



24 March 2021

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**Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary
Measures**

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**UNOFFICIAL ROOM DOCUMENT¹
SPS COMMITTEE THEMATIC SESSION ON AFRICAN SWINE FEVER
TUESDAY, 23 MARCH 2021**

OIE INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS FOR ASF CONTROL AND BUSINESS CONTINUITY

Mr Gregorio Torres

Comité des mesures sanitaires et phytosanitaires

**DOCUMENT DE SÉANCE NON OFFICIEL¹
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* In Original language only/En langue originale seulement/En el idioma original solamente.

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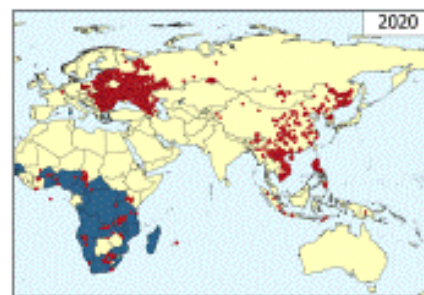
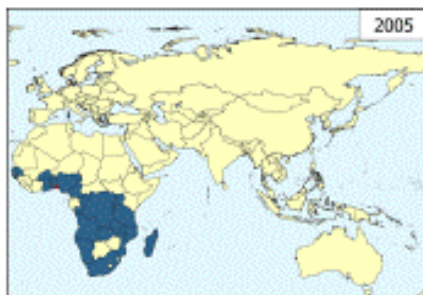
OIE international standards ASF control and business continuity

SPS COMMITTEE THEMATIC SESSION ON AFRICAN SWINE FEVER,
23 MARCH 2021



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ASF - A Global Threat



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Continuous to spread (OIE report 64, 5-18 Feb)

26 Members notified new or ongoing outbreaks

■ 9 in Europe

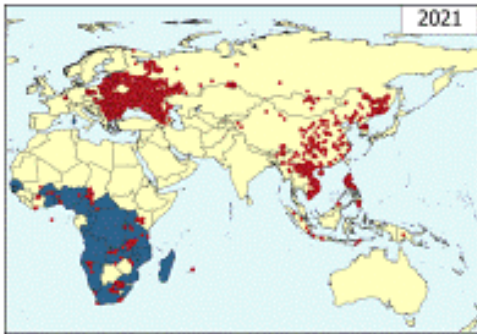
Germany, Hungary, Latvia, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, and Ukraine

■ 12 in Asia

China (People's Republic of), Hong Kong (SAR-PRC), India, Indonesia, Korea (Democratic People's Republic of), Korea (Republic of), Laos, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam)

