



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS



The Virtual Learning Centre (VLC) at FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

**FAO RAP &
The European Commission for the control of foot-and-mouth disease**



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Accessible

- Train large number of participants across areas/time zones
- Materials remain accessible online
- Increase access to international and regional expertise

Adaptable

- Translate materials
- Adapt content to new contexts/audiences
- Convert training styles in response to travel restrictions

Affordable

- Reduce need to travel
- Lower carbon footprint
- Repurpose existing courses



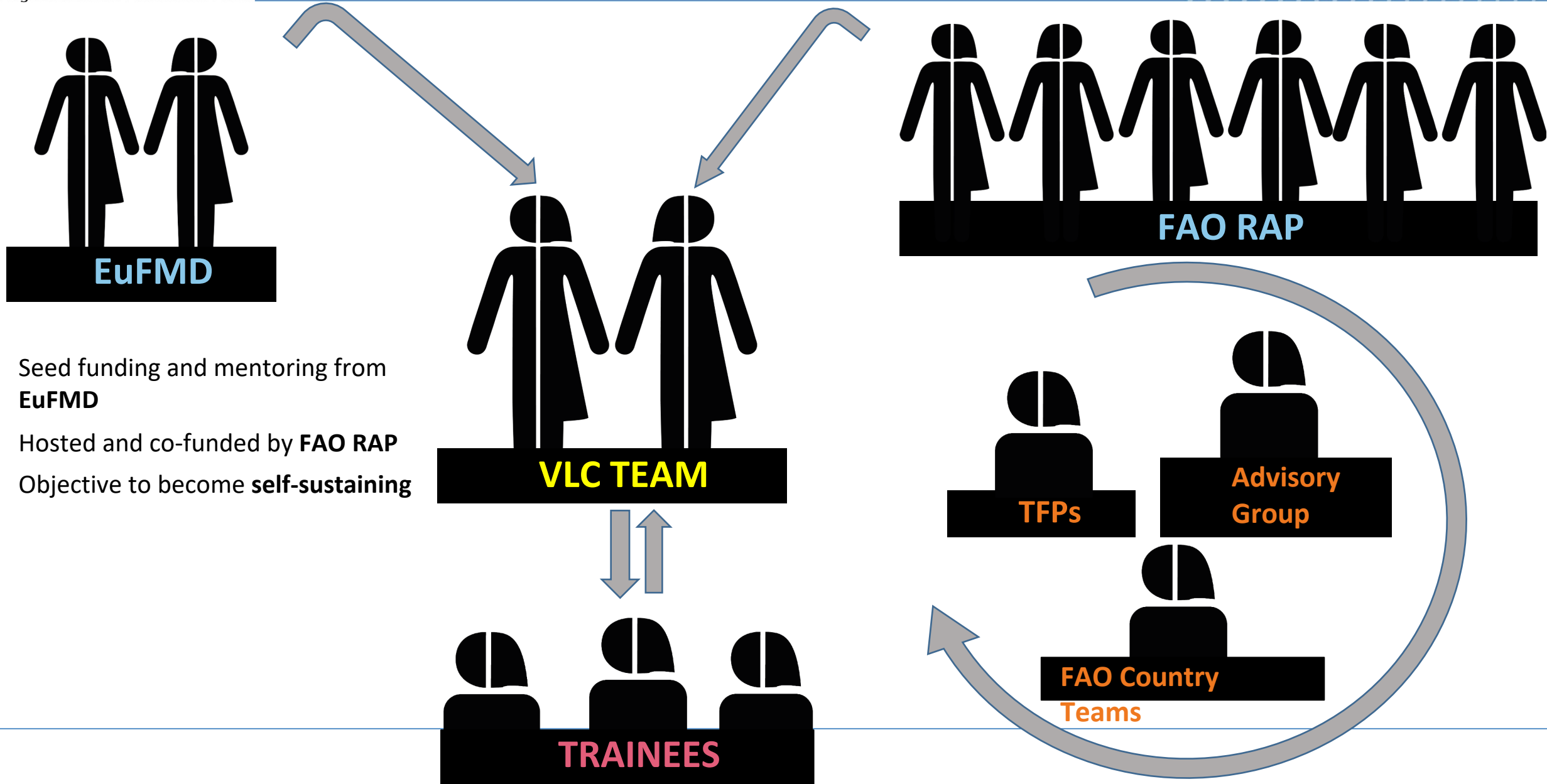
A regionally-based **virtual learning hub** supporting development and delivery of online courses, workshops and resources to build capacity through:

- assessing the specific needs of the region
- providing tailored online courses
- supporting virtual networking
- promoting national cascade of training resources
- encouraging continuing professional development.

Initial focus: training **animal health practitioners** to improve capacity for management of priority diseases and health threats.

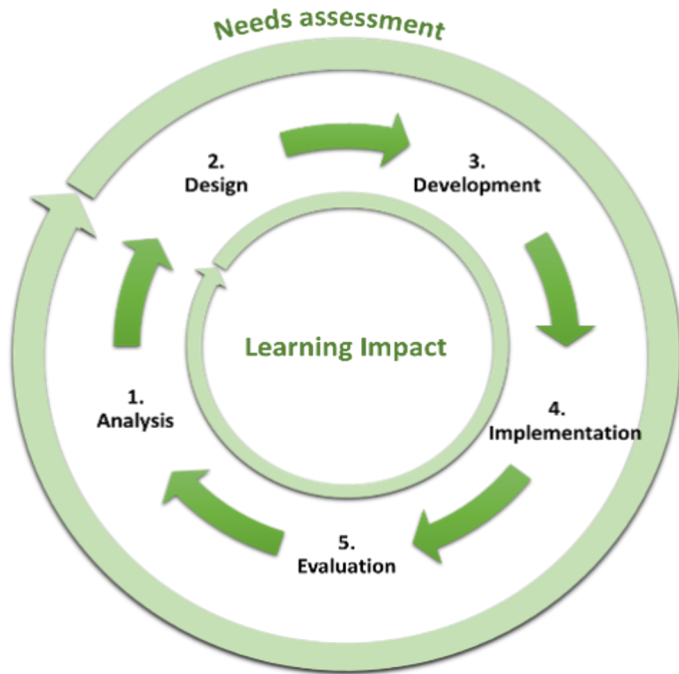
Future scope: include training materials across a range of disciplines and providers, tailored to the needs of the region.

