

Use, challenges and impact of zoning: the case studies of avian influenza, African swine fever and foot and mouth disease in WOA Members from 2018 to 2022

Questionnaire 1: Avian influenza

Zoning¹ is a key concept in the field of animal health. The World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, founded as OIE) has developed [standards related to zoning](#) that intend to support Members in preventing and controlling disease spread and contribute to ensuring safe trade of animals and related commodities. WOA also provides procedures for its Members to acquire and maintain [official recognition](#) of the animal health status of an entire territory or of zones for six WOA-listed diseases, and to publish a [self-declaration](#) of animal disease freedom in a country or zone(s) for all other diseases. Zones may also be recognised through bilateral agreements between trading partners for the purpose of international trade, in compliance with WOA standards and Article 6 of the World Trade Organization SPS Agreement².

Implementing zoning and having zones recognised by trade partners may not be an easy task for Members. Preliminary analyses conducted in the scope of the first [Observatory Annual Report](#) show that the effective implementation of zoning standards remains challenging and that Members' capacity regarding these standards is still limited.

In this context, the WOA [Observatory](#) is conducting a survey to assess the use of zoning for avian influenza, African swine fever and foot and mouth disease. The survey aims:

- to investigate to what extent zoning is used within countries/territories and for which purposes;
- to investigate to what extent WOA standards on the use of zoning are integrated into national policies and regulations;
- to explore the potential barriers to the use of zoning;
- to assess the positive and negative consequences of using zoning;
- to investigate how countries/territories consider zoning when defining their procedures for imports.

This study, which is intended for **all WOA countries/territories**, will result in a publicly available report that will aggregate and summarise the main findings, identify areas for improvement and suggest future work for WOA.

For the sake of clarity, the whole survey has been divided into three different questionnaires that can be filled in independently:

¹ In the [Terrestrial Code](#), a zone means "a part of a country defined by the Veterinary Authority, containing an animal population or subpopulation with a specific animal health status with respect to an infection or infestation for the purposes of international trade or disease prevention or control".

² For terminology, the SPS Agreement uses 'disease-free area' to describe a disease-free zone and 'regionalisation' for zoning in relation to animal diseases.

- One dedicated to avian influenza
- One dedicated to African swine fever
- One dedicated to foot and mouth disease

In responding to the survey, please note the following:

- In order to gather up-to-date information, this survey covers the time period **from 2018 to 2022**.
- Questions marked with an asterisk (*) are mandatory.
- **For each of the three diseases, only one questionnaire per country/territory should be completed.** It may require cooperation between different departments/authorities of your country/territory. PDF copies of the questionnaires are attached to facilitate collaborative work.
- All responses will be held in strict confidentiality and protected in accordance with the [WOAH Privacy Policy](#). WOAHA will not disclose, disseminate, or provide access to individual data, including respondent and country/territory names. The output will be based on the analysis of aggregated data.
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Each of the three questionnaires takes about **45 minutes** to complete. Please note that the PDF version only intends to support compilation of data in your country/territory, but your final answers have to be provided electronically using the Survey Monkey tool provided. We would be grateful if you could send your electronic responses **by 16 July 2023**. If you have any questions, encounter any difficulties, or need assistance with the survey, please do not hesitate to contact us: observatory@woah.org

The information that you provide, your time and support will be greatly appreciated. We thank you again for your interest in WOAHA activities and invaluable contribution to the work of WOAHA.

Questionnaire 1: Avian influenza

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A. Use and objectives of zoning within your country/territory

1) During the period 2018-2022, did your country/territory establish and practically implement zones in relation to avian influenza for disease control purposes (i.e. to control the spread of the disease, achieve progressive eradication and/or prevent disease introduction into free areas) or for trade purposes (i.e. to secure its trade to other countries/territories)?* (only one possible option)

Yes (please proceed to question 4)

No (please proceed to question 2)

2) If "no" to Q1: Does your country/territory plan to establish zone(s) in relation to avian influenza in the future?* (only one possible option)

Yes, a zoning approach has already been agreed in principle with domestic and/or international trading partners and will be established if needed (please proceed to question 4)

Yes, there is a plan to establish zone(s) in the future (please proceed to question 4)

No (please proceed to question 3)

3) If "no" to Q2: Why are there no plans to establish zone(s) in relation to avian influenza in the future?* (multiple answers possible)

Poultry is not a relevant group of species in my country/territory, please use the field below to elaborate

Avian influenza is not a relevant disease in my country/territory, please use the field below to elaborate

Zoning is not relevant for my country/territory, please use the field below to elaborate

My country/territory does not have enough capacity to implement zoning, e.g. enforce movement restrictions) please use the field below to elaborate

Other, please use the field below to elaborate

Please elaborate:

Please proceed to section E

4) If "yes" to Q1 or Q2: Please select all relevant reasons from the list below as to why zones were or would be established.* (multiple answers possible)

A response to avian influenza outbreak(s) in my country/territory

A response to avian influenza outbreak(s) in a neighbouring country/territory

To progressively control/eradicate avian influenza in an endemic setting

To secure international trade of live animals to other countries/territories

To secure international trade of animal products to other countries/territories

Other, please specify:

5) *If “yes” to Q1 or Q2: What kind of zones were or would be established in your country/territory in relation to avian influenza?** (multiple answers possible)

- Infected zone(s)
- Protection zone(s)
- Free zone(s)
- Containment zone(s)
- Less specific zones such as zones of intensified surveillance
- Other, please elaborate:

6) *If “yes” to Q1 or Q2: Is zoning included in your contingency plan(s) in relation to avian influenza for your country/territory?** (multiple answers possible)

- Yes, zoning is part of the avian influenza specific contingency plan
- Yes, zoning is part of the generic contingency plan
- No, zoning is not part of the contingency plan(s) of my country/territory
- Not applicable, my country does not have an avian influenza specific contingency plan nor a generic contingency plan

7) Please, feel free to use the field below to elaborate on the use of zoning in your country/territory.

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*If you answered “yes” to Q1 or Q2, please proceed to section B.
If you answered “no” to Q2, please proceed to section E.*

B. Integration of WOAAH standards related to zoning into your country's/territory's regulatory framework and practices

This section is intended for respondents that answered "yes" to Q1 or to Q2, i.e. those having established zones in relation to avian influenza between 2018 and 2022 or planning to establish zones in relation to avian influenza.

8) To what extent do your country's or territory's legislation, regulations or policies about zoning for avian influenza take WOAAH standards related to zoning into account (Chapter 4.4. of the *Terrestrial Code*)?^{*} *(only one possible option)*

- Not at all Partially Completely I don't know
 There are no legislation, regulations or policies about zoning for avian influenza

9) To what extent are WOAAH standards related to zoning (Chapter 4.4. of the *Terrestrial Code*) used as a baseline to inform your country's/territory's programmes, guidelines or practices about zoning for avian influenza?^{*} *(only one possible option)*

- Not at all Partially Completely I don't know
 There are no programmes or guidelines about zoning for avian influenza

10) Please select all relevant statements from the list below as to how the geographical limits of the avian influenza zones were or would be established³.^{*} *(multiple answers possible)*

- On the basis of natural boundaries (e.g. mountains, rivers).
 On the basis of artificial boundaries (e.g. motorways, fences).
 On the basis of legal boundaries (e.g. administrative divisions, regulations that set zone boundaries based on distance from the outbreak).
 Other, please specify:
 None of the above

11) Please select all relevant statements from the list below relating to the establishment and maintenance of zones' health status regarding avian influenza⁴.^{*} *(multiple answers possible)*

- Animals and herds or flocks belonging to subpopulations of zones were/would be epidemiologically clearly separated from other sub-populations and from all factors presenting a risk in relation to avian influenza.
 Appropriate and documented biosecurity measures were/would be taken to establish and maintain zones' health status in relation to avian influenza.

³ If your country/territory has practically established zone(s) related to avian influenza, please only tick the measures that were actually implemented.

⁴ If your country/territory has practically established zone(s) related to avian influenza, please only tick the measures that were actually implemented.

- Appropriate and documented surveillance measures were/would be taken to establish and maintain zones' health status in relation to avian influenza.
- Other, please specify:
- None of the above

12) Please select all relevant statements from the list below relating to the identification and traceability of animal commodities regarding avian influenza⁵.* *(multiple answers possible)*

- An animal identification system (at the herd, flock or individual animal level) was/would be in place in my country/territory, allowing recognition of animals, herds and flocks belonging to subpopulations of the zone(s).
- Movements of live animals into and out of the zones were/would be well documented and controlled.
- An identification/traceability system was/would be in place in my country/territory for animal products.
- Movements of animal products into and out of the zones were/would be well documented and controlled.
- Other, please specify:
- None of the above

13) Please, feel free to use the field below to elaborate on the uptake of WOH standards related to zoning in your country/territory and share with us suggestions for WOH standards improvement.

