



# European neighbourhood

Report on significant
Foot-and-mouth And Similar
Transboundary animal
diseases events and
information

October - December 2023

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











FAO Four Better's. Better life, Better environment, Better nutrition, Better production.

EuFMD's programme, tools and initiatives

FAST

Foot-and-mouth And Similar Transboudary animal diseases

EuFMD digital transformation

Tom

EuFMD training management system

Micro learning

EuFMD micro learning

Vleaming

EuFMD virtual learning

Sim ExOn

Simulation exercises online

Get prepared

Emergency preparedness toolbox

**Risk Comms** 

EuFMD risk communications

Risk monitoring tool for foot-and-mouth and similar transboundary animal diseases

Pragmatist
Prioritization of antigen management with international surveillance tool

European foot-and-mouth disease spread model

**Vademos** 

FMD vaccine demand estimation model

Global vaccine security

Vaccine prequalification

Progressive control pathway

**PSO** Pcp practicioner officers

PPP Public private partnership

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## **Acronyms and abbreviations**

ELISA Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay

FAST diseases Foot-and-mouth And Similar Transboundary animal diseases

FMD foot-and-mouth disease

LR Large ruminants
LSD lumpy skin disease
NSP Non-structural proteins

PCP-FMD Progressive control pathway for Foot-and-Mouth Disease

PCR Polymerase chain reaction

PD<sub>50</sub> Protective dose of 50 percent (a measure of vaccine potency)

PMAT PPR Monitoring and Assessment Tool

PPR peste des petits ruminants PVM post vaccination monitoring

RVF Rift Valley fever
SP structural proteins
SPGP sheep pox and goat pox

SR small ruminants

WAHIS World Animal Health Information System WOAH World Organisation for Animal Health

## Introduction

The European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (EuFMD) risk reduction program in the European neighbouring regions of North Africa, Near East, and South East European Neighbourhood is delivered within the Move FAST strategy. This strategy continues the focus upon foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) and extends the scope of preparedness and risk-reduction activities to similar transboundary animal diseases which pose an immediate threat to the EuFMD Member Nations.

The programme focuses on the control of Foot-and-mouth And Similar Transboundary (FAST) animal diseases in the neighbouring regions through the improvement of prevention, surveillance, and control. In this context, the FAST quarterly report of significant events provides relevant and regular risk information to risk managers operating in EuFMD Member Nations and neighbouring countries.

The constant monitoring of the epidemiological situation together with information on the implementation of control and surveillance strategies increases awareness of major transboundary animal disease threats for Europe and the regions of North Africa, Near East, and South East European Neighbourhood (SEEN).

#### The European neighbourhood

The neighbourhood of the current 39 EuFMD Member Nations is made up by non-EuFMD Members that either have land borders with EuFMD Members, are members of the Mediterranean animal health network (REMESA), or whose animal health status provides an early warning for FAST disease spread to the neighbourhood of Europe. The activity of Focus Objective 1 includes EuFMD Member Nations in the European neighbouring region (Türkiye, Georgia) (Figure 1).

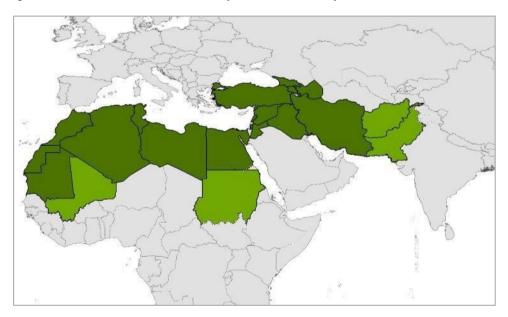


Figure 1. Countries included in the activities of the EuFMD Focus Objective 1

Source: United Nations Geospatial. 2020. Map of the World. <a href="https://www.un.org/geospatial/file/3420/download?token=TUP4yDmF">www.un.org/geospatial/file/3420/download?token=TUP4yDmF</a>

EuFMD Member Nations in European neighbouring region: Türkiye, Georgia.

lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

Having land borders with EuFMD Member Nations: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Syrian Arab Republic, Lebanon, Palestine, Jordan, and Egypt.

