



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



European Commission for the  
Control of Foot-and-Mouth  
Disease (EuFMD)

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# Training menu for EuFMD Member Nations 2023-2025







## Your training

The EuFMD training programme is demand-led, taking into account requests made by the country training focal points and trainee feedback.

The overall objective of the activities included in this training menu is to improve preparedness for management of Foot-and-mouth disease And Similar Transboundary animal diseases (FAST\*) crises by EuFMD Member Nations (MNs) and across Europe as a whole.

The EuFMD training courses are practical and interactive. They make use of virtual learning support to complement face-to-face training. The demand-led nature of EuFMD training means that the content of each course can be adapted, particularly when country-specific courses are requested.



## Cascade training

Most of the courses' content may be used for cascade training.

When EuFMD material is used, it must be acknowledged using the sentence: "We thank the EuFMD for allowing use of their material. The EuFMD does not take responsibility for amended content."



## Languages

All courses, unless specified, require a good knowledge of English.

*\*FAST diseases covered under EuFMD workplan includes foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), peste des petit ruminants (PPR), lumpy skin disease (LSD), sheep pox and goat pox, and Rift Valley fever (RVF).*



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## Real-time training courses (RTT)

### 1

#### Real-time training.

This is a four-day intensive course which allows to see FMD, discuss with farmers, peers and expert trainers. The course is preceded by an eight-hour virtual Learning (vLearning) induction course.

It provides participants with the unique opportunity to visit farms with suspected FMD cases and carry out clinical and epidemiological investigations in real time.

#### Location

Foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) endemic country.

#### Covers

FMD, FAST depending on cases in the endemic country visited.

#### Topics

- Clinical and laboratory diagnosis of FMD.
- Lesion ageing.
- Biosecurity.
- Risk assessment.
- Epidemiology and outbreak investigation.

#### Who should take the course

This course is suitable for veterinarians and stakeholders working in the private and public sector involved in surveillance of FAST.

#### Cascade knowledge

An eligible candidate should provide a detailed plan prior to the course on how they will pass the knowledge acquired in the course to colleagues, when they return home (cascade training). The plan should be signed by the nominee and the national training focal point.

The content of the course can be used for cascading to others, but the EuFMD must be acknowledged.

#### Training credits

- Three credits for one participant: includes flights and all in-country costs, according to overall FAO rules and regulations, and specific EuFMD agreements. Additional travel costs exceeding the standard rates to be separately funded by countries.
- Some self-funded places will be open to the private sector.



**Online courses**

2

**FMD emergency preparation course (FEPC).**

*Multi-country, in English.*

This is a useful tool in raising awareness of FMD and the importance of early detection amongst a wider group of practitioners. It is particularly suitable for field level government and private veterinarians.

EuFMD expert trainers are available via an online discussion forum.

Four-week course during which participants must complete 12-15 hours of self-directed study. The course includes live sessions that allow trainees to interact with FMD experts (webinars and/or live discussion sessions).

**Topics**

- Clinical and laboratory diagnosis of FMD.
- Lesion ageing.
- Outbreak investigation and epidemiology.
- Biosecurity.
- Overview of control measures for FMD.

**Who should take the course**

- Veterinarians who will be directly involved in diagnosis or investigating FMD suspicions or outbreaks.

**Training credits**

- One credit for 20 participants.
- Minimum of 80 participants enrolled for the course to be delivered.
- Self-funded places on this course

3

**FMD emergency preparation course (FEPC).**

*Tailored national.*

*The vLearning FMD Emergency Preparation course is translated into the national language.*

The course is adapted to national contingency plans and standard operating procedures, with additional content added on request. It includes live sessions that allow trainees to interact with FMD experts (webinars and/or live discussion sessions).

The host Member Nation (MN) trainer must assist with proof-reading of translated documents, advising on adaptation of the course, and take part in the webinars and discussion forum.

**Topics**

- Clinical and laboratory diagnosis of FMD.
- Lesion ageing.
- Outbreak investigation and epidemiology.
- Biosecurity.
- Overview of control measures for FMD.