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⁵ If your country/territory has practically established zone(s) related to avian influenza, please only tick the measures that were actually implemented.

C. Challenges related to using zoning in your country/territory

This section is intended for respondents that answered “yes” to Q1 or to Q2, i.e. those having established zones in relation to avian influenza between 2018 and 2022 or planning to establish zones in relation to avian influenza.

14) In the table below, please indicate the severity of each listed challenge your country/territory faces or would face when establishing zones within its own territory in relation to avian influenza.^{6*} (one option per row)

	Not challenging at all	Slightly challenging	Moderately challenging	Very challenging	I don't know
Achieve appropriate level of staffing of the veterinary services					
Ensure sufficient capability (knowledge, skills and practices) of the veterinary services					
Guarantee technical independence of the veterinary services (i.e. their capability to carry out their duties with autonomy and without undue commercial, financial, hierarchical and political influences)					
Ensure the efficient development, documentation and sustainability of strategic policies, regulations and programmes					
Ensure implementation of and compliance with veterinary legislation					
Coordinate resources and activities of veterinary services with a clear chain of command, from the central level to the field level					
Access, develop and maintain appropriate and efficient information systems (e.g. databases related to animal identification and movement, to product traceability, etc.)					
Obtain sustainable operational and emergency funding for veterinary services					
Evaluate the cost/benefit ratio of establishing a zone					

⁶ If your country/territory has practically established zone(s) related to avian influenza, please only tick the challenges you actually faced.

Ensure the authority and capability of the veterinary services to base their risk management and risk communication measures on risk assessment, incorporating sound epidemiological principles					
Ensure the authority and capability of the veterinary services to operate to prevent the entry of diseases and other hazards of animals and animal and veterinary products into your country/territory					
Ensure the authority and capability of the veterinary services to regulate the identification of animals, to trace their history and location(s), and to control domestic movements					
Ensure the authority and capability of the veterinary services to achieve whole-of-chain traceability, including the identification, tracing and control of products of animal origin					
Ensure the authority and capability of the veterinary services to enforce biosecurity requirements					
Ensure the authority and capability of the veterinary services to effectively and efficiently use accurate laboratory diagnosis to support their activities related to avian influenza					
Conduct passive surveillance, early detection and epidemiological outbreak investigation in relation to avian influenza					
Conduct active surveillance and monitoring in relation to avian influenza					
Ensure sufficient emergency response, control, and notification/reporting capability					
Ensure appropriate certification system					
Communicate with other stakeholders in relation to avian influenza and zoning					
Initiate/maintain/increase collaboration between the public and private sectors in relation to avian influenza and zoning					
Obtain political support in relation to avian influenza and zoning					
Initiate/maintain discussions with potential trade partners					
OTHER					

15) What helps or would help your country/territory overcome the challenges indicated above?*
(multiple answers possible)

- Capacity-building activities organised by my own country/territory (e.g., national training programme)
- Capacity-building activities provided by an external partner/organisation (e.g., WOAAH training programme)
- Expert support provided on the ground in my country/territory in the event of an outbreak
- Guidelines/procedures
- Development of new regulations
- Development of public/private partnerships
- Development/improvement of the information systems of my country/territory (regarding animal/herd identification, control of animal movements, traceability of animal products etc.)
- Financial investments
- More staff
- Other, please specify:

16) In addition to the standards provided by WOAAH, what kind of support would you need from WOAAH to overcome these challenges?* Please rank the options proposed below from highest to lowest priority, 1 being the highest priority, 5 being the lowest. If the item is not relevant, please tick the N/A box on the right. *(one option per row)*

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|--|-----|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Capacity-building activities | N/A |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Guidelines/procedures | N/A |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Support to develop public/private partnerships | N/A |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Support to develop new regulations | N/A |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forum to exchange best practices with other countries/territories | N/A |

17) Please feel free to use the field below to elaborate on the challenges related to zoning and on the kinds of support you would like WOAAH to provide to your country/territory.

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*If you answered "yes" to Q1, please proceed to section D.
 If you answered "yes" to Q2, please proceed to section E.*

D. Your overall experience with using zoning: benefits and drawbacks

This section is intended for respondents having answered “yes” to Q1, i.e. those having established zones in relation to avian influenza between 2018 and 2022.

18) Between 2018 and 2022, were avian influenza zones in your country/territory accepted by countries/territories importing live birds and/or bird products from your country/territory (i.e. importing countries)?* *(only one possible option)*

- Option 1:* Yes, **all** of our trading partners accepted **all** our zone(s) *(please proceed to Q19)*
- Option 2:* Yes, **all** of our trading partners accepted **some** of our zone(s) *(please proceed to Q19)*
- Option 3:* Yes, **some** of our trading partners accepted **all** our zone(s) *(please proceed to Q19)*
- Option 4:* Yes, **some** of our trading partners accepted **some** of our zone(s) *(please proceed to Q19)*
- Option 5:* No, none of our zone(s) were accepted by our trading partners *(please proceed to Q22)*
- Option 6:* No, but my country/territory did not request its trading partners to accept its zones *(please proceed to Q24)*
- Option 7:* Not applicable, my country/territory does not export birds and bird products to other countries/territories *(please proceed to Q25)*

19) *If options 1, 2, 3 or 4 to Q18:* After your trading partners accepted the zones in your country/territory in relation to avian influenza, did this bring benefits for your international trade in relevant commodities?* *(multiple answers possible)*

- Yes, stability or recovery of my country’s/territory’s export volumes
- Yes, increase in my country’s/territory’s export volumes
- Yes, maintenance of trade relationship despite a decrease in export volumes
- I don’t know
- No
- Other, please specify:

20) *If options 1, 2, 3 or 4 to Q18:* On average, how long did it take for your trading partner(s) to accept your avian influenza zones?* *(only one possible option)*

- Less than 6 months
- Between 6 and 12 months
- Between 12 and 24 months
- More than 24 months

21) *If options 1, 2, 3 or 4 to Q18:* Did your trade agreement(s) consider WOH standards?* *(multiple answers possible)*

- The terms of the trade agreement(s) conformed with WOH standards on zoning
- The terms of the trade agreement(s) were beyond WOH standards on zoning
- The terms of the trade agreement(s) were not as strict as WOH standards on zoning

- I don't know
- Other, please specify:

22) *If options 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 to Q18:* Did you already have a peace-time trade agreement to pre-emptively accept the use of zoning for avian influenza?* *(multiple answers possible)*

- Yes, and zones were accepted when they were actually established in my country/territory
- Yes, but zones were not accepted when they were actually established in my country/territory
- No

23) *If options 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 to Q18:* In your experience, how important are/would be the following factors to facilitate acceptance of your zones for avian influenza by importing countries?* *(one option per row)*

	Not important at all	Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	I don't know
The existence of a bilateral procedure for zone acceptance with the trading partner					
Pre-acceptance in peace time					
A sound historic record of timely notification to WAHIS					
The existence of a recently published PVS evaluation report in your country/territory					
Prior evaluation/audit of your veterinary services by the trading partner					
The self-declared status of your zones published by WOAHP					
Prior acceptance of your zone(s) by another trading partner					
Detailed scientific information provided to the trading partner about surveillance undertaken and diagnostic tests					
Detailed scientific information provided to the trading partner about biosecurity measures implemented					
Detailed scientific information provided to the trading partner about animal identification and traceability					
Detailed scientific information provided to the trading partner about movement control					
Stable epidemiological situation in your country/territory					

Existence of prior trade with the trading partner					
Transparency regarding the disease situation in your country/territory					
Trust from your certification system of animals and animal products issued by your country/territory					
Other					

24) *If option 6 to Q18: Why did you not request your trading partners to accept your zones?**

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25) The table below lists some additional benefits that may be gained from the use of zoning. Please indicate to what extent your country/territory experienced each of the following benefits, in relation to zones established for avian influenza within your territory. * *(one option per row)*

	Not beneficial at all	Slightly beneficial	Moderately beneficial	Very beneficial	I don't know
Better disease control (control of the spread of the disease, progressive eradication of the disease and/or prevention of disease introduction into free areas)					
Secured domestic animal movements for slaughter, breeding, etc.					
Higher overall performance/capacity of the disease control system of my country/territory					
Enhanced collaboration between private and public sectors in my country/territory					
Increased trust of domestic customers in the disease control system of my country/territory					
Other					

