

Data collection activities, funded by USAID, were initiated in live bird markets (LBMs) in Guangxi, Hunan, and Yunnan provinces. FAO's HPAI team, along with 2 staff members from CAHEC, completed missions to each of these target provinces to train the study enumerators on sample and data collection activities. The training for and execution of this study appears to have been a valuable exercise for all participants – FAO, CAHEC, provincial and local animal health authorities. As the surveys and diagnostic testing results become available, valuable insight is expected to be gained regarding risk factors of live bird



suitable locations for upcoming socioeconomic project activities of national and regional importance.

Lessons Learned

Through these LBM study trainings, it has become apparent that while most teams are comfortable with routine sample collection, use of survey questionnaires to collect epidemiologic information is a novel activity and initially somewhat difficult. Further training for and use of survey questionnaires should be incorporated into future HPAI project activities. Additionally, the process of developing Letters of Agreement (LoAs) with provincial and other partners needs to be streamlined and better harmonized so all parties can reach a satisfactory agreement.

markets in these 3 provinces. Equally important, the study results will provide feedback for development of similar studies and survey questionnaires in the future. Approximately 60 epidemiologists and laboratory staff were trained during the mission in the three provinces.

As part of the mission in Yunnan, two border checkpoints – one each with Laos and Myanmar – were visited by the FAO and CAHEC members. This was an important starting point to help identify