



# ASF and the legislative framework: the management of disease eradication through awareness and cooperation

Ministerial Conference on the  
"Eradication of African swine fever in the EU and the long-term  
management of wild boar populations"  
12 December 2018, Brussels

Directorate G – Crisis management in food, animals and plants  
DG SANTE European Commission, Brussels

# Before ASF

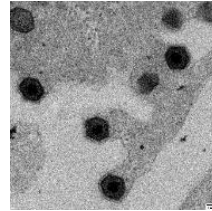
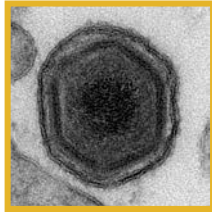


# African swine fever



# African Swine Fever Virus

- Contagious viral disease of swine
- Highly resistant
- Affects domestic and wild pigs



## European susceptible species:

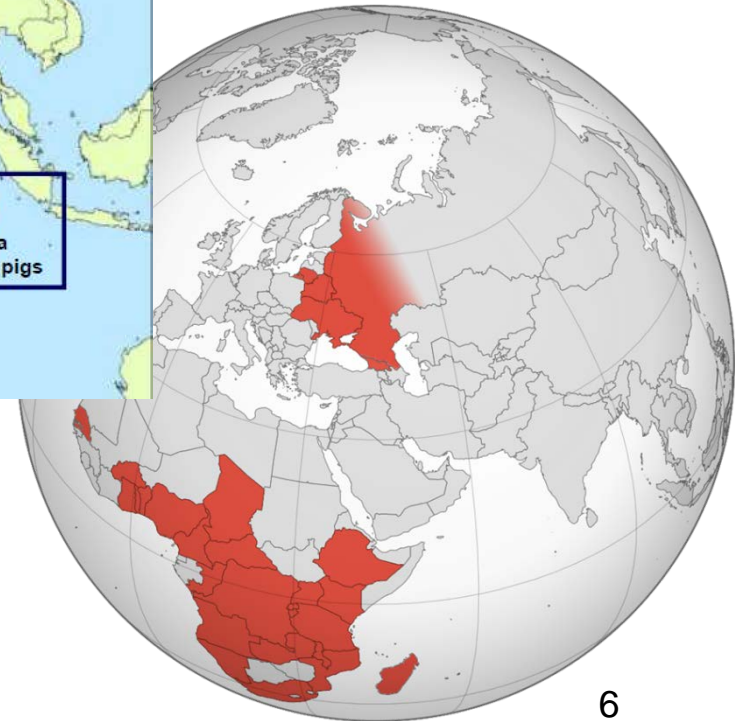
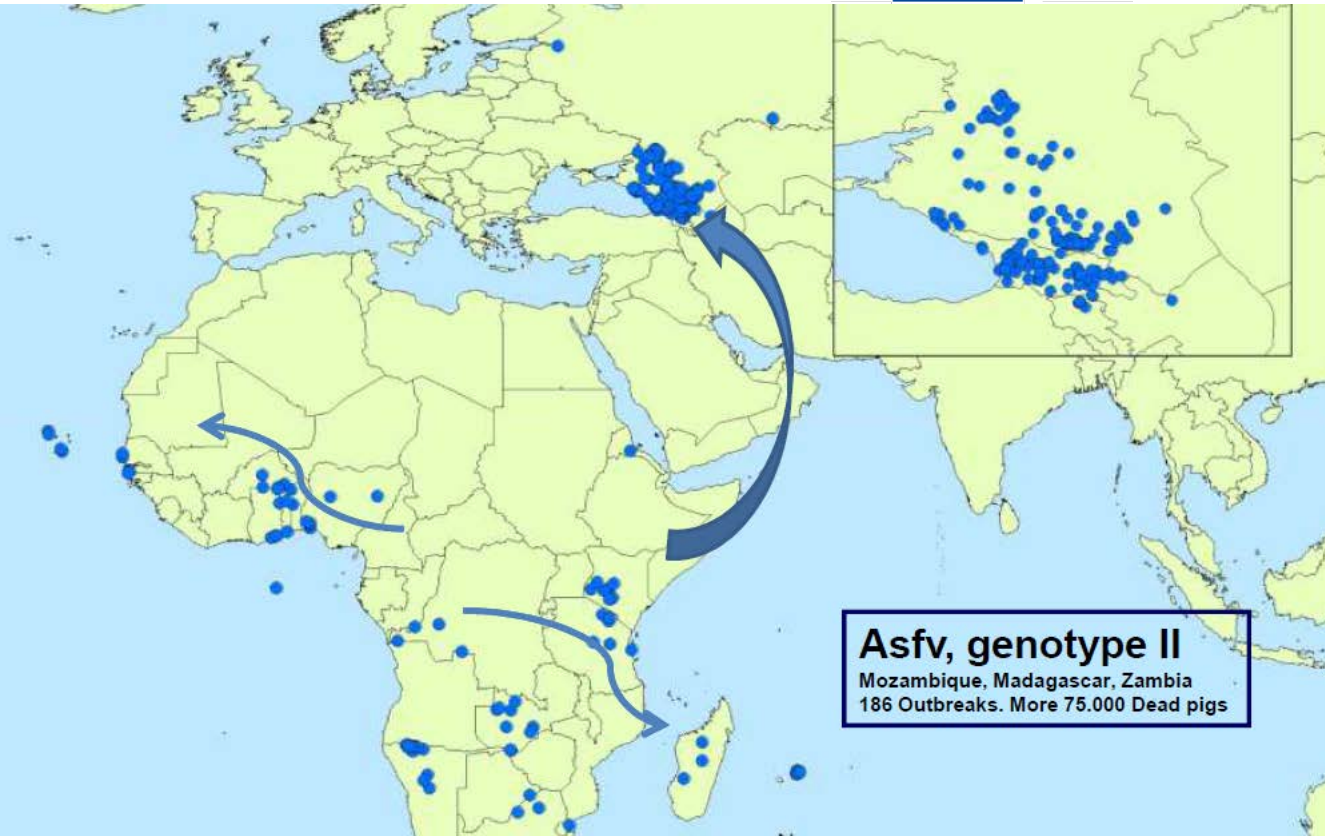
- Domestic pigs and European wild boar
- All age categories (no age dependency)
- Without gender predilection

*It does not affect humans or other animal species*

## ASF in the EU

### **Eradicated from**

- France (1974)
- Mainland Italy (1993)
- Belgium (1985)
- Netherlands (1986)
- Spain (1994)
- Portugal (1999)