**Who should take the course**

- Veterinarians who will be directly involved in diagnosis or investigating FMD suspicions or outbreaks.
- The online course could also include private veterinarians or non-veterinary industry stakeholders.

The national FMD Emergency Preparation Course can be a useful tool to link various parts of a country's veterinary service

could be open to the private sector.

- e.g. headquarters staff with laboratories, field level staff.

**Training credits**

- Six credits first edition.
- Four credits from the second edition onwards.
- From 50 to 150 participants.

4

**FMD investigation training course (FITC).**

*Multi-country, in English.*

This is a useful tool to support FMD control strategies, to raise awareness of FMD and the importance of early detection amongst a wider group of practitioners . It is particularly suitable for field level government and private veterinarians.

Four-week course, during which participants must complete 12-15 hours of self-directed study. The course includes live sessions that allow trainees to interact with FMD experts (webinars and/or live discussion sessions).

EuFMD expert trainers are available via an online discussion forum.

**Topics**

- Clinical and laboratory diagnosis of FMD.
- Lesion ageing.
- Outbreak investigation and epidemiology.
- Biosecurity.
- Overview of control measures for FMD.
- Introduction to Progressive Control Pathway.

**Who should take the course**

- Veterinarians who will be directly involved in diagnosis or investigating FMD suspicions or outbreaks.



**Training credits**

- One credit for 20 participants.
- Self-funded places on this course could be open to the private sector.

5

**FMD investigation training course (FITC).**

*Course aimed at FMD endemic countries, tailored national.*

*The FMD investigation training course is translated into national language.*

This course can be a useful tool to support FMD control strategies. It is adapted to national contingency plans and standard operating procedures, with additional content added on request. It includes live sessions that allow trainees to interact with FMD experts (webinars and/or live discussion sessions). The host MN trainer must assist with proof-reading of translated documents, advising on adaptation of the course, and take part in the webinars and discussion forum.

**Topics**

- Clinical and laboratory diagnosis of FMD.
- Lesion ageing.
- Outbreak investigation and epidemiology.
- Biosecurity.
- Overview of control measures for FMD.
- Introduction to the Progressive Control Pathway.

**Who should take the course**

- Veterinarians who will be directly involved in diagnosis or investigating FMD suspicions or outbreaks.
- The online course could also include private veterinarians

or non-veterinary industry stakeholders.

**Training credits**

- Six credits first edition.
- Four credits from the second edition onwards.
- From 50 to 400 participants.

6

**Lumpy skin disease (LSD).**

*Multi-country, in English.*

Four-week course during which participants must complete 12-15 hours of self-directed study.

The course includes live sessions that allow trainees to interact with LSD experts (webinars and/or live discussion sessions).

Expert trainers are available via an online discussion forum.

**Topics**

- Introduction to the disease.
- Clinical diagnosis.
- Sampling and and laboratory diagnosis.
- Epidemiology and outbreak investigation.
- Surveillance.
- Control measures with focus on vaccination.

**Who should take the course**

- The primary target audience are official veterinarians in free countries/regions, particularly in those at higher risk.
- Veterinarians, whether official or private, who will be directly involved in diagnosis or investigating LSD suspicions, and the implementation of surveillance and control measures would also benefit from taking this course.

**Training credits**

- One credit for 20 participants.
- Minimum of 80 participants enrolled for the course to be delivered.
- Self-funded places on this course may be open to the private sector.

7

**Lumpy skin disease (LSD).**

*Country specific.*

Four-week course during which participants must complete 12-15 hours of self-directed study.

The course includes live sessions that allow trainees to interact with LSD experts (webinars and/or live discussion sessions).

Expert trainers are available via an online discussion forum.

**Topics**

- Introduction to the disease.
- Clinical diagnosis.
- Sampling and and laboratory diagnosis.
- Epidemiology and outbreak investigation.
- Surveillance.
- Control measures with focus on vaccination.