A Collaborative Initiative

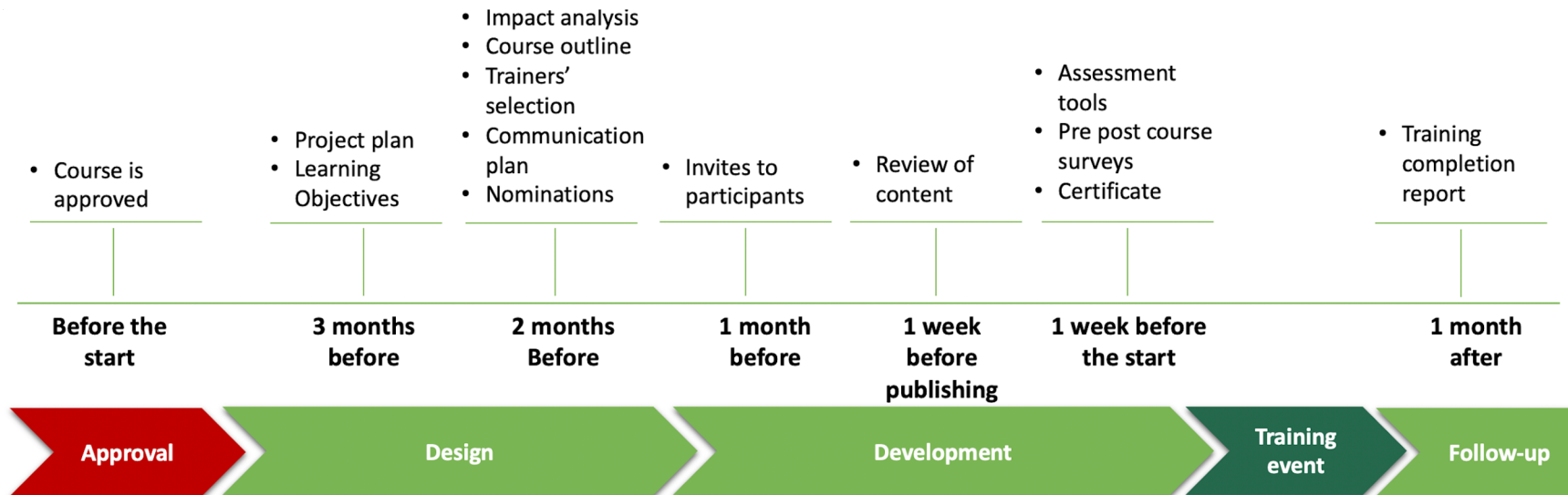


Key points of difference

- Aligned with regional **training needs assessment** (TNA)
- Interactive, tailored, **tutored** courses
- Develop strong **partnerships** with regional training providers
- **Quality management system** maintained throughout the training lifecycle



Training development and delivery lifecycle



Self-directed courses

- Interactive online modules, quizzes, assessments
- Open access to reach wider audience
- Self-paced

Tutored virtual courses

- Large audiences (up to 500 trainees)
- 10 – 15 hours over 4 weeks
- Interactive online modules, quizzes, assessments, live webinars, discussion forum

In-depth virtual courses

- Intensive training for small groups
- 15 – 24 hours over 4 – 6 weeks
- Interactive online modules, quizzes, assessments, live webinars, discussion forum

Virtual workshops

Facilitated sessions, presentations, breakout groups

Regional meetings

Support for regional networks and partners

Blended learning

Tailored combinations of virtual and face-to-face training

Please wait here for your Virtual Tour...



Protecting people, animals, and the environment every day



How does **Virtual Learning** change our learning behaviours?

- **Customized learning pace**
- **Learning during free moments across the day**
- **Interactive self-assessment**
- **Life-long learning**

What we need to keep in mind when **designing a virtual course?**

- **Develop a combination of training methods: offer pre-study and further reading materials, self-assessment and optional sessions**
- **Choose appropriate modalities: Be realistic when planning to achieve a beautiful goal**
- **Provide precise instructions**
- **Encourage peer support and sharing through online communication tools**