2007

# ASF in Europe: 2007-2018

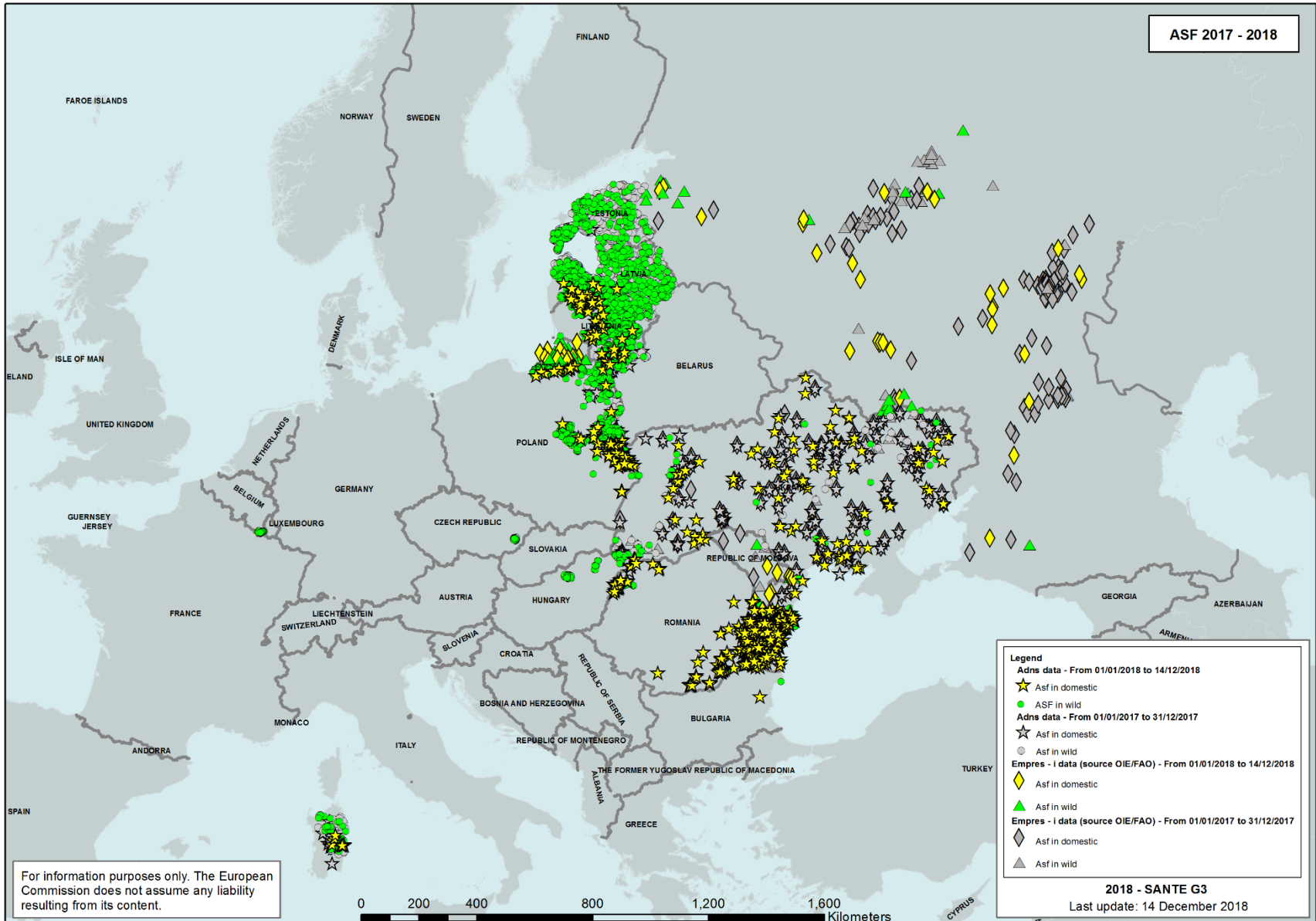
SANTE G3

**ASF: Mar 2007 to Apr 2007**

- ▲ / ● Wild boar
- ◆ / ☆ Domestic pigs



# Current situation of ASF in Europe: 2017-2018





# Situation of ASF in China since August 2018

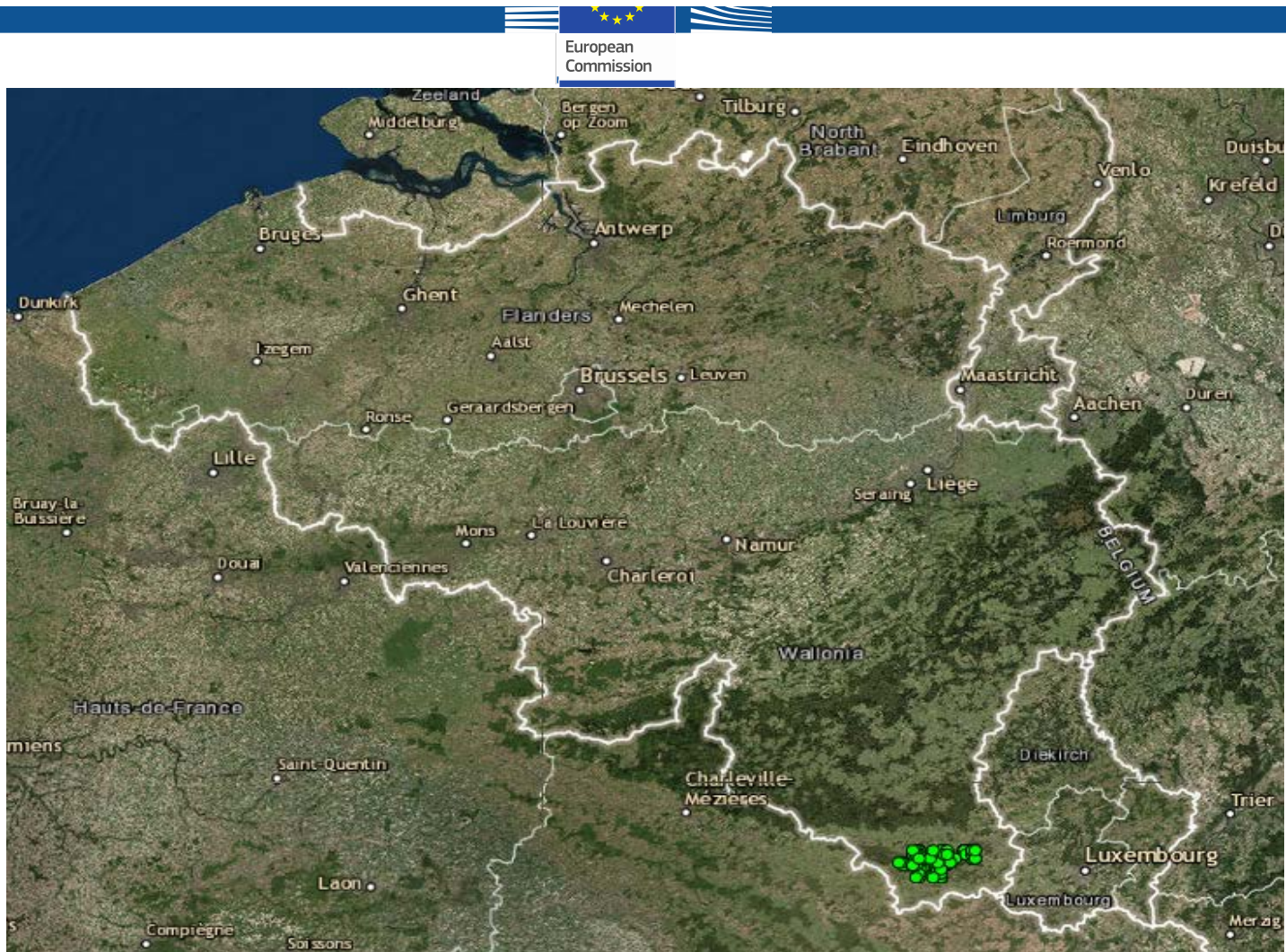


European



- Continuing outbreak cluster - domestic
- ▲ Resolved (wild)
- Resolved (domestic)
- ▲ Continuing (wild)
- Continuing (domestic)
- No information

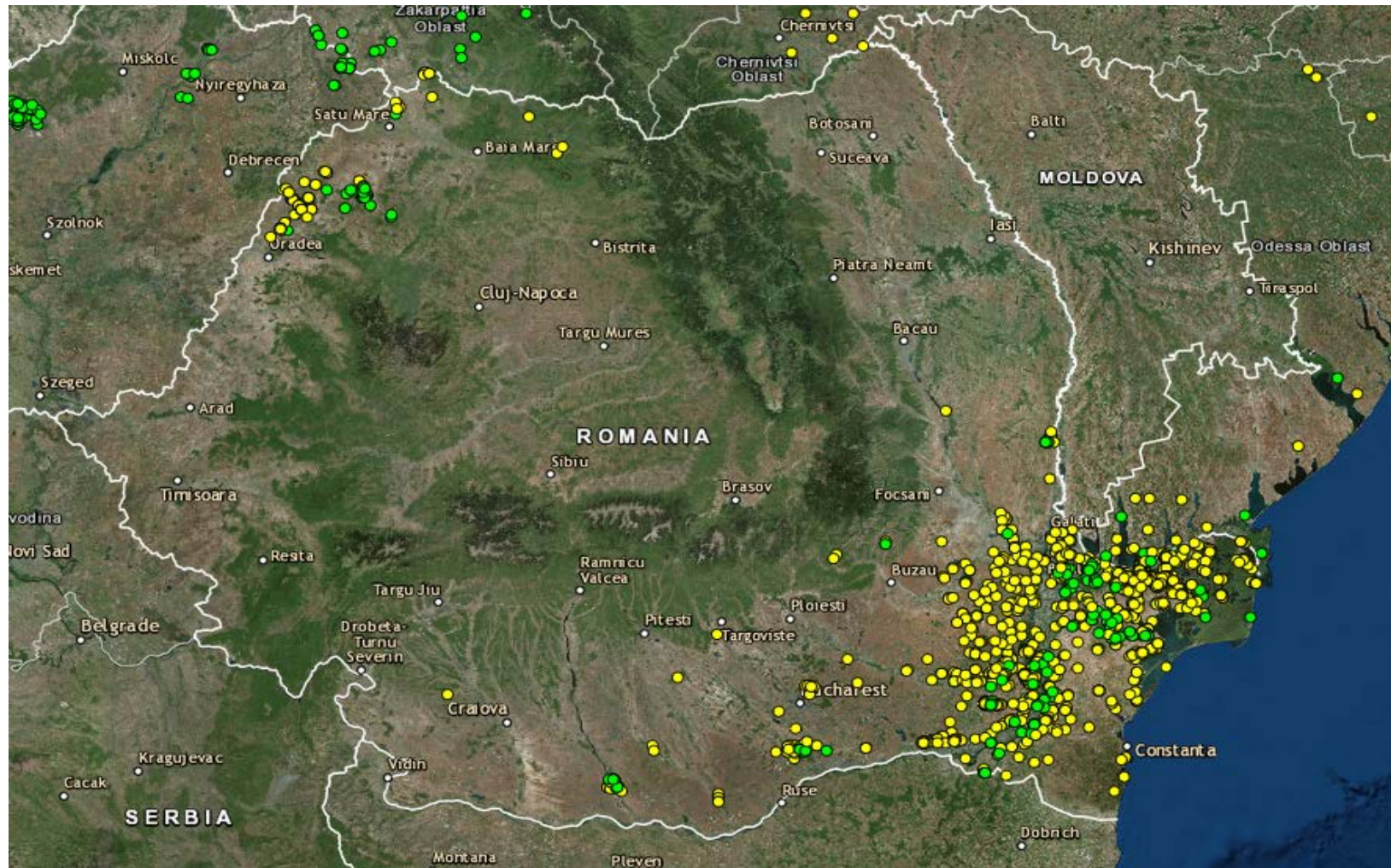
# ASF in Belgium: from 13/09/2018



- Up to 14/12/2018 - 128 ADNS notifications of ASF cases in wild boar
- In the infected area only