**Who should take the course**

- The primary target audience are official veterinarians in free countries/regions, particularly in those at higher risk.
- Veterinarians, whether official or private, who will be directly involved in diagnosis or investigating LSD suspicions, and the implementation of surveillance and control measures would also benefit from taking this course. The national LSD course can be a useful tool to link various parts of a country's veterinary service together - e.g.



central/headquarters staff with laboratories, field level staff.

- The online course could also include private veterinarians or non-veterinary industry stakeholders.

**Training credits**

- Six credits first edition.
- Four credits from second edition onwards.
- From 50 to 150 participants.

**8**

**Sheep pox and goat pox.**

*Multi-country, in English.*

*Developed in collaboration with FAO Regional Office for Europe.*

Four-week course, during which participants must complete 12-15 hours of self-directed study. The course includes live sessions that allow trainees to interact with sheep pox and goat pox experts (webinars and/or live discussion sessions).

Expert trainers are available via an online discussion forum.

**Topics**

- Introduction to the disease.
- Clinical diagnosis.
- Sampling and laboratory diagnosis
- Epidemiology and outbreak investigation.
- Surveillance.
- Control measures.

**Who should take the course**

- The primary target audience are official veterinarians in free countries/regions, particularly in those at higher risk.
- Veterinarians, whether official or private, who will be directly involved in diagnosis or investigating sheep pox and goat pox suspicions or outbreaks, and the implementation of surveillance and control

measures would also benefit from taking this course.

**Training credits**

- One credit for 20 participants.
- Minimum of 80 participants.
- Self-funded places may be open to the private sector.

**9**

**Rift Valley fever (RVF).**

*Multi-country, in English.*

*Developed in collaboration with FAO Virtual Learning Centers.*

Four-week course, during which participants must complete 12-15 hours of self-directed study. The course includes live sessions that allow trainees to interact with RVF experts (webinars and/or live discussion sessions).

Expert trainers are available via an online discussion forum.

**Topics**

- Introduction to the disease.
- Clinical diagnosis.
- Sampling and laboratory diagnosis
- Epidemiology and outbreak investigation.
- Surveillance.
- Control measures.

**Who should take the course**

- The primary target audience are official veterinarians in free countries/regions, particularly in those at higher risk.
- Veterinarians, whether official or private, who will be directly involved in diagnosis or investigating RVF suspicions or outbreaks, and the implementation of surveillance and control measures would also benefit from taking this course.

**Training credits**

- One credit for 20 participants.
- Minimum of 80 participants.
- Self-funded places may be open to the private sector.

**10**

**Passive surveillance for FAST diseases.**

*Multi-country, in English.*

Three- week tutored course with four hours tuition per week. Expert trainers are available via an online discussion forum.

**Topics**

- Introduction to passive surveillance.
- Sample collection.
- Effectiveness of passive surveillance.

**Who should take the course**

- Official veterinarians who may be involved in investigating a notification of a FAST disease, as well as those responsible for establishing/improving the passive surveillance system in their territory.
- Private veterinarians and paraveterinarians who could see FAST diseases may also benefit from participating in this course.

**Training credits**

- One credit for 20 participants.
- Minimum of 80 participants.
- Self-funded places may be open to the private sector.



*Activities listed from this section, as well as real-time training activities are better suited to be linked to cascading training credits.*

## In-country support

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### Support to national simulation exercises.

EuFMD will assist countries in planning and conduction of simulation exercises for FMD and other FAST animal diseases.

The development and implementation will be supported through crisis simulation software and remotely assisted.

The aim of these tabletop exercises will be to test different parts of contingency plans by simulating a FAST disease outbreak. The specific objectives of each exercise will be decided together with the participating country.

#### Training credits

- Three credits per country for supporting a country specific simulation exercise, either tabletop or drill.

12

### Support to multi-country simulation exercises.

*Multi-country, in English.*

EuFMD will assist countries in planning and conduction of simulation exercises for FMD and other FAST animal diseases.

The development and implementation will be supported through crisis simulation software and remotely assisted.

