About this dossier

Output on: 2021/02/01 15:55 (Europe/Luxembourg)

Last updated: 2020/12/07 07:08

Status: closed (submitted)

Created: 2020/03/09 07:59

Eradication: Final report for Rabies 2019

For each approved annual or multi-annual programme Member States shall submit to the Commission by the 30 April each year an annual detailed technical and financial report covering the previous year. That report shall include the results achieved and a detailed account of eligible costs incurred (Art 14 of Regulation (EU) No 652/2014).

This form is for information only, no submission possible.

ID: 20200309-4Z9LC6PR

Country code: FI

Reporting period

From: 2019 **To:** 2019 **Year of implementation:** 2019

1. Technical implementation of the programme

1.1 Description and evaluation of the evolution of the epidemiological situation, the technical implementation of the activities foreseen under the programme and the cost-effectiveness of the programme.

Finland has been rabies free since 1991. In order to prevent rabies from spreading across the national border, oral rabies vaccination has been carried out annually since 1991. Since 2004, the vaccination was carried out twice a year and in 2011 the vaccination area was increased due to announcement of rabies in Karelia. Since 2014 the vaccination has been carried out once per year, in the autumn, due to the favourable disease situation and to reduce the costs of vaccination. In 2019 the oral vaccination campaign was carried out between 14.9.-30.10.2019 in Finland. The total area was 10 000 km2 (9000 km2 land area) and the total amount of vaccines delivered was 180 000 by aerial distribution.
Since 2003 rabies vaccine baits have been distributed manually once per year in Russia in the area adjacent to Finland. In 2011 bilateral agreements were signed with the Leningrad region and Republic of Karelia.
Both agreements were renewed in 2014. The agreement with the Republic of Karelia was once more renewed in 2018. Rabies vaccination baits were distributed manually in two districts of Karelia close to the Finnish border, Sortavala and Lahdenpohja. In Sortavala 12970 vaccine baits were distributed over an area of 518.8 km2 between 16 and 19 October. In Lahdenpohja 18000 vaccine baits were distributed over an area of 720 km2 between 16 and 18 October.
The Leningrad region authorities have confirmed that they are not applying for co-financing of their

programme.
No rabies cases have been detected in the Republic of Karelia nor in the Leningrad region in 2019.

1.2 Details on the level of achievement of the targets set in the approved programme and technical difficulties.

The seroconversion of foxes and raccoon dogs are measured from the vaccination area in Finland as well as biomarker detection and age determination. The aim is to get 4 animals per 100 square kilometres, that is 360 animals in total. The target was not achieved. From the vaccination area, a total of 321 foxes and raccoon dogs were sent to the laboratory. 281 foxes and raccoon dogs were analyzed for rabies (FAT) and 251 for rabies antibodies. 44.6 % (CI 95% 39-51 %) of them were seropositive. Tetracycline samples were taken from 299 animals and 72 % of the samples were positive. Altogether, 542 animals (excluding bats) were tested for rabies from the whole country. Eligible animals for co-funding are indicator animals (passive surveillance, 181 animals) and foxes and raccoon dogs from the vaccination area (321, active surveillance), 502 in total.
In the Republic of Karelia, Russia, it has been challenging to get sufficient amounts of samples for monitoring and surveillance, in particular from dead animals. The results of the monitoring have not been what would be expected for the past years. In 2019 there were no foxes or raccoon dogs positive in serology or for the biomarker. Those disappointing results might be due to the low amount of animals sampled. However two wolves were positive for tetracycline.
In the Republic of Karelia, the vaccine distributed was Rabistav, manufactured by FKP Stavropolskaja biofabrika. The manufacturer analysed the vaccine on 11.9.2019 and found it to be satisfactory.

1.3 Epidemiological maps for infection and other relevant data on the disease/activities (information on serotypes involved,...) (Please attach files of data using the PDF attachement feature) Use the textbox below to provide clarifications for the maps you attach, if needed.

The Republic of Karelia has submitted maps which can be submitted separately by e-mail on request.

ANNEX VI TECHNICAL REPORT ON RABIES PROGRAMMES

VERY IMPORTANT: Please fill out the following tables with figures corresponding to measures performed during the implementing period (1/1 to 31/12).

