Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

eofmd
european commission for the control of foot-and-mouth disease

Components Report

September 2016 - March 2017

Six month report

European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease

EuFMD Phase IV

Report to the EuFMD 93rd Executive

September 2016- March 2017

Component *1.1*

Training for Member States

Supervisor Mark Hovari

Manager Maria de la Puente

1.1-Training for Member States

1-Objectives of component

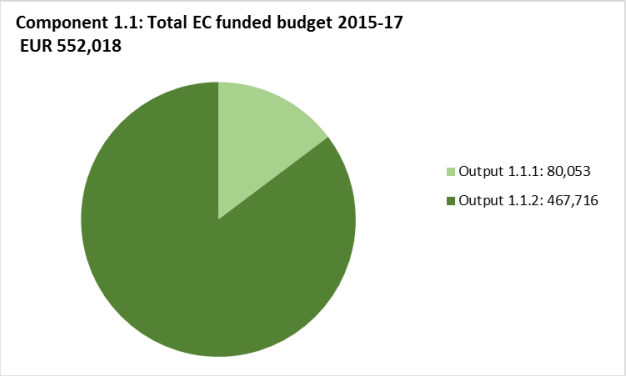
The overall objective of this component is:
Increased European expertise in FMD crisis management and improved quality of national FMD preparedness training programmes.

The activities (expected results) are:
1.1.1: System in place to enable every member state to cascade appropriate training and learning on FMD control to their public and private animal health services supported by infrastructure for learning and knowledge transfer in place, including e-learning, training resources and staff support.

1.1.2: Improved capacity in each of the MS to recognize, respond to and manage FMD through provision of a demand driven training programme supplied in response to MS priorities for training in areas of prevention, detection, and contingency planning for control operations and recovery.

Activities	*Indicators*	*Baseline Sept2015*	*Target 2 years*	*Unit of measure*	*Current Status*
1.1.1	Knowledge Bank created and in use by member states	0	500	Participants from EuFMD member states that are registered and access training materials	256
1.1.2	Implement >90 % of the demand driven programme	0	Over 330 training credits used	Training Credits used by the 37 member states.	275

Resource base



Budget (€)

Total Budget Allowance	Expenses up to March 2017	% project completion	Actual available (20 months activities 2016 - 2017)

552,018	373,213	68 %	174,556

Additional non-EC funded contributions

External funding received for development of training outside the EC funded programme, including the Real Time Training courses held in Nepal and funded by Australia and New Zealand, and the additional training purchased by Member States under the "Training Credits Top-Up Scheme" contribute funding which support the development of new training courses and materials which are then also used as part of training provided to MS under the EC funded programme. In addition, these funding sources support recruitment of additional personnel, as listed in the table below:

Description	*Contribution*	*Funding source*
Component Supervisor: Training Programmes Manager	50% of one FTE role (consultant P3 equivalent)	EuFMD Trust Fund- MS contributions, Australian Real Time Training
Network and Training Support Officer	30% of one FTE role (P2)	80% EuFMD Trust Fund, 20% EC project
Development of training materials	New online training materials, course materials or job aids	Australian Real Time Training and Training Credits Top Up fund

2-Project team

Role	*Name*	*Status*
Component supervisor	Mark Hovari	Contingency Planning Officer
Training Manager	Jenny Maud	Training Programmes Manager
Component Manager	Maria de la Puente	Short Term Professional
Training and networking support	Nadia Rumich	Training and Networking Officer
Member State partners	Training Focal Point in each EuFMD MS	n/a
ExCom oversight	Martin Blake	ExCom member (Ireland)

3-Countries or partner organizations involved

All EuFMD Member States are direct beneficiaries of component 1.1.

The main partners are:

- Training focal point in each MS. A good relationship has been established with many focal points through the first two years of the training credits scheme.
- Letter of Agreement (LoA) with Royal Veterinary College (RVC), University of London. This will be principally for RVC to maintain the EuFMD e-Learning website, and may extend to development of the Knowledge Bank and provision of technical and pedagogical assistance in the development of new online training courses.

4-Progress Report

1.1.1: System in place to enable every member state to cascade appropriate training and learning on FMD control to their public and private animal health services supported by infrastructure for learning and knowledge transfer in place, including e-learning, training resources and staff support.

Activities:

1.1.1.1 Training infrastructure: staffing and technical resources

Staffing
María de la Puente Arévalo (Spain) was recruited as Short Term Placement (STP) last September 2016 to assist with the training programme. She has been involved in co-ordination of e-learning courses, workshops and in development of cascade training materials. Her contract has been extended until the end of June 2017.
Operational consultant and e-Learning and Training Logistics Manager, Chiara Addari is currently administrator of the e-learning activities. She is managing the EuFMD e-Learning website, co-ordinating the translation of e-learning courses and communications with participants.

The large increase in the number of e-learning courses run, and new e-learning courses to be developed compared to the previous work programme will require even more technical e-learning support within the EuFMD team. The EuFMD is investigating options to ensure that additional human resources are available to provide technical and pedagogical expertise to the further development of the e-learning programme. As the e-learning platform continues to grow, the benefit of bringing such expertise into the core EuFMD team, rather than contracting expertise on an ad-hoc basis from academic partners becomes apparent.

Laura Letwin who is a graduate from the Royal Veterinary College, UK, undertook an Internship with EuFMD to assist with the development of a knowledge bank.

Technical resources: EuFMD e-Learning Platform

The EuFMD e-Learning Virtual Learning Environment now has over 4000 registered users.

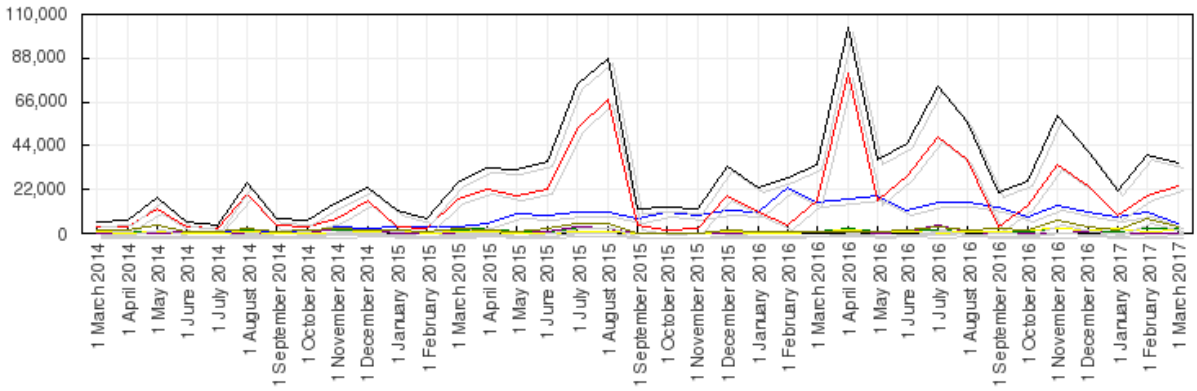


Figure 1: EuFMD e-Learning site usage data- peaks in activity are seen during periods when multiple online courses are live.

Over 1100 people have taken part in taught online courses since the start of the Phase IV programme, and alongside increased staffing this has also required technical updates to the e-learning site, which continues to be hosted on servers at the Royal Veterinary College, who provide technical support for these activities.

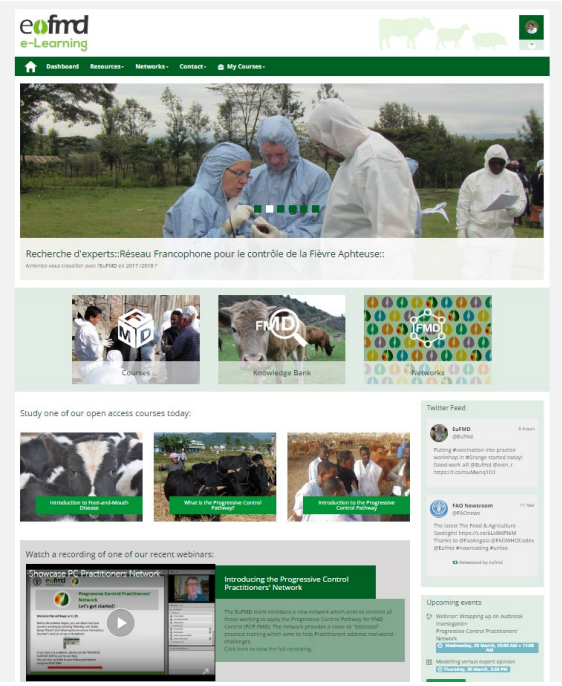


Figure 2: The redesigned EuFMD e-Learning website

The site software has been updated to the latest version of the Moodle™ platform, the site's theme (appearance) fully redesigned, and a number of new features added to the site. This includes the ability for new users to register themselves with the platform and access many resources and self-directed training courses free of charge. For example, registered users may now access all of the recordings of EuFMD webinars.

Technical resources: Open Session Online 2016

As in 2014, all of the talks given at the EuFMD Open Session were video recorded and placed online shortly after the presentations were given live, accompanied by an online discussion forum. Close to 300 additional users joined the online Open Session, in addition to those attending the conference in person, and all of the recordings remain available to users of the e-learning website as a reference resource.

Technical resources: webinars

Webinars have been held with increasing regularity, with often more than two held per week. Increasing user numbers mean that it is now necessary to purchase a license that allows for more than 100 simultaneous users.

1.1.1.2 Training infrastructure: online knowledge bank development (in co-operation with other training components)

The development of the EuFMD online Knowledge Bank has now been completed. The knowledge bank platform was adapted from an existing online database of resources developed by the Royal Veterinary College, as part of the letter of agreement between EuFMD and the RVC. Such re-use of an existing platform represented a significant cost saving in comparison to setting up a new platform. . The knowledge bank is a searchable and categorized library of training resources, references, tools and job aids related to FMD, where resources can be found in different languages.

Currently there are over 350 resources available, and it is expected that the number of these will further increase as users contribute their own FMD resources and EuFMD develops additional job aids. Analysis of the use of the Knowledge Bank's search functions and usage will guide any future changes in order to increase usability.

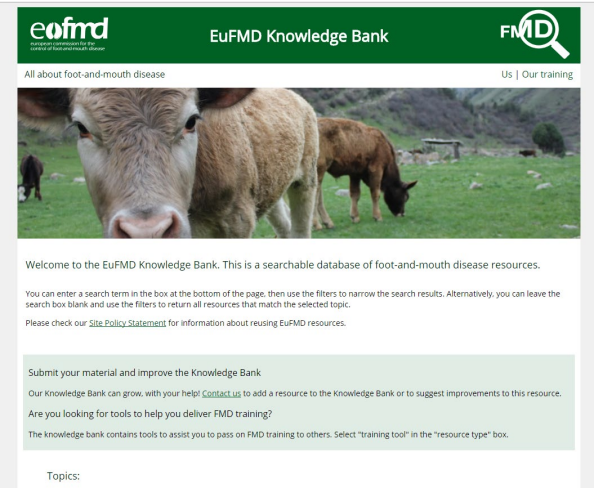


Figure 3: The EuFMD Knowledge Bank, which can be accessed from the e-Learning website homepage

1.1.1.3 Open access areas of EuFMD e-Learning website

A short entirely self-directed online course "**Introduction to FMD**" has been developed and is available as an open access course alongside the new "**Introduction to the PCP**" course (see component 2.4). It takes users approximately 90 minutes to complete, and covers FMD pathogenesis, impacts, diagnostics and simple control measures including biosecurity. It is intended as a taster course for a very wide audience of interested parties. It is hoped that this will be a useful tool for all member states to direct their staff to, and will also attract users to the e-learning site and encourage them to explore the networks and other training resources available.

The course is currently available in English language, however if demand for this course is high we anticipate translation into additional EU languages.

1.1.1.4 Training infrastructure: framework for monitoring and evaluation

All training courses are evaluated by online survey immediately after the workshop, with summative assessments also used in the online training courses. The next step, to be conducted as part of the training needs assessment process for 2017-19 will be for wider evaluation of the impact of EuFMD's training programme.

1.1.1.5 Develop knowledge transfer tools and job aids

Initially, this activity focused on the development of improved training resources which can be provided to MS participants on Real Time Training courses, and which will allow them to easily and effectively pass on the knowledge

they gain during Real Time Training to colleagues when they return home (such “cascade training” is now a formal requirement of the Real Time Training). The material is now also offered for use during in-country training as was done recently in Germany and Italy.

The job-aids and knowledge transfer tools that are being developed or improved are:

PowerPoint presentations on:	**Fact sheets/videos on:**	Template scenario exercises on outbreak investigations
FMD Overview, Clinical Diagnosis. Epidemiology, Biosecurity	Biosecurity procedure; Clinical examination; Lesion ageing; How to use a timeline; Sampling; Sample packaging; Differential diagnosis	Timeline template Additional training tools (role games, exercises)

Additional training tools and job aids are under development under the pillar II and pillar III training components. All job aids and training tools developed are made available through the EuFMD Knowledge Bank, in a format that allows Member States, and others to download, translate, and adapt the resources to their specific needs as appropriate.

1.1.1.6 Support to in country training courses

This activity involves creating training resources that can be used by Member States as part of their national training and emergency initiatives.

Pilot of national “cascade” training course, Italy

The first phase of the FMD cascade training course was delivered by the Italian Ministry of Health and *Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Lombardia e dell'Emilia Romagna (IZSLER).* The EuFMD supported the design of the training programme and provided presentations, exercises, videos and other training material that was translated into Italian language. This first part of the training included courses at national level, in Rome and Brescia.

The second phase of the training has already started and is made up by courses at regional level, run by the official veterinarians who have been trained in Rome or Brescia, who will now use the same course format and training material to deliver training in the regions.

The material that was developed for the Italian training was shared with Member States in the Knowledge Bank, and the Italian colleagues presented their work to the network of EuFMD training focal points in a webinar.

It is hoped that pilot courses, such as this programme in Italy, can be used to promote increased national level training across the EuFMD membership, and we intend to raise awareness of such opportunities at the upcoming General Session.

Cascade training as part of the Real Time Training programme

All participants who participate in a Real Time Training are now required to complete cascade training as a condition of their attendance. An additional session on cascade training has been added to the programme, and the EuFMD training team follow up those who attend Real Time Training to record whether the cascade training has taken place. Further support is needed to ensure such cascade training is taking place, and participants have resources available to assist them in this.

1.1.2 Improved capacity in each of the MS to recognize, respond to and manage FMD through provision of a demand driven training programme supplied in response to MS priorities for training in areas of prevention, detection, and contingency planning for control operations and recovery.

Activities

1.1.2.1 Training credits system and needs assessment

During this six-month period, multiple courses have been run in order to cover the needs assessed and received from all 37 Member States. To date 275 of the 370 training credits available for training in 2015-17 have been spent. Please see the table below for an update on the courses delivered since the beginning of the training period to date with the number of credits spent on them.

Table 1: Training courses delivered to date

Course	Training credits	Number of trainees under the credits scheme	Training credits spent for this course
1) Real Time Training **(now with requirement that participants carry out cascade training when they return home)**	**3 for 1 participant**	**37**	**111**
2) Online FMD Emergency Preparation Course: English language **Online course for multiple Member States in English**	**1 for 20 participants**	**308**	**18**
3) Online FMD Emergency Preparation Course: Tailored National Course **Online course in national language, tailored to specific country requirements**	**6 for 120 participants**	**253**	**12**
4) Online FMD Emergency Preparation Course: subsequent national course	**4 for 120 participants**	**Not yet delivered**	
5) Workshop: "To vaccinate or not to vaccinate: using modelling to evaluate FMD control options" **Enable participants to interpret modelling outputs to guide FMD control options, and to set up their own modelling studies**	**2 for one participant**	**15**	**30**
6) Workshop: "Putting vaccination into practice" **Desktop simulation based workshop looking at contingency planning on all aspects of FMD vaccination and subsequent proof of freedom**	**2 for one participant**	**12**	**24**
7) Online Course: Risk Based FMD Surveillance			Not delivered yet

8) Workshop: "Managing a crisis" **Establishing train of command and managing communication within and outside the veterinary service in a crisis situation**	**2 for one participant**	**16**	**32**
9) Workshop: FMD Simulation exercises **Design, implementation and evaluation of simulation exercises**	**2 for one participant**	**13**	**26**
10) Laboratory Training Course **2 week intensive course on FMD diagnostics run by the Pirbright Institute**	**4 for one participant**	**3**	**12**
Total number of training credits spent			**265***

* Turkey has spent its 10 credits in a specific Epidemiology course (265+10=275)

The great majority of the Member States have allocated their credits to date. See the table below for an update on the allocation of credits that are still pending to be spent.

Table 2: Training courses were trained credits have been allocated and have not yet been spent

Course	Training credits	Number of trainees expected under the credits scheme	Training credits allocated to this course
1) Online FMD Emergency Preparation Course: English language Online course for multiple Member States in English	**1 credit for 20 participants**	**100**	**5**
2) Online FMD Emergency Preparation Course: Tailored National Course Online course in national language, tailored to specific country requirements	**6 training credits for 120 participants**	**360**	**18**
3) Online FMD Emergency Preparation Course: subsequent national course	**4 training credits for 120 participants**	**240**	**8**
4) Laboratory Training Course 2 week intensive course on FMD diagnostics run by the Pirbright Institute	**4 training credits for one participant**	**2**	**8**
Total number of training credits allocated			**39**

The dates for these courses are planned as follows:

- Online FMD Emergency Preparation Course (FEPC_EN7): May 2017
- Online FMD Emergency Preparation Course for Cyprus: To be confirmed
- Online FMD Emergency Preparation Course for Belgium: To be confirmed
- Online FMD Emergency Preparation Course for Croatia: To be confirmed
- Online FMD Emergency Preparation Course for France (subsequent): May-June 2017 (pending confirmation)
- Online FMD Emergency Preparation Course for Spain (subsequent): June 2017
- Laboratory Training Course: 15-26 May 2017
- Online Course Risk Based FMD Surveillance: May-June 2017

Therefore, the balance of the 370 credits available for training in 2015-17 to date is as follows:

- ❖ 275 have been spent
- ❖ 39 are allocated in different training courses, to be spent during the rest of the training period
- ❖ 56 have not been allocated

1.1.2.2 Development of new training courses

New workshops have been developed during the last six months:

- Managing a Crisis (13-16 September 2016, in Budapest, Hungary)
- Simulation Exercises (28 February-3 March 2017, in Sofia, Bulgaria)
- Putting vaccination into practice (13-16 March 2017, in Grange, Ireland)

1.1.2.3 Delivery of training courses

To date the following training courses have been delivered during the work programme:

Real Time Training courses in Kenya were held in June 2016, November 2016 and February 2017. All the countries that allocated credits to this training option had the opportunity to nominate participants to attend to one of these courses.

Online FMD Emergency Preparation Courses (FEPC) have been delivered to more than 1000 veterinarians from Member States on seven courses to date. These courses are run on English and have participants from several Member States.

National tailor made FMD Emergency Preparation Courses were held, in their own national languages, for:

Spain / France / United Kingdom / Estonia / Serbia

The courses are getting very positive feedback from the participants and the completion rate is usually good with some exceptions.

The four workshop offered during this training period have been delivered:

Workshop on "Managing a crisis" was held in September 2016, in Budapest (Hungary). The aim of the workshop was to increase the ability of Veterinary Services in Member States to manage an outbreak of foot-and mouth disease by effective emergency management and excellent internal and external communication.

Workshop on "To vaccinate or not to vaccinate: using modelling to evaluate FMD control options" was held in November 2016, in Frascati (Italy). The aim of the workshop was to expose participants to the use of epidemiological

modelling and socio-economic analysis in decision-making for Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) contingency planning and response. The participants evaluated the decision-making process for FMD control and compared management strategies from an epidemiological perspective using the Australian Animal Disease Model (AADIS).

Workshop on "Simulation exercises" was held in March 2017, in Sofia (Bulgaria). The aim of the workshop was to teach participants about how to select, design, conduct and evaluate simulation exercises through actually designing and carrying out small simulation exercises during the workshop. Furthermore the workshops aimed to make participants aware of the value of having a strategic approach to simulation exercises and use them within the context of their overall emergency preparedness.

Workshop on "Putting vaccination into practice" was held in March 2017, in Grange (Ireland). The aim of the workshop was to deliver training and support to animal health personnel from Member States for planning the practical implementation of an emergency vaccination programme. The workshop employed scenario-based exercises and facilitated discussion to enhance understanding and critical analysis of the strategic risks and challenges, as well as to identify, discuss and develop the outline of critical policies, plans and procedures required as key elements of deploying effective emergency vaccination in a previously-free country setting.
The complete reports of the two first workshops are available and have been included as annexes to this document for further information.

Some useful information is extracted from each of the workshops to be shared with a broader audience. For example, in the case of the Modelling workshop, a webinar will be delivered under the Modelling Network on one of the topics that was discussed during the workshop: Participatory multi-criteria decision analysis.

1.1.2.4 Training focal points informed of training opportunities and feedback

Training focal points have been regularly contacted to be informed about upcoming courses, to request their nominations of participants, to give us their feedback on different issues, etc.

A webinar "How to train our national staff on FMD?" was held in November 2016. During this webinar Italy, Ireland, and Germany presented their organization of cascade trainings on FMD. Examples of online and practical face-to-face training can be seen in the presentation. The EuFMD Knowledge bank was also presented, together with an update of upcoming EuFMD courses.

A newsletter was sent out to Training Focal Points in January 2017 with information of activities carried out and upcoming training.

5-Issues for Executive Committee attention arising during implementation

To date, **56 credits** have not been allocated. Some countries never allocated their training credits or not all of them, although repeated reminders were sent by the EuFMD. In some instances, training credits were allocated, but nominations of participants were not received nor was any feedback to organize the chosen course. In some cases, participation in workshops was cancelled. Furthermore, in some countries, the use of the training credits was put on hold until non-payment of their contribution to EuFMD was resolved.

The countries with the highest number of unallocated or unspent training credits are: Cyprus, Switzerland, Poland, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Luxembourg and FYRO Macedonia.

On one side, the EuFMD is looking for options to improve the engagement and participation from the countries that are not answering to our requests to allocate and use their training credits. On the other side, the euFMD team would like to propose discussion of a new system to manage these unallocated credits for the benefit of all the Member States or at least for those which would like to benefit from additional training options offered with the remaining training credits.

Although the completion rates of the FMD Emergency Preparation Courses are generally good, there is a significant variability between the Member States taking these courses. This is why the EuFMD would like to analyze the reasons why in some particular cases the completion rate was lower than average, in order to adapt better courses to the needs of each particular country.

There is a need for continued increase in human resource support for the expanded e-learning (see earlier).

6-Priorities for the next six months

1.1.1: System in place to enable every member state to cascade appropriate training and learning on FMD control to their public and private animal health services, supported by infrastructure for learning and knowledge transfer in place, including e-learning, training resources and staff support.

The recruitment of an additional learning technologist to further support the EuFMD e-learning programme is underway. The EuFMD will focus on promoting the use of the Knowledge Bank to add additional resources to the database. New resources will be added, particularly additional job aids which are under development.

