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# **Animal health status, regionalisation and international trade**

**Regional Webinar for Europe: OIE standards**

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# Agenda

- Animal health status
- Zoning and compartmentalisation
- OIE tools supporting transparency of global animal health situation: WAHIS, OIE official status and self-declarations



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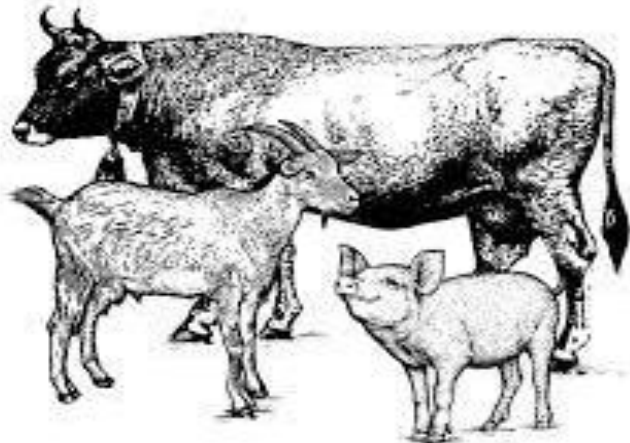
# Glossary definition: animal health status

**Animal health status:** means the status of a country, *zone* or *compartment* with respect to an animal disease in accordance with the criteria listed in the relevant disease-specific chapter or Chapter 1.4. of the *Terrestrial Code*.

## How applied?

In disease-specific chapters,

- General criteria for the determination of the [disease/infection/infestation] status of a country, zone or compartment
- Free country or zone
- Freedom in subpopulations of animals
  - Compartment
  - Selected species (e.g. brucellosis)
  - Selected subpopulations (e.g. domestic and captive wild pigs as in ASFV)
- Seasonal freedom, e.g. BTV
- Epizootic and inter-epizootic periods, i.e. RVFV



# Zoning and compartmentalisation

Refer to horizontal chapters 4.4. Zoning and compartmentalisation, 4.5. Application of compartmentalisation

## **ZONE**

means a **part of a country** defined by the **Veterinary Authority**, containing animal population or subpopulation with a **specific animal health status**

- Extent of a zone and its geographical limits established by the **Veterinary Authority**
- Natural, artificial and/or legal boundaries
- Made public through official channels

