



EMERGENCY CENTRE FOR TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASES • FAO REGIONAL OFFICE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Putting One Health to work

At an August meeting in Bangkok, the region's first advocacy action plan to promote One Health takes shape

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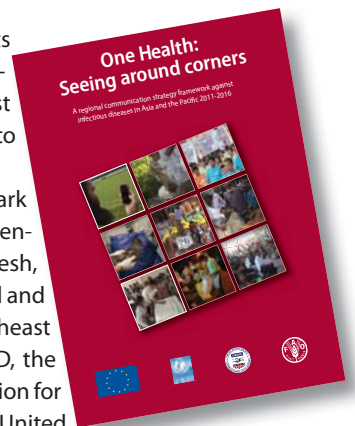
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It was a meeting seven months in the making. Along the way, it changed its direction, structure, duration, venue, and sources of support. But what remained constant was the focus — to bring together the countries of southeast Asia, and also Bangladesh, to think through an action-based advocacy plan to promote One Health within country settings.

It happened finally on August 9 and 10 at Bangkok's Imperial Queens Park Hotel, in a meeting that convened close to 75 middle to senior level representatives from the animal health, human health and wildlife sectors of Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam. In addition, there were representatives from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Development Associates International (DAI)-RESPOND, the European Union (EU), Family Health International (FHI360), the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations System Influenza Coordination (UNSIC), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the World Health Organization Southeast Asia Regional Office (WHO SEARO), and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

In the preceding 12-month period, the regional discussion had focused strongly on ways to operationalize the One Health approach while exploring opportunities and mechanisms for greater collaboration between the human health, animal health and wildlife sectors. Experiences and lessons learned in this area had been shared at several regional conferences, including *Moving towards One Health Using a Multi-disciplinary Approach* (4 Nov 2010, Thailand); *One Health — Increasing Cross-sectoral Functioning Capabilities for APEC member economies* (8-10 Feb 2011, in Cebu, Philippines); the *United Nations System Workshop on Animal and Pandemic Influenza Asia and the Pacific* (Feb 3-4, 2011, Bangkok, Thailand); and *Convergence and Cooperation in Addressing*



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Animal health and human
health side by side.

FROM LEFT: Dr Richard Brown, Regional Adviser, Disease Surveillance and Epidemiology, World Health Organization Southeast Asia Regional Office; Dr Ronello Abila, Sub-regional Representative, World Organization for Animal Health; and Dr Subhash Morzaria, Regional Manager, FAO ECTAD-RAP



Dr Imelda J Santos, Philippines, speaks on an intersectoral approach to bat surveillance for Ebola Reston in the Philippines, at a table with other panelists Mr Pebi Purwo Suseno (Indonesia), and Prof Nitish Debnath and Mr Mushtuq Husain, both from Bangladesh.

Global Animal Health, Free Trade and Environmental Issues (Feb 15-18, Cebu, Philippines). The 1st International One Health Congress in Melbourne was also held in end February 2011.

The 1.5-day consultation, titled *Putting One Health to Work*, built on these rich experiences, and also took the discussion to the next level by shifting the focus to an action plan. The meeting was supported by funds from the European Union and USAID, through FAO and DAI-RESPOND.

Main objectives

The meeting's main objectives were to develop an advocacy action plan for promoting One Health at the national level, building on the experiences and lessons of operationalizing One Health at the country levels during the last few years; and to launch *Seeing around corners*, the regional communication strategy framework against infectious diseases in Asia and the Pacific 2011-2016, developed by an FAO with inputs from UNICEF, WHO SEARO, and others.

Advocacy is an odd thing — everyone uses it in the context of their own lives, as when lobbying for a promotion, or trying to get an adolescent child to agree to something. But the professional practice of advocacy calls for systematic and subtle strategies. With an audience that

considered itself relatively inexperienced in the practice of advocacy, the workshop focussed on exploring the meaning and processes of communication and advocacy.

Sitting in mixed country groups, participants next identified advocacy challenges facing the region. Three stood out: lack of a coordinating mechanism for One Health; the absence of joint planning between animal health, human health and wildlife sectors; and problems of long-term sustainability given the low levels of funding.

Participants were then divided into six country groups (Bangladesh, Indonesia, Viet Nam, Thailand, Philippines and Cambodia) and identified key stakeholders, opportunities and advocacy actions to address three selected advocacy challenges. The meeting ended with the nomination of focal persons at country levels for taking the advocacy plan forward.

Participants at the 5th meeting of Global Framework for Transboundary Animal Diseases



Bringing ASEAN and SAARC closer



FROM LEFT: Dr Alain Dehove, OIE; Dr Ahmad Suhaimi Omar, of ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Livestock (ASWGL); Dr Mohinder Oberoi, FAO ECTAD-RAP, Nepal; Dr Takeshi Kasai, Director of Health Security and Emergencies, WHO Western Pacific Regional Office; Dr Tareque Muhammad, SAARC Secretariat; and Dr Subhash Morzaria, Regional Manager, FAO ECTAD-RAP.

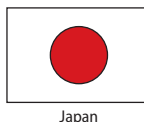
FAO and OIE co-organized the 2nd meeting of the Regional Cooperation Programme on Highly Pathogenic Emerging and Re-emerging Diseases (HPED) Steering Committee for Asia, followed back to back by the Fifth Global Framework for Transboundary Animal Diseases (GFTADs) Steering Committee Meeting for Asia. Both were attended by WHO representatives.

The FAO team comprised Dr Subhash Morzaria, Regional Manager; Dr Wantanee Kalpravidh, Regional Project Coordinator; Dr Carolyn Benigno, Animal Health Officer; Dr Mohinder Oberoi, Regional Support Unit Coordinator of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC); and Dr Kachen Wongsathapornchai, ASEAN Regional Support Unit Coordinator.

The EU-HPED meeting recommended measures that will focus on greater involvement and consultation between the ASEAN and SAARC secretariats; stronger involvement of country offices in programme planning; more effective coordination with the secretariats, partners, and governments; detailed updates on changes in the programme implementation as well as expenditure; more efficient communication with ministries in participating countries; and the need for a clear program monitoring and evaluation system.

The GFTADs meeting recommendations focused on advocating for more resources to continue work on cross-cutting as well as disease-specific issues. Greater coordination was also emphasized to synergize activities of the regional partners such as ASEAN, SAARC, Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and East Asia countries.

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REGIONAL UPDATE

Power to the laboratory network

The Technical Advisory Group of the FAO-OIE Regional Laboratory Network for SE Asia gets together

FAO-OIE Regional Laboratory Network Technical Advisory Group Meeting

4-5 August 2011 • Bangkok, Thailand

The FAO-OIE Regional Laboratory Network for Southeast Asia Technical Advisory Group (TAG) Meeting held during 4-5 August 2011 in Bangkok was attended by 16 representatives from the ASEAN Regional Reference Laboratory for HPAI (VRI), the Australian Animal Health Laboratory (AAHL), FAO, the National Institute of Animal Health (NIAH) of Thailand, OIE, the OIE-FAO Network of Expertise on Animal Influenza (OFFLU), the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and USAID.

Partners updated each other on their activities implemented under the regional framework for capacity building for animal influenza diagnosis and networking.

Other objectives were to identify expected outcomes and implementation modalities for activities under each key strategic area for capacity building for priority and emerging diseases diagnosis and networking; and to develop a draft regional framework for laboratory capacity building and networking in Southeast Asia.

All participants agreed to continue collaboration under a Strategic Framework for Capacity Building for HPAI Laboratory Diagnosis and Networking in Southeast Asia and further develop the framework along lines similar to the WHO Asia Pacific Strategy for Strengthening Health

Laboratory Services (2010-2015).

All participants helped elaborate upon activities under the strategic areas, building upon the previous Strategic Framework for Capacity Building for HPAI Laboratory Diagnosis and Networking in Southeast Asia, and taking into account other regional strategies including the IDENTIFY Regional Laboratory Networking Strategy, the Asia-Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases (APSED), the ASEAN Regional Strategy, as well as the outputs of the recent FAO workshop on swine diseases in Viet Nam.

Workshop on Diagnosis of Priority and Emerging Diseases in Swine

21-22 July 2011, Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam

The workshop on the diagnosis of priority and emerging diseases in swine was organized in collaboration with the Viet Nam Department of Animal Health (DAH) and the AAHL at the Movenpick Hotel, Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam from 21-22 July 2011. The workshop aimed to draft the strategic framework for capacity building for diagnosis and characterization of priority and emerging diseases in swine. There were 43 participants including laboratory staff from



Participants at the FAO-OIE Regional Laboratory Network Advisory Group Meeting, held in August in Bangkok, Thailand

seven countries in ASEAN, China, experts in swine diseases from academic institutions, a vaccine production company, the Viet Nam DAH, and partners from the Emerging Pandemic Threat (EPT) programme.

There were updates on classical swine fever (CSF) and porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS) disease situation in the region, diagnostic, surveillance and control techniques for CSF, PRRS and other emerging diseases in wild and domestic animals. The outcome of the workshop included recommendations for capacity building activities under the five key areas of biosafety, laboratory support for surveillance, legislation, networking and laboratory quality.

LEFT: Participants at the Regional Laboratory Network Workshop on Diagnosis and Characterization of Priority and Emerging Diseases in Swine, including Dr Hoang Van Nam (front row, center), Director General of DAH, and (to his left) Dr Santanu Bandyopadhyay, FAO ECTAD Viet Nam Team Leader.

BELOW: Mr Chris Morrissy, AAHL international programme coordinator and laboratory expert explains how to read and interpret the immunoassay used to identify viruses



World Bank



The Netherlands



China



European Commission



New Zealand



Ireland

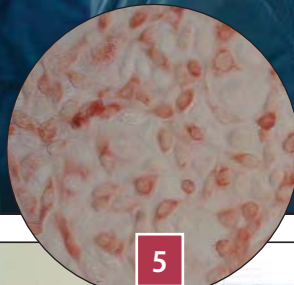
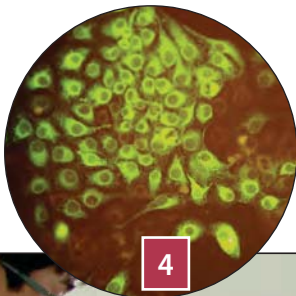


France

The things that happen to pigs nowadays

It's no fun being a pig these days, what with two major killer diseases on the rampage — classical swine fever (CSF) and porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS). To strengthen skills in characterizing and diagnosing CSF and PRRS, a training course was organized in collaboration with Viet Nam DAH and the AAHL in Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam, from 11 to 20 July 2011. The training aimed to harmonize the protocols for diagnosis and characterization of the two priority animal diseases in Southeast Asia. Seventeen laboratory staff from

seven countries in ASEAN, as well as China, attended. The training contents covered swine viral diseases diagnosis and characterization procedures, including gross pathology, immuno-histochemistry and molecular techniques.



1. Dr Brian Meehan, AAHL laboratory expert, supervises Dr Fuxiang Li from China in preparing reagents for molecular diagnosis.
2. Antibody conjugate used to capture virus grown on cell culture.
3. Dr Pham Phong Vu, RAHO6 Laboratory Expert (holding box) demonstrates the preparation of a sample for molecular diagnosis. Cells infected with viruses will develop color as shown in insets 4 and 5 —
4. Neutralizing peroxidase linked assay; NPLA stain of CSF-infected cell.
5. Immunoperoxidase monolayer assay of PRRS-infected cells.
6. Dr Susan Juzva, AAHL laboratory expert, demonstrates how to prepare a cell culture for immuno-staining.