The EuFMD would like to improve its approach to the cascade training in order to get a better engagement of the Member States and the participants participating in the Real Time Training Courses to share the knowledge acquired.

1.1.2: Improved capacity in each of the MS to recognize, respond to and manage FMD through provision of a demand driven training programme supplied in response to MS priorities for training in areas of prevention, detection, and contingency planning for control operations and recovery.

Over the next six months, the focus will be on delivery of the remaining courses planned in the framework of the training period 2015-2017: at least three Online FMD Emergency Preparation Courses, including one in Spanish and one in French; and an online Risk Based Surveillance course to be organized in May/June 2017.

A new assessment of training needs will be implemented for the next training period, considering different sources of information to better understand where are the gaps where more assistance should be given by EUFMD to the Member States.

7-Gantt charts - Planned activities

1.1 Training for MS	OUTPUT 1.1 Increased European expertise in FMD crisis management and improved quality of national FMD preparedness training programmes		YEAR 1												YEAR 2											
	Target (Expected Result)	**Activities**	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S
	1.1.1 System in place to enable every MS to cascade appropriate training and learning on FMD control to their public and private animal health services supported by infrastructure for learning and knowledge transfer in place, including e-learning, training resources, and staff support	1.1.1.1 Training infrastructure: staffing & tech. res.																								
		1.1.1.2 Training infrastructure: online knowledge bank dev.																								
		1.1.1.3 Open access areas of the EuFMD e-Learning website																								
		1.1.1.4 Training infrastructure: framework for M&E																								
		1.1.1.5 Dev. knowledge transfer tools & job aids																								
		1.1.1.6 Support to in-country training courses																								
	1.1.2 Improved capacity in each of the MS to recognize, respond to and manage FMD through provision of a demand driven training supplied in response to MS priorities for training in areas of prevention, detection, and CP for control operations and recovery	1.1.2.1 Training credits system & needs assessment																								
		1.1.2.2 Dev. of new courses																								
		1.1.2.3 Delivery of training courses																								
		1.1.2.4 Training focal points informed of training opportunities & feedback																								

Updated programme:

//////////	Activity extended beyond initial foreseen timescale
********	Activity did not occur in this month

1.1 Training for MS	OUTPUT 1.1 Increased European expertise in FMD crisis management and improved quality of national FMD preparedness training programmes		YEAR 1												YEAR 2											
	Target (Expected Result)	**Activities**	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S
	1.1.1 System in place to enable every MS to cascade appropriate training and learning on FMD control to their public and private animal health services supported by infrastructure for learning and knowledge transfer in place, including e-learning, training resources, and staff support	1.1.1.1 Training infrastructure: staffing & tech. res.																								
		1.1.1.2 Training infrastructure: online knowledge bank dev.	*	*			/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/								
		1.1.1.3 Open access areas of the EuFMD e-Learning website					/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/							
		1.1.1.4 Training infrastructure: framework for M&E																								
		1.1.1.5 Dev. knowledge transfer tools & job aids																								
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		1.1.2.2 Dev. of new courses																								
		1.1.2.3 Delivery of training courses																								
		1.1.2.4 Training focal points informed of training opportunities & feedback																								

EuFMD Phase IV

Report to the EuFMD 93rd Executive

September 2016- March 2017

Component 1.2

Improved Contingency Planning

Supervisor Keith Sumption

Manager Mark Hovari

Reporting Melissa Mclaws / Hendrik Camphor

1.2 Improved Contingency Planning

1. Objective of the component

The overall objective of this component is to improve contingency planning by Members and at European Level.

The activities (expected results) are:

1.System (networks) in place to assist contingency planning in every member state through providing technical support to the contingency planners and FMD modelling expert groups to improve the national capability on modelling, contingency planning, simulation exercises;
2. Improved system established for providing central resources for crisis situations including decision support tools (including disease spread and economic models), provision for diagnostic supplies, emergency access to national or regional vaccine banks, and sharing of critical human resources

Activities	*Indicators*	*Baseline Sept 2015*	*Target 2 years*	*Unit of measure*	*Current Status*
1.2.1	Annual Participation in online meetings and webinars held for Contingency Planning, Modelling and Vaccination Networks	150	300	Participation in online meetings or webinars	369
1.2.2	Published and available new decision support tools and guidelines	0	3	Peer-reviewed published tools and guidance	1

2-Project team

Role	*Name*	*Status*
Component supervisor	Keith Sumption	Secretariat
Component manager	Mark Hovari	Contingency Planning Officer/Secretariat
Training and networking support	Nadia Rumich	Network and Training Support Officer
Other EuFMD team members	Melissa McLaws Hendrik Camphor	Consultant STP
Advisors	Modelling and CP advisory groups	Volunteer representatives from the modelling and CP networks.
STC oversight:	Eoin Ryan	STC
ExCom oversight	Ulrich Herzog	ExCom member (Austria)

Budget

Total Budget Allowance	Expenses up to March 2017	% project completion	Actual available (20 months activities 2016 - 2017)
120,750	30,771	25 %	88,289

3-Countries or partner organizations involved

The direct beneficiaries of the work of component 1.2 are all of the EuFMD member states, and in particular modelling groups and contingency planners at academic and government institutions. Beyond EuFMD Member States, component 1.2 has sought to network with partners in other regions of the world actively involved in using modelling to inform contingency planning.
Consultation will occur with the **Food and Veterinary Office of the European Commission** (FVO) in order to ensure that the activities of component 1.2 are complementary to FVO activities on Contingency Planning.
The FMD Economic Impact Calculator has been developed through a Letter of Agreement with Prof. Jonathan Rushton and colleagues at the **Royal Veterinary College, London, UK**.

4-Progress Report

Output 1.2.1. : System (networks) in place to assist contingency planning in every member state through providing technical support to the contingency planners and FMD modelling expert groups to improve the national capability on modelling, contingency planning, simulation exercises.

Activity 1.2.1.1 Contingency planning network
The practical FMD Management Webinar series has conducted one new webinar since September 2016 focusing on killing and disposal of carcasses. Furthermore, three more webinars have been inserted in the network. One on how to train national staff for an FMD emergency, one on the use of epicollect and one on challenges faced when designing and/or conducting simulation exercises.
All records of the webinars are available at the EuFMD e-learning website under the Contingency Planning Network.

Activity 1.2.1.2 Modelling network:
The Modelling network is continuing to grow and engage members from Europe, North America, Australasia, and beyond. There are presently 223 members.
The webinar series continuously delivered as a popular platform for modellers working with FMD to present their work to the international community of modellers and contingency planners.
Since the 92st ExCom, three webinars, a main tool for learning and information sharing, were delivered:

- In February 2017, Andrew Calinger Yoak, a post-doctoral researcher at the college of Veterinary medicine at Ohio State University presented "The use case for HAEBOS: a Hybrid Agent- and Equation-based Behaviour Outbreak Simulator", which described a disease model being developed in collaboration with the USDA
- In January 2017, Amy Kinsley, a post-doctoral researcher from the University of Minnesota presented "Defining parameter values for epidemiological models of foot-and-mouth disease in swine"
- In September 2016,Eyal Klement presented "Insights from the epidemiology of FMD in Israel".

Recordings of the webinar are available on the e-learning site.

The recent call for proposals for the **Fund for Applied Research** (FAR) includes priority themes where modeling would be a useful approach. Network members have been informed of this, and have expressed interest in the call.

During the EuFMD Open Session 2016, a short session was dedicated to how to better connect contingency planners and modellers. It seems that modellers are not fully aware what data is in the possession of the Veterinary Services (especially in countries more distant from their home countries) and the veterinary services do not seem to have a clear vision what the data can be used for. Furthermore, only few member states possess in-house modellers and only few countries have universities that are able to provide high level of modelling. The main bottleneck in those countries not having high level modelling skills is that even basic epidemiology expertise are scarce (which is the required base foundation for modelling). These issues may be overcome by developing stronger ties and through education and mentoring (such as exchanging available data for receiving training in epidemiology or modelling)

The CROss Border Disease Modelling (CroBoDiMo) initiative, brought up during the Central European CVO Meeting in 2016 was further discussed (on-line meeting was held in December 2016) with modellers (Mike Tildesley and Melissa McLaws) and with the Austrian lead AGES. It was agreed to develop a questionnaire to be distributed to the Central European countries to better assess the data available to them to be used for modelling. Afterwards, an on-line meeting can be set up with all of the countries involved and finally a workshop can be held with the interested parties.
Lack of funding of this initiative still remains an issue.

Activity 1.2.1.3 Vaccine discussion network:

Two significant opportunities for reinvigoration of the vaccination discussion network were harnessed. Information extracted from the inter-annual "Questionnaire on readily-available stocks of formulated FMD vaccine and/or inactivated antigen for emergency use in EuFMD Member States and countries in the European neighbourhood", along with outcomes and recommendations from the March 2017 workshop, "Putting Vaccination Into Practice", held in Grange, Ireland was used to strengthen engagement between focal points within the network and identify priority areas for ongoing discussion. Concerning the questionnaire, eighty percent of respondent countries indicated an interest in continued participation in, or joining the Vaccination Discussion Network. The top three priority topics identified for continued discussion within the vaccination network were:

- Deciding if, when and how to implement emergency vaccination during an outbreak (overlap and linkage with the Modelling network);
- Vaccinated animal management policies (vaccinate-to-live vs vaccinate-to-kill; post-vaccination monitoring, post -outbreak proof of freedom surveillance and socioeconomic implications of respective vaccinated animal management policies); and
- Operational planning for FMD emergency vaccination programs, including human resource, information systems and laboratory capacity estimates and capability.

Furthermore, there was recognition that for network focal points within EuFMD Member States to remain fully engaged, the scope of the network should be restricted to discussion about common issues related to emergency vaccination, including FMD vaccine bank management and wider emergency vaccination policy and operational related topics for countries or zones recognized as FMD free (with or without vaccination) or countries or zones seeking to enhance their capacity to implement emergency vaccination following incursion of novel FMD virus serotypes or strains. It was therefore considered that discussion of routine prophylactic vaccination-related issues should best occur within the PCP Practitioners' network.

Activity 1.2.1.4 Development of guidelines:

This activity was combined with the currently implemented one for the Component 1.4 Balkans to provide guidelines, tools, assistance and coaching for the Balkan countries to design, implement and assess simulation exercises and to challenge and improve their emergency preparedness.
After consultation, it was decided the guide was not ready for publication, although the decision making process developed therein is perceived as valuable. It was noted that the guide should adopt a progressive approach which would aim to help users undertake more complex exercises, and will be called GET Prepared-*a progressive exercise and training guide for emergency preparedness planners*" to better reflect this aim.

It also became clear that there is a need to have a common understanding in Europe of the different types of exercises, terms and definitions used and it would also be crucial to have guidance how to assess the costs of exercises.
Some progress was made during the Simulation Exercise Workshop, which was conducted jointly between Components 1.1 and 1.4. A commonly agreed terminology was used, and core exercise types were established. Several materials, including a template for an exercise initiating document were developed.

Output 1.2.2. : Improved system established for providing central resources for crisis situations including decision support tools (including disease spread and economic models), provision for diagnostic supplies, emergency access to national or regional vaccine banks, and sharing of critical human resources.

Activity 1.2.2.1 Economic impact calculator:

Under a Letter of Agreement, a prototype economic impact calculator was developed by a team at the Royal Veterinary College lead by Jonathan Rushton. This calculator is intended to assist previously free countries to assess rapidly the impact of an FMD outbreak, as well as guide the selection of the most economically favourable strategies to control the outbreak. Wider socioeconomic impacts are also considered qualitatively.
The impact calculator was presented during the Nordic Baltic Seminar in 2016.
It was also used/presented during the EuFMD Open Session in Portugal and during the Workshop on "To vaccinate or not to vaccinate: using modelling to evaluate FMD control options" in Frascati - Italy. Although the prototype calculator has been developed, the tool must still be validated and refined following comments from users and simulations with data input. Integration with other decision support tools (eg disease spread models) should also be considered.

Activity 1.2.2.2 Support to development of diagnostic banks:

No activities have been carried out.

Activity 1.2.2.3 Support to emergency access to vaccine banks:

No activities have been carried out.

Activity 1.2.2.4 Support to sharing critical human resources:

During the last 91st Executive Committee, the members agreed on the importance of the human resource sharing and concluded that EuFMD should prepare and distribute for the further discussions "Guidelines or bullet points on human resource sharing" that ensure MS are aware of issues and their potential solutions.
A database of national experts from central and local veterinary services, private vets, veterinary schools, other institutions) working or worked with the specific parts of Operational manual, belonging to the Contingency Plan, of contagious animal diseases, with focus on Food-and-Mouth disease was established in the past.
On the issue of sharing of critical human resources, in the Balkan region, based on the outcome of the Management Meeting (held in January 2017), there is a clear demand for local expertise (in epidemiology, risk analysis and other). It was hypothesized, that each Balkan country could choose a specific area to promote in the future and the expertise gained is made available for a wider Balkan community to provide local solutions to the local challenges. This can be later included into the existing database of experts.

5-Issues for Executive Committee attention arising during implementation

The development of diagnostic banks and emergency access to vaccine banks should be continuously supported, as should the development of sharing critical human resources.

6-Priorities for the next six months

Outcome 1: System (networks) in place to assist contingency planning in every member state through providing technical support to the contingency planners and FMD modelling expert groups to improve the national capability on modelling, contingency planning, simulation exercises.

Activity 1.2.1.1 Contingency planning network:

The main focus is on continuing with the FMD practical management series and relying on trainings and workshop already conducted under other components to find future topics that should be explored, which could include outbreak investigation, vaccination, biosecurity and crisis management.
Additional priorities would be:

- Further promotion of Contingency planning network and invitations to interested groups will be delivered using webinar series and online meetings.
- Support MS in exchanging information on their specific experience with contingency planning and simulation exercises.
- Add further resources related to emergency preparedness to the EuFMD Knowledge Bank.

Activity 1.2.1.2 Modelling network:

- To continue to provide opportunities for members to interact and learn through webinars and maintaining and improving the Modelling Network page
- Seek opportunities to allow the network members to collaborate on a project. Two of the priority themes in the call for the Fund for Applied Research involve modelling, and so this could be a relevant opportunity.
- Explore opportunities for MS not currently engaged in modelling to develop this capacity. This could be through:
  - development of Guidelines to assist them (e.g. the "Progressive pathway to modelling" (preliminary draft available);
  - participation in training courses (e-learning and workshops)and/or
  - creation of simple modelling tools for use in an outbreak available, and providing training on these tools
  - use existing models to develop 'rule of thumb' approach to inform when different control measures will be most effective (e.g vaccination should be used under certain conditions; or is usually not appropriate under other conditions; with conditions describing animal density, time-to-detection, export market etc).

Activity 1.2.1.3 Vaccination discussion network:

The main focus is to:

- To facilitate webinars based on the outcome of the Vaccination Workshop, held in Grange, Ireland March 2017

Activity 1.2.1.4 Development of guidelines:

- Divide the different chapters of the guide between the various experts contacted/contracted on simulation exercises (Tony Callen, Jorgen Westergaard, Hans Bruhn and David Mercer) and set a deadline of beginning of May to have a draft version. Furthermore, if ready, it can be circulated in the contingency planning community for further comments.

Outcome 2: Improved system established for providing central resources for crisis situations including decision support tools (including disease spread and economic models), provision for diagnostic supplies, emergency access to national or regional vaccine banks, and sharing of critical human resources.

Activity 1.2.2.1 Economic impact calculator:

- Search for new opportunities to receive feedback in the impact calculator
- Consider user-friendly amendments to the interface of the impact calculator.

Activity 1.2.2.2 Support to development of diagnostic banks:

- Continuing work on development of diagnostic bank is needed.

Activity 1.2.2.3 Support to emergency access to vaccine banks:

- Continuing work on development of mechanism for emergency access to vaccine banks is needed.

Activity 1.2.2.4 Support to sharing critical human resources:

- The database of the national experts need to be updated urgently.
- Possibilities on how to support development of local expertise should be further discussed.

EuFMD Phase IV

Report to the EuFMD 93rd Executive

September 2016- March 2017

Component *1.3*
Thrace

Supervisor Mark Hovari

Manager Paolo Motta

1.3 THRACE

1-Objectives of component

The overall objective of this component is Improved surveillance and management of FMD and other exotic diseases in the Thrace region of Greece, Bulgaria and Turkey.

The activities (expected results) are:

1. Maintenance of FMD freedom in Thrace region, and confidence at all times in this status on the basis of co-ordinated surveillance, and maintenance of confidence in capacity for early detection of FMD and containment if incursions were to occur;
2. Maintain and improve a system for real-time data entry to support management of national surveillance activities aimed at maintaining disease freedom confidence;
3. Achieving four years of risk-based surveillance results through activities implemented in each country for FMD (and other diseases as decided by Coordination Framework); in 2015-17 with the expected result of providing evidence for freedom from FMD, PPR and LSD in European Turkey and the neighbouring countries;
4. Improved capacity to respond to exotic disease incursions into the common border region, through participation in joint exercises and development of harmonised levels of contingency planning.

1 - Summary table

Activities	*Indicators*	*Baseline: Sept 2015*	*Target 2 years*	*Unit of measure*	*Current Status*
1.3.1	Tripartite Management Meetings held	0	3	Tripartite Management Meetings held involving staff of the 3 countries	4
1.3.2	Maintain the data entry system with data entry meeting agreed targets	50%	75%	Percentage of reports entered by field operatives within expected time frame	>75%
1.3.3	The level of confidence in FMD disease freedom in Thrace region is higher than if activities stopped	50%	90%	Confidence in disease freedom	>90%
1.3.4	Joint exercises	0	2	Joint exercises of the 3 countries	1

2 - Project team

Role	*Name*	*Status*
Component supervisor	Keith Sumption	Secretariat
Component manager	Mark Hovari	Contingency Planning Officer/Secretariat
Training and networking support	Nadia Rumich	Network and Training Support Officer
Other EuFMD team members	Melissa McLaws Hendrik Camphor	Consultant STP
Advisors	Modelling and CP advisory groups	Volunteer representatives from the modelling and CP networks.
STC oversight:	Eoin Ryan	STC
ExCom oversight	Ulrich Herzog	ExCom member (Austria)

Budget

Total Budget Allowance	Expenses up to March 2017	% project completion	Actual available (months activities September 2017)
411,435	260,376	63%	146,320

3 - Countries or partner organizations involved

EuFMD member states: Bulgaria, Greece, Turkey.

4 - Progress Report

Output 1.3.1. Maintenance of FMD freedom in Thrace region, and confidence at all times in this status on the basis of coordinated surveillance, and maintenance of confidence in capacity for early detection of FMD and containment if incursions were to occur.

1.3.1.1. Co-ordination framework between veterinary services and laboratories of the three countries maintained and improved through tripartite, management, and technical meetings

The 3rd Management meeting of the current biennium was held in Sofia, Bulgaria, on 27th February 2017 with the National Focal Points (NFPs) of Greece, Bulgaria and Turkey, the component supervisor and the component manager.
The Tripartite meeting was also held in Sofia, Bulgaria, on 27th February 2017. The meeting was chaired by EuFMD, OIE and FAO and was attended by the European Commission, the Bulgarian Food Safety Agency, the Greek Animal Health Directorate, the Şap Institute (Turkey), National Focal Points (NFPs) of Greece, Bulgaria and Turkey, component supervisor and component manager.

1.3.1.2. Regular assessment of FMD risk present in Thrace, and of preventive and control measures implemented in the area

During both the Management and the Tripartite meetings in February 2017 Greece, Bulgaria and Turkey reported on their respective FMD situations. The updated situations on the activities and outcomes, within the framework of FMD surveillance, as well as of other transboundary diseases (TADs), were presented. The identified current risks for the incursion of FMD in Thrace were also jointly discussed, and opportunities for intervention were highlighted. Details of the discussion can be found in the Tripartite Report.

1.3.1.3 Establishment of a system for regular passive reporting of presence and absence of FMD and other TADs (pro-active primary surveillance)

There are currently nine national consultants implementing the activities for the surveillance programme in the Thrace region. Awareness and FMD and other TADS Risk communication campaigns were implemented. They targeted farmers, aiming at promoting their involvement in reporting presence or absence of infectious diseases including FMD. Greece has implemented a dedicated phone land-line for identified sentinel farmers in the Evros Region. These farmers have been trained in conducting clinical examinations (both for FMD and LSD) on weekly basis and reporting the results of the examination through a land-line in direct contact with the Thrace national consultants.

Output 1.3.2. Maintain and improve a system for real-time data entry to support management of national surveillance activities aimed at maintaining DF confidence.

1.3.2.1 System for real-time data entry maintained and improved and development of outputs easy to understand

The current online Database through the Google Fusion Tables platform is free of charge and enables on-line cloud work. This software automatically provides visualization of geographical locations of the epidemiological units (farms or villages). It also allows to create "heat maps" showing density of population of susceptible animals by species as well as of epi units visited more frequently. The software allows to include data on other TADs (LSD, PPR, and SGP) providing the opportunity for future applications and modeling for confidence of freedom for these diseases.
The national consultants regularly provided surveillance data on FMD, LSD, SGP, and PPR in all three countries. There was a delay in data collection and processing during the last quarter of 2016 in Greece due to a change of the field consultant, but the activities returned to normality by February 2017. With the exception of the last quarter of 2016 in Greece, the data were entered into the database regularly and in a timely manner n all the countries. Some discrepancies were identified between the direct reporting from the consultants and the data uploaded on the database, but these did not affect the outputs of the modeling and the confidence in FMD freedom. These discrepancies were discussed during the Management meeting in February 2017 and corrective measures were agreed.

Output 1.3.3. Achieving four years of risk based surveillance results through activities implemented in each country for FMD (and other diseases as decided by Coordination Framework); in 2015-17 with the expected result of providing evidence for freedom from FMD, PPR and LSD in European Turkey and the neighboring countries.

1.3.3.1 Regular analysis of the active surveillance carried out for FMD and other TADs and reports of such activities shared between countries and institutions

The confidence in FMD freedom in the Thrace region was constantly above 95% for both the 3rd and 4th cycles of 2016. However, the delays in the replacement of the field consultant in Greece caused a relative drop in the confidence of disease freedom in the country during the 4th cycle (mainly related to the delay in the delivery of the samples to the laboratory). The field activities returned to normality by February 2017. The data on clinical and laboratory surveillance for the SGP and PPR were also provided. The cycle reports were sent to the National Focal Points for the approval and subsequent presented and discussed at the Management meetings.

1.3.3.2 Studies implemented to provide evidence on effectiveness of FMD and other TADs vaccination in the Thrace region.

A study to evaluate the FMD post-vaccination immunity in Turkish Thrace is ongoing. A total of 217 serological samples, from both cattle and small ruminants, were collected in January 2017 and have been shipped to The Pirbright Institute for viral neutralization.
A study on vaccine effectiveness in Turkish Anatolia, outside the Trace region, is under development and it is planned to be carried out in 2017.

Output 1.3.4. Improved capacity to respond to exotic disease incursions in to the common border region, through participation in joint exercises and development of harmonized levels of contingency planning.

