

Training on disease outbreak investigations to provincial and county veterinarians in Hunan Province

A training workshop on disease outbreak investigations was held in Zhangjiajie, Hunan Province from 30 March to 2 April. Dr Flavie Goutard from International Research Center for Agriculture and Development (CIRAD) conducted the training assisted by Dr Jia Beibei, ECTAD Team. More than 20 veterinarian officers from Hunan Province attended the training. This training included 5 sessions: introduction to epidemiology, surveillance, outbreak investigation, tracing back and forward, RANEMA learning tool and a simulation exercise. Apart from general presentations and group discussions, the workshop focused on the use of the epidemiology distance learning tool (RANEMA) as well as hands-on field outbreak investigation. Efforts have been made to strengthen trainees' capacities through essential knowledge, skills and abilities necessary to conduct an epidemiologic outbreak investigation as field veterinarians.



▲ Field Investigation in Backyard Farm in Zhangjiajie, Hunan Province conducted by CIRAD and FAO trainers

World Bank funded Avian Influenza project in Mongolia: 1st ECTAD China - RVC mission on Risk Assessment



RVC and FAO ECTAD China experts in Ulanbaatar



Training participants in the risk assessment workshop

As the first FAO technical activity to be implemented in the framework of the project "Avian Influenza Control, Preparedness and Response" in Mongolia, Professor Dirk Pfeiffer and Dr Barbara Wieland from Royal Veterinary College (RVC) of London, visited Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia in mid-March to conduct a risk assessment study. The objectives of the study were:

- 1) Reviewing and updating the risk analysis of HPAI entering and spreading into Mongolia
- 2) Reviewing and strengthening the national / provincial surveillance plans and control strategy
- 3) Training key staff in risk analysis and risk-based surveillance principles.

Dr Vincent Martin from FAO also visited Mongolia to meet the Project Management Unit, the experts from RVC and to provide technical supervision and coordination.

Upcoming activities

Training workshop on biosafety, management and test validation will be conducted in Chongqing from 12-16 April 2010. Two experts from Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Venezie (IZSve) will provide training in Chongqing. Following the training in Chongqing, sequencing activity will be performed in the provincial laboratory in Guangxi, and these two experts will be providing technical guidance to laboratory technicians.