# ASF in Romania: in 2018

European  
Commission



1150 outbreaks in domestic pigs & 149 cases in wild boar

# ASF in Czech Republic: in 2018

European  
Commission

## Exit strategy?

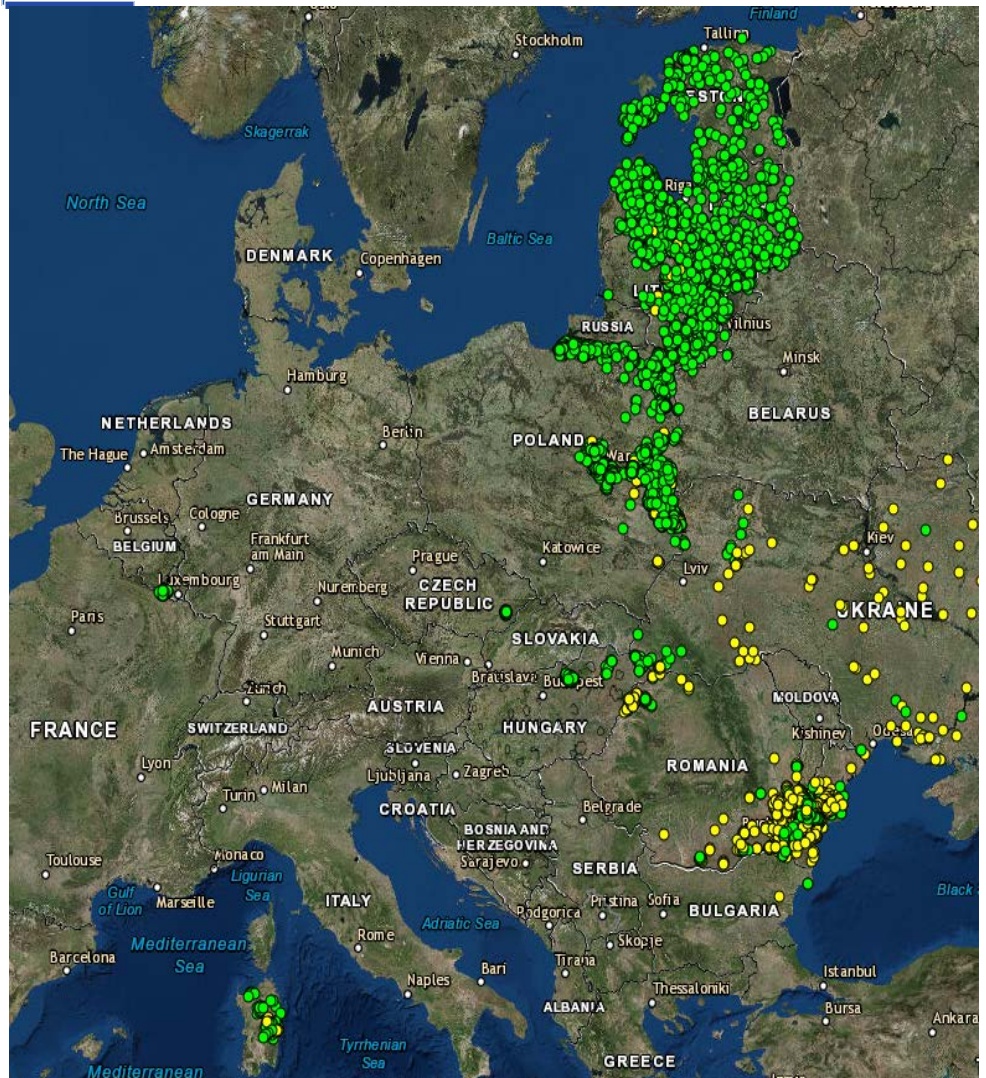


No more cases in wild boar. Last ASF positive carcass (bones) was found 19 April 2018

# ASF in 2018: EU

ADNS DATA up to 17/12/2018	notification of cases in Wild Boar in 2018	Outbreaks in Domestic Pigs 2018
POLAND	2343	109
LITHUANIA	1410	51
LATVIA	662	10
ESTONIA	220	0
CZECH REPUBLIC	28	0
ROMANIA	152	1150
HUNGARY	101	0
BULGARIA	4	1
BELGIUM	135	0
ITALY	55	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5110</b>	<b>1331</b>

European Commission





# Main initiatives of the EU on ASF

Preparedness

Regionalization

Scientific advice (EFSA)

Urgent intervention (EUVET)

Guidance to MSs

Audits

International cooperation (GFTADS)

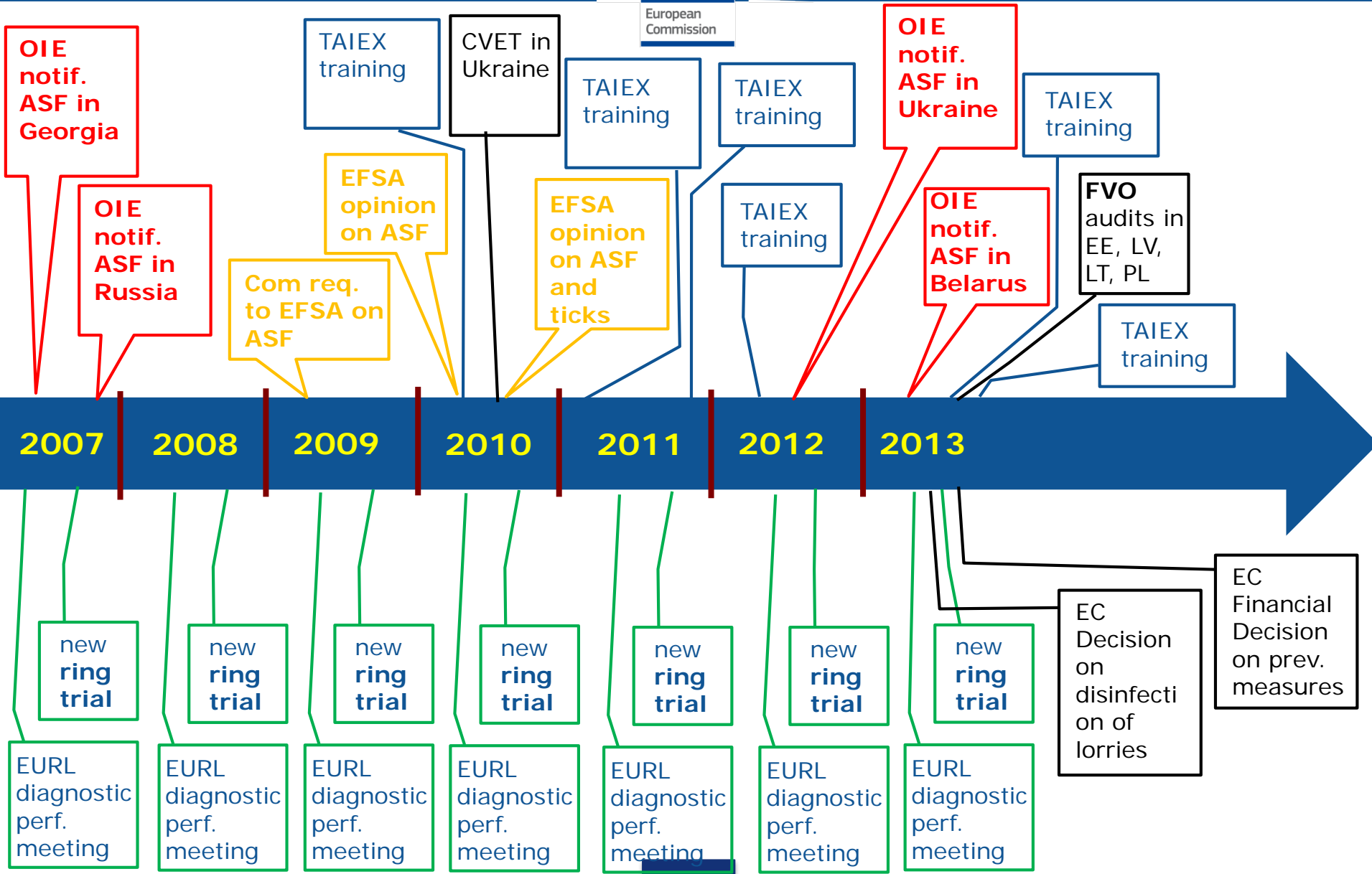
Public awareness

Financial support

Latest initiatives

Research

# Preparedness





## Additional preparedness initiatives across the EU (ASF free MS)

- **Yearly** laboratory **proficiency testing** (ring trial)
- Training initiatives through the Better Training for Safer Food (**BTSF**) instrument
  - Multi-country workshops (6)
  - Sustained Training Missions (3)
- **Audits** by SANTE in Hungary and Finland
- **SANTE fact finding** visit:
  - for ASF preparedness (2)
  - for border controls (16)





## Additional preparedness initiatives across the EU (ASF free MS)

- **Strategic approach** to the management of **African Swine Fever** for the EU
- Guidelines on **surveillance** and control of ASF in feral pigs and preventive measures for pig holdings
- **FP7 projects (research):**
  - **ASFORCE – 2012 to 2015 – 5 MEUR** - contributed to better preparedness for ASF.
  - **ASFRISK -2008 to 2011 – 3 MEUR** - generated serological and molecular diagnostic tools.