## **COMPARTMENT**

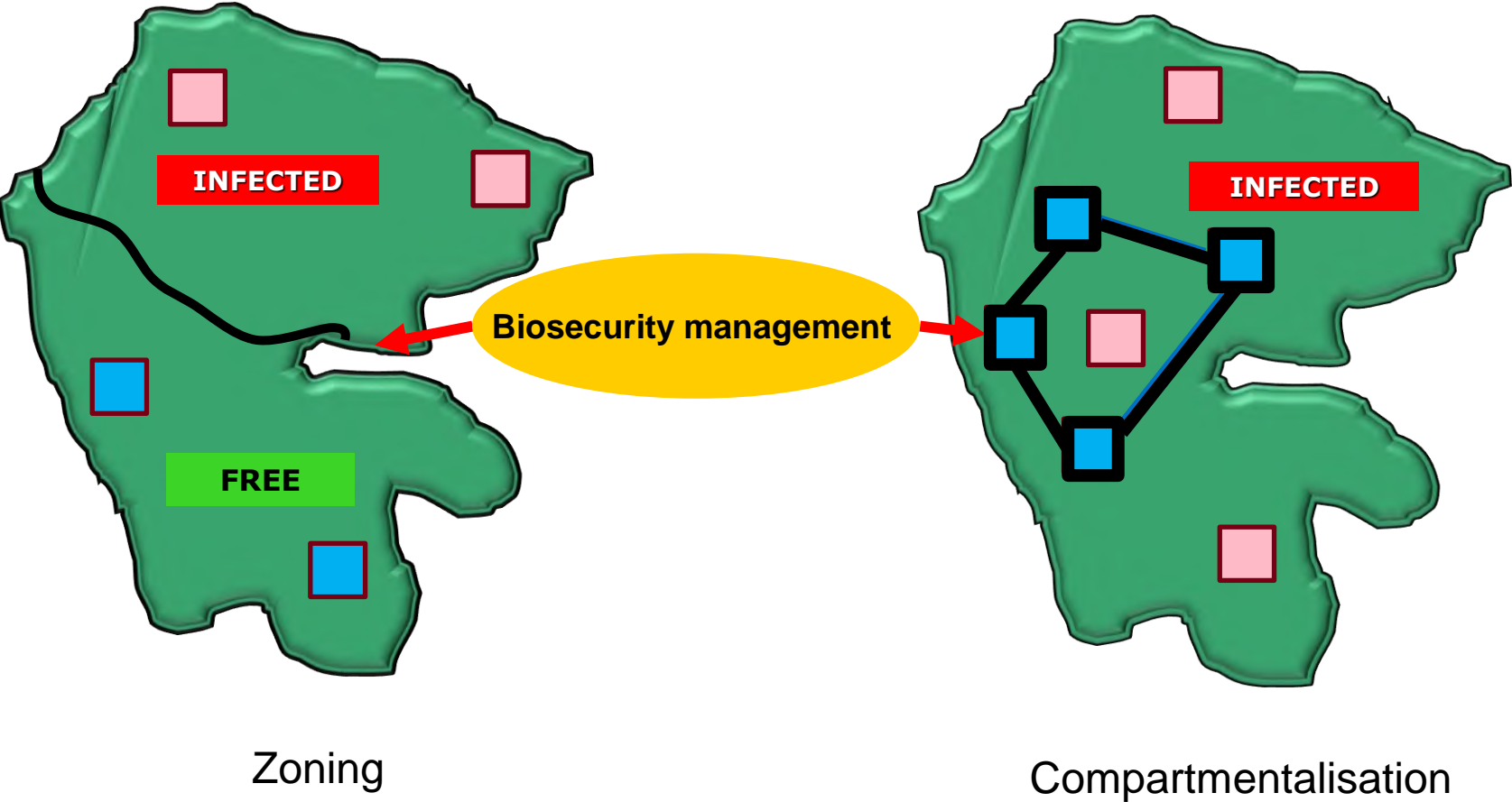
means an **animal subpopulation** contained in **one or more establishments**, separated from other susceptible populations by a **common biosecurity management system**, and with a **specific animal health status**

- Compartmentalisation requests strong **partnership** with private sector
- **Veterinary Authority** from importing and exporting countries are the final authority

 **Spatial considerations and good management including biosecurity plans play important roles in the application of both concepts**

# Zoning and compartmentalisation in practice

*Modified from USDA-APHIS*



## Chapter 4.4. Zoning and Compartmentalisation

- Assist Member Countries wishing to **establish and maintain different subpopulations** within their territory
- Applied in accordance with the measures in the **relevant disease chapter(s)**
- **To regain free status** following a disease outbreak, follow the recommendations in the relevant disease chapter
- Outlines a process through which trading partners may recognize such subpopulations, best implemented by gaining agreement **prior to outbreaks**



# OIE standards – horizontal concepts for Zoning

## Free zone (Art 4.4.4.)

- ✓ Is one in which the **absence of a specific infection or infestation** in an **animal population** has been demonstrated in accordance with the requirements of the Terrestrial Code
- ✓ Attainment and maintenance may require past/ongoing specific surveillance, vector surveillance and appropriate biosecurity and sanitary measures within the zone and at its borders
- ✓ Can apply to one or more susceptible animal species populations, domestic or wild

## Infected zone (Art 4.4.5.)

- ✓ Is one in which an **infection or infestation has been confirmed**, or that is **defined as such** in the relevant chapters of the Terrestrial Code
- ✓ To gain free status, recommendations in the relevant chapters of the Terrestrial Code should be followed

✉ Refer to Chapter 1.4., disease-specific chapter



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# OIE standards – horizontal concepts for Zoning



