



Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations

# Albania

Inception workshop of the project

**“African Swine Fever emergency preparedness in the Balkans”**

(TCP/RER/3704)

*Belgrade, Serbia*

*18-21 February 2019*

## National Veterinary organization

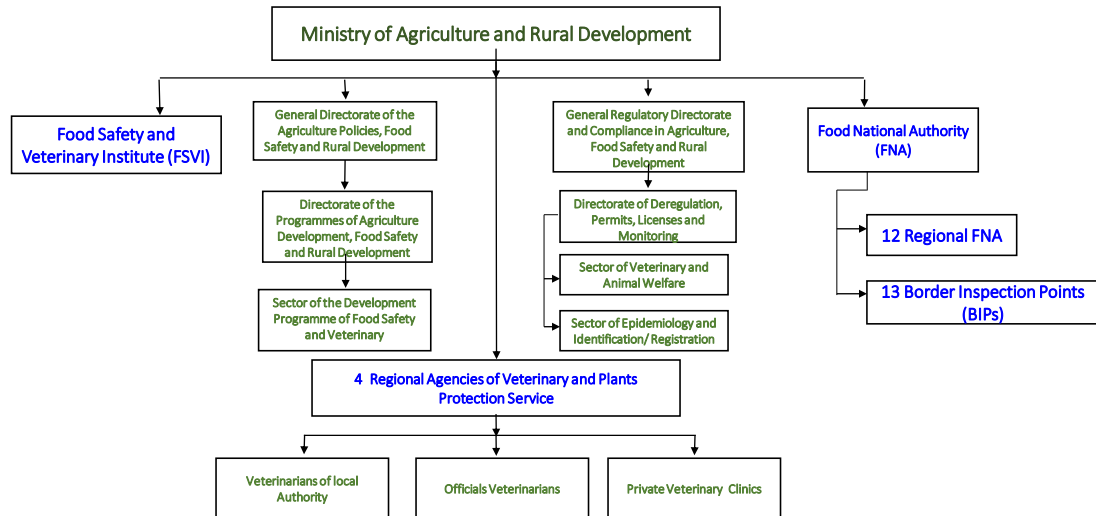
Organigram of the responsibilities:

Law with the No. 10465, date of 29.9.2011 “For the Veterinary Service in the Republic of Albania”.

[https://www.bujqesia.gov.al/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/16-03-03-09-08-22Ligji\\_per\\_veterinarine.pdf](https://www.bujqesia.gov.al/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/16-03-03-09-08-22Ligji_per_veterinarine.pdf)

The surveillance and control strategies, plans and regulations on Anthrax, Bovine brucellosis, small ruminants’ brucellosis, Avian Influenza, Classical Swine Fever, African Swine Fever, Bovine Tuberculosis and Enzootic Leucosis, etc..

## National Veterinary organization



## Domestic Pig Population

Type of farming	Fattening pigs	Breeding sows	
Industrial/commercial farms			
- Large commercial farms (>1000)			10
- Small commercial farms (<1000)			24
- Family farms (<100)			522
Backyard farms			
Extensive farms (fenced)			
Farms with free ranging /scavenging pigs			

- Pig holding density map if available
- Pig data available for different production systems available? At what admin level?
- Data are stored in the Livestock and Veterinary System called "RUDA" .
- Backyard practices:
- Pigs / pig products exported: Y/N – countries of destination: No
- Pig / pig products imported: Y/N – countries of source: YES
- Albania imports mainly swine for immediate slaughter coming mainly from Greece, Hungary and Netherlands

## Wild boar Population

- Wild boar density or numbers (map if available)

The number of the wild boars has changed during the time. During 1994 to 2004, the number of wild boars was almost 1500. In 2010 the number of wild boar was reduced in 800. After the enforcement of the laws with number 7/2014 (date 2014) and number 61/2016 (date 2016) “ On the Declaring of the Hunting Moratorium” in the Republic of Albania, the number of wild boars has increased in almost 2500 animals.

- Organigram of the hunting association  
(**Not applicable**) Yes we have the huntig association.

- Import/Export of wild boar / wild boar products

Albania does not export and import wild boar and wild boar products.

- Hunting tourism

Actually, it is enforced the Hunting Moratorium.

## Data and risk assessment

- **Database and information system.** Please, describe:

- **Pig identification system?**

Albania has the Livestock and Veterinary Information system and also a database which support it which is called “RUDA”. Actually, only reproduction pigs are identified. The pigs are identified individually with ear tags.

- **Movement records?**

The animal movement is controlled by the official veterinarians and authorized veterinarians which cover the respective farms in the field. The animals move accompanied by the veterinary health certificate. The animal movement is registered in the “RUDA” database. The veterinary certificate provides the registration of animal movement from the origin to the destination.

- **Slaughter practices?**

The slaughter of animals is done in the slaughterhouses approved by the National Food Authority (NFA) accompanied with the veterinary certificate. The slaughtered animals are removed from “RUDA” database.

- **Wild boar management:**

- **Hunting strategies?** Y/N (which)

Not applied.

- **Hunting season?**

The pig hunting is prohibited. The law of “ On the Declaring of the Hunting Moratorium ” in the Republic of Albania with the number 61/2016 prohibits the hunting of the wildlife 5 years from its enforcement (year 2016).  
<http://extwprlegs1.fao.org/docs/pdf/alb162514.pdf>

## Data and risk assessment

- **Risk assessment – Do you expect ASF to enter your country?**

There is an evident risk that ASF can enter from the affected countries such as Bulgaria and Romania situated in Balkan region.