Table A1 - TEST FOR THE MONITORING OF VACCINATION EFFECTIVENESS

Region	Species and age	Type of test	Test description	Number of tests	Number positive	% positive
Russia, Karelia	Wolves	Biomarker	Tetracycline in bones	23	2	8.7 %
Russia, Karelia	Wolves	Serological	VNT/FAVN/ELISA	5	0	0 %
Finland	Foxes juvenile	Serological	VNT/FAVN/ELISA	15	4	26.67 %
Finland	Foxes adult	Serological	VNT/FAVN/ELISA	22	13	59.09 %
Finland	Foxes unknown age	Serological	VNT/FAVN/ELISA	12	1	8.33 %
Finland	Racoon dogs juvenile	Serological	VNT/FAVN/ELISA	124	48	38.71 %
Finland	Racoon dogs adult	Serological	VNT/FAVN/ELISA	66	37	56.06 %
Finland	Racoon dogs adult	Serological	VNT/FAVN/ELISA	12	9	75 %
Finland	Foxes juvenile	Biomarker	Tetracycline in bones	22	9	40.91 %
Finland	Foxes adult	Biomarker	Tetracycline in bones	32	25	78.13 %
Finland	Foxes unknown age	Biomarker	Tetracycline in bones	4	2	50 %
Finland	Racoon dogs juvenile	Biomarker	Tetracycline in bones	149	108	72.48 %
Finland	Racoon dogs adult	Biomarker	Tetracycline in bones	85	67	78.82 %
Finland	Racoon dogs adult	Biomarker	Tetracycline in bones	7	5	71.43 %
Total				578	330	57.09 %

Table A2 - SURVEILLANCE TESTS

Region	Animal species	Category	Test description	Number of tests	Number of cases
Russia, Karelia, Sortavala	Foxes	Active	VNT/FAVN/ELISA	1	0
Russia, Karelia, Lahdenpohja	Foxes	Active	VNT/FAVN/ELISA	3	0
Russia, Karelia, Sortavala	Racoon dogs	Active	VNT/FAVN/ELISA	5	0
Russia, Karelia, Sortavala	Wolves	Active	VNT/FAVN/ELISA	3	0
Russia, Karelia, Lahdenpohja	Wolves	Active	VNT/FAVN/ELISA	1	0

Russia, Karelia, Lahdenpohja	Other wilds carnivores	Active	VNT/FAVN/ELISA	2	0
Russia, Karelia, other	Wolves	Active	VNT/FAVN/ELISA	19	0
Finland, vaccination area	Racoon dogs	Active	Fluorescent antibody test (IF)	227	0
Finland, vaccination area	Foxes	Active	Fluorescent antibody test (IF)	53	0
Finland	Foxes	Passive	Fluorescent antibody test (IF)	5	0
Finland	Racoon dogs	Passive	Fluorescent antibody test (IF)	4	0
Finland	Dogs	Passive	Fluorescent antibody test (IF)	73	0
Finland	Cats	Passive	Fluorescent antibody test (IF)	12	0
Finland	Wolves	Passive	Fluorescent antibody test (IF)	6	0
Finland	Domestic ruminants	Passive	Fluorescent antibody test (IF)	3	0
Finland	Equidae	Passive	Fluorescent antibody test (IF)	1	0
Finland	Other wilds carnivores	Passive	Fluorescent antibody test (IF)	75	0
Finland	Other species	Passive	Fluorescent antibody test (IF)	2	0
Total				495	0

Number of rabies virus isolates typed for differentiation from vaccine	0
Typing results (please indicate the number of field strains/vaccine strains, and (optional) comment)	-

Table B - WILDLIFE ORAL VACCINATION

Aerial distribution data files:

Downloadable via URL	

Description of the analysis performed by the Competent Authority on the aerial distribution data and conclusions of the assessment for the quality of the distribution:

Since the vaccination area in Finland is less than 10 000 km2, visual inspection of the flight lines was performed. The flight lines were satisfactory.

Start date of First Campaign	14/9/2019	**End date of First Campaign**	30/10/2019
Start date of Second Campaign		**End date of Second Campaign**	

Region/Area	Product used	Number of doses	Size of vaccinated area (km^2)	Distribution method
Sout East part of Finland	Rabitec (SPBNGASGAS)	180,000	9,000	Aerial
Russia, Karelia, Sortavala	Rabistav	12,970	519	Manual
Russia, Karelia, Lahdenpohja	Rabistav	18,000	720	Manual
Total		210,970	10,239	

Table C - OFFICIAL CONTROL OF ORAL VACCINES BEFORE THEIR DISTRIBUTION

Number of batches distributed	Number of batches controlled by CA	Number of batches rejected
1	1	0

Batch number	Manufacturer	Sampling date	Virus titration result	Outcome of the titration
0161118-A	IDT	18/7/2019	8.67 TCID50/ml	Acceptable

COMMENT / ADDITIONAL CLARIFICATION