



**REPORT OF THE CONSULTATIVE MEETING OF THE EPIDEMIOLOGY CONSORTIUM
FOR EMERGING ZONOTIC AND TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASE CONTROL IN
ASIA**



Photo: Gopinath Chitoor

28 January 2013
Bangkok, Thailand

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

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Acronyms

AI	Avian Influenza
APHISA	ASEAN Animal Production and Health Information System for Asia
APSED	Asia Pacific Strategy for Emerging Diseases
ARAHIS	ASEAN Regional Animal Health Information System
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
ASWGL	ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Livestock
AusAID	Australian Agency for International Development
AVET	Applied Veterinary Epidemiology Training
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (U.S.)
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CIRAD	Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement
CSF	Classical Swine Fever
CSU	Colorado State University
DAFF	Australian Department of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries
DAI	Development Alternatives Incorporated
EID	Emerging Infectious Diseases
EMPRES-i	Global Animal Disease Information System, FAO (Also EMPRES-I Asia)
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FETN	Field Epidemiology Training Network
FETP	Field Epidemiology Training Program
FETPV	Field Epidemiology Training Program for Veterinarians
FMD	Foot and Mouth Disease
GF-TAD	Global Framework for Transboundary Animal Diseases
HPAI	Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza
HRD	Human Resource Development
ILRI	International Livestock Research Institute
ISO	International Standard Organization
ISZVe	Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Venezie
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MU	Murdoch University
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
OFFLU	OIE-FAO Network of Expertise on Animal Influenza
OIE	World Organization for Animal Health
OSIR	Outbreak, Surveillance and Investigation Reports
PSVS	OIE/AusAID Program on Strengthening Veterinary Services in Southeast Asia
PMAC	Prince Mahidol Award Conference
PT	Proficiency Testing
QA	Quality Assurance
RAP	Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
RCM	Regional Coordination Mechanism
RCU	Regional Coordination Unit
RSU	Regional Support Unit
RVC	Royal Veterinary College
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SEARO	Southeast Asia Regional Office (WHO)
TAD	Transboundary Animal Diseases
ULB	Université Libre de Bruxelles
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
WHO	World Health Organization
WPRO	Western Pacific Regional Office (WHO)

Executive Summary

The Consultative Meeting of the Epidemiology Consortium for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI), Emerging Zoonotic and Transboundary Animal Disease Control in Asia was held 28 January 2013 as one of the side meetings prior to the Prince Mahidol Award Conference (PMAC) One Health Conference in Bangkok, Thailand. The meeting was attended by over fifty participants representing 18 organizations and institutions.

The main objectives of the meeting were to: 1) update consortium activities related to capacity building, information sharing and research and knowledge utilization themes using a One Health approach, 2) review existing regional platforms and strategies upon which to build concrete action with follow-up including sustainable funding in the future, 3) identify terms of reference and specific activities for joint collaboration to support a functional epidemiology network in the region.

In order to strengthen coordination and collaboration to meet the challenges of emerging infectious diseases (EID) and transboundary animal diseases (TAD) it is important to continue to broaden the membership of the Consortium. Financial constraints are increasingly influencing members to develop mechanisms to consider added value and win-win situations when conducting collaborative activities in capacity development, information sharing and research. Regional models such as the laboratory technical advisory group (LabTAG) exist to serve the needs of countries and a similar mechanism is envisaged under the five-year strategic plan for Epidemiology Capacity Development in the region.

In order to broaden its vision in response to evolving challenges with EID and TAD, the goal of the Consortium was revised as follows:

The goal of the Epidemiology Consortium is the application of epidemiology to influence policy for priority challenges through multi-disciplinary and multi-sectoral involvement.

In addition, Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Epidemiology Consortium were developed and included the following specific responsibilities:

- Supporting the function of national epidemiology programs;
- Promoting the application and benefits of epidemiology and raising awareness of scientific approaches through advocacy to decision makers;
- Supporting integration of surveillance from laboratory and field components;
- Supporting integrated (cross-sectoral) training and education from local to national levels;
- Providing methodology and mechanisms for the collection and delivery of animal health and disease information;
- Promoting communication among countries on common issues at bilateral- and multi-lateral levels;
- Supporting existing or new platforms to strengthen information sharing and network building.

