

Lithuania's experience in developing and implementing its contingency plan in ASF.

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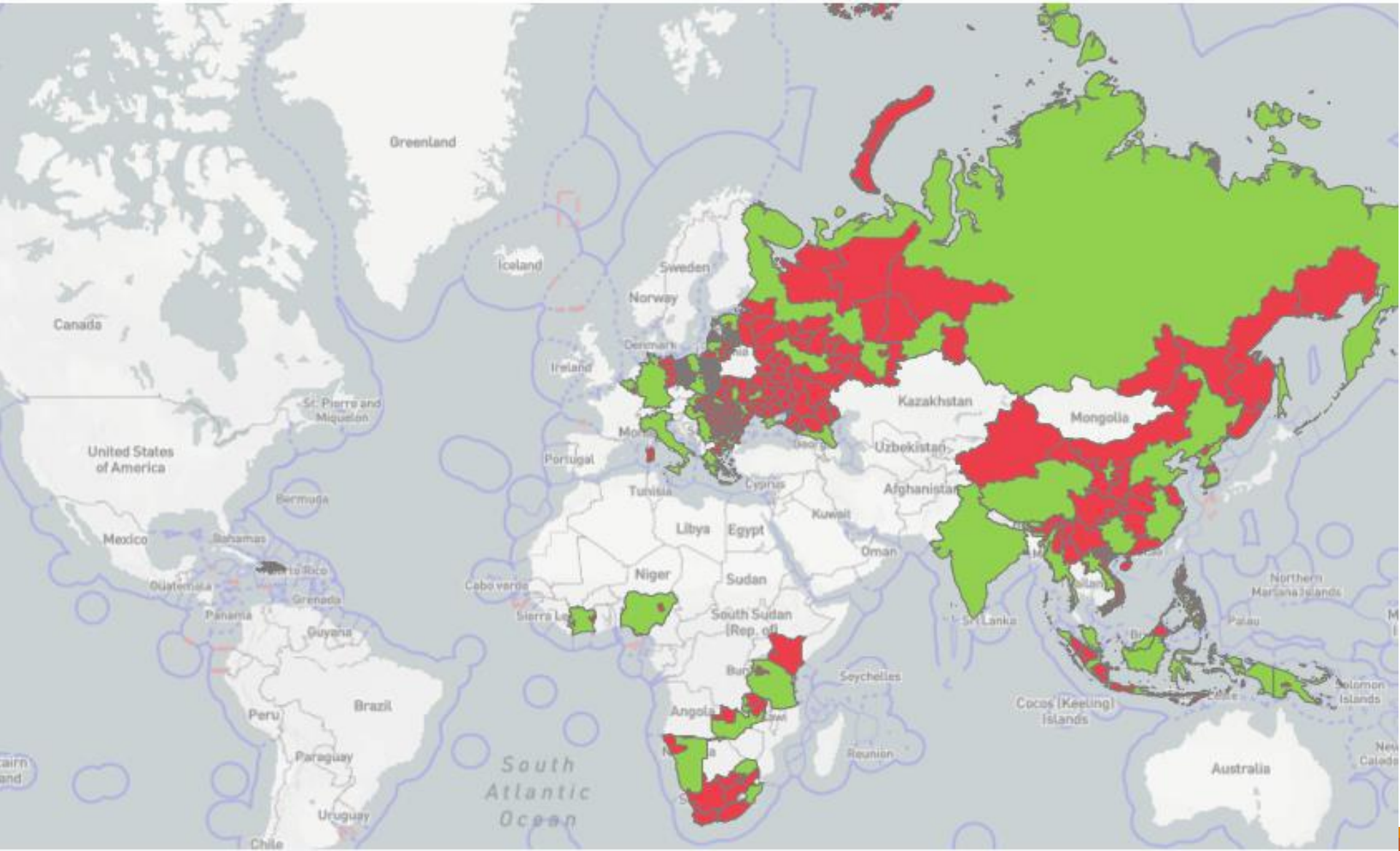
Lithuania



- Area-65,300 km²
- 33,3 % area covered by forests;



African swine fever



ASF control based on EU strategy

Non-commercial farms

- Biosecurity;
- Movement control;
- Active and passive monitoring;
- Official inspections.

Commercial farms

- Biosecurity;
- Movement and trade control;
- Active and passive monitoring;
- Official inspections.

Hunting management

- Surveillance (active and passive);
- Wild boar management;
- Biosecurity requirements;
- Official inspections.

