

1st Steering Committee Meeting of the China Field Epidemiology Training Programme for Veterinarians (FETPV)



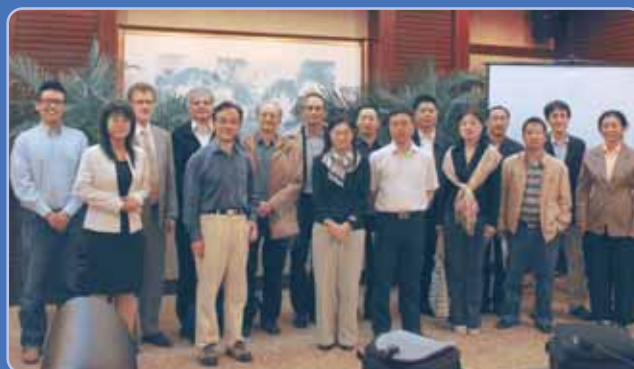
▲ 1st Steering Committee Meeting of the China FETPV

The 1st China FETPV Steering Committee Meeting took place on 21 September 2010 in the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) of China. Representatives from MoA, FAO, Public health China Field Epidemiology Training Programme (CFETP), USCDC, China-Canada Livestock Health Extensive Services Project, China Animal Health & Epidemiology Center (CAHEC), and Beijing Animal Health Inspection Institute attended the meeting.

Several key issues were discussed, including the framework for the two years training program, trainee selection criteria, mentorship mechanism and funding resources. There was a

general agreement to include three new members in the Steering Committee, namely, Beijing Agriculture Bureau, Yangzhou University and Hua Zhong Agriculture University. In addition, two international experts in epidemiology will be identified to act as special advisor and mentors for the overall program. The meeting participants agreed on all terms of the roadmap, trainee and mentor profile and the overarching One Health vision that will guide the program. Trainee recruitment and technical material preparation have been identified as priorities for the next step.

The next FETPV Steering Committee Meeting is planned on 2nd November 2010.



▲ Group photo for 1st Steering Committee Meeting of the China FETPV

Applying Social Network Analysis (SNA) techniques to market chain analysis

Dr Ricardo Magalhaes from Queensland University visited Beijing during 19-24 September to provide technical inputs into refining the risk assessment of HPAI spread along the supply chain in selected areas in China. During his visit, he assisted ECTAD China team in analyzing the results of the longitudinal 2010 LBM study implemented in Hunan and Guangxi and the results of the cross-sectional survey implemented in Chongqing

in 2010. Besides, Dr Ricardo Magalhaes reviewed the data collection process of the China SNA study and explored potential avenues for improving data analysis and statistical tests applied in order to improve the final study outcome as well as minimize potential biases. He also provided a practical training in the use of SNA and statistical techniques to analyze LBM and network data to the team.

Upcoming activities

The first meeting of the UN Sub-working Group on Animal and human health will be held in the WHO premises on 13th October 2010 and coordinated by the FAO China ECTAD Team. The meeting intends to gather a wide range of institutions and disciplines both national and international including veterinary epidemiologists, public health officers, anthropologists and wildlife specialist and discuss health issues of mutual interest in China under the One Health concept.