1.3.4.1 *Regular support for laboratory (reagents and trainings) on FMD and other TADs.*

The procurement of diagnostic and sampling materials are managed regularly between NFPs and EuFMD. Field and laboratory consumables as well as diagnostic kits are currently procured centrally by EuFMD. New arrangements have been discussed and agreed during the Management meeting in February 2017 in Sofia. Starting from the 3rd quarterly cycle in 2017 field and laboratory consumables will be directly procured within each country while diagnostic kits will be procured centrally by EuFMD.

1.3.4.2. *Development of specific exercises and workshop to improve and assess the contingency planning capacity in Thrace and the coordination between countries in case of emergency.*

All records of the webinars series on "Practical Foot-and-Mouth Disease Management Webinar Series" (launched since November 2015) are available at the EuFMD e-learning website under the Contingency Planning Network.

The Workshop "Simulation Exercise for Foot-and-Mouth Disease" was carried out in Sofia (Bulgaria), 28 Feb-3 March 2017, and delivered for participants from various Member States, including the Balkan region and Turkey. Two participants from each country of the Thrace region were trained, particularly in designing and developing exercise scenarios and evaluating the simulation process. This workshop aimed at showing participants the importance of developing a strategy for simulation exercises as a part of their country emergency preparedness.
The workshop also provided a platform to understanding the importance of simulation exercise and highlighting the importance of turning upcoming exercises into a tool for improving contingency plans and increasing emergency preparedness in the Thrace region.

5 - Issues for Executive Committee attention arising during implementation

The request for a jointly agreed document on the Statement of Intentions between the Thrace countries was raised during this period of implementation.
The importance of constantly ongoing surveillance activities in the Thrace region for the assessment of the confidence in FMD freedom was highlighted by the sensitivity of the model to some delays in the data collection during the last quarter of 2016.
There is a shortage of funds to continue payment of the consultants under Component 1.3 until September 2017. Additional funding (approximately 45,000 Euro) should be made available under the consultant budget line. However, funds are currently available under other budget lines within Component 1.3.
Greece has requested a second full time consultant working in Greek Thrace due to the difficulties encountered while implementing the surveillance activities.

6 - Priorities for the next six months

Outcome 1.3.1:

1.3.1.1 To organize and held the next Management meeting in September 2017.
1.3.1.2 To continue the on-going co-operation and updating on the FMD situation in Thrace (including preventive and control measures and information of the passive surveillance in the countries) and sign a Statement of Intentions between the Thrace countries.

Outcome 1.3.2:

1.3.2.1 To continue use the online platform, develop and implement system of backups, and improve the Operational Manual if needed. Explore possibilities for improving data management and spatial visualizations.

Outcome 1.3.3:

1.3.3.1 To produce and circulate on quarterly basis the relevant cycle reports for 2017 using data regularly uploaded in the online platform.
1.3.3.2 To assess and communicate the outcomes of the evaluation of the post-vaccination immunity in Turkish Thrace.
1.3.3.3 To design and implement a training on participatory epidemiology (PE) for passive surveillance assessment and communication/awareness: workshop (WS) for NFPs and national consultants to be carried out by September 2017.

Outcome 1.3.4:

1.3.4.1 To continue to procure necessary laboratory diagnostic material and consumables and field consumables for the surveillance activities; to implement a new system for the direct procurement of consumables from the Thrace countries by June 2017.
1.3.4.2 To design and implement a training for the improvement of knowledge/skills on FMD outbreak investigation (OI) and outbreak management (OM) in Thrace by September 2017.
1.3.4.2. To design and conduct a joint simulation exercise for the three countries if support from the countries and funds are available.

EuFMD Phase IV

Report to the EuFMD 93rd Executive

September 2016- March 2017

Component *1.4*
Balkans

Supervisor Mark Hovari

Manager Natasha Antovska

1.4 BALKANS

Objective of component: to improve emergency management capacity for FMD in the Balkan region.

The activities (expected results) are:

1. Confidence in the coordination framework for western Balkan countries as a tool to ensure the continuous development, testing and improvement of national emergency management plans, and to ensure sufficient FMD laboratory capacity for crises;
2. Contingency plans for FMD agreed at national level and tested through at least one exercise. Contingency plans comply with EU legislation;
3. Integration of national FMD reference centers (laboratories) in the national CPs and establishment of a system of immediate regional diagnostic support for an FMD crisis.

1.Indicators

Activities	*Indicators*	*Baseline: Sept 2015*	*Target 2 years*	*Unit of measure*	*Current Status*
1.4.1	Management Meetings held compared to if project was not supported.	0	3		1
1.4.2	Increase of use of exercises and drills for FMD emergency preparedness in Balkan countries	3	5	Number of countries having a national FMD exercise	3
1.4.3	Participation in Balkan region proficiency test exercises	0	12	Number of National participations in exercises in 24 months	6

2. Project team:

Role	*Name*	*Status*
Component supervisor	Mark Hovari	Contingency Planning Officer
Component manager	Natasha Antovska	Short Term Professional
National focal points:		
Serbia	Budimir Plavsic	Head of Animal Health Department
Bulgaria	Tsviatko Alexandrov	Member SCRD, Head of Animal Health Department
Romania *Not appointed by CVO yet*	Ioana Neghirla	Head of Animal Health Control Disease Service
Moldova	Maxim Sirbu	Head of Department for Animal Health
Kosovo	Bafti Murati	
FYR of Macedonia	Biljana Strojmanovska	
Albania	Veli Stafa	Veterinary Specialist
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Zorana Mehmedbasic	Head of Department for Animal Health and Welfare
Montenegro	Mevlida Hrapovic	
Croatia	Ljupka Maltar	Head of Department for data analysis, reporting, contingency planning and risk analysis
Lab network coordinator:	Vesna Milicevic	Head of Serbian FMD NRL
ExCom oversight		
	Budimir Plavsic	ExCom member (Serbia)

Budget (€)

Total Budget Allowance	Expenses up to March 2017	% project completion	Actual available (20 months activities 2016 - 2017)
223,025	88,740	40%	130,681

Countries or partner organizations involved

- EuFMD member states: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Serbia, FYR of Macedonia and Romania;
- Non EuFMD member states: Kosovo, Montenegro and Moldova.

4-Progress Report

Output 1.4.1. Confidence in the coordination framework for western Balkan countries as a tool to ensure the continuous development, testing and improvement of national emergency management plans, and to ensure sufficient FMD laboratory capacity for crises.

A Management Meeting was held in Belgrade, Serbia in January 2017 and focused on several topics in connection to Component 1.4. One of the main outcomes is the support towards the implementation of a "Road Trip", a need for enhanced regional collaboration and request of support to build local expertise (in the field of epidemiology, risk analysis and other).

- A "Road trip" is planned for the end of March 2017, to develop a better understanding of the emergency preparedness of the Balkan countries and assessing the challenges faced by them. This desired outcome of these visits is to have a list of country specific priorities that can be addressed under this component.
- It was suggested that in the next biennium in order to support enhanced regional collaboration regular (twice a year) Management Meetings and high level (CVO) meetings of the Balkans countries could hosted by EuFMD to discuss the progress of the component, common emergency preparedness and response strategies for FMD and other exotic disease.
- There seems to be a clear demand for local expertise (in epidemiology, risk analysis and other). It was hypothesized, that each Balkan country could choose a specific area that they enhance in the future and the expertise gained are made available for the greater Balkan community to provide local solutions to the local challenges. This is synergetic with component 1.2.

1.4.2. Contingency plans for FMD agreed at national level and tested through at least one exercise. Contingency plans comply with EU legislation.

The **self-assessment tool** has been finalized and circulated within the Balkan countries. The tool is aimed to help contingency planners to assess the gaps and needs of their country's FMD contingency plan. It also guides the user to various resources available on the EuFMD Knowledge Bank.

The national focal points attending the Management Meeting in January 2017 acknowledged that the on-line Self-assessment questionnaire for contingency planners is a useful tool to facilitate review and revision of contingency plans in line with current EU legislation and international standards and to help to assessed gaps, strengths and weaknesses of contingency planning capacity. The tool is recognized with aim to present the needs of improvements to a high level policy makers like Chief Veterinary Officers (CVOs).

Workshop on "Simulation exercises" was held in March 2017, in Sofia (Bulgaria) jointly with component 1.1. The aim of the workshop was to teach participants about how to select, design, conduct and evaluate simulation exercises through actually designing and carrying out small simulation exercises during the workshop.

Furthermore, the workshops aimed to make participants aware of the value of having a strategic approach to simulation exercises and use them within the context of their overall emergency preparedness.

Output 1.4.3 Integration of national FMD reference centers (laboratories) in the national CPs and establishment of a system of immediate regional diagnostic support for an FMD crisis.

The results of the 2016 Balkan Laboratory Simulation Exercise were presented in an on-line meeting in September. The final report has been circulated to all participants involved.

5-Issues for Executive Committee attention arising during implementation

It is proposed to add Ukraine to component 1.4. Involvement in the activities conducted could assist in improving the emergency preparedness of the country.

6-Priorities for the next six months

Outcome 1.4.1: Confidence in the coordination framework for western Balkan countries as a tool to ensure the continuous development, testing and improvement of national emergency management plans, and to ensure sufficient FMD laboratory capacity for crises

- Maintain regular contact with National Focal Points and laboratory sub-network contact points.
- Plan, conduct and report back on the Balkan “road trip”

Outcome 1.4.2: Contingency plans for FMD agreed at national level and tested through at least one exercise. Contingency plans comply with EU legislation.

Following the Simulation Exercise Workshop, the countries are now asked to design, conduct and evaluate their own national simulation exercises between May – June 2017. The first step in this process is to submit, by April 2017 two exercise initiating documents (one for a desktop and one for a functional exercise).
Countries will be continuously supported by experts during all of the phases of the exercise.
It was highlighted by the participants of the simulation exercise workshop, that support letters to their CVOs might be needed to receive adequate support.
After the exercises have been carried out, a follow up workshop is planned in July 2017 to discuss lessons learnt and to share experiences within the region.

Outcome 1.4.3: Integration of national FMD reference centers (laboratories) in the national CPs and establishment of a system of immediate regional diagnostic support for an FMD crisis

- Follow-up activities for the Balkans laboratory simulation exercise will need to be carries out, based on funds available.

EuFMD Phase IV

Report to the EuFMD 93rd Executive

September 2016- March 2017

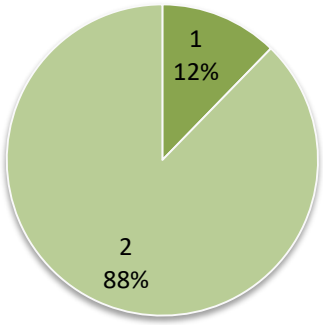
Component *1.5*
Fund for Applied Research (FAR)

Supervisor Keith Sumption

1.5 EuFMD Fund For Applied Research (EuFMD FAR)

OBJECTIVE: *Guidance of EC institutions involved in decisions on Research Funding. This includes support for research projects which have been endorsed by the EuFMD STC as being a benefit of the EUFMD objectives: activities to translate research into tools, actions or activities which are of benefit to EUFMD activities: and actions to integrate research outcomes with policy.*

OUTPUTS (EXPECTED RESULTS):



1. Produce Special Committee on Research and PD reports, including Biorisk Management;
2. Outputs of Funded Research Projects.

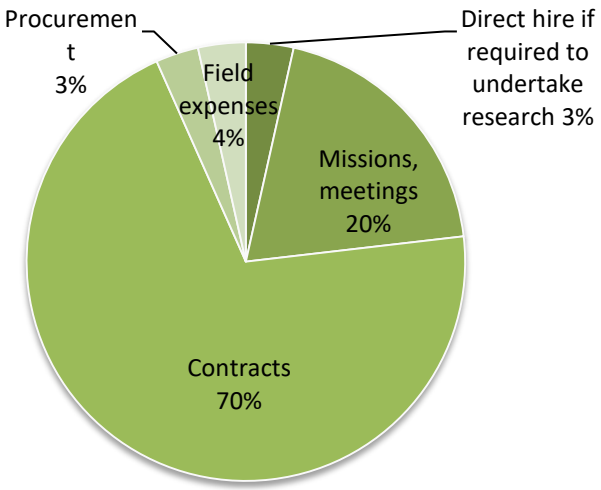
% use of funds on achieving each Output

FOCAL POINTS:; Standing Technical Committee: **Eoin Ryan**

DIRECTLY INVOLVED BENEFICIARIES: direct beneficiaries are usually policy makers in veterinary serivices and specialised agencies (NRLs).

RESOURCE BASE:
- HR: two sources P3 (5%), P2 (5%), STP (50%) (Admin Fund). Contractors awarded research projects supply their expertise/HR as per terms of the awards.

- Budget for Activities (EC - TF): ***€ 285,000*** *excludes HQ based support services/costs.*



Fourth call

The EuFMD, under the multi-annual agreement with the European Commission (DG-SANTE), has since 2008 provided support for small applied research projects that are relevant to the technical issues that are seen as priorities of the EuFMD member states[1]. The thematic priorities have been mainly identified at the biennial General Sessions, held in 2009, 2011 and 2013, and 2015 and a specific Research fund was adopted as a component (1.5) of the 4 year, EC funded Workplan of the Commission.

Funding

The EuFMD-FAR has earmarked funding for contracted research studies of 241,588€ for the first 24 month period, and presuming it is maintained as a priority , a similar level for the second 24 month period to August 2019 under the Financial Agreement between EC and FAO relating to the EuFMD which is managed through the TF MTF/INT/003/EC. There are also circa 85,000€ for support to technical meetings, for each 24 month period.

The current (at 2/2017) funding of the 4th call is modest and limited to a ceiling of 50,000 € per study/project, enabling some 4-5 grants to the maximum amount in 2017 , with a further call expected in late 2017 for disbursement in 2018-19. EuFMD-FAR is managed by the EuFMD Secretariat, advised by the Standing Technical Committee which acts as the Grant Review Board and a Referee Panel.

Schedule for calls for applications and status of current awards

	Funding available	Invitation to apply	Closing Date	Announcement of Results
4th Call	250,000 €	Feb 2017	17th March 2017	17th April 2017
5th Call	150,000€	November 2017	5th January 2018	5th February 2018
Further call (subject to disbursement of calls 4 and 5)	100,000€	To be decided	<2 months after call	<1 month after application closing deadline

2-Project team

Role	Name	Status
Pillar manager	K. Sumption	Secretariat
Component manager	Vacant	Secretariat
Standing Technical Committee	E.Ryan, Chairman	
Special Committee for Research:	18 persons acting as experts for the first round technical reviews reviewers	
Focal Point Executive Cttee	C. Bruschke	

3-Countries or partner organizations involved

The STC and SCRPD Committees are the principal partners involved.

4-Progress Report

Fourth call sent out and deadline for submissions is before the 93rd Executive Committee at the end of March 2017.

5-Issues for Executive Committee attention arising during implementation

1. The Biorisk management Group (under the STC) has identified a need for some technical review studies and technical meetings for which Component 1.5, whose workplan includes Biorisk Management meetings (under Output 1.5.1), could make a good claim for support. A dedicated workplan and budget for this Group will be discussed under Item 13 of the 93rd ExCom Agenda.
2. The situation for FMD research in the EU remains extremely bleak, and the FAR Fund remains the only dedicated call for FMD research other than at national level.
3. The EuFMD Secretary has been nominated by CVO- FAO as the representative on the STAR-IDAZ Consortium of animal health research funders, with the agreement of the Chair, EuFMD Commission. This gives the opportunity to promote additional investment in FMD research, and identify possible partners in joint calls.
4. Leveraging: potnetial interest from Australian research groups in joiing forces with applicants to the FAR-Fund, thus leveraging their own research resources which could avoid European groups repeating work already in progress in AUS/NZ.

6-Priorities for the next six months

- Review and decisions on the 4th call applications, processing awarded projects (LOA process).
- Decision on Themes and specific calls for the 5th call
- managing follow-up to the General session; supporting the STC, the Biorisk Management Group, and Special Committee on Research (SCRPD) online or face to face meeting plan.

7. Themes

Theme 1: Tools to assist modelling: focus on estimating confidence in disease freedom using post-outbreak surveillance in vaccinated populations
Theme 2: Impact calculators: extending these to estimate impacts of vaccination-to-live scenarios and business continuity planning
Theme 3: Tools to manage FMD in wildlife: issues highlighted by the requirement to prove freedom from disease of wildlife
Theme 4: Methodologies for rapid evaluation of vaccine stability.
Theme 5: Optimizing the use of bulk tank milk for FMD surveillance
Theme 6: Testing of biosafe transport methods for transport of FMDV RNA to international reference centres

EuFMD Phase IV

Report to the EuFMD 93rd Executive

September 2016- March 2017

Component *1.7*
Proficiency Testing Scheme

Supervisor Kees Van Maanen

1.7 Proficiency Testing Scheme

Objective(s) of component

The overarching objective (output) is:

Harmonized Proficiency Testing Service for EU and non-EU Members in the European neighbourhood

Expected results:

1.7.1 Increased participation and better national alignment of the NRLs in the European neighbourhood to the EuFMD and EU standard for FMD diagnostic NRLS performance (as defined at GS39), with specific results of:

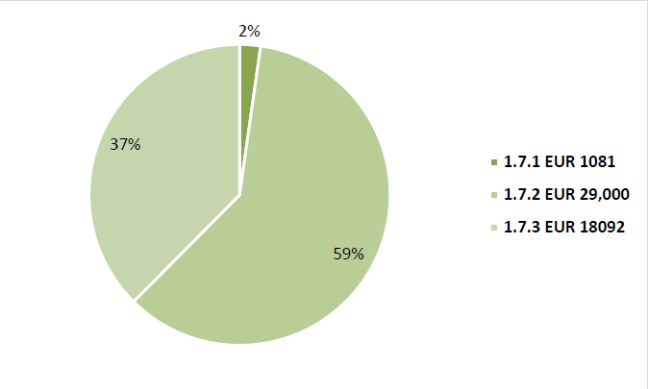
1.7.2 Participation of 24 non-EU EuFMD member states and neighbourhood countries in annual PTS;

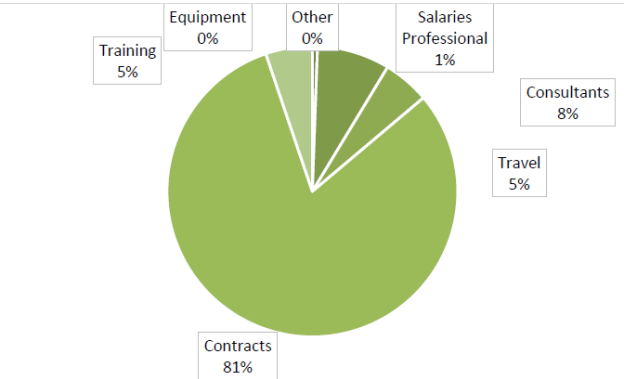
1.7.3 Management and participation in annual EU reference laboratory meeting

Resource Base

Total component budget (EC funded): EUR 48,829

Budget split by targets:





Non- EC funded contributions to this component:

Description	*Contribution*	*Funding source*
Component Supervisor: Executive Secretary	**1% FTE (P5)**	EuFMD Trust Fund (MS contributions)

2-Project team

Role	Name	Status
Pillar manager	K. Sumption	Secretariat
Component manager	Kees Van Maanen	Secretariat
Partner	The Pirbright Institute	
Focal Point Executive Cttee	C. Bruschke	

Budget

Total Budget Allowance	**17 month Expenses Oct. 15 –March 17**	**% project completion**	**Actual available (17 months activities 2016 and 2017)**
€ 46,500	**€ 69,415**	**149 %**	**- € 22,915***

*

Negative balance due to miscalculation in the budgeting phase (€ 39,000 budgeted for this part of the contract with The Pirbright Institute whereas in the final contract € 64,000 was budgeted to carry out these activities)

3-Countries or partner organizations involved

The **direct beneficiaries** of this component are the 9 EuFMD MS and 15 neighbourhood countries who are supported to undergo laboratory proficiency testing (see table below).

The **Pirbright Institute** is contracted to carry out this proficiency testing through a Letter of Agreement (LOA).

- The 24 laboratories to be included in the PTS under this section of the agreement are:

EuFMD member states which are not in the EU:	European neighbourhood states:
Serbia Albania F.Y.R. of Macedonia Bosnia Turkey Georgia Switzerland Norway Israel **Total: 9**	Kosovo Montenegro Armenia Azerbaijan Ukraine Belarus Moldova Iran Egypt Lebanon Libya Morocco Tunisia Algeria Iraq **Total: 15**

4a-Progress against indicators

Activities	*Indicators*	*Baseline September 2015*	*Target 2 years*	*Unit of measure*	*Current Status*
1.7	Proportion of target reference laboratories participating	16	24	Number participating over total of neighbourhood countries indicated in contract with service provider	17

4- Progress report

Finalization of the contract with the World Reference Laboratory has experienced delays since it was dependent on mobilization of EC funding for EuFMD activities. The contract has been signed in September 2016. Despite these delays activities have continued as planned. Results of the annual Proficiency Test 2015 have been presented at the annual workshop of EU national reference laboratories for Foot-and-mouth disease, Ascot UK, May 18th and 19th 2016. Also delegates from some EuFMD non-EU countries and European neighborhood countries attended this meeting (Israel, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia, and Turkey).

Results of the annual Proficiency Test 2015 are presented in the table below (courtesy Don King, TPI). PT results are scored according criteria agreed by the NRLs within Europe, each laboratory receives a personalized anonymous feedback letter to highlight areas in which they could improve, and performance of each laboratory is broadly categorized into one of four groups: (Category 1) to emphasize critical issues where immediate action is required that impact upon the laboratory to correctly identify FMD virus (virology tests) or FMDV infected animals (serological tests), (Category 2) laboratories with serious issues with the performance of individual tests that need to be addressed, (Category 3) to record additional observations

which may need to be considered by the laboratory to improve the local performance of individual tests and (Category 4) laboratories whose tests which are fit for purpose and where no further action is required. For the in 2015 participating EuFMD (non EU) and European neighborhood labs (altogether n=16) none of the labs was in category 1 or 2, so none of the labs had critical or serious issues with individual tests. For the European neighborhood countries that participated in 2015 the proportion of labs in categories 3 and 4 was 63% and 38%, respectively. This was a positive development as compared with 2014 (83% and 17%, respectively).

In the PT 2016 there is a change in emphasis from previous years, i.e. the PT will focus on 1) the laboratory's response to an outbreak within the country and 2) laboratory methods and analysis of results for quality assurance purpose. Three panels are available: Panel 1 –Outbreak scenarios for vesicular diseases (including FMD and SVD); Panel 2 –Quality Assurance Panel FMDV samples; Panel 3 –Continuation of outbreak scenarios of FMD and SVD. Results of the annual Proficiency Test 2016 are not yet available. In total 17 out of 24 invited EuFMD_non-EU or European neighborhood countries participated in the 2016 PTS (Israel, Ukraine, Belarus, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Egypt, Iraq, Kosovo and Libya did not participate).