An activity plan for 2013 was developed under the three thematic areas including capacity development, information sharing and research. The Epidemiology Consortium network is growing with increased representation from countries at this meeting indicating the need and desire to strengthen the connection among the various stakeholders and to develop mechanisms in which the Consortium can serve countries in the region.

Background

In 2004, the Surveillance/Epidemiology and Laboratory Diagnosis Networks for three sub-regions in Asia including East, Southeast and South Asia were initiated through FAO Technical Cooperation Programmes (TCP). These networks aimed at improving country capacity on surveillance and laboratory diagnosis, sharing information with international communities on disease events in timely manner and improving understanding in HPAI epidemiology. Networking was maintained through the focal points nominated by national animal health services separately for surveillance and laboratory diagnosis. As part of networking on epidemiology for the three sub-regions, an Epidemiology Consortium was formed in 2004 to provide advice and inputs to strengthen regional epidemiology capacity and information sharing as well as collaboration on research studies.

Several key activities have occurred since 2004. In 2010 an inventory of the consortium members and a subsequent survey has resulted in the identification of three main areas for future collaboration including capacity building, information sharing and research and knowledge utilization in addition to building a database of available technical resources for the region. In 2011 the consortium included greater representation from public health in order to develop greater inter-sectoral networking and collaboration in support of the One Health approach. Improved coordination and collaboration among the key potential partners of in epidemiology consortium and building networks to address emerging infectious diseases (EID) and Transboundary animal diseases (TADs) in Asia were important outcomes of this meeting.

A necessary next step in the evolution of the Epidemiology Consortium in 2013 is to define terms of reference that identify activities that are most relevant and serve the needs of the member countries within the region of Asia and the Pacific. The current meeting will advance more concrete collaboration and activities to support the development of a strategic plan including a functional epidemiology network in the region (Annex1). Over fifty participants attended the meeting, representing 18 organizations and institutions (Annex 2).

Expected Outputs of the Meeting

1. Terms of reference for the Epidemiology Consortium supporting a functional regional epidemiology network based on country and regional needs.
2. A matrix of benefits and investments required for sustaining collaboration among Consortium members.
3. A work plan of specific activities to support the regional epidemiology strategic planning and network building in 2013.

Opening Remarks

Subhash Morzaria, FAO ECTAD Regional Manager

The need to take broader approaches to address emerging infectious diseases (EID) and transboundary animal diseases (TAD) requires that stakeholders find new ways of working together. The challenge for members of the Epidemiology Consortium at this time is to transition from a loose affiliation of members into a more active and collaborative working group moving forward in new ways to address EID and TAD. Financial constraints are increasingly influencing development work and so the Consortium must look for ways to provide added value and win-win situations through collaborative activities in capacity development, information sharing and research. Specifically it is increasingly important to look for ways to leverage resources and efforts together. It is also important for the Consortium to reach outward and broaden the membership to include other key stakeholders from national governments, socio-economic, wildlife and private sectors. This meeting will

begin by reviewing existing regional platforms and models for technical advisory engagement in the region to support regional and country efforts to address EID and TAD.

Presentations (Annex 6)

Presentations were given in order to provide an update on Consortium activities across thematic areas and to review existing regional platforms and strategies and identify concrete actions to promote sustainable resource mobilization. Finally, country needs and perspectives were highlighted.

David Castellan, FAO RAP highlighted progress in the three thematic areas of capacity development, information sharing and research since the previous meeting in August 2011. Highlights of the presentation include the following points:

1. There have been 24 specific activities among Consortium members related to networking, pilot projects and advocacy since the previous meeting in August 2011;
2. A noteworthy increase in capacity development and research in field epidemiology and wildlife related activities is occurring;
3. A prototype object based resource management platform was also presented as a means of sharing information among all stakeholders in relation to Consortium activities.

