

OIE Reference Laboratory Reports Activities

Activities in 2018

This report has been submitted : 2019-01-25 12:46:27

Name of disease (or topic) for which you are a designated OIE Reference Laboratory:	Foot and mouth disease
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Name (including Title) of Head of Laboratory (Responsible Official):	Prof. Stefano Cinotti General Director IZSLER
Name (including Title and Position) of OIE Reference Expert:	Emiliana Brocchi, Dr., Head of National/OIE/FAO Reference Centre for FMD and SVD, Head of Biotechnology Lab
Which of the following defines your laboratory? Check all that apply:	Governmental

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	
		Nationally	Internationally
Indirect diagnostic tests			
Competitive ELISA - Ab to SP type O	yes	1253	1554
Competitive ELISA - Ab to SP type A	yes	1253	1554
Competitive ELISA - Ab to SP type Asia 1	yes	1253	16
Competitive ELISA - Ab to SP type SAT 2	yes	1253	1181
Competitive ELISA - Ab to SP type SAT 1	yes		825
VNT - Ab to FMDV type O	yes		540
VNT - Ab to FMDV type A	yes		432
VNT - Ab to FMDV type SAT2	yes		104
NSP Ab ELISA (3ABC trapping ELISA)	yes	5	1904
Direct diagnostic tests			

**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?

No

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

Yes

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
Ready-to-use kit: FMDV Antigen Detection ELISA and serotyping (O, A, Asia1, C, SAT1-2) (1 kit= 5 plates)	Ag detection and serotyping ELISA	produced and provided	0	N. 219 kits	39	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Africa <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Americ as <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asia and Pacific <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Europe <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Middle East
Ready-to-use ELISA kit for FMDV NSP antibodies (1 kit=5 plates)	FMDV NSP Ab ELISA (3ABC trapping ELISA)	produced and provided	0	N. 97 kits	13	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Africa <input type="checkbox"/> Americ as <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asia and Pacific <input type="checkbox"/> Europe <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Middle East
Ready-to-use ELISA kit for FMDV SP-Ab Type O (1 kit=5 plates)	Solid-phase competitive ELISA (SP-Ab type O)	produced and provided	0	N. 1495 kits	29	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Africa <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Americ as <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asia and Pacific <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Europe <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Middle East
Ready-to-use ELISA kit for FMDV SP-Ab Type A (1 kit=5 plates)	Solid-phase competitive ELISA (SP-Ab type A)	produced and provided	0	N. 182 kits	25	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Africa <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Americ as <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asia and Pacific <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Europe <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Middle East
Ready-to-use ELISA kit for FMDV SP-Ab Type Asia1 (1 kit=5 plates)	Solid-phase competitive ELISA (SP-Ab type Asia1)	produced and provided	0	N. 65 kits	21	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Africa <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Americ as <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asia and Pacific <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Europe <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Middle East

Ready-to-use ELISA kit for SP-Ab Type SAT2 (1 kit=5 plates)	Solid-phase competitive ELISA (SP Ab type SAT2)	produced and provided	0	N. 16 kits	8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Africa <input type="checkbox"/> Americas <input type="checkbox"/> Asia and Pacific <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Europe <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Middle East
Ready-to-use ELISA kit for SP-Ab Type SAT1 (1 kit=5 plates)	Solid-phase competitive ELISA (SP Ab type SAT1)	produced and provided	0	N. 10 kits	4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Africa <input type="checkbox"/> Americas <input type="checkbox"/> Asia and Pacific <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Europe <input type="checkbox"/> Middle East
MonoclonalAntibodies anti-FMDV NSP and anti-FMDV SP, different serotypes		produced and provided	0	N. 14 MAbs (27 ml), N. 11 MAbs (7 mg)	3	<input type="checkbox"/> Africa <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Americas <input type="checkbox"/> Asia and Pacific <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Europe <input type="checkbox"/> 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?

