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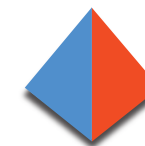
8th Standing Group of Experts on Rabies for Europe

GF-TADs SGE RAB8

Report by Republic of Albania

28-29 September 2026

Brussels, Belgium



GF-TADs

GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE
PROGRESSIVE CONTROL OF
TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASES



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Rabies epidemiological situation

- Last year of occurrence of Rabies in domestic animals : **No cases of rabies have been reported in domestic animals**
- Last year of occurrence of Rabies in wildlife : **In 2014, a case of rabies was reported in a red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*) in the Kukës area of northern Albania.**
- Last year of occurrence of Rabies in humans : **No cases of rabies have been reported in humans.**
- Last year of occurrence of imported Rabies cases :
 - In animals : **No cases of rabies have been reported in animals.**
 - In humans : **No cases have been reported in humans.**

Oral Rabies Vaccination

Year	Spring campaign*		Autumn campaign*		Area covered (please mark with X as appropriate)		Financing (EU/National/other)
	Start Date	End Date	Start Date	End Date	Whole country	Other (please describe)	
2024	not planned	not planned	not planned	not planned	not planned	not planned	not planned
2025	not planned	not planned	not planned	not planned	not planned	not planned	not planned
2026	not planned	not planned	not planned	not planned	not planned	not planned	not planned

***No ORV campaign: complete with "not planned"/ ORV Planned but not implemented: "omitted"**

Oral Rabies Vaccination

Additional ORV strategies

- At present, there are no plans to implement an Oral Rabies Vaccination programme in 2026 or 2027.
Therefore, no Oral Rabies Vaccination activities are currently foreseen for these two years.

Surveillance

(Detection of rabies virus)

Year	Number of tested animals- Passive surveillance				Number of tested animals- Active surveillance	
	Total number WILDLIFE	Total number DOMESTIC	No of positive cases		Total number	No of positive cases
			WILDLIFE	DOMESTIC		
2023	0	1	0	0	179	0
2024	0	1	0	0	126	0
2025	0	0	0	0	0	0
2026	0	0	0	0	0	0

- Passive surveillance: tests performed in suspect and dead wild animals (FAT/RT-PCR). **If available**, different **species** or **categories** can be specified (companion, livestock; more detailed if available: dogs, cattle, cats, golden jackal, etc)
- Active surveillance: tests performed in healthy hunted animals in the frame of the monitoring programme to verify effectiveness of oral rabies vaccination in WILDLIFE. If no active surveillance: **N/A**

Effectiveness of ORV campaigns

(Post-vaccination monitoring)

Year	Bait uptake = biomarker		Seroconversion = antibodies to rabies virus		
	No. of foxes tested	No. of biomarker positive samples	No. of foxes tested	No. of foxes positive for antibodies to rabies virus	Method used for serological testing
2023-2024	304	91	286	92	ELISA Ab
2025	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
2025/2026	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

N/A: no post-vaccination monitoring for that period

Plans for 2027

VACCINATION	YES*	NO	STILL TO BE DECIDED	YES* UNDER CONDITIONS <i>(please describe)</i>	Area <i>(border/whole territory)</i>	Period /dates	Comments
ORV Spring campaign 2027		X					
ORV Autumn campaign 2027		X					
SURVEILLANCE							
Passive surveillance	X				Whole territory		
Active surveillance <i>(like the one accompanying all ORV)</i>	X				Whole territory		
Other type of active surveillance <i>(clinical)</i>	X				Whole territory		

Additional rabies control activities and challenges

Current Situation

- The Republic of Albania currently implements passive surveillance for rabies.
- Rabies vaccination is currently carried out only in pet animals.
- Reporting of suspected cases, monitoring activities, and public awareness remain important components of rabies prevention and control in Albania.
- No Oral Rabies Vaccination (ORV) programme is planned for 2027.
- Any future decision regarding the implementation of oral rabies vaccination campaigns will depend on the availability of financial resources, the epidemiological situation, and national priorities for rabies control and eradication.

Additional rabies control activities and challenges

Plans for 2027–2029

- **Implementation of active clinical surveillance:** For 2027–2029, the implementation of the active clinical surveillance plan for rabies is foreseen across all animal species susceptible to rabies.
- **Programme objective:** The main objective of the programme is to demonstrate the absence of rabies virus circulation in the territory of the Republic of Albania and to support the achievement of **rabies-free status**.
- **Regulatory framework:** The necessary regulatory framework is also in progress, including the **Ministerial Order approving the rules for the control and eradication of rabies**.

