OIE Reference Laboratory Reports ActivitiesActivities in 2021

This report has been submitted: 2022-01-20 14:53:31

Name of disease (or topic) for which you are a designated OIE Reference Laboratory:	Foot and mouth disease
Address of laboratory:	Av. Governador Leonel de Moura Brizola, 7778 25045-002 São Bento - Duque de Caxias Rio de Janeiro BRAZIL
Tel.:	+55-21 3661 9064
Fax:	+55 21 3661 9001
E-mail address:	pitucoedv@paho.org
Website:	www.paho.org/en/panaftosa
Name (including Title) of Head of Laboratory (Responsible Official):	Ottorino Cosivi, Veterinarian, Director Pan American Center for Foot and Mouth Disease – PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO
Name (including Title and Position) of OIE Reference Expert:	Edviges Maristela Pituco, Veterinarian (PhD), Head of Reference Laboratory of Pan American Center for Foot and Mouth Disease – PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO
Which of the following defines your laboratory? Check all that apply:	Other: International Organization/ PANAFTOSA-PAHO/WHO

ToR 1: To use, promote and disseminate diagnostic methods validated according to OIE Standards

1. Did your laboratory perform diagnostic tests for the specified disease/topic for purposes such as disease diagnosis, screening of animals for export, surveillance, etc.? (Not for quality control, proficiency testing or staff training)

Yes

Diagnostic Test	Indicated in OIE Manual (Yes/No)	Total number of test performed last year	
Indirect diagnostic tests		Nationally	Internationally
ELISA 3ABC/EITB	Yes	3	0
Direct diagnostic tests		Nationally	Internationally
RT-PCR	Yes	3	0
Virus neutralization	Yes	56	0

ToR 2: To develop reference material in accordance with OIE requirements, and implement and promote the application of OIE Standards.

To store and distribute to national laboratories biological reference products and any other reagents used in the diagnosis and control of the designated pathogens or disease.

2. Did your laboratory produce or supply imported standard reference reagents officially recognised by the OIE?

Yes

NOTE: Currently, there are 22 laboratories that produce Standard Reference Reagents officially recognised by the OIE for 19 diseases/pathogens. Please click the following link to the list of OIE-approved International Standard Sera: http://www.oie.int/en/our-scientific-expertise/veterinary-products/reference-reagents/. If the reagent is not listed on this page, it is NOT considered OIE-approved. The next two questions allow you to indicate non-OIE-approved diagnostic reagents.

OIE-approved SRR producing laboratory – Select your lab from list: Supply imported OIE-approved SRR – Select where you import from list:

Disease	Test	Available from
disease	Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (antigen and antibody detection); Virus neutralisation	Dr Donald King Institute for Animal Health, Pirbright Laboratory, Ash Road, Pirbright, Woking, Surrey GU24 0NF, United Kingdom Tel: (44-1483) 23.24.41 Fax: (44-1483) 23.24.48 donald.king@pirbright.ac.uk
Foot and mouth disease	Nonstructural protein tests	Dr Edviges Maristela Pituco Centro Panamericano de Fiebre Aftosa OPS/OMS, Av. President Kennedy 7778, Sao Bento, Duque de Caxias, ZC 25040-004 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil Tel: (55-21) 36.61.90.64 pitucoedv@paho.org

Type of reagent available	Related diagnostic test	Produced/ Supply imported	Amount supplied nationally (ml, mg)	Amount supplied internationally (ml, mg)	Name of recipient OIE Member Countries
NCPanaftosa ELISA 3ABC/EITB	NSP antibodies test	produced	<pre> <10mL 10-100mL 100-500mL >500mL </pre>	<pre></pre>	ARGENTINA COLOMBIA
FMDV tests	VN tests	Supply imported	<pre></pre>	○<10mL ⊚10-100mL ○100-500mL ○>500mL	UNITED KINGDOM

3. Did your laboratory supply standard reference reagents (non OIE-approved) and/or other diagnostic reagents to OIE Member Countries?