	2014	2015
Total invited laboratories[1]	91	91
Total number of shipments[1]	66	66
Participants from European Union (funded by EURL for FMD)	26 (EU member states)	27 (EU member states)
% of labs meeting target performance[4]	Cat-1 0 % Cat-2 0 % Cat-3 69 % Cat-4 31 %	Cat-1 0 % Cat-2 0 % Cat-3 67 % Cat-4 33 %
EUFMD funded participants		
Participants from Global Network Labs[2]	BVI, Botswana: OVI, South Africa: NAHDIC, Ethiopia: Embakasi, Kenya: Pakchong, Thailand; Lanzhou, China: Panaftosa, Brazil; NVRI Nigeria; LNERV, Senegal; USDA, USA[3]	Panaftosa Brazil, Pakchong Thailand, BVI Botswana, OVI South Africa, ARRIAH Russia, NVRI Nigeria, LNERV Senegal, Emabakasi FMD laboratory Kenya, NAHDIC Ethiopia, USDA USA[3]
% of labs meeting target performance[4]	Cat-1 0 % Cat-2 10 % Cat-3 40 % Cat-4 40 % One laboratory did not report results	Cat-1 0 % Cat-2 10 % Cat-3 60 % Cat-4 30 %
Participants from EuFMD Member states (non-EU)	Albania, Bosnia, Georgia, FYRO Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland, Turkey	Serbia, Albania, FYRO Macedonia, Turkey, Georgia, Switzerland, Norway, Israel
% of labs meeting target performance[4]	Cat-1 0 % Cat-2 0 % Cat-3 62 % Cat-4 38 %	Cat-1 0 % Cat-2 0 % Cat-3 88 % Cat-4 13 %
Participants from neighbourhood countries	Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Iran, Kosovo, Morocco, Moldova, Tunisia, Montenegro, Lebanon	Montenegro, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Ukraine, Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco, Algeria
% of labs meeting target performance[4]	Cat-1 0 % Cat-2 0 % Cat-3 83 % Cat-4 17 %	Cat-1 0 % Cat-2 0 % Cat-3 63 % Cat-4 38 %
Summary of EUFMD funded participants		
Invited	40	
Panels shipped	Panel 1 2 Panel 2 19 Panel 3 17 Panel 4 4	Panel 1 7 Panel 2 23 Panel 3 25 Panel 4 -
Total number of participants funded by EUFMD	**29**	**26**

5-Issues for Executive Committee attention arising during implementation

No specific issues, apart from a miscalculation in the budgeting phase leading to a negative balance (€ 39,000 budgeted for this part of the contract with The Pirbright Institute whereas in the final contract € 64,000 was budgeted to carry out these activities)

6-Priorities for the next six months

No specific priorities

7-Areas that require more attention in the next 24 month period

No specific areas apart from evaluating the new format of the PTS and trying to get all invited laboratories on board.

EuFMD Phase IV

Report to the EuFMD 93rd Executive

September 2016- March 2017

Component 1.8 - Risk Analysis and Communication

Component Supervisor Keith Sumption

Component Manager Mark Hovari

Reporting **Mark Hovari / Paolo Motta / Maria-Teresa Scicluna / Melissa McLaws**

1.8. – Risk Analysis and Communication

OBJECTIVE:

To improve the quality, utility and availability of information gathered relevant to FMD risk of entry into member states and facilitate the use of this by risk managers.

OUTPUTS (EXPECTED RESULTS):

1. System established and routinely operated to update and communicate the antigen bank priorities based on risk information gathered Pillar 1 to 3 activities, and others;
2. System established to ensure that changes in FMD incidence and FMDV circulating lineages/threats in the virus pools is communicated to surveillance managers;
3. Tools for improving assessment of risk of entry and consequence of entry into EuFMD MS are improved and used to better identify specific areas for EU/EuFMD attention;
4. System for gathering and assessing information on specific risk drivers, such as differential in meat prices between Europe and third countries, is developed and validated for at least one driver.

Activities	*Indicators*	*Baseline: September 2015*	*Target 2 years*	*Unit of measure*	*Current Status*
1.8.1	Tool developed and published, available for use.	0	1	Report (tool available)	1
1.8.2	Number of FMD monthly reports produced compared to situation without funding	8	24	Number of Global Monthly Reports	17
1.8.3	Tool developed and published, available for use.	0	1	Report (tool available)	0
1.8.4	Pilot study	0	1	Study completed	0

2 - Project team

Role	*Name*	*Status*
Component Supervisor	Keith Sumption	Executive Secretary, Secretariat
Component manager	Mark Hóvari	Contingency Planning Officer, Secretariat
EuFMD Monthly Reports	Maria-Teresa Scicluna	STP

National FAO Focal Point: **(Co-ordination-national level)**	FAO assistant representatives in countries of interest (TBC)	FAO Staff in national offices
FAO HQ Contact	Julio Pinto	Animal Health Officer (Animal Disease Emergencies and Early Warning)
National focal points	Naci Bulut (Turkey) TBC (other countries)	Consultant, SCRPD member
ExCom oversight	Lajos Bognar	ExCom member

Budget

Total Budget Allowance	Expenses till March 2017	% project completion	Actual available (20 months activities 2016 - 2017)
68,490	19,091	28%	48,837

3 - Countries or partner organizations involved

1.All EuFMD Member States are direct beneficiaries of this component, and in particular, this component will involve work with Turkey.

2.Non EuFMD Member States will also be involved, for instance for information gathering and WelNET): Iran, Pakistan.

4 - Progress Report

1.8.1 System established and routinely operated to update and communicate the antigen bank priorities based on risk information gathered Pillar 1 to 3 activities, and others:

The Prioritization of Antigen Management with International Surveillance Tool (PRAGMATIST) has been developed in collaboration with the WRL to assist vaccine bank managers select which strains are most important to maintain in their vaccine bank. It is a spreadsheet model that considers 1) which strains pose the greatest threat of incursion and 2) ability of available vaccines to protect against the most important antigens is calculated for each vaccine.
It is foreseen that the tool will be continuously updated and maintained as part of preparing the Global Monthly Report. Draft outputs (tables and charts) from this tool have been produced to include in the Global Monthly Report.

1.8.2 System established to ensure that changes in FMD incidence and FMDV circulating lineages/threats in the virus pools is communicated to surveillance managers:

The monthly report has been produced on a monthly basis by Dr Maria-Teresa Scicluna, for which different information sources are used such a OIE WAHID, FAO World Reference Laboratory for FMD and FAO Global Animal Disease Information System data basis, also FAO/EuFMD supported FMD network and FOA/EuFMD projects and field officers information.

The report takes an overview on the monthly basis of FMD virus strain distribution within the different pools, to highlight the changes in the FMD movement and to allow an overview evaluation of the effectiveness of the FMD control and eradication adopted in the countries. Ready to print version distributed through EuFMD. Work is in progress to include continuously updated data in the form of graphs and tables for an immediate view of the relative distribution of the most recent various FMD serotypes/viral lineages at Pool and country level in relation to the FMD susceptible population and presumed FMD incidence.

1.8.3. Tools for improving assessment of risk of entry and consequence of entry into EuFMD MS are improved and used to better identify specific areas for EU/EuFMD attention

No activities have been carried out.

1.8.4 System for gathering and assessing information on specific risk drivers, such as differential meet prices between Europe and third countries, is developed and validated for at least one driver

Information on the organization of the livestock marketing system in Turkey was gathered in collaboration with the national point. This complex organization, in Turkey involves different stakeholders including local municipalities and Regional bodies for the control of livestock and meat prices. Further understanding of how the data is gathered and forwarded needs to be understood.

5-Issues for Executive Committee attention arising during implementation

6-Priorities for the next six months

1.8.1 System established and routinely operated to update and communicate the antigen bank priorities based on risk information gathered Pillar 1 to 3 activities, and others:

- include information from PRAGMATIST into the Global Monthly Report
- Prepare short article on PRAGMATIST to submit for publication in a peer reviewed journal

1.8.2 System established to ensure that changes in FMD incidence and FMDV circulating lineages/threats in the virus pools is communicated to surveillance managers:

- Continue with publication of monthly reports

1.8.4 System for gathering and assessing information on specific risk drivers, such as differential meet prices between Europe and third countries, is developed and validated for at least one driver

- Achieve further progress on gathering meat price and livestock data from Turkey and neighboring countries.

EuFMD Phase IV

Report to the EuFMD Executive Committee

Period September 2016 – March 2017

Component 2.1 South East Europe

Pillar Manager: K. Sumption

Component Manager: G. Ismayilova

Reporting: G.Ismayilova

Focal point Executive Ctte: Ulrich Herzog (Chairperson)

2.1 SOUTH EAST EUROPE

OBJECTIVE: To improve the ability of Turkey, Georgia and neighbouring West Eurasia countries in FMD management and control to promote their progress along PCP stages and to reduce the risk posed by FMD in the region, with FAO, OIE, EC and EuFMD and the countries in the W. Eurasia region working in coordination under GF-TADS

OUTPUTS (EXPECTED RESULTS):

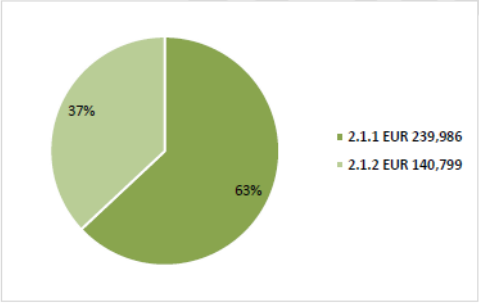
2.1.1 Member states (Turkey, Georgia) and immediate neighbours (Armenia, Azerbaijan), and other countries on request, achieve progress within their current Stage of the PCP and in their capacity to manage their programme, and evaluate the feasibility of achieving and maintaining higher stages.

2.1.2 Regional Capacity to manage the FMD risks is improved through development of regional expertise in epidemiology and laboratory disciplines to support the PCP, and on management of control programs, and regional networking to support better information exchange between risk managers in the West Eurasia Roadmap countries

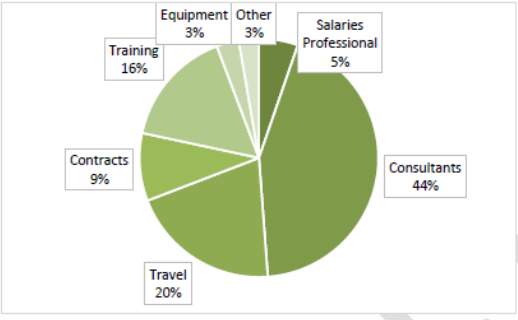
DIRECTLY INVOLVED BENEFICIARIES: *The direct beneficiaries of this component are the EuFMD member states Turkey and Georgia and non EuFMD members: Armenia, Azerbaijan, (and possibly other countries in region including Iran, Russian Federation). Indirect beneficiaries: West Eurasia Roadmap participants*

RESOURCE BASE:

Total component budget (EC funded) - Budget split by targets:



Budget split by budget line:



Non- EC funded contributions to this component:

Description	*Contribution*	*Funding source*
Component Supervisor: Executive Secretary	**10% FTE (P5)**	EuFMD Trust Fund (MS contributions)

2-Project team

Role	*Name*	*Status*
Component Supervisor	Keith Sumption	Executive Secretary, Secretariat
Component manager	Gunel Ismayilova	Consultant, Secretariat
Other EuFMD Team members:	Carsten Potzsch	consultant
National FAO Focal Point: **(Co-ordination-national level)**	FAO assistant Representatives in Turkey, Georgia	FAO Staff in national offices
FAO Subregional **(Co-ordination – Central Asia, Eastern Europe))**	A Rozstalnyy (Georgia/Eastern Europe)	FAO Animal Production and Health Officer based in Budapest Office
FAO HQ Contact	Eran Raizman	Head, EMPRES, AGAH Rome
National focal points	Abdulnaci Bulut (Turkey) Lasha Avaliani (Georgia) Zurab Rukhadze (Georgia) Satenik Kharatyan (Armenia) Tamilla Aliyeva (Azerbaijan)	Consultant NFA Consultant Consultant Consultant
National consultants:	Abdulnaci Bulut (Tur) Zurab Rukhadze (G) Satenik Kharatyan (Arm) Tamilla Aliyeva (Azb)	Consultant Consultant Consultant Consultant
ExCom oversight	J.Angot, U.Herzog	ExCom member (France; Austria)

3-Countries or partner organizations involved

- EuFMD member states (Direct Assistance) : Turkey, Georgia;
- Non EuFMD members(information gathering and WelNET)) : Armenia, Azerbaijan, (and possibly other countries in region including Iran, Russia);
- FAO and OIE (regional roadmap activities) and the EU (coordination of activities in Georgia).

4-Progress Report

Output 2.1.1 Member states (Turkey, Georgia) and immediate neighbours (Armenia, Azerbaijan), and other countries on request, achieve progress within their current Stage of the PCP and in their capacity to manage their programme, and evaluate the feasibility of achieving and maintaining higher stages.

Activity 2.1.1.1 : Assist with development of risk-based strategic plan (RBSP) in Armenia and Azerbaijan. Update of RBSP in Georgia

- The RBSPs of Azerbaijan and Armenia have been accepted, countries had their PCP-FMD Stage 2 confirmed during the 7th Regional FMD West Eurasia Roadmap meeting in Bishkek, 6-8 of April 2016.
- A specific session dedicated to the RBSPs have been organised during the Regional Workshop on FMD prevention and control carried out on 23-26 January 2017 in Georgia, Bazaleti. The RBSPs of Georgia, Azerbaijan and Armenia have been updated, the major amendments have been presented by the national consultants and discussed during the meeting.

Activity 2.1.1.2: Assist with establishment and implementation of monitoring of RBSP in Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan

- To follow up on the TransCaucasus Regional Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) Simulation Exercise carried out in July 2016, and the regional agreements on cooperation and information sharing made during the 84th General Session of the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), the TransCaucasus countries' (TCC), a Regional Workshop on FMD prevention and control was carried out on 23-27 January 2017 in Georgia, Bazaleti. Participants from neighbouring Turkey, Iran and Russian Federation were invited to participate on 23-24 January to discuss FMD situation in the region and to share information and monthly reporting with three TransCaucasus countries (Georgia, Azerbaijan and Armenia).
  The second part of the workshop (25-26 January) was dedicated to support of the TCC countries in FMD control:
  - Assistance in sero-surveillance planning for 2017, in analysis and interpretation of data and results obtained in recent serosurveys conducted in 2016.
    Amendments of Georgian control measures were proposed according to serosurveys results. Options to improve analysis and presentation of survey data were discussed and demonstrated. The outlines of the 2017 national sero-surveys were discussed. Countries also presented the major amendments of their national RBSPs. The priorities and needs of the TCC countries and TCC workplan for the first half of 2017 were discussed and agreed.
  - Discussion and agreement on the strategy for Racha-Lechkhumi region (Georgia) and Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic (Azerbaijan) to achieve Progressive Control Pathway (PCP) Stage 3. Azerbaijan and Georgia confirmed their willingness and commitment to progress to PCP Stage 3 for these zones. Clinical inspections, sero-surveys, awareness raising of animal owners and training of veterinarians in both countries, and risk-based vaccination in Georgia were discussed. The possibility two days TCC meeting on implementation of risk reduction in the FMD low risk zones, including field training in Racha-Lechkhumi, Georgia should be considered.

2.1.1.3 Assist with implementation of monitoring of RBSP and technical support for national epi-network in Turkey

- In January 2015, the General Directorate of Food and Control (GDFC) asked EUFMD to assist with further training in epidemiology to staff from regional institutes, as a step in further developing the Central Monitoring and Epidemiology Unit (CEMU) and epidemiology capacity in general. The development and delivery of 4 weeks training is funded by Comp 2.1 and partially from the training credits that Turkey receives as an EUFMD member state. GDFC covered all costs related to the trainees and training organisation. 4th week on outbreak investigation was conducted on 19-23th of September in Ankara.
- In May 2016 the EUFMD Executive Secretary Dr Keith Sumption met Dr Nihat Pakdil the Deputy Under-secretary of the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock of Turkey to discuss current situation and collaboration between EuFMD and the GDFC. Considering planned changes in FMD control strategy in Western Anatolia, including Marmara, Aegean regions and neighbouring provinces (55 provinces in total), GDFC has requested to organize a workshop for veterinarians from these provinces on practical implementation of the new FMD Risk-based strategy, developed based on the newly introduced zonal disease freedom policy. The Workshop on FMD risk reduction in the Western Anatolian Region of Turkey was organized on 21-25th of November 2016 by GDFC with the technical support of EuFMD experts, involving 110 veterinarians from 55 provinces of Turkey and representatives of Central Epidemiology and Monitoring Units and epidemiology units of Regional Veterinary Control and Research Institutes. The objectives of the Workshop were to:
    - Discuss and agree necessary activities for the Western Anatolian FMD control zone of Turkey to move to stage 3 of the Progressive Control Pathway for FMD Control (PCP);
    - Train participants in the changes of FMD control strategy and operational procedures required in the new zones;
    - Specify the FMD Risk-Based Strategic Plan for FMD Control (RBSP) for this FMD low risk zone and improve the awareness of the provincial veterinarians about this plan, furthermore to search for potential solutions for implementation, including awareness of livestock owners and traders and other actors in the livestock production and value chain;
    - Practice clinical surveillance, outbreak investigations and outbreak response needed in the intensified control zone;
    - Develop plans about clinical surveillance and outbreak investigations in this zone.
- During the workshop in Cesme on 21-25th of November 2016 GDFC requested EuFMD to jointly provide four separate Workshops on FMD control for 5 regions of Western Anatolia surveillance zone (Marmara, Aegean, Black sea, Central Anatolian and Mediterranean regions). The first and the second workshops on FMD Control and surveillance in the West Anatolia FMD Control Zone of Turkey took place on 7-10th and 13-16th of February in Ankara. In the first workshop 22 provincial veterinarians participated from the 11 provinces of İstanbul, Kocaeli, Sakarya, Düzce, Bilecik, Yalova, Bursa, Balıkesir, Çanakkale, Bolu and Eskişehir; and in the second workshop 22 veterinarians from another 11 provinces: İzmir, Manisa, Kütahya, Uşak, Aydın, Denizli, Muğla, Afyon, Burdur, Isparta and Antalya. The members of central epidemiology group participated in both workshops.
  The main objective of the workshops was to raise awareness, preparedness and capacity of the provincial veterinarians to control FMD in order to make further progress in the PCP in the FMD control zone.
  The main topics covered during these workshops focused on:

    - Turkish Risk Based Strategic Plan (RBSP)
    - FMD Outbreak investigation
    - FMD clinical surveillance
    - FMD outbreak management
    - Biosecurity

  The workshops were conducted using interactive presentations, practical field work, group exercises and discussions. Participants from both workshops showed high interest in the topics and their practical application, and

found the workshop useful for their responsibilities in improved FMD control in the FMD Control Zone. GDFC and EuFMD considered the training objectives achieved.
The 3rd workshop is planned to be carried out on 14 – 17 March and the 4th on 28 – 31 March 2017 in Ankara.
It has been agreed that a protocol is drafted by GDFC with assistance from EuFMD for outbreak and clinical investigations in the FMD control zone until the end of the 4th workshop. This included the drafting of outbreak and clinical investigation forms.

Activity 2.1.1.4 Assist component 1.8

- The focal points from Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Turkey and Iran agreed to gather and provide necessary information on meat prices, when requested. The start of activity has to be coordinated with 1.8 Component Manager.

Output 2: Regional Capacity to manage the FMD risks is improved through development of regional expertise in epidemiology and laboratory disciplines to support the PCP and on management of control programs, and by regional networking to support better information exchange between risk managers in the West Eurasia Roadmap countries, as well as in Europe and beyond.

Activity 2.1.2.1 Support better information exchange between risk managers in the West Eurasia Roadmap countries

- The meeting held, during the 84th General Session of the OIE on the 25 May 2016 "Regional cooperation between Transcaucasia and neighbouring countries in the prevention and control of Foot-and-Mouth disease (FMD) and other major epizootic transboundary diseases". The objective of the meeting was to discuss the possible establishment of cooperation between TransCaucasus (Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan) and neighbouring countries (Turkey, Iran, Russia) aimed to improve the collaboration and coordination for the prevention and control of FMD and other epizootic transboundary diseases. Representatives of EuFMD, OIE, FAO and European Commission (DG-SANTE) were present during the meeting. The main output was an agreed "Statement of Intentions". Four of the eight "Intentions" agreed in Paris concerned improved sharing of disease information and vaccination programmes. In the interim, until better solutions are found, the EuFMD requested from the six countries a monthly report to be provided by the 10th of each Month. Monthly reporting by the countries (Iran, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Armenia) started in October 2016. First report from Russian Federation has been received in February 2016, the report from Turkey is pending.
- The Regional Workshop on FMD prevention and control was carried out on 23-27 January 2017 in Georgia, Bazaleti. Participants from neighbouring Turkey, Iran and Russian Federation were invited to participate on 23-24 January to discuss the FMD situation in the region, share information and monthly reporting with three TransCaucasus countries (Georgia, Azerbaijan and Armenia). Representatives from OIE/GFTADs Working Group were present during two days dedicated to information share and regional epidemiology and laboratory networks (Welnet and Epi-net). Agreements on sharing information were the following:

    - It was confirmed that countries will report on monthly basis, except the Russian Federation, which suggested to report on quarterly basis only according to their internal rules of reporting. Russian Federation reported in February.
    - Information to be shared through the database: outbreaks and suspicion reporting and vaccination coverage (on district level). Reports on Non-Structural Protein (NSP) and Structural Protein (SP) will be shared through Epi-net leader in a form of report, including information regarding sero-survey design. the Epi-net forum created on the page of West Eurasia network in the EuFMD e-Learning website can be used as the mean to share essential information. The database has to be self-sustainable and flexible and can be managed by the countries. Considering these requirements the option that database could be based on Google Fusion, Google Maps and Google Spreadsheets software was agreed as the most suitable one.

- The draft Excel format for monthly reporting was developed and agreed during the workshop for vaccination and outbreaks reporting. It was sent to the countries for further consultation regarding locality names and other details to create the templates. Vaccination data was agreed to be reported on the district level, including Iran which was sending information on epi unit level.
- Iran, Turkey and Russian Federation have confirmed that, according to the statement of intention from May 2015, they share information only about bordering area. TCC countries and Russian Federation will immediately notified in case of outbreak or suspicion, while Iran and Turkey will insert outbreaks information in the bordering area on monthly basis.
- Electronic Integrated Disease Surveillance System (EIDSS) is fully operational in Azerbaijan and Georgia and is pending official permission in Armenia. It has to be investigated if existing data on vaccination and outbreaks can be extracted automatically from EIDSS to facilitate data share by the countries. It was agreed with Black and Veatch (Defense Threat Reduction Agency - DTRA subcontractor for Cooperative Biological Engagement Program - CBEP) representative that the agreed excel format will be sent to them for evaluation of possibility for automatic extraction for Azerbaijan and Georgia.

Activity 2.1.2.2. Development of regional expertise in epidemiology and laboratory disciplines

- Since November 2015 EuFMD launched a series of webinars "Practical FMD Management Webinar Series". This webinar series brings together practitioners from EuFMD Member States, Europe and neighbouring countries, Balkans, Thrace and West Eurasia involved in FMD preparedness, surveillance, control and eradication. The webinars are organized within the framework of the EuFMD Contingency Planning network and West Eurasia networks. To date, a total of nine webinars have been delivered in English followed by same-topic in Russian language, except several of them, specifically designated to West Eurasia Networks. During the reporting period the following webinar have been delivered in Russian and English languages:
  - Measures in case of disease confirmation – killing and disposal of carcasses.

