World Organisation for Animal Health

Llilianne Ganges - - SPAIN

WOAH Reference Laboratory Reports Activities 2025

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LABORATORY INFORMATION

***Name of disease (or topic) for which you are a designated WOAH Reference Laboratory:**	Classical swine fever
***Address of laboratory:**	Institute of Agrifood Reasearch and Technology (IRTA), Centre de Recerca en Sanitat Animal (CReSA), Edifici CReSA Campus de la Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona, Bellaterra 08193 (Barcelona) SPAIN
***Tel:**	+34-934 67 40 40 ext. 1786
***E-mail address:**	llilianne.ganges@irta.cat
Website:	https://www.irta.cat/ca/produccio-animal/sanitat-animal/
***Name (including Title) of Head of Laboratory (Responsible Official):**	Dr. Josep Usall, General Director at IRTA
***Name (including Title and Position) of WOAH Reference Expert:**	Dr. Llilianne Ganges, Head in the CSF WOAH Reference Laboratory, Principal investigator at IRTA-CReSA,
***Which of the following defines your laboratory? Check all that apply:**	Governmental

TOR1: DIAGNOSTIC METHODS

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 WOAH Manual (Yes/No)	Total number of test performed last year	
Indirect diagnostic tests		Nationally	Internationally
ELISA: Classical swine fever virus (CSFV) Antibody test Kit (IDEXX)	Yes	175	0
Pigtype CSFV Erns antibody test kit, Indical	Yes	261	0
Seroneutralization (NPLA Test)	Yes	416	0
Direct diagnostic tests		Nationally	Internationally
RT-qPCR for CSFV RNA detection (Hoffmann et al., 2005)	Yes	1914	0
Conventional RT-PCR (Vilcek et al., 1994)	Yes	45	0
Duplex ASF/CSF RT-qPCR	Yes	39	0
Virus Isolation	Yes	2	0

TOR2: REFERENCE MATERIAL

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

No

3. Did your laboratory supply standard reference reagents (nonWOAH-approved) and/or other diagnostic reagents to WOAH Members?

Yes

Type of reagent available	Related diagnostic test	Produced/ provide	Amount supplied nationally (ml, mg)	Amount supplied internationally (ml, mg)	No. of recipient WOAH Member Countries	Country of recipients
Reference RNA	RT-qPCR for CSFV specific RNA detection (Hoffmann et al., 2005)	Produced and Provided	0	2 samples of 0,5 mL each	1	CUBA,
Primers and Taqman probe for CSFV and ASFV detection	Duplex ASF/CSF RTqPCR	Provided	0	Two primers sets, 0,1 mL each and Two Taqman Probe, 0,02 mL each	1	CUBA,
Monospecific polyclonal antibody against CSFV	Seroneutralization (NPLA Test) and viral isolation-CSFV identification	Produced and Provided	0	10 mL (Cuba) 50ml (Colombia)	2	COLOMBIA, CUBA,
Reference inactivated porcine sera	RT-qPCR for CSFV specific RNA detection (Hoffmann et al., 2005)	Produced and Provided	0	5 samples of 5 mL each	1	ARGENTINA,
Tonsil inactivated (tissue macerated)	RT-qPCR for CSFV specific RNA detection (Hoffmann et al., 2005)	Produced and Provided	0	2 sample, 5 mL	1	ARGENTINA,
PK15 cells	Seroneutralization (NPLA Test) and viral isolation-CSFV identification	Provided	0	Ten million cells	1	CUBA,