Non-EU Members of REMESA: Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt, Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, and Mauritania. Countries significant for epidemic spread of FAST diseases to the above countries: Sudan, Mali, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on these map(s) do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries. Dashed

# Significant events and information

The data reported to the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), and mentioned in this publication, have been sourced from the World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS) and refer to the period between 1 October and 31 December 2023. Other information has been obtained through the EuFMD activities and networks in the European neighbourhood. Information referring to the period before 1 October might be reported when relevant or not previously reported.

## Foot-and-mouth disease (FMD)

#### **North Africa**

Country	FMD Outbreaks	Epidemiological information	Surveillance	Vaccination	Other risk information	Source
Algeria	Two outbreaks were notified in December in the Wilaya of Sétif (10 animals infected, no mortality). This was confirmed by PCR on the 7 December. Additional suspicions were reported and are followed by the veterinary services.	This is the first outbreak observed since September 2022.	Passive and active surveillance in place.	Ring vaccination around outbreaks and emergency vaccination to boost the immunity of the LR with the available vaccine. Vaccine serotypes used in the country: A and O.	SAT2/V has been identified from some samples. Vaccine matching is ongoing.  Mitigating measures: ring vaccination, implementation of a monitoring and follow-up unit, control of animal movements, livestock market are closed to reduce the spread of the virus, biosecurity measures, artificial insemination suspended, communication to breeders, newsletters.	Data shared by the country.  WAHIS
Libya	In December 2023, 4 outbreaks occurred in the Jabal al Akhdar district. Two other outbreaks were reported in the Western	-	Passive surveillance, but active surveillance planned for 2024.	No vaccination (last campaign in 2021, with serotypes O and A).  New vaccination campaign planned for 2024.	A post-vaccination monitoring trial was conducted in 2023.	Data shared by the country. WAHIS

Mauritania	region of the country in January 2024 (one outbreak occurred in the Misrata district and one in the Zawiya district).  One outbreak reported during the last 12 months.	-	Passive surveillance	No vaccination: extensive farming makes it difficult to	-	Data shared by the
	during the last 12 months.			implement vaccination strategies		country.
Morocco	No outbreak since July 2019.	-	Passive surveillance and regular serosurveys to assess virus circulation (risk-based surveillance) and PVM implemented every two years, in alternation.	Since 2019, a biannual mass vaccination campaign of cattle is conducted.  Since the last mass vaccination of small ruminants in 2019, an annual risk-based vaccination of the SR is implemented once a year, specifically in the borders.  In 2023: - First campaign (February-June): 1.76 million LR vaccinated Second campaign: ongoing with 1.4 million LR vaccinated and 4 million SR.  Results of last PVM (autumn 2022) showed that 97.4 percent of cattle and 89 percent of small ruminants were seropositive 30 days after vaccination.  The efficiency testing conducted in 2020 showed that the vaccine is effective up to 6 months on naïve unvaccinated animals.	Morocco is at stage 4 of PCP-FMD, and the national control program is endorsed by WOAH since 2012.	Data shared by the country.
Tunisia	An event was declared late November 2023 (ongoing). Twelve outbreaks have been reported (in	Some outbreaks are reported from unvaccinated animals belonging to traders.	-	Vaccination coverage was lower than 70 percent in affected areas. Ring vaccination has been	Mitigation measures: administrative acts declaring infection and ring vaccination zones,	Data shared by the country.

governorates of Monastir, Tozeur, Nabeul, Kassérine, Le Kef and Sidi Bouzid). In total, 168 animals were detected as infected, and 13 died.	The circulating strain was confirmed as the topotype O/EA-3 by the reference laboratory.  This is the second event reported this year (the other one was reported between May and June, with six outbreaks), and some governorates were already affected during this previous event (Monastir).  The spread of the virus is due to the introduction of infected animals or to visits to the animal markets.		conducted around outbreaks. All susceptible animals have been vaccinated, prioritizing cattle when vaccine doses were insufficient.  Vaccination campaign has been conducted in buffer zones at the borders.	meeting with heads of the regional veterinary services to reinforce surveillance, increase reporting and consolidate the link with field veterinarians, communication with breeders.	WAHIS
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Country	FMD Outbreaks	Epidemiologicalinformation	Surveillance	Vaccination	Other risk information	Source
Egypt	No outbreaks reported	-	Clinical active surveillance.  Aim: early detection of any clinical case Timeline: September till December 2023 Total number of visited villages: 3 824 Total number of visited household or farms: 61 563	2 801 261 animals vaccinated.	-	Data shared by the country.
Jordan	No outbreaks reported.	-	Active surveillance conducted (results pending).  A small scale serosurvey has	Vaccination campaign for cattle. Immunization campaign	-	Data shared by the country.

