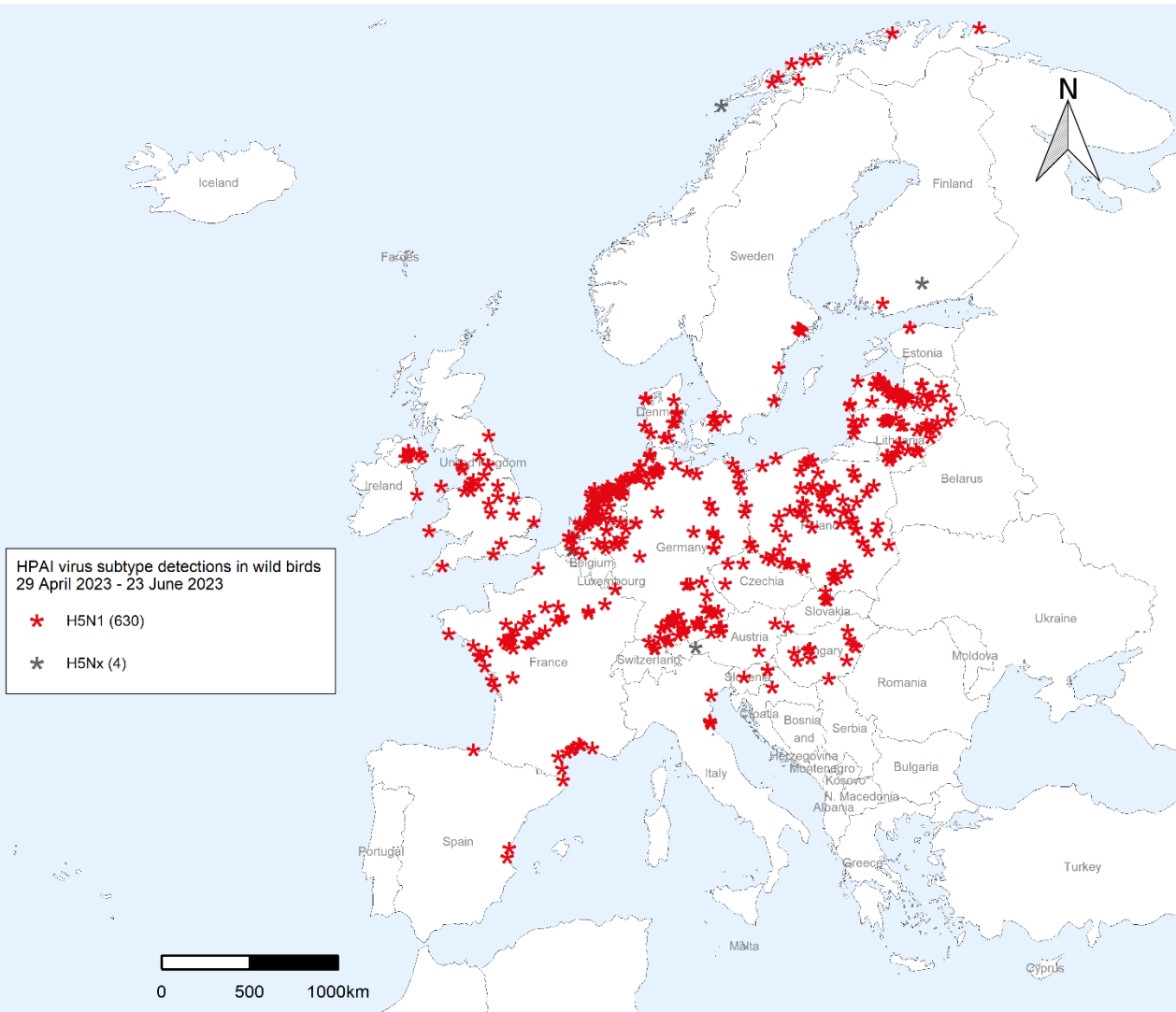




UPCOMING CALL ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ACTIVE SURVEILLANCE NETWORK IN WILD BIRDS IN EUROPE

Lisa Kohnle

SCOPE, TIMELINE AND TASKS



Rationale for this call

- Continuously **high number of HPAI cases** in wild birds
 - Geographic extent
 - Mass-mortality events
 - Often reason for primary introductions into poultry establishments
- Need for a better understanding of avian influenza viruses (i) **persistently circulating** in wild birds in Europe and (ii) **regularly being introduced** by wild birds from outside Europe
- Testing the **added value** of active wild bird surveillance in complementing already existing surveillance efforts