  All records of the webinars are available at the EuFMD e-learning website under the West Eurasia Webinar series page. Forum to discuss webinar series with possibility to make additional questions to presenters have been created within the page.
- In response to the request for assistance from Kyrgyzstan during The 7th FMD roadmap meeting for West Eurasia was held from 6th to 8th April 2016 in Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan) and following request from GF-TADs FMD Working Group, EuFMD provided technical support to Kyrgyzstan to complete their RBSP. The workshop on RBSP Development was carried out on 3-6th of October at the Ministry of Agriculture of Kyrgyzstan in Bishkek. The purpose of the workshop was to assist the Veterinary Services of Kyrgyzstan with the development of a national RBSP for FMD that broaden stakeholders' acceptability and to comply with requirements of the GF-TADS FMD working group regarding the documentation to enter into PCP Stage 2. Kyrgyzstan submitted RBSP for attention the GF-TADS FMD working group in January 2017.
- Organisation of FITC (FMD Field Investigation Training Course) in Turkish language, adapted for endemic countries from FEPC (FMD Emergency Preparedness Course). The preliminary dates agreed are 1-31st of May and Central Epidemiology and Monitoring Unit (CEMU) will be responsible for organisation from Turkish side. Around 180 Turkish provincial veterinarians are planned to be involved. The course will be also used for communication and networking between GDFC and provincial veterinarians to update on new requirements for changed FMD control strategy. GDFC has been requested to assign at least one leading technical expert-trainer and two trainers/facilitators for assistance in delivery of the course.
- Steps forward for development of the Regional networks: Epi-net and Welnet in support of better information share have been discussed during the Regional Workshop on FMD prevention and control in Georgia, Bazaleti . The upcoming meeting dedicated to the West Eurasia Networks was announced by OIE representative Laure Weber-Vintzel. TCC countries, Turkey and Iran are ready to take an active role during their meeting and share their experience with other members of West Eurasia Networks. EuFMD West Eurasia Networks e-learning page and Knowledge Bank could be used for online support of networks members communication and share of information and different materials.
- The "First Regional West Eurasia FMD Epidemiology and Laboratory Networks Meeting" is planned to be organised in Tbilisi, Georgia on 11-14 April, 2017. The aim to support sustainable regional networks development, to promote technical discussions and coordination to address existing gaps in regional FMD control, as well as to consolidate on the

past activities and recommendations from the West Eurasia Roadmap meetings. It has been decided by GFTADS Working Group that the West Eurasia Roadmap meeting will be organised next year in 2018. EuFMD experts will provide assistance in preparation and delivery of the workshop.

5-Issues for Executive Committee attention

Turkey:

- The new Strategic Plan for the West Anatolia FMD Control Zone, which is a part of an Agricultural Development Plan ordered by the President and launched by the Prime Minister in 2016. The FMD Strategic Plan separates Anatolian Turkey into a western (FMD Control Zone, containing 55 provinces) and to an eastern part. The strategic goal of the plan is that Turkish Thrace becomes free without vaccination, the FMD Control Zone becomes free with vaccination by 2019 and entire Anatolian Turkey becomes free with vaccination by 2023. The Risk-Based Strategic Plan for Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease" prepared in English by EuFMD, GDFC and the SAP Institute will be updated according the new FMD control strategy by April 2017.
- Situation in Turkey remains unstable, structural changes in GDFC are ongoing. The head of GDFC is not officially appointed, Dr. Nihat Pakdil is temporary back as acting Director General. The Central Epidemiology and Monitoring Unit and Epidemiology Network, represented by the staff from Regional Institutes are operational and actively involved in implementation of the new FMD control strategy in Turkey.
- In Turkey currently circulating-O PanAsiaII/Qom; A (Asia/GVII-SAM16 – new sub-genetic clade). Antigenic characterisation showed that the new clade doesn't match the vaccine GVII strain used in Turkey .The new vaccine has been formulated in November-December, containing GVII previously circulating and as well as the new clade of G-VII (Asia/GVII-SAM16) and O PanAsiaII/Qom. The vaccination campaign with the new vaccine has been started in January.

Georgia:

- Dr Mikheil Sokhadze resigned from CVO position. Currently, the new CVO is not officially appointed.

TransCaucasus countries:

- An incursion of new serotype A (Genotype VII) strains of FMD to the region and their current circulation in the countries bordering with TransCaucasus. Discussion on situation with G-VII and availability of vaccines containing strains currently circulating in the region and upcoming vaccine tenders was raised by the countries during the EuFMD workshop in Bazaleti, Georgia. It has been recommended by Naci Bulut to ensure that purchased vaccine contains O PanAsiaII and effective against the new clade of GVII, which has been detected in the provinces close to the borders. SAP Institute has the capacity to participate in the tenders of TCC countries and provide necessary amount of vaccine.

West Eurasia:

- During the Regional Workshop on FMD prevention and control in Bazaleti ,OIE representative Laure Weber-Vintzel announced the idea of GF-TADs Working group to organize the West Eurasia Roadmap meeting every 2 years, instead of yearly basis and in between to conduct meetings dedicated more to discussions of the technical issues. In between Roadmaps consultation and assessment of the countries aiming at progressing in PCP stage (Kyrgyzstan this year) can be done online. This year it is planned to dedicate the meeting to West Eurasia networks.

- There is a need for further development of the West Eurasia database for visualisation of Georgia, Turkey, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Iran and Russian Federation monthly reporting on vaccination and outbreaks, based on Google Fusion, Google Maps and Google Spreadsheets software. It is planned that the data will be uploaded directly by the users. Up to date it was possible to upload only monthly reporting data of Azerbaijan, Armenia and Georgia to Empres-i West Eurasia Database (it is currently done at HQ in Rome).

6-Priorities

Turkey:

- Continue delivery of remained 2 workshops on FMD Control and surveillance in the West Anatolia FMD Control Zone of Turkey.
- Follow-up surveillance strategy in FMD Control Zone and new RBSP
- Organisation of FITC online course for Turkey

Georgia and neighbours:

- Moving to the establishment of PCP stage 3 zones in Racha-Lechkhumi-Kvem Svaneti region (RLKS) of Georgia and Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic (NAR) of Azerbaijan. TCC meeting on implementation of risk reduction in the FMD low risk zones, including field training in Racha-Lechkhumi.

West Eurasia:

- Continue with Practical Management Webinar series. Develop West Eurasia Networks e-learning page as a mean for better information exchange in the region and communication between experts and participants.
- Support to GFTADs working group in organisation and delivery of the Regional West Eurasia FMD Epidemiology and Laboratory Networks Meeting" in Tbilisi, Georgia on 11-14 April, 2017.
- Further support of Epi-net and Welnet development
- Follow-up on a development of regional database.

7-Gantt charts – Planned, and Progress Update/revised program

2.1 South East Europe	OUTPUT 2.1 South East Europe: better FMD management in Turkey and neighbours		YEAR 1												YEAR 2											
	Target (Expected Result)	**Activities**	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S
	2.1.1 MS (Turkey , Georgia) and immediate neighbours (Armenia, Azerbaijan), and other countries on request, achieve progress within their current Stage of the PCP and their capacity to manage their programme and evaluate the feasibility of achieving and maintaining higher stages	2.1.1.1 Assist with dev. of risk-based strategic plan (RBSP) in Armenia and Azerbaijan. Update of RBSP in Georgia																								
		2.1.1.2 Assist with establishment and implementation of monitoring of RBSP in Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan																								
		2.1.1.3 Assist with implementation of monitoring of RBSP and technical support for national epi-network in Turkey																								
		2.1.1.4 Assist component 1.8 in meat price monitoring systems																								
	2.1.2 Regional Capacity to manage the FMD risks is improved through dev. of regional expertise in epidemiology and laboratory disciplines to support the PCP and on management of control programs, and regional networking to support better information exchange between risk managers in the West Eurasia Roadmap countries, as well as in Europe and beyond	2.1.2.1 Support better information exchange between risk managers in the West Eurasia Roadmap countries																								
		2.1.2.2 Dev. of regional expertise in epidemiology and laboratory disciplines																								

PROGRESS UPDATE AND REVISED PROGRAM (91st Session, February 2016)			Year 1												YEAR 2												
Out put	**Activity**		O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	Comments
2.1.1	2.1.1.1 Assist with dev. of risk-based strategic plan (RBSP) in Armenia and Azerbaijan. Update of RBSP in Georgia			X																							RBSPs Azerbaijan and Armenia accepted during West Eurasia Roadmap meeting April 2016. RBSPs Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan updated in January 2017
	2.1.1.2 Assist with establishment and implementation of monitoring of RBSP in Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan	TCC Serosurvey workshop		X																							Completed. Further assistance in serosurveillance design on distance and during Workshop carried out in January 2017
		Regional Sim exercise										X															
		Regional workshop on surveillance and informational share																X									Completed in January 2017
	2.1.1.3 Assist with implementation of monitoring of RBSP and technical support for national epi-network in Turkey	Practical Epidemiology training	X					X		X				X													Completed in September 2016 Completed in November 2016
		Workshop on clinical surveillance (Marmara and Aegean regions)														X											
		Workshops on FMD Control and surveillance in the West Anatolia FMD Control Zone																	X	X							2 Workshop carried out in February 2017, 2 are planned for March
	2.1.1.4 Assist component 1.8 in meat price monitoring systems																	X									Agreement Iran, Turkey, and TCC countries focal points to collect meat prices info
2.1.2	2.1.2.1 Support better information exchange between risk managers in the West Eurasia Roadmap countries	Welnet online meetings			X		X															X					
		WestEurasia Roadmap							X												X						
	2.1.2.2 Dev. of regional expertise in epidemiology and laboratory disciplines	Webinar series		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					Ongoing Webinar series FEPC e-learning in turkish
		FEPC in Turkish													X							X					
		Online course in Russian																							X		

8- Budget (€)

Total Budget Allowance	17 month Expenses Oct. 16 -March 17	% project completion	Actual available (20 months activities 2016 - 2017)
€ 380,785.00	189,723.00	50%	191,0620

EuFMD Phase IV

Report to the EuFMD Executive

Period October 2016 – March 2017

Component *2.2* – *South East Mediterranean*

Pillar Manager: Keith Sumption

Component Supervisor: Keith Sumption

Component Manager: Kees van Maanen

Reporting: Kees van Maanen

Focal point Executive Ctte: Jean-Luc Angot

2.2 South East Mediterranean

OBJECTIVE: better FMD management in the neighbourhood of Cyprus and Israel

OUTPUTS (EXPECTED RESULTS):

1. Risk-based Strategy Plans (RBSP) adopted, implemented and monitored in Egypt
2. Risk-based Strategy Plans (RBSP) adopted, implemented and monitored in Palestine and Israel;
3. Risk-based Strategy Plans developed and PCP-FMD progress achieved in Jordan and Lebanon;
4. System in place to provide improved disease risk information through networking for better information exchange to managers of countries under this component for planning risk-based FMD control re: risk-based surveillance, risk-based vaccination programmes and vaccine selection for the threats from particularly bordering areas in the Middle-East and sub-Saharan East Africa.

DIRECTLY INVOLVED BENEFICIARIES*:* Israel, Cyprus, Palestine, Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan.

RESOURCE BASE

HR: HQ operational costs are identified and for support of activities under Pillar II 2 STPs have been selected.

€ 206,324 *Agreed at ExCom 90*

Budget for Activities (EC - TF): *excludes HQ based support services/costs.*
€ 175,239

2-Project team

Role	*Name*	*Status*
Component Supervisor	Keith Sumption	Executive Secretary, Secretariat
Component manager	Kees van Maanen	EuFMD consultant
Other EuFMD team members	Chris Bartels, Melissa McLaws, Nick Lyons	Consultants
Regional and National consultants:	Khawla Salem al Njoum (FAO Jerusalem)	FAO support to Palestine
National focal points		
Israel	Nadav Galon	CVO Israel
Palestine	Iyad Adra	CVO Palestine
Egypt	Mohamed Atea	Deputy CVO Egypt
EARLN	Sabenzia Wekesa	EARLN Coordinator
ExCom oversight	Jean-Luc Angot	Executive Committee (France)

3-Countries or partner organizations involved

The activities will be mainly implemented in Israel and Cyprus as EuFMD members and in Palestine, Egypt, Lebanon and Jordan as neighbouring countries.

The EuFMD will work in coordination with FAO offices in Jerusalem and Cairo, and with approval from OIE Beirut and GfTADS' approval of the East African Regional Laboratory Network (EARLN).

4a-Progress against indicators

						MILESTONE VALUE DEFINITION FOR INDICATOR							
Activities (ex Targets)	Indicators	Baseline September 2015	Target 2 years	Unit of measure	MOV	1-4-2016	1-10-2016	1-4-2017	1-10-2017	1-4-2018	1-10-2018	1-4-2019	Current Status (per April 1st 2017)
2.2.1 Support to implementation and monitoring of FMD Risk Based Strategic Plan in Egypt	Number of countries in region with a Risk Based Strategic Plan that has been accepted by GF-TADs FMD Working Group. These countries should be implementing the control plan together with its monitoring and evaluation system.	1 (Egypt)	4 (Egypt, Palestine, Jordan, Lebanon)	Number of countries	Reports of the GF-TADS Regional Roadmap meetings.	1	1	2	4	4	4	4	2
2.2.2. Assist the finalization and implementation and monitoring of the RBSP in Palestine and Israel													
2.2.3 Assist development of Risk based Strategic Plans in Jordan and Lebanon													
2.2.4 Assist networking through online meetings and sharing of FMD information to risk managers of countries under this component	Participation level from at least 6 countries in the region in online training courses	0	140 participations over 2 years, involving 6 countries	Number of regional participations in online meetings	EuFMD e-learning management module	0	0	70	140	140	140	140	0

- With respect to output 2.2.1 in line with the original planning for two countries (Egypt and Palestine) RBSPs have been realised, whereas Jordan and Lebanon are still in the process of developing RBSPs. It is expected that this will not be finished by 1-10-2017, but by 1-4-2018.
- Wit respect to output 2.2.4 an LoA has been signed between EuFMD and JUST and the first FITC course is planned for medio April 2017 with the intention to enrol > 100 participants from 6 different countries. So the realisation is slightly behind schedule.

4b-Progress Report

Output 1. Risk-based Strategy Plans (RBSP) adopted, implemented and monitored in Egypt

EuFMD has been working for many years in Egypt to progress FMD control. EUFMD has supported the veterinary services of Egypt in reviewing the FMD control strategy and Egypt has finalized a risk-based strategy plan (RBSP) for FMD control. This RBSP has been presented during the Third Regional meeting of the FMD Control Roadmap for the Middle East in Doha, Qatar, 1-2 December 2015. Egypt has been assessed by the Regional Advisory Group to be in PCP stage 2. Egypt produces reports with relevant data of passive and active surveillance activities, although with some delays and not yet on a monthly basis. Under this component regularly sample shipments to WRLFMD in Pirbright are organized and funded, for the last shipment in the second half of 2016 the results illustrated the predominance of African O EA-3 strains, the absence of O Ind2001 strains and the continued presence of SAT2 and A Africa strains.

EuFMD support for 2015-2017 has been delayed because of the previously reported problems to find a feasible solution between LLNL/US-DOS and FAO for (sub)contracting the activities that were agreed upon. In the meantime a solution has been found by (sub)contracting the LLNL/US-DOS funded activities to a private company (Animal Health Works). These externally funded activities particularly relate to expenses in relation to training (accommodation, travel expenses, meals), vaccine quality assessment (expert consultation), support to regional collaboration and extended expert support to the General Organisation of Veterinary Services (GOVS) and the Animal Health Research Institute (AHRI) in the field of M&E. The contribution of EuFMD for the activities in Egypt is related to consultancies providing training and expertise.

A real-time ToT training course on outbreak investigation has been carried out in January 2017 guided by two experienced EuFMD trainers and this course has been adopted and carried out already six times now by Egyptian trainers. EuFMD staff have joined the 6th training course in March 2017 to observe this cascade training, learn lessons from it and advise and encourage the Egyptian Veterinary Services. A training course on advanced outbreak investigation was planned for end of March 2017, but had to be rescheduled because the Egyptian

coordinator of the courses passed away. This course is rescheduled now for July 2017. A vaccine audit has been scheduled for April 2017 with two international experts in FMD vaccine production and we are in the process of recruiting senior Arabic speaking epidemiology and laboratory experts for a more substantial support to GOVS and AHRI, amongst others to improve the internal processes, data flow and data analysis.

The current FMD situation in Egypt is a point of concern. Since farmers have to pay for the FMD vaccinations the vaccination coverage seems to have dropped significantly and many outbreaks are reported not to speak about those that are not reported. There are also serious doubts with respect to the current capacities and capabilities for FMD diagnosis in AHRI.

Output 2. Risk-based Strategy Plans (RBSP) adopted, implemented and monitored in Palestine and Israel

The RBSP has been finished and a mission on Monitoring and Evaluation of the RBSP has been carried out. As one of the outputs of this mission the Palestinian VS were strongly encouraged to produce monthly reports as being produced now in Egypt, but until now this has not been realized on a regular basis. Also a laboratory assistance mission was carried out recently to train and implement SPCE ELISAs for the measurement of type-specific antibodies against structural proteins of FMDV. These tests have been used for post vaccination monitoring. Also type-specific real-time PCRs have been implemented and validated. Regularly feedback is given to the Central Veterinary Laboratory in Al Aroub and EuFMD consultants are also involved in other FAO projects in the West Bank with the aim to develop RBSPs for several other priority diseases.

As part of the RBSP, it will be important to define a risk-based strategy for use of the available vaccine, so that the vaccine has the greatest possible effect on reducing the impact of FMD. In January 2017 a joint Israeli-Palestinian workshop has been organized on risk based surveillance, risk based vaccination and post vaccination monitoring. The workshop was generously hosted by the Kimron Veterinary Institute in Beit Dagan, Israel, and facilitated by the FAO office in Jerusalem. Two experienced EuFMD trainers worked together with 14 participants (2 participants from the Gaza Strip, 4 participants from the West Bank, 6 participants from Israel and 2 participants from the local FAO office. Many subjects were discussed and the workshop was experienced by all as fruitful and productive event, and has contributed to better communication and transparency between the parties with respect to FMD and hopefully also other TADs. Just before the start of the workshop an FMD outbreak was reported in a Kibbutz dairy farm 4 km from the border with the Gaza strip and it became clear that outbreaks had been going on in the Gaza strip for several weeks already. The virus was rapidly identified and characterized and appeared to be FMDV/O/EA-3 which is dominant in Egypt. The hypothesis is that this virus has arrived in the Gaza Strip through transport of animals from Egypt by tunnels. This situation gave a “perfect” real life background to discuss passive and active surveillance and risk based vaccination.

Output 3. Risk-based Strategy Plans developed and PCP-FMD progress achieved in Jordan and Lebanon

In order to develop Risk-based Strategic Plans workshops have been planned with focal points of Jordan and Lebanon. It was decided to plan three workshops in each country to assist these countries with the development of a RBSP. It was also decided not to organize joined workshops, but to work separately with each of the countries. In Jordan the first workshop has been carried out in April 2016 by EuFMD consultants Kees van Maanen and Mounir Khayli and a second workshop has been carried out in November 2016 guided by the same consultants. A third workshop has provisionally been planned for May 2017. Risks of incursion of new FMD strains in Jordan by uncontrolled animal movement (illegal movement from Syria for cattle/calves/small ruminants) and official movement from other neighbourhood countries with health certificates may be considerable. There is a lack of data available on livestock markets, but there is an animal identification system for sheep, goats, cattle and camels. Vaccination coverage is estimated to be higher than 80% in cattle (80,000

doses of vaccine used in 2015 for 60,000 cattle, so not all cattle are vaccinated twice per year) and less than 30% for small ruminants (1.5 million doses of vaccine used in 2015 for around 3 million small ruminants).

In the first two workshops the structure and contents of the RBSP have been explained, value chains, risk hotspots and pathways were developed and evaluated and priority risk pathways were refined. For each risk pathway a qualitative risk assessment was made for the different steps in the risk pathway and intervention options identified for the high risks. Also a start was made with the development of chapter 3 of the RBSP and goal, strategic objective, component objectives and tactics were identified. The main themes were improving veterinary services, reducing spread within Jordan and reducing introductions into Jordan. Also the concepts of results based management were explained and discussed with an emphasis on indicators, targets, means of verification and baseline information.

A large serosurveillance study has been carried out in Jordan accompanied by a socio-economic study. A technical report of this study will be prepared by Dr Majed Hawaosha (Head of Animal Health Division – Ministry of Agriculture in Jordan) with support of JUST teaching staff. A document is still needed describing results from outbreak investigations. This will outline epidemiological and laboratory results relative to the outbreaks discovered in field investigations. The importance of highlighting a clear case definition and the need to consider the clinical and epidemiological findings in conjunction with the laboratory findings was emphasized.

The Central Veterinary Laboratory staff of the virology unit was trained in several FMD diagnostic tests (Ag serotyping ELISA, SPCE ELISAs for detection of SP antibodies against FMD serotypes A and O, pan FMD PCR). Staff was already competent to perform ELISAs and PCRs and were eager to learn and implement new methods. Also the interpretation of test results was extensively discussed.

In Lebanon the first workshop was carried out in June 2016 by EuFMD consultants Chris Bartels and Mounir Khayli. The focus of this mission was on zooming out of the veterinary field and to consider the various livestock production systems present in Lebanon. Understanding these livestock production systems through analysis of the value chains for a range of animal products (beef, dairy, sheep) allowed to clearly identify the private and public stakeholders involved and next to superimpose risks of FMD introduction and FMD spread across the value chains. The third step was to elaborate on identified risks through the construction of risk pathways to support risk estimation and prioritization. This step will help to define a risk-based strategy plan based on the risks that are ranked highest.Since 2010, no clinical FMD cases have been reported by Lebanon and it is unknown to what extent notifications of FMD have been received and concluded negative. However, the changes that Lebanese livestock are without FMD virus circulation are small because of the following reasons: 1)there is an endemic situation in the Middle East and large number of unregistered livestock move from neighbouring countries into Lebanon; 2)Lebanon imports large quantities of livestock from overseas. These imports are considered to originate from OIE-declared FMD-free countries, however there was information about imports from countries such as Turkey, Georgia and Moldavia that do not have such health status; 3)Introduction of FMD viruses may happen through the numerous foreign workers from the Asian sub-continent (Pakistan, Bangladesh and India). In the spirit of the PCP-FMD, the first priority for Lebanon is to provide evidence of the assumed absence of FMD virus circulation through conducting a number of sero-surveys (discussed/designed during this workshop). If these surveys support the absence of FMD virus circulation, the focus of a FMD control plan shifts to risk analysis of introduction through the three routes described above and developing contingency plans. However, if these surveys show evidence for virus circulation, more intensive surveillance on FMD occurrence and its risks of transmission are needed to support identification of risk hotspots. The follow up on this workshop is for the participants to elaborate on the situation analysis in Lebanon, including aspects of livestock distribution and seasonal movements, risk hotspots and their pathways and the identification of gaps and needs with the Veterinary Services for their role in controlling FMD. A second workshop was planned for October 2016, but had to be delayed. This workshop still has to be planned, hopefully it can be carried out in April or May 2017.