The aim of these tabletop exercises will be to test different parts of contingency plans by simulating a FAST disease outbreak. The specific objectives of each exercise will be decided together with the participating country.

#### Training credits

- One credit per country for supporting a country specific simulation exercise, either tabletop or drill.
- This course needs **three countries** minimum to be implemented.

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### Other support missions.

The new training programme aims to provide more tailored support to EuFMD MNs. The EuFMD is open to discuss on how to tailor its support based on needs and priorities:

- Support for a national training initiative.
- Training disease spread modelling.

#### Diseases

FAST, upon country request.

#### Training credits

- Credits are to be decided according to the support provided.

## Workshops

14

### Organizing simulation exercises for animal disease emergencies.

*Remote delivery.*

The aim of this workshop is to provide participants with a better understanding of simulation exercises and their value as part of the emergency preparedness cycle.

This course will be structured over four weeks and will consist of live online sessions, vLearning modules for self-study and assignments to be made in teams. Every week, participants will have access to one or two vLearning modules, supplementary materials (a glossary, templates, guidance documents, examples and videos) and weekly assignments.

#### Topics

- Introduction to simulation exercises.
- The exercise process.
- Develop a concept note for simulation exercises.
- Plan a scenario and other exercise documents.
- Logistics and conduction of an exercise.
- Evaluation plan.
- Exercise types.

#### Who should take the course

- This course is suitable for central/regional veterinary services members who are involved in contingency planning and management of exotic disease outbreaks.
- It is ideal for those tasked with organizing FAST simulation exercises.



**Training credits**

- One credit per participant.
- Minimum of 20 participants.
- Self-funded places may be open to the private sector.

**15****FAST disease crisis management: dealing with the psychological aspects and the public perceptions.***Remote delivery.*

This workshop will provide participants with tools to deal with psychological aspects of disease control and moral convictions regarding animals, in an open discussion basis.

**Diseases**

FAST.

**Topics**

- Psychological impact of animal epidemics in different stakeholders.
- Current mechanisms and good practices to provide psychological support during an outbreak.
- Ethical conflicts and cultural narratives related to measures for disease control.
- Clarity of professional roles and corresponding responsibilities.
- Increased emergency preparedness regarding role, conflicts and societal expectations.
- Core values-based communication in cases of emergency.

**Who should take the course**

- This course is suitable for central veterinary service staff and official veterinarians, who would be involved in decision making and management of a FAST disease crisis.

- Also suitable for veterinarians and stakeholders working in the private and public sector who are involved in disease control and outbreak management.

**Training credits**

- One credit per participant.
- Minimum of 20 participants.
- Self-funded places may be open to the private sector.

**16****Putting vaccination into practice.***Remote delivery.*

This workshop should enhance the knowledge of participants on planning for the practical organization of emergency vaccination were used to control FMD outbreaks.

It focuses on the practical aspects of emergency vaccination and will include guided discussion and exercises to support the understanding of the different concepts.

Important: the focus of this workshop is not decision-making on the use of vaccination.

**Diseases**

FMD.

**Topics**

- Characteristics of FMD vaccines.
- FMD emergency vaccination.
- Post-vaccination recovery procedures.

**Who should take the course**

- This course is suitable for central and regional Veterinary Service staff who would be involved in decision making and management of an FMD crisis.

**Training credits**

- One credit per participant.
- Minimum of 20 participants.
- Self-funded places may be open to the private sector.

**17****Wildlife surveillance for FAST.**

This is a course that aims to provide participants with a better understanding of wildlife surveillance for FAST diseases, as relevant, particularly by using non-invasive methods.

**Diseases**

FAST.

**Topics**

- Contingency planning for FAST diseases and measures in case of confirmation in wild animals.
- Wildlife health and management.
- The role of wild boar in FAST disease epidemiology at the wildlife interface with domestic livestock.
- Surveillance to demonstrate freedom of disease in wildlife including non-invasive sampling for FAST diseases (e.g. baits).
- Trapping as an alternative method to eradicate FAST diseases and other contagious diseases in wild boar.
- Clinical examination and sampling of wild boar for FAST diseases.