No

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

No

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
KENYA	January 2018	N.456 sera tested for NSP and SP-O, A, SAT1 and SAT2 Ab (vaccinated cattle sequentially sampled 0, 28, 42, 56 dpv)	0
KENYA	March 2018	N. 336 sera tested for NSP Ab (vaccinated cattle sequentially sampled 0,2 8, 42, 56 dpv)	0
KENYA	March 2018	N. 371 sera tested for NSP and	0
MOROCCO	June 2018	N. 371 sera tested for NSP and	0
TUNISIA	September 2018	N. 372 sera from field vaccine trial (tests: 1500 ELISA for NSP and SP-O, A, SAT2 Ab; 900 VNT vs different strains, testing on going)	0
MACEDONIA (FORMER YUG. REP. OF)	January 2018	0	N. 15 sera (suspect non-specific reactivity), tested for SP-Ab by ELISA and VNT and for NSP Ab

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
KOREA (REP. OF)	Handling FMD viruses in compliance with the biosafety standards	Consultancy by email exchange on EU standards and restrictions for handling of live FMD viruses
BANGLADESH	Implementation of molecular assays for FMD diagnosis	Provision of SOPs for FMDV molecular diagnosis intended for beneficiaries of a FAO project
MACEDONIA (FORMER YUG. REP. OF)	Investigations on a case of FMD positive serology	Sharing of full set of data with the NRL of FYROM derived from extensive testing of critical sera
SRI LANKA	Purchase of FMD vaccine	Provision of information on FMD vaccine manufactures
ALGERIA	Use of type-specific molecular assays for FMD diagnosis	Provision of information and references for correct application of molecular methods

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?

Yes

Title of the study	Duration	Purpose of the study	Partners (Institutions)	OIE Member Countries involved other than your country
Evaluation of the immune response to vaccination	2 years	Kinetic and evaluation of the immune response to field vaccination with locally produced tetravalent vaccines (types O, A, SAT 1 and SAT 2)	International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)-Kenya	KENYA
Investigation on FMDV serotypes circulating in endemic settings through serological assessment	2 years	Investigation on FMDV serotypes circulating in endemic settings by end-point titration of SP-antibodies against FMDV serotypes circulating in pool 4	International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)-Kenya	KENYA
Field trials to estimate the effectiveness of the vaccination programs implemented in the Maghreb region	1 year	Optimize FMD control programs in Algeria / Tunisia / Morocco acquiring knowledge on the effectiveness of FMD vaccines currently used in the region	Office National de Sécurité Sanitaire des Produits Alimentaires (ONSSA), Laboratoire Régional d'Analyses et de Recherches, Casablanca, Morocco; EUFMD; OIE	MOROCCO
Field trials to estimate the effectiveness of the vaccination programs implemented in the Maghreb region	1.5 years	Optimize FMD control programs in Algeria / Tunisia / Morocco acquiring knowledge on the effectiveness of FMD vaccines currently used in the region	Institut National de la Médecine Vétérinaire, El Harrach, Algiers, Algeria; EUFMD; OIE	ALGERIA
Field trials to estimate the effectiveness of the vaccination programs implemented in the Maghreb region	1.5 years	Optimize FMD control programs in Algeria / Tunisia / Morocco acquiring knowledge on the effectiveness of FMD vaccines currently used in the region	Institut de la Recherche Vétérinaire de Tunisie, Tunis, Tunisia; EUFMD; OIE	TUNISIA
Serological surveillance in Northern Tanzania to inform predictive models of foot-and-mouth disease spread	2 years	1) To time outbreaks of specific serotypes in Tanzania and inform epidemiological models of disease spread. 2) Validation of IZSLER kits for use with Tanzanian samples	University of Glasgow, UK	TANZANIA

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?

No

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

Yes

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: 8

1. Dayhum A., Eldaghayes I., Kammon A., Sharif M., Calistri P., Danzetta M.L. Di Sabatino D., Petrini A., Ferrari G., Grazioli S., Pezzoni G., and Brocchi E. Sero-prevalence and epidemiology of Peste des Petits Ruminants in Libya. *Transbound Emerg Dis.* 2018 Feb;65(1):e48-e54. doi: 10.1111/tbed.12670

2. Chitray M, Grazioli S, Willems T, Tshabalala T, De Vleeschauwer A, Esterhuysen JJ, Brocchi E, De Clercq K, Maree FF. Development and validation of a foot-and-mouth disease virus SAT serotype-specific 3ABC assay to differentiate infected from vaccinated animals. *J Virol Methods.* 2018 May;255:44-51. doi: 10.1016/j.jviromet.2018.02.006. Epub 2018 Feb 8.