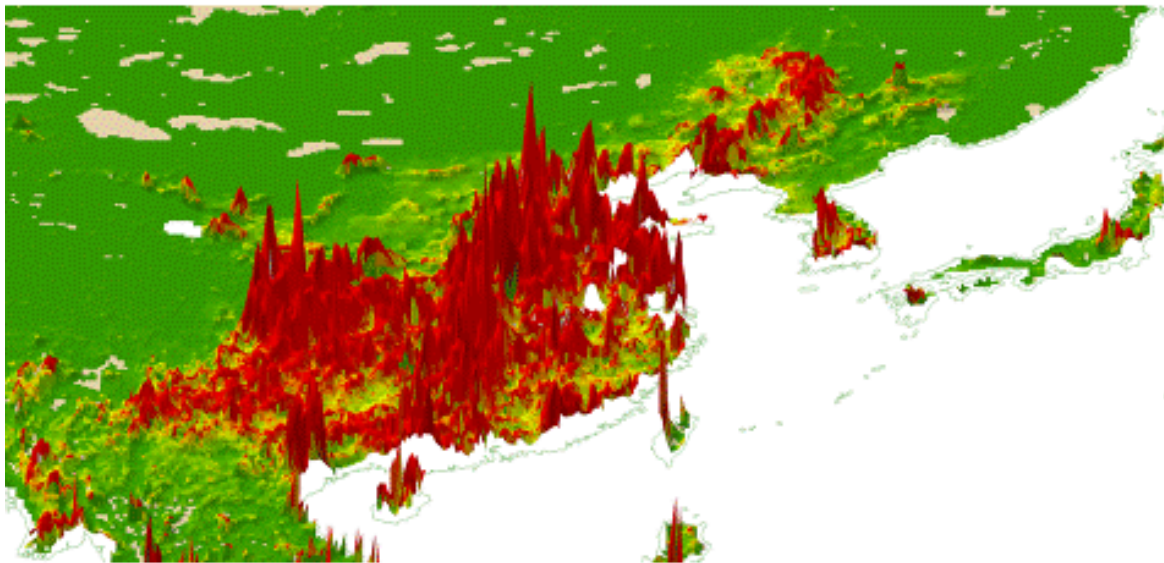
■ 5 in Africa

Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania and Zambia.



https://www.oie.int/fileadmin/Home/eng/Animal_Health_in_the_World/docs/pdf/Disease_cards/ASF/Report_64_Current_situation_of ASF.pdf

World Pig density



Dirk Pfeiffer, based on data from: Gilbert, Marius; Cinardi, Giuseppe; Zhao, Qingyao; Tago, Daniel; Robinson, Timothy, 2019, 'New global pig data in support of the African Swine Fever epidemic', <https://doi.org/10.7554/OSF.IO/2V3WA>, Harvard Dataverse, V1

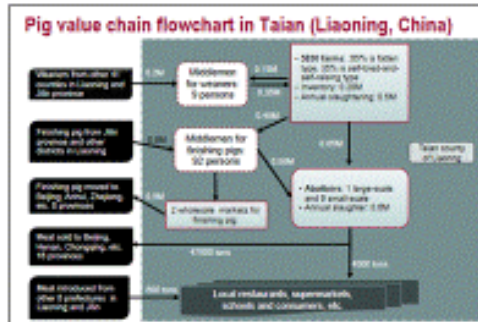
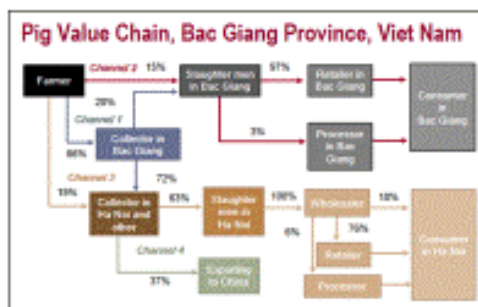
Diverse production systems



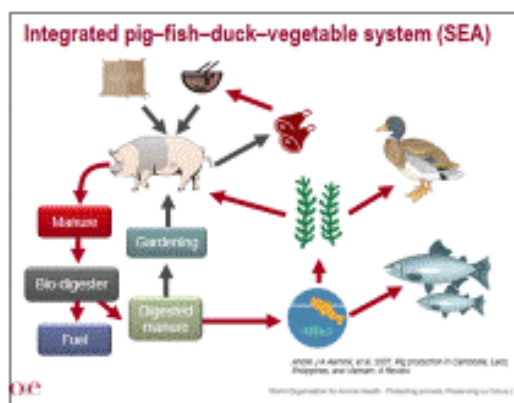
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Complex and diverse value chain



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ASF risk management

Understand the local epidemiological context



- Demographics, production system, value chain, etc
- Biosecurity practices
- Socio-economic
- Regulatory compliance


(across pig production system)

Can we keep ASF out of territories and production systems, and ensuring safe commodities?