**Who should take the course**

- This course is suitable for veterinarians and stakeholders working in the private and public sector involved in surveillance activities.
- Also suitable for hunters/representatives of hunting associations who assist the veterinary services in surveillance activities.

**Training credits**

- Two credits per participant.
- Minimum of 15 participants.
- Self-funded places may be open to the private sector.

**18****Depopulation, disposal and cleaning and disinfection.**

This course will discuss practical aspects of in-farm operation when a FAST disease is confirmed in a holding. In particular, the workshop will focus on culling of animals, safe disposal of carcasses and cleaning and disinfection operation, considering key aspects of animal welfare and good practices for preventing the spread of FAST diseases.

**Diseases**

FAST.

**Topics**

- Culling methods and Standard Operational Procedures for different species/ages/husbandry systems /diseases.
- Recommended methods for the safe disposal of dead animals.
- Principles of cleaning and disinfection.
- Disinfectant protocols, requirements and regulations.

**Who should take the course**

- The course is suitable for veterinarians and stakeholders working in the private and public sector who are involved in disease control and outbreak management.

**Training credits**

- Two credits per participant.

- Minimum of 15 participants.
- Self-funded places may be open to the private sector.

**19****Passive surveillance for FAST diseases.**

*Face-to-face.*

The workshop will discuss options for evaluating and improving passive surveillance for early detection of FAST diseases and engagement with stakeholders.

The course is preceded by a three-week tutored on-line course.

**Diseases**

FAST.

**Topics**

- Passive surveillance and sampling for FAST.
- Challenges of passive surveillance and stakeholder engagement.

**Who should take the course**

- The course is aimed at veterinarians responsible for implementing/improving passive surveillance for FAST diseases.

**Training credits**

- Two credits per participant.
- Minimum of 15 participants.
- Self-funded places may be open to the private sector.

**Laboratory training****20****FMD laboratory training.**

*Location: a FAO reference laboratory.*

This is a two-week course run in a FAO FMD reference laboratory.

The course will provide a thorough understanding of current diagnostic techniques for foot-and-mouth disease virus (FMDV). In addition, it will discuss the clinical and pathological signs associated with FMDV infection, the current distribution of FMDV worldwide, transmission of FMDV, and molecular characterization of FMDV.

The course will be delivered through a series of seminars, a vLearning package, practical demonstrations and practical work.

**Diseases**

FMD.

**Topics**

- Laboratory diagnostic techniques for FMDV.
- Collecting and handling samples.
- Serological and virological diagnostic tests for FMD.

**Who should take the course**

- This course is designed for laboratory staff or those who have a limited knowledge of FMDV and who will be responsible for implementing FMDV diagnostic techniques within the laboratory.
- This course is not suitable for research staff or group leaders.



**Training credits**

- Four credits per participant.

21

**Rift Valley fever (RVF) laboratory training.**

*Location: a FAO reference laboratory.*

The course will offer a thorough understanding of the work undertaken in a diagnostic laboratory accredited to ISO/IEC 17025.

In addition, the course will provide an overview of RVF.

Participants will get an overview of the laboratory's quality management system and the course will be delivered through a series of seminars, practical demonstrations, and practical work.

This training will provide a thorough understanding of current diagnostic techniques for RVF, including the following practical diagnostic tests:

- ELISA.
- Virus isolation.
- Real-time PCR (RT-PCR).
- Sequencing set-up.

**Diseases**

RVF.

**Topics**

- Laboratory diagnostic techniques for RVF.
- Collecting and handling samples.
- Serological and virological diagnostic test for RVF.

**Who should take the course**

- This course is designed for technicians who work within a diagnostic laboratory and are responsible for implementing and validating diagnostic techniques.

- This course is not suitable for research staff or group leaders.

**Training credits**

- Four credits per participant.

22

**Capripox (sheep pox and goat pox) laboratory training.**

*Location: a FAO reference laboratory.*

The course will offer a thorough understanding of the work undertaken in a diagnostic laboratory accredited to ISO/IEC 17025.

