



Update on African swine fever

Meeting: CDG – 5 November 2021

Unit G2 – Animal Health; Directorate G

Crisis preparedness in food, animals and plants

DG SANTE, European Commission

Outline

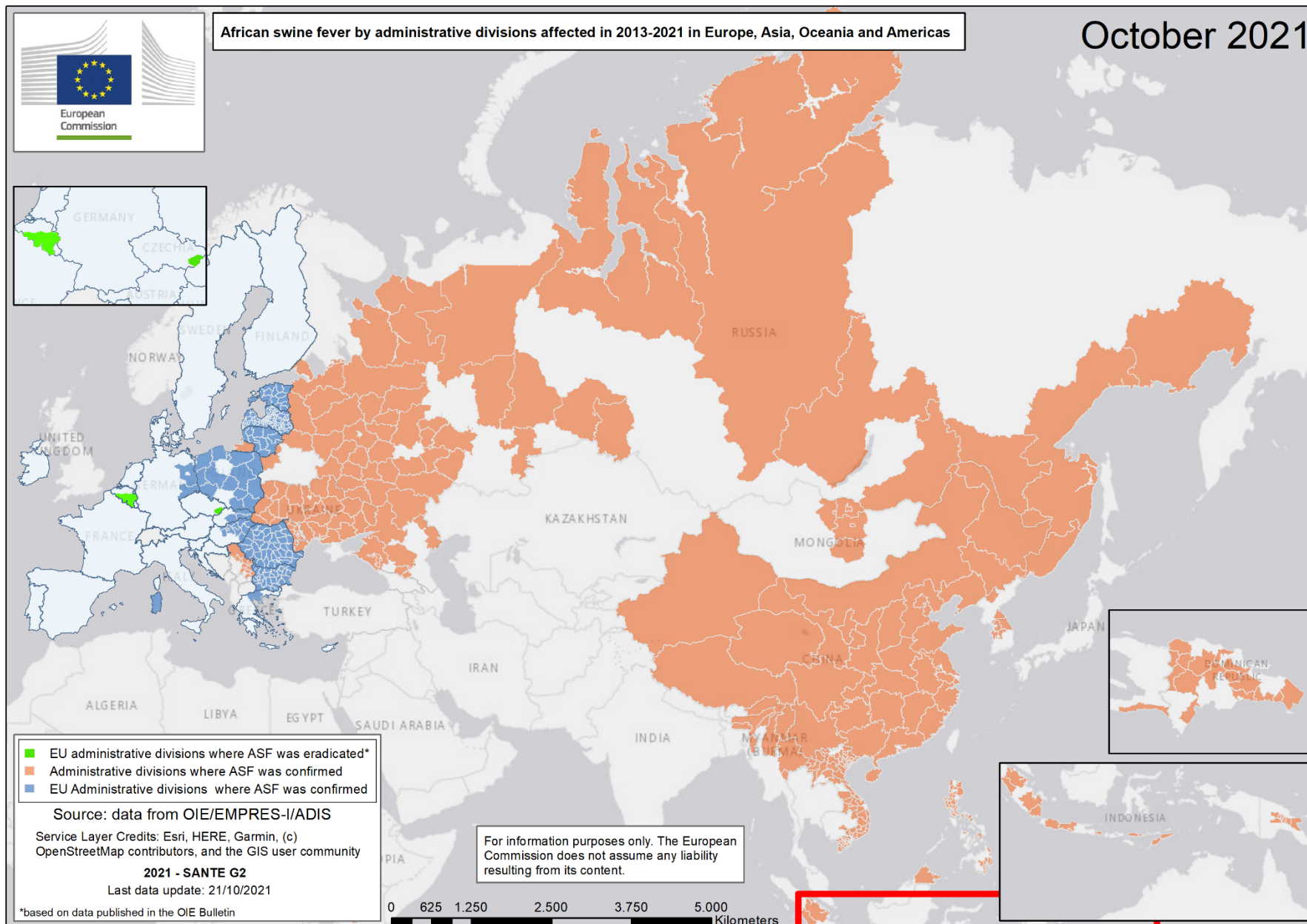
- I.** ASF evolution globally and the current situation in the EU.
- II.** EU policy development since 21 April 2021.
- III.** Examples of EU initiatives to prevent, control and eradicate ASF.
- IV.** Conclusions.

I. ASF evolution globally and the current situation in the EU

ASF in Asia, the Pacific and the Americas

October 2021

1. China (Aug 2018)
2. Mongolia (Jan 2019)
3. Vietnam (Feb 2019)
4. Cambodia (March 2019)
5. Hong Kong (May 2019)
6. Democratic People's Republic of Korea (May 2019)
7. Lao People's Democratic Republic (Jun 2019)
8. Myanmar (Aug 2019)
9. The Philippines (Jul 2019)
10. Republic of Korea (Sep 2019)
11. Timor-Leste (Sep 2019)
12. Indonesia (Nov 2019)
13. Papua New Guinea (Mar 2020)
14. India (May 2020)
15. Malaysia (Feb 2021)
16. Bhutan (May 2021)
- 17. Dominican Republic (July 2021).**
- 18. Haiti (September 2021).**

