



Evaluation highlights

Phase V. 2019-2023

Programme of the European Commission
for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth disease

Aim of the evaluation

To evaluate the performance of the EuFMD in delivering the Phase V work programme and to inform the strategic planning, design, and implementation of the Phase VI programme.



The European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (EuFMD) was established in 1954 and is an independent regional commission in FAO.

The activities of EuFMD are funded by MNs contributions and the European Commission (EC).

The EuFMD implementation activities are supported by:

- An Executive Committee (consisting of Chief Veterinary Officers from EuFMD MNs and observers).
- A Standing Technical Committee (STC), three special committees (Integrated Surveillance and Applied Research, Biorisk Management, Prequalification system for foot-and-mouth (FMD) vaccines), a steering committee (TOM) and regional groups for FAST coordination.
- A full-time dedicated technical and operational team managed by an Executive Secretary, supported by a Deputy Executive Secretary and a Programme manager.



The Evaluation found the EuFMD to be of strategic relevance to member nations (MNs), neighbourhood countries, the European Commission and FAO as the hosting organization for the EuFMD Secretariat. The EuFMD is widely viewed as a long-standing and well-respected leader in supporting EuFMD member nations and neighbouring countries in the prevention, surveillance, and control of FMD, and it is recognized that this capability could also support the control of similar transboundary animal diseases.

The EuFMD offers a tailored approach to training, decision-support tools, risk-reduction and support via the global FMD control strategy. These activities contribute to protecting animal and public health and to supporting the development of agri-food sectors to increase productivity and facilitate trade.

The evaluation pursued four broad lines of enquiry into:

- Capacity development in member nations for foot-and-mouth and similar transboundary animal diseases (FAST) emergency preparedness.
- Tools and systems developed to assist emergency preparedness and response capacity of member nations.
- EuFMD's contribution to risk reduction in neighbouring countries.
- EuFMD's contribution to FMD control.

Specific findings

Member nations acquired increased expertise in FAST disease emergency management through the EuFMD training courses, the dissemination of training materials and dedicated expertise.

The EuFMD courses provide practical, real-world solutions to the challenges of FMD control. Virtual learning and face-to-face training are often combined to obtain the best result possible.

The Training Quality Monitoring System (TQMS) developed and implemented by the EuFMD uses specific indicators to track the quality and relevance of training.

The Training Management System (TOM) developed by the EuFMD, is a suitable tool to assist countries in managing the allocation of training opportunities for veterinarians and engaging them in further education.

EuFMD tools and regional supports

The tools generated by EuFMD are unique, suitable for FMD and other FAST diseases.

The THRACE programme illustrates the value of investing effort in small geographic areas of higher risk - hands-on training, the combined use of decision-support tools, risk-based surveillance and information sharing increased confidence in the assessment of disease status, allowed early detection of virus incursion, and ensured emergency preparedness and a rapid response to the occurrence of FAST diseases.

EuFMD's commitment and contribution to risk reduction in neighbourhood countries was highly relevant and of excellent quality.

EuFMD provided a platform for cooperation, technical assistance, and the use of innovative tools to ensure progressive involvement of Southern Eastern Europe Neighbourhood (SEEN) countries in regular and timely collection and exchange of relevant risk information.

EuFMD contributed to global FMD control in collaboration with key stakeholders, including as part of the Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs) Working Group on FMD.

Take home messages

During the past four years (Phase V, 2019-2023), EuFMD actively collaborated with MNs and European neighbourhood countries on FAST-related activities. EuFMD was adaptable and flexible in implementing tailor-made activities. The knowledge and experience that EuFMD has gained in FMD control was applied to the control of similar transboundary animal diseases.

Over the next four years (Phase VI, 2023-2027), EuFMD should continue to play a significant role in capacity development and knowledge management for FMD and FAST diseases in member nations and neighboring countries and should continue to collaborate with others on the global control of FMD and FAST diseases.

Opportunities and challenges for EuFMD over the next four years include: encouraging greater uptake and use of existing training courses and decision-support tools; addressing gaps in our knowledge of circulating viruses; further developing laboratory networks and user-friendly interfaces for information-sharing; better defining the role of EuFMD in global FMD control; and developing a long-term strategy for the Commission and its Secretariat.

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[EuFMD activities and tools](#)

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Move FAST

Foot-and-mouth And Similar
Transboundary animal diseases



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Sustainable Development Goals, UN-SDGs.
EuFMD's programme focus



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