



# Standing Group of Experts on Lumpy Skin Disease (SGE LSD) in Europe under the GF-TADs umbrella SGE LSD 14

## LSD related activities at EU level

*Online Meeting, 5th March 2025, from 09.30 (CET)*

*SANTE / Unit G2*

This presentation summarises selected pieces of EU legislation  
Therefore, it is not exhaustive.  
Refer to the full legislative acts for an exhaustive comprehension.

- **Current LSD epidemiological situation in South East Europe.**
- **Overview of LSD management in South-East Europe.**
  - LSD vaccination
  - LSD surveillance
- **EU support for surveillance/control measures against Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD).**
- **Concluding remarks**

LSD outbreaks in South-East Europe [ 2015 - 2024(Feb) ]

COUNTRY	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025 (until 04 Mar)	Total
ALBANIA		250	494									744
BULGARIA		217										217
GREECE	117	104	2									223
KOSOVO*		46										46
MONTENEGRO		64										64
NORTH MACEDONIA		117	4									121
SERBIA		225										225
TURKIYE	487	106	14	46	180	5	1					839
TOTALS	604	1129	514	46	180	5	1	0	0	0	0	2479

Since 2017, no LSD outbreaks reported in South-Eastern Europe.

Last outbreak in Turkiye on 2021 (March). Data from Animal Disease Information System (ADIS).

( \* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence).

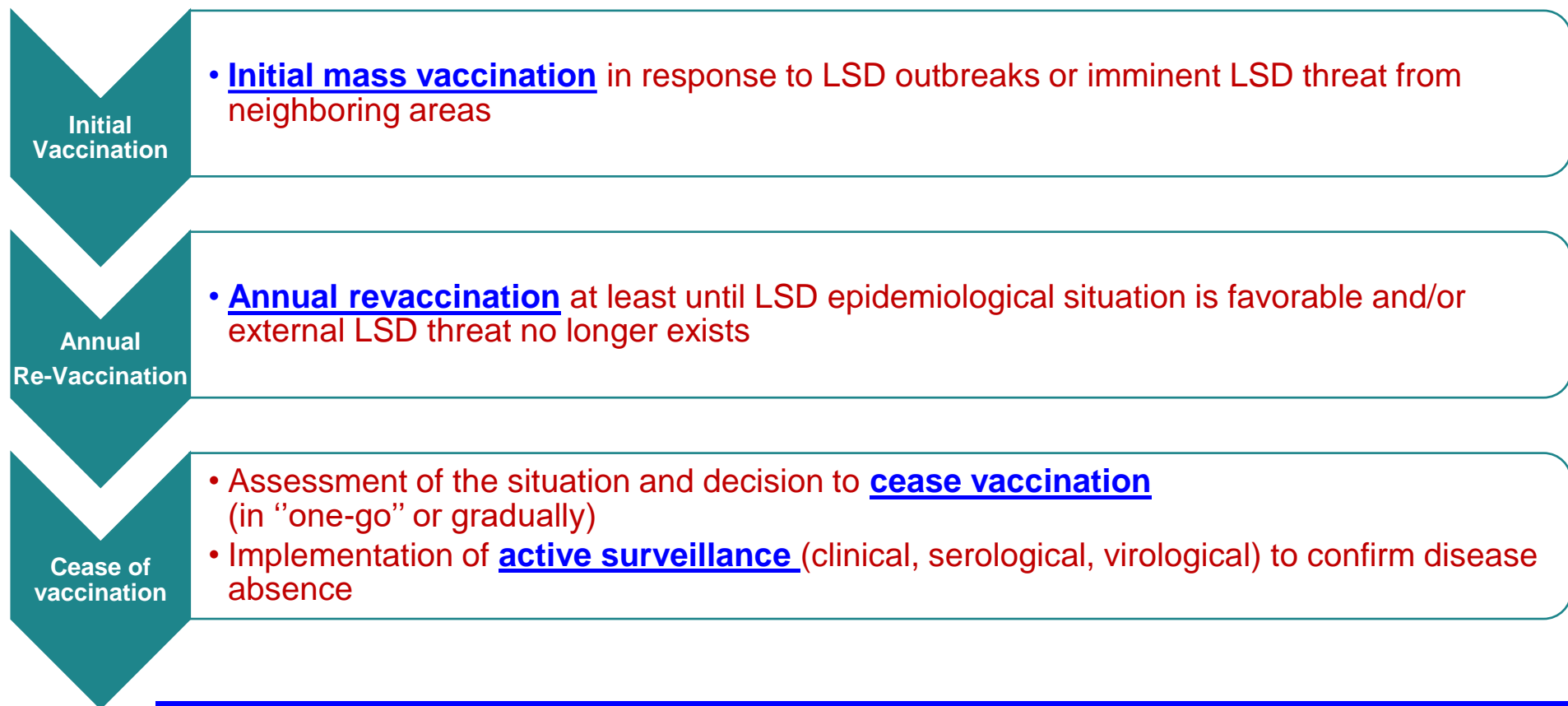
Epidemiological situation in South-East Europe