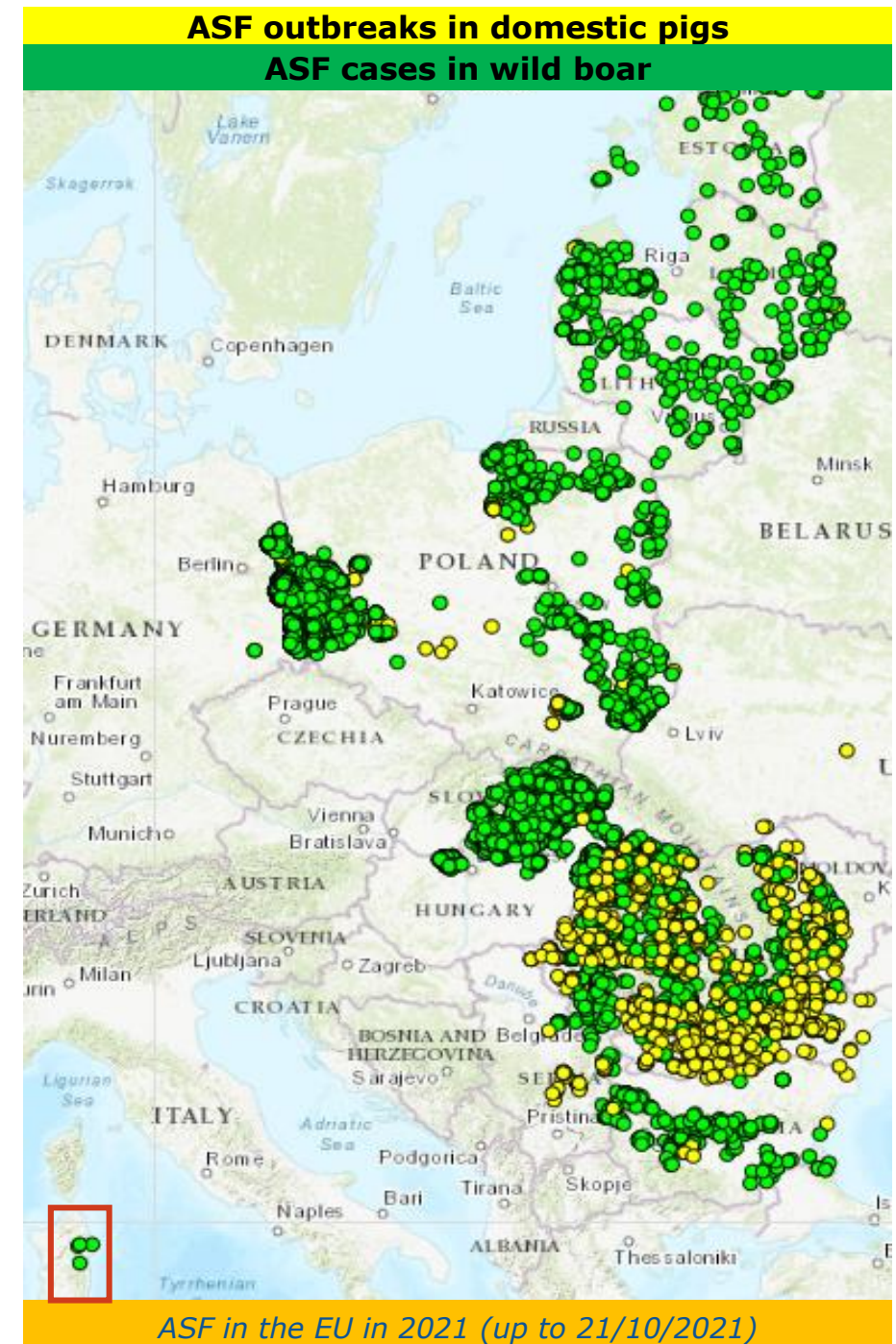


ASF in the EU in 2014-2021

1. **Lithuania** (1/2014)
2. **Poland** (1/2014)
3. **Latvia** (6/2014)
4. **Estonia** (7/2015)
5. **Romania** (7/2017)
6. **Hungary** (4/2018) – only in wild boar
7. **Bulgaria** (6/2018)
8. **Slovakia** (7/2019)
9. **Greece** (2/2020) – only one outbreak in pigs (eradicated)
10. **Germany** (9/2020) – close to PL border
11. **Sardinia, IT** – unrelated epidemiological situation

Czechia – 6/2017, free from ASF since 02/2019

Belgium – 9/2018, free from ASF since 11/2020



ASF in the EU: 2019-2021

* ADIS – Animal Diseases Notification System

		2019		2020		2021 (up to 21/10/2021)	
No	ADIS data	Cases wild boar	Outbreaks domestic pigs	Cases wild boar	Outbreaks domestic pigs	Cases wild boar	Outbreaks domestic pigs
1.	POLAND	2477	48	4156	103	2376	113
2.	LITHUANIA	464	19	230	3	127	-
3.	LATVIA	369	1	320	3	242	2
4.	ESTONIA	80	-	68	-	51	1
5.	ROMANIA	693	1728	906	1060	885	1455
6.	HUNGARY	1605	-	4052	-	2518	-
7.	BULGARIA	165	44	533	19	202	5
8.	BELGIUM	482	-	3	-	-	-
9.	ITALY (Sardinia)	63	1	42	-	5	-
10.	SLOVAKIA	27	11	388	17	1481	8
11.	GREECE	-	-	-	1	-	-
12.	GERMANY	-	-	403	-	1884	3
TOTAL		6425	1852	11101	1206	9771	1587

Best practises in the EU: ASF eradication

The Czech Republic



June 2017 – February 2019

Urgent response
EU regionalisation
EUVET
Active search of carcasses
Strategic fencing
Tailor made hunting
Trapping
Coordination and close cooperation at all levels
EU financial support