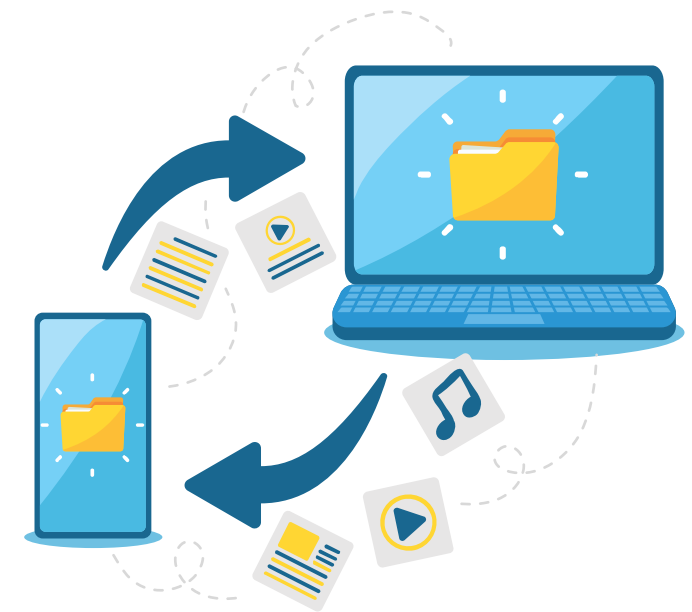
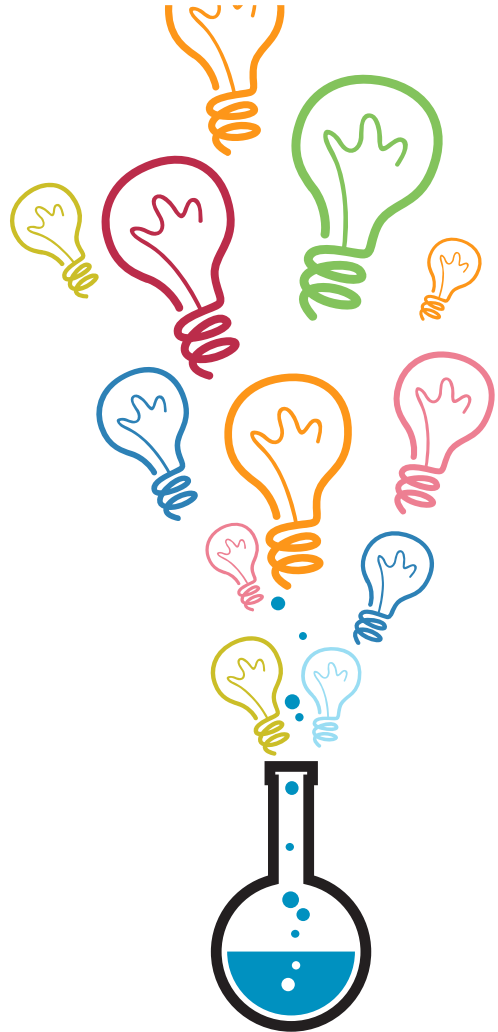


Innovative ideas to support ECTAD capacity development initiatives

“Reaching the unreached”

Short-term

- **Mobile-first**
- **Visualisation**
- **Offline access**



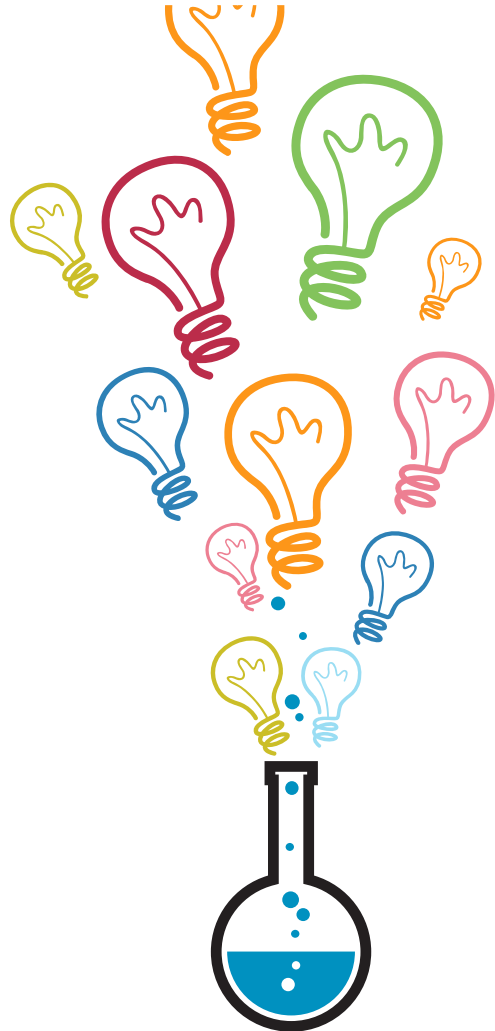
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Mid- and long-term

- App-based courseware
- Easy-to-navigate interface for lower-education groups:

e.g. Interactive Voice Response (IVR), video-based/game-based



VLC RAP

virtual learning center
FAO regional office for Asia and the Pacific