# EU regionalization: ASF

# Regionalization in the EU context

- Regionalization is based on the EU Internal Market concept
- Regionalization is applied in the EU in line with OIE and as an integral element of the EU comprehensive strategy aimed at:
  - ensuring the **best possible disease control**
  - **minimize the negative impact of disease outbreaks on the EU single market (intra-EU trade) and on exports** (*without lowering the level of safety of the commodities that are traded/exported (SPS agreement principles)*)

# EU policy on animal disease regionalization

## Characteristics of EU regionalization

- Fulfilling of OIE standards
- Clear criteria to define infected/free- regions
- Measures to maintain/regain free-status of regions
- Surveillance in and outside the infected regions

## Key elements for successful EU regionalisation:

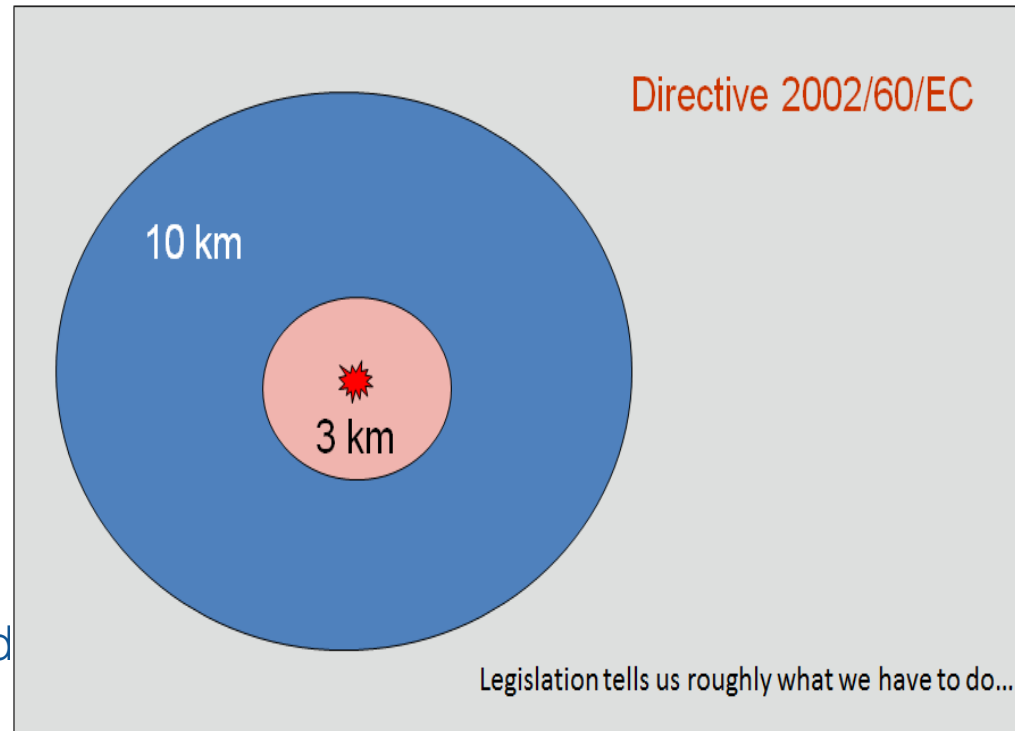
- Flexibility / predictability
- Transparency
- Risk based / proportionality
- Rapidity

## EU ASF regionalization

- When necessary: by European Commission
- Bigger areas can be restricted (e.g. based on administrative / geographical borders)
- Low risk commodities may be traded under certain additional health conditions (risk mitigation)
- Enhanced surveillance inside and outside the infected region (e.g. serological tests)

## Basic baseline

Outbreak of ASF in domestic pigs



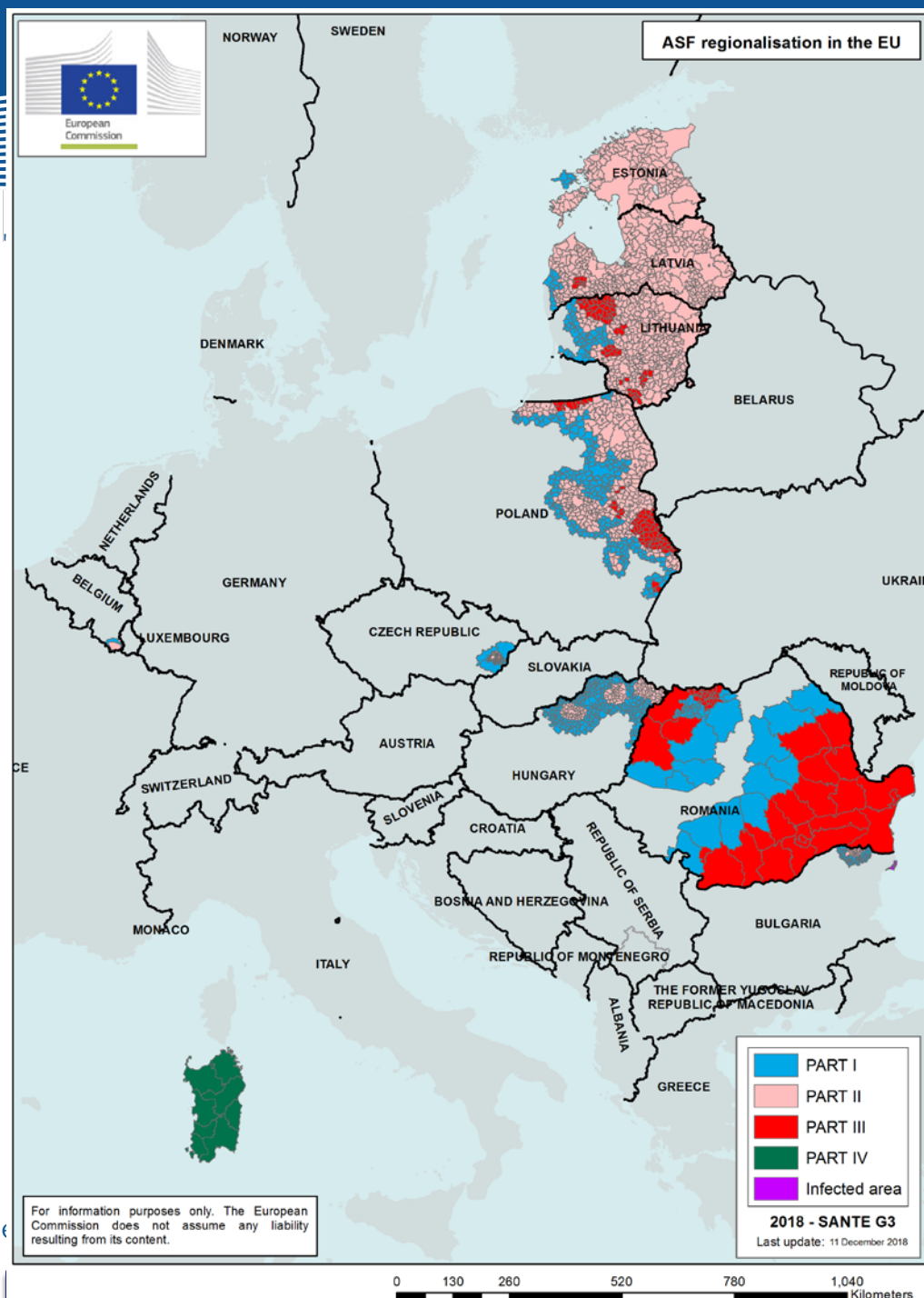
# EU ASF regionalisation measures

Voted in PAFF 11/12/2018

- Adoption: 18/12/2018
- Publication: 19/12/2018

Next revision:

- **PAFF: 15-16/01/2019**
- Clearly defined roles for Member States and Commission
- Rapid flow of information
- Urgent adoption of emergency measures
- Agreed with Member States
- Immediately applicable
- Decisions published in the Official Journal of the European Union in 23 languages