Kachen Wongsathapornchai, FAO RAP updated Consortium members on regional platforms such as the ASEAN Regional Support Unit (RSU), the ASEAN strategic plan for epidemiology capacity development and the LabTAG as a model to consider for technical advisory inputs to ASEAN related to epidemiology. Highlights of the presentation are listed as follows:

1. Specialized institutions are engaged externally with limited ownership. This can impact sustainability and result in duplication and competition among members;
2. Regional resource groups exist which can be either under or over-utilized. Cross-fertilization and human resource development (HRD) sharing is limited with ASEAN countries;
3. Country focal points for epidemiology are not formalized resulting in limited engagement and results from countries;
4. The regional laboratory network, LabTAG is a successful regional model developed by member countries. It has six goals and 16 objectives to harness external technical advisory expertise in the following ways:
 - a. LabTAG provides advisory support to animal health laboratories at country level;
 - b. Regional reference and leading laboratories within the region provide disease specific technical support;
 - c. Country focal points are identified through a laboratory directors' forum which drives policy development and input into the ASEAN sectoral working group on livestock (ASWGL);
5. The ASEAN Epidemiology Strategic Plan will soon be endorsed and the role of the Epidemiology Consortium requires further definition through the development of Terms of Reference;
6. The Epidemiology Consortium is best utilized through existing initiatives of ASEAN and SAARC.

Karan Kukreja of the OIE subregional office highlighted the EpiNet initiative through the involvement of country focal points. Key points shared include the following:

1. The purpose of EpiNet is to standardize training related to outbreak investigation, surveillance and disease information systems (ARAHIS, WAHIS) for foot and mouth disease (FMD) in the region;
2. EpiNet supports emergency preparedness planning;
3. EpiNet is a mechanism to increase country reporting and information sharing within the region.

Mohinder Oberoi, FAO ECTAD, South Asia Subregional Manager highlighted activities, challenges and opportunities related to the development of epidemiology capacity in member countries of the South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) as follows:

1. Activities being undertaken include the establishment of an RSU, capacity development (FETPV short course), livestock risk mapping and value chain analysis related to TAD and zoonoses;
2. There are currently no focal points for epidemiology among SAARC member countries and there is limited data sharing platforms and capacity building with follow-up field activities. Subregional coordination mechanisms are lacking, particularly in relation to capacity development;
3. Opportunities for advocacy to promote epidemiology include the SAARC Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO) forum and information sharing through newsletters and disease reports.

Karoon Chanachai, Thailand Department of Livestock Development (DLD) presented a country perspective related to needs and opportunities for members of the Consortium to consider in constructing Terms of Reference. Key points made are presented below.

1. Language is a key constraint and barrier which must be considered by external organizations;
2. Important points for members of the Consortium to consider follow:
 - a. Good coordination is required that avoids duplication and promotes informed action in order to harmonize activities to address country priorities;
 - b. Areas of specific collaboration include:
 - i. Capacity Development: short- and long-term training, graduate training, basic research studies for local veterinarians, development of tools to promote training, guidelines and standards;
 - ii. Research: Conducting applied operational research studies to solve actual problems of importance to countries;
 - c. There is a need to build epidemiology capacity at basic (local), intermediate, advanced levels. Too often, external input is focused on advanced level and there is a need more attention at the basic/intermediate levels.

Session 1: Assembling the Elements for Terms of Reference of the Epidemiology Consortium from a Country Perspective
Mo Salman, Chair

The consortium participants provided the following inputs for the expected commitments from the countries as related to the three thematic areas:

1. Support function of National Epidemiology activities;
2. Promotion of epidemiology (advocacy);
3. Integration of surveillance components (Lab/Field);
4. Integrated training and education from local to national level;
5. Methodology and mechanisms for collection and delivering information;
6. Improve communication at bilateral- and multi-lateral levels;
7. Supporting existing or new platforms to strengthen information sharing (network building);
8. Support needs based research including applied research;
9. Support integrated and coordinated approaches in research by governments universities and the private sector;
10. Build awareness and appreciation of stakeholders for scientific approaches for important/priority diseases at local, national and regional levels.

Plenary discussion highlighted the need to meld these elements together flexibly and to scale under a One Health multi-disciplinary approach and a South-South Cooperation model. This information provided the basis for the Terms of Reference (TOR) found in Annex 3.