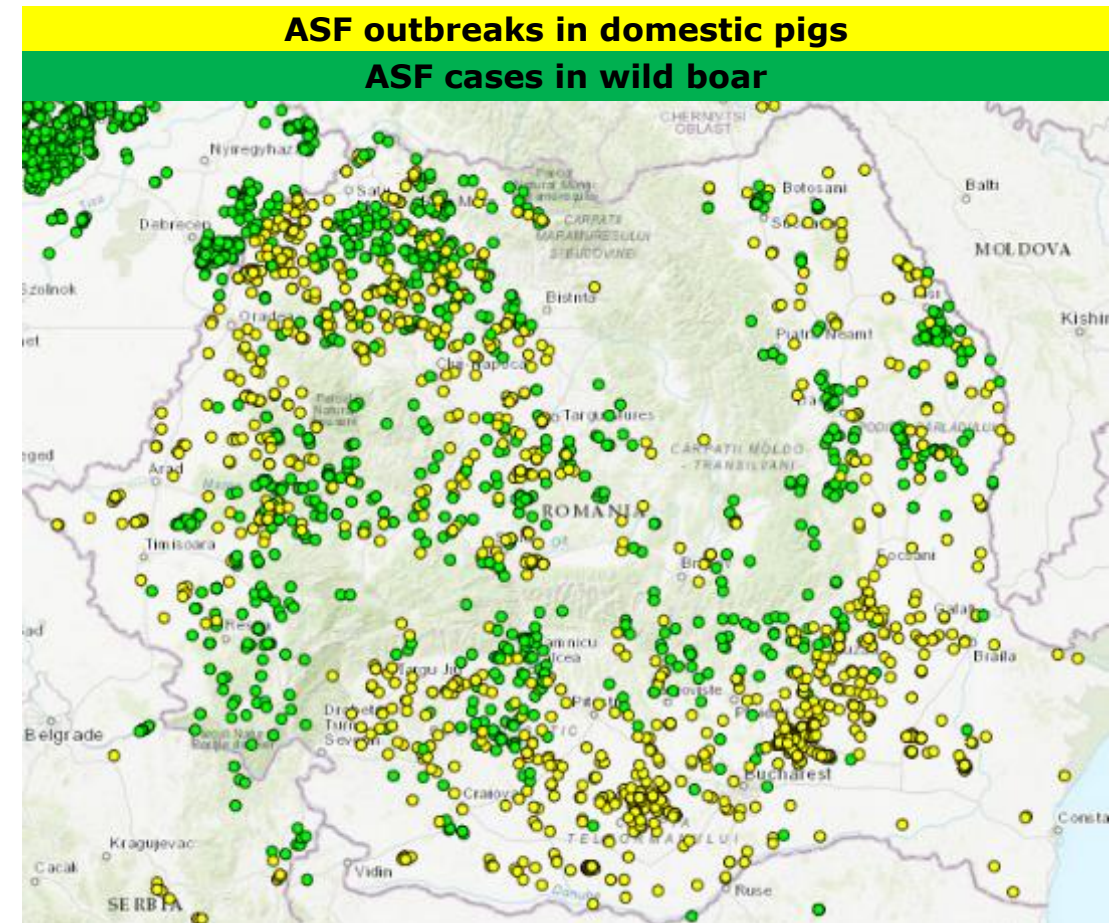
Belgium



September 2018 – October 2020

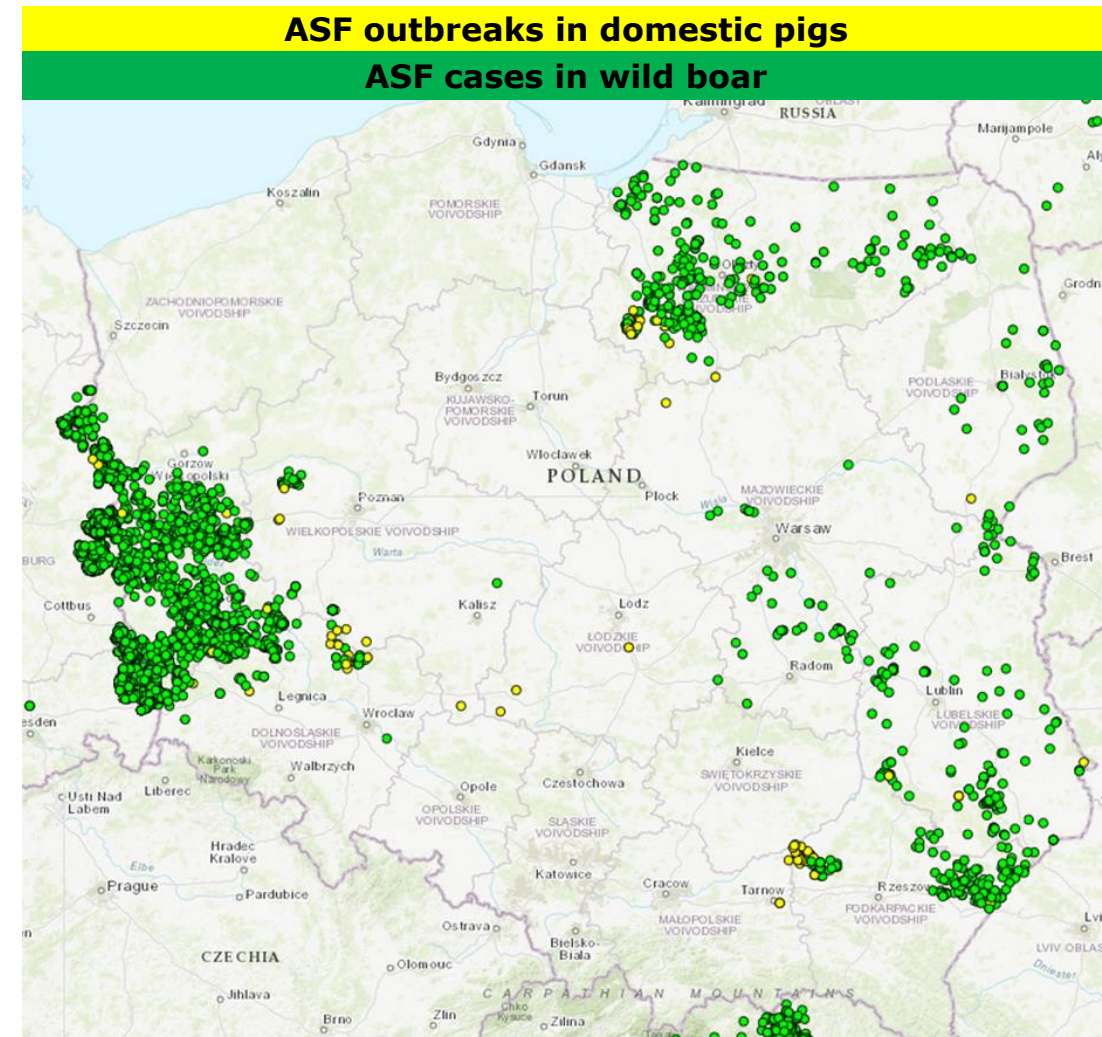
ASF developments 2021: **Romania**

- **1477 ASF outbreaks** in pigs in 2021 in total
- **19 outbreaks** in farms with more than 10.000 pigs!!!
- **SANTE audit (on the spot)** is planned (November/December, tbc)



ASF developments 2021: **Poland**

- 118 ASF outbreaks in pigs in 2021
- 2nd biggest number of ASF outbreaks in pigs in the EU (after Romania)
- ASF development in the western part of Poland close to Germany
- SANTE audit on the spot is planned (November)



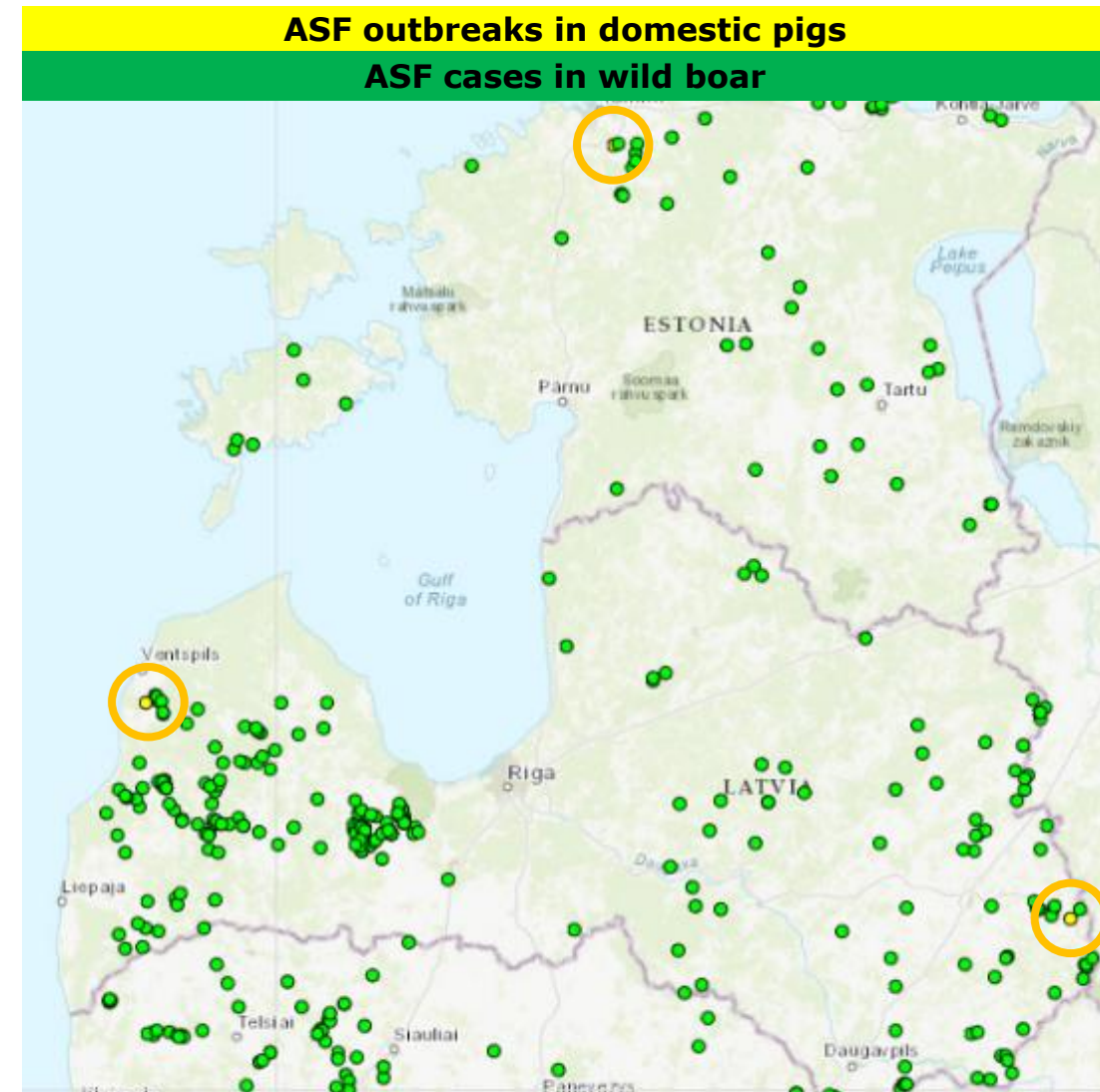
ASF developments 2021: **Estonia, Latvia**

EE:

- **1 single outbreak in commercial farm** (1769 pigs) on 14/07/2021
- reoccurrence of ASF in pigs **after almost 4 years!**
- **EU safeguard** elapsed on 30/09/2021 (eradication of the outbreak)