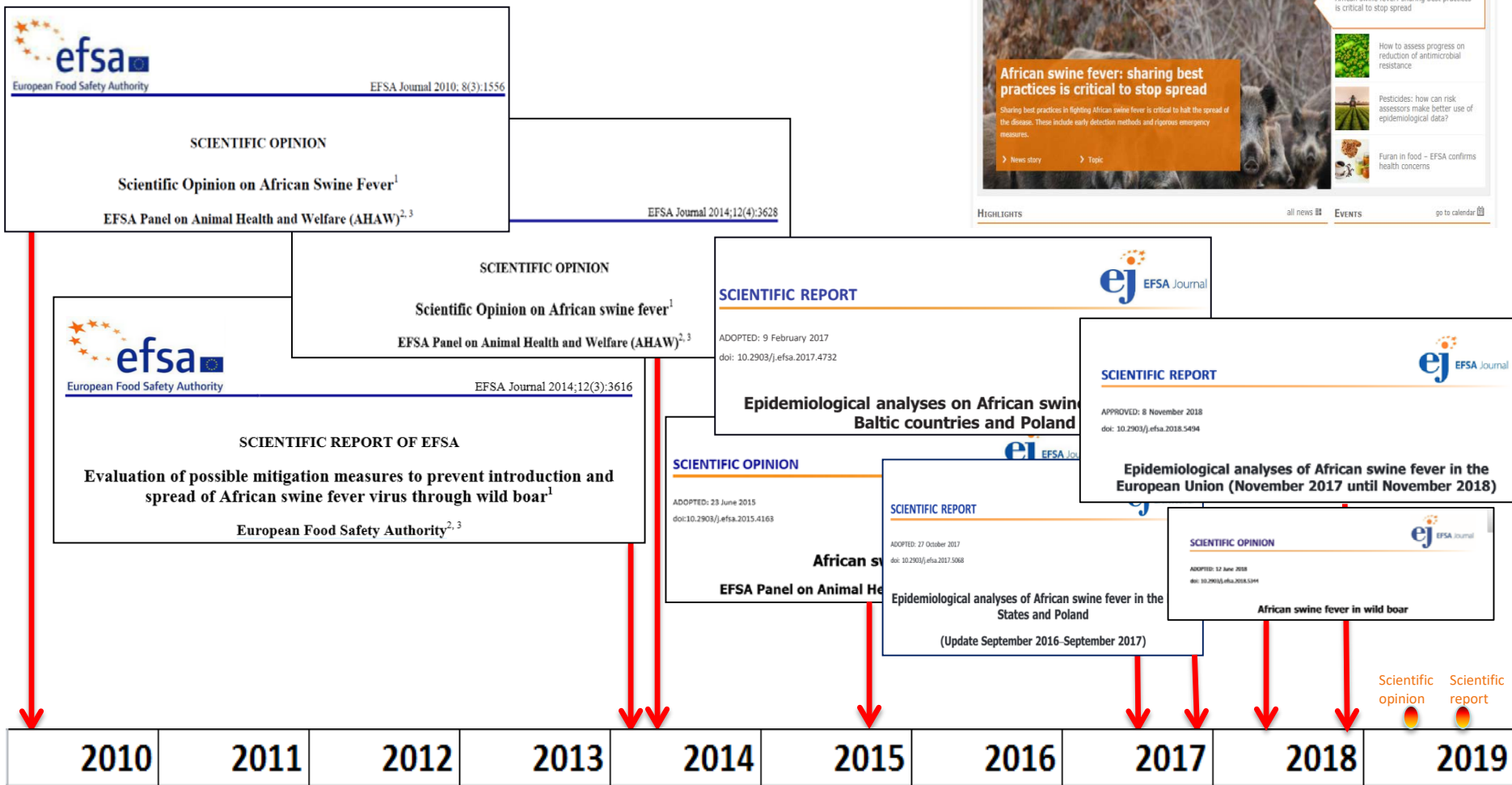
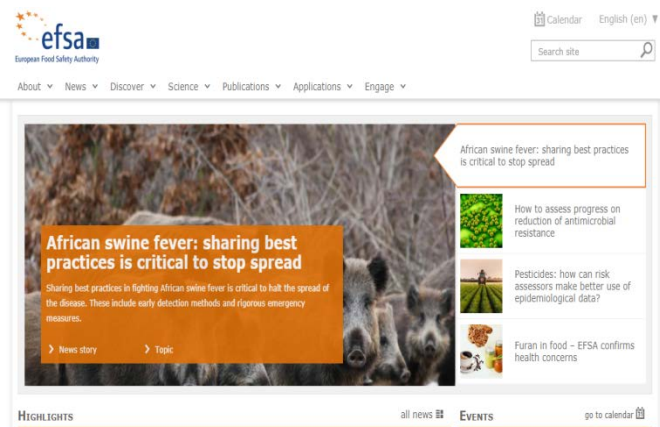


# Scientific advice on ASF



# OVERVIEW OF EFSA'S PAST ASSESSMENTS ON ASF

<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/topics/topic/african-swine-fever>





## EFSA ON ASF – RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

- *New scientific opinion: published in July 2018*
- *Epidemiological assessment: published in November 2018*
- *The Commission provided **two new mandates** last week for*
  - **Review the main ASF research gaps: June 2019**
  - **Estimation of the risk of spread of ASF: Jun-Dec 2019**
  - **Review the evaluation of the ability of matrices, including vegetables, crops, hay and straw as well as sawdust, wood chips and similar materials likely to present a risk to transmit ASF: June 2019**



# Urgent intervention

# EU Veterinary Emergency Team **EUVET** missions on ASF in 2018

1. *Hungary: 24-25 April 2018 (wild boar)*
2. *Romania: 5-9 June 2018 (wild boar)*
3. *Romania: 2-4 July 2018 (domestic pigs)*
4. *Bulgaria: 1-3 August 2018 (preparedness)*
5. *Bulgaria: 4-7 September 2018 (domestic pigs)*
6. *Belgium: 14-17 September 2018 (wild boar)*
7. *Belgium: 11-12 October 2018 (follow-up)*
8. *France: 18-19 October 2018 (immediate threat)*





# Audits



## (i) Audits + fact finding missions: **Directorate SANTE F**

- Audits on **implementation of border controls** against ASF in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland done in 2013. In 2014 follow-up audits on implementation of border controls against ASF in Latvia and Estonia (**6 audits**).
- Audits carried out on **animal health preparedness and eradication (12 missions)**: in relation to ASF in Poland and Lithuania (2014), Estonia (2015), Latvia and Estonia (2016), Poland, Hungary, Lithuania, Slovakia and Romania (2017), fact finding mission to Moldova and audit in Czech Republic (2018).
- Two series of **fact finding mission (16 missions)**: carried out by the Commission in 2016 and in 2017 in Finland, Estonia Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Hungary, Romania and Slovakia.



## (ii) Audits + fact finding missions:

### Directorate SANTE F

- Audits

- ✓ Romania (17 – 25 October 2018)
- Lithuania (Jan-Feb 2019)
- Hungary (Mar-Apr 2019)
- Poland (May 2019)

- Fact finding missions on ASF preparedness

- ✓ Slovakia (3 – 7 December 2018)
- ✓ Spain (10 – 14 December 2018)
- Germany (Jan-Feb 2018)
- Austria (Feb-Mar 2019)



# Guidance to Member States



# EC Guidance to MSs

## 1. Strategic approach to the management of African Swine Fever for the EU

*A new Annex II with main measures for ASF prevention and early detection in Member States free from ASF:*

- Management of wild boar** (cooperation with agricultural and environmental sectors, biosecurity during hunting, hunting management, ban of feeding, measures along important road networks to address "human factor" and etc.);
- Public awareness** (specific trainings and targeted awareness raising campaigns, etc.);
- Pig farming sector** (update of contingency plans, upscaling of biosecurity measures, effective passive surveillance, inspections, preventive slaughter, etc.);
- Other** (official control at borders, enhanced cooperation between relevant sectors and cross-border communication, etc.).

