoc basis, subject of validation by the Chair in consultation with the Secretariat.
- ❑ The SGE HPAI will meet regularly, at least once per year in face-to-face or hybrid/online format.





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# Composition of the SGE HPAI for Europe



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- ❑ 53 WOAHA Delegates from the Europe Region
- ❑ President of the GF-TADs Regional Steering Committee
- ❑ Representatives from FAO regional office for Europe
- ❑ Representatives from WHO regional office for Europe
- ❑ Representatives from UNEP regional office for Europe
- ❑ Technical Representatives of the European Commission, as a regional specialized organization
- ❑ Representatives of partner organizations in the GF-TADs: upon agreement of the members of the GF-TADs Regional Steering Committee
- ❑ Representatives of WOAHA regional representation (Secretariat).

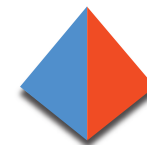
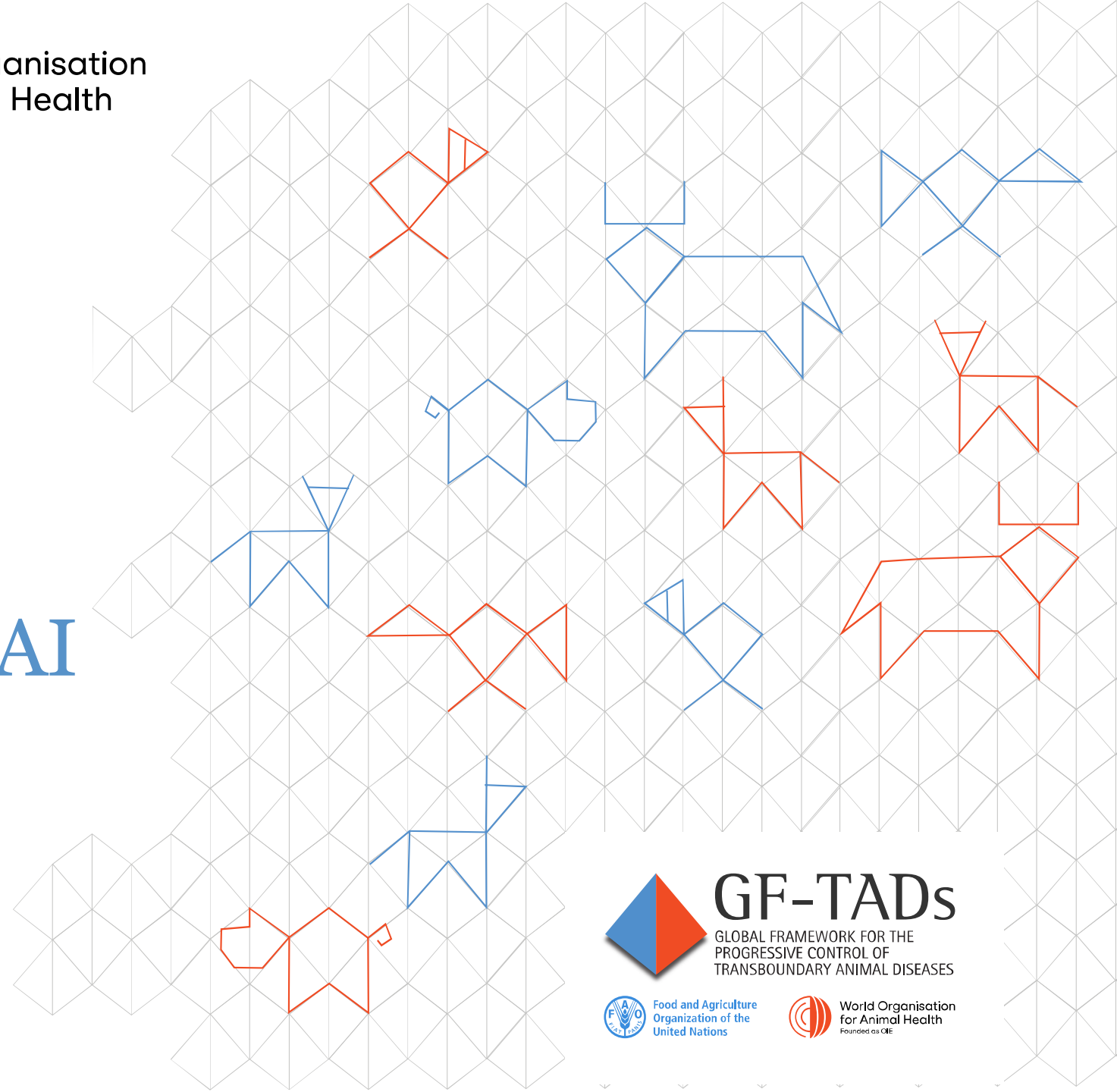


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# Meeting Observers Secretariat Chair of the SGE HPAI



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TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASES



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**Meeting observers:** On an ad hoc basis upon agreement of the Chair in consultation with the Secretariat.