4. Did your laboratory produce vaccines?

Not applicable

5. Did your laboratory supply vaccines to WOAH Members?

TOR3: NEW PROCEDURES

6. Did your laboratory develop new diagnostic methods for the designated pathogen or disease?

Yes

7. Did your laboratory validate diagnostic methods according to WOAH Standards for the designated pathogen or disease?

Yes

Name of the new test or diagnostic method developed	Description and References (Publication, website, etc.)
Duplex Taqman Real-Time PCR Assay for classical and African swine fever viruses detection	Simultaneous Detection of Classical and African Swine Fever Viruses by Duplex Taqman Real-Time PCR Assay in Pigs Infected with Both Diseases. Liani Coronado, Adriana Muñoz-Aguilera, Miaomiao Wang, Iván Muñoz, Cristina Riquelme, Saray Heredia, Katarzyna Stępniewska, Carmina Gallardo, Llilianne Ganges. Pathogens. 2025 May 13;14(5):473. doi: 10.3390/pathogens14050473.

8. Did your laboratory develop new vaccines for the designated pathogen or disease?

9. Did your laboratory validate vaccines according to WOAH Standards for the designated pathogen or disease?

TOR4: DIAGNOSTIC TESTING FACILITIES

10. Did your laboratory carry out diagnostic testing for other WOAH Members?

No

11. Did your laboratory provide expert advice in technical consultancies on the request of an WOAH Member?

Yes

Name of the WOAH Member Country receiving a technical consultancy	Purpose	How the advice was provided
ARGENTINA	diagnosis and validation in RT-qPCR trials	Online
ECUADOR	Seroneutralization (NPLA Test), Virus Isolation, RT-qPCR, evaluation of CSFV	Online

	vaccine potency test and vaccination program in the country	
COLOMBIA	Seroneutralization (NPLA Test),	In Loco
CUBA	test validation under ISO17025, Seroneutralization (NPLA Test), Virus Isolation, RT-qPCR, evaluation	In Loco
GUATEMALA	CSFV control program review	Online
GUATEMALA	Transfer of diagnostic protocols for CSFV and ASFV using the qPCR technique	Online
HONDURAS	Transfer of diagnostic protocols for CSFV and ASFV using the qPCR technique	Online
COSTA RICA	Transfer of diagnostic protocols for CSFV and ASFV using the qPCR technique	Online
PERU	We provided guidance following their inquiry on field detection of CSFV cases.	Online

TOR5: COLLABORATIVE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL STUDIES

12. Did your laboratory participate in international scientific studies in collaboration with WOAH Members other than the own?

Yes

Title of the study	Duration	Purpose of the study	Partners (Institutions)	WOAH Member Countries involved other than your country
European Researchgroup: EPIZONE: Epizootic Disease Diagnosis and Control"	Indefinite	Strengthen the cooperation between National and International Reference Laboratories in the field of Epizootic diseases. - facilitate and coordinate scientific research applied to "Epizootic Disease Diagnosis and Control": -develop and support strategies for durable cooperation,particularly to inform about opportunities for further funding - develop,share and upgrade common research tools and platforms for joint research projects - develop common research methods,standardsand protocols-share data and information among partners and better facilitate public access to selected information on epizootic diseases	-TechnicalUniversity of Denmark, NationalVeterinary Institute (DTU Vet), Denmark - FriedrichLoefflerInstitute(FLI),Germany -Institute for Animal Health (IAH) UK -Institute of Virology and Immunology(IVI), Switzerland -Instituto ZooprofilatticoSperimentale della Lombardia e dell'Emillia Romagna Brescia(IZSLER), Italy - Instituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentaledelle Venezie (IZS-Ve), Italy - NationalResearch Institute of Veterinary Virologyand Microbiology (NRIVVaMR), Russia - National Veterinary Research Institute(NVRI), Poland - StatensVeterinarmedicinska Anstalt (SVA),Sweden - Veterinary and AgrochemicalResearch centre, VARCODA-CERVA(VAR), Belgium -Emerging PathogensInstitute, University of Florida (EPI), USA	BELGIUM DENMARK FRANCE GERMANY ITALY POLAND SPAIN SWEDEN SWITZERLAND UNITED KINGDOM
CSFV virulent factors	2017-2028	Update on CSFV pathogenesis for disease control	Institute of Virology and Immunology, (IVI)	SWITZERLAND
CSFV diagnosis and vaccine control	2020-2028	CSFV diagnosis and vaccine developments for control	ARS, USDA	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
CSFV vaccine desing and development	2023-2026	Improve CSFV vaccines for CSFV control	CIGB	CUBA
Pestiviruses pathogenesis	2025-2028	Improve CSFV and pestiviruses vaccines and diagnosis tools for CSFV control	University of Veterinary Medicine Hannover, Foundation Institute of Virology EU & WOAH Reference Laboratory for CSF	GERMANY
Development of tools to detect pathogens in the environment and study	2026-2028	Development of tools to detect pathogens in the environment and study interspecies	ANSES, BfR, CIRAD, CSIC, APHA, DTU, IRTA, IZSLER, IZSLT, NVI, PIWet, RIVM	DENMARK ITALY POLAND SPAIN UNITED KINGDOM FRANCE - WALLIS AND