			been conducted with the following results (ELISA/NSP):  - Sheep: six positive sample out of 201 samples tested.  - Goat: one positive sample out of 19 samples tested.  - Cattle: one sample tested,	(1 000 000 doses for sheep and goats).		
			negative.			
Lebanon	-	-	-	-	-	No update received.
Palestine	-	-	-	-	-	No update received.
Syrian Arab Republic	-	-	<ul> <li>- Ante and post-mortem inspections.</li> <li>- General surveillance and monitoring.</li> <li>- Precautions at the borders</li> <li>- Targeted surveillance.</li> <li>- Screening.</li> </ul>	Animals vaccinated: - Cattle: 337 596 - Sheep: 823 766		Data shared by the country.

Country	FMD Outbreaks	Epidemiologicalinformation	Surveillance	Vaccination	Other risk information	Source
Armenia	-	<u>-</u>	Passive surveillance. Active surveillance has been conducted. NSP sero-surveillance (main surveillance and follow up) has been conducted, in total 4,400 samples (2 383 LR samples and 1 951 SR samples) have been tested. 991 samples (675 LR and 316 SR) have been tested for SP. Results are pending.	316 390 large ruminants and 367 263 small ruminants were vaccinated by quadrivalent vaccine (A Iran05, A G VII, O PanAsia2, Asia1 Sindh 08) and 96 151 calves were vaccinated by SAT2 monovalent vaccine.	-	Data shared by the country.

Azerbaijan	-	-	Active and passive surveillance. 2 140 serum samples from LR and 3 050 serum samples from SR were collected after autumn vaccination campaign	2 381 580 cattle and 4 382 229 small ruminants were vaccinated in October- December 2023. Autumn calculated vaccination coverage is 97.8 percent	-	Data shared by the country.
				for LR and 101.1 percent for SR.		
Georgia	-	-	SP-NSP surveillance has been conducted. 500 SP and 4 000 NSP samples have been submitted to the Laboratory for testing. Analysis of data is ongoing.	In the reporting period, 540 914 animals have been vaccinated against FMD. Out of them, 250 252 LR and 290 662 SR. Tetravalent vaccines (A, O, ASIA-1, SAT2).	-	Data shared by the country.
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	-	-	-	-	-	No update received.
Iraq	26 outbreaks reported from Ninawa and Baghdad governorates.	Outbreaks occurred also in other parts of the country but were not reported.	-	No vaccination applied.	-	Data shared by the country.
Pakistan	-	-	-	-	-	No update received.

	Türkiye	A total of 337 outbreaks were recorded in 2023 in Türkiye. In this quarter, 30 outbreaks were detected, all due to serotype SAT2.	SAT2 (first case was identified in March 23). Currently, clinically SAT2 has been circulating. Serotype O has not been detected clinically and confirmed by lab since May. SAT2 outbreaks have been spreading dynamically till August. Till October, the dynamics of spread decreased significantly.	In this quarter: 18 000 LR and 7 154 SR were clinically examined for FMD in Thrace region under the Thrace RBSP. 1 199 sera were collected from the European side of Istanbul and tested by NSP ELISA.  Clinical surveillance was achieved in 368 epi-units out of 394 in the buffer zone area. A total of 28 321 animals were	Start of the Autumn vaccination campaign in first week of September with quadri-valent >6PD50 vaccine (O Panasia2, SAT2 TUR2023-Iraq; A/Asia/IRAN05 and Asia1/SINDH08) and finalized date by 15 November.	-	Data shared by the country.	
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# Peste des petits ruminants (PPR)