**Secretariat:** WOAHA Regional Representation for Europe.

**Chair of the SGE HPAI:** The President of the Regional Steering Committee of the GF-TADs for Europe will act as Chair of the SGE HPAI.

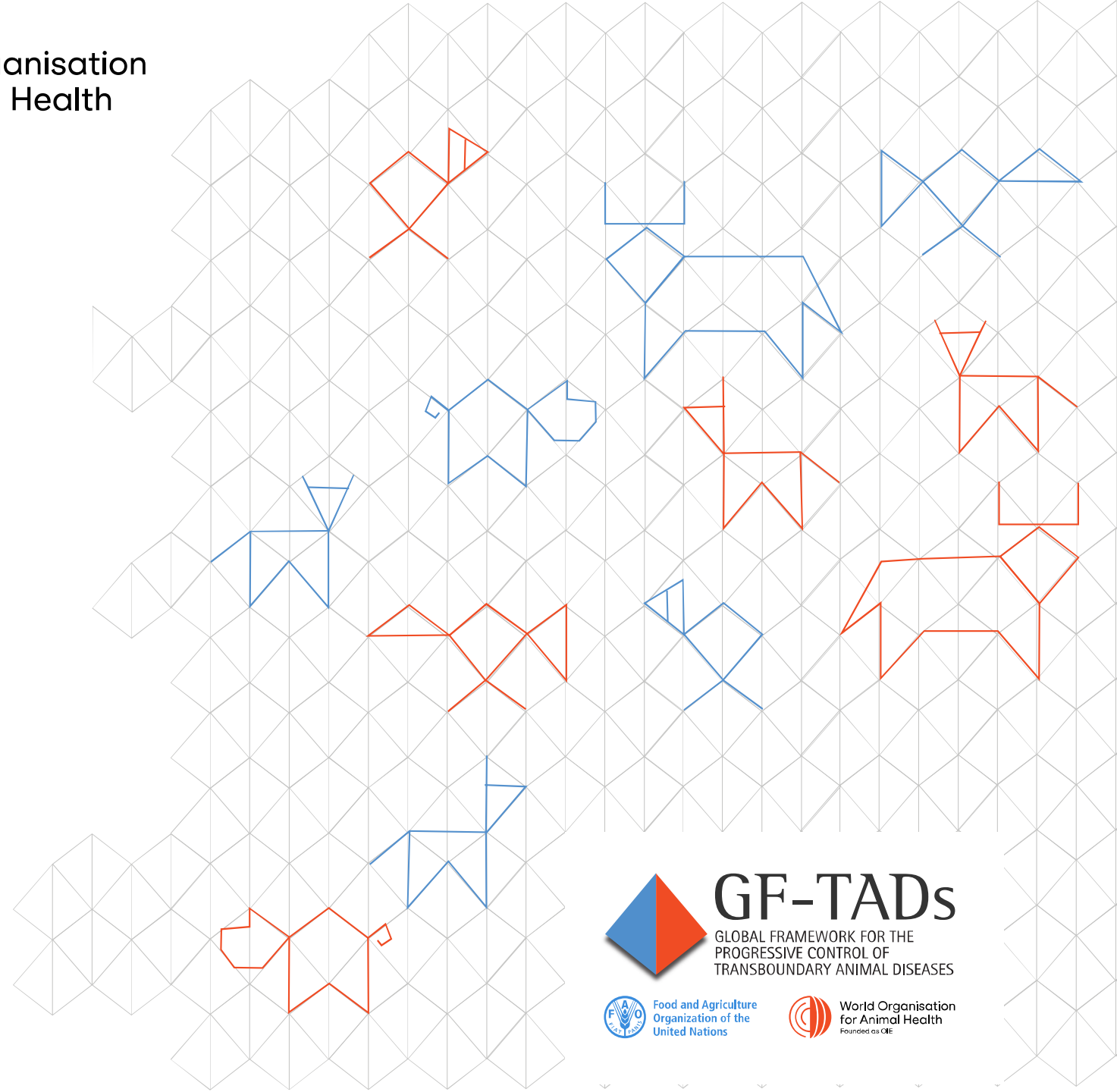


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# Funding Mechanism



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- ❑ Voluntary financial contributions from Members to WOA and FAO.
- ❑ Voluntary Financial contribution from External donors to WOA and FAO.