3. Hamdy ME, Del Carlo M, Hussein HA, Salah TA, El-Deeb AH, Emara MM, Pezzoni G, Compagnone D. Development of gold nanoparticles biosensor for ultrasensitive diagnosis of foot and mouth disease virus. *J Nanobiotechnology.* 2018 May 11;16(1):48. doi: 10.1186/s12951-018-0374-x

4. Shimmon G, Kotecha A, Ren J, Asfor AS, Newman J, Berryman S, Cottam EM, Gold S, Tuthill TJ, King DP, Brocchi E, King AMQ, Owens R, Fry EE, Stuart DI, Burman A, Jackson T. Generation and characterisation of recombinant FMDV antibodies: Applications for advancing diagnostic and laboratory assays. *PLoS One.* 2018 Aug 16;13(8):e0201853. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0201853. eCollection 2018

5. G. Pezzoni, A. Bregoli, S. Grazioli, I. Barbieri, H. Madani, A. Omani, H. Sadaoui, N. Bouayed, J. Wadsworth, K. Bachanek-Bankowska, N. J. Knowles, D. P. King, E. Brocchi. Foot-and-mouth disease outbreaks due to an exotic virus serotype A lineage (A/AFRICA/G-IV) in Algeria in 2017. Submitted to "Transboundary and Emerging Disease" 2018 Sep 17. doi: 10.1111/tbed.13017. [Epub ahead of print].

6. Katarzyna Bachanek-Bankowska, Antonello Di Nardo, Jemma Wadsworth, Valerie Mioulet, Giulia Pezzoni, Santina Grazioli, Emiliana Brocchi, Sharmila Kafle, Ranjani Hettiarachchi, Pradeep Kumarawadu, Ibrahim Eldaghayes, Abdunaser Dayhum, Deodass Meenowa, Soufien Sghaier, Hafsa Madani, Nabil Abouchoaib, Bui Hoang, Pham Vu, Kinzang Dukpa, Ratna Gurung, Sangay Tenzin, Ulrich Wernery, Alongkorn Panthumart, Kingkarn Seeyo, Wilai Linchongsongkoch, Anthony Relmy, Labib Bakkali-Kassimi, Alexei Scherbakov, Donald King, and Nick Knowles. Reconstructing the evolutionary history of pandemic foot-and-mouth disease viruses: the impact of recombination within the emerging O/ME-SA/Ind-2001 lineage. "ScientificReports" 2018 Oct 2;8(1):14693. doi: 10.1038/s41598-018-32693-8.

7. Douglas Gladue, Eneko Largo, Igor de la Arada, Vicente Aguilera, Antonio Alcaraz, Jose Arrondo, Lauren Holinka, Emiliana Brocchi, Elizabeth Ramirez-Medina, Elizabeth Vuono, Keith Berggren, Consuelo Carrillo, José Nieva, and Manuel Borca. Molecular characterization of the viroporin function of foot-and-mouth disease virus non-structural protein 2B. *J Virol.* 2018 Nov 12;92(23). pii: e01360-18. doi: 10.1128/JVI.01360-18

8. M. Ouagal, E. Brocchi, S. Grazioli, B.Y. Adel, S. Keith, D. Kiram, A. Oussiguéré, P. Hendrikx, D. Berkvens & C. Saegerman. Study on seroprevalence and serotyping of foot and mouth disease in Chad. *Revue scientifique et technique de l'OIE.* Vol 37(3), Dec. 2018

b) International conferences: 7

1. Open Session of the Standing Technical and researcher Committees of EuFMD, Borgo Egnazia (Italy), 28-31th October 2018

Replication Dynamics of Mixed Foot-And-Mouth Disease Viruses in vitro.

E. A. Foglia, G. Pezzoni, S. Grazioli, A. Bregoli, E. Brocchi.

2. Open Session of the Standing Technical and researcher Committees of EuFMD, Borgo Egnazia (Italy), 28-31 October 2018

Foot-and-mouth disease outbreaks due to an exotic virus serotype a lineage (A/Africa/G-IV) in Algeria in 2017.

