

Recommendations of PPR Roadmap meeting for ECO in 2023 and PPR webinar situation in Europe 2024

Name of the speaker:

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The title of event:

Webinar on PPR occurrence in Europe region under the GF-TADs umbrella



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Main results of the meeting:

- PPR epidemiological situation in ECO region reviewed and updated;
- Progress of countries along the PPR stepwise approach is updated;
- Key activities to prevent and eradicate PPR, including projects, are mapped;
- Next steps for PPR control indicated and adopted;
- PPR GEP Blueprint is understood and taken into account in the implementation of the PPR national and regional strategies and investment plans;
- Key capacity gaps and challenges in PPR control/eradication are identified, solutions and recommendations are agreed

The structure of RAG of PPR for West Eurasia

- Uzbekistan (Chair): Dr Abrar Akbarov
- Georgia (Vice President): Dr Vasili Basiladze
- Kyrgyzstan (Vice President): Dr Ashirbai Zhusupov
- The ECO Secretariat Representative is Dr Gurkan Polat.



- Involve stakeholders in the formulation and updating of PPR National Strategic Plans (NSP) in line with GEPII and ensure subsequent dissemination to all stakeholders.
- Determine multi-year budget for implementation of NSP and identify contribution of different funding sources.
- Use the revised PMAT to track progress & adapt strategy if needed.
- Identify possible PPR episystems (i.e., set of interconnected host populations capable of maintaining circulation & transmission of PPR virus).
- Develop studies to determine the virus dynamics at the wildlife-livestock interface (in Islamic Rep. of Iran and other countries).
- Develop or strengthen strategies to track and control livestock movements.
- Enhance surveillance activities (active and passive) and consider developing a PPR early warning system strategy.
- Target control activities at hypothesised PPR episystems.
- Intensify efforts for high-coverage risk-based vaccination between 2023-2025 and evaluate effectiveness of the vaccination campaigns (including sero-monitoring).
- Decide upon criteria to be met for cessation of vaccination (especially countries which have never reported PPR and yet are vaccinating).
- Use the support of the FAO-WOAH Reference laboratories and centres, including for virus genetic analysis.
- Use available guidelines and resources to support evidence based NSPs (e.g., Guidelines for control and prevention of PPR in wildlife (available in Russian), Annex to PPR GCES on postvaccination evaluation; PMAT User Guide).
- Work to develop harmonised PPR eradication activities with neighbouring countries, including coordinated vaccination campaigns.
- Plan mutual surveillance activities.
- Conduct simulation exercises to test emergency preparedness at both national and multinational levels.
- Harmonise procedures and forms across countries for surveillance and the monitoring of national vaccination programmes (including sero-monitoring).
- Use and promote existing mechanisms (e.g., WAHIS) to record and share PPR disease intelligence data.
- Update and validate the Regional PPR Strategy with the support of ECO Secretariat.



To countries that have never reported PPR:

- Obtain evidence for the absence of circulating PPR virus infection.
- Consider initiating the formulation of the dossier to apply for official recognition of PPR free status.
- Request technical support from FAO/WOAH if needed.

To the RAG in support their functioning:

- Consider inclusion of laboratory and epidemiology network leads within the PPR RAG.
- Hold more frequent RAG meetings (at least annually).
- Develop, with the support of the PPR Secretariat, a calendar of future activities and share in timely manner with Member Countries.

To PFP, ECO and RAG in support to resource mobilisation in the region:

- Consider joint meetings between the Partnerships and Financing Panel (PFP), RAG and ECO Secretariat.
- Develop regional proposals for funding, in collaboration with ECO Secretariat.
- Collectively identify the funding options for the region and ensure sustainable funding plans including national commitments.



To Regional Economic Community – ECO:

- Update the Regional PPR Strategy in line with the PPR GEPII.
- Support countries in resource mobilisation.
- Maintain strong advocacy for PPR eradication.

To GF-TADs governing bodies/international organisations:

- Increase the provision of training workshops (in-person and virtual); including on understanding and implementing the episystems concept.
- Support countries for their national epidemiological capacities (e.g. for surveillance design; episystems identification), including Training of Trainers (ToT).
- Support countries for laboratory proficiency testing (PT).
- Enhanced guidelines on surveillance.
- Support coordinated emergency capacities.
- Support for dossier preparation for official recognition of freedom.
- Consider how to financially support RAG meetings.
- Regular more frequent reports from lab network on PPR epidemiological situation.
- Consider designation/capacitation of a reference laboratory(/ies) to conduct vaccine quality control for the region.

Recommendation of webinar: PPR situation in Europe under GF-TADs approach ⁶

- **Enhance Surveillance Campaigns:** Countries should strengthen surveillance based on updated risk assessments.
- **Increase and Disseminate PPR Awareness:** Efforts should be made to educate farmers, veterinarians, professionals in contact with susceptible species, and stakeholders to identify and report clinical signs suggestive of PPR. Member States are encouraged to contribute PPR awareness materials to the GF-TADs portal for regional dissemination to enhance regional cooperation.
- **Revise Risk Assessments:** Countries are urged to update their risk assessments and contingency plans with the latest data on PPR distribution across Europe.
- **Sample Sharing for Analysis:** Affected countries should share PPR samples with CIRAD (designated WOA and European Union reference laboratory) for sequencing and phylogenetic analysis to deepen the understanding of the disease's epidemiology.
- **Ensure Transparency and Continue Sharing Information:** Timely notification of PPR outbreaks through WAHIS is essential to maintain transparency, and transparent, updated information must be exchanged within the GF-TADs framework to support regional cooperation.
- **Enhance Diagnostic Capacity:** National-level diagnostic capacity should be reinforced, and PPR should be included in differential diagnoses.

Thank you

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