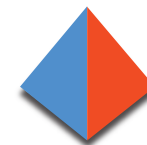
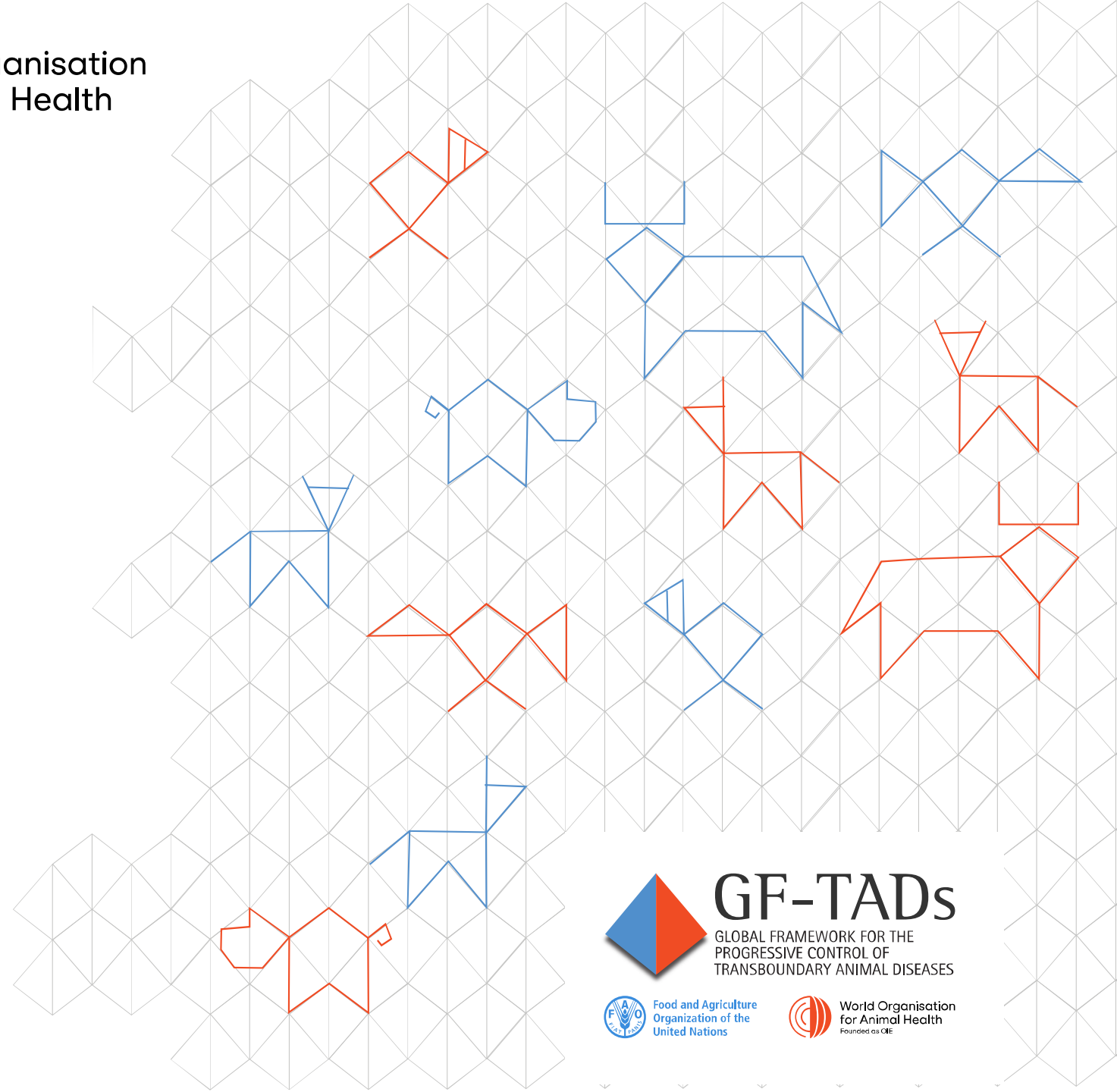


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# Meeting Mechanism



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World Organisation  
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- ❑ In person meetings will take place in SGE HPAI Members (proposed and confirmed during the previous meeting) on a rotating basis.
- ❑ The Host country will provide logistic support: meeting rooms (preferably at Competent Authority premises), identification of suitable accommodation and airport transfers.
- ❑ The SGE HPAI Secretariat will organize online meetings and technical consultations at least once a year.
- ❑ Invitations will be handled by the Secretariat of the SGE HPAI.
- ❑ Working language: English.



