



▶ FAO assisting Yunnan Province to conduct the training workshop on value chain analysis and veterinary epidemiology



Participants having a discussion during the workshop
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The training workshop on value chain analysis and veterinary epidemiology was held in Mangshi, Yunnan Province from 4-7 November 2015. The training was jointly organized by FAO China Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD) office and Yunnan Provincial Center for Animal Disease Control and Prevention (ACDC). It focused on introduction to value chain analysis approaches and basic veterinary epidemiology, including surveillance, outbreak investigation and risk analysis, etc. Around 75 veterinary staff from the provincial ACDC, 16 prefectural ACDCs and 30 surveillance stations of the border areas of Yunnan Province participated in the training.

Dr Yan Qibin, Deputy Director of the Division of Science and Technology and International Cooperation of the Veterinary Bureau (VB), Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) of China attended the workshop, on behalf of the MoA and delivered opening remarks. He highlighted the importance of organizing the veterinary epidemiology training in the border areas, such as Yunnan Province. The training was jointly delivered by Dr Guo Fusheng, Mr Tang Hao (FAO China ECTAD) and Chinese trainers from the China Field Epidemiology Training Program for Veterinarians (FETPV) - Drs Shen Chaojian, Zhang Haiming, Cui Jixian and Xie Yinqian. FETPV graduate Ms Zhao Huanyun was also involved in the teaching. The trainer team adopted the participatory training approach to ensure better engagement of participants and received very positive feedbacks (98% participants were satisfied with training delivery).

The training for Yunnan local government veterinarians at various levels improved their understanding on epidemiology and assisted them in engaging into future value chain study, especially at cross-border areas. It also further strengthened the cooperation between FAO and the MoA on veterinary epidemiology capacity development. Furthermore, it also showed the Chinese trainers of the China FETPV started to play leading roles in promoting epidemiology at field.

▶ China Field Epidemiology Training Program for Veterinarians (FETPV) in action

The Module 3 of the China FETPV 3rd cohort was held in Qingdao from 4-23 November 2015. The main topic of this training module was risk analysis. The first week of the training focused on biostatistics, which was delivered by Drs Yu Shicheng and Hu Yuehua from Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (China CDC). The second week of the training was delivered by Chinese trainers Drs Shen Chaojian and Li Yin from China Animal Health and Epidemiology Center (CAHEC). The third week of the training was delivered by Prof Dirk Pfeiffer and Dr Julian Drewe from the Royal Veterinary College (RVC), London, and two Chinese trainers Dr Wang Jingfei and Ms Yu Qi. During the training, the Chinese trainer team guided the trainees to review their field practice assignments. A highlight of this training was the Chinese trainers in partnership with the international trainers to develop a case study on rabies risk analysis in the Chinese context, which received positive feedback from the trainees. This kind of training modality will be further emphasized in the future.



International and Chinese trainers having a discussion with the trainees ©FAO 2015

The third workshop for Training of Chinese trainers (ToT) was held in Qingdao from 16-20 November 2015. It focused on developing the Chinese training curriculum and materials of basic veterinary epidemiology, drafting FETPV 2016 action plan and brainstorming on priority areas of veterinary epidemiology application in China in both short-term and mid-term. The workshop was facilitated by Dr Guo Fusheng and Mr Tang Hao from FAO China ECTAD, and all Chinese trainers actively engaged in the discussion. In addition, Prof Pfeiffer conducted two scientific workshop sessions with the participants on risk analysis, spatial analysis and big data application in epidemiology.

On 23rd November, the third Annual Seminar of the China FETPV was held in Qingdao. Over 50 current and former FETPV trainees and experts from the provinces participated in the seminar. Field experiences in animal disease were shared by experts from some provinces with all participants. The Annual Seminar provided a good platform to the trainees to exchange field practices experience, discuss challenges and opportunities for veterinary epidemiology application in China, and enhance the FETPV network.



Chinese trainers guiding FETPV trainees on field practices ©FAO 2015

▶ FAO China ECTAD attendance at the 2nd Regional Meeting to Support and Sustain Veterinary Epidemiology Capacity in Bangkok



Good experience listed by the participants ©FAO 2015

The 2nd Regional Meeting to Support and Sustain Veterinary Epidemiology Capacity was held in Bangkok from 11-13 November 2015. The major objectives of the meeting were to review institutional epidemiology capacity development at country and regional levels; share experience and lessons learned from countries, the sub-regions and the region; and discuss ways forward for building functional national and regional epidemiology capacities and networks. China was the first country in the region which developed the country-specific Field Epidemiology Training Program for Veterinarians (FETPV). As the representatives from FAO China ECTAD Office, Dr Guo Fusheng and Mr Tang Hao participated in the three-day meeting and actively engaged in the discussion on how to sustain and support veterinary epidemiology capacity development in the region.

Mr Tang Hao presented the progress of the China FETPV since the launching in 2010 and the development of veterinary epidemiology in China. He introduced the five initiatives around the two-year FETPV training program, which aimed to build sustainability of the China FETPV, including: training of Chinese trainers, roll-out to provinces, training for executives (FETPV-E), promoting veterinary epidemiology education and One Health in action. In addition, he shared the experiences of resource mobilization for China FETPV.

During the meeting, participants also reviewed the progress and experiences of veterinary epidemiology capacity development in the region since previous meeting in 2010, and discussed main challenges and lessons learned at national and regional levels.

▶ FAO China ECTAD attendance at the Regional Technical Consultation on Zoonotic Influenza Surveillance in Bangkok

Ms Yu Qi, National Veterinary Epidemiologist of FAO China ECTAD office attended the Regional Technical Consultation on Zoonotic Influenza Surveillance in Bangkok from 23-25 November 2015. Around 45 senior technical staff from Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam, FAO ECTAD country teams in Asia, FAO ECTAD Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (RAP) attended the workshop. Participants reviewed the zoonotic influenza situation at global and regional levels, discussed the available tools for supporting surveillance and how to implement scenario-based surveillance. During the workshop, Ms Yu Qi shared the experience on national emergency surveillance to influenza A (H7N9) in April 2013. This workshop provided a platform to share experiences on surveillance activities at national and regional levels, and to discuss systematic and integrated approach to surveillance.



Group photo ©FAO 2015

! Upcoming activities

1. Dr Guo Fusheng was invited to participate in and make presentation on the National Veterinary Laboratory Network and Management Development Strategy Workshop from 2-4 December 2015 in Qingdao. Dr Li Shuo will travel to Qingdao to attend the workshop as well.
2. FAO China ECTAD is actively preparing for the FAO year-end closure, in line with the FAO HQs instructions; and contributing to the Annual Report of the FAO Representation in China.



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