26) Do you expect to receive further benefits in the coming years? * *(only one possible option)*

- Yes, please elaborate in the field below
- No, please elaborate in the field below
- I don't know

Please elaborate:

27) Has your country/territory performed a cost-benefit analysis regarding the establishment of zones in relation to avian influenza?* *(only one possible option)*

- Yes *(please proceed to Q28)*
- No, but there is a plan to perform one in the future *(please proceed to Q29)*
- No, and there is no plan to perform one in the future *(please proceed to Q29)*
- I don't know *(please proceed to Q29)*

28) If "yes" to Q27: What was the outcome of this analysis?* *(multiple answers possible)*

- Establishing zones was found to be cost-effective
- Establishing zones was not found to be cost-effective
- Other, please elaborate:

29) The table below lists some drawbacks that may be experienced from the use of zoning. Please indicate to what extent your country/territory experienced each of the following drawbacks, in relation to zones established for avian influenza within your territory.* *(one option per row)*

	Not negative at all	Slightly negative	Moderately negative	Very negative	I don't know
Social impact of the separation of the territory					
Ecological impact of fences used to define zones					
Dispersal of human and economic resources					
Difficulties to understand / implement disease control measures due to their high number					
Economic impact on producers (increased financial burden, market distortion)					
Other					

30) Do you expect to experience further drawbacks in the coming years?* *(only one possible option)*

- Yes, please elaborate in the field below
- No, please elaborate in the field below
- I don't know

Please elaborate:

31) Please, feel free to use the field below to elaborate on your overall experience when establishing zones in relation to avian influenza.

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E. Acceptance by your country/territory of zones established by trading partner(s)

This section is intended for all respondents.

32) Between 2018 and 2022, did your country/territory and/or the regional economic community you are part of accept avian influenza zones that have been established by countries/territories exporting live birds and/or bird products to your country/territory (i.e. exporting countries)?*
(only one possible option)

- Option 1:* Yes, **all** zones from **all** trading partners that requested zones to be accepted *(please proceed to Q33)*
- Option 2:* Yes, **all** zones from **some** of the trading partners that requested zones to be accepted *(please proceed to Q33)*
- Option 3:* Yes, **some** zones from **all** trading partners that requested zones to be accepted *(please proceed to Q33)*
- Option 4:* Yes, **some** zones from **some** of the trading partners that requested zones to be accepted *(please proceed to Q33)*
- Option 5:* No, my country/territory and/or the regional economic community did not accept any zones from any of the trading partners that have requested zones to be accepted *(please proceed to Q35)*
- Option 6:* No, but no trading partners has requested zones to be accepted *(please proceed to Q38)*
- Option 7:* Not applicable, my country/territory and/or the regional economic community does not import live birds and/or bird products *(please proceed to Q40 – section F)*

33) If options 1, 2, 3 or 4 to Q32: On average, how long did it take for your country/territory to accept avian influenza zones of your trading partner(s)?* (only one possible option)

- Less than 6 months
- Between 6 and 12 months
- Between 12 and 24 months
- More than 24 months

34) If options 1, 2, 3 or 4 to Q32: Did your trade agreement(s) consider WOH standards?* *(multiple answers possible)*

- The terms of the trade agreement(s) conformed with WOH standards on zoning
- The terms of the trade agreement(s) were beyond WOH standards on zoning
- The terms of the trade agreement(s) were not as strict as WOH standards on zoning
- I don't know
- Other, please specify:

35) If options 2, 3, 4 or 5 to Q32: Why did your country/territory not accept zones from countries/territories exporting to your country/territory?*

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36) *If options 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 to Q32: Did you already have a peace-time trade agreement to pre-emptively accept the use of zoning for avian influenza?** (only one possible option)

- Yes, and zones were accepted when they were actually established in the country/territory
- Yes, but zones were not accepted when they were actually established in the country/territory
- Yes, but zones were not actually established in the country/territory
- No

37) *If options 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 to Q32: How important are the following factors for your country/territory when assessing whether to accept avian influenza zones from a country/territory exporting to your country/territory?** (one option per row)

	Not important at all	Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	I don't know
The existence of a bilateral procedure for zone acceptance with the trading partner					
Pre-acceptance in peace time					
A sound historic record of timely notification to WAHIS					
The existence of a recently published PVS evaluation report in the trading partner					
Prior evaluation/audit of the veterinary services of the trading partner by your country/territory					
The self-declared status of the zones published by WOAHP					
Prior acceptance of the zone(s) by another trading partner					
Your own assessment of the animal health status of the zones of your trading partner					
Detailed scientific information provided by the trading partner about surveillance undertaken and diagnostic tests					
Detailed scientific information provided by the trading partner about biosecurity measures implemented					
Detailed scientific information provided by the trading partner about animal identification and traceability					
Detailed scientific information provided by the trading partner about movement control					
Stable epidemiological situation					

Existence of prior trade with the trading partner					
Transparency regarding the disease situation in the trading partner					
Trust in the certification system of animals and animal products issued by the trading partner					
Other					

38) *If options 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 to Q32:* Does your country/territory have a procedure to follow when countries/territories exporting to your country/territory request bilateral zone acceptance?*
(only one possible option)

Yes No

39) *If options 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 to Q32:* Please, feel free to use the field below to elaborate on your overall experience when assessing whether to accept avian influenza zones from countries/territories exporting to your country/territory.

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F. Final questions and general information

40) Should you have any further comments on zoning, please use the field below to address them.

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41) Which country/territory do you represent?*

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42) Would you agree to share your experiences about zoning with us through a one-on-one interview?* *(only one possible option)*

- Yes No

43) *If "yes" to Q42:* Thank you! Can you please provide us with the name and contact details of the relevant person(s)?*

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Questionnaire 2 : African swine fever

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Implementing zoning and having zones recognised by trade partners may not be an easy task for Members. Preliminary analyses conducted in the scope of the first [Observatory Annual Report](#) show that the effective implementation of zoning standards remains challenging and that Members' capacity regarding these standards is still limited.

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- to investigate to what extent zoning is used within countries/territories and for which purposes;
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This study, which is intended for **all WOA countries/territories**, will result in a publicly available report that will aggregate and summarise the main findings, identify areas for improvement and suggest future work for WOA.

For the sake of clarity, the whole survey has been divided into three different questionnaires that can be filled in independently:

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- One dedicated to avian influenza
- One dedicated to African swine fever
- One dedicated to foot and mouth disease

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Questionnaire 2: African swine fever

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F. FINAL QUESTIONS AND GENERAL INFORMATION	19

A. Use and objectives of zoning within your country/territory

1) During the period 2018-2022, did your country/territory establish and practically implement zones in relation to African swine fever for disease control purposes (i.e. to control the spread of the disease, achieve progressive eradication and/or prevent disease introduction into free areas) or for trade purposes (i.e. to secure its trade to other countries/territories)?* *(only one possible option)*

Yes *(please proceed to question 4)*

No *(please proceed to question 2)*

2) *If "no" to Q1:* Does your country/territory plan to establish zone(s) in relation to African swine fever in the future?* *(only one possible option)*

Yes, a zoning approach has already been agreed in principle with domestic and/or international trading partners and will be established if needed *(please proceed to question 4)*

Yes, there is a plan to establish zone(s) in the future *(please proceed to question 4)*

No *(please proceed to question 3)*

3) *If "no" to Q2:* Why are there no plans to establish zone(s) in relation to African swine fever in the future?* *(multiple answers possible)*

Pigs are not a relevant species in my country/territory, please use the field below to elaborate

African swine fever is not a relevant disease in my country/territory, please use the field below to elaborate

Zoning is not relevant for my country/territory, please use the field below to elaborate

My country/territory does not have enough capacity to implement zoning, e.g. enforce movement restrictions) please use the field below to elaborate

Other, please use the field below to elaborate

Please elaborate:

Please proceed to section E

4) *If "yes" to Q1 or Q2:* Please select all relevant reasons from the list below as to why zones were or would be established.* *(multiple answers possible)*

A response to African swine fever outbreak(s) in my country/territory

A response to African swine fever outbreak(s) in a neighbouring country/territory

To progressively control/eradicate African swine fever in an endemic setting

To secure international trade of live animals to other countries/territories

To secure international trade of animal products to other countries/territories

Other, please specify:

5) *If “yes” to Q1 or Q2: What kind of zones were or would be established in your country/territory in relation to African swine fever?** (multiple answers possible)

- Infected zone(s)
- Protection zone(s)
- Free zone(s)
- Containment zone(s)
- Less specific zones such as zones of intensified surveillance
- Other, please elaborate:

6) *If “yes” to Q1 or Q2: Is zoning included in your contingency plan(s) in relation to African swine fever for your country/territory?** (multiple answers possible)

- Yes, zoning is part of the African swine fever specific contingency plan
- Yes, zoning is part of the generic contingency plan
- No, zoning is not part of the contingency plan(s) of my country/territory
- Not applicable, my country does not have an African swine fever specific contingency plan nor a generic contingency plan

7) Please, feel free to use the field below to elaborate on the use of zoning in your country/territory.

