Transboundary co-operation on Rabies control between the EU and neighbouring countries
Rabies

- A serious public health threat
- EU has dedicated important resources to combat the disease
Co-financed programmes in EU Member States

50% of the costs incurred by the MS:
- For carrying out the laboratory tests
- For purchasing and distribution of vaccine plus baits
Rabies front in 1989
(Maps WHO Rabies bulletin Europe)
Rabies - Regional approach

- Certain EU areas close to eradication
- Wildlife reservoir – Does not respect borders
  - action also in bordering countries needed
Rabies - Regional approach

- Kaliningrad region of the RF
- Borders with Russia, Belarus, Ukraine
- Western Balkans
Rabies - Regional approach

- Russia – Kaliningrad
  - Cooperation started in 2007 through Lithuania
  - Since July 2009 direct financing (grant) approved for 3 years
  - 100% of purchase and distribution of vaccine baits
  - 1.8 million €
Kaliningrad: Aerial distribution autumn 09
Kaliningrad: Manual distribution autumn 09
Rabies - Regional approach

- Russia (rest of bordering areas), Ukraine, Belarus:
  - Ideal is that a whole country/region eradication approach is followed.
  - Vet fund cannot finance areas away from the EU borders
Rabies - Regional approach

- Russia (rest of bordering areas), Ukraine, Belarus:
  - Discussions to create an EU co financed vaccination zone along the borders
  - Unlikely to be able to finance directly though EU vet fund as in Kaliningrad (legal basis)
  - Therefore the activities should be financed through the annually approved approved programmes of the Member States
Rabies - Regional approach

- Western Balkans:
  - Project to combat Rabies and CSF
  - EU Enlargement Funds (IPA)
Training activities - Rabies

- Georgia – March 2010 (TAIEX)
- Ukraine – July 2010 (BTSF)
Thank you for your attention