



➤ China Field Epidemiology Training Programme for Veterinarians (CFETPV) first module of fifth cohort

The first module of the fifth cohort of China Field Epidemiology Training Programme for Veterinarians (CFETPV) was held in Qingdao, Shandong Province from 4-29 March 2019. 20 trainees (8 female, 12 male) from national (4), provincial (9) and municipal (7) levels animal health agencies were selected from the Introductory Course to complete the two-year CFETPV, which is consisted of five different modules and relevant assignments.

During the opening ceremony, Mr Liu Lushi from FAO China Emergency Center for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD) Office gave an opening speech and encouraged trainees to study hard

to contribute to the national animal health, even to the regional animal health. Dr Huang Baoxu, Deputy Director General of CAHEC welcomed the group to join the prosperous veterinary epidemiology enterprise with emphasized epidemiology thinking, which is critical for the study. He further elaborated it with African Swine Fever control as an example. After the opening ceremony, Mr Liu introduced the two-year training framework, including curriculum structure, training objectives, schedule and requirements.

The overall aim of the first module was to provide the trainees with key concepts and tools to investigate animal and zoonotic disease outbreaks. Furthermore, the module was designed to reinforce general epidemiological concepts covered in the Introductory Course which was held in November/December 2018. The last week of the Module covered the field investigation during outbreaks, including questionnaire design and data input, result interpretation, control recommendation, which included a three-day field brucellosis outbreak investigation practice in Jiaozhou City, Shandong Province.



The four-week training was co-delivered by six international experts from City University of Hong Kong, Royal Veterinary College (RVC) of the United Kingdom, Regional FETPV and nine CFETPV Chinese trainers. The teaching mode was based on a combination of lectures, presentations, tutor-led discussion sessions, practical exercises and review of data and reports on previous outbreaks in China and other countries. In order to enhance the field practice session, two regional FETPV experts, Dr Monaya Ekgatut and Dr Wandee Kongkaew joined the training and gave very professional lectures and guidance, which made a productive week.

The first module was well received by the trainees who have successfully developed an in-depth understanding of tools and principles underpinning the systematic investigation of outbreaks of animal and zoonotic diseases. Meanwhile, the actively participated trainees did an outstanding work, produced innovative reports that generated extremely valuable insights into the dynamics of the outbreak under investigation.

➤ FAO China ECTAD attendance at the 2019 Annual Regional Meeting for ECTAD Regional Programme for Asia and the Pacific (AREM)

The 2019 Annual Regional Meeting for Emergency Center for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD) Regional Programme for Asia and the Pacific (AREM) was held in Phuket, Thailand from 6-8 March 2019. Mr Liu Lushi, Ms Ma Yuanyuan and Ms Yu Qi from FAO China ECTAD participated in the meeting. The objectives of the meeting include: 1) review the countries' and regional priorities focusing on the current disease/animal health situation, emerging matters that may influence livestock production, risk of disease introduction and animal health status, as well as the governments' policies to address the risks; 2) based on the priorities, propose innovative strategies and a scope of work that can support countries to address the risks taking into consideration the impacts of FAO's ongoing activities; 3) review the interests of potential development partners, which can be matched to support the identified countries' needs; 4) review how to strengthen communication and outreach within FAO and among ECTAD teams at various levels as well as collaboration with key partners; 5) review and discuss the potential scenarios for project implementation and delivery based on the funding status during 2019-2020 and new FAO rules and regulations. Sixty officers from nine ECTAD Asian country offices, the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (RAP) and the Headquarter (HQ) participated in the meeting.



The AREM was consisted of a series of group work, plenary sessions and presentations. The key findings are: 1) all countries proposed activities to be implemented over the 2020 to 2024 time period, which were grouped under seven categories; 2) within these categories, all countries made initial steps to identify gaps and needs to be packaged for future resource mobilization; 3) the Pre-AREM training improved understanding of aspects of adult learning that can be applied by FAO ECTAD staff.

Prior to the meeting, an AMR planning meeting and a training on adult learning were held respectively on 4 and 5 March.

➤ Global Cooperation in Rabies Control and Elimination

The global elimination of dog transmitted human rabies was set for 2030 "ZERO BY 30". In order to review the global framework for the elimination of dog-mediated human rabies, evaluate the current rabies status in China, especially in the provinces with high rabies burden, generate an overall Stepwise Approach to Rabies Elimination (SARE) score at provincial and national levels, develop plans towards effective and sustainable dog rabies elimination, identify short/long term priority activities, and establish measure strategies for monitoring progress internally and with other rabies control partners, a SARE Workshop in China was jointly organized by Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention (China CDC), China Animal Disease Control Center (CADC) and U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (US CDC) in Beijing from 25-28 March 2019. Around 70 participants from domestic institutes and international organizations including the National Health Commission, the Ministry of Public Security, China CDC, CADC, Changchun Veterinary Research Institute (National Reference Laboratory for Animal Rabies, CVRI), provincial-level institutes, US CDC, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), World Health Organization (WHO), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), World Animal Protection Association and Wistar Institute participated in the workshop.

Under One Health umbrella, FAO ECTAD China Office worked closely with national and international organizations regarding rabies control in the past years. During this meeting, Ms Yu Qi from FAO China ECTAD Office was invited to give an opening talk regarding the role of FAO in global rabies control and elimination. Following a two-day workshop on the assessment of the current rabies status in China, domestic and international experts actively involved in the discussion based on the preliminary evaluation result and identified the priorities and further cooperation in rabies elimination in China.

! Upcoming activities:

1. Ms Yu Qi from FAO China ECTAD Office will attend the Workshop on Regional Livestock Movements - Value Chains and Training on Evaluation of Surveillance in Live Bird Markets in Bangkok, Thailand from 1-3 April 2019.
2. International Symposium on Prevention and Control of African Swine Fever will be held in Beijing, China on 9 April 2019.
3. The First Meeting of the Standing Group of Experts on African Swine Fever (SGE-ASF) for Asia will be held in Beijing, China on 10 April 2019.



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