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*If you answered “yes” to Q1 or Q2, please proceed to section B.
If you answered “no” to Q2, please proceed to section E.*

B. Integration of WOAH standards related to zoning into your country's/territory's regulatory framework and practices

This section is intended for respondents that answered "yes" to Q1 or to Q2, i.e. those having established zones in relation to African swine fever between 2018 and 2022 or planning to establish zones in relation to African swine fever.

8) To what extent do your country's or territory's legislation, regulations or policies about zoning for African swine fever take WOAH standards related to zoning into account (Chapter 4.4. of the *Terrestrial Code*)?* *(only one possible option)*

- Not at all Partially Completely I don't know
 There are no legislation, regulations or policies about zoning for African swine fever

9) To what extent are WOAH standards related to zoning (Chapter 4.4. of the *Terrestrial Code*) used as a baseline to inform your country's/territory's programmes, guidelines or practices about zoning for African swine fever?* *(only one possible option)*

- Not at all Partially Completely I don't know
 There are no programmes or guidelines about zoning for African swine fever

10) Please select all relevant statements from the list below as to how the geographical limits of the African swine fever zones were or would be established³.* *(multiple answers possible)*

- On the basis of natural boundaries (e.g. mountains, rivers).
 On the basis of artificial boundaries (e.g. motorways, fences).
 On the basis of legal boundaries (e.g. administrative divisions, regulations that set zone boundaries based on distance from the outbreak).
 Other, please specify:
 None of the above

11) Please select all relevant statements from the list below relating to the establishment and maintenance of zones' health status regarding African swine fever⁴.* *(multiple answers possible)*

- Animals and herds or flocks belonging to subpopulations of zones were/would be epidemiologically clearly separated from other sub-populations and from all factors presenting a risk in relation to African swine fever.
 Appropriate and documented biosecurity measures were/would be taken to establish and maintain zones' health status in relation to African swine fever.

³ If your country/territory has practically established zone(s) related to African swine fever, please only tick the measures that were actually implemented.

⁴ If your country/territory has practically established zone(s) related to African swine fever, please only tick the measures that were actually implemented.

- Appropriate and documented surveillance measures were/would be taken to establish and maintain zones' health status in relation to African swine fever.
- Other, please specify:
- None of the above

12) Please select all relevant statements from the list below relating to the identification and traceability of animal commodities regarding African swine fever⁵.* (multiple answers possible)

- An animal identification system (at the herd, flock or individual animal level) was/would be in place in my country/territory, allowing recognition of animals, herds and flocks belonging to subpopulations of the zone(s).
- Movements of live animals into and out of the zones were/would be well documented and controlled.
- An identification/traceability system was/would be in place in my country/territory for animal products.
- Movements of animal products into and out of the zones were/would be well documented and controlled.
- Other, please specify:
- None of the above

13) Please, feel free to use the field below to elaborate on the uptake of WOAAH standards related to zoning in your country/territory and share with us suggestions for WOAAH standards improvement.

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⁵ If your country/territory has practically established zone(s) related to African swine fever, please only tick the measures that were actually implemented.

C. Challenges related to using zoning in your country/territory

This section is intended for respondents that answered “yes” to Q1 or to Q2, i.e. those having established zones in relation to African swine fever between 2018 and 2022 or planning to establish zones in relation to African swine fever.

14) In the table below, please indicate the severity of each listed challenge your country/territory faces or would face when establishing zones within its own territory in relation to African swine fever.^{6*} (one option per row)

	Not challenging at all	Slightly challenging	Moderately challenging	Very challenging	I don't know
Achieve appropriate level of staffing of the veterinary services					
Ensure sufficient capability (knowledge, skills and practices) of the veterinary services					
Guarantee technical independence of the veterinary services (i.e. their capability to carry out their duties with autonomy and without undue commercial, financial, hierarchical and political influences)					
Ensure the efficient development, documentation and sustainability of strategic policies, regulations and programmes					
Ensure implementation of and compliance with veterinary legislation					
Coordinate resources and activities of veterinary services with a clear chain of command, from the central level to the field level					
Access, develop and maintain appropriate and efficient information systems (e.g. databases related to animal identification and movement, to product traceability, etc.)					
Obtain sustainable operational and emergency funding for veterinary services					
Evaluate the cost/benefit ratio of establishing a zone					

⁶ If your country/territory has practically established zone(s) related to African swine fever, please only tick the challenges you actually faced.

Ensure the authority and capability of the veterinary services to base their risk management and risk communication measures on risk assessment, incorporating sound epidemiological principles					
Ensure the authority and capability of the veterinary services to operate to prevent the entry of diseases and other hazards of animals and animal and veterinary products into your country/territory					
Ensure the authority and capability of the veterinary services to regulate the identification of animals, to trace their history and location(s), and to control domestic movements					
Ensure the authority and capability of the veterinary services to achieve whole-of-chain traceability, including the identification, tracing and control of products of animal origin					
Ensure the authority and capability of the veterinary services to enforce biosecurity requirements					
Ensure the authority and capability of the veterinary services to effectively and efficiently use accurate laboratory diagnosis to support their activities related to African swine fever					
Conduct passive surveillance, early detection and epidemiological outbreak investigation in relation to African swine fever					
Conduct active surveillance and monitoring in relation to African swine fever					
Ensure sufficient emergency response, control, and notification/reporting capability					
Ensure appropriate certification system					
Communicate with other stakeholders in relation to African swine fever and zoning					
Initiate/maintain/increase collaboration between the public and private sectors in relation to African swine fever and zoning					
Obtain political support in relation to African swine fever and zoning					

Initiate/maintain discussions with potential trade partners					
OTHER					

15) What helps or would help your country/territory overcome the challenges indicated above?*
(multiple answers possible)

- Capacity-building activities organised by my own country/territory (e.g., national training programme)
- Capacity-building activities provided by an external partner/organisation (e.g., WOAH training programme)
- Expert support provided on the ground in my country/territory in the event of an outbreak
- Guidelines/procedures
- Development of new regulations
- Development of public/private partnerships
- Development/improvement of the information systems of my country/territory (regarding animal/herd identification, control of animal movements, traceability of animal products etc.)
- Financial investments
- More staff
- Other, please specify:

16) In addition to the standards provided by WOA, what kind of support would you need from WOAH to overcome these challenges?* Please rank the options proposed below from highest to lowest priority, 1 being the highest priority, 5 being the lowest. If the item is not relevant, please tick the N/A box on the right. *(one option per row)*

- Capacity-building activities N/A
- Guidelines/procedures N/A
- Support to develop public/private partnerships N/A
- Support to develop new regulations N/A
- Forum to exchange best practices with other countries/territories N/A

17) Please feel free to use the field below to elaborate on the challenges related to zoning and on the kinds of support you would like WOAH to provide to your country/territory.

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*If you answered "yes" to Q1, please proceed to section D.
 If you answered "yes" to Q2, please proceed to section E.*

D. Your overall experience with using zoning: benefits and drawbacks

This section is intended for respondents having answered “yes” to Q1, i.e. those having established zones in relation to African swine fever between 2018 and 2022.