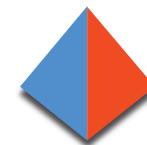
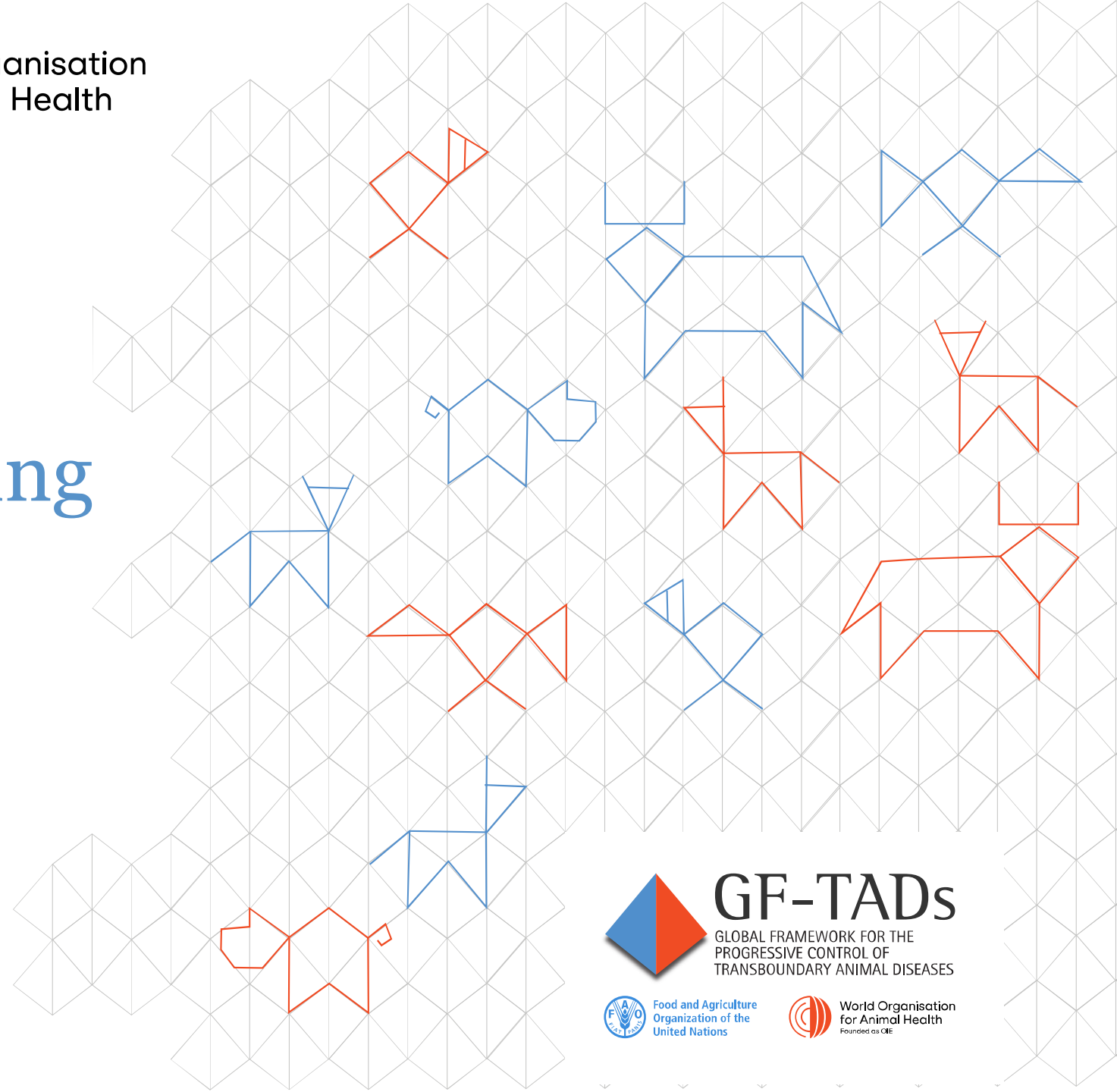


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# Minutes of the Meeting



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# Communication and Visibility



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- ❑ WOAHA Regional Representation for Europe will ensure devoted pages for SGE HPAI in the GF-TADs section, and its timely update. All meetings of SGE HPAI will be communicated via these web pages, including details from agenda, technical presentations, examples of best practices, conclusions, and recommendations.
- ❑ GF-TADs Partners and Members will promote these events and outcomes of regional coordination on their platforms whenever possible.