G. Pezzoni, A. Bregoli, S. Grazioli, I. Barbieri, E.A. Foglia, H. Madani, A. Omani, J. Wadsworth, K. Bachanek-Bankowska, N. J. Knowles, D. P. King, E. Brocchi

3. Open Session of the Standing Technical and researcher Committees of EuFMD, Borgo Egnazia (Italy), 28-31 October 2018

Field trial to estimate the effectiveness of the vaccination program implemented in the Maghreb region. E.

Brocchi, N. Abouchoaib, M. Bugnetti, F. Rosso, A. Ripani, G. Pezzoni, S. Grazioli

4. Open Session of the Standing Technical and researcher Committees of EuFMD, Borgo Egnazia (Italy), 28-31 October 2018

Investigating cross reactivity of serological Enzyme Linked Immunosorbent Assays.

A. Morris, S. Grazioli, G. Pezzoni, G. Wilsden, C. Browning, A. Ludi, D. King, E. Brocchi.

5. Open Session of the Standing Technical and researcher Committees of EuFMD, Borgo Egnazia (Italy), 28-31 October 2018

Comparative performance of monoclonal and polyclonal-based antigen ELISAs for FMDV detection.

L. Henry, A. Morris, V. Mioulet, B. A. Wood, A. Gray, D. P. King, S. Grazioli, G. Pezzoni, E. Brocchi.

6. Open Session of the Standing Technical and researcher Committees of EuFMD, Borgo Egnazia (Italy), 28-31 October 2018

Asfor A., Howe N., Grazioli S., Wilsen G., Parekh K, Brocchi E., Ludi A., King D., Parida S., Tuthill TJ. A novel VP2 peptide ELISA for universal detection of antibodies for foot-and-mouth disease sero-surveillance.

7. Open Session of the Standing Technical and researcher Committees of EuFMD, Borgo Egnazia (Italy), 28-31 October 2018

Asfor A., Howe N., Grazioli S., Brocchi E., Tuthill TJ. A simple universal test to quantitate 146S antigen during production of FMD vaccines.

c) National conferences: 0

d) Other:

(Provide website address or link to appropriate information) 7

Presentation given at the Annual meeting of National Reference Laboratories in EU for FMD, 8-9 May 2018, UK Swine Vesicular Disease serology. Dealing with false-positive (Brocchi E.)

FMDV serotype A outbreaks in North Africa (Pezzone G.)

Report on activities conducted by the FMD Reference Laboratory during 2018, presented at 13th Annual meeting of the Network of OIE/FAO Reference Laboratories for FMD, 6-8 Nov 2018, UK" (Grazioli S.)

N. 4 theoretic-practical courses on FMD for veterinarians on regional level in Italy: epidemiology, clinical signs and epidemiological investigation, diagnosis, legislation and outbreak management, biosecurity, outbreak simulation exercise.

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: 1
 b) Seminars: 0
 c) Hands-on training courses: 1
 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
Two-day technical visit of a scientist from Macedonia, finalized to discuss options for setting an emergency diagnostic bank of reagents in the support of Balkan laboratories (concept and potential role of the reference laboratory)	Republic of Macedonia (temporarily based at EUFMD/FAO)	1
Two-week hands-on laboratory training on ELISAs for FMDV antigen detection and serotyping, and antibody detection, large scale serological testing and results interpretation, virus neutralization test, RT-PCR, laboratory biosecurity, PVM	Botswana, Libya	3

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 certified according to an International Standard?

Yes

Quality management system adopted	Certificate scan (PDF, JPG, PNG format)
ISO 17025	CERTIFICATO DI ACCREDITAMENTO.pdf

16. Is your laboratory accredited by an international accreditation body?

Yes

Test for which your laboratory is accredited	Accreditation body
Competitive ELISA - SP antibodies (FMDV serotype O, A, C, Asia1, SAT1, SAT2)	Accredia Italy System Accreditation Service
VNT for SP-Ab detection against each of the 7 FMDV serotypes	Accredia Italy System Accreditation Service
NSP Ab ELISA (3ABC trapping ELISA)	Accredia Italy System Accreditation Service
FMDV Antigen detection and serotyping ELISA	Accredia Italy System Accreditation Service
Conventional RT-PCR (3D region)	Accredia Italy System Accreditation Service
Realtime RT-PCR (3D and 5'UTR regions)	Accredia Italy System Accreditation Service
Other assays (Virus Isolation, VP1 sequencing) are IZSLER-coded tests	

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?