Output 4. System in place to provide improved disease risk information through networking for better information exchange to managers of countries under this component for planning risk-based FMD control re: risk-based surveillance, risk-based vaccination programmes and vaccine selection for the threats from particularly bordering areas in the Middle-East and sub-Saharan East Africa

EuFMD produces the Global Monthly Report (GMR). For this report many sources are used and information is also received from a number of focal contact persons. The GMR adds to the quarterly and annual WRLFMD reports, and – since it is on a monthly basis – provides more real-time information. Guest editors contribute significantly to the interpretation of relevant events stressing the highlights of that particular month and placing it in a broader context. The timely information sharing of the new type A/ASAI/Genotype VII strain by all involved is exemplary including the relatively rapid generation of vaccine matching results. The information has been shared through GMRs and online meetings and directly by the WRLFMD representing the FAO/OIE FMD laboratory network. Also the available and already published information regarding the predominance of FMDV/O/EA-3 in Egypt and access to the most recent information from GOVS and AHRI in Egypt enabled EuFMD consultants to correctly predict the topotype and lineage of the FMD virus responsible for recent outbreaks in the Gaza strip and Israel and inform the Israeli and Palestinian authorities already about available vaccine matching information in collaboration with WRLFMD in Pirbright.

In the GMR clearly the gaps in virological surveillance in pools 4 and 5 are illustrated. Some budget is available for facilitating shipments from countries representing putative threats from particularly bordering areas in the Middle-East and sub-Saharan East Africa. Under component 3.3 also funds are available to encourage improved virological surveillance by training in early warning, notification, outbreak investigation and sample transport and to support shipments from RSLs in pools 4 and 5.

Under component 2.2.4 missions have been planned to Ethiopia and Sudan, on request of these countries and in consultation and collaboration with the local/regional FAO offices. These missions will respectively be carried out in April and May 2017.

Virtual networking through webinars and online meetings will be organised in connection with similar activities that have started already under component 2.3 REMESA with a focus on the NENA countries. These webinars will we organised in Arabic and/or English. Therefore a Letter of Agreement (LoA) has been signed between EuFMD/FAO and the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) with several objectives related to virtual networking and continuous professional education. As a first output a FMD Investigation Training Course (FITC) will be organized between mid April and mid May 2017 (course ends before the start of Ramadan) with three professors/experts of JUST involved in collaboration with EuFMD experts. The course will be organized in a mix of Arabic and English and the intention is to enrol at least 100 participants from Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Egypt, Libya and Syria in the course.

5-Issues for Executive Committee attention arising during implementation

- In Egypt activities have started again, but the current FMD situation in the country is a point of concern. The vaccine is no longer supplied for free and vaccination coverage has dropped dramatically. Also the management and performance of the virology department within AHRI is a point of concern. Since Egypt is part of two FMD pools and on a crucial crossway between Africa and the Middle East EuFMD should definitely continue and maybe extend her activities in Egypt.
- A joined steering committee for Israel and Palestine has appeared not to be feasible until now and is not considered a realistic ambition anymore for this phase of the program. However, a joint workshop that was recently organized was a success and all parties are open to continue such activities.

- Despite the two workshops organized in Jordan the government still is reluctant to be more transparent about the FMD situation. Export policies are involved and we cannot speak yet of a transparent and enabling environment. Also a recent PVS mission has formulated several points of concern. The activities in Jordan should continue in the next phase of the program.

- For Lebanon only one workshop has been organized until now and planning of a second workshop is not easy. The Lebanese suggestion that FMD is circulating at a very low level and that the country or zones within the country may even be free with vaccination will have to be substantiated by the proposed serosurveillance studies. With all the refugees from Syria and the continuing conflict there the situation, also with respect to TADs, should be judged as volatile and unpredictable.

6-Priorities for the next six months

- Continue the EuFMD support to several training activities in Egypt (carried out under a AHW/LLNL contract)
- Continuing PCP/RBSP work in Jordan
- Continuing PCP/RBSP work in Lebanon
- Implementing the activities described in the LoA between EuFMD and JUST with the following outputs:
  - FMD Investigation Training Course adapted to the Near East/North East African context and delivered to 120 participants from NENA countries (more specifically Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Egypt, Libya and Syria);
  - Recommendations for improving FMD preparedness related training methodology and national level training for official veterinarians in the above mentioned NENA countries produced;
  - Training material for private veterinarians, animal health workers and farmers on biosecurity and notification of FMD outbreaks produced;
  - A 4-hour long pilot on-line course for private veterinarians, animal health workers and farmers developed and delivered;

7-Areas that require more attention in the next 24 month period

- Continued support to Egypt (passive and active surveillance, laboratory support, regular shipments to Pirbright, risk based vaccination and post vaccination monitoring, vaccine effectiveness studies)
- Continued support to Jordan (passive and active surveillance, laboratory support, regular shipments to Pirbright, risk based vaccination and post vaccination monitoring, vaccine effectiveness studies)
- Support for Lebanon to be specified after serosurveillance studies and second workshop have been carried out and results analysed.
- Organize more joint Israeli-Palestinian workshops to discuss technical subjects of mutual interest related to FMD and other TADs as a means to improve communication and understanding.
- Continued and intensified collaboration with JUST in Jordan as a focal point for CPD and virtual networking in the NENA region

7-Gantt charts – Planned program (olivegreen) and progress update/revised (shading/darkgreen for rescheduling) program

2.2 South East Mediterranean	OUTPUT 2.2 SEM better FMD management in the neighbourhood of Cyprus and Israel		YEAR 1												YEAR 2											
	Target (Expected Result)	Activities	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S
	2.2.1 Risk Based Strategic Plans (RBSP) adopted and PCP progress achieved in countries neighbouring to Israel, including Palestine, Egypt, Jordan and Lebanon	2.2.1.1a) Training of Trainers (TOT) on outbreak investigation and follow-up of TOT																								
		2.2.1.1b) Training on advanced outbreak investigation																								
		2.2.1.1c) Training on local response in case of FMD outbreak (Note this activity is dependent on contribution to funding provided by Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, USA)																								
		2.2.1.2 Establishing M&E mechanism at GOVS																								
		2.2.1.3 Vaccine quality audit (Note this activity is dependent on contribution to funding provided by Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, USA)																								
		2.2.1.4 Regional technical meeting (Note this activity is dependent on contribution to funding provided by Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, USA)																								

	2.2.1.5 Support to Animal Health Research Institute (Note this activity is dependent on contribution to funding provided by Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, USA)																								
2.2.2 Coordination framework in place to facilitate communication, review and guide upon activity implementation nationally and regionally, including the establishment of a system to improve planning of surveillance measures aimed improving confidence in disease detection and/or freedom (as applicable) in the neighbourhood	2.2.2.1 Finalization of risk-based strategy plan in Palestine																								
	2.2.2.2 Establishing M&E mechanism on implementation and impact of RBSP																								
	2.2.2.3 Support to Central Veterinary Laboratory Al Aroub and to Polytechnic University Hebron																								
	2.2.2.4 Workshops on RBS and risk-based vaccination																								
	2.2.2.5 Steering committee convened and regular meetings held																								
2.2.3 Risk-based Strategy Plans dev. and PCP-FMD progress achieved in Jordan and Lebanon	2.2.3.1 Needs assessment prior to missions																								
	2.2.3.2 Provision of training and support																								
2.2.4 System in place to provide improved disease risk information through networking for better information exchange to managers of countries under this component for planning risk-based FMD control	2.2.4.1 Implementation of a lab& epi –network																								
	2.2.4.2 Sample submission from regions posing risk to Israel supported																								
	2.2.4.3 Information on disease risk collated and communicated to risk managers in this region																								
Target (Expected Result)	**Activities**	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	

Budget

Component 2.2 Budget

Total Budget Allowance	17 month Expenses Oct. 15 -Mar. 17	% project completion	Actual available (17 months activities 2016 and 2017)
€ 175,239	€ 96,656	55%	€ 78,583

Additional contributions to this component (not included in above table):

Description	*Contribution*	*Funding source*
Funding from US-DOS for training activities in Egypt (contributes to activities under 2.2.1.1)	**Total value of funding: $158,575**	United States Department of Security

EuFMD Phase IV
Component 2.3:
Support to REMESA

Pillar Manager: Keith Sumption:

Component Manager: Fabrizio Rosso-Karima Ouali

Reporting: Karima Ouali

Focal point Executive Ctte: Jean-Luc Angot

The 12 Components

1.1 Real Time Training
1.2 Contingency Plans and Decision Support Training
1.3 Thrace Programme for early warning surveillance in the Thrace region of Greece/Bulgaria/Turkey
1.4 Balkans
1.5 Research Funding
1.6 Crisis Management
1.7 Proficiency test services
2.1 South East Europe: Turkey, Georgia and neighbours
2.2 South East Mediterranean: Israel, Cyprus
2.3 Remesa
3.1 Support to Global Progress Monitoring of FMD Control programmes
3.2 Progressive Control Pathway
3.3 Global Laboratory

2.3 SUPPORT TO REMESA

OBJECTIVE: Assist national FMD risk management as part of the REMESA action plan

OUTPUTS (EXPECTED RESULTS):

1. Progress to develop, adopt and implement Risk Based Strategic Plans for FMD control in Libya and Mauritania, and capacity to achieve and maintain PCP Stage 3 or 4 in Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia;

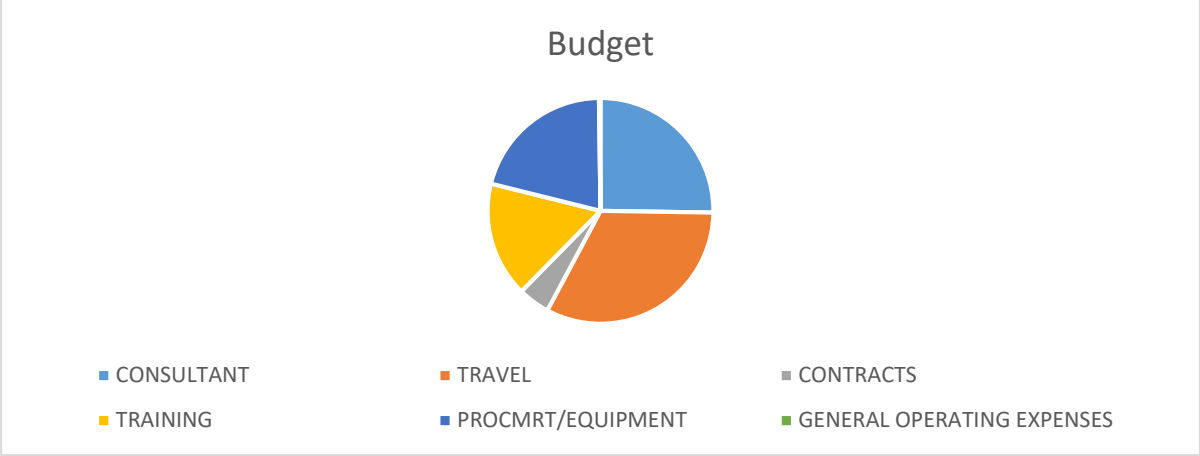
2 Coordination framework in place to facilitate communication, review and guide upon activity implementation nationally and regionally, as needed to progress the REMESA Strategic Plan, including the establishment of surveillance measures aimed to improve security of sanitary barriers between countries or zones with different FMD situations;

3. System in place to provide improved disease risk information for planning of vaccination programmes, including vaccine banks, to support managers in REMESA.

38 % use of funds on achieving the Outputs

DIRECTLY INVOLVED BENEFICIARIES: *Algeria, Mauritania, Morocco, Libya, and Tunisia*

RESOURCE BASE:
- HQ based – P2 (6,5%), STP and Operational (12,5%). Missions – intenational consultants on daily rates.
- Budget for Activities 198,049 (EC - TF): *excludes HQ based support services/costs.*
Agreed by ExCom 90



2.Project team

Role	*Name*	*Status*
Component Supervisor	Keith Sumption	EuFMD Secretariat
Project development team	Fabrizio Rosso/Keith Sumption	EuFMD Secretariat
Component Manager	Fabrizio Rosso	EuFMD Secretariat
REMESA RCU contacts	M Bengoumi (FAO)	
	R Bouguedour (OIE)	
FAO Regional Contact **(Coordination with FAO NE regional activities)**	Markos Tibbo	FAO Regional Animal Production and Health Officer, Near-East (Cairo)
ExCom oversight	Jean-Luc ANGOT	Executive Committee (France)

3. Countries or partner organizations involved

The activities are addressed mainly to the North African countries within the REMESA framework: Tunisia, Libya, Algeria, Morocco, and Mauritania. The EuFMD Member States (France, Portugal, Spain, Italy, Cyprus, Greece, and Malta) are also involved as during the REMESA-JPC meetings the program and results are shared, commented and approved. Other North African countries, part of REMESA but not directly involved in the present workplan (Egypt, Lebanon and Jordan), can benefit of the activities supported by this component to improve the coordination framework to progress the REMESA action plan (output 2).

EuFMD works in coordination with REMESA RCU, with lines of communication with the Veterinary Services of the countries involved in the program. The proposed activities are in line with the framework of the Global FMD Control Strategy. Joint workshops developed and implemented with FAO and OIE improve the effectiveness and impact of the activities and may assist to extend the strategic planning to other diseases where these GfTADS partners would take the lead.

EuFMD involves in the activities, as appropriate, the expertise of the OIE Reference Laboratories based in the REMESA region such as IZSLER (Brescia) and ANSES (France).

4-Progress Report

Outcome 1: Progress to develop, adopt and implement Risk Based Strategic Plans for FMD control in Libya and Mauritania, and capacity to achieve and maintain PCP Stage 3 or 4 in Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia

a. Great progress was done for the workplan of **Libya**. The contact with the Libyan vet services was re-established in early February which allowed to:

- Organize a joined training with FAOSNE, a GUMP training with the example of AI and FMD, which allowed discussion and a better understanding with the Libyan vet services.
- Held a meeting with FAOSNE- OIE and the CVO and vet services of Libya in on the 16th February 2017.

An FMD lab training is planned in Tunis for early March aimed to two (02) Libyan lab staff in charge of the FMD diagnostic.

A draft project for a field study on ''serosurvey study in the small ruminant population of Libya'' was drafted to determine the serotypes circulating in the region and a draft study / survey on the markets and animal movement to allow a better understanding of the risk for NA (Tunisia, Algeria and Morocco)

A tentative for the implementation of the programme to develop a RBSP is planned for July;

Due to the political situation and the security level of the country the meetings and trainings are planned to be done in Tunis.

b. During the last 6 months, two workshops have been organized in Mauritania from 16th – 21st October 2016 and from the 6th – 8th March 2017 with the aim to assist the veterinary services of Mauritania for the development and implementation of a **Risk-Based Strategic Plan (RBSP) for FMD control** and for improving the knowledge on FMD circulation in the country. The workshop was specifically focused on the following aspects:

a) identifying and analyzing the FMD occurrence/distribution in the country, hypothesis of circulation and initial analysis on risk hotspots; b) assessing the FMD impact among stakeholders and the possible cost-benefit control measures in the dairy regions; c) first draft of the RBPS with the definition of strategy, objectives, tactics and activities of FMD monitoring and control.

For a better understanding of the workplan defined for the development of RBSP in Mauritania, hereunder are indicated the activities planned and executed:

1) WS: Principles of PCP, value chain analysis and risk analysis [February 2015]
2) WS: Value chain analysis, FMD risk analysis in Mauritania, FMD active surveillance in Mauritania, prioritization of FMD control, gaps and possible control measures [May 2015]
3) Training on outbreak investigation [May 2015]
4) WS: value-chain analysis revision, risk pathways and hotspots identification and FMD socio-economic impact [May-June 2016]
5) WS: Risk hotspots and FMD socio economic impact revision, surveillance design and implementation [October 2016]
6) WS: Definition of goal, objectives, tactics and activities of FMD monitoring and control + first draft of the RBPS [March 2016]

c. For the new serosurveillance with the objective of assessing whether there has been ongoing transmission of FMD virus in the small ruminant population in Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia planned to be implemented in the first semester 2017 and using the opportunity of the organization of the Libyan meeting in Tunis, three (03) Kits Elisa NSP were delivered by EuFMD to Tunisia.

Outcome 2: Coordination framework in place to facilitate communication, review and guide upon activity implementation nationally and regionally as needed to progress the

REMESA Strategic Plan. Establishment of surveillance measures aimed improving security of sanitary barriers between countries or zones with different FMD situations

An **FMD Francophone network** was created with the aim of improving the networking and facilitate the exchange of knowledge and experience on FMD prevention and control between countries. The network is counting more than 80 participants from 36 towns of 17 countries.
The geographical distribution of the participant can be found by following this link:
https://www.google.com/fusiontables/DataSource?docid=1plks7Bu_5vDdEwSlbrNOncEr2K0yspztWfXeXC-M

A first webinar was done on the 1st February 2017.
A **series of webinar** have been planned through the Francophone network and the North African network; one webinar per month with the aim of improving the networking and facilitate the exchange of knowledge on FMD within countries. The topics will cover 4 thematic: (i) Control and Management of the outbreaks; (ii)Epidemiology ; (iii) Laboratory diagnostics; (iiii) Risk assessment and monitoring; have been identified according to the needs of the beneficiary countries.

Outcome 3: Activities to support implementation of laboratory network in Maghreb and Western Sahel countries in coordination with the RESOLAB-FMD:

A regional workshop has been organized in Dakar, Senegal from 6th -10st March 2017 in coordination with the RESOLAB-FMD and addressed to 08 participants in charge of the FMD diagnosis in national laboratories from Mauritania, Senegal, Guinee-Bissau and Mali (2 per country). The aim of the WS was to support the implementation of laboratory network in the Western Sahel countries, to improve the knowledge on FMD circulation in the country and to strengthen the diagnostic capacity of FMD in laboratories at national as well as regional level.
The workshop was specifically focused on the following aspects:
a) Detection and Typing of the virus; b) serological surveillance; c) Shipment of samples to reference laboratories.

b) The expertise of the OIE Reference Laboratory of ANSES (France) was valuable to allow the great training.

Outcome 3: System in place to provide improved disease risk information for planning of vaccination programmes, including vaccine banks, to support managers in REMESA

a. Three (03) **Kits Elisa NSP** necessary for the field study on "**vaccine effectiveness**", proposed in July 2016 to Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia in order to produce relevant information for improving the level of FMD control and preparedness against any reoccurrence of outbreaks and planned for April, were delivered for Tunisia by EuFMD using the opportunity of the organization of the Libyan meeting.

b. The results of the **field and laboratory vaccine stability tests** requested by Algeria and assisted by EuFMD, aimed to assess the stability of MSD FMD vaccine stored in the country, were presented during the Open Session of the EuFMD with a poster.

5-Issues for Executive Committee attention

1. **Karima Ouali,** the STP from Algeria have been recruited from February 2016 and to continue on the support and achieve the REMESA activities needed, her contract was extended until end April 2017.

A new intern was recruited from March 2017 (**Fanny ….** from France) to support the activities planned under component 2.2.1 (follow up on Lebanon and Jordan support) and component 2.3 to finalize different activities within the next few months. The internship of Fanny is until June 2017.

2. The collaboration proposed to the **Institut Agronomique et Vétérinaire Hassan II, Rabat, Morocco** to improve FMD control in North Africa, developing trainings in Arabic and French, and assisting curriculum development among professionals, has met difficulties and the discussions on the terms of the contract are still ongoing.

6-Priorities

1. Maintain the **collaboration and coordination** established with **FAO and OIE** in order to provide proper join assistance and support to the development of a regional FMD control strategy;
2. Support the Libyan vet services in the FMD control and a better understanding of their current situation and animal movement;
3. Continue the follow up on the **targeted and harmonized serosurveillance** in Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia;
4. Support the development of the **coordination framework** - REMESA networks (webinar series);
5. Finalize the **development of RBSP in Mauritania** and promote a **regional laboratory network**
6. Support the development of **vaccination self-assessment tool,** assist the design and implementation **of field vaccine studies,** and promote **risk based vaccination strategies.**
7. Assist the implementation of activities aimed to improve **emergency preparedness**

7-Gantt charts – Planned and Progress Update/revised program / :re-scheduled activities

2.3 Support to REMESA	OUTPUT 2.3 Remesa: Assist national FMD risk management as part of the REMESA action plan		YEAR 1												YEAR 2											
	Target	**Activities**	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S
	2.3.1 Progress to dev., adopt, and implement risk based strategic plans for FMD control in Libya and Mauritania, and capacity to achieve and maintain PCP Stage 3 or 4 in Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia	2.3.1.1 Training to assist national staff to complete RBSP in Mauritania								/ / /					/ /	/ /										
		2.3.1.2 Socio-economic study on FMD in Mauritania								/ / /					/ / /											
		2.3.1.3 Support field FMD serosurveillance and outbreak investigations in Mauritania																								
		2.3.1.4 Support laboratory diagnosis in Mauritania																								
		2.3.1.5 Assistance on training (e-learning, webinar) for national taskforce members in Libya																								
		2.3.1.6 Support laboratory diagnosis in Libya																								
		2.2.1.7 Implementation of trainings and workshops to promote risk based surveillance and early detection control prog. In Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco																								
		2.2.1.8 Support laboratory diagnosis in Algeria, Tunisa, Morocco																								
		2.3.1.9 Support emergency preparedness and test emergency response in Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco																								
	2.3.2 Coord. framework in place to facilitate comm, review and guide upon activity implementation nat. and reg. as needed to progress the REMESA Strategic Plan, incl. establishment of surv. measures aimed improving sec. of sanitary barriers between countries or zones with #FMD situations	2.3.2.1 Support REMESA coordination activities																								
		2.3.2.2 Implementation of epi-network between countries and dev. of a training credit system																								
		2.3.2.3 Assistance and support the dev of a regional control strategy																								
		2.3.2.4 Design surveillance system to be implemented in high risk areas and support with models and diagnostic kits the active surveillance						/ / /																		
	2.3.3 System in place to provide improved disease risk info for planning of vacc. Prog., incl vaccine banks, to support managers in REMESA	2.3.3.1 Support implementation of regional laboratory network in Maghreb and Western Sahel countries																								
		2.3.3.2 Support the dev. of regional vaccine bank																								
		2.3.3.3 Support the vaccination programmes with tools for designing, implementing, assessing.											/ /	/ /	/ /											

EuFMD Phase IV

Report to the EuFMD Executive

Period March – September 2016

Component *2.4 – Pillar II Training development and co-ordination*

Component Supervisor: Keith Sumption

Component Manager: Jenny Maud/Chris Bartels

Reporting: Jenny Maud

Focal point Executive Ctte: Martin Blake

1. Objective of the component

The overall objective of this component is:

Improved national and regional capacity for management of FMD through development and evaluation of training programmes for national staff.