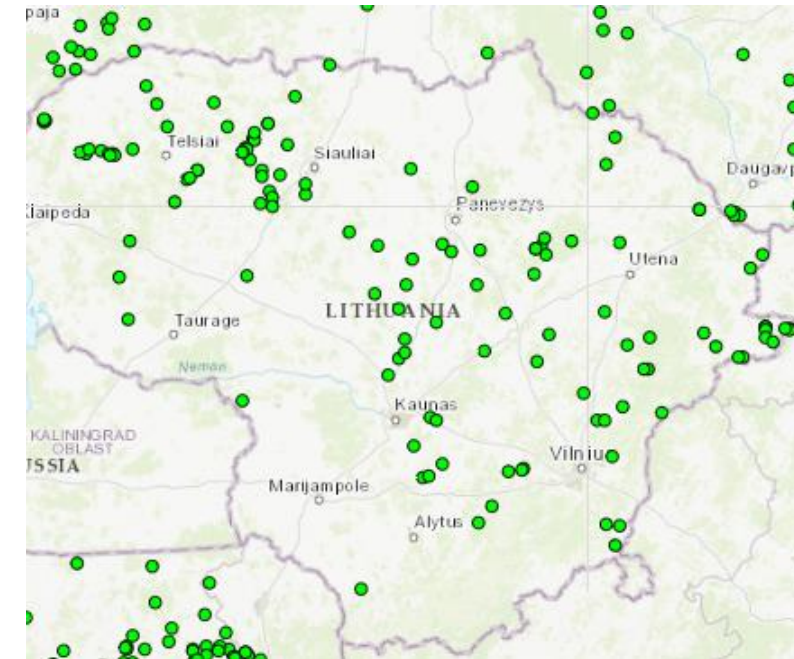
LV:

- **2 outbreaks** in pigs farms in summer
 - 1 in commercial (2110 pigs)



ASF developments 2021: Lithuania

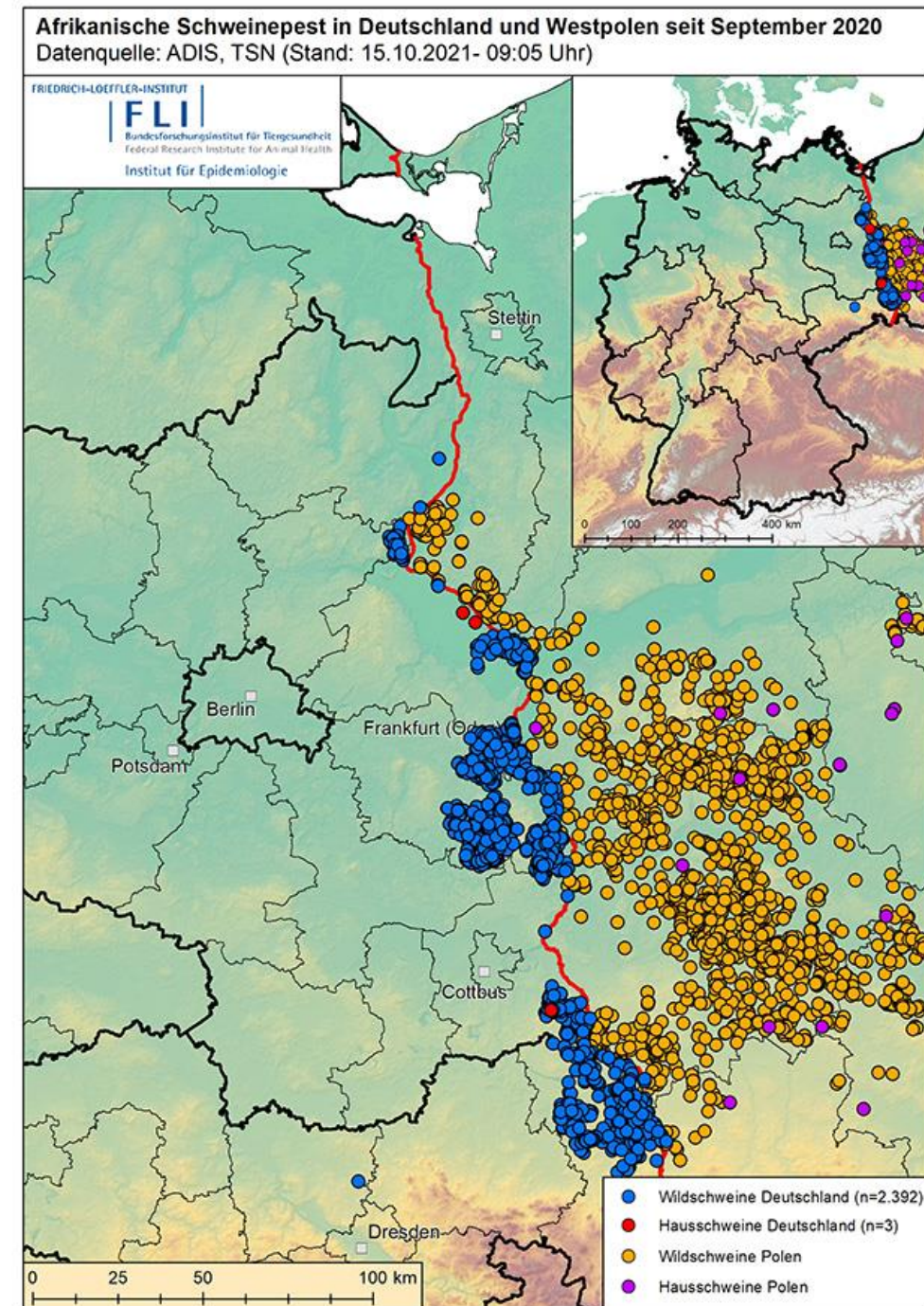
- **No outbreaks in pigs in 2021** (for more than 1 year!)
 - **Regular official inspections**, biosecurity checks and explanation on the importance of biosecurity to pig keepers
 - **Active work with pig keepers** (both non-commercial and commercial farms).
 - Regular awareness, training,
 - regular visits despite of Covid-19 situation.
 - **Low number of positive wild boar** with active virus (RT-PCR). Limited areas with active ASF virus circulation.
 - The **density of wild boar decreased** (more than 3 times since 2014).
 - The **main principles of biosecurity in non-commercial farms can prevent from ASF** virus:
 - Changing boots and clothes before entering pig farm.
 - Hands disinfection.
 - Disinfection mat before entering pig farm.
 - Limited access for visitors.



Recent ASF developments

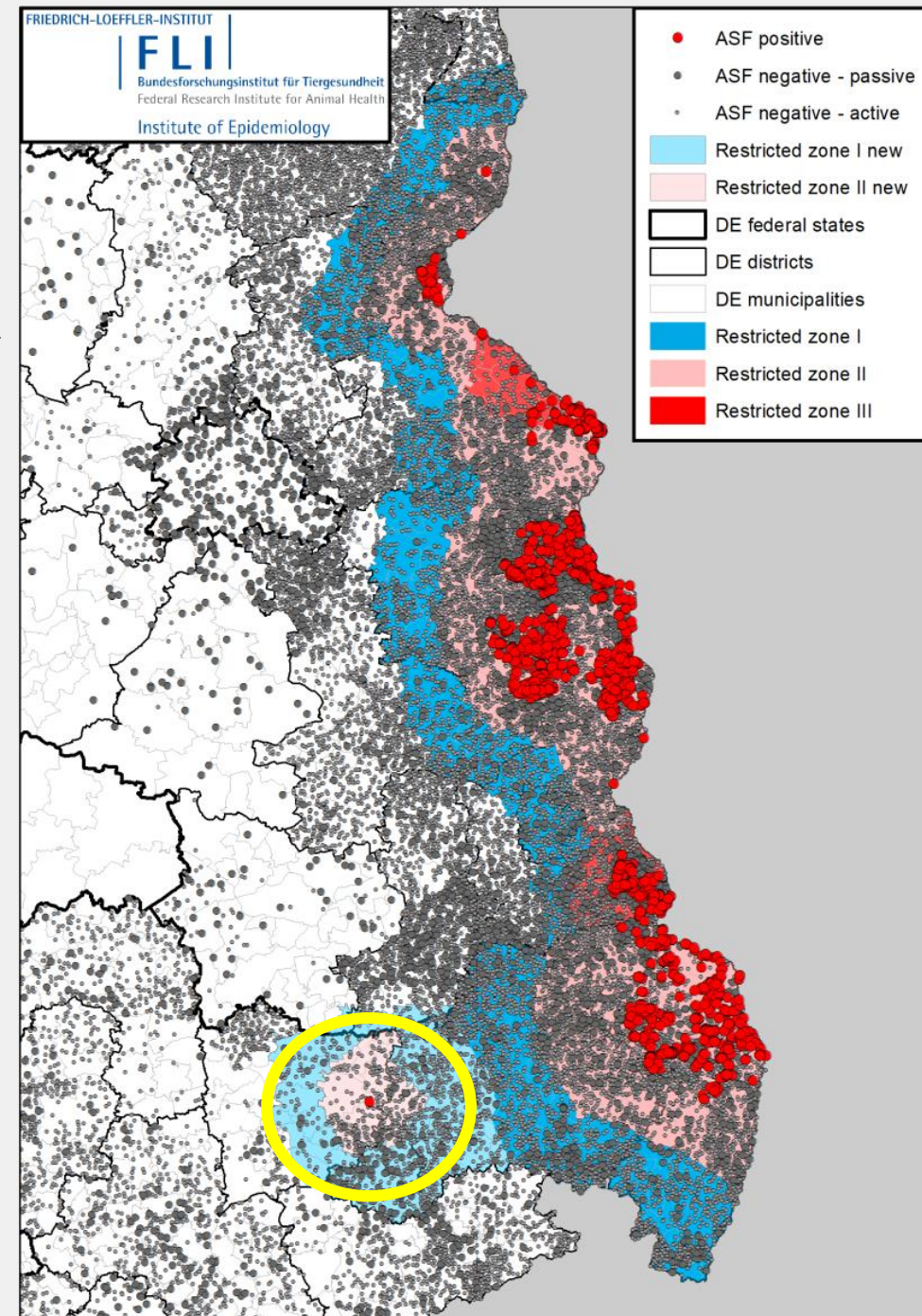
- **Germany:**
 - **3 ASF outbreaks in pigs** in 2021 in Brandenburg (eradicated = lifting of RZ III restrictions end of October)
 - **Slow spread of ASF in wild boar**

