



◆ The Veterinary Epidemiology for Executives (4th FETPV-E) successfully held in Kunming



A participant was raising a question during the workshop © FAO

Under the China Field Epidemiology Training Program for Veterinarians (CFETPV) framework, the Veterinary Epidemiology for Executives (4th FETPV-E) was held in Kunming, Yunnan Province from 21-22 June 2016. The workshop was jointly organized by the Veterinary Bureau (VB) of the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) of China, China Animal Health and Epidemiology Center (CAHEC) and FAO China Emergency Center for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD). The key objective of the workshop was to enhance senior government officials' understanding of the basics of veterinary epidemiology and its role in disease control, thus strengthen their ability to develop effective animal and public health programs. Comparing with the previous FETPV-E workshops, the 4th FETPV-E focused on using veterinary epidemiology for improvement of animal health decision making

and application of risk-based approaches and risk analysis in animal disease control.

Around 50 participants, including the senior management from the national and provincial animal health agencies of China attended the 2-day workshop. The training workshop was delivered and facilitated by international and national trainers from FAO ECTAD, Murdoch University, Royal Veterinary College (RVC), Friedrich-Loeffler-Institute (FLI), Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (China CDC), and CFETPV Chinese trainers. Dr Wantanee Kalpravidh, Regional Manager of FAO ECTAD Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (RAP) and Dr Kachen Wongsathapornchai, Regional Coordinator of FAO ECTAD RAP were invited to participate in the workshop as leading trainers.

The workshop focused on the use of epidemiology in practical settings in China and other parts of the world. It made participants to experience the participatory training approach (similar to FETPV training) by minimized formal presentations and mixed presentations and participatory sessions. Post-survey showed that 90% participants' understanding of epidemiology had been improved and 97% participants would consider using epidemiological principles in animal health policy development. The participants thought the priority for strengthening the application of epidemiological principles in animal health policy development in China were awareness raising for senior managers (47%) and more practical application of veterinary epidemiology (34%).

◆ FAO facilitating the dialogue on the role of veterinary epidemiology in evidence-based animal health policy between China and international stakeholders

The workshop on the role of veterinary epidemiology in evidence-based animal health policy development & the 4th Stakeholder meeting of China Field Epidemiology Training Program for Veterinarians (CFETPV) was held in Beijing on 24 June 2016. The main objectives of the workshop were to facilitate dialogue on evidence-based animal health policy between China and international stakeholders; strengthen commitment for veterinary epidemiology capacity development in China; and identify strategic focus for further development of veterinary epidemiology capacity in China.

The workshop was organized by FAO China ECTAD Office, which attracted over 30 participants from Chinese veterinary authorities, universities, international organizations, agencies and embassies. Meeting presentations and discussions revolved around three key sessions, including veterinary epidemiology capacity development in China, international perspective on the role of veterinary epidemiology in animal health policy development and implementation, and future strategic focus of epidemiology capacity development. Senior animal health officials from the Netherlands, Denmark, Germany and the U.K. participated in the workshop and shared their experiences in linking veterinary epidemiology with animal health policy with practical examples. Mr Percy W. Misika, FAO Representative of China, DPR Korea and Mongolia and



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Dr Wang Gongmin, Deputy Director General of the Veterinary Bureau of the MoA, China attended the opening session and gave opening remarks on behalf of FAO and MoA respectively. Dr Wantanee Kalpravidh, Regional Manager of FAO ECTAD RAP also participated in the workshop and shared the regional approaches to supporting and sustaining veterinary epidemiology capacity development in Asia with international and Chinese participants.

At the end of the workshop, a participatory session on strategic focus of veterinary epidemiology capacity development in China was conducted to collect suggestions and comments from various stakeholders. Participants actively engaged in the discussion and provided suggestions from six aspects: strengthen training program, practical application, training of trainers, increase resources from China, increase resources from international, and university academics training. These suggestions are extremely valuable to the veterinary epidemiology capacity development in China and the sustainability of the CFETPV.

China – Lao PDR – Myanmar – Thailand – Viet Nam multilateral collaboration to address Transboundary Animal Diseases (TADs) in the Upper Mekong Sub-region



Representatives of the China-Lao PDR-Myanmar Meeting © FAO

Following the success of the 1st trilateral meeting among China, Lao PDR and Myanmar to strengthen the control of emerging infectious and transboundary animal diseases in December 2014, the 2nd Meeting on Collaboration to Address TADs in the Upper Mekong Sub-region was successfully held in Vientiane, Lao PDR from 27-30 June 2016. Following the recommendations of the 1st meeting, the 2nd meeting also invited other two countries in the Upper Mekong Sub-region, i.e. Thailand and Viet Nam. Therefore, the four-day meeting consisted of two back-to-back meetings: the trilateral meeting among China, Lao PDR and Myanmar from 27-28 June, and the multilateral meeting among China, Lao PDR and Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam from

29-30 June. The 2nd meeting aimed to build on outcomes of previous bilateral meetings among the countries by continuing to share information and experiences on priority TADs and Emerging Infectious Diseases (EIDs), share information from work on surveillance, value chains and enhancing biosecurity in relation to TADs, and discuss approaches to manage live animal and animal product movements to reduce the risk of transmission of TADs among the countries.

Around 60 participants, including senior animal health officials, officials from the national, provincial and local veterinary authorities from the five countries, representatives from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) attended the meeting. The FAO ECTAD team from the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (RAP) and the four countries (China, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Viet Nam) participated in and provided facilitation and support to the meeting. The Chinese delegation was led by Dr Wang Gongmin, Deputy Director General of the Veterinary Bureau (VB) of the MoA, China, which was formed by 16 delegates from the VB of the MoA, China Animal Disease Control Center (CADC), China Animal Health and Epidemiology Centre (CAHEC), General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ), Yunnan provincial animal health authorities and quarantine authorities. Dr Guo Fusheng and Mr Tang Hao from FAO China ECTAD Office also participated in the meeting, and provided facilitation and coordination.

The China-Lao PDR-Myanmar trilateral meeting mainly focused on promoting safer border trade in the neighbouring areas of the three countries. The multilateral meeting among the five countries focused on updating the disease situation and sharing experiences in enhancing biosecurity, surveillance and value chain analysis to promote safer trades of livestock and livestock products. The trilateral meeting and the multilateral meeting achieved a number of good outcomes. Recommendations on strengthening future collaboration and further reducing TADs risks were provided and action plan was developed by the participants. It was agreed that the 3rd trilateral meeting among China-Lao PDR-Myanmar will be held in July 2017 in Myanmar.

Upcoming activities

1. Dr Kachen Wongsathapornchai, Regional Coordinator of FAO ECTAD RAP will visit Qingdao from 5-6 July 2016 to have discussions with the China Animal Health and Epidemiology Center (CAHEC) on the collaboration between the Regional FETPV and CFETPV in the future.
2. Dr Guo Fusheng and Dr Li Shuo of FAO China ECTAD Office will attend the Forum & Symposium on "Health and Biodiversity" in Bangkok from 11-13 July 2016 and the EPT2 Asia Year 3 Regional Workplanning Meeting in Bangkok from 14-15 July 2016.
3. Dr Frank Pumipuntu, Regional Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Expert of FAO ECTAD RAP will conduct the EPT2 M&E mission to China from 25-26 July 2016.
4. The CFETPV Evaluation and Planning Workshop will be held in Qingdao from 27-29 July 2016, all the CFETPV Chinese trainers will attend this workshop.



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