GLOBAL SITUATION OF ASF

This reports presents an historical overview on the situation of ASF. The ASF events reported to the OIE by its Members through the World Animal Health Information System, WAHIS from 2016 to 2018 were included; as since 2016, a pattern of significant increase in the amount of outbreaks was identified. The disease is present in the African, European, and most recently, the Asian continent. It has never been reported in America or Oceania. Since 2016, 22% of the reporting countries and territories (43/198) have reported the disease as present[1]. In Europe, the disease occurred for the first time in: Moldova in September 2016, then in June 2017 in Czech Republic, followed by Romania in July 2017 and more recently in Hungary, and Bulgaria, in April and August 2018 respectively. A recurrence of the disease in wild boars has been reported in Belgium in September 2018 (last event occurred and was resolved in 1985). In Asia, the disease was reported for the first time in China in August 2018.

The distribution of the disease since 2016 is illustrated in Figure 1.

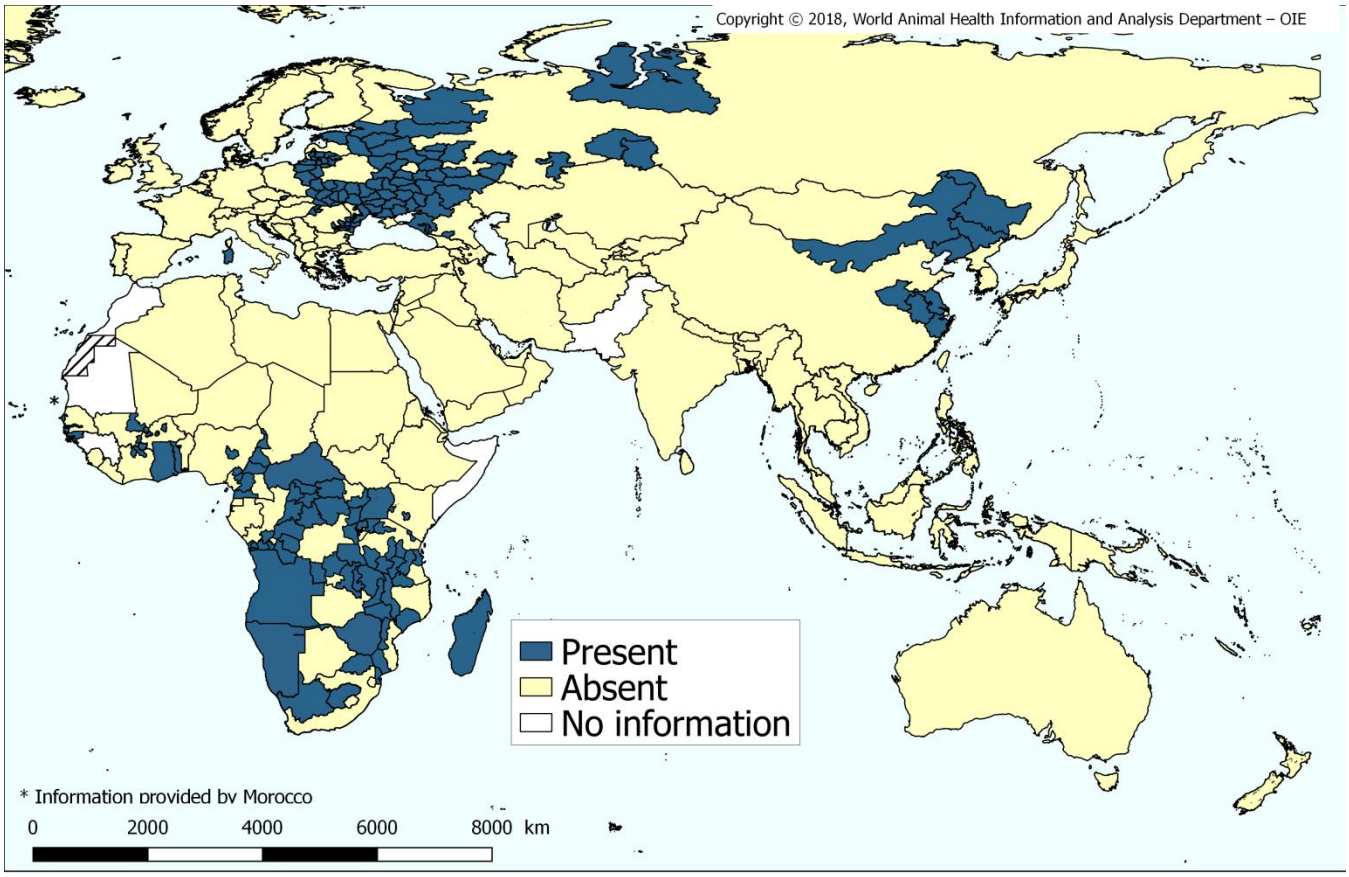

Figure 1. Global situation of ASF (2016-2018)

The global impact of ASF by region is displayed in Table 1. ASF is present in domestic pigs and wild boars in Europe, while Asia and Africa have notified outbreaks in domestic pigs only. During this period, Europe accounted for the majority of outbreaks with 98% (6741) of all outbreaks, with the highest impact in terms of animal losses (733 706 animals lost, which is 89% of the total global reported losses in this period).

[1] Angola, Belgium, Benin, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China, Democratic Republic of Congo, People's Republic of Congo, Cote D'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Estonia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Italy, Kenya, Latvia, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Moldova, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Poland, Romania, Russia, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Ukraine, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Region	Swine				Wild boar				Total Outbreaks	Total Susceptible	Total Cases	Total Losses
	Outbreaks	Susceptible	Cases	Losses**	Outbreaks	Susceptible	Cases	Losses**				
Africa	56	81 332	15 387	40 610	0				57	81 332	15 388	40 610
Asia	29	45 328	2 283	45 328	0				29	45 328	2 283	45 328
Europe	1679	1 031 366	353 539	73 3706	5 062	NA*	9 877		6 741	1 031 366	363 416	733 706
Total	**1764**	**1 158 026**	**371 209**	**819 644**	**5 062**	**NA**	**9 877**	**NA**	**6 827**	**1 158 026**	**381 087**	**819 644**

Table 1. Impact of ASF by region based on the information submitted through the Early Warning System (2016-2018).

* NA: Not applicable. ** Losses: total of domestic animals dead and destroyed.

Conclusion

The global pattern of distribution of ASF in this period reveals a serious deterioration of the status, mainly in Europe after its introduction. The first occurrence in China in 2018 represents a threat to the Asian region. In this context, the work of GF-TADs[2] Global Steering Committee in empowering regional alliances in the fight against transboundary animal diseases (TADs), in providing capacity building and in assiting the countries establishing programmes for the specific control is of pivotal importance for the control and eradication of the disease at global level.

Member Countries are reminded that the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* provides comprehensive guidance to Veterinary Authorities for establishing a country, zone and compartment free of African swine fever (ASF) as well as recommendations relating to the trade of pork and pork products. These products when, handled in accordance with hygienic practices complying with international standards, are not a source of infection.

The OIE also encourages Member Countries to implement enhanced national sanitary measures on waste disposal from aircrafts/vessels/passengers and enhanced on-farm biosecurity measures – including the protection of pigs from untreated swill feeding and the effective separation between domestic pigs and wild boar – and stresses the importance of OIE international standards for risk management of transboundary animal diseases (TADs) to reduce the risk of exporting disease to trading partners.

[2] http://www.gf-tads.org/