OBJECTIVE: To prevent entry and mitigate the impacts of ASF in the Americas

**FOUR PILLARS FOR ACTION BASED ON A FOUNDATION OF SCIENCE**

1. **PREPAREDNESS PLANNING**
   - **Expected outcome:** Countries have a high state of readiness to swiftly control ASF should it enter the Americas region.
   - **AREAS FOR ACTION**
     - Increase readiness by validating ASF plans and testing response capabilities through exercises involving all stakeholders.
     - Find solutions to infrastructure deficiencies in ASF response capabilities.
     - Optimize rapid ASF detection in the Americas by ensuring capacity for surveillance.
     - Develop the appropriate process and capacity for rapid risk assessment to identify risks for ASF and inform policy decision as situations evolve.
     - Collaborate internationally to identify and prioritize critical ASF research needed to create or improve response tools.

2. **ENHANCED BIOSECURITY**
   - **Expected outcome:** Key biosecurity measures are in place to prevent the entry of ASF into the domestic and wild swine populations of the Americas, and mitigate its spread within these populations.
   - **AREAS FOR ACTION**
     - Identify key threats, gaps, and best practices in national border biosecurity, including establishment of appropriate level of activity, informed by risk.
     - Establish effective collaborations to ensure border authorities share intelligence and best approaches to prevent ASF entry.
     - Foster collaboration and compliance to address biosecurity ensuring the responsibilities of all stakeholders are identified.
     - Involve stakeholders in government, industry, and academia to gain an understanding of the wild swine populations, and share management practices at borders and at the interface with domestic pigs.

3. **ENSURE BUSINESS CONTINUITY**
   - **Expected outcome:** Mitigate the trade impacts of ASF on the swine sector, both nationally and internationally, while controlling and eradicating the disease.
   - **AREAS FOR ACTION**
     - Ensure risk based movements of animals and animal products domestically to keep industry viable in the face of an outbreak.
     - To provide guidance and technical support for the development of common standards for the establishment of zones.
     - Proactively negotiate the recognition of zoning approaches with trading partners to reduce impediments to market access.
     - Work with international partners and the OIE to develop globally recognized and accepted guidance on the application of compartmentalization for ASF, both in infected and uninfected countries.

4. **COORDINATED RISK COMMUNICATIONS**
   - **Expected outcome:** Effective risk communication on ASF with target audiences to encourage informed decision making, behaviour modification, and trust in governments and industry.
   - **AREAS FOR ACTION**
     - Develop a consistent approach to communicating risk, adapted to the specific needs and circumstances of countries through a range of strategies.
     - Identify or develop platforms and mechanisms for ongoing coordination of messaging and sharing of communications-related information between countries.
     - Establish of mechanisms for monitoring public dialogue on ASF and to detect and correct to ensure narrative in media and social media is accurate.

**PARTNERSHIPS**
Leverage existing partnerships or build new ones to engage stakeholders in areas which require collaboration to attain expeditious and responsive solutions to manage ASF. Clearly define the roles and responsibilities of the partners in accordance with their respective mandate.

**GOVERNANCE**
Optimize the potential of existing governance mechanisms at international, regional, sub-regional and national levels to ensure effective coordination and co-operation among all parties to implement appropriate measures to achieve common objectives for the prevention and control of ASF.