## Protection zone (Art 4.4.6.)

- Zone where specific **biosecurity** and **sanitary measures** are implemented to **prevent the entry** of a pathogenic agent into a free country or zone from a neighbouring country or zone of a **different (lower) animal health status**
- **Biosecurity** and **sanitary measures** implemented on the basis of the animal management systems, disease epidemiology and epidemiological situation in neighbouring infected countries/ zones
- Measures should include **intensified movement control, animal identification and traceability, intensified surveillance**. E.g.
  - Vaccination
  - Specific procedures for testing prior to movement
  - Specific surveillance of susceptible wildlife species and relevant vectors
  - Awareness campaigns
- If a case occurs in the protection zone, the **animal health status of the rest of the country/zone is not affected, provided** measures are in place to prevent the spread of the disease and allow subsequent establishment of a containment zone
- If established as a **temporary measure** in response to increased risk of disease, may be maintained for up to **24 months**.

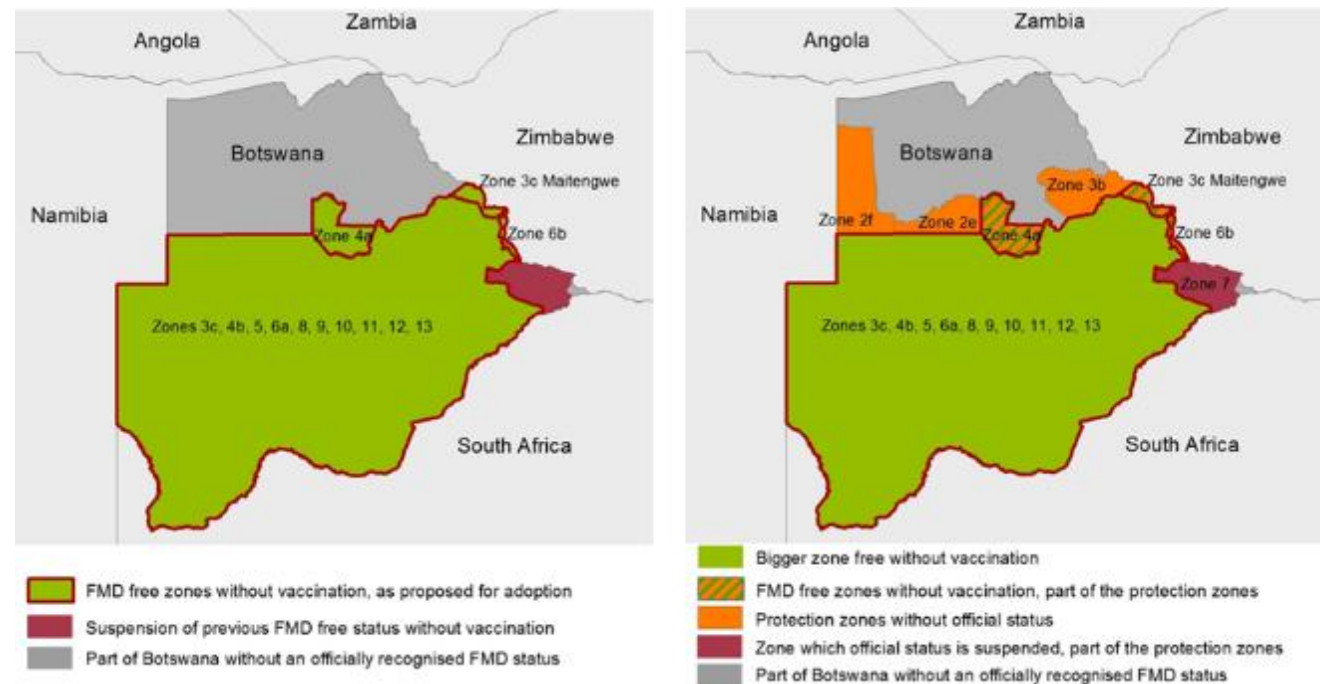


# OIE standards – horizontal concepts for Zoning

## Protection zone (Art 4.4.6.) – Official recognition of animal health status

- Need to comply with conditions in Article 4.4.6. and in relevant disease-specific chapters
- Documented evidence submitted to and accepted by the OIE
- If Member wishes to make a protection zone permanent, process for official recognition by the OIE should be followed in accordance with Chapter 1.6. and the relevant disease-specific chapter