## **North Africa**

Country	PPR Outbreaks	Epidemiological information	Surveillance	Vaccination	Other risk information	Source
Algeria	-	-	-	-	-	No update received.
Libya	No observed outbreaks during the last 12 months.	-	Passive surveillance.	No vaccination	Laboratory proficiency testing (serology) conducted in 2023. Stage 1 of PMAT.	Data shared by the country.
Mauritania	24 outbreaks were observed during the last 12 months.	-	Passive surveillance. The national surveillance plan is supported by a World Bank project (PRAPS).	Annual vaccination campaign. The 2023 campaign started in July. The vaccine used is bivalent (Bio PPR or Ovivax PPR).	Stage 3 of PMAT.	Data shared by the country.
Morocco	No outbreak since 2022.	-	-	Control strategy based on generalized vaccination of sheep and goats every two years, according to the national strategy in line with the global eradication programme.	Stage 3 of PMAT.	Data shared by the country.
Tunisia	Nine outbreaks during the last 12 months.	-	-	Possibility of mass vaccination three times a year for three years is under study (to progress from stage 2 to 3 of PMAT), at the same time than sheep pox vaccination.	Stage 2 of PMAT.	Data shared by the country.

Country	PPR Outbreaks	Epidemiologicalinformation	Surveillance	Vaccination	Other risk information	Source
Egypt	One outbreak.	-	Clinical active surveillance.  Aim: early detection of any clinical case Timeline: September till December 2023 Total number of visited villages: 3 824 Total number of visited household or farms: 61 563.  Detected cases from the clinical surveillance: One suspected case, confirmed.	976 564 animals vaccinated	-	Data shared by the country.
Jordan	No outbreaks.	-	A small-scale serosurvey has been conducted (ELISA): - Sheep: 39 positive samples out of 53 samples tested Goat: four positive samples out of six samples tested.	Sheep: 273 530 Goat: 57 445	-	Data shared by the country.
Lebanon	-	-	-	-	-	No update received.
Palestine	-	-	-	-	-	No update received.
Syrian	-	-	- Ante- and post-mortem	158 734	-	Data shared

Arab	inspections.		by the
Republic	- General surveillance and monitoring.		country
	- Precautions at the borders.		
	- Targeted surveillance.		
	- Screening.		

Country	PPR Outbreaks	Epidemiologicalinformation	Surveillance	Vaccination	Other risk information	Source
Armenia	-	-	Passive surveillance and data collection for preparation of the dossier for disease free status.	No vaccination applied.	-	Data shared by the country.
Azerbaijan	-	-	Passive and active surveillance. 2 359 serum samples were collected from SR.	No vaccination applied.	-	Data shared by the country.
Georgia	-	-	An FAO- funded project is in place that	No vaccination applied	-	Data shared by the country.

			aims to			
			conduct			
			active			
			surveillance			
			on PPR in			
			targeted			
			animals to			
			support			
			Georgia in			
			getting free			
			status in the			
			future.			
Iran (Islamic		-	-	-	-	No update
Republic of)	-					received.
Iraq	-	Two outbreaks (Karkuk)	_	Blanket national vaccination in	-	Data shared by
		(,		Oct Nov.		the country.
Pakistan	-			-		No update
		-	-		-	received.
Türkiye	One outbreak was detected	Risk-based control strategy for	In this	Newborn SR were vaccinated in	-	Data shared by
	in Milas district of Muğla	Thrace is followed to aim for	quarter 7 152	Anatolia as preventive		the country.
	province, located in Aegean	zonal PPR freedom.	SR were	vaccination; ring vaccination is		<u>WAHIS</u>
	Region of Türkiye, during the		clinically	used as outbreak response; no		
	first week of December. This		examined in	vaccination in Thrace.		
	was the first outbreak		Thrace for			
	observed after two years.		PPR and			
	Two other outbreaks were		were found			
	reported in Aydin province.		negative			
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		clinically.			