LSD VACCINATION IN SOUTH EAST EUROPE										
YEAR	Albania	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Bulgaria	Croatia	Greece	Kosovo*	Montenegro	North Macedonia	Serbia	Turkiye <i>(ongoing since 2013 with heterologous vaccine)</i>
2015					X					X
2016	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
2017	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
2018	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
2019	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X
2020	X		X		X				X <i>(calves/imported)</i>	X <i>(homologous vaccine in Turkish Thrace, heterologous in Anatolia)</i>
2021	X <i>(ceased 1st quarter)</i>		X		X				X <i>(calves/imported)</i>	X <i>(homologous vaccine in Turkish Thrace, heterologous in Anatolia)</i>
2022			X		X					X <i>(homologous vaccine in Turkish Thrace, heterologous in Anatolia)</i>
2023			X		X					X <i>(Heterologous vaccine in Turkish Thrace and East Anatolia)</i>
2024										X <i>(Heterologous vaccine along the border of East Anatolia)</i>

LSD VACCINATION IN SOUTH EAST EUROPE in 2024



### Exit strategy



**As of 2024 Bulgaria and Greece have ceased vaccination too and switched to active LSD surveillance**

## Countries/areas with ongoing LSD vaccination

- **Passive surveillance** (*for early detection of possible new outbreaks, e.g. in areas of low vaccine coverage or non-immune animals*).

## Countries/areas where LSD mass vaccination has stopped (or replaced by partial vaccination)

- **Passive surveillance** (early detection of possible outbreaks)
- **Active surveillance** (to demonstrate disease absence)
  - Focus on the high-risk period for LSD in SE Europe(April–October)
  - Clinical inspections of selected holdings(ideally every 5 weeks according to EFSA).
  - Serological testing of non vaccinated animals (supplemented with virological testing)
  - Surveillance supplemented by other systematic clinical examinations for LSD (e.g. live animal markets, pre-movement clinical checks , ante-mortem examinations on animals to be slaughtered).
  - Activities often combined with other programmes on the cattle population in place in the same country/region.

### ➤ EU support for LSD vaccination

- ✓ *Donations from EU LSD vaccine bank*
- ✓ *Reimbursement for the cost of LSD vaccines*
- ✓ *Co-financing of LSD vaccination programmes* (2023 - Bulgaria, Greece - last year of vaccination)

### ➤ EU support for LSD surveillance after cease of vaccination

- ✓ *Co-financing of LSD surveillance programmes* (2025 : Bulgaria, Greece)

### ➤ EU Support for Regional Coordination – GF TADs LSD group meetings

*Support for the organisation of GF TADs and other international meetings on LSD*

### ➤ EU LSD Scientific – Technical support

- ✓ **EFSA Opinions- Reports on LSD** (3 opinions & 4 reports published to date).  
<https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/topics/topic/lumpy-skin-disease>
- ✓ **EUVET expert missions** (on-the-spot technical support upon country request)
- ✓ **EU Reference Laboratory for LSD** (technical support for National LSD Laboratories)  
*National Reference Laboratories Annual Workshops and Proficiency Tests*

### ➤ EU LSD training activities

**Sustained Technical Missions – STMs** (each time in a specific country)

**BTSF training workshops on LSD** (for officers of multiple countries)



European Union Lumpy Skin Disease Vaccine Bank Grants (2016-2022)

Year	Country		Doses granted
2016	Bulgaria, Greece , North Macedonia, Serbia, Kosovo*, Albania, Montenegro, Croatia		625,000
2017	Bosnia & Herzegovina, Montenegro, Greece, Albania, Kosovo*		325,000
2018	North Macedonia, Kosovo*, Montenegro, Greece, Albania, Georgia		876,000
2019	North Macedonia	150,000	670,000
	Kosovo*	190,000	
	Montenegro	80,000	
	Albania	250,000	
2020	Albania	228,000	438,000
	Georgia	200,000	
	Taiwan	10,000	
2021	Turkey	250,000	250,000
2022	Bulgaria	50,000	50,000

3.324.000 doses  
of LSD vaccine  
(live-homologous)  
granted to date  
to 12 countries  
(EU + non EU MS)

## Concluding remarks

- LSD effectively controlled in SE Europe since the 2015 incursion thanks to coordinated vaccination campaigns using effective vaccines (live homologous ones)
- Regional cooperation and coordination is the key to successful LSD control
- Mass vaccination of bovines uniformly implemented, in large areas using efficient vaccines, remains the most important control policy against LSD.
- Availability of sufficient vaccine doses is a key factor for the successful implementation of vaccination programmes.
- Countries at risk, should enhance preparedness and ensure efficient & timely procurement of sufficient vaccine doses for the implementation of vaccination programmes as and when needed.
- We should all continue to follow the LSD epidemiological situation and remain vigilant, ready to take action, should the disease reaches us again.

# Thank you



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