

Introductory Module of the 2nd cohort of the China FETPV

CFETPV兽医现场流行病学基础培训班



▲ Opening Ceremony of the 2nd Cohort of the China FETPV

The opening ceremony of the Introductory Module of the 2nd cohort of the China Field Epidemiology Training Program for Veterinarians (FETPV) was held in Qingdao on 19th November. The Introductory Module is a four-week training program which provides an introduction to veterinary epidemiology to 30 selected participants from the animal health organizations around the country.

The opening ceremony was attended by the Director of China Animal Health and Epidemiology Center (CAHEC), Mr. Ma Hongchao; Vice Director of CAHEC, Dr. Huang Baoxu; Dr. Javier Buchard from EU-China Trade Project Phase II and Prof. John Edwards from FAO Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD) China Office.

The training program opened with a week of preliminary training conducted in Chinese language, which focused on basic concepts and terminology of field epidemiology and this will be followed by a further three weeks of training, which focused on disease surveillance, outbreak investigations, secondary data analysis and zoonotic diseases. It will be delivered by Veterinary epidemiologists from the Royal Veterinary College (RVC), London and they will be supported by Chinese trainers.

To improve the trainees' English language and communication skills, a two-day Workshop on Global Communication Skills was organized from 23rd to 24th November, before the training delivered by the RVC experts. The two invited speakers, Ms. Zheng Liping from FAO China Office and Ms. Xu Nan from the World Food Program (WFP), introduced topics on culture and its impact on communication, critical writing, Email writing and public speaking. The two-day workshop has enhanced trainees' understanding of culture differences under the trend of globalization. There was positive feedback from all trainees, national trainers and organizers from the CAHEC.



▲ FETPV Training

Mission to Harbin to discuss surveillance activities for the EPT+ Project

Prof. John Edwards, Senior Technical Coordinator; Dr. Guo Fusheng, National Technical Advisor and Mr. Xu Tiangang, National Project Coordinator of Emerging Pandemic Threats Plus (EPT+) project travelled to Harbin from 14th to 15th November to meet with Dr. Chen Hualan and staff from the Harbin Veterinary Research Institute (HVRI). The focus was on the contents of a Letter of Agreement (LoA) with HVRI to deliver services for the implementation of the China component of the EPT+ project.



▲ Dr. Chen Hualan, Dr. Qiao Chuanling, Dr. Guo Fusheng and Prof. John Edwards during the mission to Harbin Veterinary Research Institute

The Veterinary Bureau (VB) of the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA), China approved the plan for Swine Influenza (SI) surveillance in Guangdong Province and Dongting Lake in Hunan Province and appointed the HVRI, China Agricultural Academic of Science (CAAS) to coordinate the program.

After one and half days discussions with Dr. Chen Hualan, Director of Influenza Reference Laboratory; Dr. Qiao Chuanling, Chief of the SI Laboratory and Dr. Yang Huanliang from the SI Laboratory, agreement was reached on details for the design, analytical and budgetary arrangements that would allow the LoA to be finalized in time for the project to start as early as possible.

Discussions on how to accelerate the process for recognition of the HVRI as a FAO Reference Laboratory for Avian Influenza, and engagement of FETPV Graduates in FAO project activities in future were also held.

Mission to Inner Mongolia for the World Bank (WB) funded EID project

With the invitation from the Foreign Economy Cooperation Center (FECC), the MoA, Prof. John Edwards, Senior Technical Coordinator and Mr. Wang Jie, National Program/Operation Officer of FAO ECTAD China Office travelled to Inner Mongolia from 20th - 23rd November to participate in the first joint mission of the WB funded project on Capacity Building for Emerging Infectious Disease (EID) Preparedness and Response and a two-day Project Management Workshop.

The Veterinary Team and Public Health Team of the project visited Siziwang County of Inner Mongolia, where the local veterinary and public health department reported on prevention and control of human and animal brucellosis work done in previous years. Dr. Song Junxia, Acting Director of the Division of Science, Technology & International Cooperation of the VB of the MoA, and the rest of the experts also paid a visit to a traditional household and the home of an infected herder.



▲ Dr. Song and other team members are visiting a local village clinic

During the Project Management Workshop on 22-23 November, Prof. John Edwards delivered a presentation on "International approaches to management of zoonoses including Brucellosis", and shared the participants with FAO's approach to the prevention and control of zoonoses. Prof. Edwards also had discussions with various potential partners of the project for collaboration on One Health and funding opportunities in future.

Recent progresses made by FAO ECTAD China Office

Phase VII of the OSRO/RAS/604/USA Baby 02 Project (with the NTE of 30th September 2013) was officially approved by the MoA in November 2012. This followed efforts of the FAO ECTAD China Office, and support from the Department of International Cooperation (DIC) and the Veterinary Bureau (VB) of the MoA, FAO China Office.

A number of important issues were discussed with Dr. Song Junxia, Acting Director of the Division of Science, Technology & International Cooperation of the Veterinary Bureau of the MoA, while in Inner Mongolia. Including progressing with the signature of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), implementation of the EPT+ project, China-Mongolia-Russia Collaboration Meeting, and the TCP-African Swine Fever project.

Upcoming activities:

1. A joint One Health Workshop between the Animal Health and Public Health Sectors will be held in Beijing from 14th – 15th December. This will involve Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP) and FETPV trainees working together.
2. Prof. John Edwards from FAO ECTAD China Office will present at the Sino Dutch Veterinary Science and Technology Seminar, which will be organized in Beijing on 12th December.
3. The Third Meeting of the Collaboration among China, Mongolia and Russia will be held in Vladimir, Russia from 22nd to 25th January 2013. This is part of the TCP Facility Project entitled "Cross-border Trade and Transboundary Animal Diseases (TADs) risk reduction".