# Lumpy skin disease (LSD)

#### **North Africa**

Country	LSD Outbreaks	Epidemiological information	Surveillance	Vaccination	Other risk information	Source
Algeria	-	-	-	-	-	No update received.
Libya	During the last 12 months, 14 outbreaks were confirmed and more than 15 were reported based on clinical signs in the eastern region of the country. Three new outbreaks have been reported to WOAH this quarter.	-	Passive surveillance	-	-	Data shared by the country. WAHIS
Mauritania	No outbreaks observed during the last 12 months.	<del>-</del>	Passive surveillance	-	-	Data shared by the country.
Morocco	LSD has never been reported in Morocco.	-	-	-	-	Data shared by the country.
Tunisia	LSD has never been reported in Tunisia.	-	A few suspected cases were reported but were negative.	-	-	Data shared by the country.

Country	LSD Outbreaks	Epidemiologicalinformation	Surveillance	Vaccination	Other risk information	Source
Egypt	One outbreak	-	Clinical active surveillance.	170 736 animals vaccinated	-	Data shared by

			Aim:			the
			early detection of any clinical case			country.
			<u>Timeline:</u>			
			September till December 2023			
			Total number of visited villages:			
			3 824			
			Total number of visited household or farms: 61 563.			
			<u>Detected cases from the</u> <u>clinical surveillance:</u>			
			Eight suspected cases, one confirmed.			
Jordan	No outbreaks.	-	-	-	-	Data shared by the country.
Lebanon	-	-	-	-	-	No update received.
Palestine	-	-	-	-	-	No update received.
Syrian Arab Republic	-	-	- Ante and post-mortem inspection.	2 692	-	Data shared by the
			- Vector surveillance.			country.
			- Zoning.			
			- General surveillance and monitoring			
			- Precautions at the borders.			
			- Targeted surveillance.			
			- Screening.			

Country	LSD Outbreaks	Epidemiologicalinformation	Surveillance	Vaccination	Other risk information	Source
Armenia	-	-	Passive surveillance in place.	85 611 LR were vaccinated with a heterologous Sheep Pox Cultural Dry™ vaccine produced by the Federal Centre for Animal Health (ARRIAH) between the 1 October and the 31 December.	-	Data shared by the country.
Azerbaijan	-	-	Passive and active surveillance, 1 176 serum samples were collected from LR.	139 241 cattle were vaccinated in October-December, vaccination coverage for 2023 is 96,9 percent.	-	Data shared by the country.
Georgia	-	-	Passive surveillance is in place.	During the reporting period, 15 160 LR have been vaccinated.	-	Data shared by the country.
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	-	-	-	-	-	No update received.
Iraq	Six outbreaks	-	-	Blanket national vaccination In Oct Nov.	-	Data shared by the country.
Pakistan	-	-	-	-	-	No update received.

Türkiye	No outbreaks detected.	The national strategy aims at	In this	Annual mass vaccination, with	-	Data shared by
		disease freedom.	quarter	sheep and goat pox vaccine used		the country.
			14 160 LR	in the Anatolia region and the		
			were	Neethling vaccine in the Thrace		
			clinically	region.		
			examined in			
			high and low			
			risk areas in			
			Thrace,			
			respectively.			
			All were			
			found			
			negative for			
			LSD clinically.			

# Rift Valley fever (RVF)

## **North Africa**

Country	RVF Outbreaks	Epidemiological information	Surveillance	Vaccination	Other risk information	Source
Algeria	-	-	-	-	-	No update received.
Libya	No outbreak in 2023 (the last one occurred in 2021).	-	Passive surveillance.	No vaccination.	-	Data shared by the country.
Mauritania	No outbreak in 2023 (the last one occurred in 2022).	-	Active surveillance based on sentinel herds during rainy season. Passive surveillance based on community agents, informant breeders (as part of the "One Health" strategy) and on entomological surveillance carried out in suitable biotopes.	No vaccination due to the extensive breeding system and to the quality of available vaccines.	Laboratory proficiency testing conducted in 2023 (ELISA, PCR).	Data shared by the country.
Morocco	The disease has never been reported in the country.	-	Clinical and serological surveillance.	-	-	Data shared by the country.

