



Organisation and implementation of training activities to strengthen EU law enforcement in Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) fields under the "Better Training for Safer Food" initiative

Notification to BTSF National Contact Points

Ref: BTSF Workshop on African Swine Fever surveillance and wildlife management scheduled to be held in Zagreb, Croatia from 12th to 14th November 2019.

Dear Madame / Dear Sir

We are writing to inform you about a forthcoming training workshop on African Swine Fever (ASF) surveillance and wildlife management organised within the Better Training for Safer Food initiative and funded by the European Commission.

The workshop is part of a wider programme of activities that will involve EU Member States and neighbouring non-EU countries through eighteen separate workshops and a series of sustained training and technical assistance missions (STMs). The aim of these training activities is to strengthen the understanding, implementation and enforcement of EU rules in the fields of food and feed law, animal health and welfare rules and plant health.

Participants will come from: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Kosovo, Montenegro, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia.

The present workshop will be held in Zagreb, Croatia and is scheduled with a three-day duration commencing on November 12th and ending on November 14th.

The workshop will be held at the Hotel Dubrovnik in Zagreb. <https://www.hotel-dubrovnik.hr/hotel-overview/> .

The project will cover the entire cost of the workshop for participants, which includes:

- full board accommodation, including breakfast, lunch, dinner and coffee breaks
- travel expenses including visa, flight to/from Zagreb, Croatia (economy) and transfer to/from the airport at the place of departure and at the place of training

The workshop will be held in English.

Team of tutors will include high level experts and officials. Tutors will be supported by the officials from the European Commission.

Main topics to be addressed during the workshop will be:

- Introduction to ASF -The virus and the disease
- Epidemiology of ASF (domestic pigs and in wild boar)
- International legislation on ASF (Based mainly on EU but considering also OIE)
- ASF outbreak management in domestic pigs

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- ASF management in wild boar
- Biosecurity in domestic pig farms
- Biosecurity during hunting
- Impact of ASF on agricultural-forest activities
- Managing risk in backyard sector - challenges of biosecurity implementation and official controls products
- ASF data sharing
- Preparedness and awareness
- Coordination among neighbouring countries
- Importance (legal obligation for EU MS) of identification and registration of all pig holdings (commercial and non-commercial, backyards, etc.)
- Control of movements of pigs (traceability of movements)

Selection process

We would kindly request you to nominate the number of participants indicated for your country in the grid below to attend the workshop. Besides the requested number of official participants, you may also nominate 1 additional participant (reserve participant), which will be confirmed in a second phase should there be extra seats left vacant by other countries.

EU Member States	Seats
Bulgaria	3
Croatia	3
Greece	3
Italy	3
Romania	3
Slovakia	3
Slovenia	3
Non-EU countries	Seats
Albania	3
Bosnia and Herzegovina	3
Kosovo*	3
Montenegro	3
North Macedonia	3
Serbia	3
Total	39

Participants should have the following requirements:

- ✓ At least 3 years' experience in animal health
- ✓ Professional background in the national central and/or regional competent authority for animal health

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- ✓ At least one participant: responsible for wildlife management (officials from national agencies dealing with forestry /wildlife management)
- ✓ Involved in animal disease control
- ✓ Fluent in English

The following qualifications will represent an additional asset:

- Decision making level
- Responsible for wildlife management
- Active player in definition of animal health policies
- Experience in enforcement of animal health standards at field level
- Experience in handling transboundary animal measures

Dissemination and assessment test

Participants will be requested to commit themselves to disseminate the knowledge received via different dissemination methods, i.e. informing colleagues about the information received at the training, distributing (photocopying or sending via electronic way) the training materials among their colleagues, preparing informative articles in the professional national or, if possible, in international journals, preparing presentations based on the training materials for the staff of national Competent Authorities or other disseminating methods which could be appropriate to share the information received via the BTSF training. During the course participants will be provided with a training package to be used as supporting dissemination material in English language. Between two to three months after the respective training session, participants will receive a standard questionnaire requesting information of dissemination activities performed by the participant after the workshop, and details on differences in the approach adopted in day-to-day work after having undergone the training.

Furthermore, the program will include an anonymous knowledge test to be carried out at the beginning and at the end of each workshop in order to measure the impact of the training on the understanding of the taught subjects by participants.

Participants are expected to agree to carry out the above tests and to reply to the questionnaire

Registration of participants

Please bear in mind that all applications forms should be submitted to 20159604eusps@btsftraining.com by **November 1st, 2019**. We cannot guarantee that applications received after this deadline will be accepted.

Kindly ensure that full details of selected participants are supplied in accordance with the Registration Form enclosed herewith. These details are needed to send the relevant e-ticket to participants and ensure that they are informed by air carriers in case of delays/changes in the flight schedule.

Project Management

The workshop will be implemented by the company OPERA, that has been awarded a service contract by the EU agency Chafea - Consumers, Health Agriculture and Food Executive Agency that provides professional services in performing the tasks and activities entrusted to it by the European Commission, and works closely with the Health and Food Safety Directorate General

For further details, you can revert by email to 20159604eusps@btsftraining.com or phone to

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+ 39 06 96042652. Project Manager is Claudio BOMPARD, training coordinator is Vittorio Guberti.

Registration forms can be sent by e-mail to 20159604eusps@btsftraining.com. Booking of flights and other logistical arrangements will be handled directly by OPERA staff. All participants will be accommodated in Dubrovnik Hotel, Zagreb Croatia.

Please feel free to contact us if you require clarification on any of the above information. I am looking forward to hearing from you or your colleagues.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and cooperation.

Best regards.

CLAUDIO BOMPARD
Project Manager

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Food and
Veterinary Service
Republic of Latvia