SCOPE, TIMELINE AND TASKS

Complementing already existing surveillance efforts in the EU



Research activities

Voluntary

Wild birds trapped/hunted without clinical signs
Sentinel wild birds

Legally required

Wild birds found dead, injured or sick/hunted with clinical signs



SCOPE, TIMELINE AND TASKS

Background

- Extensive analysis of data available from Europe and worldwide in combination with pilot studies in Ukraine and Georgia
 - Target **hosts, locations** and **times of the year** for active surveillance
 - **Rapid** detection and identification of avian influenza viruses
 - **Early warning** system
- Main conclusions:
 - Sampling site selection should be informed by ornithological and virological data
 - Operational flexibility in terms of hosts, sample matrices and times of the year

EXTERNAL SCIENTIFIC REPORT

APPROVED: 16 December 2022

doi:10.2903/sp.efsa.2022.EN-7791

Active wild bird surveillance of avian influenza viruses, a report

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<https://efsa.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.2903/sp.efsa.2022.EN-7791>

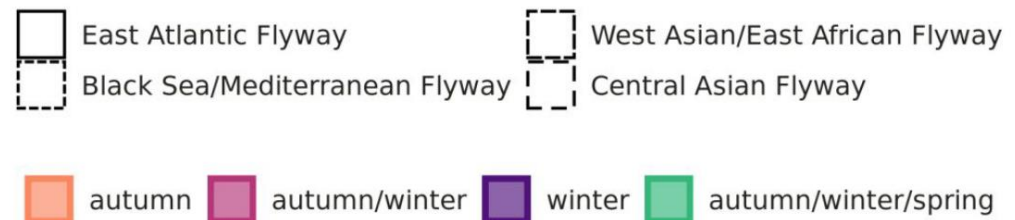
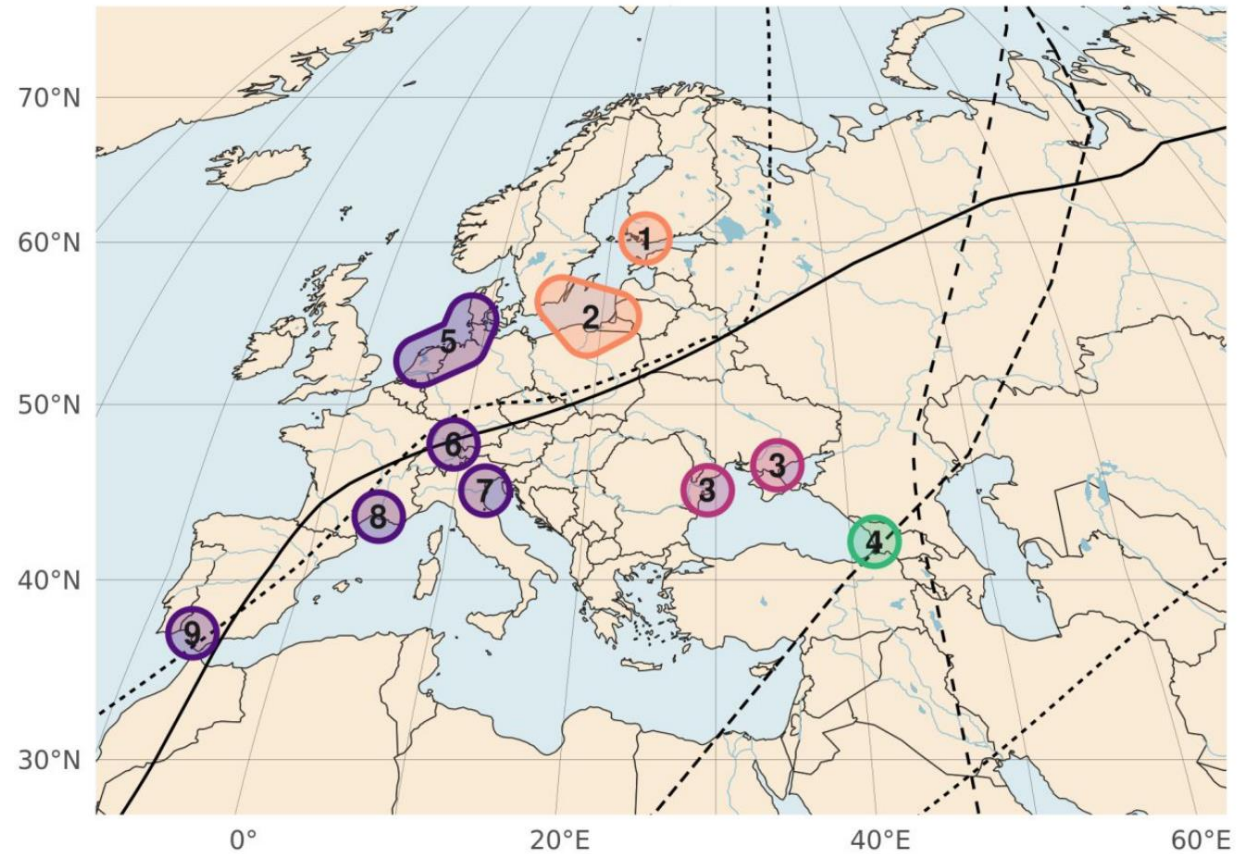


