

West EurAsia FMD Control - Roadmap 2020
1st Regional meeting to review progress
Recommendations



Istanbul, Republic of Turkey

8-9th October 2009

*Convened by FAO as a Joint Workshop of the regional FMD control projects supported by Italy
(GTFS/INT/907/ITA) and EC (MTF/INT/003/EC)*



Summary

1. The 1st Regional workshop to review the progress of the West Eurasia FMD network was held in Istanbul, Turkey, organized by FAO in consultation with OIE, and hosted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Turkey.
2. The Workshop was convened as a joint meeting under the FMD projects implemented by the EuFMD Commission (FAO) in Turkey, Trans-Caucasus, Iran and Syria, and the GTFS/INT/907/ITA project for Central Asian countries. Invitations were sent by FAO, on behalf of the two organizations, to the Chief Veterinary Officers (CVOs) and to the FAO national consultants on FMD (EuFMD or GTFS projects). In total, fifteen countries in West EurAsia were represented, with the Russian Federation represented through the OIE Reference Laboratory (FGI-ARRIAH).
3. The Objectives of the Workshop were:
 - a. to review progress in FMD control in West Eurasia, towards the vision of a region free of clinical FMD by 2020 - using the Vision statement and “Regional Roadmap” developed at the Shiraz meeting in November 2008;
 - b. to share information on FMD virus circulation within the ecosystem to assist planning of preventive measures in the short-term.

Outcome and outlook

4. The progress of FMD control since the Shiraz meeting in 2008 was reviewed and a provisional revised Roadmap to 2020 developed, for the 14 countries currently participating in the West Eurasia FMD Roadmap.
5. Five countries were considered to have progressed to a higher PCP Stage:
 - a. four from Stage 0 to Stage 1 (PAK, AFG, UZB, TAJ);
 - b. one from Stage 1 to Stage 2 (Turkey).
6. Three countries did not provide evidence to support their current PCP Stage; their demotion to a lower Stage is considered pending. Demotion will occur unless information is provided in the next two month period.
7. The progress in the first year was considered to be good, and the Roadmap remains on track to achieve the vision of freedom from clinical cases of FMD being achieved by the year 2020.
8. The continued realisation of the vision requires a co-ordinated set of national efforts under an overall framework of progressive risk reduction, supported by regional services and sharing of information, technical knowledge, and possible donor support, between countries within the region and which are beneficiaries of the action.
9. Almost all countries in the region are in Stage 1 of the Progressive Control Pathway (PCP), or above, and most continue to invest heavily in FMD vaccination programmes. However, weaknesses in international control of animal movement, and gaps in preventive measures, have allowed the continued circulation of types A, O and Asia-1 in the region, with a regional epidemic of type A Iran 05 in the winter of 2008-9.
10. The international organizations indicated their strong continued support for the Roadmap process, with the EC, and the EuFMD Commission, indicating their support for regional and national monitoring and control efforts for Turkey and the 6 bordering countries in 2009-2012, and indicators from the Government of Italy for further support to 5 Central Asian countries. The support of additional donors and financial sources will

be needed to move from monitoring (PCP Stage 1) to improved control at risk points (Stage 2) in the less advanced areas.

11. A Secretariat remains necessary to provide co-ordination of the supportive services, particularly to promote the laboratory network and services, and the epidemiology and risk monitoring, and for monitoring and communication of progress.
12. The implementation of the Roadmap should encourage and complement the efforts in China, India, and South-east Asia to address the problem of FMD in the whole of EurAsia on a long term basis; FAO/OIE were encouraged to progress establishing a Roadmap in India /South Asia (SAARC countries) to reduce the risk to west Eurasia and to complement and harmonise with efforts in the West Eurasia region.
13. The Workshop recommended that annual meetings continue to be convened by FAO/EuFMD/OIE to monitor progress, with the 2nd Annual Progress meeting in late 2010.

Recommendations

The 14 countries here represented, agree the following:

Considering that:

1. A regional epidemic of FMD serotype A Iran 05 has affected many countries in the region in the past year, and has spread beyond the borders to previously untouched parts of the middle-east;
2. The use of a suitably matched antigen for the currently circulating FMDV A Iran 05 strain was reported by only 3 countries, despite the recommendations of the Shiraz meeting, creating uncertainty that programs will provide adequate protection against the current epidemic;
3. Genetically distinct lineages of FMDV serotypes O and Asia-1 circulate within parts of the region, with the potential for further emergence and spread throughout the region;
4. Some countries in the region remain at an early stage of the PCP, with limited actions to monitor and control the movement of FMD;
5. High investments in FMD control in Turkey and the I.R of Iran, and other countries in the region are at risk as a result of epidemic developments in some parts;
6. The sero-monitoring approach used in 5 Central Asian countries, as a PCP Stage 1 activity, has provided valuable information on FMD exposure in each country and provides evidence of positive reduction through vaccination;
7. Progress has been made to better map the emergence and spread of strains within the region, and to communicate between risk managers in the veterinary services, but an early warning system to allow countries to adapt their control measures is not yet in place;
8. Several countries have demonstrated their commitment to the Roadmap through undertaking PCP activities, with evidence of monitoring and control actions being applied, and that some countries can be considered to move up in Stage of FMD control;
9. That there is a need for the countries of the region to find a common voice and to assist direction of the initiative, working with the international organizations;
10. The countries of the region require effective regional services to achieve the progress in monitoring and surveillance, and assist raising the capacity of the national reference laboratories to service the national control strategies.