Type of reagent available	Related diagnostic test	Produced/ provide	Amount supplied nationally (ml, mg)	Amount supplied internationally (ml, mg)	No. of recipient OIE Member Countries	Region of recipients
Kit NCPanaftosa ELISA I-3ABC	FMD NSP antibodies detection	produced	non applicable	Quantity enough to test 202920 samples (228 kits)	7	□Africa ⋈America s □Asia and Pacific □Europe □Middle East
Kit ELISA 3ABC FMD gIII	FMD NSP antibodies detection	produced	non applicable	Quantity enough to test 26400 samples (60 kits)	5	□Africa ⋈America s ⋈Asia and Pacific □Europe □Middle East
NCPanaftosa EITB	FMD NSP antibodies detection	produced	non applicable	Quantity enough to test 29700 samples (225 kits)	10	□Africa ⋈America s ⋈Asia and Pacific □Europe □Middle East
Ag Typing ELISA	FMDV/VSV Antigen Typing	produced	non applicable	Quantity enough to test 4725 samples (27 kits)	7	□Africa ⋈America s □Asia and Pacific □Europe □Middle East
LPBE ELISA (ELISA CFL)	FMD SP antibodies detection	produced	non applicable	Quantity enough to test 397632 samples (327 kits)	6	□Africa ⋈America s □Asia and Pacific □Europe □Middle East
Cell lines	Vaccine production	produced	non applicable	10	2	□Africa ⊠America s □Asia and Pacific □Europe □Middle East

Reference standard	Molecular biology	produced	non applicable	136	5	□Africa ⋈America s □Asia and Pacific □Europe □Middle East
Bovine and ovine sera	Antibodies detection	produced	non applicable	82	3	□Africa ⋈America s □Asia and Pacific □Europe □Middle East

4. Did your laboratory produce vaccines?

No

5. Did your laboratory supply vaccines to OIE Member Countries?

No

ToR 3: To develop, standardise and validate, according to OIE Standards, new procedures for diagnosis and control of the designated pathogens or diseases

6. Did your laboratory develop new diagnostic methods validated according to OIE Standards for the designated pathogen or disease?

Yes

7. Did your laboratory develop new vaccines according to OIE Standards for the designated pathogen or disease?

No

Name of the new test or diagnostic method or vaccine developed	Description and References (Publication, website, etc.)
ELISA FMD 3ABC gIII	Alvim AP, Lima DM, King D, Ludi A, Clavijo A, Nfon C, Pituco EM, Sanchez Vasquez MJ. Informe sobre la estimación de la sensibilidad y especificidad diagnósticas del b-ELISA 3ABC en base a un panel conocido. Centro Panamericano de Fiebre Aftosa y Salud Pública Veterinaria de la Organización Panamericana de la Salud/Organización Mundial de la Salud (PANAFTOSA/SPV - OPS/OMS). 4 de septiembre de 2021. (Ref: AFT-SPV/2021/001- ESP) https://www.paho.org/es/documentos/nota-tecnica-informe-sobre-estimacion-sensibilidad-especificidad-diagnosticas-b-elisa

ToR 4: To provide diagnostic testing facilities, and, where appropriate, scientific and technical advice on disease control measures to OIE Member Countries

8. Did your laboratory carry out diagnostic testing for other OIE Member Countries?

Yes

Name of OIE Member Country seeking assistance	Date (month)	No. samples received for provision of diagnostic support	No. samples received for provision of confirmatory diagnoses
BRAZIL	May	0	56
BRAZIL	July	0	3
BRAZIL	August	0	3

9. Did your laboratory provide expert advice in technical consultancies on the request of an OIE Member Country?

Yes

Name of the OIE Member Country receiving a technical consultancy	Purpose	How the advice was provided
BOLIVIA	Diagnostic support	Technical advice at distance
PARAGUAY	Technical support	Technical advice at distance
COLOMBIA	Technical support	Technical advice at distance
VENEZUELA	Technical support	Technical advice at distance
ECUADOR	Technical support	Technical advice at distance
BRAZIL	Technical support	Technical advice at distance
URUGUAY	Technical support	Technical advice at distance

ToR 5: To carry out and/or coordinate scientific and technical studies in collaboration with other laboratories, centres or organisations

10. Did your laboratory participate in international scientific studies in collaboration with OIE Member Countries other than the own?

Title of the study	Duration	Purpose of the study	Partners (Institutions)	OIE Member Countries involved other than your country
Performance of reagents in inactivating foot-and-mouth disease virus in field epithelium samples: a comparison between six commercial products	2 years	Inactivation of vesicular disease viruses in cattle for safe processing in low biocontainment laboratories Increase the capillarity of diagnosis of foot-and-mouth disease in large countries.	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply	BRAZIL
Detection of 3ABC protein in various age groups and with multiple vaccinations	5 years	Evaluate vaccine purification (withdrawn of the FMDV non- structural protein).	Biological Institute of São Paulo - IBSP	BRAZIL
Post-vaccination immune response monitoring	5 years	Monitor post-vaccination immune response in primovaccinated Evaluate vaccine effectiveness at the field level in the different age groups in the vaccination schedule proposed by Brazilian legislation (350 animals)	Biological Institute of São Paulo - IBSP	BRAZIL

