

The Second Stakeholder Meeting of the China FETPV

The Second Stakeholder Meeting of the China Field Epidemiology Training Program for Veterinarians (FETPV) was held in Beijing on 7th – 8th June 2012. The first-day was attended by national stakeholders, while the second-day was mainly attended by international stakeholders. Representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), State Forestry Administration, UNDP, WHO, World Bank, US Center for Disease Control and Prevention (USCDC), Royal Veterinary College (RVC), International Development Center for Agriculture and Research (CIRAD), China Animal Health and Epidemiology Center (CAHEC), China CDC/China Field Epidemiology Training Program (CFETP), provincial Animal CDCs, embassies, research institutions, universities, FAO RAP and FAO ECTAD China attended the meeting.



▲ Group photo for the 2nd Stakeholder Meeting of the China FETPV

Deputy Director General of the Veterinary Bureau (VB) Dr. Li Changyou indicated that the VB of the MoA hoped to further cooperate with FAO, and to build a systematic, long-term veterinary epidemiology training platform. Dr. Li also made several suggestions on the 2nd cohort of the China FETPV. FAO Representative for China, DPR Korea and Mongolia Mr. Percy Misika mentioned that the FETPV fills a critical gap and pilots an approach that can in the medium and longer term be carried out by Chinese organizations. Because China has a shortage of people trained in veterinary epidemiology, there is a critical need for FAO and its international and national partners to assist China with progressing this important initiative.

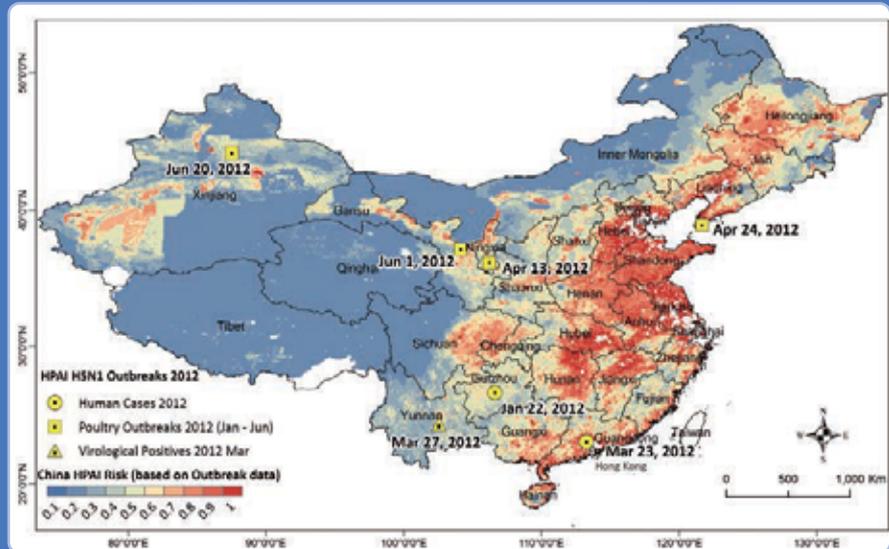
The two-day meeting reviewed the achievements made and lessons learnt since the launch of the China FETPV program in November 2010. FETPV trainee representatives reported the progress regarding their Training through Services (TTS) studies. Participants also provided invaluable suggestions on building a sustainable FETPV program in the long term. Meanwhile, the meeting strengthened the collaborative networks among Chinese and international stakeholders working in the field of veterinary epidemiology.



▲ Group discussion

H5N1 Disease Outbreaks in 2012 in China

There have been 2 human cases, 3 poultry outbreaks and 1 virological surveillance positive of H5N1 Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza reported since the beginning of 2012 (Map 1). The human case in May was clade type 2.3.2.1 and this is consistent with recent isolations of HPAI viruses in China. The number of outbreaks is higher than the number reported in 2010 and 2011, while the number of virological surveillance positives is lower than in previous years. Despite the high level of control activities, HPAI H5N1 viruses are still



▲ Map 1: H5N1 outbreaks in 2012 and HPAI H5N1 risk map. (H5N1 outbreak and surveillance positive data were from the Veterinary Bureau of the MoA; HPAI H5N1 Risk map is from Martin V, et al., doi:10.1371/journal.ppat.1001308)

circulating in the country and the Map 1 shows that recent outbreaks have occurred in areas away from the usual higher risk areas for the disease in the southeastern areas of China.

International Symposium on Veterinary Public Health and Food Safety

Prof. John Edwards attended the "International Symposium on Veterinary Public Health and Food Safety" in Mudanjiang, Heilongjiang Province, China on 5th June 2012. During the Symposium, Prof. Edwards delivered a presentation on "Global Directions for Public Health and Food Safety" and provided an overview of FAO's approaches to veterinary public health. Director General of the Veterinary Bureau of the MoA, Dr. Zhang Zhongqiu's speech on "Policy Measures and Achievements of the Veterinary Public Health in China" provided a framework for the Veterinary Public Health in China and summarized the significant achievements in Veterinary Public Health in China.

Upcoming activities:

1. Professor John Edwards will travel to Mongolia from 3rd – 10th July to have meetings with the CVO Dr. Batsukh Zayat and staff of the Ministry of Agriculture and Light Industry (MOFALI) and a range of international donor organizations.
2. Dr. Katinka de Balogh, Senior Officer-Veterinary Public Health, Animal Health Service in FAO Rome will be visiting China from 30th July to 4th August to attend the Conference on the Prevention and Control of Zoonoses in Chongqing. She will also be in Beijing on 30/31 July and will meet with staff of the MoA and other agencies.