Example of Protection zones inside and outside of FMD free zone



# OIE standards – horizontal concepts for Zoning

## Containment zone (Art 4.4.7.)

- An **infected zone** defined within a **previously free country or zone**, which includes all suspected or confirmed cases that are epidemiologically linked and where movement control, biosecurity and sanitary measures are applied to prevent the spread of, and to eradicate, the infection or infestation
- Implemented in response to a limited outbreak of disease in a free country or zone **to contain the outbreak** for **disease control** and **limit impact on trade**
- Managed in such a way that commodities for international trade can be shown to have originated from either inside or outside the containment zone
- Established based on rapid response based on contingency plan that includes:
  - Movement controls upon suspicion
  - Epidemiological investigation after confirmation to demonstrate outbreaks are epidemiologically related and contained within boundaries of the containment zone
  - Emergency control strategy to eradicate disease, e.g. stamping-out
  - Increase passive and targeted surveillance in rest of country/zone to demonstrate no occurrence of infection/ infestation
  - Biosecurity and sanitary measures to prevent spread of infection/ infestation out of the containment zone



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# OIE standards – horizontal concepts for Zoning

## Containment zone (Art 4.4.7.)

- Free status of the area outside of the containment zone suspended while the containment zone is being established
- 2 options, unless indicated in disease-specific chapter:
  - There have been **no new cases in the containment zone within a minimum of two incubation periods** from the disposal of the last detected case, OR
  - It comprises an **inner zone** where cases may continue to occur and an **outer zone where no outbreaks have occurred for at least two incubation periods** after the control measures have been put in place, and which separates the inner zone from the rest of the country or zone
- In event of occurrence of case in the containment zone/ outer zone, the rest of the country/ zone loses its free status

Example of containment zone inside FMD free zone



# OIE Terrestrial Code: Disease Specific Standards

## ■ Zoning provisions in disease-specific chapters

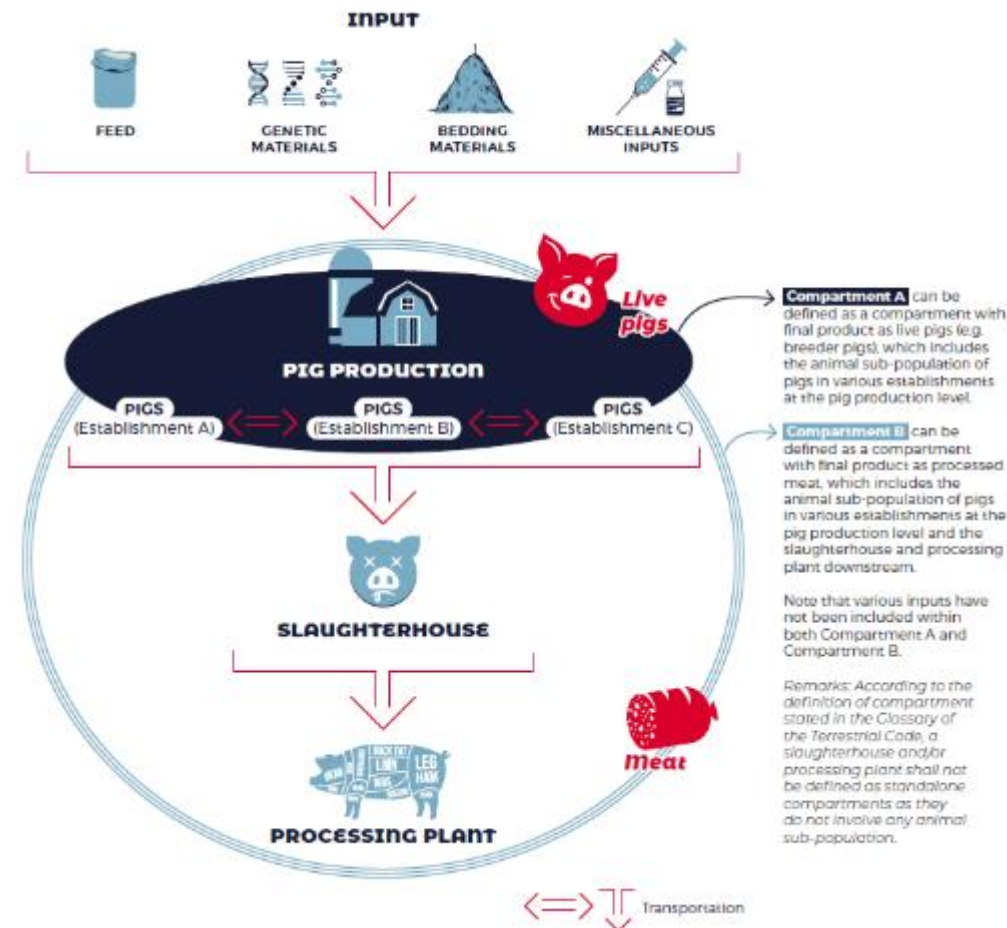
- Aujeszky's disease, Bluetongue, Brucellosis, EHD, RVF, WNF
- OIE listed bee diseases
- CSF, ASF
- Newcastle disease, AI
- Equine influenza
- FMD, BSE, CBPP, EBL, TB
- Scrapie, PPR