interspecies circulation		circulation		FUTUNA (ISLANDS)

13. In exercising your activities, have you identified any regulatory research needs* relevant for WOAH?

Yes

Research need : 1

Please type the Research need: 1. Definition of humane endpoint criteria for CSFV vaccine potency tests Research need: Research is needed to establish scientifically validated and harmonised humane endpoint criteria (ethics and animal welfare) for CSFV vaccine potency tests conducted in domestic pigs. Current CSFV vaccine potency tests described in Terrestrial Manual Chapter 3.9.3 involve challenge with highly virulent CSFV strains at high doses, leading to the reproduction of the acute form of classical swine fever. However, explicit endpoint criteria to minimise animal suffering are not defined, creating variability in animal welfare practices and ethical concerns.

Relevance for WOAH Disease Control, Capacity Building, Standard Setting, Animal Welfare,

Relevance for the Code or Manual Manual,

Field Vaccines,

Animal Category Terrestrial,

Disease:

Classical swine fever

Kind of disease (Zoonosis, Transboundary diseases) Transboundary diseases,

If any, please specify relevance for Codes or Manual, chapter and title

(e.g. Terrestrial Manual Chapter 2.3.5 - Minimum requirements for aseptic production in vaccine manufacture)

Answer: Animal category: Terrestrial Disease: Classical swine fever Type of disease: Transboundary disease Relevant WOAH reference: Terrestrial Manual Chapter 3.9.3

Notes:

Answer:

Research need : 2

Please type the Research need: 2. Development of alternative methods to replace or reduce animal use in CSFV vaccine potency testing Research need: Research is required to develop and validate alternative in vitro or ex vivo methods for CSFV vaccine potency testing that avoid or significantly reduce the use of live animals, in line with the 3Rs principles (Replacement, Reduction, Refinement).

Relevance for WOAH Standard Setting, Animal Welfare,

Relevance for the Code or Manual Manual,

Field Vaccines,

Animal Category Terrestrial,

Disease:

Classical swine fever

Kind of disease (Zoonosis, Transboundary diseases) Transboundary diseases,

If any, please specify relevance for Codes or Manual, chapter and title

(e.g. Terrestrial Manual Chapter 2.3.5 - Minimum requirements for aseptic production in vaccine manufacture)

Answer: Animal category: Terrestrial Disease: Classical swine fever Type of disease: Transboundary disease Relevant WOAH reference: Terrestrial Manual Chapter 3.9.3

Notes:

Answer:

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Research need : 3

Please type the Research need: 3. Alternatives to live-virus assays for the detection of neutralising antibodies against CSFV Research need: Research is needed to develop alternative diagnostic assays for the detection of neutralising antibodies against CSFV that do not rely on live virus (e.g. alternatives to NPLA). The use of live-virus assays poses significant limitations for CSFV surveillance and monitoring in many countries due to the lack of BSL-3 laboratory facilities, thereby restricting diagnostic capacity and international harmonisation.