ToR 6: To collect, process, analyse, publish and disseminate epizootiological data relevant to the designated pathogens or diseases

11. Did your Laboratory collect epizootiological data relevant to international disease control?

Yes

If the answer is yes, please provide details of the data collected:

Every year Panaftosa receives data from different countries and helps them to analyze it epidemiologically aiming to guide the next actions against FMDV in the context of the Plan of Action of each country. Panaftosa has an electronic system for epizootiological data collection: PANAFTOSA/PAHO completed the development of the Interface for Official Veterinary Surveillance (IVVO), an online information system to support official veterinary (passive and active) of animal diseases surveillance at a national and regional level, which was launched in 2021 and is working to engage the countries in its utilization. Support to countries in the design and implementation of epidemiological studies for FMD: PANAFTOSA/PAHO assisted Colombia, Ecuador, Bolivia, and Venezuela in the design of FMD NSP and SP studies to detect/rule out FMDV transmission and to evaluate the post-vaccination immunity.

12. Did your laboratory disseminate epizootiological data that had been processed and analysed?

If the answer is yes, please provide details of the data collected:

The data are disseminated at the annual meeting with all the countries members of Cosalfa. The 48th Ordinary Meeting of the South American Commission for the fight of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (COSALFA 48) was held on August 19 and 20 as a virtual event. In the meeting was analyzed the current FMD situation in South America according to the Hemispheric Program for the Eradication of FMD (PHEFA) Action plan 2011-2020 and the new PHEFA Action Plan 2021-2025 was presented. All data collected regarding vesicular diseases were presented on COSALFA 48: https://www.paho.org/es/panaftosa/cosalfa/cosalfa-48.

13. What method of dissemination of information is most often used by your laboratory? (Indicate in the appropriate box the number by category)

a) Articles published in peer-reviewed journals: 1

David J Paton, Antonello Di Nardo, Nick J Knowles, Jemma Wadsworth, Edviges M Pituco, Ottorino Cosivi, Alejandro M Rivera, Labib Bakkali Kassimi, Emiliana Brocchi, Kris de Clercq, Consuelo Carrillo, Francois F Maree, Raj K Singh, Wilna Vosloo, Min-Kyung Park, Keith J Sumption, Anna B Ludi, Donald P King, The history of foot-and-mouth disease virus serotype C: the first known extinct serotype?, Virus Evolution, Volume 7, Issue 1, January 2021, veab009, https://doi.org/10.1093/ve/veab009

- b) International conferences: 5
- 1. Edviges Maristela Pituco PANAFTOSA OPS/OMS COSALFA 48. Activities developed by the OIE / FAO Reference Laboratory for foot-and-mouth disease and vesicular stomatitis Online meeting via Zoom, host country Paraguay; 19 20 August 2020. https://youtu.be/3V-7BcjMJp8 Report of the ex officio secretariat https://iris.paho.org/handle/10665.2/54787
- 2. Alejandro Rivera PANAFTOSA OPS/OMS COSALFA 48. Resolutions and technical cooperation of the 48th ordinary meeting of the South American Commission for the fight against Foot-and-Mouth Disease (Online meeting via Zoom, host country Paraguay; 19 20 August 2020). https://www.paho.org/sites/default/files/cosalfa48-presentacion-informesecretaria_0.pdf Report of the ex officio secretariat https://iris.paho.org/handle/10665.2/54787
- 3. Anna Paula Alvim PANAFTOSA OPS/OMS COSALFA 48. Development, production and distribution of reference material for FMD and VSV diagnosis (kits and reagents) Online meeting via Zoom, host country Paraguay; 19 20 August 2020. https://www.paho.org/sites/default/files/cosalfa48-presentacion-informelaboratorioprod_0.pdf Report of the ex officio secretariat https://iris.paho.org/handle/10665.2/54787
- 4. Manuel Sánchez Vasquez PANAFTOSA OPS/OMS COSALFA 48. SITUATION REPORT FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE in SOUTH AMERICA and PANAMA in 2020- Online meeting via Zoom, host country Paraguay; 19 20 August 2020. https://www.paho.org/sites/default/files/cosalfa48-presentacion-informesituacionfa_0.pdf Report of the ex officio secretariat https://iris.paho.org/handle/10665.2/54787
- 5. Edviges Maristela Pituco PANAFTOSA OPS/OMS SEMINARIO INTERNACIONAL PRE-COSALFA 48. Proficiency tests in the diagnosis of foot-and-mouth disease and vesicular stomatitis Online meeting via Zoom, host country Paraguay; 17-18 August 2020. INFORME DEL SEMINARIO INTERNACIONAL PRE-COSALFA 48 https://www.paho.org/sites/default/files/cosalfa48-panaftosa-informe-seminario 0.pdf
- c) National conferences: 5
- 1.Pituco M. & Sanchez-Vazquez, M.J. Possível ocorrência de nova cepa de vírus de febre aftosa na África, Assembleia Geral Ordinária do Conselho Nacional da Pecuária de Corte. Oct-2021. Virtual.
- 2.Edviges Maristela Pituco PANAFTOSA OPS/OMS PAPEL DO PANAFTOSA COMO CENTRO DE REFERÊNCIA DA OIE PARA OS PROGRAMAS SANITÁRIOS /MAPA Profissionais do MAPA/Brasil
- 3.Edviges Maristela Pituco PANAFTOSA OPS/OMS Talking about Foot-and-Mouth Disease: From Diagnosis to Notification", promoted by the Animal Health Defense of the State of Pará (ADEPARÁ) (YouTube)/Veterinarians and Producers https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rtf3sSua1IY&t=84s
- 4. Edviges Maristela Pituco PANAFTOSA OPS/OMS VESICULAR DISEASES IN THE AMAZON: SITUATION OF

