



**Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations**

Concept Note

Workshop to finalize protocol for the impact assessment of the Community African swine fever Biosecurity Interventions (CABI) programme

27-29 June 2023 | Makati, Philippines

BACKGROUND

African swine fever (ASF) is a highly fatal hemorrhagic disease affecting susceptible species of the Suidae family, including domestic and wild pigs. Currently, there is no effective vaccine to protect swine from this disease which, in its more virulent form, can kill 100 percent of affected pigs. Furthermore, the ASF virus is highly resistant and can survive long periods in very cold and very hot weather, and even in dried or cured pork products or carcasses.

The incursion of ASF into the Asia-Pacific region has been a major concern as the region produces more than half of the global pig population. After the initial detection of ASF in China on 3 August 2018, a total of 18 countries in Asia and the Pacific have reported ASF as of March 2023. The focus of regional disease control is now shifting towards managing ASF as a disease that is endemic to the region and minimizing the ongoing impacts on food security and economic stability, particularly for smallholders.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD) at the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (RAP) has been collaborating with multiple resource partners such as the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)'s Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (MAFRA), Republic of Korea (ROK) to respond to the ASF in the region. Through these collaborations, projects were undertaken to “Strengthen field capacity for ASF detection and emergency response (OSRO/RAS/903/USA)” and “Strengthen capacity to control African swine fever and other high impact TADs in Asia (OSRO/RAS/001/ROK)”. Practical guidelines for ASF prevention and control in smallholder pig farming in Asia were developed along with training packages and other information, education, and communication resources. Based on FAO’s guidelines, a pilot community intervention (CABI: community ASF biosecurity interventions) was conducted in North Cotabato Province, Philippines in 2022 targeting smallholder pig farmers in ASF risk mitigation and recovery through strengthening of biosecurity measures funded by the BHA.

Under the new project, “African swine fever risk mitigation and recovery for smallholder pig farmers (OSRO/RAS/201/USA)” and ongoing project from MAFRA (OSRO/RAS/001/ROK), funds have been

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allocated to expand the pilot community-level interventions to other countries (Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Thailand, and other parts of the Philippines).

Interventions to reduce the risk and impact of ASF for smallholders are designed to be practical; socially and economically acceptable; tailored to meet community needs; and most importantly, promote ownership of practices to ensure sustainability. Therefore, FAO has also been developing a protocol to assess the impact of such interventions on farming practices, smallholder livelihoods, and gender issues within participating communities.

It is envisioned that project activities will apply a systematic, bottom-up approach in designing appropriate interventions. The inclusion of farms and communities covering a variety of local contexts (scenarios), can help to determine the impacts of the proposed risk mitigation and rehabilitation under different conditions, and inform an evidence-based approach for further scaling up. Finally, efforts will be made to open policy dialogues based on the outcomes of the community intervention programmes. Dialogues will be encouraged vertically (from central to local levels) and horizontally (between private and public sectors, and beyond the livestock sector) to adopt a community-focused and One Health approach to ASF responses.

OBJECTIVES

1. To review and assess the draft protocol for community interventions including socio-economic and gender aspects.
2. To develop a harmonized protocol and workplan for the conduct of the community-level interventions to reduce the risk and impact of ASF for smallholders in five countries (Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Thailand, and other parts of the Philippines)
3. To identify risks and measures to mitigate risks in the conduct of the community interventions in different countries.

PARTICIPANTS (n. 24)

1. Two Service providers per country (8): Cambodia (AVSF), Indonesia (DGLAHS, Kalimantan government), Thailand (DLD), Philippines (PHILVET)
2. One observer each from two animal health authorities (2): Cambodia (GDAHP), Lao PDR (DLF)
3. North Cotabato pilot project (5): BAI (1), Regional office (1); local government (3)
4. Representatives from FAO ECTAD Country Office (6): Cambodia (Sideth), Indonesia (Farida, Ratmoko), Lao PDR (Soubanh), Philippines (Michelle, Patrizia)
5. FAO RAP (3): Yooni Oh, Sarah Jayme, Eojin Son

DATES AND VENUE

The meetings will be conducted in Makati City, Metro Manila, Philippines
27-29 June 2023

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Time	Activities	Responsible
Day 1 (27 June)		
08:30-09:00	Registration	
09:00-10:00	Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FAO - BAI Introduction of participants	FAOPH
10:00-10:30	Group photo and coffee break	
Session 1	Scene setting	
10:30-12:00	ASF situation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Update on the regional ASF situation and activities by FAO - ASF country situation (Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Philippines, Thailand) 	Yooni Oh TBD
12:00-13:00	Lunch break	
Session 2	CABI pilot	
13:00-13:30	Guidelines for smallholder farmers to prevent and control ASF through biosecurity	Sarah Jayme
13:30-15:00	Sharing of Experience: North Cotabato pilot intervention	PHILVET and officers from North Cotabato
15:00-15:30	Coffee break	
15:30-16:30	Question and answer	Plenary
Day 2 (28 June)		
Session 3	Workshop to review study protocol	
09:00-10:00	Overview of draft community intervention protocol	FAO RAP & Philvet
10:00-10:30	Workshop 1 Review and assessment of the methodology for collection of descriptive information and determining the contribution of pig raising to farmers livelihoods	
10:30-11:00	Coffee break	
11:00-11:30	Workshop 2 Review and assessment of the methodology to determine effectiveness of increasing farmer's knowledge and adoption of good practices	
11:30-12:00	Presentation of workshop 1 and 2 outputs	

12:00-13:00	Lunch break	
13:00-15:00	Workshop 3 Review and assessment of the methodology on ASF risk, livelihood and gender	
15:00-15:30	Coffee break	
15:30-16:15	Workshop 4 Review and assessment of the study population and sampling plan	
16:15-17:00	Presentation of workshop 3 and 4 outputs	
Day 3 (29 June)		
09:00-10:30	Workshop 5 Work plan development per country	
10:30-12:00	Workshop 6 Risk identification and management per country	
12:00-13:00	Lunch break	
13:00-14:00	Presentation of workshop 5 and 6 outputs	
Session 4	Further plan and way forward	
14:00-15:00	Presentation on Administrative and operations arrangements	FAO RAP
15:00-15:30	Plenary discussion	
15:30-16:00	Closing ceremony	

Workshop 1-6: moderated by FAO RAP and PHILVET