Relevance for WOAH Capacity Building, Standard Setting, Facilitation of international collaboration,

Relevance for the Code or Manual Manual,

Field Epidemiology and Surveillance, Diagnostics,

Animal Category Terrestrial,

Disease:

Classical swine fever

Kind of disease (Zoonosis, Transboundary diseases) Transboundary diseases,

If any, please specify relevance for Codes or Manual, chapter and title

(e.g. Terrestrial Manual Chapter 2.3.5 - Minimum requirements for aseptic production in vaccine manufacture)

Answer: Animal category: Terrestrial Disease: Classical swine fever Type of disease: Transboundary disease Relevant WOAH reference: Terrestrial Manual Chapter 3.9.3

Notes:

Answer:

Research need : 4

Please type the Research need: 4. Development of truly DIVA-compatible CSFV vaccines Research need: Research is needed to develop and validate truly DIVA-compatible CSFV vaccines that do not induce antibody responses cross-reactive with other Pestivirus species (e.g. BVDV, BDV). Current marker vaccines still present limitations due to serological cross-reactivity, complicating differentiation between infected and vaccinated animals, particularly in areas where multiple pestiviruses co-circulate.

Relevance for WOAH Disease Control, Capacity Building, Standard Setting, Animal Welfare,

Relevance for the Code or Manual Code, Manual,

Field Epidemiology and Surveillance, Diagnostics, Vaccines,

Animal Category Terrestrial,

Disease:

Classical swine fever

Kind of disease (Zoonosis, Transboundary diseases) Transboundary diseases,

If any, please specify relevance for Codes or Manual, chapter and title

(e.g. Terrestrial Manual Chapter 2.3.5 - Minimum requirements for aseptic production in vaccine manufacture)

Answer: Relevant WOAH reference: Terrestrial Manual Chapter 3.9.3

Notes:

Answer:

Research need : 5

Please type the Research need: 5. Improved companion diagnostic tests for DIVA CSFV vaccines Research need: Research is required to develop highly specific companion diagnostic tests to support DIVA vaccination strategies for CSFV, ensuring reliable differentiation between vaccinated animals, CSFV-infected animals, and animals exposed to other pestiviruses.

Relevance for WOAH Disease Control, Capacity Building, Standard Setting, Animal Welfare,

Relevance for the Code or Manual Code, Manual,

Field

Animal Category

Disease:

Classical swine fever

Kind of disease (Zoonosis, Transboundary diseases) Transboundary diseases,

If any, please specify relevance for Codes or Manual, chapter and title

(e.g. Terrestrial Manual Chapter 2.3.5 - Minimum requirements for aseptic production in vaccine manufacture)

Answer: Terrestrial Manual Chapter 3.9.3

Notes:

Answer:

Research need : 6

Please type the Research need: 6. Evaluation of CSFV vaccines under field conditions Research need: Research is needed to evaluate the efficacy, duration of immunity, and transmission-blocking capacity of CSFV vaccines under real field conditions, including in wild boar populations, to better inform control and eradication strategies.

Relevance for WOAH Disease Control, Capacity Building, Standard Setting,

Relevance for the Code or Manual Code, Manual,

Field Epidemiology and Surveillance, Diagnostics, Vaccines,

Animal Category Terrestrial,

Disease:

Classical swine fever

Kind of disease (Zoonosis, Transboundary diseases) Transboundary diseases,

If any, please specify relevance for Codes or Manual, chapter and title

(e.g. Terrestrial Manual Chapter 2.3.5 - Minimum requirements for aseptic production in vaccine manufacture)

Answer: Terrestrial Manual Chapter 3.9.3

Notes:

Answer:

TOR6: EPIZOOLOGICAL DATA

14. Did your Laboratory collect epidemiological data relevant to international disease control?

Yes

If the answer is yes, please provide details of the data collected:
Development of new vaccines strategies, vaccine efficacy and potency tests, as well as development and transfer of CSFVdiagnostic methods (including new rapid, sensitive and economical tests) and reference materials preparation