## 2. The principles and criteria for geographically and temporally defining ASF regionalisation

*This document provides main criteria for classification, definition of ASF areas and for lifting the restrictions.*

## 3. Guidelines on surveillance and control of African swine fever in feral pigs and preventive measures for pig holdings

*The aim of this document is to provide guidance to the Member States in controlling ASF when the disease is suspected or confirmed in feral pigs.*





# International cooperation

# EU international cooperation: GF-TADs (FAO/OIE):

- 11 meeting of the Standing Group of Experts on ASF in the Baltic and Eastern Europe region since 2014:
  - Bern (22/09/14) - **Kick-off**
  - Minsk (1-2/12/14) – **Wild boar management**
  - Tallinn (11-12/02/15) – **backyard holding management**
  - Moscow (15-16/03/16) - **reviewing the outcome of the ASF filed visits**
  - Lisbon (19/09/16) - **ASF situation and planning actions**
  - Vilnius (28-29/11/16) - **ASF situation and planning actions**
  - Paris (23/05/17) - **ASF situation and planning actions**
  - Moldova (20-21/09/17) – **awareness and communication**
  - Kiev (22-23/03/2018) - **cross border cooperation addressing (legal and) irregular movements of pigs and their products**
  - Paris (22/05/18) - **ASF situation and planning actions**
  - Warsaw (September 2018) - **ASF epidemiology in wild boar population and in the environment**
  - Prague, SGE ASF12 (11-12 March 2019) – Practical field management
- 10 Field visits by GFTADs experts in Belarus, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, the Czech Republic and Romania + Bulgaria (January 2019)



# EU international cooperation on ASF: **Ministerial meetings**

- **7 High level Ministerial meetings on ASF:**
  - Vilnius – 17/05/15
  - Tallinn – 26/02/16
  - Warsaw – 28/10/16
  - Riga – 02/06/17
  - Prague - 08/11/17
  - Warsaw – 26/03/2018
  - **Bruxelles– 19/12/2018**
  
- Bruxelles–06/09/2018
  - High-Level Conference "Transboundary Animal Diseases in Europe: The Importance of International Cooperation for a sustainable livestock



# Public awareness

# Don't bring

Diseases such as African carried in pigmeat, which

# Public awareness (1)

[http://web.oie.int/RR-Europe/eng/Regprog/en\\_ASF\\_depository.htm#ASFcampaignmaterial](http://web.oie.int/RR-Europe/eng/Regprog/en_ASF_depository.htm#ASFcampaignmaterial)

**EASY STEPS FOR PREVENTING SPREAD OF AFRICAN SWINE FEVER**

- X DO NOT leave food in areas accessible to wild boar**
- ✓ ENSURE leftover food is put in sealed waste container**
- X DO NOT bring meat or meat products back from non EU countries even for personal use**
- ✓ PAY ATTENTION to information on what can and what cannot be introduced when travelling**
- X DO NOT touch a dead or sick wild boar**
- ✓ NOTIFY competent authorities with any suspicious sightings or concerns**

**@Food\_EU #AfricanSwineFever**  
[https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-diseases/control-measures/asf\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-diseases/control-measures/asf_en)

**Voorkom Afrikaanse varkenspest**

In Europa is Afrikaanse varkenspest in opmars. Deze ernstige ziekte kan ernstige schade aanrichten aan de varkenssector.

Afrikaanse varkenspest is niet besmettelijk voor mensen. Het virus wordt overgebracht door wilde zwijnen en wild zwijnen. Het kan ook worden overgebracht door contact met een dode of zieke wilde zwijn of wild zwijn.

Laat dus geen vleeswaren (varkensvlees) achter in uw afvalcontainer.

**Wichtig!** **Weg!** **Weg!**

**Achtung**

Das Bundesministerium für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft der Bundesrepublik Deutschland informiert Sie über die Gefahr der Afrikanischen Schweinepest (ASP).

Die ASP ist eine hoch ansteckende Tiererkrankung, die für Menschen nicht gefährlich ist, aber für Schweine tödlich verläuft. Die ASP wird durch Wildschweine, Wildschweinprodukte und Fleisch übertragen. Sie können daher Speisereste in Müllbehälter!

Bitte beachten Sie: Wildschweine sind in Deutschland geschützt. Die Jagd ist nur durch eine Jagdgesellschaft möglich. Wildschweine sind in der Regel in der Nähe von Wald, Feldern und Gewässern zu finden.

Bitte beachten Sie: Wildschweine sind in Deutschland geschützt. Die Jagd ist nur durch eine Jagdgesellschaft möglich. Wildschweine sind in der Regel in der Nähe von Wald, Feldern und Gewässern zu finden.

**Pozor!**

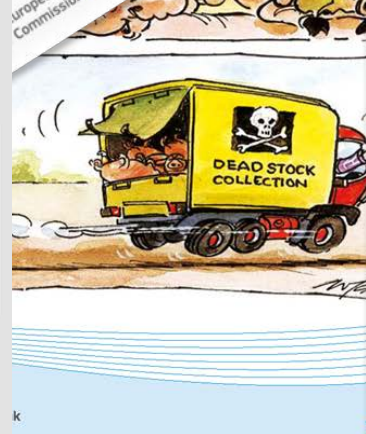
Spolkové ministerstvo pro výživu a zemědělství Spolkové republiky Německo informuje:

Od afrického kontinentu se šíří nebezpečná prasečí onemocnění ASF (Africká svinečí chřipka).

Pro více informací se obraťte na téma ASF a mapu příběhu na webových stránkách EFSA: <https://goo.gl/oU3EdD>

**efsa** European Food Safety Authority

**European Commission**



Информация Федерального министерства продовольствия и сельского хозяйства Федеративной Республики Германия:

С 2014 года в Европе распространяется очень заразная африканская чума свиней, представляющая угрозу для миллионов домашних и диких свиней. Это не опасное для человека заболевание может передаваться через продукты питания. Поэтому просим Вас выбрасывать остатки пищи только в закрытые мусорные контейнеры!



# Public awareness (2)

European  
Commission

## KEEP ANIMAL DISEASES OUT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION!



**TRAVELLERS MUST SURRENDER THESE  
PRODUCTS FOR OFFICIAL CONTROLS\***

Products of animal origin may carry pathogens that  
cause infectious diseases in animals.

There are strict procedures and veterinary controls on the  
introduction of products of animal origin into the European Union.

\*Other than those arriving with small quantities for personal consumption from:  
Andorra, the Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, San Marino and Switzerland

European  
Commission

## KEEP ANIMAL DISEASES OUT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION!



**TRAVELLERS MUST  
SURRENDER THESE  
PRODUCTS FOR  
OFFICIAL CONTROLS\***

Products of animal origin may carry pathogens that  
cause infectious diseases in animals.

There are strict procedures and veterinary controls on the introduction  
of products of animal origin into the European Union.

\*Other than those arriving with small quantities for personal consumption from:  
Andorra, the Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, San Marino and Switzerland



# Financial support



# Continues **financial support** to prevent, control and eradicate ASF

- Since 2013, grants for a total amount of **EUR 95 million** have been awarded for programmes and emergency measures implemented by MS in the combat against ASF
- Up to 75% co-funding rate for the reimbursement of the cost incurred
- **Awareness campaigns** and wild boar **passive surveillance** are now eligible in all MSs (if not in approved programmes, under emergency measures)
- From 2020: compensation and selective hunting not eligible in the programmes





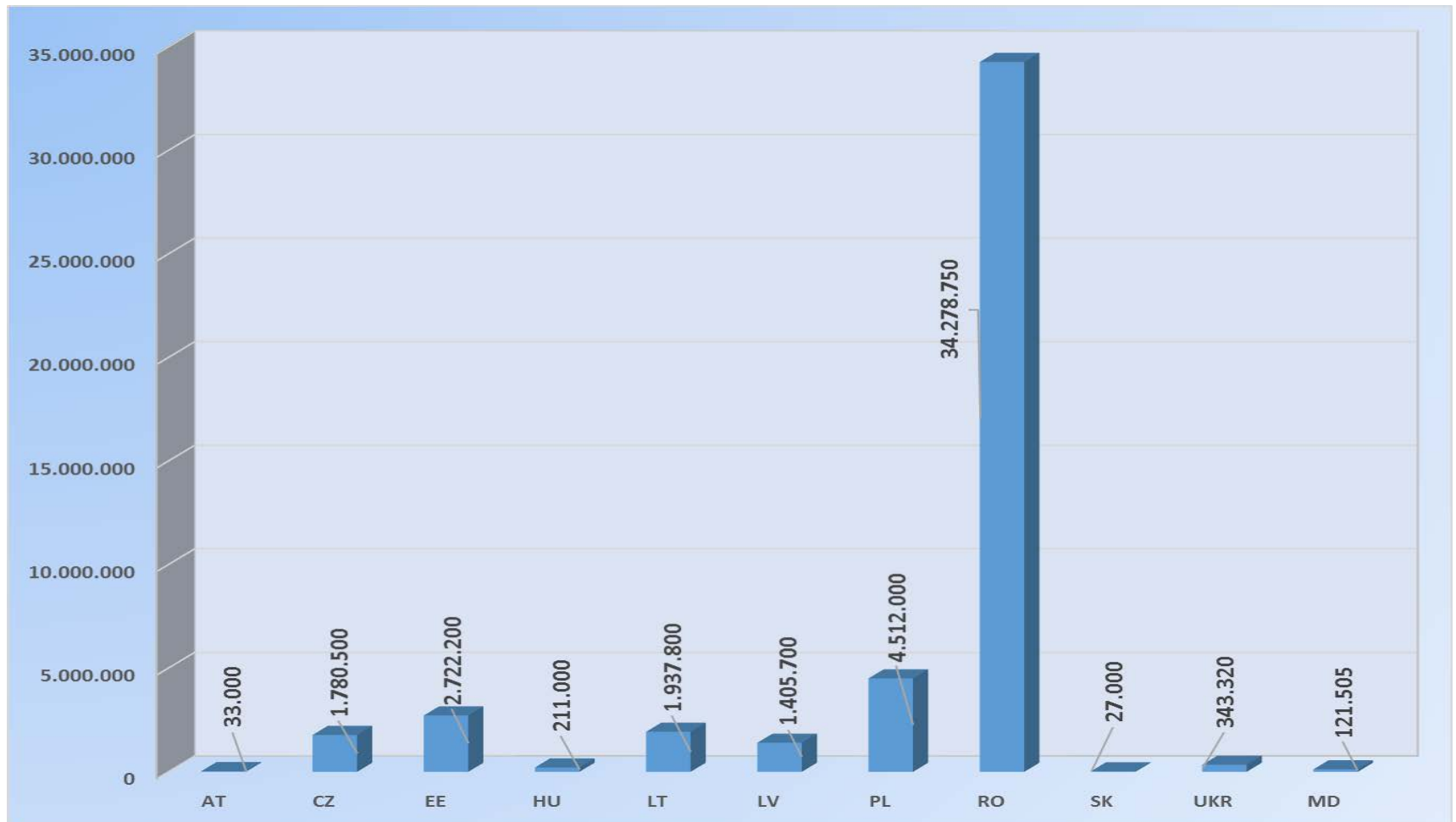
## EU financial support – eradication programmes:

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	TOTAL
DE	0	0	0	0	0	73,000	73,000
EE	45,000	349,200	2,400,000	2,184,000	2,425,000	761,000	8,164,200
FI	0	0	0	0	24,000	27,000	51,000
HU	0	211,000	241,000	348,000	340,000	465,000	1,605,000
LT	1,454,000	3,885,800	1,176,000	1,393,000	1,665,000	1,558,000	11,131,800
LV	829,000	1,595,700	667,000	1,695,000	4,613,000	729,000	10,128,700
PL	143,000	4,512,000	1,332,000	1,515,000	4,328,000	2,509,000	14,339,000
RO	0	0	55,000	102,000	309,000	726,000	1,192,000
SK	0	27,000	106,000	335,000	131,000	992,000	1,591,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>2,471,000</b>	<b>10,580,700</b>	<b>5,977,000</b>	<b>7,572,000</b>	<b>13,835,000</b>	<b>7,840,000</b>	<b>48,275,700</b>



European  
Commission

# EU financial support – emergency measures (since 2013):





# Research



# Research on ASF

- **FP7 projects:**
- **ASFORCE** – 2012 to 2015 – **5 MEUR** - contributed to better preparedness for ASF.
- **ASFRISK** -2008 to 2011 – **3 MEUR** - generated serological and molecular diagnostic tools.
  
- **H2020 projects:**
- **DEFEND** Topic SFS-10-2017: - **5.5 MEUR** - to identify the drivers of ASF emergence in Europe and to develop tools for its management (wild boar) and will also address preliminary work on development of a vaccine.
- **Other: SWINOSTICS (3 MEUR), ASF-STOP** (COST action for an international network with a broad aim on ASF surveillance and control), **VETBIONET (10 MEUR)** network of facilities researching animal diseases on infectious animal diseases - including ASF.
- **Topic SFS-12-2019**, an IA (**10 MEUR**) support the development of an **effective ASF vaccine**.
- **ERANETs in agri-food** amended to broaden its scope to infectious animal diseases, with a strong focus on ASF/wildlife/epidemiology (**5 MEUR**). It is also expected that further calls/activities under this ERANET would pull additional €10-15 million over the years.

The portfolio of actions taken/planned covers extensively aspects of ASF and mobilizes at least **€43-48 million**.



# Institutional initiatives



# Institutional Initiatives

- **AGRIFISH Council:**
  - ASF was on the agenda of 10 meetings since 2014; the latest discussion took place on 15 October 2018
- **EU Parliament (COMAGRI):**
  - Commission intervened on 16 July 2015, 13 October 2016, 10 October 2017, 20 June 2018 and 8 October 2018
- **EU Parliament (PLENARY):**
  - 13 December 2018 - Oral Question on African Swine Fever
- **Letter to Prime Ministers of selected countries**
  - 25 May 2018 -to invite Governments to implement measures to ensure that the possible spread of ASF through the 'human factor' is fully addressed at all EU entry points



# Latest initiatives



# Latest initiatives

- **Cooperation between Ministers of Forestry and Environment and Ministers of Agriculture:**
  - a letter from Commissioners Mr. Andriukaitis and Mr. Vella was sent to the Ministers of Agriculture and the Ministers of Environment of all the Member States on the 26/10/2018
  - Informal ministerial meeting on ASF in Brussels on **19 December 2018**, in the margins of the December AGRIFISH Council – [HERE WE ARE](#)
- **Cooperation between Ministers of Transport and Ministers of Agriculture**
  - a letter from Commissioners Mr. Andriukaitis and Mrs. Bulc was sent on 24/10/2018: request for increased cooperation
  - Request for cooperation and awareness raising in the sector of long-distance road transport and along major highways
- **Common event on ASF with EU hunters organization (FACE)** – January 2019, Dortmund at "*Jagd&Hund*" hunting exhibition



# Common event on ASF with FACE

30 January 2019

Dortmund,  
Germany

*"Jagd & Hund"*  
hunting exhibition



European Commission/FACE Conference  
**PREPARING EUROPEAN HUNTERS TO COMBAT  
AFRICAN SWINE FEVER**



Interpretation: EN-DE  
Livestream provided

30 January 2019, 10:00-16:00  
Kongresszentrum Westfalenhallen, "Silbersaal"



Kongresszentrum Westfalenhallen, "Silbersaal"  
(Rheinlanddamm 200, 44139 Dortmund)





Before ASF

-14°C 02:37:54 07/01/2016



After ASF



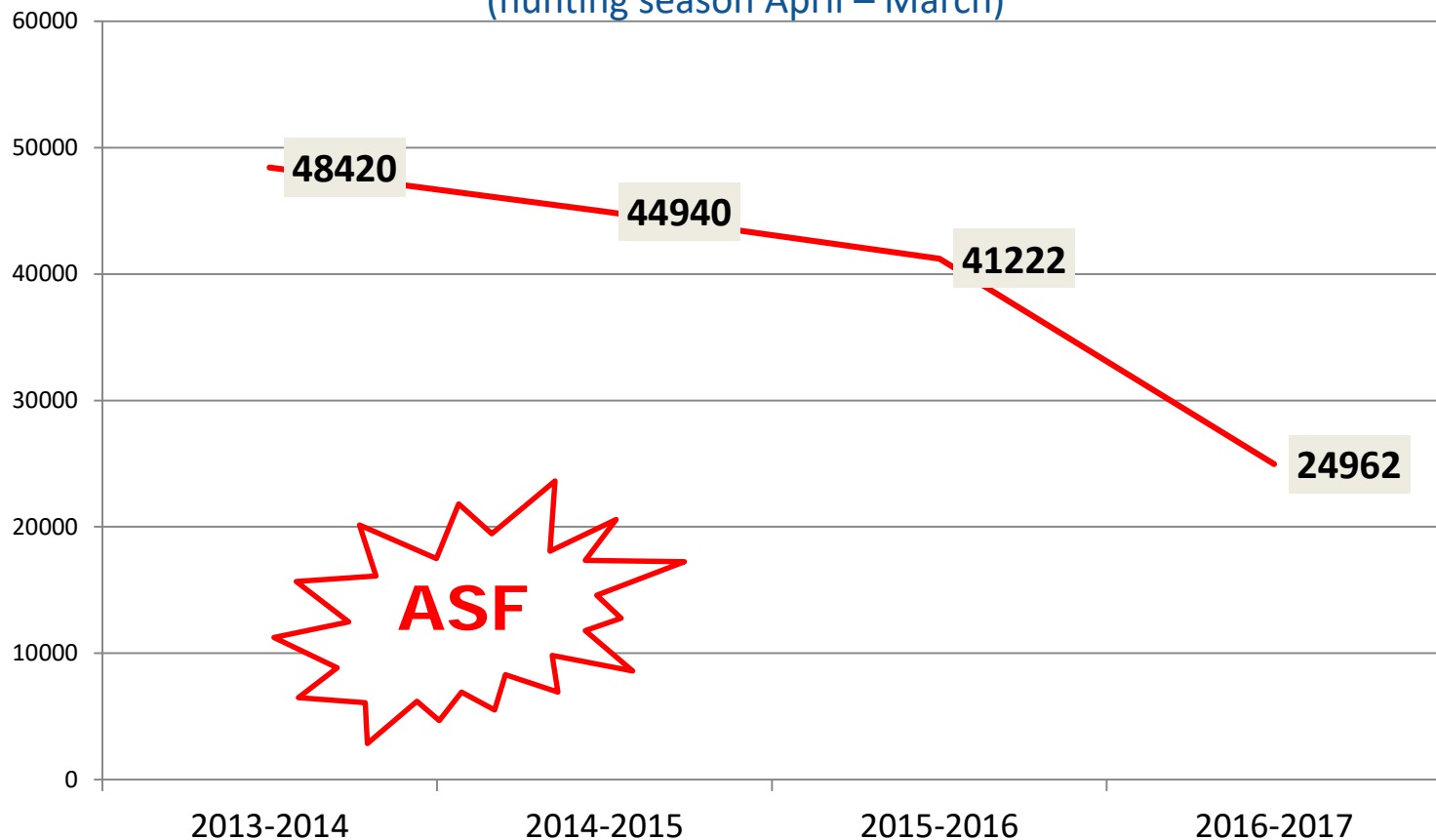
# Hunters Have to Change their Perspective