18) Between 2018 and 2022, were African swine fever zones in your country/territory accepted by countries/territories importing live pigs and/or pig products from your country/territory (i.e. importing countries)?* *(only one possible option)*

- Option 1:* Yes, **all** of our trading partners accepted **all** our zone(s) *(please proceed to Q19)*
- Option 2:* Yes, **all** of our trading partners accepted **some** of our zone(s) *(please proceed to Q19)*
- Option 3:* Yes, **some** of our trading partners accepted **all** our zone(s) *(please proceed to Q19)*
- Option 4:* Yes, **some** of our trading partners accepted **some** of our zone(s) *(please proceed to Q19)*
- Option 5:* No, none of our zone(s) were accepted by our trading partners *(please proceed to Q22)*
- Option 6:* No, but my country/territory did not request its trading partners to accept its zones *(please proceed to Q24)*
- Option 7:* Not applicable, my country/territory does not export pigs and pig products to other countries/territories *(please proceed to Q25)*

19) *If options 1, 2, 3 or 4 to Q18:* After your trading partners accepted the zones in your country/territory in relation to African swine fever, did this bring benefits for your international trade in relevant commodities?* *(multiple answers possible)*

- Yes, stability or recovery of my country’s/territory’s export volumes
- Yes, increase in my country’s/territory’s export volumes
- Yes, maintenance of trade relationship despite a decrease in export volumes
- I don’t know
- No
- Other, please specify:

20) *If options 1, 2, 3 or 4 to Q18:* On average, how long did it take for your trading partner(s) to accept your African swine fever zones?* *(only one possible option)*

- Less than 6 months
- Between 6 and 12 months
- Between 12 and 24 months
- More than 24 months

21) *If options 1, 2, 3 or 4 to Q18:* Did your trade agreement(s) consider WOH standards?* *(multiple answers possible)*

- The terms of the trade agreement(s) conformed with WOH standards on zoning
- The terms of the trade agreement(s) were beyond WOH standards on zoning
- The terms of the trade agreement(s) were not as strict as WOH standards on zoning

- I don't know
- Other, please specify:

22) *If options 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 to Q18:* Did you already have a peace-time trade agreement to pre-emptively accept the use of zoning for African swine fever?* *(multiple answers possible)*

- Yes, and zones were accepted when they were actually established in my country/territory
- Yes, but zones were not accepted when they were actually established in my country/territory
- No

23) *If options 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 to Q18:* In your experience, how important are/would be the following factors to facilitate acceptance of your zones for African swine fever by importing countries?* *(one option per row)*

	Not important at all	Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	I don't know
The existence of a bilateral procedure for zone acceptance with the trading partner					
Pre-acceptance in peace time					
A sound historic record of timely notification to WAHIS					
The existence of a recently published PVS evaluation report in your country/territory					
Prior evaluation/audit of your veterinary services by the trading partner					
The self-declared status of your zones published by WOAHP					
Prior acceptance of your zone(s) by another trading partner					
Detailed scientific information provided to the trading partner about surveillance undertaken and diagnostic tests					
Detailed scientific information provided to the trading partner about biosecurity measures implemented					
Detailed scientific information provided to the trading partner about animal identification and traceability					
Detailed scientific information provided to the trading partner about movement control					
Stable epidemiological situation in your country/territory					

Existence of prior trade with the trading partner					
Transparency regarding the disease situation in your country/territory					
Trust from your certification system of animals and animal products issued by your country/territory					
Other					

24) *If option 6 to Q18: Why did you not request your trading partners to accept your zones?**

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25) The table below lists some additional benefits that may be gained from the use of zoning. Please indicate to what extent your country/territory experienced each of the following benefits, in relation to zones established for African swine fever within your territory. * *(one option per row)*

	Not beneficial at all	Slightly beneficial	Moderately beneficial	Very beneficial	I don't know
Better disease control (control of the spread of the disease, progressive eradication of the disease and/or prevention of disease introduction into free areas)					
Secured domestic animal movements for slaughter, breeding, etc.					
Higher overall performance/capacity of the disease control system of my country/territory					
Enhanced collaboration between private and public sectors in my country/territory					
Increased trust of domestic customers in the disease control system of my country/territory					
Other					

26) Do you expect to receive further benefits in the coming years? * *(only one possible option)*

- Yes, please elaborate in the field below
- No, please elaborate in the field below
- I don't know

Please elaborate:

27) Has your country/territory performed a cost-benefit analysis regarding the establishment of zones in relation to African swine fever?* *(only one possible option)*

- Yes *(please proceed to Q28)*
- No, but there is a plan to perform one in the future *(please proceed to Q29)*
- No, and there is no plan to perform one in the future *(please proceed to Q29)*
- I don't know *(please proceed to Q29)*

28) If "yes" to Q27: What was the outcome of this analysis?* *(multiple answers possible)*

- Establishing zones was found to be cost-effective
- Establishing zones was not found to be cost-effective
- Other, please elaborate:

29) The table below lists some drawbacks that may be experienced from the use of zoning. Please indicate to what extent your country/territory experienced each of the following drawbacks, in relation to zones established for African swine fever within your territory.* *(one option per row)*

	Not negative at all	Slightly negative	Moderately negative	Very negative	I don't know
Social impact of the separation of the territory					
Ecological impact of fences used to define zones					
Dispersal of human and economic resources					
Difficulties to understand / implement disease control measures due to their high number					
Economic impact on producers (increased financial burden, market distortion)					
Other					

30) Do you expect to experience further drawbacks in the coming years?* *(only one possible option)*

- Yes, please elaborate in the field below
- No, please elaborate in the field below
- I don't know

Please elaborate:

31) Please, feel free to use the field below to elaborate on your overall experience when establishing zones in relation to African swine fever.

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E. Acceptance by your country/territory of zones established by trading partner(s)

This section is intended for all respondents.

32) Between 2018 and 2022, did your country/territory and/or the regional economic community you are part of accept African swine fever zones that have been established by countries/territories exporting live pigs and/or pig products to your country/territory (i.e. exporting countries)?* *(only one possible option)*

- Option 1:* Yes, **all** zones from **all** trading partners that requested zones to be accepted *(please proceed to Q33)*
- Option 2:* Yes, **all** zones from **some** of the trading partners that requested zones to be accepted *(please proceed to Q33)*
- Option 3:* Yes, **some** zones from **all** trading partners that requested zones to be accepted *(please proceed to Q33)*
- Option 4:* Yes, **some** zones from **some** of the trading partners that requested zones to be accepted *(please proceed to Q33)*
- Option 5:* No, my country/territory and/or the regional economic community did not accept any zones from any of the trading partners that have requested zones to be accepted *(please proceed to Q35)*
- Option 6:* No, but no trading partners has requested zones to be accepted *(please proceed to Q38)*
- Option 7:* Not applicable, my country/territory and/or the regional economic community does not import live pigs and/or pig products *(please proceed to Q40 – section F)*

33) *If options 1, 2, 3 or 4 to Q32:* On average, how long did it take for your country/territory to accept African swine fever zones of your trading partner(s)?* *(only one possible option)*

- Less than 6 months
- Between 6 and 12 months
- Between 12 and 24 months
- More than 24 months

34) *If options 1, 2, 3 or 4 to Q32:* Did your trade agreement(s) consider WOH standards?* *(multiple answers possible)*

- The terms of the trade agreement(s) conformed with WOH standards on zoning
- The terms of the trade agreement(s) were beyond WOH standards on zoning
- The terms of the trade agreement(s) were not as strict as WOH standards on zoning
- I don't know
- Other, please specify:

35) *If options 2, 3, 4 or 5 to Q32:* Why did your country/territory not accept zones from countries/territories exporting to your country/territory?*

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36) *If options 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 to Q32:* Did you already have a peace-time trade agreement to pre-emptively accept the use of zoning for African swine fever?* (*only one possible option*)

- Yes, and zones were accepted when they were actually established in the country/territory
- Yes, but zones were not accepted when they were actually established in the country/territory
- Yes, but zones were not actually established in the country/territory
- No

37) *If options 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 to Q32:* How important are the following factors for your country/territory when assessing whether to accept African swine fever zones from a country/territory exporting to your country/territory?* (one option per row)

	Not important at all	Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	I don't know
The existence of a bilateral procedure for zone acceptance with the trading partner					
Pre-acceptance in peace time					
A sound historic record of timely notification to WAHIS					
The existence of a recently published PVS evaluation report in the trading partner					
Prior evaluation/audit of the veterinary services of the trading partner by your country/territory					
The self-declared status of the zones published by WOAHS					
Prior acceptance of the zone(s) by another trading partner					
Your own assessment of the animal health status of the zones of your trading partner					
Detailed scientific information provided by the trading partner about surveillance undertaken and diagnostic tests					
Detailed scientific information provided by the trading partner about biosecurity measures implemented					
Detailed scientific information provided by the trading partner about animal identification and traceability					
Detailed scientific information provided by the trading partner about movement control					
Stable epidemiological situation					

Existence of prior trade with the trading partner					
Transparency regarding the disease situation in the trading partner					
Trust in the certification system of animals and animal products issued by the trading partner					
Other					

38) *If options 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 to Q32:* Does your country/territory have a procedure to follow when countries/territories exporting to your country/territory request bilateral zone acceptance?*
(only one possible option)

Yes No

39) *If options 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 to Q32:* Please, feel free to use the field below to elaborate on your overall experience when assessing whether to accept African swine fever zones from countries/territories exporting to your country/territory.

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F. Final questions and general information

40) Should you have any further comments on zoning, please use the field below to address them.