	Brandenburg wild boar	Brandenburg domestic pigs	Saxony wild boar	Saxony domestic pigs	Total
September 2020-October 2021 (19/10/21)	1857	3	566	0	2423



Germany (measures concerning wild boar):

- Intensive ASF surveillance
- Other:
 - Obligation of hunters to **search for carcasses**
 - Bonuses paid for **reporting wild boars found dead**:
 - €150 in core area and white zone;
 - €100 in other areas of restricted zone II and restricted zone I.
 - **Notification system** for carcass findings
 - Extensive searching for wild boars (**canine teams** in infected area)
 - **Samples** taken of all shot and found dead wild boars
 - Place for **collection/ safe disposal** of carcasses
 - **Prohibition of movement** of wild boar meat from the infected zone
 - **Hunting** lanes on agricultural areas
 - **Culling of wild boar** in encased core areas and white zones (individual hunting/trap hunting)



Germany (measures concerning domestic pigs):

- Intensive ASF surveillance



- Measures in the restricted zone III:

- Increased monitoring of biosecurity requirements on establishments in accordance with the Pig Husbandry Hygiene Ordinance
- Prohibition of free-range and outdoor keeping for pigs
- Obligation to test all dead and febrile pigs for ASF
- ASF monitoring programme in establishments that transport pigs
- Reduction of risk of introduction into backyard holdings by implementing a purchasing programme (May 2021) for the abandonment of holdings of up to 10 pigs in restricted zone II combined with an obligation not to keep any pigs for a period of two years. Keepers are reimbursed € 200 per pig by the Land (state) concerned.
- Pig husbandry establishments prohibited from using harvested material and derived products from the core area with the following exceptions:
 - Storage inaccessible to wild boar for at least six months or treatment as follows:
 - Heat treatment for at least 30 minutes at 70 °C core temperature;
 - Drying and heat treatment for 10 hours at 50 °C core temperature and additional storage for at least 30 days
 - In the case of maize silage, storage inaccessible to wild boar for at least 30 days.
- Identification of pig keepers who are additionally hunters – control of biosecurity measures;

Brandenburg		
Domestic pigs	Samples	Positive
01/01/2021-15/09/2021		
Barnim	527	0
LDS	229	0
LOS	2,511	0
MOL	1,817	6
SPN	1,173	1
Frankfurt/Oder	15	0
Uckermark	167	0
other districts	3,523	0
Total	9992	7*

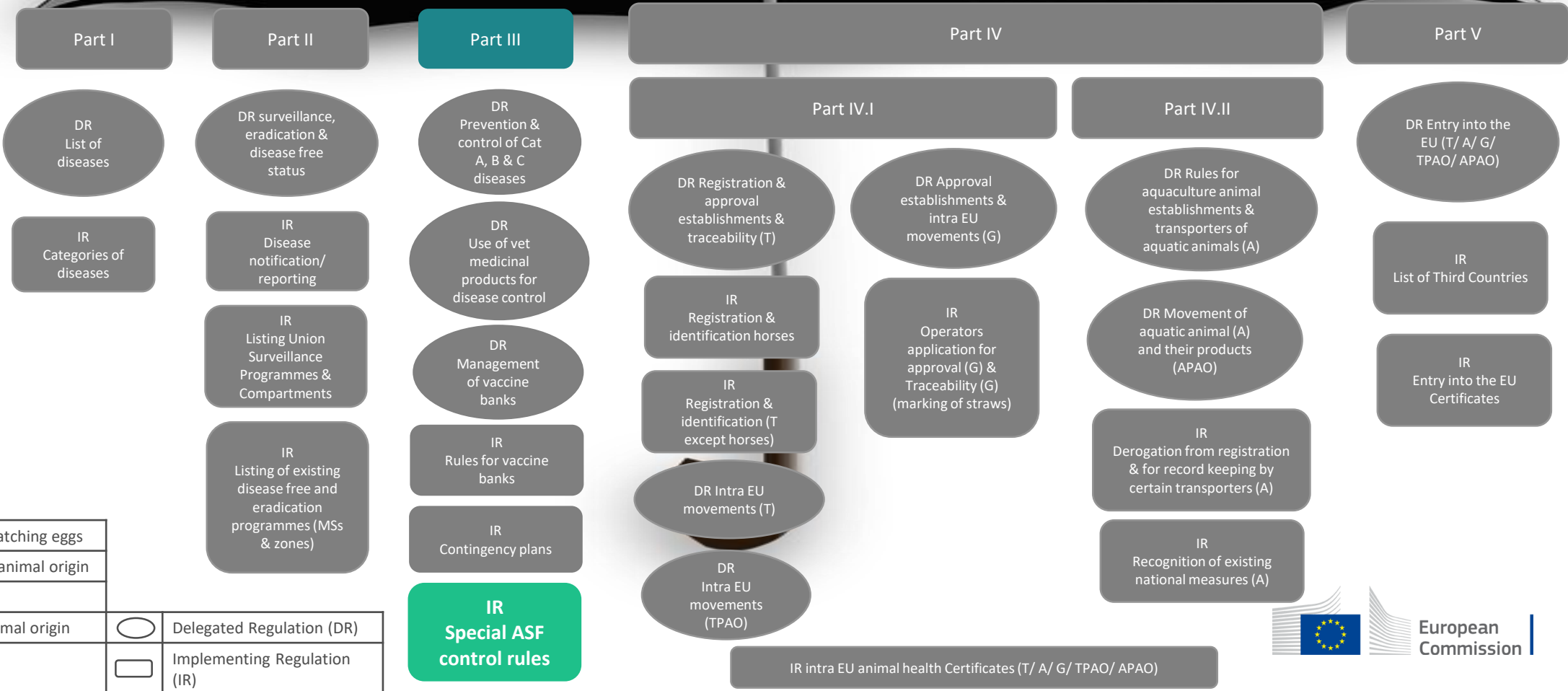
* seven animals from the three already known affected establishments