SENECAVIRUS A (SVA) AND DISEASE HISTORY (You Tube)/Veterinarians and producers https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nilOhWvw7cY

5..Edviges Maristela Pituco - PANAFTOSA - OPS/OMS - Sorotipos/topotipos e linhagens do vírus da febre aftosa/MAPA, entrevista gravada disponível Instagram MAPA BRASIL

https://nam12.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.br%2Fagricultura%2Fpt-br%2Fas suntos%2Fsanidade-animal-e-vegetal%2Fsaude-animal%2Fprogramas-de-saude-animal%2Ffebre-aftosa%2Feducacao-e-comunicacao-febre-

aftosa%2 Fpodcasts&data=04%7C01%7 Crgarcia%40 paho.org%7C642d4eeab3c848661d7c08d9d6a11f0f%7Ce610e79c2ec04e0f8a141e4b101519f7%7C0%7C0%7C637776809782717057%7 CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQljoiV2luMzliLCJBTil6lk1haWwiLCJXVCl6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=hwkc8mQLN5SiTVpBZDRbyfHgCm94LcQuUNnUiR3aptM%3D&reserved=0

d) Other:

(Provide website address or link to appropriate information) 11

Panaftosa disseminates information by many methods, like events, podcasts, videos sites, etc.

Panaftosa distributes electronic guides, resolutions, documents, and other materials regarding the foot-and-mouth disease on its website: https://www.paho.org/en

Panaftosa has made available a series of short videos, in Portuguese and Spanish, containing questions frequently raised in discussions about the eradication of the foot-and-mouth disease in the Americas. - https://www.cfmv.gov.br/panaftosa-disponibiliza-uma-serie-de-videos-sobre-erradicacao-da-febre-aftosa-nas-amer icas/comunicacao/noticias/2021/06/01

- VIDEO 1: Presentation of the video series by the director of PANAFTOSA/PAHO. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dOtzqvHBjlo
- VIDEO 2: Why can we eradicate FMD in the Americas? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aQKBhM35RP8
- VIDEO 3: Is vaccination necessary to be FMD-free? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HY2fhn3Gf0k
- VIDEO 4: There is no zero risk for foot-and-mouth disease. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mqJ6eFogTJQ
- VIDEO 5: Don't look in the rearview mirror. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ts7rTETdiMq
- VIDEO 6: Is it possible for a country to remain free of foot-and-mouth disease without the use of vaccines? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OAQYCgIB-XU
- VIDEO 7: Can an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease occur in a free country? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5vMDv0rixtE
- VIDEO 8: Who pays the bill in a foot-and-mouth disease-free country? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hQiDyVVUD50
- VIDEO 9: Why do free countries need a Foot-and-Mouth Antigen and Vaccine Bank? BANVACO https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n4t9hmCcCW8
- VIDEO 10: Hemispheric Program for the Eradication of Foot-and-mouth Disease https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tn6sSqeDwXw

ToR 7: To provide scientific and technical training for personnel from OIE Member Countries

To recommend the prescribed and alternative tests or vaccines as OIE Standards

14. Did your laboratory provide scientific and technical training to laboratory personnel from other OIE Member Countries?