Input from members during the plenary discussion indicated that although LabTAG was an excellent model, it would need to be adapted considerably to accommodate the different nature of institutionalization and differing nature of the work undertaken in epidemiology. The model will require adaptation and this could be approached through consultation with countries at upcoming regional meetings.

Session 2: Benefits Derived and Investments Required to Promote Collaboration Among Consortium Members

Dirk Pfeiffer, Chair

In session 2 working groups identified benefits and investments for collaboration among partners of the Consortium. The results from group discussion by stakeholder groups were summarized in the table presented in Annex 4. It was notable that specific cost-sharing or “in-kind” arrangements were not proposed as an added value investment, particularly during a period of constrained financial resources. However later in the meeting, scholarships were mentioned as a value added investment some institutions could undertake. This is an area requiring future discussion and interaction. Further refinement of the terms of reference was also done during plenary discussion.

The members also discussed the need to revise the goals of the Epidemiology Consortium in response to broaden its vision in response to evolving conditions related to EID and TAD. The overall goal of the Epidemiology Consortium was revised as follows:

The goal of the Epidemiology Consortium is the application of epidemiology to influence policy for priority challenges through multi-disciplinary and multi-sectoral involvement.

Session 3: Quarterly Plan of Activities

Pawin Padungtod, Chair

A summary of activities in 2013 is presented in Annex 5 including 46 quarterly activities for capacity development, 20 ongoing activities for information sharing and 33 activities related to research and knowledge generation.

Meeting Summary:
David Castellan

Outputs from the meeting include the following:

1. Regional and country perspectives were provided in order to refocus Consortium activities across three thematic areas;
2. The Consortium will support the RSU, provide scholarships and curriculum development in order to promote sustainable resource mobilization;
3. The goal of the Epidemiology Consortium was revised to broaden its vision and meet evolving needs and developments related to EID and TAD;
4. Initial terms of reference and specific activities were identified for the Consortium in 2013 to support the development of an Epidemiology Strategy for the region.

Next Steps for the Epidemiology Consortium include the following:

- The draft framework for developing terms of reference were further refined by meeting organizers and chairs following the meeting;
- Activities and synergies for collaboration among partners will be shared to promote follow-up action;
- A report of the meeting will be shared with all members;
- Ongoing communication among Consortium members and other partners will be promoted through a website portal.

Members indicated that FAO is considered to be a bridge between members and countries in the region and a website will promote greater awareness of the Epidemiology Consortium.

Closing Remarks
Subhash Morzaria

Collaboration through the Epidemiology Consortium is relevant to supporting country needs in the region. Funding remains a challenge for FAO in providing supportive services including a website for the Epidemiology Consortium. An opportunity such as the European Union, One Health call for proposals represents an additional way for members to collaborate in the coming year. The Epidemiology Consortium network is growing as evidenced by the participation of many countries at this meeting indicating a need to strengthen the connection among the various stakeholders and to further develop mechanisms in which countries can work collaboratively with the Consortium.

Acknowledgements

Appreciation is expressed to FAO operations staff, program chairs, facilitators and members of the Epidemiology Consortium for their important contributions to this meeting.

Annex 1

AGENDA

CONSULTATIVE MEETING OF EPIDEMIOLOGY CONSORTIUM FOR EMERGING ZOOONOTIC AND TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASE CONTROL IN ASIA

28 January 2013
08:30 to 17:30
Lotus 9 Suite, Level 22
Centara Grand and Bangkok Convention Center
Bangkok, Thailand

Time	Topic
08:00 – 08:30	Registration
<i>Session 1</i>	
<i>Chair: Mo Salman</i>	
08:30 – 08:45	Welcome, Opening Remarks and Introductions - S. Morzaria
08:45 – 09:00	Progress Report and Meeting Objectives - D. Castellan
09:00 – 09:30	1. Key Objectives, Activities and Opportunities related to the ASEAN Regional Support Unit (RSU) and Regional Epidemiology Center (REC) 2. ASEAN Strategic Plan for Epidemiology Capacity Development 3. LabTAG: A Regional Technical Advisory Group Model - K. Wongsathapornchai
09:30 – 09:45	OIE FMD EpiNet - K. Kukreja
09:45 – 10:00	Key Objectives, Activities and Opportunities related to the SAARC Regional Support Unit (RSU) and Regional Epidemiology Center (REC) - M. Oberoi
10:00 – 10:15	A Country Perspective of Needs and Lessons Learned - K. Chanachai
10:15 – 10:30	Facilitated Plenary Workshop – Roles and Responsibilities of Epidemiology Consortium: Terms Of Reference (TOR) for the Consortium prioritized from the country perspective

