



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

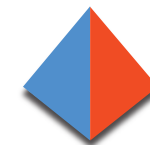


World Organisation  
for Animal Health  
Founded as OIE

# Report on the PPR situation in Syria

Consultative seminar on progress made in FMD/PPR  
roadmaps for East Mediterranean countries  
Beirut-Lebanon  
11-13 September 2022

**Dr. Mohammed Ali Al Abboud**



## GF-TADs

GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE  
PROGRESSIVE CONTROL OF  
TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASES



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



World Organisation  
for Animal Health  
Founded as OIE

# Introduction

- PPR is a notifiable disease by the law in all-susceptible animal.
- Syria is considered free from Rinderpest in 2009 in accordance with provision of article 8.13.2 of the WOAH Terrestrial Animal Health Code, and the official declaration from WOAH .
- No confirmed cases for PPR since more than 3 decades.
- Capacity building of the field staff in the FMD control program, has helped to launch TADs in particular PPR control program.
- Application of biosecurity measures like movement control and sanitary programmes adopted by the field staff for FMD control has also been used in PPR control.

# Animal Populations in Syria – 2020

Species	Number
Cattle	884.572
Sheep	16.073.088
Goat	1.995.923
Buffalo	7.179
Camels	39.701

# National Strategic Plan (NSP)

## Main components of NSP:

- Veterinary services
- Epidemiological surveillances and laboratory capacity
- Current disease situation
- Role of VS in animal diseases control and eradication
- Development the veterinary services
- Vaccination policy and PVM
- Strategic framework to eradicate animal diseases
- Role of stakeholders
- Cooperation with international organizations
- Expected results and outputs
- Following and evaluation
- Budget

## PPR situation in the country

- Based on the recommendations of the Risk Analysis Committee and the advisory committee in the MAAR , the decision was issued 11/T dated 10/2/2020, which it was allowed to use the PPR vaccine to vaccinate sheep and goats in the country.
- FAO providing PPR vaccine, all necessary requirement and financial compensation for veterinary staff, as part of the urgent and emergency supporting projects (OSRO/SYR/708/UK - OSRO/SYR/200/CHA ) implemented by the organization in Syria cooperation with the MAAR and the Veterinarians Syndicate to support the livestock sector in general and protect it from transboundary animal diseases (TADs)
- The used PPR vaccine in Syria: freeze-dried attenuated vaccine. Each dose of the vaccine contains ( $10^{2.5}$  TCID 50) of attenuated PPR virus Nig 75/1 strain. /JOVAC/.





# PPR Vaccination Policy

- The vaccination of sheep and goats is **obligatory** and **free of charge**.
- In the first year of the implementation of the vaccination policy within the program for the control and eradication of PPR, mass vaccination campaign was carried out in all regions and borders of the country (more than 10 million sheep and goats were vaccinated /2020/).
- In the following years, the vaccination of sheep and goats that were not vaccinated in the previous year, as well as lambs newborns is followed up .
- Maintaining the cold chain throughout the different vaccine delivery stages.
- The central veterinary technical committees follow up the vaccination campaign in the field.
- Civil society, private veterinarians and the Syndicate of Veterinarians provide support and assistance in vaccination campaigns and sample collection in crisis areas.



# vaccinated SR against PPR in Syria during 2020

- \* Vaccination is the key to preventing and controlling PPR in high risk or endemic areas.
- \* Vaccination policy in Syria is accordance with Global Strategy for the Control and Eradication of PPR

Governorate	No. of vaccinated animal
Damascus land	1411969
Daraa	480670
Al-Swidaa	370516
Al-Qunitraa	110153
Homs	991383
Hama	1552165
Al-Ghab	140195
Idleb	360502
Aleppo	1351885
Tartous	100139
Lattakia	101267
Al-Raqqa	901257
Deir-ezzor	1231718
Al-Hasaka	921285
<b>Total</b>	<b>10025104</b>

## Post Vaccination Evaluation (PVE)

Post vaccination evaluation the main tool to evaluate the effectiveness of the vaccination campaign.

PVE to assess the following objectives:

- ✓ Immune response to vaccination.
- ✓ Population immunity at a given point in time.
- ✓ Changes in population immunity over time.



# Surveillance

The primary objective in carrying out surveillance is to understand the epidemiological situation in the country, and to help define the current PPR situation.

Establishing and strengthening surveillance for PPR is therefore an absolute priority to achieve the following objectives:

- Early detection of the appearance of the disease or virus incursion.
- Demonstration of the absence of clinical disease or infection with PPRV.
- Determination and monitoring of the prevalence, distribution and occurrence of the disease or infection.

# Surveillance

## Passive Surveillance:

- \* The PPR disease reporting is very important and active procedure.
- \* The reporting system supported by:
  - Implementation of awareness meetings.
  - Providing with easy and available contact tools (Mobile No. –Fax No. – hot line).
  - Enhance the role of smallholders to notify the disease.

## Active Surveillance:

- \* Conducting annual sero- surveillance To estimate the level of antibodies post- vaccination
- \* Surveillances apply on sheep and goats.
- \* most of Syrian areas are included in the surveillances.
- \* The diagnostic materials (Elisa Kits for Survey ) were provided by FAO supporting .
- Collected samples for PVM. (845) tested samples in 2022
- Tested samples of unvaccinated animals ( 771 sample) in 2021
- Suspected cases subject to PCR test and the results showed no evidence for PPR virus.(57 Test) 2022

## vaccinated SR against PPR and sample collected

	2019	2020	2021	F.S 2022
No of vaccinated Sheep and Goats	0	10.025.104	1.533.670	947.793
No. of samples collected	1500	2000	1800	845

## Challenges faced in the design and implementation of the country's risk-based strategic plan?

- \* Stop supplying the vaccine from international organizations.
- \* Smuggling and Inefficient restriction of animals movement on borders in crisis areas.
- \* Weakness of reporting system in some provinces and lack of responsiveness.
- \* Loss of veterinary services in some crisis areas.
- \* Shortage of veterinarians and veterinary assistants.
- \* Use of faulty (unknown) vaccines in crisis areas.
- \* Lack of biosecurity measures in animal markets.
- \* Some breeders exit the production process due to high production costs.
- \* Instability of economic situation.
- \* Difficulty to estimate the real number of livestock and conducting the annual statistic.
- \* Absence of identifications of small ruminants.
- \* Low level of cooperation with neighboring countries.

## Possible solutions and assistance/support needed.

- Supporting the veterinary laboratories with the diagnostic materials and lab equipment's .
- Qualifying the field vets and technical labs staff.
- Enhancing the capability to conduct epidemiology studies and risk management, risk assessment, and risk analyzing.
- Assistance from international organizations to identify and register livestock in Syria.
- Encouraging small ruminant breeders to continue the production process.
- Enhance the communication and information technology.
- Necessary supporting and financing from international organizations to Encourage the veterinarians to participate in online training courses.
- Exchanging of experience with regional countries.
- Improving the laboratory technique and standards in the region.







**Step by step to control and  
eradicate PPR**

**Thank you for your patience**

