

The Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs) approach in the region and FMD activities under the GF-TADs umbrella in Europe

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Seminar for the countries in the Eurasian Economic Union on the topic “WOAH standards and recommendations on bluetongue (sheep catarrhal fever) Methods of control and prevention, distribution trends. Current epidemiological situation on Foot-and-Mouth Disease in Europe” (WOAH-EEC), 30.06 2025



World
Organisation
for Animal
Health

Organisation
mondiale
de la santé
animale

Organización
Mundial
de Sanidad
Animal



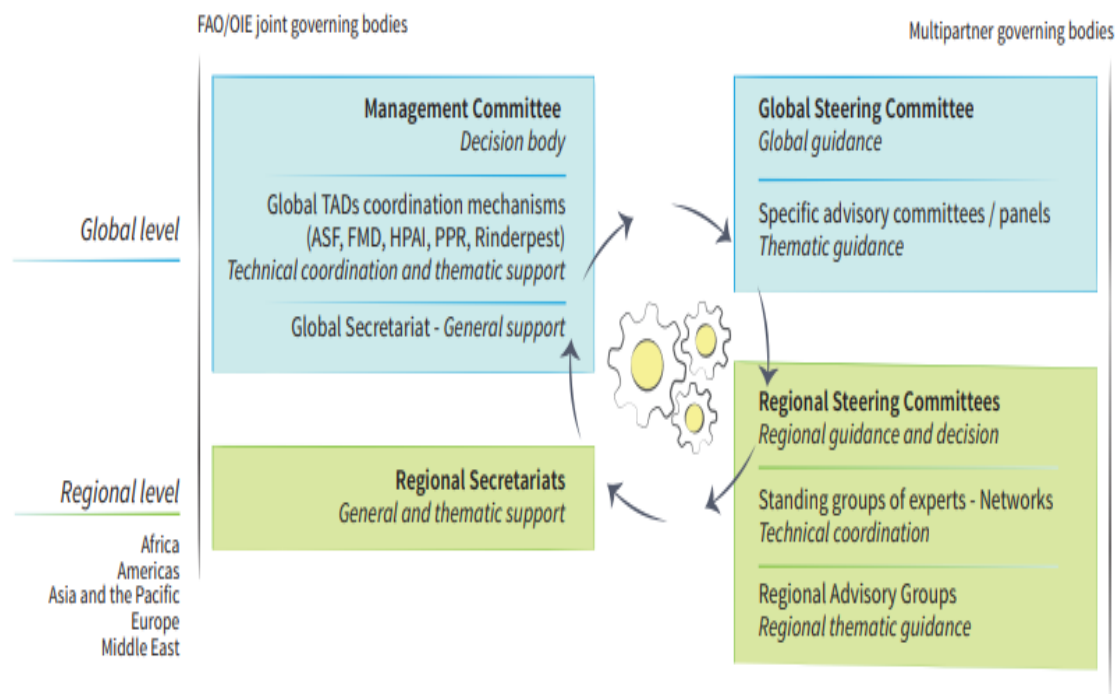
- Joint FAO and WOAHA initiative launched in 2004 for progressive control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (TADs).
- European regional branch established in 2005 to respond to regional crises.
- Encompasses 53 European members, including Western, Southeast, Eastern Europe, and Central Asia.
- Encourages creation of regional alliances and common vision for priority TADs.



1. Establish strategies for priority TADs at the sub-regional, regional and global level.
2. Develop and maintain capacities to prevent and control TADs.
3. Improve sustainability of strategies to control priority TADs through multi-disciplinary partnerships.



Organogram of the GF-TADs structure



Source: Authors

Composition of the Regional Steering Committee of the GF-TADs Europe

President	President of the Regional Steering Committee of the GF-TADs for Europe (elected)
WOAH RR	Regional Representative of WOAH for Europe, member of RSC
FAO RR/RD	Regional Director/Representative of FAO for Europe and Central Asia, Assistant of Director-General, member of RSC
PRS (Permanent Regional Secretariat)	Permanent Regional Secretariat of GF-TADs for Europe (per ToR):
SGE ASF Secretariat	Secretariat of SGE on ASF, under GF-TADs for Europe:
SGE LSD Secretariat	Secretariat of SGE on LSD, under GF-TADs for Europe:
SGE rabies Secretariat	Secretariat of SGE on rabies, under GF-TADs for Europe:
FMD Secretariat	Secretariat of FMD, under GF-TADs for Europe:
SGE PPR Secretariat	Secretariat of PPR, under GF-TADs for Europe:
EC team	GF-TADS-Europe Presidency: supportive team in DG Santé Unit G2
FAO-Europe team	
WOAH-Europe team	Secretariat - supportive team in WOAH-Europe

- The Second Action Plan for the region, building on previous work and aligning with the global GF-TADs Strategy 2021-2025, covers the period 2023-2027 and includes **six main priority diseases**:
 - African Swine Fever (ASF)
 - Rabies
 - Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)
 - Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD)
 - Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR)
 - Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)



11th Regional Steering Committee

Date & Location: October 1, 2024, Samarkand, Uzbekistan

Key outcomes included:

1. **Re-election of the Leadership:**

- Dr Van Goethem - re-elected as President and Drs Herzog (Austria) and Basiladze (Georgia) were elected as Vice-Presidents for the next four years.
- Permanent Secretariat functions will be ensured Dr Plavsic, WOAHA Regional Representative.