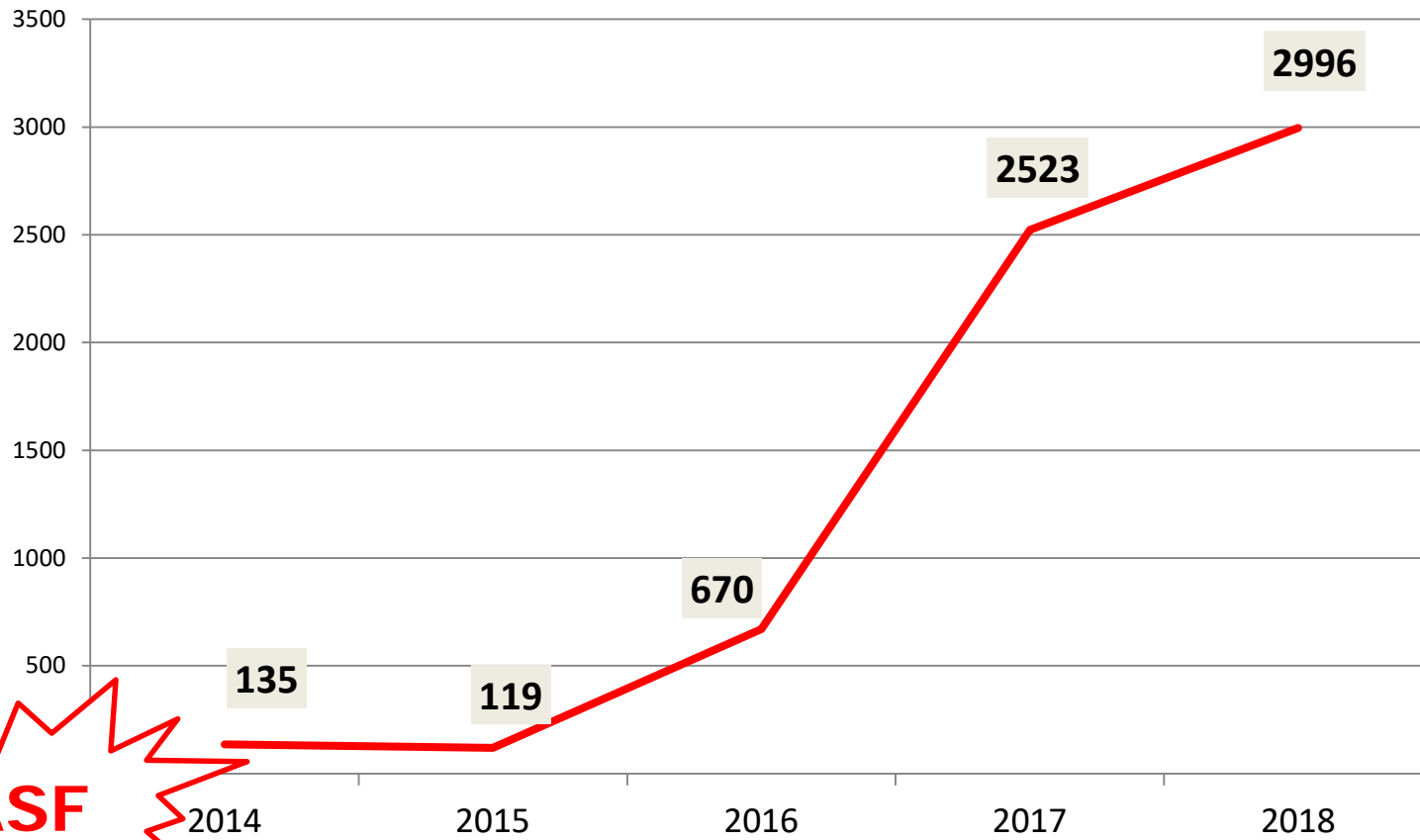
## Wild boar hunted in Lithuania 2013-2017

(hunting season April – March)



\* First ASF case in Lithuania – 24/01/2014

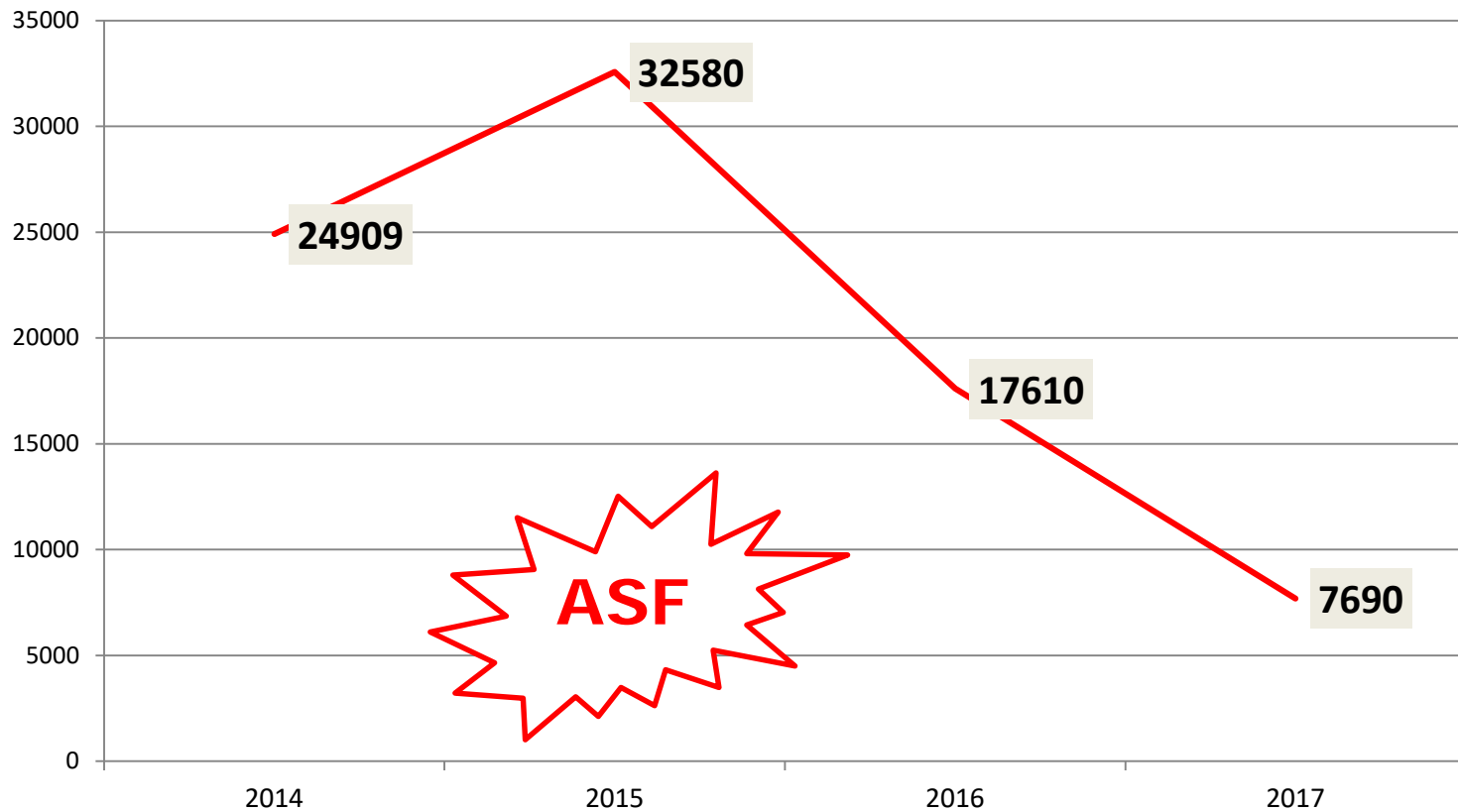
## Wild boar found dead in Lithuania 2014-2018



\* First ASF case in Lithuania – 24/01/2014



## Wild boar hunted in Estonia 2015-2017



\* First ASF case in Estonia – 08/09/2014

# Now They See This:







# Thank you!

**CHRONOLOGY OF MAIN INITIATIVE TAKEN OR SUPPORTED BY THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION:**

[https://ec.europa.eu/food/sites/food/files/animals/docs/ad-control\\_measures-asf-chronology\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/food/sites/food/files/animals/docs/ad-control_measures-asf-chronology_en.pdf)