Yes

a) Technical visits: 0 b) Seminars: 2472

c) Hands-on training courses: 4022 d) Internships (>1 month): 0

Type of technical training provided (a, b, c or d)	Country of origin of the expert(s) provided with training	No. participants from the corresponding country
С	Paraguay	1
С	Paraguay	1
С	Paraguay	3
С	Paraguay	1
С	Brazil	2190
С	Brazil	715
С	Brazil	1111
b	Brazil	110
b	Brazil	536
b	Brazil	50
b	Brazil	137
b	South America	910
b	South America	729

ToR 8: To maintain a system of quality assurance, biosafety and biosecurity relevant for the pathogen and the disease concerned

15. Does your laboratory have a Quality Management System?

Yes

Quality management system adopted	Certificate scan (PDF, JPG, PNG format)
ABNT NBR ISO/IEC 17025:2017	Certificado_CRL 1309 PANAFTOSA 28-06-21.pdf

16. Is your quality management system accredited?

Test for which your laboratory is accredited	Accreditation body
I-ELISA 3ABC	CGCRE/INMETRO - Brazil
ELISA 3ABC (block)	CGCRE/INMETRO - Brazil
EITB	CGCRE/INMETRO - Brazil
ELISA CFL	CGCRE/INMETRO - Brazil
Virus neutralization	CGCRE/INMETRO - Brazil

17. Does your laboratory maintain a "biorisk management system" for the pathogen and the disease concerned?

Yes

(See Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals, Chapter 1.1.4)

ToR 9: To organise and participate in scientific meetings on behalf of the OIE

18. Did your laboratory organise scientific meetings on behalf of the OIE?

No

19. Did your laboratory participate in scientific meetings on behalf of the OIE?

Title of event	Date (mm/yy)	Location	Role (speaker, presenting poster, short communications)	Title of the work presented
16th Annual Meeting OIE/FAO Reference Laboratories	December/21	Online	Speaker	Laboratory Panaftosa - Annual Report 2021
GFRA 2021 Scientific Meeting	November/21	Online	Speaker	Recent evolution and perspectives on the foot- and- mouth disease situation in South America

ToR 10: To establish and maintain a network with other OIE Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen or disease and organise regular inter-laboratory proficiency testing to ensure comparability of results

20. Did your laboratory exchange information with other OIE Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen or disease?

Yes

21. Was your laboratory involved in maintaining a network with OIE Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen or disease by organising or participating in proficiency tests?

Yes

Purpose of the proficiency tests: 1	Role of your Reference Laboratory (organiser/ participant)	No. participants	Participating OIE Ref. Labs/ organising OIE Ref. Lab.
FMD antigen detection tests	participant	31	Organized by The Pirbright Institute/UK
FMD molecular biology tests	participant	31	Organized by The Pirbright Institute/UK
FMD NSP antibody detection tests	participant	35	Organized by The Pirbright Institute/UK
FMD SP antibody detection tests	participant	26	Organized by The Pirbright Institute/UK
FMD SP antibody detection tests	organiser	12	APHIS (USA) SENASA (Argentina) NCFAD (Canadá)
FMD molecular biology tests	organiser	16	APHIS (USA) SENASA (Argentina) NCFAD (Canadá)
FMD antigen detection tests	organiser	15	APHIS (USA) SENASA (Argentina) NCFAD (Canadá)
FMD NSP antibody detection tests	organiser	16	APHIS (USA) SENASA (Argentina) NCFAD (Canadá)

¹ validation of a diagnostic protocol: specify the test; quality control of vaccines: specify the vaccine type, etc.

22. Did your laboratory collaborate with other OIE Reference Laboratories for the same disease on scientific research projects for the diagnosis or control of the pathogen of interest?

Title of the project or contract	Scope	Name(s) of relevant OIE Reference Laboratories
Full genome sequencing of historical strains FMDV isolates in South America	Deep sequence data for South American FMDV isolates	National Centre for Foreign Animal Disease (NCFAD) Canadian Food Inspection Agency
Protein and conjugate update of the FMD enzyme-linked immunoblot assay (EITB) for multiple species	Update of a confirmatory test to multiple species for antibodies to FMDV NSP	National Centre for Foreign Animal Disease (NCFAD) Canadian Food Inspection Agency
Validation of the 3ABC blocking enzyme- linked immunosorbent assay for detection of antibodies to foot-and-mouth disease virus	Validation of a test to multiple species for antibodies to FMDV NSP	The Pirbright Institute

ToR 11: To organise inter-laboratory proficiency testing with laboratories other than OIE Reference Laboratories for the same pathogens and diseases to ensure equivalence of results

23. Did your laboratory organise or participate in inter-laboratory proficiency tests with laboratories other than OIE Reference Laboratories for the same disease?