Recommendations

On virus circulation, that the Veterinary Services

1. Should reconsider their vaccination plans for the coming year, taking note of the reservoir/persistence of Asia - 1 in Pakistan and Afghanistan, and of serotype A Iran 05 and O Panasia II in at least 4 Roadmap countries (Pakistan, Afghanistan Turkey and Iraq);
2. Should be aware of the continual risk of movement of viral variants within the region, taking note of the sublineages of each serotype in the region.

On vaccine recommendations, that the Veterinary Service

3. Should ensure that vaccines used are appropriate for the risk from viruses circulating in the West Eurasia region; the most appropriate vaccines for current risk in the region are A Iran 05/A TUR 06 and O Manisa in routine vaccination programs, and Asia-1 Shamir (in risk zones).

On the overall Roadmap approach and PCP

4. that the Roadmap process, including an annual survey for indicators of progress, be continued;
5. That the proposals of the PCP monitoring group on the procedures for review of the country stages and actions to be taken if progress is negative, and on the development of an Advisory Committee, be implemented.

On the FMD monitoring and early warning activities

6. that continued international support for FMD monitoring is given so that all countries in the region enter and maintain the monitoring activities to at least stage 1 of the PCP;
7. That other PCP stage 1 activities take place, particularly focus on possible intervention points after identification of high risk husbandry/market chain points;
8. That consideration be given to greater use of swab sampling from high risk markets where reporting is low but where serological evidence of high FMD incidence exists yet submissions of epithelial samples are limited;
9. That satellite laboratories serving international surveillance for typing FMDV should report results using a standard WRL template, to the VS of the sending countries, FAO, OIE. A restricted access information system could be used to inform the partners in the West Eurasia lab network.

On progress along the Roadmap since 2008

10. That the international organizations, and national stakeholders take note of the progress achieved in parts of the region, with progression of several countries along the pathway, while in some countries additional information and evidence of monitoring , surveillance or control activities is still not sufficient;
11. That the 2009 Roadmap be finalized before the end of the year, after allowing another 2 months for the missing information to be provided;
12. That an information portal be established and greater effort be made to communicate the Roadmap principles and progress to national and international stakeholders.

Recommendations of the West Eurasia FMD Lab Network

13. That a dedicated website be set up, password protected and as far as possible in common with the information system needs identified by the monitoring and surveillance group; and to hold regular update meetings (quarterly teleconference with identified, IAH or EuFMD to organize), with follow-up reports; a face to face meeting at end of year (to be held at the SAP Institute);

14. That all labs should be invited to take part in the annual lab proficiency test scheme (of the WRL), and should be supported to attain the minimum capacities required to undertake the monitoring and surveillance actions required in the PCP;
15. That effort continues to develop FMDV serotype specific penside tests and easy to use kits for SP antibodies, and serotype specific PCRs for the FMDVs in the region.

Recommendations of the Epidemiology/Risk assessment group

16. That an agreement is made over the next year on movement from 6 month reporting to monthly or more frequent information provision, under the OIE system as a service to the Roadmap, or by another means to be identified by the Advisory Committee (AC);
17. That the AC should consider how and where to have regional support unit for monitoring and surveillance;
18. That two workshops be held at regional level, on socio-economic assessment of critical FMD control points and on monitoring and surveillance design and analysis;
19. That the major issues of information and reporting system be addressed by the Advisory Committee, with the help of a regional representative on monitoring and surveillance.

Recommendations of the Vaccination Monitoring Network

20. That the recommendations of the working group be considered by the national veterinary services, and where appropriate supported or implemented in projects by the international organizations; that the questionnaire be improved in order to better understand the quality and coverage of vaccines used in the region, including the level of importation compared to local production and intra-regional supply.

Recommendations on Governance of the West Eurasian FMD Roadmap Initiative

21. That an Advisory Committee (AC) be established to assist resolution of issues affecting progress of the Roadmap Initiative, and which will report to the annual meeting and to the relevant GfTADS Steering Committees. In the interim period, the AC will comprise 4 permanent members from FAO, OIE, EC and EuFMD, an elected president from the 14 countries of the Roadmap, and two elected technical representatives that can represent the FMD Laboratory Network and the Monitoring and Surveillance network. The ECO (and other international organizations if appropriate) will be invited to attend as Observers. The AC should meet at least once a year, back-to-back with the EuFMD Executive Committee or other relevant international meetings;
22. That the international organizations promote long term FMD control in regions that threaten West Eurasia, in particular in South Asia, and should act to ensure that risk of FMDV incursion from these regions is kept under review and threats communicated to the West Eurasia epidemiology and risk group.

Chart 2. FINAL assessment of country Stage position for 2009, together with the expected progression to 2020.

		2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Comment
West Eurasia	Kazakh														
	Kyrgyz		new												FMD seromonitoring system therefore Stage 0, assumed 2, 3 and 5 years to move through to
	Tajik		new												progress to stage 1
	Turkmen														
	Uzbek		new												progress to stage 1
	AFG		new												progress to stage 1
	IRN														
	PAK		new												2009: progress to stage 1. Progress to Stage 2 ex
	TURK		new												progress to stage 2
	Thrace (TR)			new											dossier to OIE in 2010
	added zones (TR)														
	Syria		new												Syria considered to be in Stage 1 in 2009 with reporting of seromonitoring expected in 2010,
	Iraq														
	Armenia														
	Azerbaijan														
	Georgia		pending	new											2009 : re-assessed as Stage 1, expect enter Stage 2 in 2011

MAPS

Map 1- PCP Country situation -2009

