FAO China ECTAD attendance at the Regional Consultation for the Development of the Emerging Pandemic Threats-2 Program (EPT-2) Final Report for Asia

For more than five years, Emerging Pandemic Threats-2 Program (EPT-2) was implemented globally and regionally, especially in Asia, through FAO to respond to the emerging and re-emerging of Highly Pathogenic and zoonotic Avian Influenza from 2016 to 2019. A final report was required to focus on the outputs and achievements, successful stories and lessons learnt. In order to meet the requirements for the report, the information collected at country and regional level consultation meeting in Asia and Africa was organized to validate, prioritize, select, as well as to harmonize the Outputs, Achievements, Success Stories and Lessons learned (OASLs) and include in the EPT-2 final report in Asia.

From 08 to 10 October 2019, the Regional Consultation for the Development of the Emerging Pandemic Threats (EPT-2) Final Report for Asia was held in Bangkok, Thailand. Approximately 40 participants from FAO headquarters, FAO Emergency Center for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD) Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (RAP), country offices in Asia, as well as representatives from U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and World Health Organization (WHO) attended the meeting. Ms Yu Qi from FAO China Emergency Center for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD) participated in the meeting on behalf of FAO ECTAD China Office.

The meeting opened with the remarks from Dr Wantanee Kalpravidh, Regional Manager of FAO ECTAD RAP, and Dr Subhash Morzaria, Senior Animal Health Adviser and the coordinator of the EPT-2 Final Report. During the three-day meeting, country team leaders and project focal points presented the OASLs identified through their respective desk studies.

The workshop on 11 October was to share the One Health Zoonotic Disease Prioritization process. The objectives were to sensitize FAO ECTAD country team leaders for the application of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) One Health Zoonotic Disease Prioritization (OHZDP) process and to develop a roster of future trainers and facilitators for OHZDP process in the region. During the Workshop, Dr Kachen Wongsathapornchai updated the regional African swine fever project.

The four-day meeting 1) introduced the process of how to validate, prioritize and select the key achievements to harmonize the OASLs of EPT-2 program from country-level to contribute to regional program; 2) conducted the validation, prioritization and selection of the key achievements to harmonize the OASLs for regional, following the result from Desk study at country level; 3) presented the Outputs/Achievements by thematic areas such as Detect, Prevent, Response and Cross-cutting issue and then voted by country teams for the major outputs/achievements; 4) discussed the key challenges that were presented by Indonesia on policy and strategy and Myanmar on the multi-sectoral collaboration and operationalizing One Health as the examples; 5) summarized all the key challenges for the team leaders to validate their own challenges to contributed to the regional challenges; 6) shared the key achievements and success stories from desk study by country contributed to regional and global final; 7) agreed on the grouping for the key achievements, successful stories and lessons learnt with the regional outputs, such as Workforce development, Value chain study, Zoonosis disease, National laboratory system, Biosafety and biosecurity and Surveillance; and 8) discussed the main challenges to be improved.

Upcoming activity:

Ms Lu Feng from FAO China ECTAD Office will attend the International Symposium: The role of veterinary epidemiology in the development of effective African swine fever control and prevention policies in support of pork industry and regional animal health services from 6-7 November 2019 in Qingdao, Shandong Province, China.