15. Did your laboratory disseminate epidemiological data that had been processed and analysed?

Yes

If the answer is yes, please provide details of the data collected:
Data supporting the evolution of CSFV and related virulence factors. Interaction of CSFV with the host, determining the host gene expression fingerprint. Development of new DIVA vaccines and molecular and serological diagnostic methods and their applications

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

a) Articles published in peer-reviewed journals:

5

1-) Sublingual immunization with E2-CD154 protein and the STING agonist c-di-AMP confers protection against classical swine fever virus in pigs.
Puente-Marin S, Sardina-González T, Coronado L, Riquelme C, Heredia S, Muñoz-Aguilera A, Sordo-Puga Y, Pérez-Pérez D, Rodríguez-Mallon A, Estrada MP, Duarte CA, Rodríguez-Moltó MP, Ganges L.
Front Cell Infect Microbiol. 2025 Nov 20;15:1713724. doi: 10.3389/fcimb.2025.1713724. eCollection 2025.
PMID: 41355986

2-) Protection Against Transplacental Transmission of a Highly Virulent Classical Swine Fever Virus Two Weeks After Single-Dose FlagT4G Vaccination in Pregnant Sows.
Coronado L, Cobos À, Muñoz-Aguilera A, Puente-Marin S, Guevara G, Riquelme C, Heredia S, Borca MV, Ganges L.
Vaccines (Basel). 2025 Jul 28;13(8):803. doi: 10.3390/vaccines13080803.

3-) Assessment of the Reversion to Virulence and Protective Efficacy in Pigs Receiving the Live Attenuated Classical Swine Fever Recombinant Vaccine Candidate FlagT4G.
Ramirez-Medina E, Velazquez-Salinas L, Valladares A, Rai A, Burton L, Sastre L, Silva E, Risatti GR, Ganges L, Borca MV.
Vaccines (Basel). 2025 May 20;13(5):544. doi: 10.3390/vaccines13050544.

4-) Simultaneous Detection of Classical and African Swine Fever Viruses by Duplex Taqman Real-Time PCR Assay in Pigs Infected with Both Diseases.
Coronado L, Muñoz-Aguilera A, Wang M, Muñoz I, Riquelme C, Heredia S, Stępniewska K, Gallardo C, Ganges L.
Pathogens. 2025 May 13;14(5):473. doi: 10.3390/pathogens14050473.

5-) Gene Expression Signatures of Porcine Bone Marrow-Derived Antigen-Presenting Cells Infected with Classical Swine Fever Virus.
Coronado L, Wang M, Bohórquez JA, Muñoz-Aguilera A, Alberch M, Martínez P, Ruggli N, Ramayo-Caldas Y, Ganges L.

b) International conferences:

7

1-) Cyclic-di-AMP incorporated into the oral formulation enhances the Protective Efficacy of E2-CD154 chimeric protein against Classical Swine Fever in pigs. Oral presentation: S.Puente-Marin; T.Sardina-González; L.Coronado; and L.Ganges. International Congress For Veterinary Virology. ESVV Epizone. 2025. Slovenia.
2-) Assessment of the minimum dose for infectivity, transmission, and early detection of highly virulent ASFV in pigs. Poster: Adriana Muñoz-Aguilera; Sara Puente-Marin; Cristina Riquelme and Llilianne Ganges. EPIZONE Annual meeting 2025, Slovenia.
3-) FlagT4G vaccine protects pregnant sows from classical swine fever virus transplacental transmission two weeks After Single vaccine dose. Oral presentation. Liani Coronado, Adriana Muñoz, Àlex Cobos, Sara Puente, Cristina Riquelme, Manuel V. Borca and Llilianne Ganges. EPIZONE Annual meeting 2025, Slovenia.
4-) Validation of genetic biomarkers and immune phenotypes as indicators of the immune response to E2-CD154 subunit classical swine fever virus vaccine
Maria Ballester1, Carles Hernández-Banqué1, Teodor Jové-Juncà, Olga González-Rodríguez, Liani Coronado, Llilianne Ganges, Josep Reixach, Raquel Quintanilla1, Joaquim Tarrés. EAAP, 25-29 AUGUST 2025, INNSBRUCK, AUSTRIA.
5-) Desarrollo, validación y acreditación de las técnicas de diagnóstico Molecular de los virus de la peste porcina clásica, Pestivirus y el virus de la peste porcina africana. Llilianne Ganges. Centro Nacional de Sanidad Agropecuaria, Cuba, 7 de julio 2025.
6-) Ciencia sin fronteras:
Investigación e innovación frente a enfermedades transfronterizas y por la seguridad alimentaria. LLilianne Ganges, Academia de Ciencias de Cuba, 8 octubre 2025.
7-) Investigación e innovación frente a enfermedades transfronterizas y por la seguridad alimentaria. Instituto Colombiano Agropecuario (ICA), 22 de octubre 2025.

c) National conferences:

0

d) Other (Provide website address or link to appropriate information):

TOR7: SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TRAINING

17. Did your laboratory provide scientific and technical training to laboratory personnel from other WOAH Members?

Yes

a) Technical visit : 2

b) Seminars : 1

c) Hands-on training courses: 2

d) Internships (>1 month) 2

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
A	CUBA	10
A	COLOMBIA	30
B	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	25
C	CHINESE TAIPEI	1
C	GUATEMALA	2
D	PARAGUAY	1
D	COLOMBIA	1

TOR8: QUALITY ASSURANCE

18. Does your laboratory have a Quality Management System?

Yes

Quality management system adopted	Certificate scan (PDF, JPG, PNG format)	
ISO 17025	ENAC ISO17025 acreditation (PDF)	Acreditacion ISO17025. 900_LE1557.pdf
ISO 9001	AENOR ISO 9001 (PDF)	Certificat-AENOR-ISO-9001-ER-591-1..pdf
ISO 9001	IQNet (PDF)	Certificat-IQNet-ISO-9001-ER-591-1.pdf
GLP According to Directive 2004/9/CE	GLP Directive 2004/9/CE (PDF)	BPLI-2511-001-CAT.pdf

19. Is your quality management system accredited?

Yes

Test for which your laboratory is accredited	Accreditation body
Seroneutralization test (NPLA) for CSFV antibody detection and and differentiation with other Pestiviruses (IT-A4 ESE 005)	ENAC
qRT-PCR (Hoffmann et al., 2005) for CSFV RNA diagnosis (IT-A4- EPCR 132)	ENAC
Conventional RT-PCR for Pestivirus detection (IT-A4-EPCR 232	ENAC
Virus isolation test (CSFV) (IT-A4-EVI 019) EN	ENAC
ELISA for CSFV antibody detection (IT-A4-EELS 008)	ENAC
Simultaneous detection of the Classical Swine Fever virus and African swine fever by Duplex real-time RT-PCR (IT-A4-EPCR 053)	ENAC

20. Does your laboratory maintain a “biorisk management system” for the pathogen and the disease concerned?

Yes

There is a generic biological risk management for the facility also associated with preventive and corrective maintenance and there is also a biological risk management associated with each research project or experimental activity. This is achieved through the internal IRTA Biosafety Committee that oversees the contracts and research projects and through the National Biosafety Commission, which is responsible for validating all activities where, apart from the wild virus, work is done with genetically modified organisms. The centre has the A/ES/16/I-06 registration which authorizes it to work with pathogens of hazard group 3, whether wild or genetically modified. This risk management is embedded in the center's quality management, which follows ISO9001 and also the principles of Good Laboratory Practices regarding the control of critical laboratory and barrier equipment.