- Information campaign
 - Pig keepers;
 - Private veterinarians;
 - Animal insemination specialists;
 - Public in general;
 - Hunters and others.
- Compensation/incentives (pig keepers, public, hunters)
- **Contingency plan/emergency measures**



What is a contingency plan?

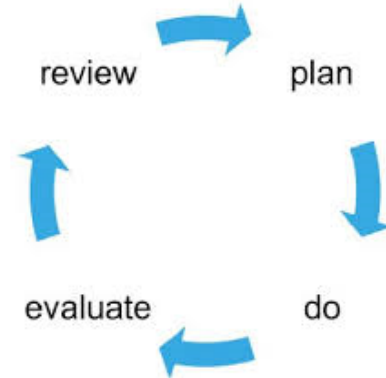
- a plan to ensure that a country is prepared for an emergency;
- consist information on resources, legislative and administrative aspects;
- consist description of policies, strategies and procedures for effective disease control measures to one or more high-threat transmissible animal diseases;

An ASF contingency plan is a well-articulated strategy document designed to define actions to be taken in the event of an ASF emergency!



Importance of the Contingency plan

Contingency planning is an ongoing process...



The main objectives of having contingency plans include:

- to reduce the impact of disease outbreaks on the health of the national animal herd;
- to minimize disruption to trade and the society in the event of a zoonotic disease to increase the protection of human health.

Contingency planning

Dynamic process, focused on preparation and is flexible;

It is integrated into on-going operational planning activities;

It provides useful input to emergency managers;

It is an integral part of preparedness activities!

The ASF Contingency plan

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FAO ANIMAL PRODUCTION AND HEALTH



manual

PREPARATION OF
AFRICAN SWINE FEVER
CONTINGENCY PLANS



Specific National Disease Contingency Plans for terrestrial animal diseases

Diseases

African horse sickness

African swine fever

Avian influenza

Bluetongue

Bovine spongiform
encephalopathy

Classical swine fever

Foot and mouth disease

Lumpy skin disease

Newcastle disease

Peste des petits ruminants

Rinderpest

Rift Valley fever

Scrapie

Sheep pox and goat pox

Small hive beetle (*Aethina
tumida*)

Swine vesicular disease

Transmissible spongiform
encephalopathy

Vesicular stomatitis

West Nile fever

Countries / Territories

Australia, Netherlands, Spain

Australia, Spain

Australia, Brazil, Chile, Cyprus, Ireland, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Spain, Tanzania,
United States of America, Uruguay

Australia, United Kingdom, Cyprus, Netherlands, Spain

Australia, Chile, Uruguay

Australia, Chile, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Ireland, Netherlands, Spain

Australia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cyprus, Ireland, Netherlands, Spain, United States of
America, Uruguay

Australia, Netherlands, Spain

Australia, Brazil, Chile, Cyprus, Netherlands, Spain

Australia, Spain

Australia, Netherlands, Spain, Tanzania

Australia, Netherlands, Spain

Australia

Australia, Netherlands, Spain

Costa Rica, Spain

Australia, Netherlands, Spain

Chile, Cyprus

Australia, Spain

Spain

Legislation in the European Union



- Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on transmissible animal diseases and amending and repealing certain acts in the area of animal health (**'Animal Health Law'**);
- Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687 of 17 December 2019 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and the Council, as regards rules for the prevention and control of certain listed diseases.

Legislation

Article 43 of Regulation (EU) 2016/429 requires:
the competent authority to draw up and update contingency plans and, where necessary, provide detailed instruction manuals on implementing of measures to be taken in case of a category A disease;
the competent authority to establish an operational expert group as part of the contingency plans.

These plans are designed to ensure a high level of disease awareness and preparedness and to provide a rapid response in case of an outbreak of a category A disease.



Legislation

The contingency plans and, where applicable, detailed instruction manuals shall cover at least the following matters:

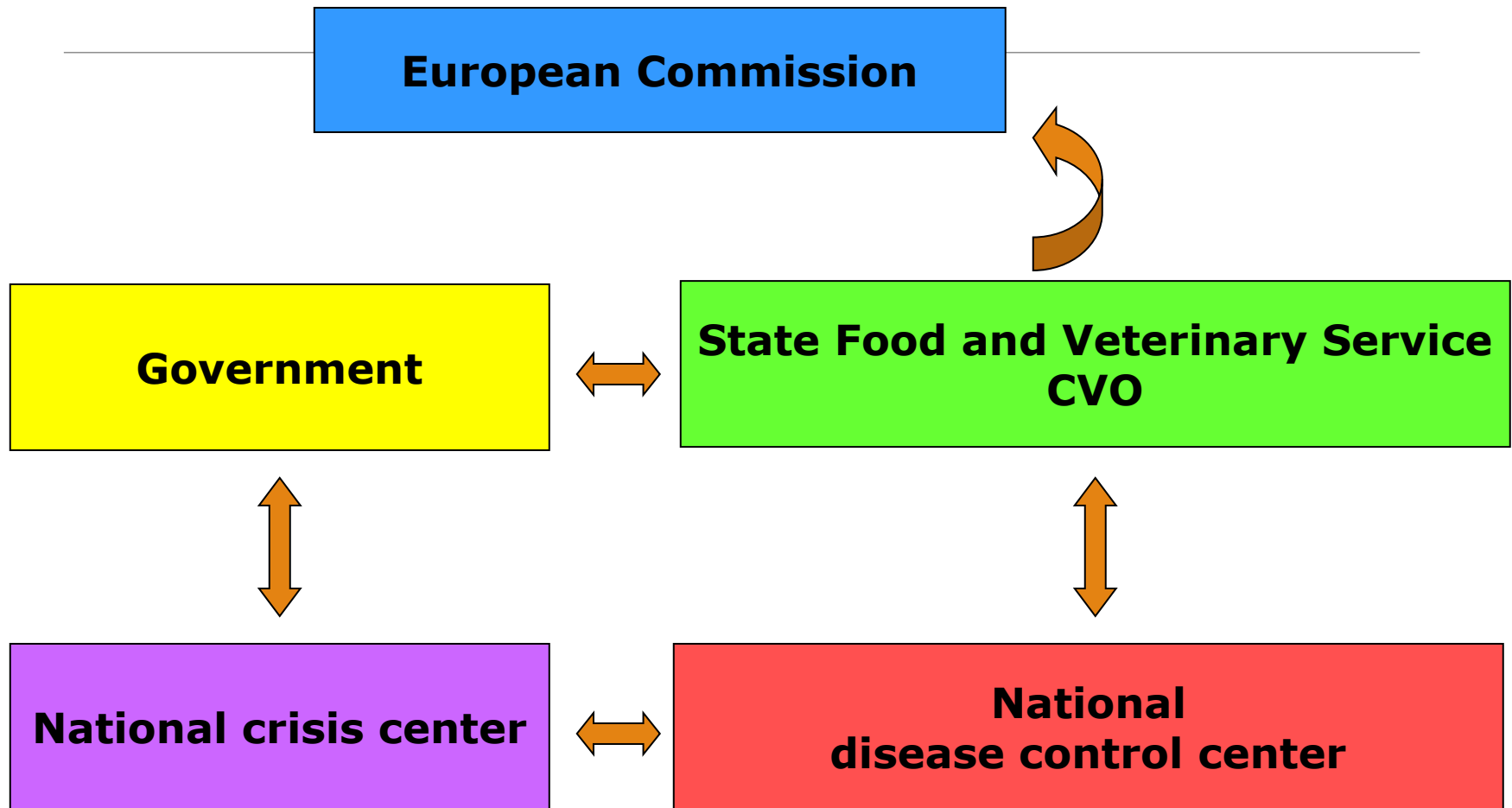
- the establishment of a chain of command within the competent authority and with other public authorities, to ensure a rapid and effective decision–making process;
- the framework for cooperation between the competent authority and the other public authorities and relevant stakeholders involved, to ensure that actions are taken in a coherent and coordinated manner;
- access to facilities, laboratories, equipment, personnel, emergency funds, all other appropriate materials and resources necessary for the rapid and efficient eradication of the listed diseases,
- the availability of the following centers and groups with the necessary expertise to assist the competent authority;
- provisions on emergency vaccination, where appropriate;
- principles for the geographical demarcation of the restricted zones established by the competent authority;
- coordination with neighboring countries.

Contingency plans

1. Legal powers
2. Financial provisions
3. The chain of command
4. National disease control centre
5. Local disease control centres
6. Laboratory
7. Communications
8. Expert groups
9. Provision for adequate resources
10. Instruction manual
11. Training
12. Alarm drills
13. Publicity/awareness disease



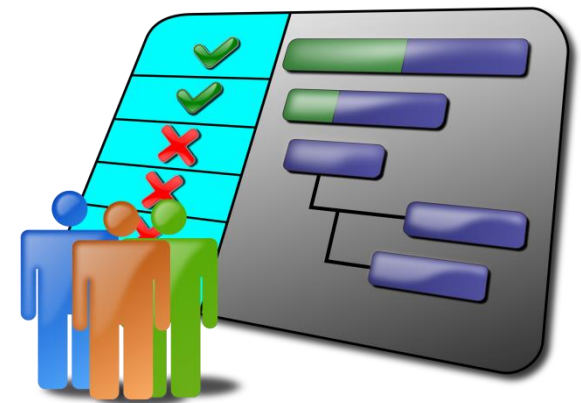
Chain of command (an example of Lithuania)



Structure of National Contingency plan

A contingency plan consist of:

- a resource plan;
- a specific disease contingency plan;
- an operational manual.