Additional rabies control activities and challenges

Main Challenges

- **Financial resources:** Limited availability of sufficient financial resources to support the implementation and continuity of oral rabies vaccination (ORV) in red foxes;
- **Surveillance and reporting:** Maintaining effective rabies surveillance and reporting systems, including the timely detection and reporting of suspected cases.
- **Coordination:** Strengthening coordination and collaboration among the relevant veterinary, public health, and other competent authorities involved in rabies prevention, surveillance, control, and eradication.



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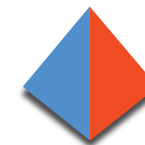
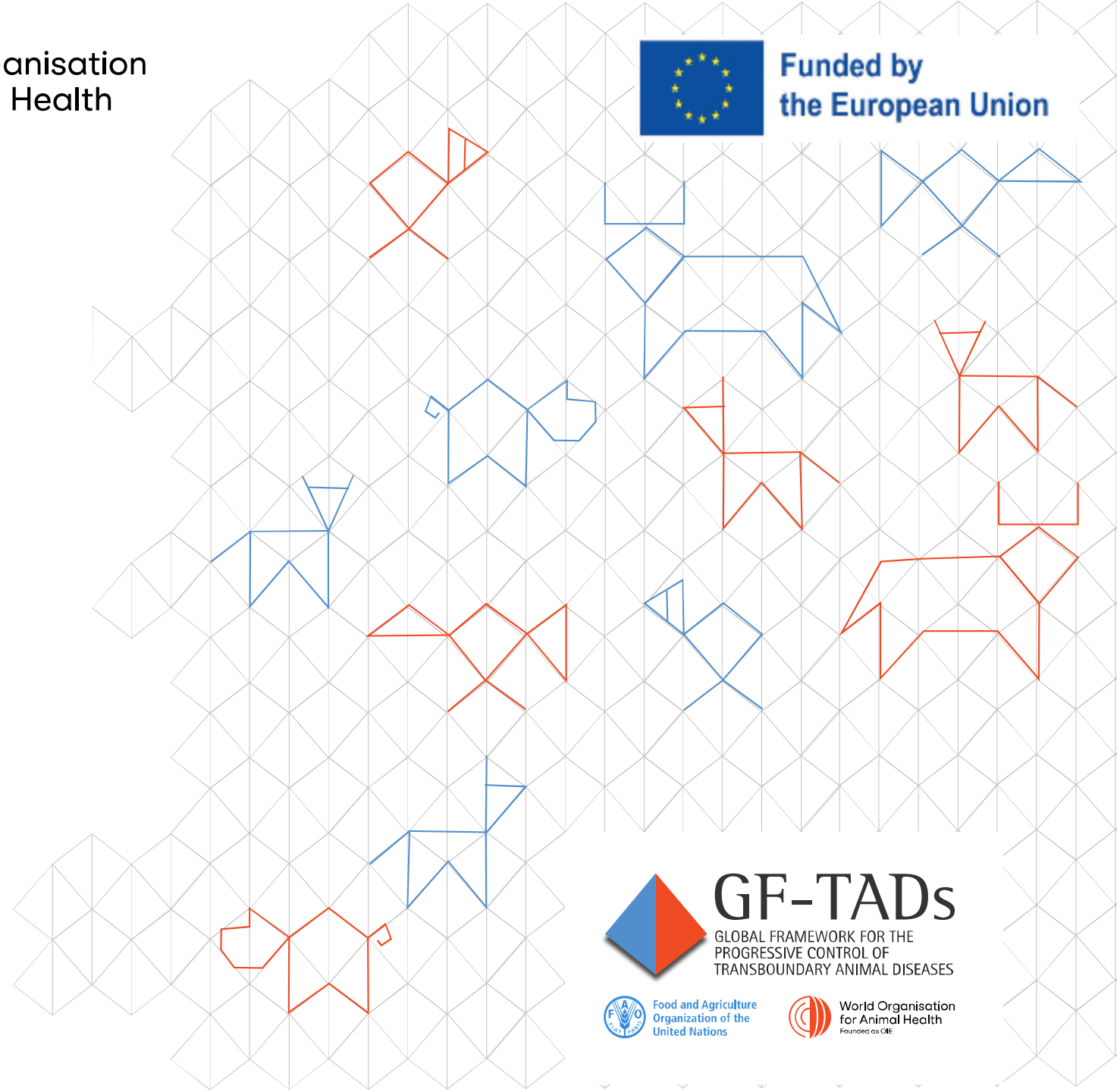


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Thank you!



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