

Risk assessment and socio-economic cross-border studies in Guangxi province

Within the context of the Greater Mekong Subregion Cross Border project and in the framework of the USAID funded risk assessment and socio-economic studies implemented in Southern China, a field trip took place on April 27 to visit the China-Vietnam border point close to Pingxiang, Guangxi Province. The visit involved observing the official border point, meeting the local veterinary service office and a live bird market in the border town of Pingxiang.



Caption: working group session during mapping exercise – Nanning city, Guangxi province (credit: Guo Fusheng)

This field visit was followed by a workshop held on 28 and 29 April in Nanning city with the participation of 47 trainees involved in both the public and private poultry sectors of the Province. The workshop included a brief introduction on risk analysis followed by participatory mapping exercises to diagram the main poultry commodity chains both geographically and schematically. A final discussion questioned where additional information and surveillance were required in order to reduce the risks of highly pathogenic avian influenza.

Lessons Learned

Overall, valuable information was gained from the socio-economic mapping exercise organized in Guangxi, which will be used to direct and support further surveillance and control activities in the province. The long-distance importation of eggs and spent hens into the province deserves further investigation, especially with regards to possible export of poultry products into Viet Nam. Helping poultry sector actors recognize the risk of disease transmission from fomites, such as from eggs and egg trays, should continue to be emphasized in future activities.

What's next?

In May, a training workshop on risk-based surveillance, risk analysis principles, qualitative and quantitative risk analysis will be organised by FAO and delivered by the Royal Veterinary College of London. Preliminary results from the Live bird market survey implemented in three provinces in March are also expected.