2. The continuing challenges of TADs in Europe and Central Asia was highlighted, as well as the need for **coordinated, collaborative and innovative solutions within the GF-TADs framework.**





- **1. Standing Group of Experts (SGE) on ASF:**

- SGE-ASF23: Date & Location: September 18–19, 2024, Ohrid, North Macedonia.
- SGE-ASF24: Date & Location: April 3–4, 2025, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

2. 6th Standing Group of Experts on Rabies (SGE RAB6):

Date & Location: July 11, 2024, Brussels, Belgium (hybrid event)

3. 2nd Standing Group of Experts (SGE) on HPAI (SGE2):

Date & Location: September 30, 2024, Samarkand, Uzbekistan.

4. Standing Group of Experts (SGE) on LSD:

- SGE LSD -13 : 21 Feb 2024 , Teleconference (Online).
- SGE LSD -14 : 05 Mar 2025, Teleconference (Online).

5. Peste des petits ruminants (PPR):

04 Sep 2024 and 05 Mar 2025, PPR situation in Europe region under GF-TADs regional approach



The West Eurasia FMD Roadmap (GF-TADs)

- Date & Location: Baku, Azerbaijan 25 – 27 April 2023

- **The vision for the West Eurasia Roadmap for Foot-and-Mouth Disease Control:**

The regional cooperation among West Eurasian countries for the progressive control of FMD leading towards freedom of clinical disease by 2027 for regional economic development, food security, and poverty alleviation.

- **Outcomes of the meeting:**

- Updated membership of the Regional Advisory Group for West Eurasia (2023- 2025);
- Overview of global and regional FMD situation and vaccines recommendations;
- Results of Self-Assessment Tool;
- Results of FMD Vaccines and Vaccination Survey;
- Provisional West Eurasia FMD Roadmap for 2027;
- 9th West Eurasia FMD Roadmap Meeting Recommendations

biologically



RAG meeting within the FMD Roadmap West Eurasia activity

- **Date and venue: July 2-4, 2024, Baku, Azerbaijan**
- **Outcomes of the meeting:**
 - ✓ Support in preparing dossiers for official recognition of freedom status;
 - ✓ Consider financial support for RAG meetings;
 - ✓ Invite chairs of other RAGs to share experiences on RAG activities and the PPR eradication process;
 - ✓ Support countries in ensuring transparency in sharing PPR data (WAHIS);
 - ✓ Encourage countries to request a PBC mission that includes a specific PPR component;
 - ✓ Priority translation of PMAT into Russian;
 - ✓ Support countries in preparing dossiers for approval of official PPR control programs and official recognition of freedom status for PPR;
 - ✓ Invite other countries in the region to participate in global efforts to control and eradicate the disease (Afghanistan).





Information Webinar on the FMD situation in certain Member States of the European Union

- Date & Location: April 7, 2025, Online.
- Key Message: **Separate FMD incursions** occurred in Germany, Hungary, and Slovakia in early 2025. **Small areas of few EU Member States were affected.**
- Outbreaks Highlights:
 - Germany (January 2025): single outbreak involving water buffaloes. Virus - **Serotype O (O/ME-SA/SA-2018 lineage)**, 100% genetic match with a Turkey 2024 strain. **WOAH official status reinstated!!**
 - Hungary & Slovakia (March 2025): several outbreaks, primarily near the Danube River. Virus - Serotype O (O/ME-SA/PanAsia-2ANT-10 lineage), showing 100% genetic identity between strains found in both countries.
 - Epidemiological Finding: FMD incursions in Germany and Hungary/Slovakia were epidemiologically distinct and unrelated.

Information Webinar on the FMD situation in certain Member States of the European Union

- Response Principles:
 - *Commendable transparency.*
 - *Immediate, well-coordinated national and EU-level actions.*
 - *Strict application of international standards.*
- Control Measures:
 - *Regionalization measures and strict standstills implemented.*
 - *Robust passive surveillance for early detection.*
 - *Germany: stamping-out policy.*
 - *Hungary & Slovakia: stamping-out and emergency suppressive vaccination.*





1st GF-TADs Regional Conference of Standing Groups of Experts on priority transboundary animal diseases in the European region

Belgrade (Serbia) - 22-25 September 2025

Event funded by the EU



Thank you for your attention !