Time	Topic
10:30 – 11:00	COFFEE BREAK
11:00 – 11:30	Facilitated Discussion of Terms of Reference
<i>Session 2</i>	
<i>Chair: Dirk Pfeiffer</i>	
11:30 – 12:30	Group Discussion: Partnerships and Investments in a Period of Reduced Funding <i>Format: Three groups</i> <i>Group Facilitators: Dirk Pfeiffer, Peter Black, Jeff Gilbert</i>
12:30 – 13:30	LUNCH
13:30 – 14:30	Group Reports (30 Min) and Plenary Discussion (30 Min)
<i>Session 3</i>	
<i>Chair: Pawin Padungtod</i>	
14:30 – 15:30	Group Discussion: Planning for Collaborative Activities During the Year 2013 <i>Format: Three 20-minute rotating discussions; template provided</i> <i>Facilitators: Joanna Mackenzie, Flavie Goutard, Jan Hinrichs</i>
15:30 – 16:00	COFFEE BREAK
16:00 – 17:00	Group Reports (30 Min) and Plenary Discussion (30 Min)
17:00 – 17:15	Summary of Recommendations: TOR for the Epidemiology Consortium; Modalities of Engagement; and Opportunities for Leveraging Investments and Synergy – D. Castellan
17:15 – 17:30	Closing Remarks - S. Morzaria

Annex 2

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Annex 3

Terms of Reference of the Epidemiology Consortium for Emerging Zoonotic and Transboundary Animal Disease Control in Asia

Context

The Epidemiology Consortium for Emerging Zoonotic and Transboundary Animal Disease Control (hereafter referred to as the “Consortium”) is a rich resource of technical knowledge and capacity for countries in Asia. The Consortium works within a framework of One Health, inter-disciplinary collaboration, South-South cooperation and international standards including the OIE PVS Gap Analysis. The following terms of reference are intended to be flexible and scalable to meet the different needs of countries and sub-regions in Asia. The Epidemiology Consortium is a self-directed body of research and teaching institutions as well as national government regional and international organizations.

Goal

The overarching goal of the Consortium is to influence policy to ensure a safe and abundant food supply and to protect human health.

Specifically, this is achieved by applying the principles of epidemiology to promote health and productivity of animals through inter-disciplinary and inter-sectoral involvement.

Specifically,

Terms of Reference

1. The Consortium has the following terms of reference:
 - a. The Consortium is composed of national and international research and teaching institutions, national governments, regional and international organizations within a One Health approach.
 - b. Members collaborate through a network facilitated by FAO, Regional of Asia and the Pacific (RAP). Terms of collaboration are flexible, scalable and intended for the mutual benefit of all partners.
 - c. Scope
 - i. Members of the Consortium may be involved at local, national and regional levels throughout South, Southeast, East Asia and the Pacific;
 - ii. Consortium activities focus on promoting animal health and addressing disease priorities at national and regional levels;
 - iii. The scope of work involves food safety and security, livelihoods and meeting nutritional needs of the people of Asia and the Pacific.
 - d. Roles
 - i. The Consortium supports the ASEAN and its relevant subcommittees through regional technical support as a specialized group/institution to advise countries through appropriate focal points. For example, it may offer to act as technical advisory group for the ASEAN Strategic Plan for Epidemiology Capacity Development.
 - ii. The Consortium provides technical inputs in relation to basic, intermediate and advanced epidemiological techniques.
 - e. Specific responsibilities of the Consortium are based on country and regional needs and include:
 - i. Supporting the function of national epidemiology programs;
 - ii. Promoting the application and benefits of epidemiology and raising awareness of scientific approaches through advocacy to decision makers;
 - iii. Supporting integration of surveillance from laboratory and field components;
 - iv. Supporting integrated (cross-sectoral) training and education from local to national levels;