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41) Which country/territory do you represent?*

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42) Would you agree to share your experiences about zoning with us through a one-on-one interview?* *(only one possible option)*

- Yes No

43) *If "yes" to Q42:* Thank you! Can you please provide us with the name and contact details of the relevant person(s)?*

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Use, challenges and impact of zoning: the case studies of avian influenza, African swine fever and foot and mouth disease in WOA Members from 2018 to 2022

Questionnaire 3: Foot and mouth disease

Zoning¹ is a key concept in the field of animal health. The World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, founded as OIE) has developed [standards related to zoning](#) that intend to support Members in preventing and controlling disease spread and contribute to ensuring safe trade of animals and related commodities. WOA also provides procedures for its Members to acquire and maintain [official recognition](#) of the animal health status of an entire territory or of zones for six WOA-listed diseases, and to publish a [self-declaration](#) of animal disease freedom in a country or zone(s) for all other diseases. Zones may also be recognised through bilateral agreements between trading partners for the purpose of international trade, in compliance with WOA standards and Article 6 of the World Trade Organization SPS Agreement².

Implementing zoning and having zones recognised by trade partners may not be an easy task for Members. Preliminary analyses conducted in the scope of the first [Observatory Annual Report](#) show that the effective implementation of zoning standards remains challenging and that Members' capacity regarding these standards is still limited.

In this context, the WOA [Observatory](#) is conducting a survey to assess the use of zoning for highly pathogenic avian influenza, African swine fever and foot and mouth disease. The survey aims:

- to investigate to what extent zoning is used within countries/territories and for which purposes;
- to investigate to what extent WOA standards on the use of zoning are integrated into national policies and regulations;
- to explore the potential barriers to the use of zoning;
- to assess the positive and negative consequences of using zoning;
- to investigate how countries/territories consider zoning when defining their procedures for imports.

This study, which is intended for **all WOA countries/territories**, will result in a publicly available report that will aggregate and summarise the main findings, identify areas for improvement and suggest future work for WOA.

For the sake of clarity, the whole survey has been divided into three different questionnaires that can be filled in independently:

¹ In the [Terrestrial Code](#), a zone means "a part of a country defined by the Veterinary Authority, containing an animal population or subpopulation with a specific animal health status with respect to an infection or infestation for the purposes of international trade or disease prevention or control".

² For terminology, the SPS Agreement uses 'disease-free area' to describe a disease-free zone and 'regionalisation' for zoning in relation to animal diseases.

- One dedicated to avian influenza
- One dedicated to African swine fever
- One dedicated to foot and mouth disease

In responding to the survey, please note the following:

- In order to gather up-to-date information, this survey covers the time period **from 2018 to 2022**.
- Questions marked with an asterisk (*) are mandatory.
- Only **one questionnaire per country/territory and per disease** should be completed. It may require cooperation between different departments/authorities of your country/territory. PDF copies of the questionnaires are attached to facilitate collaborative work.
- All responses will be held in strict confidentiality and protected in accordance with the [WOAH Privacy Policy](#). WOAHA will not disclose, disseminate, or provide access to individual data, including respondent and country/territory names. The output will be based on the analysis of aggregated data.
- If you would like to receive a copy of the final report, please provide your full contact information on the last page.
- Before completing the survey, please read the [instructions](#) and [glossary](#).

Each questionnaire takes about **45 minutes** to complete. Please note that the PDF version only intends to support compilation of data in your country/territory, but your final answers have to be provided electronically using the Survey Monkey tool provided. We would be grateful if you could send your electronic responses **by 16 July 2023**. If you have any questions, encounter any difficulties, or need assistance with the survey, please do not hesitate to contact us: observatory@woah.org

The information that you provide, your time and support will be greatly appreciated. We thank you again for your interest in WOAHA activities and invaluable contribution to the work of WOAHA.

Questionnaire 3: Foot and mouth disease (FMD)

A. USE AND OBJECTIVES OF ZONING WITHIN YOUR COUNTRY/TERRITORY.....	4
B. INTEGRATION OF WOH STANDARDS RELATED TO ZONING INTO YOUR COUNTRY'S/TERRITORY'S REGULATORY FRAMEWORK AND PRACTICES	6
C. CHALLENGES RELATED TO USING ZONING IN YOUR COUNTRY/TERRITORY	8
D. YOUR OVERALL EXPERIENCE WITH USING ZONING: BENEFITS AND DRAWBACKS	11
E. ACCEPTANCE BY YOUR COUNTRY/TERRITORY OF ZONES ESTABLISHED BY TRADING PARTNER(S)	16
F. FINAL QUESTIONS AND GENERAL INFORMATION	19

A. Use and objectives of zoning within your country/territory

- 1) During the period 2018-2022, did your country/territory establish and practically implement zones in relation to foot and mouth disease for disease control purposes (i.e. to control the spread of the disease, achieve progressive eradication and/or prevent disease introduction into free areas) or for trade purposes (i.e. to secure its trade to other countries/territories)?* *(only one possible option)*

- Yes, my country/territory has established and maintained at least one zone officially recognised as free from foot and mouth disease by WOAHP *(please proceed to question 4)*
- Yes, my country/territory has established or maintained at least one zone in relation to foot and mouth disease, but it was not officially recognised by WOAHP *(please proceed to question 4)*
- No *(please proceed to question 2)*

- 2) *If “no” to Q1: Does your country/territory plan to establish zone(s) in relation to foot and mouth disease in the future?** *(only one possible option)*

- Yes, a zoning approach has already been agreed in principle with domestic and/or international trading partners and will be established if needed *(please proceed to question 4)*
- Yes, there is a plan to establish zone(s) in the future *(please proceed to question 4)*
- No *(please proceed to question 3)*

- 3) *If “no” to Q2: Why are there no plans to establish zone(s) in relation to foot and mouth disease in the future?** *(multiple answers possible)*

- There is no relevant group of species in my country/territory regarding foot and mouth disease, please use the field below to elaborate
- Foot and mouth disease is not a relevant disease in my country/territory, please use the field below to elaborate
- Zoning is not relevant for my country/territory, please use the field below to elaborate
- My country/territory does not have enough capacity to implement zoning, e.g. enforce movement restrictions) please use the field below to elaborate
- Other, please use the field below to elaborate

Please elaborate:

Please proceed to section E.

- 4) *If “yes” to Q1 or Q2: Please select all relevant reasons from the list below as to why zones were or would be established.** *(multiple answers possible)*

- A response to foot and mouth disease outbreak(s) in my country/territory
- A response to foot and mouth disease outbreak(s) in a neighbouring country/territory

- To progressively control/eradicate foot and mouth disease in an endemic setting
- To secure international trade of live animals to other countries/territories
- To secure international trade of animal products to other countries/territories
- Other, please specify:

5) *If “yes” to Q1 or Q2: What kind of zones were or would be established in your country/territory in relation to foot and mouth disease? (multiple answers possible)**

- Infected zone(s)
- Protection zone(s)
- Zone(s) officially recognised by WOAHA as FMD-free without vaccination
- Zone(s) officially recognised by WOAHA as FMD-free with vaccination
- FMD-free zone(s) without vaccination that were not officially recognised by WOAHA
- FMD-free zone(s) with vaccination that were not officially recognised by WOAHA
- Containment zone(s)
- Less specific zones such as zones of intensified surveillance
- Other, please elaborate:

6) *If “yes” to Q1 or Q2: Is zoning included in your contingency plan(s) in relation to foot and mouth disease for your country/territory? (multiple answers possible)**

- Yes, zoning is part of the foot and mouth disease specific contingency plan
- Yes, zoning is part of the generic contingency plan
- No, zoning is not part of the contingency plan(s) of my country/territory
- Not applicable, my country does not have a foot and mouth disease specific contingency plan nor a generic contingency plan

7) Please, feel free to use the field below to elaborate on the use of zoning in your country/territory.

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B. Integration of WOAH standards related to zoning into your country's/territory's regulatory framework and practices

This section is intended for respondents that answered "yes" to Q1 or to Q2, i.e. those having established zones in relation to foot and mouth disease between 2018 and 2022 or planning to establish zones in relation to foot and mouth disease.

