



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

Regional African Swine Fever (ASF) Wild Boar Management Workshop

Belgrade, Serbia, 21-23 May 2019

Venue: TBC

Language: English/Serbian

Background:

African swine fever (ASF) is a contagious viral disease of pigs and wild boar that causes severe economic losses to the pig sector. Originally restricted to Africa, ASF was introduced into Georgia in 2007, from where it progressively spread westwards (reaching Eastern and Central Europe) and eastwards. The disease was reported in Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania in 2018, seriously threatening the Balkans. Based on experience, in Europe, the wild boar plays a crucial role in the maintenance and the spread of the disease.

In order to enhance awareness and technical knowledge on the management of the disease in wild boar populations, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), with the financial support of the Czech Republic, is organizing a **Regional ASF Wild Boar Management Workshop**. The objective of the workshop is to bring together experts from the Czech Republic along with other country experts and wild boar specialist to discuss and share practical knowledge about ASF and the specific surveillance, prevention and control measures in wild boar populations.

Participants

The workshop will bring together participants from the Balkan region including veterinary specialists (from state veterinary services), representatives from forestry agencies (or agency in charge of wild boar management, hunting, etc.), representatives from hunting associations, and experts in wild boar biology or related fields.

Furthermore, participants from countries with experience in the management of ASF (Georgia, Russian Federation and Ukraine) will also attend the event along with international agencies (OIE and EFSA)

Objective

The workshop will allow Balkan Countries, with the aid of experts, to improve their knowledge and discuss in an open forum the most challenging issues faced when it comes to ASF prevention and control in wild boar and the best strategies to tackle them in the specific context of the Balkans.

The workshop will have both a theoretical part focusing on presentations and open discussion, and a practical part focusing on sampling and biosecurity at a hunting ground.