Yes

Title of event	Date (mm/yy)	Location	Role (speaker, presenting poster, short communications)	Title of the work presented
La gestion du risque de la Fièvre Aphteuse e l'achèvement du contrôle progressif in Afrique du Nord - EUFMD Open Session 2018, side meeting/workshop with representatives from Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, EUFMD, OIE Ref Labs, OIE North Africa office, Vaccine manufacturers	10/2018	Puglia, Italy	OIE Lab experts, communication	summary of results of field vaccine trials to estimate effectiveness of vaccines used in the region, participation to discussion for implementation and enforcement of active surveillance, for sourcing of diagnostics and for shipment of samples to reference laboratories
South East Europe - Better FMD management in Turkey and neighbours - Workplan of the WestEurasia (WE) Networks and Immunogenicity studies in TransCaucasus countries (TCC) - EUFMD Open Session 2018, side meeting with representative from EUFMD, OIE ref labs, SAP Institute	10/2018	Puglia, Italy	OIE Lab experts, communication	participation to discussion for timing and organization of testing samples from vaccine trials, for provision of diagnostic kits, shipment of samples to reference laboratories
13th OIE/FAO FMD Laboratory Network Meeting	11/2018	Pirbright, UK	Lab expert, short communication	Report of activities conducted in 2018 by the OIE/FAO reference lab-IZSLER

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.
2018 FMD Proficiency Testing Scheme, aimed at evaluating ability to diagnose FMD/SVD outbreaks and post-outbreak surveillance using an appropriate selection of virological and serological methods (including identification of agents by sequencing) and results interpretation on the basis of given scenarios. Panel 1-live virus, panel 2-non-infectious materials for genome/antigen detection/typing, panel 3 & 4 sera for FMD serology	participant	> 50	Participants: OIE/FAO Ref Lab Network (15 labs) + NRL of EU member countries + Others / Organizer: World FAO/OIE FMD Ref Lab, The Pirbright Institute, UK

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?

Yes

Title of the project or contract	Scope	Name(s) of relevant OIE Reference Laboratories
Research agreement for Development of new and improved diagnostic ELISAs and reagents	On-going research for continuous improvement and validation of ready-to-use ELISA kits, characterization of epitopes not involved in virus neutralization and study of their potential role in immunity, development of a pan-FMDV test to quantitate 146S antigen, development of a pan-SP-FMDV serology, analysis of the inter-types cross-reactivity of SP-antibodies detected by ELISA kits, incorporation of integrin into kits as universal FMDV detector, development of type-specific LFD, etc.	1) IZSLER, Italy; 2) The Pirbright Institute, UK
Research agreement to study the interaction between FMDV and host proteins during infection	IZSLER role: production and provision of mAbs suited for research studies	1) IZSLER, Italy; 2)USDA ARS PADC Foreign Animal Disease research, Plum Island NY, US

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
Participation at the FMD Proficiency Test 2018	see point 21	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Africa <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Americas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asia and Pacific <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Europe <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Middle East
Organization of a national Proficiency Test, addressed to practice and familiarize with ELISAs for SP-serology, aimed at maintaining preparedness in case of national emergency	N. 10 Italian Regional Laboratories	<input type="checkbox"/> Africa <input type="checkbox"/> Americas <input type="checkbox"/> Asia and Pacific <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Europe <input type="checkbox"/> 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)
Participation of a national expert to the 17° Joint Permanent Committee (JPC) of the Mediterranean Animal Health, Network REMESA	Maison-Alfort, France	Mediterranean Animal Health status and control strategies for major Transboundary Animal Diseases
Member of the OIE Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (SCAD)	OIE, Paris, France	Assistance in identifying the most appropriate strategies and measures for disease prevention and control. Evaluation of Member Country submissions regarding their animal health status
Continuous remote assistance and advice is regularly provided to various Member countries for elaboration and interpretation of results recorded with the diagnostic kits supplied for FMD diagnosis and serology		

25. Additional comments regarding your report: