Questionnaires on classical swine fever (CSF)

CSF FREE COUNTRY OR ZONE
Report of a Member Country which applies for recognition of status, under Chapter 15.2. of the Terrestrial Code, as a CSF free country or zone

Please address concisely all the following topics under the headings provided to describe the actual situation and procedures currently applied in the country explaining how this complies with the Terrestrial Code.

Please use the terminology defined in the OIE Terrestrial Code and Terrestrial Manual.

National legislation, regulations and Veterinary Authority directives may be referred to and annexed as appropriate in one of the OIE official languages.

Any annex should be provided in one of the OIE official languages.

1. Introduction

   a) Geographical entities (rivers, mountains, etc.). Provide a general description of the country and the zone and, when relevant, of the region, including physical, geographical and other factors that are relevant to CSF introduction and dissemination, as well as a short description of the CSF status of countries or zones sharing common borders and other links for the potential introduction of CSF. The boundaries of the country or zone must be clearly defined, including a protection zone if applied. Provide maps identifying the factors above, including a digitalised, geo-referenced map with a precise text description of the geographical boundaries of the country or zone. Specify whether the application includes any non-contiguous territories.

   b) Pig industry. Provide a general description of the domestic and captive wild pig industry in the country and the zone. In particular, describe:

      i) the types of production systems in the country and the zone;
      ii) the number of herds;
      iii) their geographical distribution;
      iv) herd density;
      v) the degree of integration and role of producer organisations in the different production systems;
      vi) any recent significant changes observed in the production (if relevant documents are available, please attach).

      Provide tables and maps.

   c) Wildlife demographics. What permanently captive wild, wild or feral pigs are present in the country and the zone? Provide estimates of population sizes and geographic distribution. What are the measures in place to prevent contact between domestic and permanently captive wild pigs, and wild and feral pig populations?
d) Slaughterhouses/abattoirs, markets and events associated with the congregation of susceptible livestock (e.g. fairs, shows, competitions). Where are the major pig marketing or collection centres? What are the patterns of pig movement for marketing within the country or zone, and between zones of the same or different status? How are the pigs sourced, transported and handled during these transactions? What proportions of slaughtered pigs are subjected to meat inspection in different production systems? Provide maps as appropriate.

2. Veterinary system

a) Legislation. Provide a table (and when available a link) listing all relevant veterinary legislations, regulations and Veterinary Authority directives in relation to CSF and a brief description of the relevance of each. This list should include, but not be limited to, the legislation on disease control measures and compensation system.

b) Veterinary Services. Describe how the Veterinary Services of the country comply with the provisions of Chapters 1.1., 3.1. and 3.2. of the Terrestrial Code. Describe how the Veterinary Services supervise and control all CSF related activities. Provide maps, figures and tables wherever possible.

c) Provide information on any OIE PVS evaluation conducted in your country and follow-up steps within the PVS Pathway and highlight the results relevant to CSF and pigs.

d) Provide a description on the involvement and the participation of industry, producers, farmers, including subsistence and small scale producers, keepers, community animal health workers and other relevant groups in CSF surveillance and control. Provide a description of the structure (including number and distribution) and role of the private veterinary profession in CSF surveillance and control. Include a description of continuing education and awareness programmes on CSF at all relevant levels.

e) Animal identification, registration, traceability and movement control. Are pigs identified (individually or at a group level)? Provide a description of the methods of animal identification, holding or herd registration and traceability for all production systems. How are pig movements controlled in the country or zone, or between zones of the same or different status for all production systems? Provide evidence on the effectiveness of animal identification and movement controls and a table describing the number, origin and destination of the pigs and their products moved within the country in the last two years.

Describe the risk management strategy for uncontrolled movements of pigs.

Describe the action available under legislation, and actually taken, when an illegal import is detected. Provide information on illegal movements detected.

3. CSF eradication

a) History. If the country has never had the disease, or has not had it within the last 25 years, please state explicitly whether or not the country or zone is applying for historical freedom according to Article 1.4.6. of the Terrestrial Code.

If the country or zone has had the disease within the last 25 years, please provide a description of the CSF history in the country and zone, with emphasis on recent years. If applicable, provide tables and maps to show the date of first detection, the sources and routes of introduction of infection, the temporal and spatial distribution (number and location of outbreaks per year), the pigs involved, the date of last case or eradication in the country or zone.

b) Strategy. Describe how CSF was controlled and eradicated in the country or zone (e.g. stamping-out policy, movement control, zoning). Provide the time frame for eradication. Describe and justify the corrective actions that have been implemented to prevent future disease outbreaks in response to any past disease incursions.
c) Vaccines and vaccination. Briefly answer the following:

i) Is there any legislation that prohibits vaccination? If so:
   – Provide the date when vaccination was formally prohibited;
   – Describe the action available under legislation, and actually taken, when an illegal vaccination is detected;
   – Provide information on detected illegal vaccination during the reporting period.

ii) Was vaccination ever used in the country? If so:
   – Provide the date when the last vaccination was carried out;
   – What type of vaccine was used? If DIVA vaccine has been used, describe the type of differential tests and results;
   – Which pigs were vaccinated?
   – How were vaccinated pigs identified?
   – What was the fate of those pigs?

iii) In addition, if vaccination was conducted during the past two years, provide a description and justification of the vaccination strategy and regime. Briefly answer the following:
   – the pigs vaccinated;
   – identification of vaccinated pigs;
   – the way in which the vaccination of pigs was certified or reported and the records maintained.

Provide evidence that the vaccine used complies with Chapter 2.8.3. of the Terrestrial Manual.

d) Provide a description of the legislation, organisation and implementation of the eradication campaign. Outline the legislation applicable to the eradication and how the campaign was organised at different levels. Indicate if detailed operational guidelines exist and give a brief summary.

4. CSF diagnosis

Provide documentary evidence that the relevant provisions in Chapters 1.1.2., 1.1.3. and 2.8.3. of the Terrestrial Manual are applied. In particular, the following points should be addressed:

a) Is CSF laboratory diagnosis carried out in the country? If so, provide an overview of the CSF approved laboratories in the country. If not, provide the names of the laboratories from other countries providing the service as well as the arrangements in place, including logistics for shipment of samples and the time frame for obtaining results. Indicate the laboratories where samples originating from the zone are diagnosed.

b) Provide an overview of the CSF approved laboratories in the country. Address the following points:

   i) How the work is shared between different laboratories, logistics for shipment of samples, the follow-up procedures and the time frame for obtaining results;

   ii) Details on test capability and the types of tests undertaken and their performance for their applied use (specificity and sensitivity per type of test). Provide details on the number of CSF tests performed in the last two years in the national laboratories as well as abroad;
iii) Procedures for quality assurance and for the official accreditation of laboratories. Give details of formal internal quality management systems, e.g. Good Laboratory Practice, ISO, etc. that exist in, or are planned for, the laboratory system;

iv) Provide details of performance in inter-laboratory validation tests (ring trials), including the most recent results and, if applicable, the corrective measures applied;

v) Provide details on the handling of live agent. In particular, describe biosecurity and biosafety measures applied;

vi) Provide a table linking the tests carried out to the laboratories where they are performed, the quality accreditation and biosecurity standards followed and the proficiency tests carried out.

5. CSF surveillance

Provide documentary evidence that surveillance for CSF in the country or zone complies with Articles 15.2.26. to 15.2.32. of the Terrestrial Code and Chapter 2.8.3. of the Terrestrial Manual. In particular, the following points should be addressed:

a) What are the criteria for raising a suspicion of CSF? What is the procedure to notify (by whom and to whom) and what incentives are there for reporting and what penalties are involved for failure to report?

b) Describe how clinical surveillance is conducted, including which levels of the pig population system are included in clinical surveillance, such as farms, markets, fairs, slaughterhouses/abattoirs, check points, etc.

Provide a summary table indicating, for the past two years, the number of suspected cases, the number of samples tested for CSF, type of sample, testing methods and results (including differential diagnosis). Provide an indication of the timelines of the response including completion of testing to confirm or exclude CSF. Provide details on follow-up actions taken on all suspicious and positive results.

c) Serological and virological surveillance. Are serological or virological surveys conducted? If so, provide detailed information on the survey design (confidence level, sample size, stratification). How frequently are they conducted? Are wild and feral pigs included in surveillance? For both serological and virological surveillance provide a summary table indicating, for the past 12 months, the number of samples tested for CSF, type of sample, testing methods and results (including differential diagnosis). Include in the table the number of false-positive results obtained on screening tests. Provide details on follow-up actions taken on all suspicious and positive results and on how these findings are acted upon.

Provide criteria for selection of populations for targeted surveillance and numbers of pigs examined and samples tested in diagnostic laboratories. Provide details on the methods applied for monitoring the performance of the surveillance system including indicators.

d) Provide information on risk in different husbandry systems, and provide evidence that targeted studies are implemented to address gaps (e.g. targeted serological surveys, active surveillance, participatory epidemiology studies, risk assessments, etc.) and that the acquired knowledge assists in more effective implementation of control measures.

e) Provide details on training programmes for personnel involved in clinical, serological and virological surveillance and the approaches used to increase community involvement in CSF surveillance programmes.

6. CSF prevention

Describe the procedures in place to prevent the introduction of CSF into the country. In particular, provide details on:

a) Coordination with other countries. Describe any relevant factors about adjacent countries or zones that should be taken into account (e.g. size, distance from the border to affected herds or animals, CSF status). Describe coordination, collaboration and information sharing activities with other countries and zones in the same region or ecosystem.
If the CSF free zone is situated in a CSF infected country or borders an infected country or zone, describe the animal health measures implemented to effectively prevent the introduction of the agent, taking into consideration physical or geographical barriers.