			An			
			entomological			
			surveillance			
			has started in			
			2023 (results			
			not available			
			yet).			
Tunisia	The disease has never been	-	-	-	-	Data shared
	reported in the country.					by the
						country.

Country	RVF Outbreaks	Epidemiological information	Surveillance	Vaccination	Other risk information	Source
Egypt	-	-	Clinical active surveillance.  Aim: early detection of any clinical case Timeline: September till December 2023 Total number of visited villages: 3 824 Total number of visited household or farms: 61 563.	2 936 192 animals vaccinated	-	Data shared by the country.
Jordan	No outbreaks.	-	-	-	-	Data shared by the country.
Lebanon	-	-	-	-	-	No update received.
Palestine	-	-	-	-	-	No update received.

Syrian Arab	-	-	- Ante- and post-mortem	Vaccination prohibited.	-	Data shared by
Republic			inspections.			the country.
			- General surveillance			
			and monitoring.			
			- Precautions at the			
			borders.			
			- Targeted surveillance.			

Country	RVF Outbreaks	Epidemiological information	Surveillance	Vaccination	Other risk information	Source
Armenia	-	-	Passive surveillance in place.	No vaccination applied.	-	Data shared by the country.
Azerbaijan	-	-	-	No vaccination applied.	-	Data shared by the country.
Georgia	-	-	-	No vaccination applied.	-	Data shared by the country.
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	-	-	-	-	-	No update received.
Iraq	-	-	-	No vaccination applied.	-	Data shared by the country.
Pakistan	-	-	-	-	-	No update received.
Türkiye	-	-	-	No vaccination applied.	-	Data shared by the country.

# Sheep pox and goat pox (SPGP)

## **North Africa**

Country	SPGP Outbreaks	Epidemiological information	Surveillance	Vaccination	Other risk information	Source
Algeria	-	-	-	-	-	No update received.
Libya	No outbreaks during the last 12 months.	-	Passive surveillance. Suspected cases have been observed in eastern regions of the country, but not confirmed.	No vaccination this year (last one in 2022).	-	Data shared by the country.
Mauritania	No outbreaks during the last 12 months.	-	Passive surveillance	No vaccination.	-	Data shared by the country.
Morocco	20 outbreaks reported this year.	SPGP is enzootic in Morocco.	-	Vaccination every two years, using a bivalent vaccine (SPGP and PPR).  A ring vaccination is implemented when an outbreak is reported.	-	Data shared by the country.
Tunisia	162 outbreaks during the last 12 months	Number of outbreaks is decreasing	-	The fact that the national herd size is decreasing due to draught can explain the decreasing number of administrated vaccine doses, rather than a decrease in the vaccination coverage.	-	Data shared by the country.

Country	SPGP Outbreaks	Epidemiologicalinformation	Surveillance	Vaccination	Other risk information	Source
Egypt			Clinical active surveillance.  Aim: early detection of any clinical case Timeline: September till December 2023 Total number of visited villages: 3 824 Total number of visited household or farms: 61 563.  Detected cases from the clinical surveillance: Two suspected cases, not confirmed.			Data shared by the country.
Jordan	No outbreaks.	-	-	Sheep: 223 722 Goat: 57 697	-	Data shared by the country.
Lebanon	-	-	-	-	-	No update received.
Palestine	-	-	-	-	-	No update received.

Syrian Arab Republic	-	-	- Ante- and post-mortem inspections.	3 186 295 animals vaccinated.	-	Data shared by the country.
			- General surveillance and monitoring.			
			- Precautions at the borders.			
			- Screening.			
			-Targeted surveillance.			

Country	SPGP Outbreaks	Epidemiologicalinformation	Surveillance	Vaccination	Other risk information	Source
Armenia	-	-	Passive surveillance in place.	16 049 SR were vaccinated in high-risk regions during the reporting period of 2023.	-	Data shared by the country.
Azerbaijan	-	-	Passive surveillance, 1 176 samples were collected from SR.	925 811 SR were vaccinated in October- December, the calculated vaccination coverage for 2023 is 105,4 percent.	-	Data shared by the country.
Georgia	-	-	-	No vaccination applied.	-	Data shared by the country.
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iraq	131 outbreaks	-	-	No vaccination applied.	-	Data shared by the country.

