



Summary and Conclusions of the
3rd Regional Workshop on Swine Disease Control in Asia
(Cebu, Philippines 2-4 October 2018)

The Meeting recognises:

1. Around 65 % of the world's pig population is found in Asia, and pork is one of the most important animal protein sources in the region. Pig farming is an integral part of the livelihood for the rural community. As the demand for pork and its products in Asia grows, the socio-economic impact of pig diseases also increases;
2. Pig value chains are complex and dynamic in Asia involving the formal and informal movement of live pig and pig products, as well as trade in food waste used for pig feeding.
3. The swine industry and consumer habits in the region have changed in the last decade and are expected to continue changing;
4. Foot and mouth disease (FMD), classical swine fever (CSF), highly pathogenic (HP) porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS), porcine epidemic diarrhoea (PED) and African swine fever (ASF) remain the major Transboundary Animal Diseases (TADs) in pigs in Asia, causing serious production and economic losses;
5. There are challenges in the early detection of swine diseases in many parts of Asia. With ASF virus now present in the region this presents a significant risk for the control and prevention of ASF.
6. There are some successful examples of regional swine disease control programmes among private and public sector;
7. Wild and feral pigs play an important role in the epidemiology of swine diseases, particularly with the ASF virus in Europe;
8. Targeted surveillance towards sick and dead domestic pigs and wild boar is essential for the early detection of ASF virus and farmer self-reporting of suspect cases is an

essential component for this to be effective. Ways to incentivise farmers to report need to be considered in animal health policies.

9. ASF virus is a very hardy virus that can survive in pig products and carcasses for several months, its rate of spread varies widely, and clinical cases may therefore be detected quite late after introduction – good biosecurity measures to prevent live pigs coming in contact with the virus are the most effective way to prevent introduction of ASF virus into a farm;
10. Regional coordination is essential for the effective control of swine diseases that have a transboundary nature;
11. FAO and OIE have a leading role in promoting the regional coordination and cooperation between members, private sector and partners (international organisations, research institutions, development partners, etc) under the GF-TADS umbrella.

The Meeting recommends:

For private sector, public sector and partners:

1. to promote public-private partnership at national and regional level to enhance the cooperation, transparency, trust and best-practice sharing amongst the Veterinary Authorities, swine industry and partners;
2. to undertake and regularly update regional and national value chain analyses, (including movement and trade of pig commodities such as intestines, dried ears and trotters, hair) to enable well informed risk assessments to be performed;
3. to share knowledge and experience with innovation, new techniques and infrastructure to improve biosecurity, animal welfare and production in commercial pig farming systems and minimise environmental impact.
4. to raise awareness in disease recognition, prevention and reporting of all stakeholders (i.e. producers, border inspection authorities, private veterinarians, travellers, wildlife and environment workers and where applicable hunters);
5. to work towards improved control of swill feeding and scavenging (by free ranging pigs) practices to mitigate one of the major risk pathways identified for the introduction and spread of swine diseases;
6. to conduct studies to better understand the ecology of the wild boar and feral pig population (e.g. Distribution, density, interaction with the domestic pig population, in particular with backyard farms);
7. to investigate the potential role of tick vectors in the epidemiology of ASF.

For Public Sector

8. to develop national contingency plans in consultation with the private sector and other stakeholders and regularly updated. Member countries are encouraged to test their national contingency plans by conducting simulation exercises, especially for ASF;
9. to consider and implement trade facilitating measures described in the international standards such as regionalisation and commodity-based trade, to promote safe trade as well as effective swine disease control management strategies;
10. to include wild boar and feral pigs in national swine disease surveillance programs. Cooperation between animal health authorities and wildlife authority should be enhanced to better understand the distribution and role wild boar play in the epidemiology of swine diseases in Asia;
11. to utilise the expertise offered by FAO and OIE Reference Centres, especially for laboratory diagnosis, epidemiology and disease control measures for specific diseases;
12. For ASEAN member countries to officially endorse the ASEAN Swine Disease Control Action Plan and align their national swine disease activities to it;
13. To set up a regional technical working group for ASF amongst East Asia including national experts working on swine diseases, epidemiology, biosecurity, laboratory, wildlife, and trade. This working group should utilise the experience of international experts when required.

For Private Sector

14. to implement strict biosecurity measures and to support small producers (i.e. backyard farms) to implement biosecurity best practices by increasing awareness and building capacity;
15. to organise representative bodies (i.e. farmer unions, meat industry organisations) including small producers to serve as interlocutors with Veterinary Authority
16. to lead by example in supporting the implementation of disease control measures described in national control plans.

For Partners

17. for OIE and FAO to report the outcomes of this meeting to the ASEAN Working Group on Livestock and call for ASWGL to support the organisation of the 4th Regional Workshop on Swine Disease Control in 2019 and to consider it as its technical forum to discuss technical swine disease control aspects;

18. for OIE and FAO, in collaboration with the OIE Delegates to advocate among policy makers for elevation and prioritisation of swine disease control in the region;
19. For OIE and FAO to support training activities at regional and national level such as risk analysis training and simulation exercises and include the private sector in such activities.
20. OIE and FAO to continue supporting capacity building for laboratory and epidemiology for swine diseases.

21. To consider the organisation of technical meeting on ASF in early 2019 to review the disease situation in the region and promote collaboration toward its prevention and eradication.

22. To continue to include representatives from private sectors in national and regional swine disease workshops

The workshop extends its note of thanks to the Government of Philippines for hosting the workshop and to FAO and OIE for co-organizing the workshop.