



Tenth Standing Group of Experts-African Swine Fever (SGE-ASF) Meeting for the Asia and the Pacific Bangkok Thailand 10 to 12 June 2025

The tenth Meeting of Standing Group of Experts for African swine fever (SGE-ASF) for Asia and the Pacific was co-organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (RAP) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific (RRAP) with technical support from the Department of Livestock Development in Bangkok, Thailand from 10 to 12 June 2025. The overall theme of the meeting was ***Alternatives to traditional ASF disease control***, to address the need for strengthening strategies for ASF prevention and control in Asia and the Pacific.

The meeting brought together leading experts, policymakers, and partners to examine the current global and regional ASF situation, review progress on past recommendations, and discuss a potential range of FAO global and regional consultations on ASF, and the Global Coordination Committee for ASF. This event was attended by 36 SGE Members (from 18 countries), subject matter experts, WOA, FAO, and observers.

The meeting notes:

- The SGE ASF for Asia and the Pacific continues to be an important forum for Members to obtain and share knowledge on the global ASF situation, development of collaborative initiatives for regional cooperation, and resource sharing;
- Progress made by the Members in their respective countries ASF control measures;
- Availability of new diagnostic and surveillance tools developed by WOA ASF Reference Laboratories;
- Benefits of the biosecurity measures for ASF control including Community ASF Biosecurity Intervention (CABI);
- Advances in the research related to ASF culling and disposal, alternates to traditional stamping-out;

- Epidemiological investigations are vital to making and proposing policy recommendations;
- Adoption of WOAHS standards for ASF vaccines in 2025 and the ongoing development of Guidelines for assessing ASF vaccines and post vaccination monitoring (PVM);
- Recovery from ASF requires a commitment to long-term biosecurity which warrants meticulous work, sufficient preparation and consistency in implementation of disease prevention and control measures.
- Adapt and scale up the best practices on risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) models to support alternative ASF control strategies.
- Best practices in ASF prevention and control, and identification of alternative control strategies that may be applicable to their local context which they may consider adapting to their existing ASF control approaches.

The meeting recommends:

- FAO and WOAHS to explore evidence-based and effective alternative strategies to support Members for the effective management of ASF as the disease remains a challenge in the region through the SGE-ASF for Asia and the Pacific under the Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs).
- Members to investigate adaptable methodologies and the best practices for ASF diagnostics and surveillance, fit to their local situations and available resources.
- Members continue to encourage whole swine value chain actors to implement proper biosecurity measures.
- Considering no one-size-fit-all solution for ASF management, Members to maintain good biosecurity as a first line of defense, irrespective of availability of ASF vaccines
- Members to evaluate and review periodically ASF prevention and control plans based on new knowledge of an evolving disease situation.
- Members currently implementing or piloting ASF vaccines for the control of ASF to share the outcomes of their field trials and PVM with the WOAHS and other Members for transparency and mutual learning.
- Members to seek guidance from the WOAHS ASF vaccine Standards with support of WOAHS and/or WOAHS ASF Reference Laboratories, to ensure the responsible and science-based implementation of vaccination strategies.
- Members to adopt a community-centered RCCE approach combining inclusive, culturally appropriate communication with ongoing capacity building. This includes engaging communities through participatory methods, delivering clear and timely messages via accessible platforms and strengthening local capabilities through regular training, knowledge sharing, and continuous evaluation of communication strategies to ensure long-term impact and ownership.
- Members to include a recovery plan that outlines restocking protocols in the ASF prevention and control plan. This plan should detail the necessary actions for successful recovery and restore normal activities following outbreaks.

- Members to include long-term commitment involving all stakeholders to ensure sustainable resources for recovery and consistent implementation of ASF prevention and control measures.

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