- v. Providing methodology and mechanisms for the collection and delivery of animal health and disease information;
 - vi. Promoting communication among countries on common issues at bilateral- and multi-lateral levels;
 - vii. Supporting existing or new platforms to strengthening information sharing and network building;
 - viii. Supporting needs based research using integrated and coordinated approaches including governments, universities and the private sector for important/priority issues at local, national and regional levels.
- f. The Consortium will meet regularly through the facilitation of FAO, RAP.
 - g. A work plan will be established at each Consortium meeting in order to optimize coordination and collaboration for the activities of the members.

2. Policy support

The consortium will promote and provide scientific approaches that contribute to the decision-making processes that underpin policy. Tools available to influence policy may include but is not limited to risk assessment, market chain analysis, and social network analysis.

Annex 4: Benefits Derived and Value Added Investments

	Government	Research Institutions	Teaching Institutions	International Agencies
Benefits Derived/ Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistance in development of harmonised Livestock disease information system for region with shared access • Assistance for capacity building in relation to veterinary epidemiology and science-based policy development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of research needs • Facilitation of access to data and research output • Facilitation of access to research grants • Assistance with design of research projects • Facilitation of establishment of collaboration • Sharing of resources where possible • Better interaction with policy makers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination of curriculum development, standard setting and harmonisation in veterinary epidemiology • Capacity development • Facilitation of collaboration in education in epidemiology, including sharing teaching materials/ methodologies • Facilitation of access to scholarships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination of activities • Facilitation of access to pooled resources for research and training • Assistance in development of regional approaches and strategies to capacity development in veterinary epidemiology and science-based policy development • Attract funding for collaborative projects
Added Value Investments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment towards agree goals by the countries (i.e. policy makers) • Support for inter-agency /inter sectoral collaboration • Access to information and samples • Delivery of training courses • Providing platform for epidemiology training (FETP/FETPV) • Making human resources available • Organization / funding meetings with invited experts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making research findings available • Involvement in joint research projects • Offer multidisciplinary expertise/ resources • Organisation of training courses • Delivery of training courses • Making human resources available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of expertise for curriculum development • Offer scholarships (MSc/ PhD) • Offer field training courses • Making human resources available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination and delivery training courses • Investment into FETPV and development of epidemiology curriculum (e.g. China) • Storage, analysis and dissemination of disease information • Opportunities for partners obtaining additional job experience • Making human resources available

