

111 Urgent action to address the Asian wild pig crisis caused by African swine fever

ALARMED that African swine fever (ASF) is spreading in Asia and is fatal to Asian wild pigs in over 95% of the cases;

NOTING WITH CONCERN that even before the arrival of ASF, nine of the 12 Asian wild pig species were already globally threatened due to habitat loss, hunting and restricted geographic ranges, with only four of them having ex situ populations;

AWARE that in 2021, IUCN, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Organisation for Animal Health (formerly OIE) reported that ASF could cause the extinction of several Asian pig species, all of which are now being reassessed on The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™, with many species likely to be uplisted to Critically Endangered;

CONCERNED that due to the many transboundary transmission paths, including live or dead pigs, equipment, and processed and raw meat, there is a very high likelihood that ASF will reach nearly all Asian wild pig populations;

HIGHLIGHTING the fundamental importance of wild pigs as ecosystem engineers, key species in food chains, and as a major protein source for millions of Indigenous peoples and Local communities in Asia (so ASF, therefore, poses a significant food security risk);

AWARE that in 2021, IUCN, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH, formerly OIE) reported that ASF could cause the extinction of several Asian pig species, all of which are now being reassessed on The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, with many species likely to be uplisted to Critically Endangered;

NOTING that ASF control measures currently focus more on domestic pigs, especially in the commercial sector, neglecting the role of wild pigs in the maintenance of the virus;

INSPIRED, nevertheless, that some range country governments, intergovernmental organisations and non-governmental organisations have already published ASF prevention plans and control measures that include wild (as well as domestic) pigs and have initiated transboundary collaborations against the disease;

EMPHASISING, however, that more countries need to incorporate wild pigs in the plans to contain ASF; and

NOTING the urgent need for donors to provide significant support to combatting ASF (including through vaccine development and enhanced biosecurity) and implementing emergency conservation measures for Asian wild pigs;

The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2025, at its session in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates:

1. REQUESTS the Species Survival Commission to report on the implementation of this resolution to the next World Conservation Congress;
2. CALLS on range country governments and IUCN Members to conserve Asian wild pigs by:
 - a. prioritising these species in their plans, policies and actions;
 - b. ensuring the implementation of plans to protect these species from ASF;
 - c. considering the impacts of ASF on Indigenous peoples and Local communities; and
 - d. establishing policies on wild pig hunting, small-scale pig farming, and trade in domestic or wild pigs and their products in order to control ASF and establish effective biosecurity; and

3. RECOMMENDS that all relevant government agencies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organisations, zoos, research institutions and the private sector support Asian wild pig conservation by:

- a. promoting and implementing field action, including research on the dynamics of ASF infections and recovery;
- b. implementing awareness campaigns, targeted to key audiences, and capacity-building to improve biosecurity;
- c. sharing data related to conserving these species including ASF-related data, both within and between countries;
- d. installing long-term monitoring programmes, incorporating citizen science and involving affected communities where possible;
- e. establishing and maintaining ex situ populations for all Asian wild pig species;
- f. translocating animals to safe locations (in or ex situ); and
- g. developing rapid, affordable diagnostic tools, and vaccines against ASF and preparing for future vaccination campaigns.