- **Where?**

The risk of the ASF introduction can be in the Northeast and the Southeast border areas due to the uncontrolled movement of the infected ASF wild boar and circulation of its vector.

- **By which pathway/s?**

Transmission of the disease can occur through the introduction of the ASF infected wild boar from the neighboring countries.

- **Have you conducted a risk assessment?**

There is no suspicion of ASF so far. There is applied the ban of pigs and pigs products from the affected areas based on the information reported by countries in the World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS) WAHIS of World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE).

## Diagnostic capacity

Assay	Available	Not available	Testing possible at any time (24/7)	Max capacity of sample testing/day
PCR Gel based	In process to be introduced			
PCR Real-time	YES			
Virus isolation		Not applied		
Serology	ELISA test			200 sample testing/day
Lateral flow		Not applied		

Measure	Applied (tick all those answers that apply)			Not applied
Surveillance programme in place	In at-risk areas It is foreseen , the collection of samples in the the Northeast and the Southeast areas which are at-risk for classical swine fever also.	All country There is passive surveillance and reporting of the suspected transboundary animal diseases (TADs). Every veterinarian, veterinary technician, farmer, etc.. should immediately reported the suspected TADs to the official veterinarians which enter the suspected records to the RUDA system database. The database distribute an alert message to the defined decision-maker users. The passive surveillance and reporting is regulated by the Minister Order with the No. 335 of the date 3, 12 ,2012.		
Clinical surveillance	Active (# of samples) It is foreseen, in the slaughterhouses where pigs are slaughtered, the collection of samples in case of clinically suspected ASF cases from the official veterinarians and the shipment for the laboratory diagnosis at the FSVI.	All country There is passive surveillance and reporting of the suspected transboundary animal diseases (TADs). Every veterinarian, veterinary technician, farmer, etc.. should immediately reported the suspected TADs to the official veterinarians which enter the suspected records to the RUDA system database. The database distribute an alert message to the defined decision-maker users. The passive surveillance and reporting is regulated by the Minister Order with the No. 335 of the date 3, 12 ,2012.		
Virological surveillance (PCR, Ag) Serosurveillance (Ab)	Testing dead wild boar The forestry inspectors in case of damaged and dead wild boars inform the regional veterinary service which takes the samples and sends to the FSVI for laboratory diagnostics. There has been no cases so far.			
Wild boar surveillance	Testing dead wild boar The forestry inspectors in case of damaged and dead wild boars inform the regional veterinary service which takes the samples and sends to the FSVI for laboratory diagnostics. There has	Testing hunted wild boar Not applied(Memorantium)	Testing dead wild boar in traffic incidents The wild boars grow up far away from the inhabited people areas. There are no such cases so far.	

## Planned ASF outbreak response

Measure	Applied (tick all those answers that apply)			Not applied
Contingency plan for ASF available	The Minister Order with the number 241 of the date 30, 07, 2012 on the Approval of the Regulation "On the Control of the African Swine Fever Disease". (transposed from Council Directive 2002/60/EC of 27 June 2002). – (Needs improvement)			Not specific plan for ASF
Surveillance plan for ASF available	The generic passive surveillance and reporting regulated by the Minister Order with the No. 335 of the date 3, 12 ,2012. (The approval of the reporting form for the immediate reporting of the infectious diseases in animals and the list of the notifiable diseases in the Republic of Albania)			
Cleaning and disinfection	Yes. Provided in the Minister Order, No 241 of the date 30, 07, 2012, The Minister Order with the number 241 of the date 30, 07, 2012 on the Approval of the Regulation "On the Control of the African Swine Fever Disease". (transposed from Council Directive 2002/60/EC of 27 June 2002). – (Needs improvement) (ok)			
Stamping-out policy	All animals in affected farm plus a pre-defined perimeter around of 3(three)km	All animals in affected farm plus neighbouring farms	Only affected farms <b>Animals in affected farm</b>	
Disposal of carcasses	On site Yes. Slaughter.	Outside	Into a plant	
	Burning Yes	Burial Yes	Renderingi	
Wild boar carcasses finding	Passive search. The forestry inspectors in case of damaged and dead wild boars inform the regional veterinary service which takes the samples and sends to the FSVI for laboratory diagnostics.	Reports with economic incentive Not applied	Reports without economic incentive YES	

## ASF awareness campaigns

Awareness campaigns targeted to:	Y/N	Start date	Mean (leaflet, radio, poster, etc.)	Comments
Official vets	Y		Instruction	150 official veterinarians
Private vets	Y		Leaflet & poster	250 private veterinarians
Commercial farmers	Y		Leaflet & poster	10 commercial farms
Small backyard farmers	N			
Traders / Middlemen	N			
Transporters	Y		Leaflet & poster	10 transporters
Hunters	N			
Forestry services/rangers	N			
Others entering the forest (hikers, mushroom pickers...)	N			
Others?	NA			

## ASF challenges, gaps and needs (regulatory, training, equipment, other)

### ASF Challenges:

- ASF active and passive surveillance
- Wild boar ASF surveillance
- ASF vector surveillance
- Change of the structure of the Veterinary Services
- State veterinary service staff position changes in central and field level

### Gaps and Needs:

- Contingency plan and regulation with Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) improvement
- Training of the state veterinarians at central and field level on ASF surveillance and control
- Training of the private veterinarians and paraveterinarians
- Field sample equipments for ASF disease investigation
- Field equipments for disease control in case of outbreaks
- Carcass disposal equipments