Are protection zones in place? If so, indicate whether or not the protection zones are included in the proposed free country or zones. Provide details on the measures that are applied (e.g. vaccination, intensified surveillance, density control of pigs) and provide a geo-referenced map of the zones.

b) Describe the measures implemented to effectively prevent the introduction of the agent, taking into consideration physical or geographical barriers. Describe the measures implemented to prevent the propagation of the agent within the country or zone and through trade. Provide evidence that measures are in place at markets to reduce transmission of CSF such as enhancing awareness of CSF transmission mechanisms and human behaviour that can interrupt transmission, implementation of good biosecurity practices, hygiene, cleaning and disinfection routines at critical points all along the production and marketing networks (typically where animals are being moved, and marketed through the country or region).

c) What measures are taken to limit access of susceptible domestic, permanently captive wild, feral and wild pigs to waste products of animal origin? Is the feeding of swill containing animal products to pigs regulated? If so, provide information on the extent of the practice, and describe controls and surveillance measures.

d) Import control procedures

Provide information on countries, zones or compartments from which the country authorises the import of pigs or their products into the country or zone? Describe the criteria applied to approve such countries, zones or compartments, the controls applied on entry of such pigs and products and subsequent internal movement. Describe the import conditions (e.g. quarantine) and test procedures required. Advise whether imported pigs are required to undergo a quarantine or isolation period and if so, the duration and location of quarantine. Advise whether import permits and health certificates are required.

Describe any other procedures used for assessing the risks of import of pigs or their products. Provide summary statistics on imports of pigs and their products for at least the past two years, including temporary import and re-entry, specifying country, zones or compartments of origin, species and the quantity or volume and eventual destination in the country or zone.

Provide information on whether or not outbreaks have been related to imports or transboundary movements of domestic animals.

i) Provide a map with the number and location of ports, airports and land crossings. Describe the management structure, staffing levels and resources of the service responsible for import controls and its accountability to the central Veterinary Services. Describe the communication systems between the central authorities and the border inspection posts, and between border inspection posts;

ii) Provide a description on the methods used for the safe disposal of waste from international traffic, who is responsible and provide a summary, for the past two years, of the quantity disposed of and the disposal locations. What are the biosecurity measures in place at waste disposal sites?

iii) Cite the regulations and describe procedures, type and frequency of checks at the points of entry into the country or zone or their final destination, concerning the import and follow-up of the following:

- pigs,
- genetic material (semen, oocytes and embryos),
- fresh meat, pig products and by-products,
- veterinary medicinal products (i.e. biologics, vaccines),
- other materials at risk of being contaminated with CSFV.
7. **Control measures and contingency planning**

   a) List any written guidelines, including contingency plans, available to the Veterinary Services for dealing with suspected or confirmed outbreaks of CSF. The contingency plan should be attached as an annex and if not available in one of the OIE official languages, a brief summary of what is covered should be provided. Provide information on any simulation exercise for the CSF that was conducted in the country in the last five years.

   b) In the event of a suspected or confirmed CSF outbreak:

      i) Is quarantine imposed on premises with suspicious cases, pending final diagnosis? What other procedures are followed regarding suspicious cases (e.g. standstills)?

      ii) Indicate the sampling, dispatch and testing procedures that would be used to identify and confirm presence of the causative agent;

      iii) Describe the actions that would be taken to control the disease situation in and around the premises where the outbreak was confirmed;

      iv) Provide a detailed description of the control and eradication procedures (e.g. forward and backward tracing, movement control, disinfection of premises, vehicles and equipment, including verification methods, policies on emergency vaccination, stamping-out policy, partial slaughter, methods of disposal of carcasses and other contaminated products or materials, decontamination, campaign to promote awareness of farmers) that would be taken. In the case of emergency vaccination, indicate the source and type of vaccine and provide details of any vaccine supply scheme and stocks;

      v) Describe the criteria and procedures that would be used to confirm that an outbreak has been successfully controlled or eradicated, including restocking strategies, sentinel animal, serological surveillance programmes, etc.;

      vi) Give details and prescribed timetable of any compensation that would be made available to owners, farmers, etc. when pigs are slaughtered for disease control or eradication purposes and the prescribed timetable for payments.

   c) If DIVA vaccine is used as part of risk mitigation, provide details of the vaccine and the differential tests.

8. **Compliance with the Terrestrial Code**

   The Delegate of the Member Country applying for CSF freedom must submit documentary evidence that the provisions of Articles 15.2.2. and 15.2.3. have been properly implemented and supervised.

   In addition, the Delegate of the Member Country must submit a declaration indicating:

   a) there has been no outbreak of CSF or evidence of CSFV infection in domestic and captive wild pigs in the country or zone during the past 12 months;

   b) no vaccination against CSF has been carried out in domestic and captive wild pigs in the country or zone during the past 12 months; or, if vaccination is carried out, vaccinated and infected pigs can be distinguished by a means validated according to Chapter 2.8.3. of the Terrestrial Manual;

   c) imported pigs and pig commodities comply with the relevant requirements in Chapter 15.2.

   The Delegate of the Member Country applying for historical freedom must also submit documentary evidence that the provisions of point 1 of Article 1.4.6. of the Terrestrial Code have been properly implemented and supervised.
9. **Recovery of free status**

Member Countries applying for recovery of free status of a country or zone should comply with the provisions of Article 15.2.6. of the *Terrestrial Code* and provide detailed information as specified in Sections 3 a), 3 b), 3 c), 5 b) and 7 of this questionnaire. Information in relation to other sections need only be supplied if relevant.