Actions when ASF outbreak is confirmed

Official ban to move pigs;

Traceability of dispatched pigs and farms in contacts;

Setting protection (3 km) and surveillance zone (10 km) with the temporary movement ban;

Activation of contingency plan:

- Control point of entrance to outbreak farm and biosecurity;
- Epidemiological investigation;
- Culling;
- Destruction of carcasses;
- Disinfection.





Measures when ASF outbreak is confirmed

CONFIRMED

- (a) **all** susceptible **animals kept** in the affected establishment **shall be killed** as soon as possible on the spot, within the establishment, in such a way as to avoid any risk of spreading the relevant disease agent during and after killing;
- (b) all appropriate and necessary biosecurity measures shall be taken to avoid any possible spread of disease to unaffected kept or wild animals or to humans;
- (c) bodies or parts of kept animals which have died, or which have been killed shall be disposed of;
- (d) all potentially contaminated products, materials or substances present in the establishment shall be isolated until:
 - (i) they are disposed of or processed;
 - (ii) cleaning and disinfection measures are completed;
 - (iii) disposal is completed under the supervision of official veterinarians.

Culling - choose the best method

A question list will help to make a choice:

- How many animals are on the farm?
- What are the housing conditions?
- What are the limitations of the methodology?
- Which methods are available?
- What capacity do I need? (people, equipment,..)
- What are the consequences for the rest of the contingency plan (safety, animal welfare, costs, removal of carcasses, biosecurity,...)

Culling of domestic pigs in case of ASF outbreak

Challenge: How to manage?

Captive bolt



Electrical stunning equipment



Lethal injection



CO2 Gas



Electrical stunning / killing equipment



Work is dangerous!



Carbon dioxide (CO₂) gas













Disposal

The most common disposal methods for carcasses and other materials are:

- **burial** (either at an existing licensed landfill site or in a specially designed and excavated pit),
- burning (either on a pyre, or in an incinerator or pit burner),
- **Rendering/incineration**,
- composting and;
- disposal by alkaline hydrolysis.

Challenges

Where to store the carcasses?

What to do with carcasses? Burn, burry, render or incinerate?

Cleaning and disinfection?



Challenge: How to manage pigs disposal?



Rendering/incineration



Burning on site (???)

Burial on site



Disposal

- Occupational health and safety;
- Pathogen inactivation;
- Environmental concerns;
- Availability of capacity;
- Adequate funding;
- Staff resources;
- Societal acceptance and acceptance from farmers;
- Scavengers and vectors;
- Economic impact.

Burial on site



Police post













Cleaning and disinfection

- the cleaning and disinfection operations and, where necessary, the measures to destroy rodents and insects using officially authorised products must be carried out under official supervision and in accordance with the instructions given by the official veterinarian;
- the disinfectants to be used and their concentrations must be officially approved by the competent authority to ensure destruction of African swine fever virus;
- the efficacy of disinfectants must be regularly checked before use, as the efficacy of certain disinfectants is diminished by prolonged storage;
- the choice of disinfectants, insecticides and of procedures for disinfection and disinsectisation must be made taking into account the nature of the premises, vehicles and objects which are to be treated.



























Trainings



-
- ✓ General steps to be taken in emergencies;
 - ✓ Diagnosis, including collection and transport of specimen;
 - ✓ Epidemiological inquiry;
 - ✓ Biosecurity actions;
 - ✓ Killing, disinfection and disposal procedures;
 - ✓ Traceability and documentation;
 - ✓ Information exchange and public awareness procedure.

Training levels:

- Specialized training for expert teams;
- General trainings for supporting personnel;
- Public awareness via media.

Conclusion



The African swine fever (ASF) contingency plan shall define actions to be considered or be taken in the event of an emergency;

When prepared, contingency plan should not be treated as a static document;

It should be regularly reviewed and updated;

Staff should be trained in their roles, duties and responsibilities in an ASF emergency;

Real time alert exercises and audits are important tools in verification of the effectiveness of ASF contingency plans.



Thank you for your attention!
Questions?