SCOPE, TIMELINE AND TASKS

Scope

- Aims:
 - Establishment of a coordinated **network of surveillance nodes** across Europe
 - Building **capacities** and **long-term partnerships** for active wild bird surveillance of HPAI in those locations
 - Getting a fuller picture
 - **Preparedness** and **early warning**

- **9 surveillance nodes** (geographic locations to be



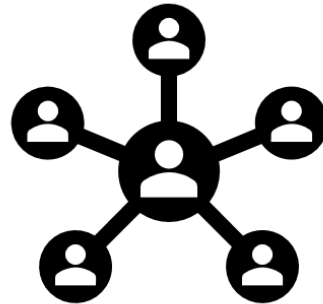
SCOPE, TIMELINE AND TASKS



SCOPE, TIMELINE AND TASKS

Tasks

- **Establishment** and **maintenance** of **infrastructure** (e.g. wild bird traps, transport vehicles) and **capacities** (e.g. manpower, laboratory benches, IT systems)
- Active **participation** in the **network** (e.g. training, annual meetings)
- Following a harmonised **sampling plan** and **data collection/sharing** framework developed together with the central coordinating body



SCOPE, TIMELINE AND TASKS

Tasks

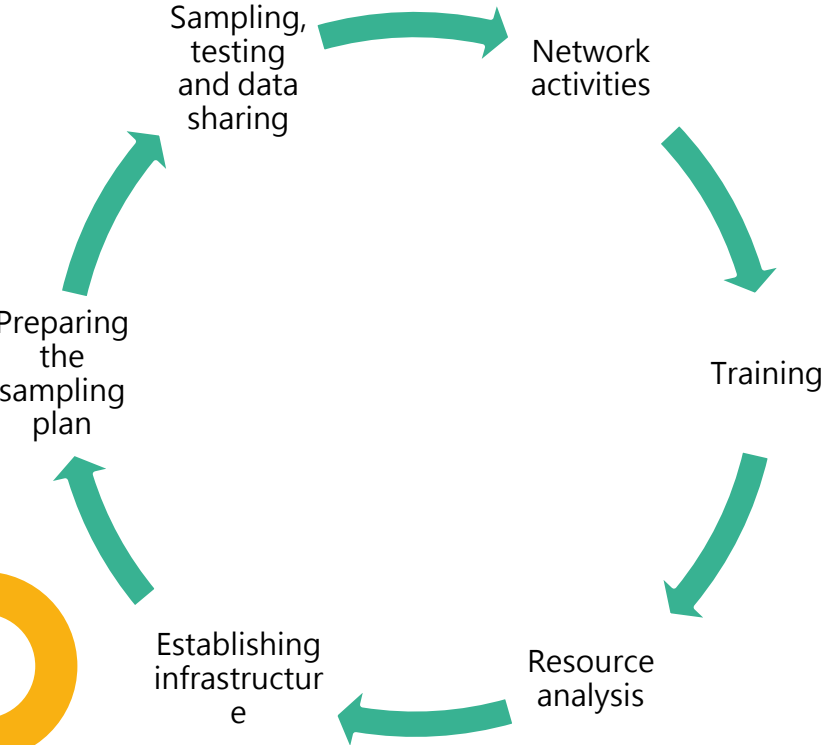
- Evaluating the established surveillance node by sampling and testing according to the developed sampling plan (hosts, sampling volumes, times of the year)
 - **Field work** (i.e. trapping/hunting and sampling wild birds)
 - **Screening** for HPAI by rapid diagnostic methods (e.g. PCR)
 - **Whole genome sequencing**
- Real-time **data collection, collation** and **submission** to the central coordination body
- Keeping national authorities involved and/or informed