It will provide an overview of sheep pox and goat pox.

Participants will see an outline of the laboratory's quality management system. The course will be delivered through a series of seminars, practical demonstrations, and practical work.

This training will provide a solid understanding of current diagnostic techniques for sheep pox and goat pox, including the following practical diagnostic tests:

- ELISA.
- Virus isolation.
- Real-time PCR (RT-PCR).
- Sequencing set-up.

**Diseases**

Sheep pox and goat pox.

**Topics**

- Laboratory diagnostic techniques for sheep pox and goat pox.
- Collecting and handling samples.
- Serological and virological diagnostic test for sheep pox and goat pox.

**Who should take the course**

- This course is designed for technicians who work in a diagnostic laboratory and are responsible for implementing and validating diagnostic techniques.
- This course is not suitable for research staff or group leaders.

**Training credits**

- Four credits per participant.

**Cascading**

23

**Virtual cascading workshop.**

*Online.*

This activity is suggested to all participants in previous workshops and Real-time training who are planning to cascade their expertise within the country.

The trainees will be invited to participate in a virtual workshop with EuFMD experts to learn how to improve their cascading, regardless of the course they have attended.

The course will engage learners in three virtual sessions of two hours each, over a one month timeframe.

**Topics**

The agenda will include cascading activities and challenges, as well as group work and discussions. Between each session, participants will be asked to work on assignments.

**Who should take the course**

This course is designed for learners who have previously completed an EuFMD Real-time training, laboratory training or workshop activity ideally on a date less recent than three months ago.

This is available also for participants of the same courses delivered during the previous phases of the EuFMD workplan.

**Training credits**

- One credit per participant.

**24****In-country cascading mission.**

*Location: Country.*

This activity is suggested to all participants in previous workshops and Real-time training who are planning to cascade their expertise within the country.

EuFMD will offer one EuFMD expert to travel and mentor the trainee before and during the cascading activity.

Preparation before face-to-face mentoring will be also virtual, through a number of sessions.

The country will be responsible of deciding the format and logistic of the cascading activity (\*), the trainees will be responsible for its delivery.

The mission should also identify ways to improve cascading mechanisms.

**The mission**

The duration of the mission will be agreed, but not longer than three days. The date must be agreed six months in advance.

**Who should take the course**

This course is designed for learners who have previously completed a workshop or a Real-time training activity and are planning to cascade their expertise within the country. This training credit can be spent even if the trainee did not attend a EuFMD training in the previous 12 months.

**Training credits**

- Four credits per participant.

**25****Adaptation of a cascading package.**

This activity aims to support the development of microlearning packages that can be used as cascading tools by learners who have participated in an EuFMD course, in respective countries.

The EuFMD will provide a cascading package (i.e. three posters, one leaflet and microlearning infographics) that will be translated into national languages.

**Training credits**

- Two credits for tailored package (in accordance with FAO rules and regulations).
- One credit if only translation. EuFMD will fund the translation. Country holds the responsibility to indicate a translator of recognized quality.

*The training credits can be spent also for document translation of similar size, pending they are part of the cascading packages developed by EuFMD for their activities.*

\* In accordance with FAO Rules and Regulations.





## Training credits

This training menu will be implemented from October 2023 until September 2025.

Each Member Nation (MN) has been allocated training credits as agreed in the 45th General Session (May 2023).

MNs may decide how to spend the credits, by selecting activities that best suit their priorities.

- A minimum of 20 percent of training credits must be allocated to activities delivered remotely (online).
- Additionally, a minimum of 30 percent must be allocated to activities/tools that will facilitate the cascading of newly acquired knowledge.

Some courses (particularly workshops) will be held only if there is sufficient interest from MNs and a suitable number of participants. MNs may purchase additional self-funded places, if needed.



## Further info

[EuFMD-Training@fao.org](mailto:EuFMD-Training@fao.org)

[eufmdlearning.works](https://eufmdlearning.works)