Pakistan	-	-	-	-	-	-
Türkiye	35 outbreaks reported during this quarter. A total of 141 outbreaks were recorded. No outbreaks were detected in Thrace.	-	In this quarter 7 152 SR were clinically examined in Thrace for PPR and were found negative clinically.	All SR were vaccinated in Thrace and emergency vaccination to response outbreaks in Anatolia that vaccination is implemented during two years in outbreak units.  Self-declaration has been done to WOAH for zonal disease freedom in Thrace.	-	Data shared by the country.

## Summary

#### Foot-and-mouth disease

Foot-and-mouth disease reappeared in North Africa during this quarter, for the second time this year in Tunisia (the first event occurred in May-June) and for the first time since September 2022 in Algeria. Both events are still ongoing. To this day, 12 outbreaks were reported in Tunisia (168 infected animals) and two in Algeria (ten infected animals). The topotype O/EA-3 has been confirmed in Tunisia, and SAT2/V has been identified in Algerian samples. In Tunisia, the outbreaks probably occurred following a decrease in the vaccination coverage, due to a delay in the implementation of the vaccination campaign caused by a major heatwave in the country during summer. Ring vaccination of susceptible animals have been implemented in both countries.

In Libya, six outbreaks have been recorded in December 2023 and January 2024, and the serotyping results are pending. An active surveillance is planned for 2024. Only one outbreak has been reported in Mauritania in 2023.

In Egypt, no outbreaks have been recorded during this quarter (four during the July-September period). No outbreaks have been recorded in Jordan or Syrian Arab Republic.

In the South East European Neighbourhood, outbreaks are still reported in Iraq (26 this quarter, 19 during the July-September period) and Türkiye (30 new outbreaks detected, all due to SAT2 serotype, with a total of 337 FMD outbreaks in 2023). The autumn vaccination campaign has been implemented in Türkiye, Armenia and Azerbaijan, and is ongoing in Georgia.

#### Peste des petits ruminants

PPR reappeared in Türkiye, after two years, with one outbreak observed in the Muğla province, and two in the Aydin province. Mitigation measure implemented included ring vaccination.

In Mauritania, 24 outbreaks have been reported this year. An annual vaccination strategy is implemented, with a surveillance plan supported by World Bank. Nine outbreaks were recorded in Tunisia this year, and a project of mass vaccination three times a year for three year is under study, for PPR and SPGP.

One outbreak has been recorded in Egypt, and positive ELISA tests were reported from serosurvey in Jordan, without observed outbreaks.

#### Lumpy skin disease

In Libya, 14 outbreaks have been confirmed this year and more than 15 were reported based on clinical signs, with three notified to WOAH this quarter.

One outbreak has been observed in Egypt, and six in Iraq. Vaccination campaigns are implemented in both countries.

#### Rift Valley fever

No reports of Rift Valley fever were obtained this quarter, and vaccination is still implemented in Egypt.

#### Sheep pox and goat pox

Twenty outbreaks were reported in Morocco this year and 162 Tunisia. Vaccination is implemented every two years in Morocco.

In the SEEN region, 131 outbreaks have been reported between October and December in Iraq, and there is no vaccination in this country. In Türkiye, 35 outbreaks were reported this quarter (141 in 2023) and a self-declaration for zonal freedom has been done to WOAH for the Thrace region.

# Reports of important disease incidents since the end of the reporting period

FMD has been reemerging in the Maghreb region (Algeria, Tunisia and Libya) at the end of 2023, and the events declared are still ongoing despite the mitigation measures implemented by the countries. The serotype O is circulating in Tunisia, and serotype SAT2/V has been confirmed in Algeria. Serotyping results are pending for Libyan samples.

PPR reemerged in Türkiye after 2 years.

LSD outbreaks are still reported in Libya, with three outbreaks.

More information will be provided in the next FAST report (January–March 2024).

## PROTECT RESPOND CONTROL

#### **MOVE FAST**

FAST, Foot-mouth And Similar Transboundary animal diseases

#### **EuFMD Committees**

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

#### **EuFMD Secretariat**

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