Yes

Note: See Interlaboratory test comparisons in: Laboratory Proficiency Testing at: http://www.oie.int/en/our-scientific-expertise/reference-laboratories/proficiency-testing see point 1.3

Purpose for inter-laboratory test comparisons ¹	No. participating laboratories	Region(s) of participating OIE Member Countries
Antibody detection tests for FMD and VSV virus structural proteins (organizer)	12	□Africa ⊠Americas □Asia and Pacific □Europe □Middle East
FMD and VSV molecular biology tests(organizer)	16	□Africa ⊠Americas □Asia and Pacific □Europe □Middle East
FMDV and VSV antigen detection tests(organizer)	15	□Africa ⊠Americas □Asia and Pacific □Europe □Middle East
FMD NSP antibody detection tests(organizer)	16	□Africa ⊠Americas □Asia and Pacific □Europe □Middle East
FMD SP antibody detection tests (participant)	12	□Africa ⊠Americas □Asia and Pacific □Europe □Middle East

ToR 12: To place expert consultants at the disposal of the OIE

24. Did your laboratory place expert consultants at the disposal of the OIE?

Yes

Kind of consultancy	Location	Subject (facultative)
Expert to OIE ad hoc Group on Evaluation of Foot and Mouth Disease Status of Members (Dr Manuel Sanchez)	Virtual	Review and discuss the applications submitted by the countries

25. Additional comments regarding your report:

ToR1: with the advance of PHEFA in the American continent, all countries except Venezuela are FMD-free with vaccination and increasing areas without vaccination. So, the role of Panaftosa is more focused on surveillance and training. Therefore, there are few suspected cases of FMD. Given this, the greatest demand is for support in the differential diagnosis.

Other important information:

LREF/PANAFTOSA provided technical cooperation to INSAI and the associations of livestock producers in Venezuela. The Centre has facilitated the creation of the public-private entity FUNVESSA, the Venezuelan Foundation for Animal Health Services, with the main objective of enhancing the vaccination strategy of the country and giving continuity and effectiveness to the foot-and-mouth disease program.

Coordination of the Regional Antigen/vaccine bank for FMD (BANVACO) - PANAFTOSA is working very closely with countries of the Region to kick off the launching of BANVACO; an essential tool for containment of outbreaks in case of potential incursions of FMD in the Region.

Manuel Sanchez - Chairing the Global Coordination Committee on FMD (GCC-FMD) With a key role of PANAFTOSA, the GCC-FMD started in 2021. The main objectives are sharing experiences and lessons learned, facilitating coordination and alignment of regional FMD control initiatives, and developing a harmonized 5-year global FMD action plan for the last phase of the FMD Global Strategy for final endorsement by the GF-TADS.

Important documents presented on COSALFA 48th:

COSALFA 48. Resolutions of the 48th ordinary meeting of the South American Commission for the fight against Foot-and-Mouth Disease (Online meeting via Zoom, host country Paraguay; 19 - 20 August 2020). https://iris.paho.org/handle/10665.2/54840

COSALFA 48. Report of the Ex Officio Secretariat for the 48th Meeting of the South Commission for the Fight Against Foot and Mouth Disease (Virtual Session, 19 August 2021) https://iris.paho.org/handle/10665.2/54787

COSALFA 48. Seminario Internacional Pre COSALFA 48. Erradicación de la Fiebre Aftosa: El Plan de Acción del PHEFA 2021-2025, la preparación y transición hacia países/zonas libres sin vacunación: informe final (Seminario virtual - Paraguay, 17-18 de ago. 2021) https://iris.paho.org/handle/10665.2/55234

COSALFA 48. Informe de Situación de los Programas de Erradicación de la Fiebre Aftosa. Sudamérica y Panamá en 2020.

https://www.paho.org/sites/default/files/informe_situacionpaises-2020-borrador_1.pdf

Tor 7 - Details of 03 hands-on training courses - e-Training IN Attending To Suspected Vesicular Disease: Foot and Mouth Disease: Surveillance and Investigation Procedures of Vesicular Disease. This courses are offered in portuguese and spanish.