The targets (expected results) are:

2.4.1 To have developed a wide range of PCP-FMD resources and training materials in various modes (e-learning, training of trainers, face to face, webinars) and languages for countries in Pillar II.

2.4.2 To have established a method of monitoring and evaluation of PCP-FMD training materials and resources to safeguard the uptake and appropriateness by the intended target audiences (beneficiaries).

2.4.3 Fit for purpose training courses and resources are available for wider use by neighbourhood countries which are largely appropriate and adaptable to the needs of the global community (Pillar III update/ GF-TADs)

Resource base

Total component budget (EC funded): EUR 164,688

2. Project team

Role	*Name*	*Status*
Component Supervisor	Jenny Maud	Training Programmes Manager-Secretariat
Component Manager	Chris Bartels	EuFMD
Network and training support	Nadia Rumich	Network and Training Officer
Co-ordination with components 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3	Pillar II component managers	Secretariat
ExCom oversight	Martin Blake	Executive Committee

3. Countries or partner organizations involved

Countries involved:
The direct beneficiaries of this component are the countries involved in Pillar II activities and listed as beneficiaries under components 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3. In some instances, and with the agreement of direct beneficiaries, training opportunities (particularly e-learning) may be extended to additional neighbouring countries. Additionally, it is intended that the training resources developed under this component will be repurposed for use for the wider global community under component 3.4.

Partner organizations:
The Royal Veterinary College, London, UK, (RVC) will provide technical inputs and pedagogical advice in the development of training resources and in the monitoring and evaluation of training materials and courses developed.

4. Reporting of activities

Reporting format	*Responsibility*	*Output*	*Distribution*	*Sent out by*
Six monthly report to ExCom	Component manager	Written report for ExCom	ExCom, STC	Network and Training Officer
Report on results of monitoring and evaluation of training courses	Component manager	Written report	Executive, summary to ExCom, STC	Component manager
Report on usage statistics of e-learning website	Component manager and Royal Veterinary College	Written report	Executive, summary to ExCom, STC	Component manager
Annual Report for General Session	Training Development Officer	Written report	Member States	Network and Training Officer

Progress report

Target 2.4.1: To have developed a wide range of PCP-FMD resources and training materials in various modes (e-learning, training of trainers, face to face, webinars) and languages for countries in Pillar II

Activities:

2.4.1.1 Method for training needs assessment developed, and component managers supported in its use

Recruitment of Short Term Professional Animal Health Officer (STP)

Karima Ouali (Algeria) continues to work as an STP to assist with delivery of activities under components 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4. Her activities under component 2.4 will be principally in support of furthering the development of training and course materials.

Training needs assessment

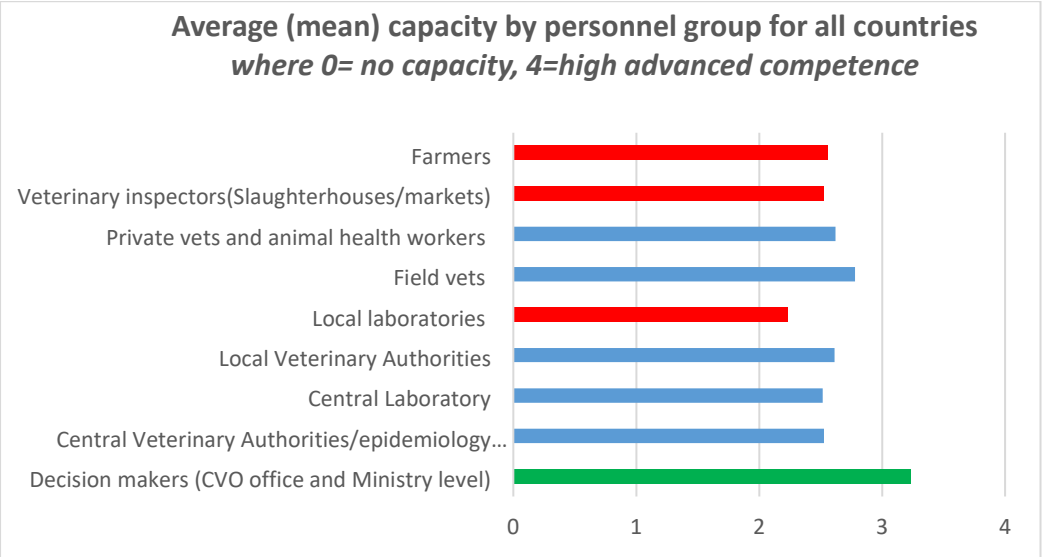
The needs assessment procedure developed for pillar I countries under component 1.1 was adapted for use in Pillar II countries and send to all countries involved in pillar II activities in three languages (English, French and Russian).

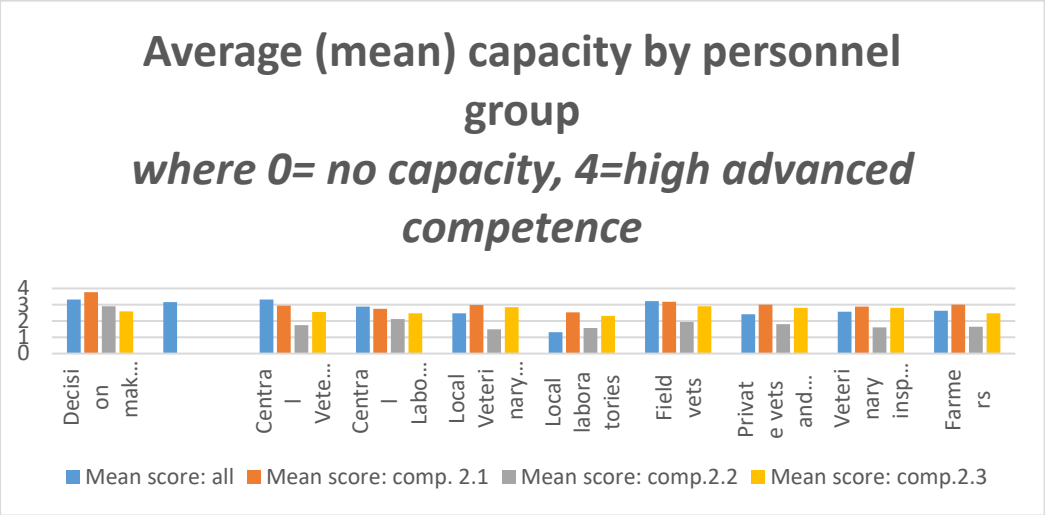
A copy of the needs assessment is included as an annex to this report. Identified focal points in each country were asked to rank the competencies of different personnel levels in their veterinary services against a range of capabilities, identified as key to FMD preparedness and control, under the framework of the Progressive Control Pathway.

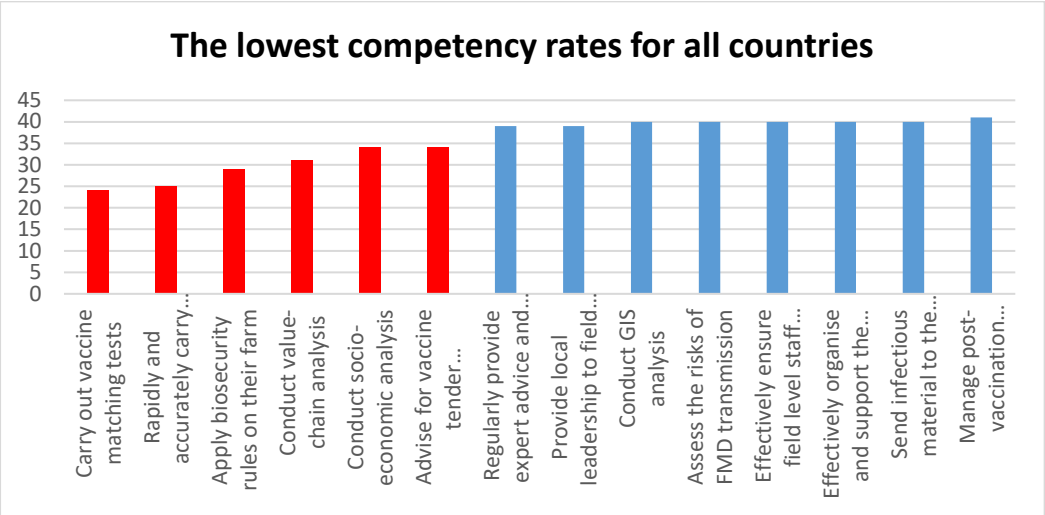
2.4.1.2 Pillar II component managers conduct needs assessment

The training needs assessment was returned by 19/23 countries.

The graphs below show some of the key results:


Average (mean) capacity by personnel group for all countries
where 0= no capacity, 4=high advanced competence
Farmers
Veterinary inspectors(Slaughterhouses/markets)
Private vets and animal health workers
Field vets
Local laboratories
Local Veterinary Authorities
Central Laboratory
Central Veterinary Authorities/epidemiology...
Decision makers (CVO office and Ministry level)
0
1
2
3
4


Average (mean) capacity by personnel group
where 0= no capacity, 4=high advanced competence
4
3
2
1
0
Decision mak...
Central Vete...
Central Labo...
Local Veterinary...
Local laboratories
Field vets
Private vets and...
Veterinary insp...
Farmers
Mean score: all
Mean score: comp. 2.1
Mean score: comp.2.2
Mean score: comp.2.3


The lowest competency rates for all countries
45
40
35
30
25
20
15
10
5
0
Carry out vaccine matching tests
Rapidly and accurately carry...
Apply biosecurity rules on their farm
Conduct value-chain analysis
Conduct socio-economic analysis
Advise for vaccine tender...
Regularly provide expert advice and...
Provide local leadership to field...
Conduct GIS analysis
Assess the risks of FMD transmission
Effectively ensure field level staff...
Effectively organise and support the...
Send infectious material to the...
Manage post-vaccination...

A summary of the results of the training needs assessments has been sent to the focal points from each of the countries participating and we will now follow up with these focal points to discuss training opportunities in more detail.

2.4.1.3 Research existing training courses

The needs assessment process has identified a number of existing training resources and providers in the region, and also those academic institutions who may be suitable to act as local delivery partners (see 2.4.1.6). This research is ongoing.

2.4.1.4 Plan for training development

Analysis of the needs assessment concluded that the primary needs for additional training are with the subjects of

- FMD diagnosis, sampling, investigation and biosecurity by field level veterinarians and paraveterinarians
- Socio-economic impact assessment- central veterinary services
- Risk analysis along the value chains- central veterinary services
- Basic Biostatics and Epidemiology- central veterinary services
- Laboratory diagnostic testing
- Biosecurity measures- particularly at field level
- Post-vaccination monitoring

For each of these subjects, we are currently developing a plan and approach (learning objectives, target audiences, training methodology, expected outcomes) in order to address these needs.

The proposed solutions will involve the development of formal (online or face to face) training courses,. In addition, a number of informal training resources will be made available, and added to the EuFMD Knowledge Bank (see component 1.1). The needs for field level training may be best addressed through development of tools for cascade training, with national veterinary services assisted in carrying out their own training.

2.4.1.5 New training courses developed

In August 2016, the new e-learning course: “Introduction to the Progressive Control Pathway” was reviewed by more than 40 professionals with positions in government veterinary services, international organizations, universities and NGOs from Africa, Asia and Europe. This review has helped to complete the e-learning course and its launch is now planned for October 2016.

Concurrently, these reviewers may form the first batch of PCP Practitioners, see component 3.4.

2.4.1.6 Support to training delivery

As discussed in the previous progress report, the Secretariat has identified opportunities for collaboration with academic institutions in the North Africa and Middle East regions. These institutions would be involved as regional partners for the delivery of training courses. These collaborations (please see also under components 2.2 and 2.3) have been further explored and currently Letter of Agreements to formalize collaboration and action plans are under discussion with the respective universities.

2.4.1.7 Clear structure for delivery costs of training courses set up

Pending development of training courses.

Target 2.4.2: To have established a method for monitoring and evaluation of PCP-FMD training materials and resources to safeguard the update and appropriateness by the intended target audiences and beneficiaries.

2.4.2.1 Development of monitoring and evaluation methodology

Internal EuFMD guidelines for immediate post-course evaluation of all EuFMD training workshops and courses (online and face to face) are in development. A dedicated EuFMD online survey platform has been set up to facilitate this as part of the EuFMD e-learning activities. The next step will be to implement steps to allow longer term impact evaluation of training courses.

2.4.2.2 Monitoring and evaluation of training

See above- post course monitoring of training now taking place, with future work involving longer term impact evaluation.

Target 2.4.3: Fit for purpose training courses and resources are available for wider use by neighbourhood countries and are largely appropriate and adaptable to the needs of the global community

The open access introductory e-learning course on the PCP will be made available to the global community and publicized as such during the launch in October 2016. It has been designed to be readily translatable, and following initial analysis of global uptake, translation into appropriate additional languages may be carried out.

5-Issues for Executive Committee attention arising during implementation

The training needs assessment process has highlighted the great need for regionally appropriate FMD related training in the European neighbourhood

6-Priorities for the next six months

The key priority in the next six months will be the development of training materials and courses on subjects identified by the needs assessment. A plan, timescale and budget for new training to be developed and delivered will be drawn up. A second key priority is to launch the PCP e-learning course and safeguard widespread dissemination, accessibility and use. It will be an important cornerstone to further establish networks on FMD control in endemic countries.
Third, we hope to start collaboration with academic institutions in North Africa and Middle East.

In the GANTT chart below, the progress is indicated alongside the original planning. Where no changes to the implementation exist, the original planning is kept. Where changes to the original planning exist, additional shading is used (light green and //.).

OUTPUT 2.4 National and Regional Capacity for the Management of FMD through development and evaluation of training programmes for national staff		YEAR 1													YEAR 2											
Target (Expected Result)	**Activities**	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S
2.4.1 To have developed a wide range of PCP-FMD resources and training materials in various modes (e-learning, training of trainers, face-to-face, webinars) and languages for countries in Pillar II	2.4.1.1 Design needs assessment framework																								
	2.4.1.2 Pillar II component managers conduct needs assessment																								
	2.4.1.3 Research existing training resources available																								
	2.4.1.4 Plan for training courses and resources to be developed is completed																								
	2.4.1.5 Dev. Of training courses and resources																								
	2.4.1.6 Support delivery of training courses and resources (funded by comps 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3)																								
	2.4.1.7 Clear structure for delivery costs of training courses set up												/ /	/ /	/ /										
2.4.2 To have established a method for monitoring and evaluation of PCP-FMD training materials and resources to safeguard the uptake and appropriateness by the intended target audiences/beneficiaries	2.4.2.1 Framework for M&E of training set up (in co-ordination with other training comp)																								
	2.4.2.2 M&E of training occurs																								
2.4.3 Fit for purpose training courses and resources are available for wider use by neighbourhood countries and which are largely appropriate and adaptable to the needs of the global community (Pillar 3 uptake/GF-TADs)	2.4.3.1 Training materials and resources are designed to be readily translated and adaptable																								

5. Approval and implementation

Stage	*Status*
Outline proposal submitted to EuFMD General Session	Approved April 2015
Workplan proposal developed through consultation with Pillar II component managers	Completed September 2015
Workplan approved by EuFMD Executive Committee	September 2015
Beneficiary countries consulted through training need assessment and detailed plan of training to be developed drawn up, for approval by beneficiary countries, pillar II component managers and Executive Committee	December 2015
Training development and implementation	Report to Executive Committee every 6 months for approval of progress and any modifications to the workplan.

6. Objective(s) of component

The overall objective of this component is:

Improved National and Regional capacity for management of FMD through development and evaluation of training programmes for national staff

The targets (expected results) are:

2.4.1: To have developed a wide range of PCP-FMD resources and training materials in various modes (e-learning, training of trainers, face-to-face, webinars) and languages for countries in Pillar II

2.4.2: To have established a method for monitoring and evaluation of PCP-FMD training materials and resources to safeguard the uptake and appropriateness by the intended target audiences/beneficiaries

2.4.3: Fit for purpose training courses and resources are available for wider use by neighbourhood countries and which are largely appropriate and adaptable to the needs of the global community (Pillar 3 uptake/GF-TADs)

7. Planned Outputs and Activities 2015-17

Overall component objective:

Output	*Description*	*Indicators*	*Monitoring and evaluation*	*Assumptions and risks*
2.4	**Improved National and Regional capacity for management of FMD through development and evaluation of training programmes for national staff** **2.4.1:** To have developed a wide range of PCP-FMD resources and training materials in various modes (e-learning, training of trainers, face-to-face, webinars) and languages for countries in Pillar II **2.4.2:** To have established a method for monitoring and evaluation of PCP-FMD training materials and resources to safeguard the uptake and appropriateness by the intended target audiences/beneficiaries **2.4.3:** Fit for purpose training courses and resources are available for wider use by neighbourhood countries and which are largely appropriate and adaptable to the needs of the global community (Pillar 3 uptake/GF-TADs)	New course content developed and delivered covering PCP Stages 1-3, by M12 and evaluated by M24. M&E system provides reports by M24. Evidence of Cascade of FMD training at national level, in 10 of 15 countries (East Europe, REMESA) in EU neighbourhood by M36.	Component manager's reports to 6 monthly ExCom Sessions.	

Activities:

Activity	*Description*	*Indicators*	*Monitoring and evaluation*	*Assumptions and risks*
2.4.1: To have developed a wide range of PCP-FMD resources and training materials in various modes (e-learning, training of trainers, face-to-face, webinars) and languages for countries in Pillar II				
2.4.1.1 Method for training needs assessment developed, and component managers supported in its use.	A method of assessing each country's training needs is developed. This will be a participatory approach, involving a number of stakeholders in each country. The needs assessments will be administered by the 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 component managers.	Training stakeholders identified in each beneficiary country and report on training needs received by 2.4 component manager.	ExCom report	Need to identify stakeholders in each country who are able to accurately report capacity building needs.

2.4.1.2 Pillar II component managers conduct needs assessment	The needs assessment is conducted by the pillar II component managers.	Report of needs assessment	ExCom report	As above
2.4.1.3 Research existing training courses	Existing training courses and resources available, either through EuFMD or external providers, are researched to avoid duplication.	Summary of existing training resources	ExCom report	
2.4.1.4 Plan for training development	Based on the outputs 1.1 and 1.2, a two year plan for training development is established, which makes use of synergies between pillar II components to ensure cost effectiveness.	Plan for training development.	ExCom report	Lack of synergy in training needs between different countries.
2.4.1.5 New training courses developed*	New face to face and e-learning courses are developed according to the above plan.	New training courses are available for use.	Excom report	
2.4.1.6 Support to training delivery	The developed courses are delivered, with delivery costs covered by beneficiary components.	Training courses delivered.	Excom report	Delivery of training relies on availability of budget under pillar II components.
2.4.1.7 Clear structure for delivery costs of training courses set up	A clear structure for costing of training delivery is provided which enables pillar II component managers to easily select courses and communicate their costs	Costing structure developed	Excom report	
2.4.2: To have established a method for monitoring and evaluation of PCP-FMD training materials and resources to safeguard the uptake and appropriateness by the intended target audiences/beneficiaries				
2.4.2.1 Development of monitoring and evaluation methodology	A methodology for evaluation of training is developed, as part of the combined training activities of components 1.1, 2.4 and 3.4. This is adapted for use for courses developed under 2.4.	Evaluation methodology developed.	ExCom Report	
2.4.2.2 Monitoring and evaluation of training	Training courses are evaluated, and where necessary adapted following evaluation. Successful evaluation of training may lead to certification or academic accreditation.	Training courses evaluated.	ExCom Report Reports of each training course.	
2.4.3: Fit for purpose training courses and resources are available for wider use by neighbourhood countries and are largely appropriate and adaptable to the needs of the global community (pillar III uptake/GF-TADs)				
Note that there are no specific activities associated with this output, however the need for training courses and resources developed under component 2.4 to be adapted for a global audience will be considered at all stages of the work programme for this component.				

***Full details of training courses to be developed will be established following needs assessment, however the following principles will be applied:**
A variety of courses and resources will be developed. This will include formal face-to-face training and e-learning courses. Additionally training resources will be developed, including “job aids”- short leaflets, videos, templates to assist with a particular task, and materials to assist in country cascade of EuFMD training, in a “train the trainers” approach.

Training courses developed will make use of existing EuFMD resources where possible. This includes courses developed under Pillar I activities, PCP e-learning courses developed under the 2013-15 work programme.

All training courses and resources will be developed such that they can readily be translated and/or adapted for different audiences.

8. Gantt chart

OUTPUT 2.4 National and Regional Capacity for the Management of FMD through development and evaluation of training programmes for national staff		YEAR 1												YEAR 2											
Target (Expected Result)	**Activities**	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S
2.4.1 To have developed a wide range of PCP-FMD resources and training materials in various modes (e-learning, training of trainers, face-to-face, webinars) and languages for countries in Pillar II	2.4.1.1 Design needs assessment framework																								
	2.4.1.2 Pillar II component managers conduct needs assessment																								
	2.4.1.3 Research existing training resources available																								
	2.4.1.4 Plan for training courses and resources to be developed is completed																								
	2.4.1.5 Dev. Of training courses and resources																								
	2.4.1.6 Support delivery of training courses and resources (funded by comps 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3)																								
	2.4.1.7 Clear structure for delivery costs of training courses set up																								
2.4.2 To have established a method for monitoring and evaluation of PCP-FMD training materials and resources to safeguard the uptake and appropriateness by the intended target audiences/beneficiaries	2.4.2.1 Framework for M&E of training set up (in co-ordination with other training comp)																								
	2.4.2.2 M&E of training occurs																								
2.4.3 Fit for purpose training courses and resources are available for wider use by neighbourhood countries and which are largely appropriate and adaptable to the needs of the global community (Pillar 3 uptake/GF-TADs)	2.4.3.1 Training materials and resources are designed to be readily translated and adaptable																								

9. Budget (€)

Outputs	Activities	Consultant	Travel	Contracts	Training	Equipment	Other	Total for activity	TOTAL by output
2.4.1 Development of training materials	2.4.1.1 e-learning infrastucture, webinars and knowledge bank	0	1,000	10,000	1,000	0	1,000	13,000	128,500
	2.4.1.2 Design needs assessment framework	2,000	6,000	0	0	0	0	8,000	
	2.4.1.3 Research existing training courses available	500	6,000	0	0	0	0	6,500	
	2.4.1.4 Plan for training courses and resources to be developed	1,000	0	0	0	0	0	1,000	
	2.4.1.5 Development of training courses and resources	40000	10,000	22,500	7,000	0	1,000	80,500	
	2.4.1.6 Support delivery of training courses and resources	2000	4,000	0	5,000	0	8,000	19,000	
	2.4.1.7 Clear structure for delivery costs of training courses set up	500	0	0	0	0	0	500	
2.4.2 Monitoring and evaluation of training	2.4.2.1 Develop monitoring and assessment framework	2,000	0	5,000	0	0	0	7,000	7,000
	2.4.2.2 Administer monitoring and assessment framework	2,000	3,000	0	0	0	0	5,000	
2.4.3 Training materials available for wider use	2.4.3.1 There are no activities associated with this output, but the need to ensure materials will be available for wider use will be considered in all activities of this component	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL by budget line:	50,000	30,000	37,500	13,000	0	10,000		**135,500**

Additional contributions to this component (not included in above table):

Description	*Contribution*	*Funding source*
Component Supervisor: Training Programmes Manager	25% FTE (P3 equivalent consultant)	EuFMD Trust Fund (MS contributions)
Externally funded training (eg Australian RTT, US-DOS funded training in Egypt)	Fund development of training resources which can be reused by component 2.4	Externally funded training projects
Assistance: Network and Training Officer	20% FTE	50% EuFMD Trust Fund, 50% EC Project

10. Challenges to achieving component objectives

1. Training needs assessments rely on identification of focal points and stakeholders in each country who are able to accurately reflect the country's training requirements.