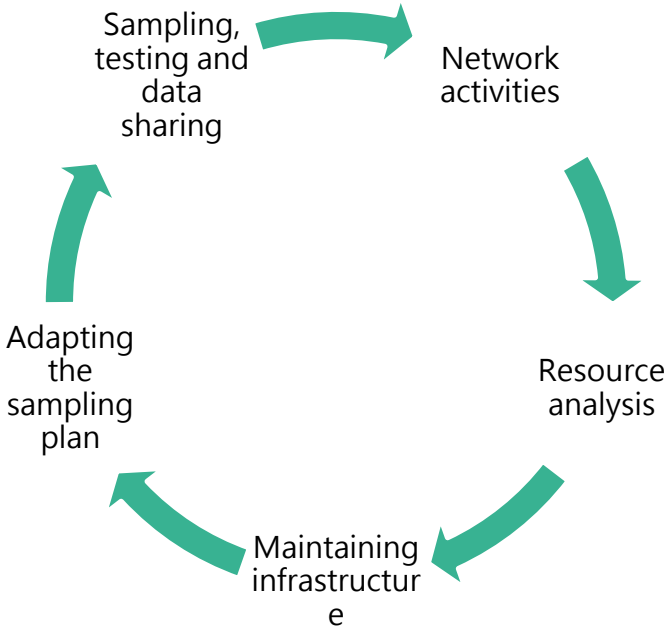
SCOPE, TIMELINE AND TASKS

Timeline

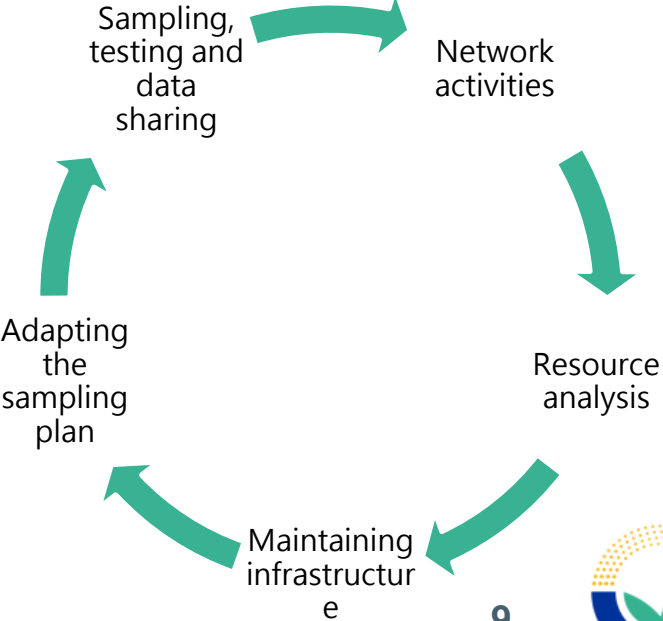
Year 1



Year 2



Year 3



SCOPE, TIMELINE AND TASKS

Coordination by EFSA's experts

- Management of network exchange and communication
- Organisation of annual network meetings
- **Training** and **guidance**
- Support in preparing **sampling plans**
- **Harmonisation** of sampling, testing and data collection across all surveillance nodes
- **Interpretation** and **communication** of **surveillance results**
- Regular **publication** of outputs on an open-access online platform



CALL FOR PROPOSALS



Call expected to be launched at the beginning of **November 2023** as a Framework Partnership Agreement (FPA) divided into **9 Lots**



Overall estimated budget: **EUR 2 million**
Finance Not Linked to Costs: no need to justify incurred costs



Time to prepare proposals: **~12-14 weeks**
Aim to start activities in **April/May 2024**



Applications in **consortium** from several Art. 36 organisations advisable for some Lots involving more than one country



Estimated FPA duration: **36 months**

Only Art. 36 organisations can apply as partners – full list [here](#)



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Use of EU Funding & Tender Opportunities portal



N.B.: any organisation can access the portal and its “Partner search announcement” section, but remember **that only Art. 36 organisations** (full list [here](#)) can apply to this call as partners (other organisations can be involved as subcontractors for non-core tasks).



Launched on the EU Funding and Tender Opportunities portal.



Hard copy paper applications will **not be accepted**. Only electronic applications using the [EU Funding and Tender Opportunities portal](#) will be accepted.



The EU Funding and Tender Opportunities portal includes a feature allowing for the search of partners.



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Next steps



Start considering partners to be involved in your area for this call for proposals



Launch of the call in **November 2023**



The call will be published on EFSA's website and on the EU Funding and Tender Opportunities portal



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