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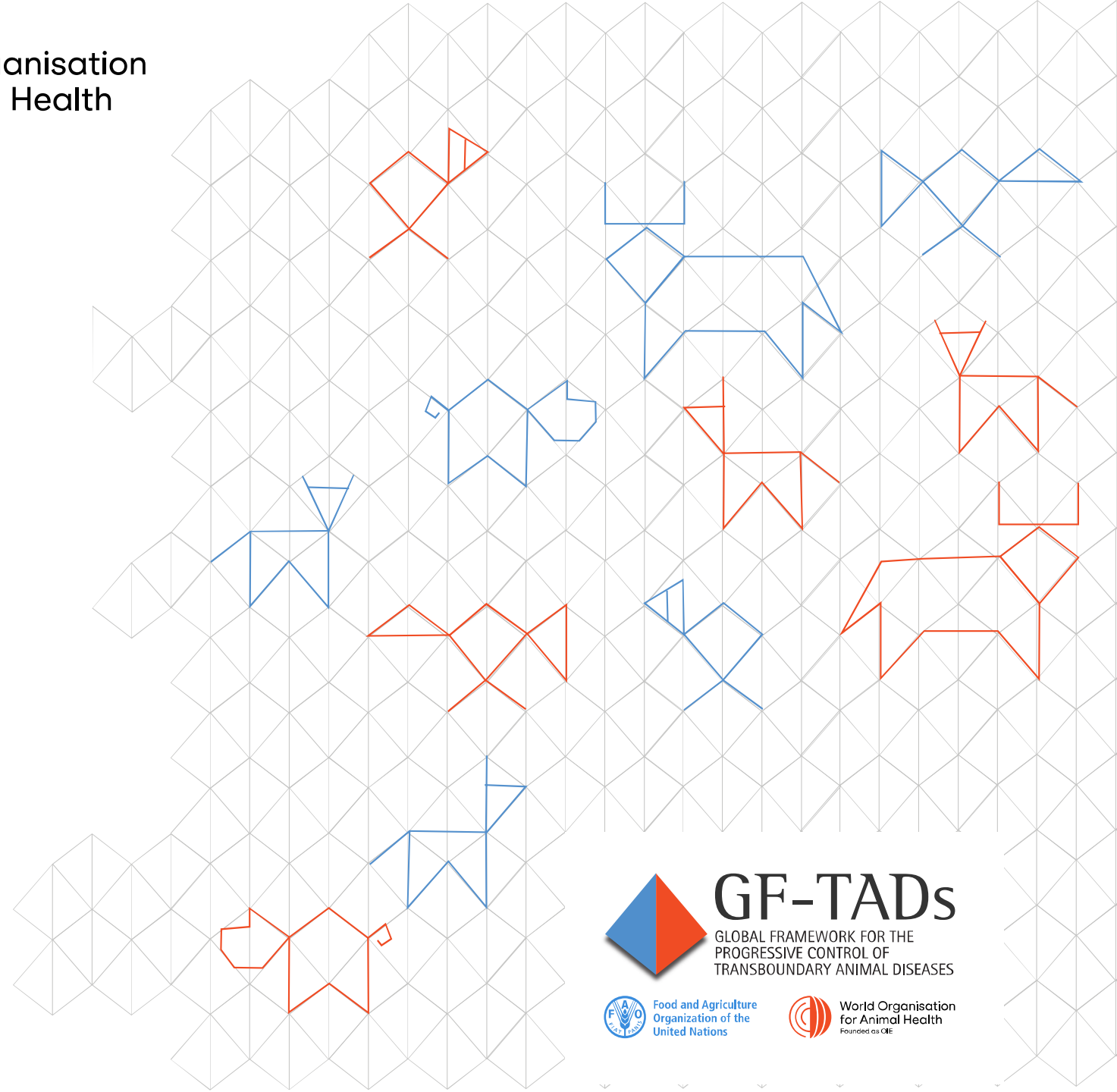


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Questions

Comments

Discussion



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