

Graduation of China FETPV 1st Cohort

Two years after the launch of the China Field Epidemiology Training Program for Veterinarians (FETPV) in November 2010, the 1st cohort of China FETPV trainees successfully completed their training in October 2012. The Veterinary Bureau (VB) of the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), China Animal Health and Epidemiology Centre (CAHEC) and the FAO Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD) China Office held the Graduation Ceremony for the China FETPV trainees from 10th – 11th October 2012 in Qingdao.



▲ China FETPV 1st Cohort Graduation Ceremony

Deputy Director General of the Veterinary Bureau, Dr. Huang Weizhong; Acting Director of the Division of Science, Technology & International Cooperation, Dr. Song Junxia; Director of CAHEC, Mr. Ma Hongchao; Vice Director of CAHEC, Dr. Huang Baoxu; Dr. Vincent Martin from FAO Rome, representatives from the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (USCDC), Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (China CDC)/China Field Epidemiology Training Program (CFETP), EU-China Trade Project Phase II, provincial mentors, and FAO ECTAD China staff participated in the two-day event.



▲ Awarding the Graduation Certificate to Trainees

On 10th October, the trainees presented results of their field outbreak investigations during the defense session. At the Graduation Ceremony on 11th October, trainees were awarded a Graduation Certificate for successfully completing the two-year China FETPV program. Speakers at the meeting congratulated all the trainees, and also encouraged them to continue engaging in the development of veterinary epidemiology, to make efforts to address animal disease prevention and control, and to promote One Health approaches in China.

Meeting with the Veterinary Bureau and the Department of International Cooperation (DIC) of the MoA

On 19th October 2012, a meeting between the FAO ECTAD China Office and the Division of Science, Technology and International Cooperation of the Veterinary Bureau of the MoA was held in the MoA's conference room. Dr. Song Junxia, Acting Director of the Division; Ms. Shao Huasha, Vice Director of the Division; Ms. Zhao Xiaodan from the Division, and Mr. Xu Tiangang, National Project Coordinator for the Emerging Pandemic Plus (EPT+) Project attended the meeting.

During the meeting, a number of important issues were discussed, including the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between China MoA and FAO to strengthen the cooperation on Transboundary Animal Disease (TADs) and Emerging Infectious Diseases (EIDs), the proposed Technical Cooperation Program (TCP) Project on African Swine Fever, Progressive Control Pathway (PCP) Training on Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) and Rabies, South-South Cooperation (SSC) on Animal Health, China-Mongolia TCP Facility Project "Cross Border Trade and TAD Risk Reduction (with a special focus on FMD)", bilateral cooperation on TADs with neighboring countries, China FETPV program and the EPT+ Project.

After the meeting with the VB, ECTAD China staff also met with Mr. Luo Ming, the Director and Mr. Zhao Lijun, Vice Director of the Division of the International Cooperation of DIC. Mr. Guo Fusheng, National Technical Advisor of FAO ECTAD China, briefed on the latest project arrangements to DIC and expressed appreciation for the continuing support from DIC to ECTAD China. Mr. Zhao acknowledged the communication and publicity efforts made by ECTAD China team. Meanwhile, Mr. Luo hoped that FAO would continue to enhance capacity building in China in the future.

Celebration of World Food Day and the 30th Anniversary of FAO's Presence in China



▲ Mr. Misika making a speech

To celebrate the 32nd World Food Day (WFD) and the 30th Anniversary of FAO's presence in China, a joint celebration event was held in Jinan City, Shandong Province on 16 October 2012. The theme of this year's WFD was "Agricultural Cooperatives: Key to Feeding the World" and the United Nations has also declared 2012 as the International Year of Cooperatives. Through special video shows, the event raised public awareness of the WFD and Ending Hunger Campaign. A Candlelight Vigil Ceremony and signing the banner of "Fighting against Hunger" added more flavor to the celebrations.

Around 200 people participated in the event, including high level officials from the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Education, State

Administration of Grain (SAG), Shandong Provincial Government, Jinan Municipal Government, World Food Program (WFP) in China, beneficiary units of FAO Projects, representatives from industries, the private sector, staff from MoA and SAG, FAO China staff, Media news reporters and student volunteers.

Mr. Niu Dun, Vice Minister of Agriculture of China noted that the world population has been continuously increasing and global agricultural development is faced by the challenges of climate change, biofuels, fluctuation of food prices constraining factors as land and water resources. FAO Representative, Mr. Percy W. Misika, stated that FAO stands ready to work closely with all stakeholders, including the cooperatives, in achieving the common goal of a more food secure and sustainable China and a more food-secure and sustainable world.

While celebrating the 30th anniversary of FAO's presence in China, FAO Representative, Mr. Misika reviewed FAO's cooperation with the Chinese Government over the past 30 years, and emphasized that FAO is committed to continuously providing support and assistance for the achievement of China's national development goals. Vice Minister of Agriculture of China, Mr. Niu Dun noted the close cooperation between FAO and the MoA during past decades for agriculture development and food security both in China and in the World. The signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the MoA and the FAO on 2nd October 2012, marked a new start for cooperation in agricultural development and food security.

Upcoming activities:

1. The Introductory Course of the 2nd cohort of China FETPV will be held in Qingdao and Beijing between 19th November 2012 and 15th December 2012.
2. FAO ECTAD China Office will organize training on Epidemiological Mapping & Spatial Analysis for China Animal Disease Control Center (CADC) staff in November 2012.
3. The National Project Coordinator and FAO ECTAD China staff will travel to Harbin Veterinary Research Institute to discuss surveillance activities for the EPT+ Project.