TOR9: SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

21. Did your laboratory organise scientific meetings related to the pathogen in question on behalf of WOAH?

No

22. Did your laboratory participate in scientific meetings related to the pathogen in question on behalf of WOAH?

No

TOR10: NETWORK WITH WOAH REFERENCE LABORATORIES

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

Yes

24. Are you a member of a network of WOAH Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen?

No

25. Did you organise or participate in inter-laboratory proficiency tests with WOAH Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen during the past 2 years?

Yes

Purpose of the proficiency test:	Role of your Reference Laboratory (organiser/ participant)	No. participating Laboratories	Participating WOAH Ref. Labs/ organising WOAH Ref Lab
Harmonization of CSF diagnosis in molecular techniques by RTPCR, RT-qPCR, virus isolation, nucleic acid sequencing, and serology (ELISA and serum neutralization assay (NPLA))	Participant, 2024-2025	27 national reference laboratory and 12 laboratories from associated countries	CSF Reference Laboratory, Hannover, Germany (Organising) CSF Reference Laboratory, Winnipeg, Canada (Participant) CSF Reference Laboratory in UK (Participant) CSF Reference Laboratory UK, Participant CSF Reference Laboratory IRTACReSA , Spain (Participant)

26. Did your laboratory collaborate with other WOAH 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 WOAH Reference Laboratories
Pestiviruses (including CSFV) tropism and pathogenesis	This project focuses on the study of pestiviruses, including Classical Swine Fever Virus (CSFV), with particular emphasis on viral tropism and pathogenesis. The scope includes the investigation of virus–host interactions, tissue and cell tropism, and mechanisms underlying disease progression in swine. The project aims to generate knowledge relevant to early detection, pathogenesis, and improved diagnostic and control strategies for pestivirus infections.	CSF Reference laboratory Hannover, Germany.
CSFV diagnosis	Surveillance and diagnosis of CSFV	CSF WOAH reference laboratory of Canadian Food Inspection Agency's (CFIA) NationalC Centre for Foreign Animal Disease (NCFAD) in Winnipeg, Manitoba

TOR11: OTHER INTERLABORATORY PROFICIENCY TESTING

27. Did your laboratory organise or participate in inter-laboratory proficiency tests with laboratories other than WOAH Reference Laboratories for the same pathogen during the past 2 years?

Yes

Purpose for inter-laboratory test comparisons1	Role of your reference laboratory (organizer/participant)	No. participating laboratories	Name of the test	WOAH Member Countries
Harmonization of CSF diagnosis in molecular techniques by RTPCR, RT-qPCR, virus isolation, nucleic acid sequencing, and serology (ELISA and serum neutralization assay (NPLA))	Organizer	9	CSF diagnosis in molecular techniques by RT-PCR (conventional), RT-qPCR, virus isolation, nucleic acid sequencing, and serology (ELISA and serum neutralization assay (NPLA))	ARGENTINA, CHILE, COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, CUBA, ECUADOR, PARAGUAY, PERU, URUGUAY,

TOR12: EXPERT CONSULTANTS

28. Did your laboratory place expert consultants at the disposal of WOAH?

Yes

Kind of consultancy	Location	Subject (facultative)
Ad hoc Group on the evaluation of CSF status 2025	World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) Headquarters, 12 Rue de Prony, 75017 Paris, France	CSF status Evaluation, 2025

29. Additional comments regarding your report:

Yes

One aspect that could benefit from further strengthening is the level of structured coordination among WOAH Reference Laboratories working on related thematic areas. Establishing opportunities for regular exchanges, for example through an annual (Every two years) coordination meeting, could support enhanced information sharing, alignment of activities, and the identification of potential synergies, including the development of coordinated annual work plans.

In this context, the occasional participation of representatives from the WOAH Scientific or Technical Departments could further facilitate alignment with WOAH strategic priorities and contribute to more effective and harmonised collaborative actions.