8) To what extent do your country's or territory's legislation, regulations or policies about zoning for foot and mouth disease take WOAH standards related to zoning into account (Chapter 4.4. of the *Terrestrial Code*)?* *(only one possible option)*

- Not at all Partially Completely I don't know
 There are no legislation, regulations or policies about zoning for foot and mouth disease

9) To what extent are WOAH standards related to zoning (Chapter 4.4. of the *Terrestrial Code*) used as a baseline to inform your country's/territory's programmes, guidelines or practices about zoning for foot and mouth disease?* *(only one possible option)*

- Not at all Partially Completely I don't know
 There are no programmes or guidelines about zoning for foot and mouth disease

10) Please select all relevant statements from the list below as to how the geographical limits of the foot and mouth disease zones were or would be established³. * *(multiple answers possible)*

- On the basis of natural boundaries (e.g. mountains, rivers).
 On the basis of artificial boundaries (e.g. motorways, fences).
 On the basis of legal boundaries (e.g. administrative divisions, regulations that set zone boundaries based on distance from the outbreak).
 Other, please specify:
 None of the above

11) Please select all relevant statements from the list below relating to the establishment and maintenance of zones' health status regarding foot and mouth disease⁴. * *(multiple answers possible)*

- Animals and herds or flocks belonging to subpopulations of zones were/would be epidemiologically clearly separated from other sub-populations and from all factors presenting a risk in relation to foot and mouth disease.
 Appropriate and documented biosecurity measures were/would be taken to establish and maintain zones' health status in relation to foot and mouth disease.

³ If your country/territory has practically established zone(s) related to foot and mouth disease, please only tick the measures that were actually implemented.

⁴ If your country/territory has practically established zone(s) related to foot and mouth disease, please only tick the measures that were actually implemented.

- Appropriate and documented surveillance measures were/would be taken to establish and maintain zones' health status in relation to foot and mouth disease.
- Other, please specify:
- None of the above

12) Please select all relevant statements from the list below relating to the identification and traceability of animal commodities regarding foot and mouth disease⁵.* (*multiple answers possible*)

- An animal identification system (at the herd, flock or individual animal level) was/would be in place in my country/territory, allowing recognition of animals, herds and flocks belonging to subpopulations of the zone(s).
- Movements of live animals into and out of the zones were/would be well documented and controlled.
- An identification/traceability system was/would be in place in my country/territory for animal products.
- Movements of animal products into and out of the zones were/would be well documented and controlled.
- Other, please specify:
- None of the above

13) Please, feel free to use the field below to elaborate on the uptake of WOAAH standards related to zoning in your country/territory and share with us suggestions for WOAAH standards improvement.

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If you answered "Yes, my country/territory has established and maintained at least one zone officially recognised as free from foot and mouth disease by WOAAH" to Q1, please proceed to section C. Else, please proceed to section E.

⁵ If your country/territory has practically established zone(s) related to foot and mouth disease, please only tick the measures that were actually implemented.

C. Challenges related to using zoning in your country/territory

This section is only intended for respondents having answered “Yes, my country/territory has established and maintained at least one zone officially recognised as free from foot and mouth disease by WOAHP” to Q1.

14) In the table below, please indicate the severity of each listed challenge your country/territory faces when establishing zones officially recognised as free from foot and mouth disease by WOAHP within its own territory.^{6*} *(one option per row)*

	Not challenging at all	Slightly challenging	Moderately challenging	Very challenging	I don't know
Achieve appropriate level of staffing of the veterinary services					
Ensure sufficient capability (knowledge, skills and practices) of the veterinary services					
Guarantee technical independence of the veterinary services (i.e. their capability to carry out their duties with autonomy and without undue commercial, financial, hierarchical and political influences)					
Ensure the efficient development, documentation and sustainability of strategic policies, regulations and programmes					
Ensure implementation of and compliance with veterinary legislation					
Coordinate resources and activities of veterinary services with a clear chain of command, from the central level to the field level					
Access, develop and maintain appropriate and efficient information systems (e.g. databases related to animal identification and movement, to product traceability, etc.)					
Obtain sustainable operational and emergency funding for veterinary services					
Evaluate the cost/benefit ratio of establishing a zone					

⁶ If your country/territory has practically established zone(s) related to foot and mouth disease, please only tick the challenges you actually faced.

Ensure the authority and capability of the veterinary services to base their risk management and risk communication measures on risk assessment, incorporating sound epidemiological principles					
Ensure the authority and capability of the veterinary services to operate to prevent the entry of diseases and other hazards of animals and animal and veterinary products into your country/territory					
Ensure the authority and capability of the veterinary services to regulate the identification of animals, to trace their history and location(s), and to control domestic movements					
Ensure the authority and capability of the veterinary services to achieve whole-of-chain traceability, including the identification, tracing and control of products of animal origin					
Ensure the authority and capability of the veterinary services to enforce biosecurity requirements					
Ensure the authority and capability of the veterinary services to effectively and efficiently use accurate laboratory diagnosis to support their activities related to foot and mouth disease					
Conduct passive surveillance, early detection and epidemiological outbreak investigation in relation to foot and mouth disease					
Conduct active surveillance and monitoring in relation to foot and mouth disease					
Ensure sufficient emergency response, control, and notification/reporting capability					
Ensure appropriate certification system					
Communicate with other stakeholders in relation to foot and mouth disease and zoning					
Initiate/maintain/increase collaboration between the public and private sectors in relation to foot and mouth disease and zoning					
Obtain political support in relation to foot and mouth disease and zoning					

Initiate/maintain discussions with potential trade partners					
OTHER					

15) What helps or would help your country/territory overcome the challenges indicated above?*
(multiple answers possible)

- Capacity-building activities organised by my own country/territory (e.g., national training programme)
- Capacity-building activities provided by an external partner/organisation (e.g., WOAH training programme)
- Expert support provided on the ground in my country/territory in the event of an outbreak
- Guidelines/procedures
- Development of new regulations
- Development of public/private partnerships
- Development/improvement of the information systems of my country/territory (regarding animal/herd identification, control of animal movements, traceability of animal products etc.)
- Financial investments
- More staff
- Other, please specify:

16) In addition to the standards provided by WOAH, what kind of support would you need from WOAH to overcome these challenges?* Please rank the options proposed below from highest to lowest priority, 1 being the highest priority, 5 being the lowest. If the item is not relevant, please tick the N/A box on the right. *(one option per row)*

- Capacity-building activities N/A
- Guidelines/procedures N/A
- Support to develop public/private partnerships N/A
- Support to develop new regulations N/A
- Forum to exchange best practices with other countries/territories N/A

17) Please feel free to use the field below to elaborate on the challenges related to establishing zones officially recognised as free from foot and mouth disease by WOAH and on the kinds of support you would like WOAH to provide to your country/territory.

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D. Your overall experience with using zoning: benefits and drawbacks

This section is only intended for respondents having answered “Yes, my country/territory has established and maintained at least one zone officially recognised as free from foot and mouth disease by WOAHP” to Q1.

18) Between 2018 and 2022, were your zones officially recognised as free from foot and mouth disease by WOAHP accepted by countries/territories importing live animals and/or animal products from your country/territory (i.e. importing countries)?* (only one possible option)

- Option 1:* Yes, **all** of our trading partners accepted **all** our officially recognised FMD-free zone(s) (please proceed to Q19)
- Option 2:* Yes, **all** of our trading partners accepted **some** of our officially recognised FMD-free zone(s) (please proceed to Q19)
- Option 3:* Yes, **some** of our trading partners accepted **all** our officially recognised FMD-free zone(s) (please proceed to Q19)
- Option 4:* Yes, **some** of our trading partners accepted **some** of our officially recognised FMD-free zone(s) (please proceed to Q19)
- Option 5:* No, none of our officially recognised FMD-free zone(s) were accepted by our trading partners (please proceed to Q22)
- Option 6:* No, but my country/territory did not request its trading partners to accept its officially recognised FMD-free zones (please proceed to Q24)
- Option 7:* Not applicable, my country/territory does not export relevant animal and animal products to other countries/territories (please proceed to Q25)

19) If options 1, 2, 3 or 4 to Q18: After your trading partners accepted the officially recognised FMD-free zones in your country/territory, did this bring benefits for your international trade in relevant commodities?* (multiple answers possible)

- Yes, stability or recovery of my country’s/territory’s export volumes
- Yes, increase in my country’s/territory’s export volumes
- Yes, maintenance of trade relationship despite a decrease in export volumes
- I don’t know
- No
- Other, please specify:

20) If options 1, 2, 3 or 4 to Q18: On average, how long did it take for your trading partner(s) to accept your officially recognised FMD-free zones?* (only one possible option)

- Less than 6 months
- Between 6 and 12 months
- Between 12 and 24 months
- More than 24 months

21) *If options 1, 2, 3 or 4 to Q18: Did your trade agreement(s) consider WOAH standards?** (multiple answers possible)