2. EuFMD may not be able to meet all training requirements identified by countries; the training programme must restrict itself to training which EuFMD is uniquely best placed to conduct.

3. Delivery of training will rely on co-operative partners in the beneficiary countries.

EuFMD Workplan

Component *3.2 – Support to Global Progress Monitoring of FMD Control programmes*

Pillar Manager: Keith Sumption

Component Manager: Chris Bartels

Reporting: Chris Bartels

Focal point Executive Ctte

The 12 Components

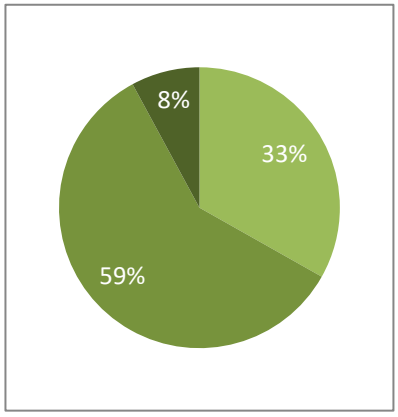
1.1-1.2 Real Time Training – Contingency Plans and Decision Support Training
1.3 Thrace Programme for early warning surveillance in the Thrace region of Greece/Bulgaria/Turkey
1.4 Balkans
1.5 Research Funding
1.6 Crisis Management
1.7 Proficiency test services
***2.**1 South East Europe: Turkey, Georgia and neighbours*
2.2 South East Mediterranean: Israel, Cyprus
2.3 Remesa
3.1 ***Support to Global Progress Monitoring of FMD Control programmes***
3.2 Progressive Control Pathway
3.3 Global Laboratory

3.2 PROGRESSIVE CONTROL PATHWAY (PCP)

OBJECTIVE: *The objective is to enhance the international capacity for the application of the EuFMD/FAO/OIE PCP-FMD through development of tools, guidelines and knowledge transfer.*

OUTPUTS (EXPECTED RESULTS):
Dissemination of the principles and applications of PCP-FMD, primarily for countries endemic with FMD but including EuFMD member states and neighbourhood (REMESA,..); Developing guiding documents (guidelines and technical notes), trainings and workshops on PCP-FMD

Specific Outputs:



1. PCP toolbox developed for PCP-FMD user community, including guiding documents developed for joint FAO/OIE application;

2. System for training PCP-FMD experts well established and supported by resources.

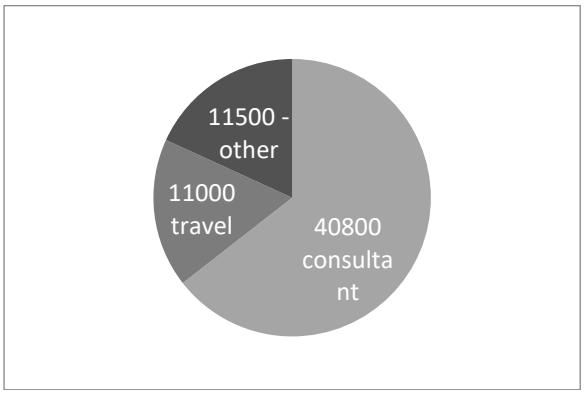
3. Representation in regional roadmap meetings, FAO/OIE FMD working group and EuFMD executive meeting

DIRECT INVOLVED BENEFICIARIES: the FMD WG of FAO/OIE; international pool of expertise at national and regional level that ulitse the PCP in their work with countries, including European neighbourhood; and Pillar 2 activities of EuFMD that will use the guidelines/training resources.

RESOURCE BASE*: as bullet points and*
- HR: Management P5 (10%), P2 (5%). Products/Activities: developed with 3 consultants.

- Budget for Activities (EC - TF): *excludes HQ based support services/costs.*

€ 21,907	(+ € 24,893)	**€**	**63.300**
			(including +€16.500 as discussed in ExCom87)



2-Project team

Role	Name	Status
Pillar manager	Keith Sumption	Secretariat
Component manager	Chris Bartels	EuFMD consultant
GFTADS-FMD WG	Samia Metwally Jemmy Domenech	FAO OIE
National consultants:	Not applicable	
ExCom oversight		

3-Countries or partner organizations involved

Application of PCP-FMD is worldwide, particularly for endemic situations (PCP-FMD Stage 1-3). Therefore there is no tailoring to specific countries. EuFMD will work with FAO and OIE where appropriate in developing these tools and guidelines.
As West Eurasia (component 2.1), South-east Mediterranean (component 2.2) and North Africa (component 2.3) are focal areas for EuFMD, new developed PCP-FMD tools and training may well be first applied in these regions.

4-Progress Report

Progress Report

Outcome 1: PCP toolbox further developed for PCP-FMD user community, including norms set, guiding documents developed for joint FAO/OIE application:

In the previous progress report, it was indicated that EuFMD is contributing to the development of guidelines on socio-economic analysis of FMD. In the time window of this progress report, no further activity was undertaken by the FAO and OIE FMD working group to proceed with these guidelines.

The revised version of the PCP guidelines have been submitted to the FAO/OIE FMD Working Group for review and comments.

Outcome 2: System for training PCP-FMD experts well established, and as part of the GF-TADS led implementation of the GF-TADS strategy, contributes to national and regional PCP progress

a. Needs for PCP-FMD training in Asia and Africa (activity 3.2.2.1) are investigated in part with components 2.4, 3.3 and 3.4. The consultant contributed to the analysis and interpretation of the needs-assessment questionnaire for the Pillar II countries (see component 2.4) and a similar approach of conducting a needs assessment is performed for the SADC region as part of activities under component 3.4.
b. Contrary to what was discussed in the previous progress report, the training of regional OIE staff in Asia did not take place.
c. Exploring financial resources for training of PCP-FMD experts (activity 3.2.2.2) has not been actively conducted.

Outcome 3: The GF-TADS system for PCP assessment is maintained and/or further improved, and the quality and impact of regional roadmap meetings in at least 3 regions further improved

a. In September, the first regional roadmap meeting for FMD control in West Africa has taken place in Togo. EuFMD developed and co-presented a pre-meeting webinar to inform forthcoming participants on issues of "What is the PCP-FMD?" and "What can be expected from a Regional Roadmap meeting with FAO and OIE?". A total of xxx participants attended the webinar.
   Additionally, during the Roadmap meeting time was set aside to further discuss the principles and approach of the PCP and its role as part of the Global Strategy for FMD control. EuFMD developed and moderated this session with emphasis on interaction and group work by participants.
   These approaches of informing participants before and during the meeting was very well received and will be applied for future roadmap meetings also
b. The 4th regional roadmap meeting for the Middle East is scheduled for 2-4 October. It will follow-up on the PCP assessment of last year's meeting and address a number of specific issues relevant for the region. EuFMD will organise the pre-meeting webinar and workshop to inform new participants to the PCP and the required preparations for the assessment procedure.
c. During the meetings under a and b, EuFMD has provided active guidance on the PCP-FMD assessment procedure. In each of the meetings, a EuFMD STP joined to provide support in organising logistics, translaton and support to the assessment procedure. Concurrently, this exposure will help each of the STPs to assist in organising and facilitating similar meetings in their region of origin (North Africa and Southern Africa).

5-Issues for Executive Committee attention arising during implementation

An issue for the Executive Committee's attention is that activities under this component are considerably entangled with activities under components 2.4 and 3.4 in which training needs and training development is currently taking all the time and resources available.

Additionally, implementation of planned activities under this component relies very much on the activities and the decisions of the FMD-WG, in particular with regard to training of PCP-FMD experts, country follow-up after regional roadmap meetings and points for improvement as discussed in the post-meeting evaluation. The FMD-WG is meeting twice a year about which EuFMD in principle is informed. It would benefit coordination of activities if EuFMD was provided the status of observer to these meetings.

6-Priorities for the next 6 months

The priorities for the next six months are in line with the planned activities: development of additional guidelines, training of PCP-FMD experts, provision of pre-regional roadmap PCP-FMD training.

In the GANTT chart below, the progress is indicated alongside the original planning.
Where no changes to the implementation exist, the original planning is kept. Where changes to the original planning exist, additional shading is used (light green colour).

OUTPUT 3.2 Improved capacity, methods, and guidelines for application of the EuFMD, FAO and OIE progressive control pathway (PCP) for FMD		YEAR 1											YEAR 2												
Target (Expected Result)	**Activities**	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S
3.2.1 PCP toolbox further developed for PCP-FMD user community, including norms set, guiding documents developed for joint FAO/OIE application	3.2.1.1 Revision of general PCP-FMD guidelines (timing to be decided with FAO&OIE)																								
	3.2.1.2 Support to developing guidelines on socio-economic impact assessment of FMD																								
	3.2.1.3 Development of additional guidelines relevant for PCP-FMD stages 0 – 3 (conducting sero-surveys, value-chain analysis, risk assessment, stakeholder consultation																								
	3.2.1.4 Alongside the guidelines, development (in line with activities under components 2.4, 3.3 and 3.4), broadcasting e-learning materials and organizing e-learning courses on PCP-FMD for countries in Stage 0-3.																								
3.2.2 System for training PCP-FMD experts well established, and as part of the GF-TADS led implementation of the GF-TADS strategy, contributes to national and regional PCP progress	3.2.2.1 Identify needs for PCP-FMD training in different regions of Asia and Africa (in coordination with comp 2.4, 3.3 and 3.4)																								
	3.2.2.2 Explore financial resources for training PCP-FMD experts																								
	3.2.2.3 Conducting PCP-FMD training for experts in one region of Asia and Africa each																								
	3.2.2.4 Support and maintain a network of PCP-FMD experts through establishing a PCP-FMD community (see also comp 3.3 and 3.4)																								
	3.2.2.5 Explore ways to accredit PCP-FMD trainers (see also comp 3.4)																								
	3.2.2.6 Establish links between PCP-FMD experts with regional laboratory and epidemiology networks (comp 3.3)																								
The GF-TADS system for PCP assessment is maintained and/or further improved, and the quality and impact of regional roadmap meetings in at least 3 regions further improved.	3.2.3.1 Support the facilitation of regional roadmap meetings (MENA, West Eurasian, Eastern Africa, SADC, SAARC, others), including reporting																								
	3.2.3.2 Support to follow-up on Target (Expected Result) and actions agreed during the regional roadmap meetings																								
	3.2.3.3 Adaptation of PCP-FMD assessment materials and procedures at regional roadmap meetings, dependent on revision of PCP-FMD guidelines (activity 1.1) and request from FMD-Working Group.																								

EuFMD EuFMD Phase IV

Report to the EuFMD Executive

Period March - September 2016

Component *3.3* – *Laboratory support*

Pillar Manager: Keith Sumption

Component Supervisor: Keith Sumption

Component Manager: Kees van Maanen

Reporting: Kees van Maanen

Focal point Executive Ctte: TBC

3.3 Laboratory support

OBJECTIVE: Improved international FMD reference laboratory services and their contribution to regional epidemio-surveillance networks

In other words the output of this component should result in an increased level and quality of surveillance information from the OIE/FAO Lab Network, with progress towards the targets required for regional roadmap vaccine priority setting in at least the 3 priority virus pools (Africa and West Eurasia). Activities will in 2015-17 re-invigorate regional laboratory networks, with better epidemiology linkages, to ensure better technical expertise development at regional levels, underpinning surveillance and regional roadmaps.

OUTPUTS (EXPECTED RESULTS):

1. Coordination of international harmonization in methods and support activities by the OIE/FAO global FMD laboratory network.

2. International surveillance performance in 3 priority virus pools meets or exceeds minimum required for regional vaccine match recommendations, via diagnostic activities managed by the WRL;

3. Epidemio-surveillance networks in 3 priority pools function effectively in gathering, sharing and improving use made of surveillance information

4. Support for a global proficiency test scheme, to include 19 laboratories in the global network

DIRECTLY INVOLVED BENEFICIARIES*:*

RESOURCE BASE

HR: HQ operational costs are identified and for support of activities under Pillar III a STP has been selected (Obakeng Kemolathle).

€ 498,958 *Agreed at ExCom 90 (€ 387,533 contracted to WRLFMD, in addition € 39,000.—contracted to WRLFMD under component 1.7).*

Budget for Activities (EC - TF): *excludes HQ based support services/costs.*
€ 476,692

2-Project team

Role	*Name*	*Status*
Component supervisor	Keith Sumption	Executive Secretary
Component manager	Kees van Maanen	Secretariat
STC members involved in oversight role	Stephan Zientara (lab) Nick Lyons (epi)	STC
Contractor	The Pirbright Institute- Donald King	Head, World Reference Laboratory, Pirbright
FAO Contact	Gwenaelle Dauphin	Lab Unit coordinator, FAO
Excom oversight	TBC	Executive Committee

3-Countries or partner organizations involved

FAO and OIE developed the joint global laboratory network proposal in collaboration with the World Reference Laboratory at the Pirbright Institute.

4-Progress Report

Output 1. Coordination of international harmonization in methods and support activities by the OIE/FAO global FMD laboratory network.

The 10th OIE/FAO FMD Laboratory Network Meeting was organised in Brussels, Belgium on 24th – 26th November 2015. The meeting started with a closed session, followed by an open session and lasted 3 days, thus creating more opportunities for discussion and interactions. A summary report of the meeting is available.

Also the annual report for 2015 of the network has recently become available and compiled information from this report is used for this update report. The OIE/FAO FMD Reference Laboratory Network is a vital contributor to the global control of FMD and provides opportunities and expertise for developing and sustaining laboratory capacity and capability, exchange of materials and technologies, harmonising approaches to diagnosis and supporting complementary research. Laboratories within the network regularly receive samples for FMD diagnosis from many parts of the world. The in vitro antigenic properties of selected isolates are assessed for vaccine matching and nucleotide sequencing allows precise characterisation of new isolates and tracing of their origin by comparison with viruses held in virus collections. This analysis assists the monitoring of the 'real time' emergence and spread of FMD virus globally.

The 11th OIE/FAO FMD Laboratory Network Meeting is planned for 30th November – 2 December 2016 and will be facilitated by ANSES, Maison Alfort, Paris.

Output 2. International surveillance performance in 3 priority virus pools meets or exceeds minimum required for regional vaccine match recommendations, via diagnostic activities managed by the WRL;

Over two thousand clinical samples from suspect cases of FMD were tested by laboratories in the Network (and associated laboratories) during 2015. These samples were collected from 41 countries from all 7 FMD endemic pools and include specimens from cases of vesicular disease in Brazil due to a new emerging virus called Senena Valley virus. However, sampling within these pools is not equivalent: surveillance within West Africa (Pool 5) is particularly sparse and efforts are currently underway with the network to improve sample collection and testing in this region.

The OIE/FAO FMD Laboratory Network has recently detected a number of viral lineages that have emerged from their established endemic pools to cause field outbreaks in geographically distant locations. There is probably no single factor that underpins these changes, but since 2010 the current dynamic transboundary patterns of FMD virus movements are probably influenced by the migration of people in North Africa and the Middle East due to the escalation of regional political crises, as well as new trading patterns and demand for animal protein that arise due to increased prosperity in East Asian countries. These unexpected outbreaks caused by emerging viral lineages reinforce the importance of surveillance activities undertaken by the Network.

A joined EuFMD/WRLFMD mission has been carried out in June 2016 to support Embakasi FMD laboratory, one of the RSLs in pool 4.

WRLFMD activities continue as planned, although the current LoA has expired by October 31th 2015 and a new LoA is still under development.

Output 3. Epidemio-surveillance networks in 3 priority pools function effectively in gathering, sharing and improving use made of surveillance information

To revitalise the networks in East Africa a core group has been formed to organize a series of webinars and online meetings. Since February 2016 these have been organised on a monthly basis. The webinars will continue in September 2016, and the structure has been amended after discussions in the core group and feedback from the audience.

In the context of e-learning A FMD Laboratory Course (FLABC) will be developed in collaboration with WRLFMD/TPI. A list of putative topics has been produced and discussions between EuFMD and TPI are ongoing.

A training needs assessment survey has been developed and has been carried out in all pillar II countries, results have been analysed and summarised and feedback will be given to the countries. Also for pillar III a training needs assessment will be done after learning from the pillar II exercise.

Output 4. Support for a global proficiency test scheme, to include 19 laboratories in the global network

WRLFMD activities continue as planned, although the current LoA has expired by October 31th 2015 and a new LoA is still under development. The 2015 PTS has been finished and results are summarised in the 2015 annual report of the OIE/FAO FMD Laboratory Network.

5-Issues for Executive Committee attention arising during implementation

No specific issues, the new LoA has to be signed and implemented.

6-Priorities for the next six months

- Annual report on global FMD status
- Progression in the work of the OIE/FAO laboratory network working groups
- Training needs assessment pillar III countries
- Missions to RSLs in pools 4 and 5 (WRLFMD/EuFMD)
- Development of laboratory e-learning materials
- Webinar series for East Africa continued and for West Africa planned

7-Gantt charts – Planned program (olivegreen) and progress update/revised (shading/darkgreen for rescheduling) program

3.3 Lab. support	OUTPUT 3.3 Improved international FMD reference lab services and their contribution to regional epidemio-surveillance networks		YEAR 1												YEAR 2											
	Target (Expected Result)	**Activities**	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S
	3.3.1 Co-ordination of international harmonization in methods and support activities by the OIE/FAO global FMD laboratory network	3.3.1.1. Harmonisation of communication and data sharing between network laboratories (WRL)																								
		3.3.1.2.organization of the annual OIE/FAO ref lab meeting incl support to regional support labs																								
		3.3.1.3. Annual report on global FMD status (WRL)																								
		3.3.1.4. Diagnostic services for samples submitted to WRL (managed by WRL, some tests may be delegated to leading laboratories in the global network with WRL support and supervision)																								
	3.3.2 International surv. performance in 3 priority virus pools meets or exceeds minimum required for regional vacc. match recoss, via diagnostic activities managed by WRL	3.3.2.1. Support to sample shipment from labs in pools 3, 4, and 5 to WRL (managed by WRL)																								
		3.3.2.2. Training & supervision to regional support laboratories in pools 4 and 5 (managed by WRL)																								
		3.3.2.3 Support to obtain samples from outbreaks																								
		3.3.2.4 Procurement of reagents and kits																								
	3.3.3 Epidemio-surveillance networks in three priority pools function effectively in gathering, sharing and improving use made of surveillance information	3.3.3.1 Current status of laboratory and epidemiology networks in pools 3, 4 and 5 analysed and needs assessed																								
		3.3.3.2 Dev of training material for all relevant FMD laboratory tests including pitfalls and trouble-shooting, biosafety, sample archiving, laboratory management, quality systems etc. (contracted to WRLFMD in Pirbright)																								
		3.3.3.3 FLABC courses delivered and organised for pools 3, 4 and 5 in close collaboration with component 2.1, 2,4 and 3.4																								
		3.3.3.4 Online meetings concerning network management, issues, priorities, topics of interest are organized twice a year																								
	3.3.4 Support for global PTS, to include 19 labs in global network	3.3.4.1. Global PTS for 12 network labs including 4 RSLs located in pools 4 and 5																								

Budget (€)

Component 3.3 Budget Split 2 years 2015-2017 - Phase IV										
Outputs	Activities	Salaries professional	Consultant	Travel	Contracts	Training	Equipment	Other	TOTAL FOR ACTIVITY	TOTAL FOR OUTPUT
3.3.1 Co-ordination of international harmonization in methods and support activities by the OIE/FAO global FMD laboratory network	3.3.1.1 Harmonisation of communication and data sharing between network laboratories	0	2,300	0	3,690	0	0	0	5,990	331,842
	3.3.1.2 Organisation of the annual OIE/FAO ref lab meeting including support to regional support labs to attend	0	4,400	13,200	35,900	10,000	0	0	63,500	
	3.3.1.3 Annual report on global FMD status	0	0	0	7,380	0	0	0	7,380	
	3.3.1.4 Diagnostic services for samples submitted to WRL	0	1,120	0	234,693	0	19,159	0	254,972	
3.3.2 International surveillance performance in 3 priority virus pools meets or exceeds minimum required for regional vaccine match recommendations, via diagnostic activities managed by the WRL	3.3.2.1 Support to sample shipment from labs in pools 4 and 5 to WRL	0	0	0	29,520	0	0	0	29,520	75,832
	3.3.2.2 Training and supervision to regional support laboratories in pools 4 and 5	0	7,800	4,764	14,000	0	0	0	26,564	
	3.3.2.3 Support to obtaining samples from outbreaks	0	4,840	4,348	0	0	0	0	9,188	
	3.3.2.4 Procurement of reagents and kits for laboratories	0	560	0	0	0	10,000	0	10,560	
3.3.3 Epidemio-surveillance networks in 3 priority pools function effectively in gathering, sharing and improving use made of surveillance information	3.3.3.1 Current status of laboratory and epidemiology networks in pools 3, 4 and 5 analysed and needs assessed	0	2,280	2,688	0	0	0	0	4,968	49,055
	3.3.3.2 Development of training material for all relevant FMD laboratory tests	0	4,560	0	25,000	0	0	0	29,560	
	3.3.3.3 FLABC courses delivered and organised for pools 3, 4 and 5 in close collaboration with component 2.1, 2,4 and 3.4	1,086	5,300	0	0	0	0	0	6,386	
	3.3.3.4 Online meetings concerning network management, issues, priorities, topics of interest are organized twice a year	3,801	4,340	0	0	0	0	0	8,141	
3.3.4 Support for a global proficiency test scheme, to include 19 laboratories in the global network	3.3.4.1 Global proficiency testing scheme, including distribution to 12 global network labs and follow-up activities (managed by WRL)	0	0	0	37,350	0	0	0	37,350	37,350
TOTAL FOR COMPONENT 3.3 BY BUDGET LINE		4,887	37,500	25,000	387,533	10,000	29,159	0	494,079	494,079

Report Costs:	439
Project Evaluation Cost:	4,440
TOTAL FOR COMPONENT:	498,958

Component 3.3 Budget - BY ACTIVITY

Total Budget Allowance	4 month Expenses Oct. 15 -Feb. 16	% project completion	Actual available (10 months activities 2016 and 2017)
€ 476,692	€ 0	0%	€ 476,692

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Hold-FAST tools

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EuFMD Committees

Executive Committee, Standing Technical Committee, Special Committee for Surveillance and Applied Research (SCSAR), Special Committee on Biorisk Management (SCBRM), Tripartite Groups.