



➤ The 7th Veterinary Epidemiology for Executives (FETPV-E) workshop successfully held in Chengdu

Under the framework of the China Field Epidemiology Training Program for Veterinarians (CFETPV), the 7th Veterinary Epidemiology for Executives (FETPV-E) was organized in Chengdu, Sichuan Province from 17 July to 19 July 2019. With theme of “Using Veterinary Epidemiology for Successful Animal Disease Zoning/Compartmentalization Implementation”, the objectives of the Workshop were to a) enhance senior government officials’ understanding on the role of veterinary epidemiology in support of the design and implementation of effective disease control strategies, including zoning and compartmentalization; b) identify the main epidemiological methods needed for successful implementation of zoning and compartmentalization in China; c) propose a strategy for potential implementation of zoning and compartmentalization in the context of prevention and control of ASF in China.

The Workshop was co-organized by Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Bureau of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA) of China, China Animal Health and Epidemiology Center (CAHEC) and FAO China Emergency Center for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD) Office.



Group photo

During the opening ceremony, Dr Chen Guosheng, Division Chief of International Cooperation and Science Technology of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Bureau of MARA pointed out that CFETPV built a true veterinary epidemiological team for China, established an active communication platform for all the stakeholders and partners, both locally and internationally, generated a well-known brand, in the veterinary community in the region. He highlighted that CFETPV has been extensively promoting the innovation and providing technical support for decision making in animal disease prevention and control. He also suggested that the CFETPV should continue collaborating with regional and international community to promote the development of veterinary epidemiology in China, and in the region. Mr Zhang Zhongjun, Assistant FAO Representative (Programme) in China welcomed all the participants on behalf of FAO and appreciated the great support and collaboration of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Bureau of MARA and CAHEC on CFETPV. He addressed that animal health is a key element of One Health, which contributed to food security and safety. Dr Zheng Zengren, Deputy Director General of CAHEC, pointed out the significance of the Workshop during the prevention and control of African Swine Fever (ASF),

which not only further deepen the understanding of epidemiology of the senior officials, but also promoted the implementation of zoning/compartmentalization, to contribute to the prevention and control of ASF. Mr Wang Shilin, Director General of Animal Husbandry and Veterinarian Bureau of Sichuan Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs also gave the opening remarks and emphasized the importance of zoning/compartmentalization.

The two-and-half-day workshop was attended by 99 participants (65 male, 34 female) from five national level, 28 provincial level, and five municipal level animal health agencies and institutes. The workshop was consisted of a series of keynote speeches, panel discussions, group discussions, scenario simulation and role-play, as well as case studies on zoning/compartmentalization, which were co-delivered and facilitated by Prof Dirk Pfeiffer from the City University of Hong Kong, Dr Shen Chaojian from CAHEC, Dr Silvia Kreindel from United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Beijing Office, Dr Wantanee Kalpravidh from FAO ECTAD Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (RAP), along with the support of Dr Kachen Wongsathapornchai and Dr Song Junxia, and Chinese trainers, including Drs Jiang Zhengjun, Shen Dan, Liu Jianhui, Mr Zhou Dong, Mr Sun Xiaodong. Dr Andy Paterson, Head of Intervention Epidemiology & Head of the National Emergency Epidemiology Group, Animal and Plant Health Agency, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, UK, contributed the workshop by remote present “Disease investigation to support compartmentalization”.

Based on the feedbacks from the participants, the highlights of the workshop included: 1) The theme of the workshop was more useful to field work and the participants suggested to further organize a follow-up workshop; 2) The support from FAO ECTAD RAP, CAHEC and Prof Pfeiffer has contributed to the interactive sessions and discussions of the workshop, which has raised the interests of the participants; 3) Timely update of the workshop on the official social media accounts of FAO has attracted the attention from the veterinary community; 4) A symposium on zoning/compartmentalization would be further held in later of this year.

In order to regain free status progressively and minimize economic losses, as well as maintain food security, the meeting identified four objectives for piloting the ASF free zone, which are: 1) gradually gain ASF free that can be scaled up; 2) manage the balance of demand and supply; 3) gradually improve pig production and health system; 4) gain support from related stakeholders.

! Upcoming Activity:

Ms Yu Qi from FAO China ECTAD Office will attend the Inception Workshop for the Regional Technical Cooperation Programme on African Swine Fever Emergency Preparedness and Response in East and Southeast Asia in Bangkok, Thailand from 29-30 August 2019.



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