Saxony		
Domestic pigs	Samples	Positive
01/01/2021-15/09/2021		
Bautzen	2,112	0
Görlitz	2,067	0
other districts	4,416	0
Total	8,595	0

II. EU policy development since 21 April 2021.

Animal Health Law
legal framework

ANIMAL HEALTH LAW
Regulation (EU) 2016/429



Main legal framework for EU's harmonised animal disease control: ASF

EU legislation: ASF

Status quo

- Directives 90/425/EEC, 89/662/EEC
 - Only certain Articles apply for transitional period
 - Repealed and replaced by Regulation (EU) 2017/625 (Official control regulation)
- Directives 2002/60 & 2002/99
 - laying down specific provisions for the control of African swine fever
 - laying down the animal health rules governing the production, processing, distribution and introduction of products of animal origin for human consumption
 - Will continue to apply until 21 April 2021
- EU safeguard Decisions
 - Urgent EU intervention
- Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2014/709 (regionalisation/zoning)

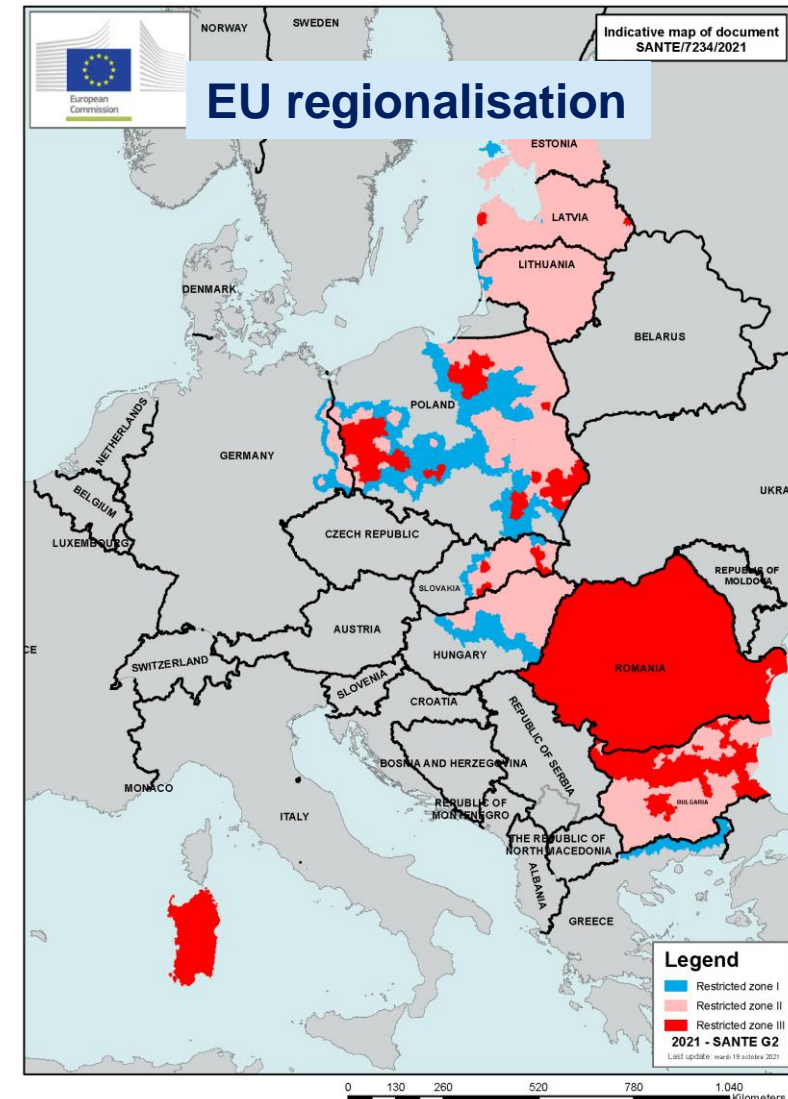
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From 21 April 2021

- Regulation (EU) 2016/429 (“Animal Health Law”)
- Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687
 - regards rules for the prevention and control of certain listed diseases
- Commission emergency measures (Art. 259 of AHL)
- **Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/605** — special ASF control measures (regionalisation)

Main principles of Regulation (EU) 2021/605 (special ASF control measures)

- **Prohibitions** in relation to the dispatch of certain commodities out of restricted zones
- **Safe derogations** from prohibitions under **specific conditions** and **risk mitigation measures**
- Special **designation** of establishments and **requirements**
- **Information and training obligations** and public **awareness**
- Reinforced **biosecurity measures**
- List of restricted zones categorised by the epidemiological situation (**regionalisation**)



EU zoning measures for ASF

In line with
OIE!

Regulation (EU) 2021/605:

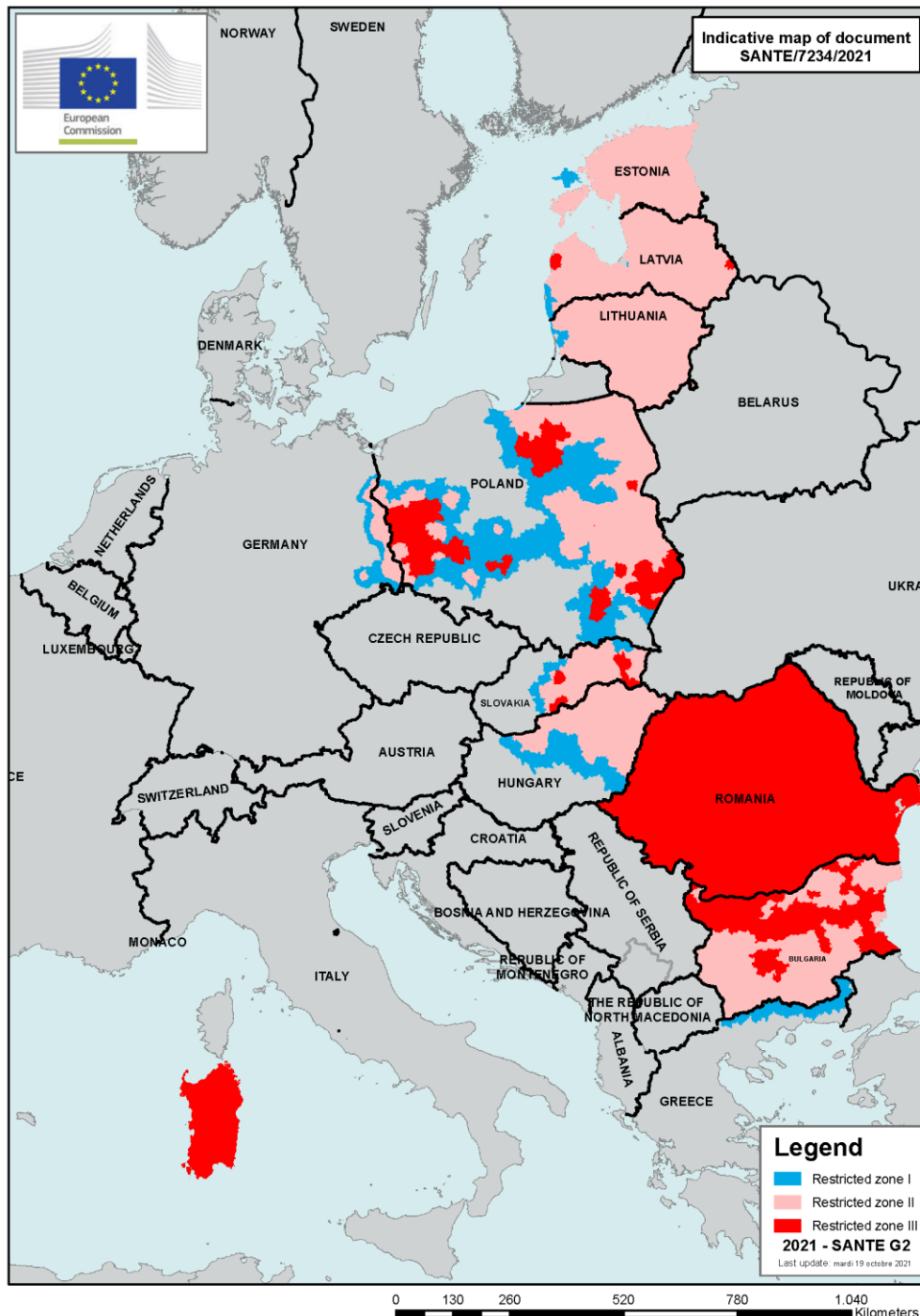
- Restricted zone I ('an additional further restricted zone') – zone, bordering zone II or III, where relevant (no ASF)
- Restricted zone II ('an infected zone') – ASF in wild boar
- Restricted zone III ('a further restricted zone', in addition to PZ/SZ) – ASF in domestic pigs (with or without ASF in wild boar)