- The terms of the trade agreement(s) conformed with WOAH standards on officially recognised FMD-free zones
- The terms of the trade agreement(s) were beyond WOAH standards on officially recognised FMD-free zones
- The terms of the trade agreement(s) were not as strict as WOAH standards on officially recognised FMD-free zones
- I don't know
- Other, please specify:

22) *If options 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 to Q18: Did you already have a peace-time trade agreement to pre-emptively accept the use of zoning for foot and mouth disease?** (multiple answers possible)

- Yes, and officially recognised FMD-free zones were accepted when they were actually established in my country/territory
- Yes, but officially recognised FMD-free zones were not accepted when they were actually established in my country/territory
- No

23) *If options 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 to Q18: In your experience, how important are/would be the following factors to facilitate acceptance of your officially recognised FMD-free zones by importing countries?** (one option per row)

	Not important at all	Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	I don't know
The existence of a bilateral procedure for zone acceptance by the trading partner					
Pre-acceptance in peace time					
A sound historic record of timely notification to WAHIS					
The existence of a recently published PVS evaluation report in your country/territory					
Prior evaluation/audit of your veterinary services by the trading partner					
The official status of your zones recognised by WOAH as free from FMD					
Prior acceptance of your zone(s) by another trading partner					
Detailed scientific information provided to the trading partner about surveillance undertaken and diagnostic tests					

Detailed scientific information provided to the trading partner about biosecurity measures implemented					
Detailed scientific information provided to the trading partner about animal identification and traceability					
Detailed scientific information provided to the trading partner about movement control					
Stable epidemiological situation in your country/territory					
Existence of prior trade with the trading partner					
Transparency regarding the disease situation in your country/territory					
Trust from your certification system of animals and animal products issued by your country/territory					
Other					

24) *If option 6 to Q18:* Why did you not request your trading partners to accept your officially recognised FMD-free zones?*

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25) The table below lists some additional benefits that may be gained from the use of zoning. Please indicate to what extent your country/territory experienced each of the following benefits, in relation to officially recognised FMD-free zones within your territory.* *(one option per row)*

	Not beneficial at all	Slightly beneficial	Moderately beneficial	Very beneficial	I don't know
Better disease control (control of the spread of the disease, progressive eradication of the disease and/or prevention of disease introduction into free areas)					
Secured domestic animal movements for slaughter, breeding, etc.					
Higher overall performance/capacity of the disease control system of my country/territory					
Enhanced collaboration between private and public sectors in my country/territory					

Increased trust of domestic customers in the disease control system of my country/territory					
Other					

26) Do you expect to receive further benefits in the coming years?* *(only one possible option)*

- Yes, please elaborate in the field below
- No, please elaborate in the field below
- I don't know

Please elaborate:

27) Has your country/territory performed a cost-benefit analysis regarding the establishment of officially recognised FMD-free zones?* *(only one possible option)*

- Yes *(please proceed to Q28)*
- No, but there is a plan to perform one in the future *(please proceed to Q29)*
- No, and there is no plan to perform one in the future *(please proceed to Q29)*
- I don't know *(please proceed to Q29)*

28) If "yes" to Q27: What was the outcome of this analysis?* *(multiple answers possible)*

- Establishing zones was found to be cost-effective
- Establishing zones was not found to be cost-effective
- Other, please elaborate:

29) The table below lists some drawbacks that may be experienced from the use of zoning. Please indicate to what extent your country/territory experienced each of the following drawbacks, in relation to officially recognised FMD-free zones within your territory.* *(one option per row)*

	Not negative at all	Slightly negative	Moderately negative	Very negative	I don't know
Social impact of the separation of the territory					
Ecological impact of fences used to define zones					
Dispersal of human and economic resources					
Difficulties to understand / implement disease control measures due to their high number					
Economic impact on producers (increased financial burden, market distortion)					

Other	
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30) Do you expect to experience further drawbacks in the coming years?* *(only one possible option)*

- Yes, please elaborate in the field below
- No, please elaborate in the field below
- I don't know

Please elaborate:

31) Please, feel free to use the field below to elaborate on your overall experience when establishing officially recognised FMD-free zones.

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E. Acceptance by your country/territory of zones established by trading partner(s)

This section is intended to all respondents.

32) Between 2018 and 2022, did your country/territory and/or the regional economic community you are part of accept officially recognised FMD-free zones in countries/territories exporting live animals and/or animal products to your country/territory (i.e. exporting countries)?* *(only one possible option)*

- Option 1:* Yes, **all** officially recognised FMD-free zones from **all** trading partners that requested zones to be accepted *(please proceed to Q33)*
- Option 2:* Yes, **all** officially recognised FMD-free zones from **some** of the trading partners that requested zones to be accepted *(please proceed to Q33)*
- Option 3:* Yes, **some** officially recognised FMD-free zones from **all** trading partners that requested zones to be accepted *(please proceed to Q33)*
- Option 4:* Yes, **some** officially recognised FMD-free zones from **some** of the trading partners that requested zones to be accepted *(please proceed to Q33)*
- Option 5:* No, my country/territory and/or the regional economic community did not accept any officially recognised FMD-free zone from any of the trading partners that have requested zones to be accepted *(please proceed to Q35)*
- Option 6:* No, but no trading partners has requested officially recognised FMD-free zones to be accepted *(please proceed to Q38)*
- Option 7:* Not applicable, my country/territory and/or the regional economic community does not import relevant live animals and/or animal products *(please proceed to Q40 – section F)*

33) *If options 1, 2, 3 or 4 to Q32:* On average, how long did it take for your country/territory to accept officially recognised FMD-free zones of your trading partner(s)?* *(only one possible option)*

- Less than 6 months
- Between 6 and 12 months
- Between 12 and 24 months
- More than 24 months

34) *If options 1, 2, 3 or 4 to Q32:* Did your trade agreement(s) consider WOH standards?* *(multiple answers possible)*

- The terms of the trade agreement(s) conformed with WOH standards on officially recognised FMD-free zones
- The terms of the trade agreement(s) were beyond WOH standards on officially recognised FMD-free zones
- The terms of the trade agreement(s) were not as strict as WOH standards on officially recognised FMD-free zones
- I don't know
- Other, please specify:

35) *If options 2, 3, 4 or 5 to Q32:* Why did your country/territory not accept zones officially recognised FMD-free zones from countries/territories exporting to your country/territory?*

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36) *If options 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 to Q32:* Did you already have a peace-time trade agreement to pre-emptively accept the use of zoning for foot and mouth disease?* *(only one possible option)*

- Yes, and officially recognised FMD-free zones were accepted when they were actually established in the country/territory
- Yes, but officially recognised FMD-free zones were not accepted when they were actually established in the country/territory
- Yes, but officially recognised FMD-free zones were not actually established in the country/territory
- No

37) *If options 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 to Q32:* How important are the following factors for your country/territory when assessing whether to accept officially recognised FMD-free zones from a country/territory exporting to your country/territory?* *(one option per row)*

	Not important at all	Slightly important	Moderately important	Very important	I don't know
The existence of a bilateral procedure for zone acceptance with the trading partner					
Pre-acceptance in peace time					
A sound historic record of timely notification to WAHIS					
The existence of a recently published PVS evaluation report in the trading partner					
Prior evaluation/audit of the veterinary services of the trading partner by your country/territory					
The official status of your trading partner's zones recognised by WOA as free from FMD					
Prior acceptance of the zone(s) by another trading partner					
Your own assessment of the animal health status of the zones of your trading partner					
Detailed scientific information provided by the trading partner about surveillance undertaken and diagnostic tests					
Detailed scientific information provided by the trading partner					

about biosecurity measures implemented					
Detailed scientific information provided by the trading partner about animal identification and traceability					
Detailed scientific information provided by the trading partner about movement control					
Stable epidemiological situation					
Existence of prior trade with the trading partner					
Transparency regarding the disease situation in the trading partner					
Trust in the certification system of animals and animal products issued by the trading partner					
Other					

38) *If options 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 to Q32:* Does your country/territory have a procedure to follow when countries/territories exporting to your country/territory request bilateral acceptance of officially recognised FMD-free zones?* *(only one possible option)*

Yes No

39) *If options 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 to Q32:* Please, feel free to use the field below to elaborate on your overall experience when assessing whether to accept officially recognised FMD-free zones from countries/territories exporting to your country/territory.

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F. Final questions and general information

40) Should you have any further comments on zoning, please use the field below to address them.

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41) Which country/territory do you represent?*

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42) Would you agree to share your experiences about zoning with us through a one-on-one interview?* *(only one possible option)*

- Yes No

43) *If "yes" to Q42:* Thank you! Can you please provide us with the name and contact details of the relevant person(s)?*

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