Terrestrial Code Chapter 15.1 Infection with ASFv
Terrestrial Manual Chapter 3.8.1. African swine fever

OIE Standards for disease control and safe trade

WTO SPS Agreement principles applicable to Sanitary Measures



WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

Risk management

- **Geographic risk**
 - Country (\$\$\$, time, feasibility)
 - Zone (regionalisation)
- **Non-Geographic risk**
 - Compartmentalisation
 - Commodity-risk management

Chapter 15.1 Infection with African swine fever virus*

- General provisions (**case definition**)
- Safe Commodities
- ASF status of **country zone or compartment**
- Country or zone free from ASF (self-declaration)
- Establishment of a containment zone
- Recovery of free status
- Provisions for importation (**Commodity risk management**)
- Procedures for inactivation of ASFV
- Surveillance

* Review in 2017 and last amended in 2019



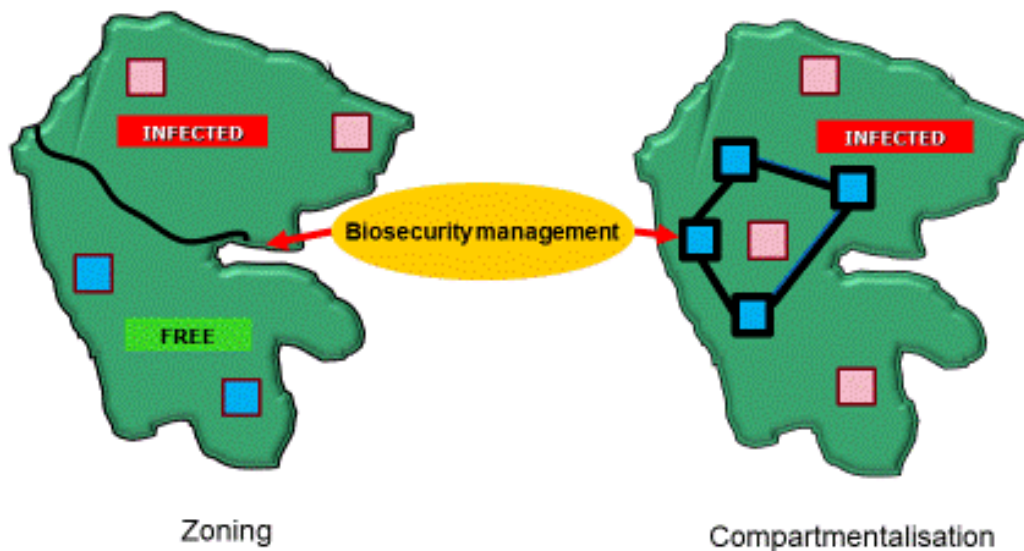
When country freedom is not feasible

Terrestrial Code horizontal chapters: Vet Services, risk analysis, surveillance, welfare, certification...

Zoning (since 1993)	Compartmentalisation (since 2003)	Commodity (since 1968)
defined primarily on a geographical basis (using natural, artificial or legal boundaries)	Defined primarily by management and husbandry practices related to biosecurity	Defined primarily by the inherent risk of the commodity

Zoning and compartmentalisation in practice

Modified from USDA-APHIS



ASF compartmentalisation guidelines (March 2021)