- Principles and criteria available online:

https://ec.europa.eu/food/sites/food/files/animals/docs/ad_control-measures_asf_wrk-doc-sante-2015-7112.pdf

- Online interactive map:

<https://santegis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=45cdd657542a437c84bfc9cf1846ae8c>

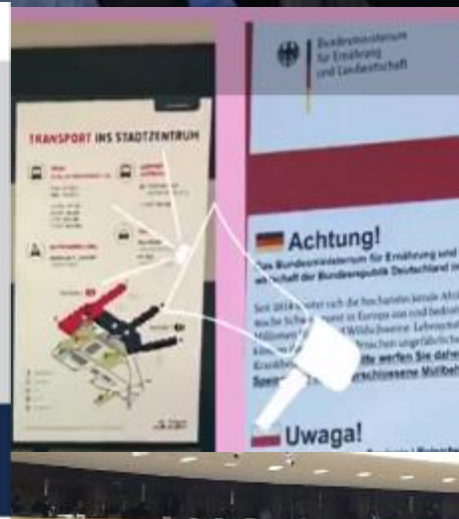


III. Examples of EU initiatives to prevent, control and eradicate ASF

Main EU initiatives on ASF

- Preparedness
- Scientific advice (EFSA)
- Network of labs (+ EURL)
- Research
- Legislation (horizontal + specific)
- EU Guidelines
- Zoning (Regionalization)
- Border controls
- Audits
- Financial support
- Training (BTSF)
- Public awareness
- Urgent intervention (EUVET)
- International cooperation

- GF-TADS



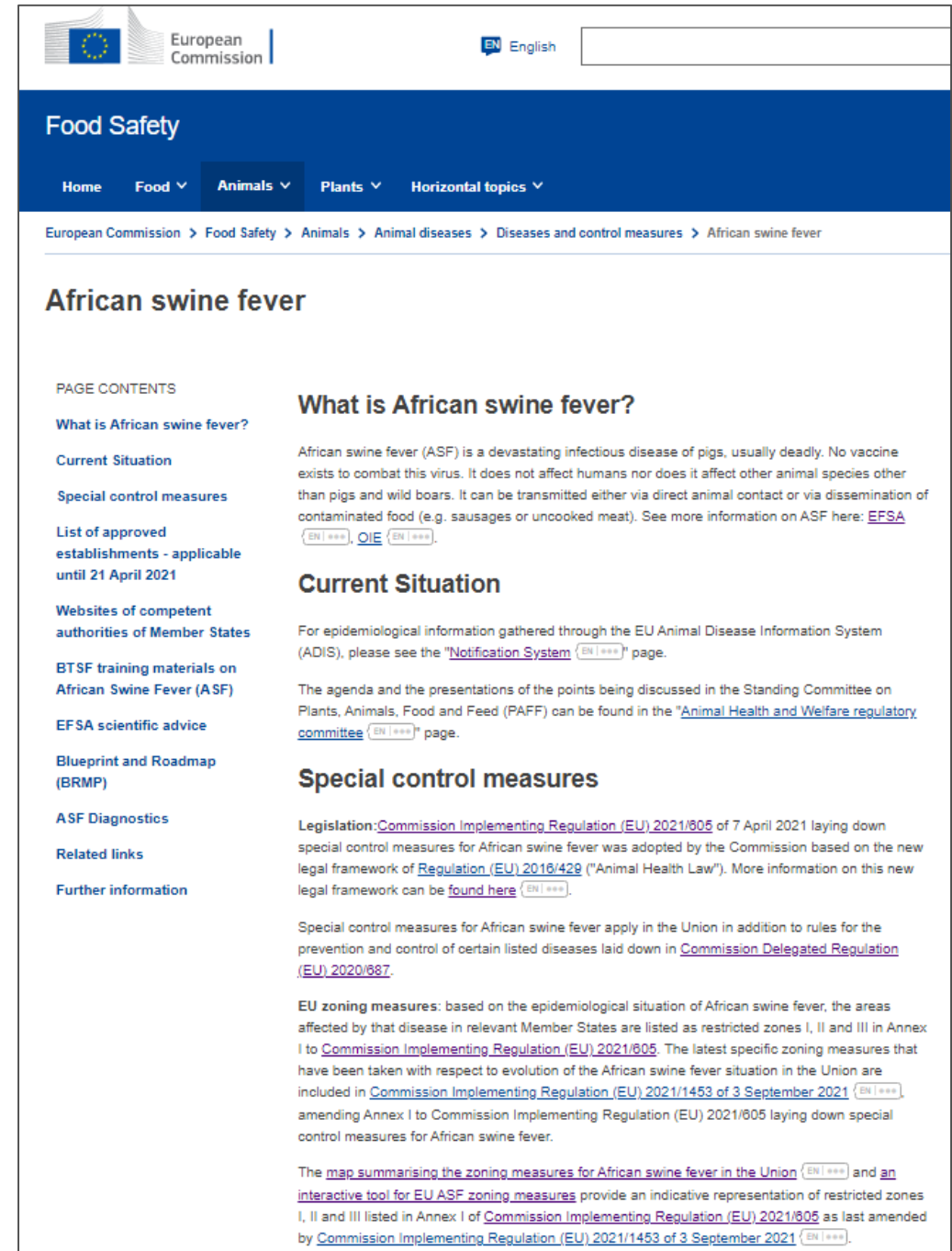
<https://audiovisual.ec.europa.eu/en/video/I-192783>

EU direct financial support concerning ASF

- Since 2014, more than **230 million €** have been granted from the EU budget directly through **veterinary programs** and **emergency measures** to support in the fight against this challenging disease:
 - the Member States and
 - neighboring third countries:
 - Ukraine, Moldova, Western Balkans.



- **Official Journal** of the EU (legislation)
- **EC website**
 - Guidelines
 - Overview reports (ADIS weekly tables + distribution maps)
 - Regionalisation maps + an interactive tool + animation
 - EFSA (scientific assessments, reports)
 - BTSF (training material)
 - Audit reports
 - Events / factsheets / videos
- **Info notes** (maps/update of the measures/adoption of legal acts)
- **Chronology** of main initiatives
- **Standing Committee** on Animal Health and Welfare (publicly available regular updates from affected MS or non-affected MS on the preparedness)
- **Other meetings** and events
 - E.g. regular meetings of SGE ASF under GF-TADS



Standing Group of Experts on ASF in Europe (**SGE ASF**)



- 17 meetings of the SGE ASF in Europe since 2014
 - May 2020: remote meeting (*update on the countries' situation and **ASF management in the framework of the Covid-19 crisis***)
 - November 2020: remote meeting (*update on countries' situation and **early reaction and emergency control measures in case of ASF detection in wild boar and domestic pigs***)
 - June 2021: remote meeting (*update on countries' situation and to **present and discuss the exit strategy***)
 - **Next: 23 November 2021 (remote meeting)**
- 13 field visits by GF-TADs experts in Belarus, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, the Czech Republic, Romania, Bulgaria, Belgium and Serbia.