## ■ Compartmentalisation provisions

- CSF, ASF, Trichinella
- Newcastle disease, AI
- Equine influenza
- FMD, BSE, CBPP, EBL, TB
- Scrapie, PPR



**Figure 1** Simplified model for illustration of possible components to be defined in an ASF-free compartment





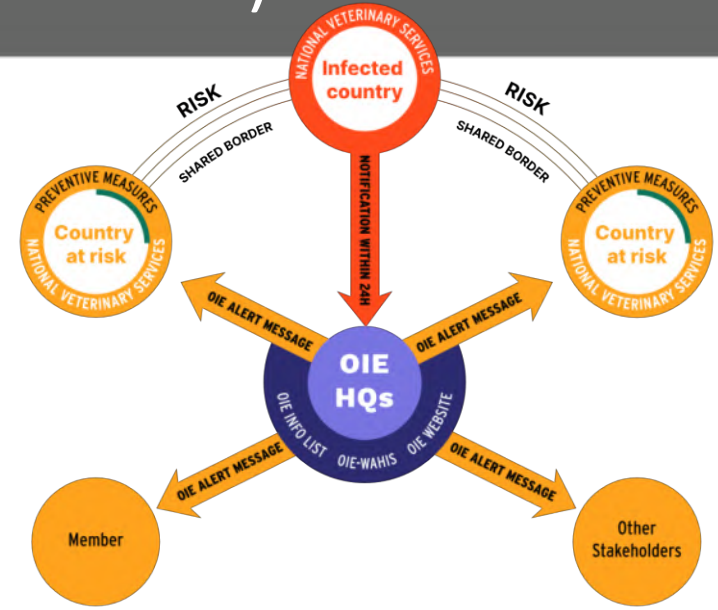
# OIE World Animal Health Information System (OIE-WAHIS )

An online system that processes data on animal diseases in real-time and informs the international community. Based on official notifications by OIE Member countries

Two components:

- an early warning system to inform the international community “alert messages” on relevant epidemiological events
- a monitoring system to monitor OIE Listed diseases (presence or absence) over time

Also, active search for non-official animal health information and seek of validation by national Delegates.



<https://wahis.oie.int>



# OIE Official disease status – Self declaration

## Free from disease? Spread the news worldwide!



**Demonstrate transparency**  


**Increase economic potentialities of the livestock sector**  


**Access to regional and international markets**  


**Demonstrate quality of Veterinary Services**  


**Promote animal and public health**  


### ORGANISE YOUR DOSSIER AND APPLY FOR

**Official disease status**  
Science-based, democratic and impartial decision process



For **6** terrestrial animal diseases

- > African horse sickness
- > Bovine spongiform encephalopathy
- > Classical swine fever
- > Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia
- > Foot and mouth disease
- > Peste des petits ruminants

**Self-declaration**  
Under the responsibility of Member Countries



For other diseases of aquatic and terrestrial animals

## Animal Health Status

All free status can be consulted online  
[www.oie.int/official-status](http://www.oie.int/official-status)

- Lists
- Change of status
- Maps
- Details
- Self declaration dossiers





# THANK YOU



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