

FAO to promote the application of the PPP approach and provides assistance to provincial partner in improving LBM biosecurity and upgrading LBM

The success of upgrading Jiangcun Poultry Wholesale Market in Guangzhou set a good example of applying the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) approach. With FAO's promotion of the PPP approach, Hunan Provincial veterinary authority and representatives from the private sector showed strong interest in applying this approach in their Province. Under this background, FAO Emergency Center for Transboundary Animal Disease (ECTAD) China was invited to visit Hunan from 22 to 23 September for a preliminary analysis on FAO's possible involvement in strengthening the Live Bird Market (LBM) biosecurity and upgrading and relocating LBM to the urban area.

Dr Guo Fusheng and Ms Xu Nan from FAO ECTAD China met with the management of the Hunan Veterinary Bureau and Animal Health & Inspection Institute as well as owner of a local LBM to gain general understanding of the LBMs development and discussed about the assistance FAO could offer in assisting the local veterinary authority to improve LBM biosecurity and market structure. During the mission, Dr Guo and Ms Xu visited the two LBMs in Changsha City, including the largest LBM in the city – Yangjiashan LBM. Potential risks of transmitting avian influenza to human were noted. A meeting was held with the local veterinary authority and market owner to discuss options to improve the LBM biosecurity. The market owner discussed the challenges associated with the relocation of the current LBM to the urban area, and the need for support from the government and FAO in his work to improve biosecurity problems. The management of the local Bureau of Industry and Commerce was also supportive to the plan of utilizing a PPP approach in Changsha City.



▲ Discussion with LBM owner and local veterinary authority

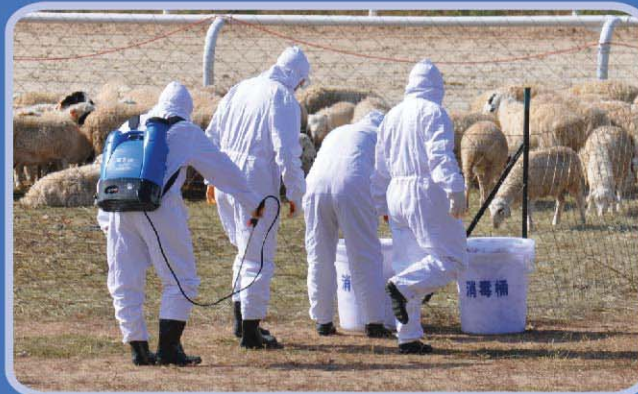
Collaboration with neighbouring countries to control zoonotic animal diseases: China - Mongolia joint exercise on prevention and control of Brucellosis



▲ Opening ceremony

The China - Mongolia joint exercise on the prevention and control of brucellosis was held on September 17 in Xilingol. Representatives from World Bank, Mongolia, Chinese Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), local government and FAO ECTAD China attended the event. Major Chinese media, such as China Central Television (CCTV), People's Daily and Xinhua News Agency reported this event.

The exercise was very well organized and lasted for around one hour. Professor John Edwards from FAO ECTAD China was asked to give a final evaluation. He noted that the exercise had been very memorable and that there would be long-term impact. The joint exercise between China and Mongolia was a very important measure to strengthen China's collaboration with neighboring countries on joint prevention and control of zoonotic animal diseases. The exercise also helped the livestock herders and their families become more aware of the risks of zoonotic diseases and about the measures needed to protect their families. Professor Edwards also indicated that, FAO would continue to play an active role in promoting "One Health" approach in China and its neighbouring countries.



▲ China - Mongolia joint exercise on prevention and control of Brucellosis

H7N9 Technical and Programmatic Meeting in Rome and launch of two TCPs on H7N9 in Bangkok

The H7N9 Technical and Programmatic Meeting was held from 12 to 13 September at FAO Headquarters in Rome. The meeting was attended by representatives from FAO, World Health Organization (WHO), World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) and OIE/FAO Network of expertise on animal influenza (OFFLU). The meeting reviewed the results of the ongoing H7N9 surveillance, discussed the latest scientific findings on H7N9 and made plan for further risk-based surveillance for the high risk countries in Southeast Asia. Contingency plan for possible incursion of H7N9 in the neighbouring countries of China was also discussed. Professor John Edwards and Dr Guo Fusheng from FAO ECTAD China made important contributions to the meeting by sharing their knowledge and information about the situation and risks to China and surrounding countries. Concept notes for two potential projects in China which address the key priorities of improving animal and human health were developed.

Two Technical Cooperation Programs (TCPs) entitled Emergency Assistance for Surveillance of Influenza (H7N9) Virus in Poultry and Animal Populations in Southeast Asia and South Asia were officially launched in Bangkok from 18 to 20 September. Representatives from the Member Countries of Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), experts from FAO, OIE, and US Center for Disease Control and Prevention (USCDC) participated in the workshop. During the meeting, Dr Guo Fusheng shared lessons learnt from China after H7N9 crisis and provided situation update in China. Surveillance strategy agreement for the participating countries with different surveillance priority was reached during the meeting.

Upcoming Activities:

1. The 3rd Module of the 2nd cohort of the China Field Epidemiology Training Program for Veterinarians (FETPV) will be held from 19 to 29 November 2013 in Qingdao.
2. The OIE/FAO Network of expertise on animal influenza (OFFLU) Vaccination Technical Meeting will be held in Beijing in early December 2013. This meeting will be discussing the experiences gained and lessons learnt from various countries with vaccination against avian influenza.