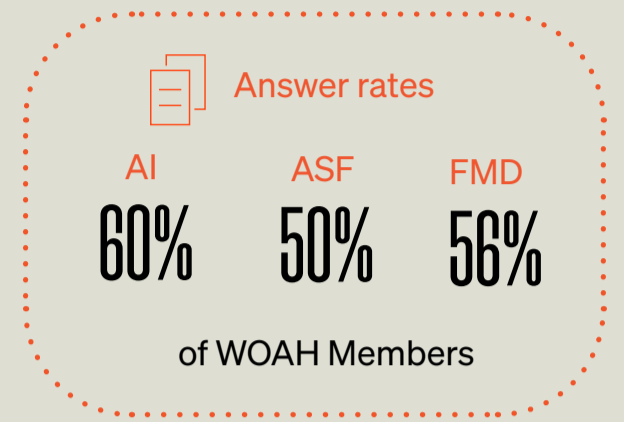
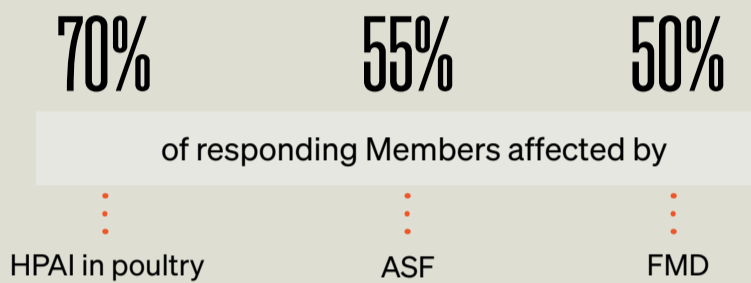


# Insights on Members' zones for avian influenza, African swine fever and foot and mouth disease

The international standards of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) on zoning support Members to prevent and control disease spread and contribute to ensuring the safe trade of animals and their products. However, the effective implementation of zoning standards remains challenging, and Members' capacity remains limited, as previous work shows. WOAH's Observatory monitors the implementation of WOAH standards and has therefore decided to focus its first thematic study on zoning. A survey was launched as a first step to assess the use of zoning for avian influenza (AI), African swine fever (ASF) and foot and mouth disease (FMD) and the associated challenges and benefits in WOAH Members from 2018 to 2022.



## Zoning was used by:



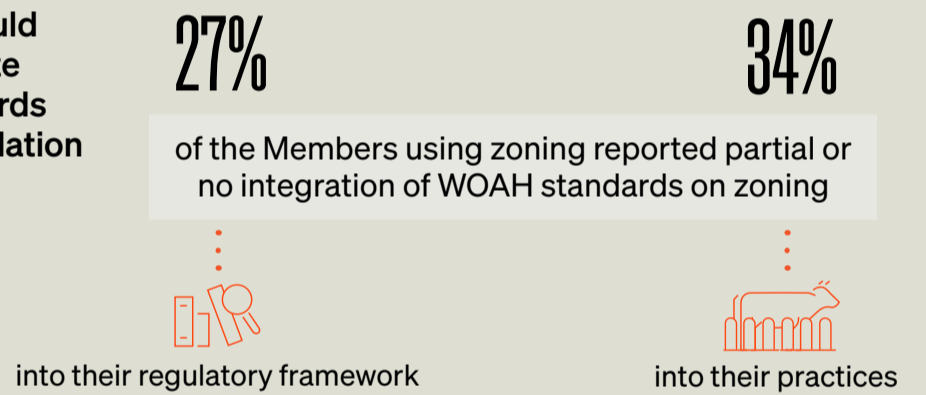
## The top challenges for implementing zoning are:



## Zoning has a positive impact on the control of:



Members should better integrate WOAH standards into their legislation and practices. The survey reported that:



Animal identification and traceability systems were identified as the weakest areas

## Acceptance of zones by trading partners

- can take up more than **two years**, e.g. in half of the acceptance requests related to AI or ASF
- is mainly driven by transparency and trust in the certification system from both an importer's and exporter's perspective

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### World Organisation for Animal Health

- Continue to advocate for the need to allocate both human and financial resources to support Veterinary Services
- Explore ways and partnerships for the development of cost-benefit analysis capacity within Veterinary Services, to support decision making in zoning approach
- Continue to advocate for the proper use of zoning-related WOAH standards for international trade
- Continue to develop capacity building activities aimed at fostering sound national assurance systems, based on high quality Veterinary Services and robust veterinary certification
- Consider organising inter-regional forums to share Members' practical experiences and develop a «toolbox» containing potential approaches they may adopt

### Members

- Ensure that all the prerequisites (e.g. surveillance, identification and traceability system) are in place before considering establishing zones
- Assess if they have the capacity and resources required to effectively implement and maintain zoning and perform cost-benefit analyses
- Integrate zoning-related WOAH standards into their legislative framework and practices
- Invest and prioritise the development/maintenance of robust certification systems and transparency to build trust with trading partners
- Raise challenges they face at WOAH forums, share experience with other Members and seek support and capacity building, when needed

Further analysis of the data collected through this survey will be carried out in the near future. This will be followed by a second study focused on compartmentalisation for AI.

Access the full report [here](#).



World Organisation for Animal Health  
Founded in 1924

Organisation mondiale de la santé animale  
Fondée en 1924

Organización Mundial de Sanidad Animal  
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