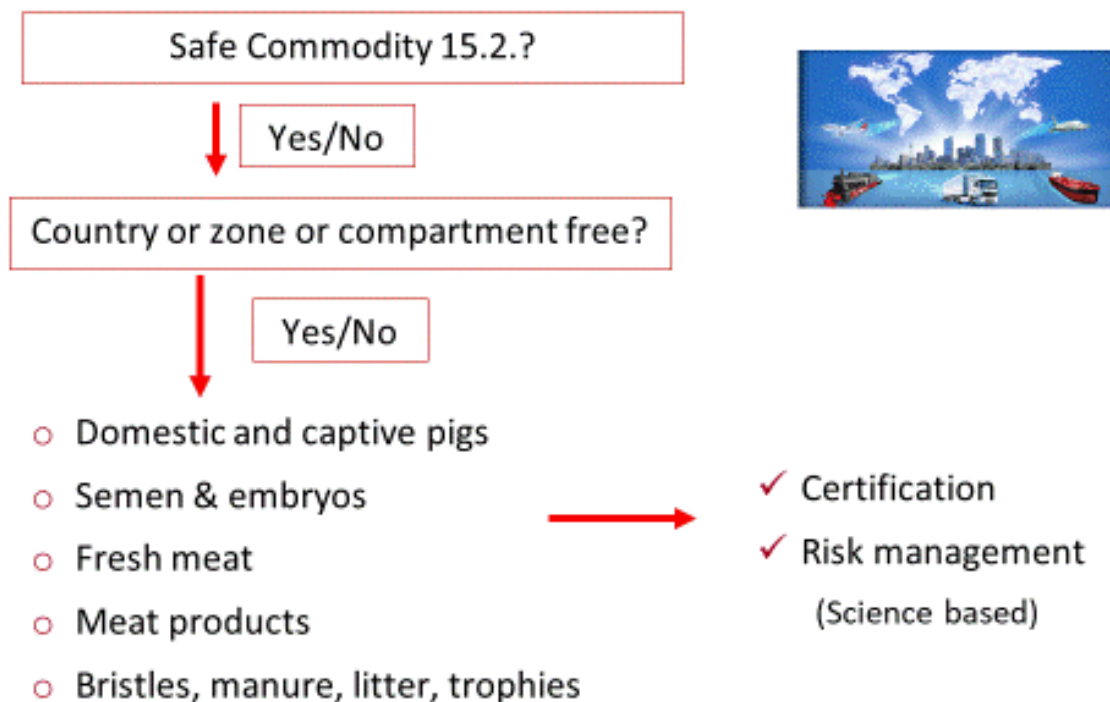


https://www.oie.int/fileadmin/Home/eng/Animal_Health_in_the_World/docs/pdf/ASF/ASF-CompartmentalisationGuidelines_EN.pdf



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Commodity ASF risk management (Art. 15.1.10 – 15.1.21)



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Pre-requisites for safe trade



WTO dispute processes relevant to zoning (examples)

DS430 US poultry case, DS447 ARG beef, DS475 EU pork cases

- **In DS430 (US and India, avian influenza, poultry meat) the Panel found that:**
 - the respondent's measures were inconsistent with Article 5.6, as it did not accept the alternative measures (recognition of disease-free zones) that were significantly less trade restrictive than an import prohibition
- **In DS447 (Argentina and US, FMD, beef) the Panel concluded that:**
 - the respondent's measures were not based on the relevant OIE standards, as it did not accept the meat products from regions that were FMD-free with vaccination, and failed to recognize the regions as FMD free without vaccination
- **In DS475 (EU and Russia, ASF, pork) the Panel concluded that:**
 - the respondent's measures were inconsistent with Article 6.1, as it did not adapt its measures to the disease free areas where the products subject to that measure originated

ASF Challenges for business continuity



- Country freedom is costly
 - Sustainable and effective Veterinary Services and the political will and commitment to maintain it
- Science-based decisions are sometimes subject to political interference
 - Countries reluctant to trade in commodities from ASF infected countries and even from ASF free zones,
- Countries use their right to define their own level of protection as excuse to go beyond international standards



OIE commitments towards ASF control

- Implement GF-TADs **Global Initiative** for the control of ASF
- Ongoing refinement of **Standards** using best available science
- Ensure Transparency by sharing epidemiological data via **OIE-WAHIS**: support Member risk management
- Strengthen **Veterinary Services**
- Monitoring and understanding the standards implementation (OIE **Observatory**)



To conclude



- OIE standards provide science-based recommendations for improving animal health and welfare, and ensuring **safe international trade** as recognized by WTO
- **Veterinary Authority** from importing and exporting countries are the final **authority**
- **Science, Transparency** and **Trust** are the foundation of safe international trade
- **Safe trade** from ASF **infected** countries or zones is feasible



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