International cooperation on ASF:

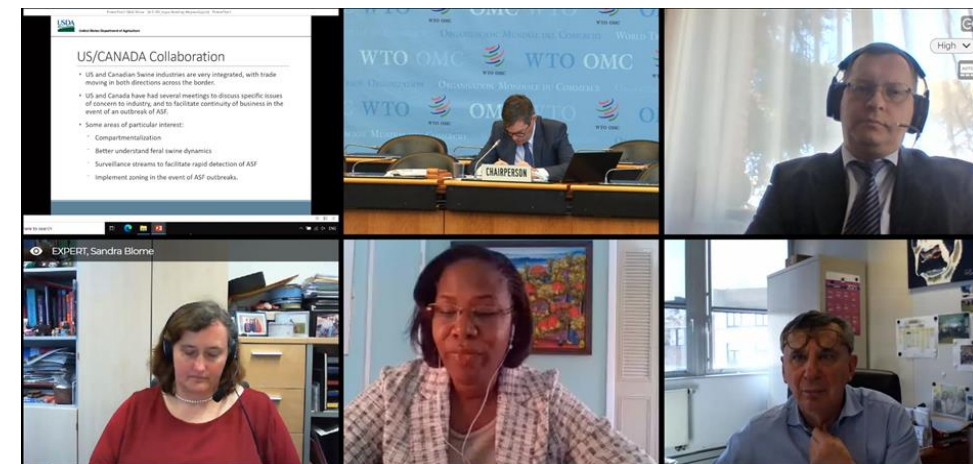
- SGE ASF Asia
- SGE ASF Americas

New

- SGE ASF Africa

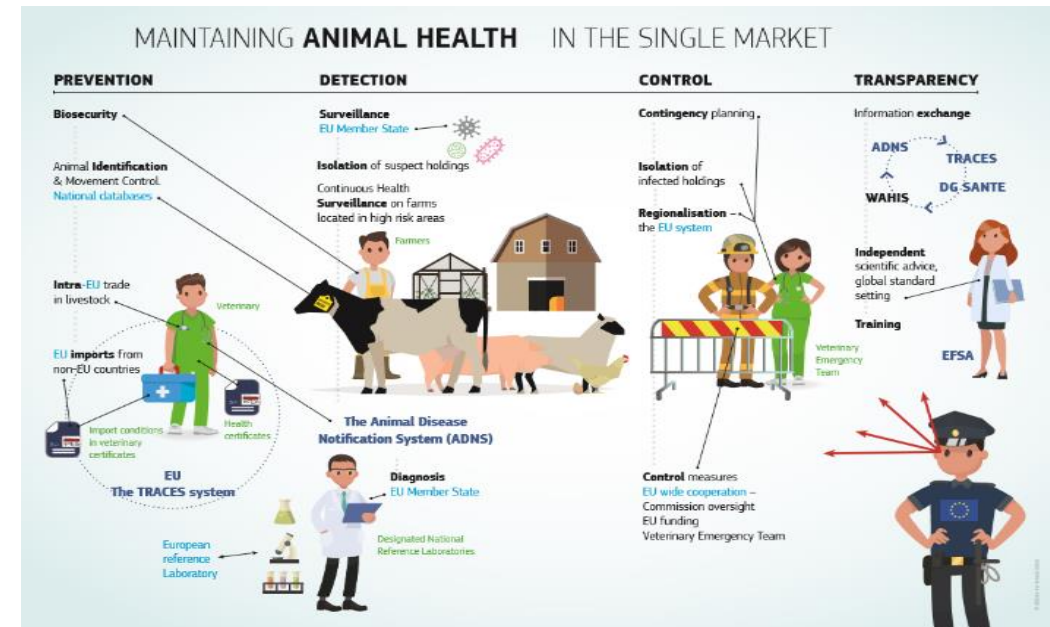
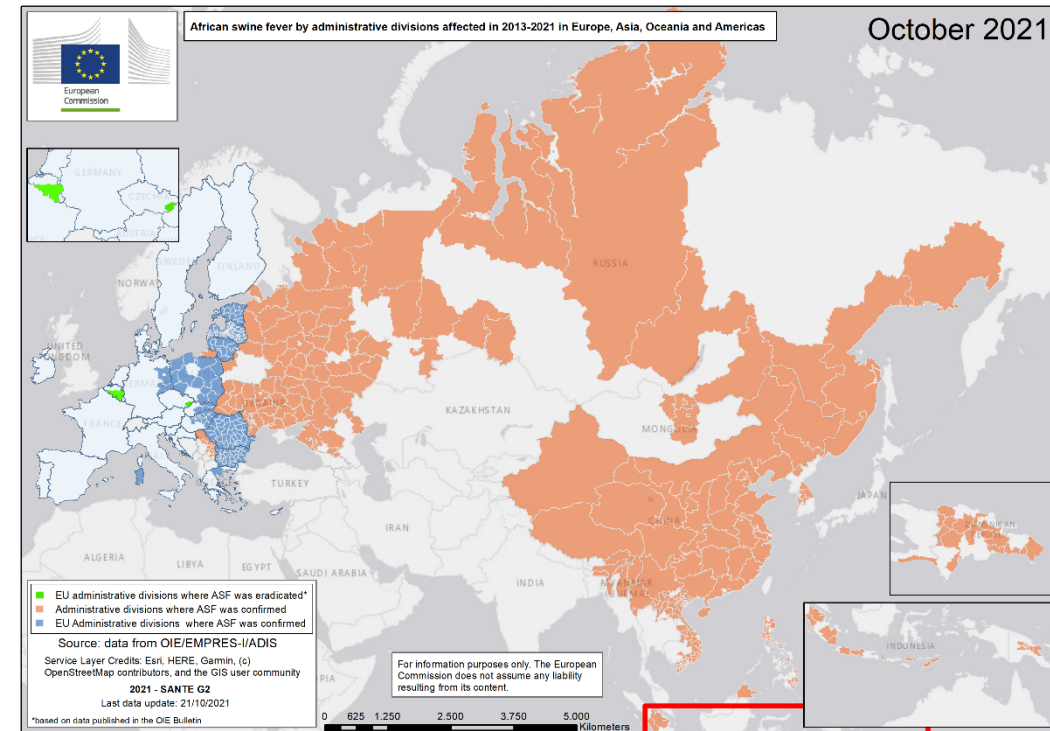
23 March 2021, WTO SPS Committee Thematic session on ASF (remote)

- The SPS Committee held a thematic session on African swine fever **based on a proposal submitted by the European Union**
- **150 participants**, including WTO Members from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe, WTO, FAO, OIE and EC
- Representatives from the **EC, Belgium and Germany presented on EU zoning** and special ASF control measures adopted to ensure safe trade.
- **Conclusions:** international cooperation, recognition of OIE international standards and **zoning** are critical tools to guarantee safe trade even when ASF is present



Conclusions

- in the EU (since 2014) ASF has been kept under control
- It remains a challenge in certain limited areas of several MS (zoning applied!):
 - Small - scale (backyard) farms
 - ASF control and eradication in wild boar in wide areas
- EU has a knowledge and expertise to prevent, control and eradicate ASF
 - in wild boar in limited areas: ASF has been eradicated from CZ and BE
 - in domestic pigs: good examples exist in the EU
- Overarching EU animal health control = guaranty for safe trade
 - *no outbreaks of diseases caused through (legal) trade (intra-EU or to other trading partners)!*



Thank you

https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-diseases/control-measures/asf_en

<https://rr-europe.oie.int/en/Projects/gf-tads-europe/standing-groups-of-experts-on-african-swine-fever-in-europe/>



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