Annex 5: 2013 Quarterly Activity Plan

Capacity Development

2013 Quarter	Place	Participants	Host	Type	Capacity	Topic
1	Cambodia	Cambodia	FAO	In-Service Training	Field Epidemiology	Applied Veterinary Epidemiology Training (CAVET)
1	Thailand	Regional	CSU	Workshop	Field Epidemiology	Field Epidemiology Training
1	CIPS	Regional	Massey	Workshop	Field Epidemiology	Project Design and Sample Collection
1	Lao PDR	Lao PDR	OIE		Veterinary Services	Nabong Veterinary Faculty Development
1	India	India	FAO	Workshop	Laboratory	Advance Phylogenetic Analysis of HPAI Isolates in India
1	India	India	FAO	Workshop	Field Epidemiology	HPAI Epidemiology and Surveillance OT
1	Bangladesh	Bangladesh	FAO	Workshop	Field Epidemiology	Field Epidemiology Training
1	China	China	FAO	Workshop	Field Epidemiology	Epidemiology Training for Provincial Decision makers
1	Nepal	SAARC	FAO	Workshop	Veterinary Services	Review of progressive control pathway for FMD
1	India	India	FAO	Workshop	Field Epidemiology	Animal Disease Monitoring and Surveillance annual review
1	India	India	FAO	Workshop	Veterinary Services	Coordinated FMD Project Annual Review
2	Malaysia	Malaysia	USDA	Workshop	Field Epidemiology	Specimen Collection
2	US	International	USDA	Workshop	Field Epidemiology	Basic Epidemiology Training
2	CIPS	Regional	Massey	Workshop	Field Epidemiology	Data Management
2	Thailand	Regional	FAO, AAHL	Workshop	Information Sharing	Laboratory-Epidemiology Linkage
2	Indonesia	International	AAHL (AusAID)	Workshop	Laboratory	Biosecurity Training
2		Regional	AAHL, DFAT	Workshop	Laboratory	Biosafety/Biosecurity
2	Viet Nam	Viet Nam	FAO	In-Service Training	Field Epidemiology	AVET
2	US	International	USDA	Workshop	Veterinary Services	International Course on Transboundary Animal Diseases
2	Thailand	Thailand	CIRAD	Workshop	Field Epidemiology	Companion Modelling Training
2	US	Regional	CSU	Workshop	Field Epidemiology	Field Epidemiology Training
2	Myanmar	Myanmar	OIE	Workshop	Field Epidemiology	Outbreak Investigation and Management
2	US	International	USDA	Workshop	Field Epidemiology	Risk Analysis
2	Nepal	SAARC	FAO	Workshop	Field Epidemiology	Regional Epidemiology Networking
2	Nepal	SAARC	FAO	Workshop	Field Epidemiology	Regional Roadmap for CP SOPs for surveillance activities
2	Bangladesh	Bangladesh	FAO	Workshop	Field Epidemiology	Risk Analysis at National Epidemiology Unit training
2	Cambodia	Cambodia	FAO	Workshop	Veterinary Services	Training at Central/provincial level on zoonotic disease
3	CIPS	Regional	Massey	Workshop	Field Epidemiology	Data Analysis
3	Lao PDR	Lao PDR	OIE	Workshop	Field Epidemiology	Outbreak Investigation and Management
3	Cambodia	Cambodia	OIE	Workshop	Field Epidemiology	Outbreak Investigation and Management
3	Viet Nam	Viet Nam	FAO	Workshop	Laboratory	Laboratory Outbreak Response
3		Regional	CIRAD	Workshop	Veterinary Services	Participatory Training OT
3	Australia	International	DAFF, RVC	Workshop	Veterinary Services	GIS
3	Nepal	SAARC	FAO	Workshop	Field Epidemiology	One month FETPV
3	Bangladesh	Bangladesh	FAO	Workshop	Information Sharing	Web-Based livestock disease information system training
3	Cambodia	Cambodia	FAO	Advocacy	Advocacy	Animal Surveillance Strategy developed and endorsed
3	India	India	FAO	In-Service Training	Field Epidemiology	FETPV
3	Nepal	SAARC	FAO	Workshop	Information Sharing	TAD-Info
3	India	India	FAO	Workshop	Veterinary Services	National Project on Bluetongue Review
4	CIPS	Regional	Massey	Workshop	Advocacy	Policy Review and Recommendation
4	Nepal	SAARC	FAO	Workshop	Information Sharing	Regional Training on Data Sharing and developing disease information system
4	Cambodia	Cambodia	FAO	Advocacy	Advocacy	Zoonotic disease Strategy developed and endorsed
4	India	India	FAO	Workshop	Field Epidemiology	Grassroot level training evaluation
5	Thailand	Regional	FUB, CMU	Master Degree	Veterinary Services	MVPH
1,2	India	India	FAO	Workshop	Field Epidemiology	Grassroot level training and surveillance OT
2,3	China	China	FAO	In-Service Training	Field Epidemiology	FETPV

Information Sharing


Portal	Activities	Partners
Websites	WAHIS/ARAHIS	OIE/ASEAN
Websites	Grease	CIRAD
Websites	SEA-PREID	CIRAD
Websites	RSU website	SAARC
Websites	Hubnet	Massey
Websites	EMPRESi	FAO
Websites	GDD Operation Center	CDC
Periodical	Bi-monthly bulletin	SAARC
Periodical	Weekly disease information	SAARC
Periodical	Annual report	CIRAD
Periodical	Epinet bulletin	ECTAD India
Periodical	Policy brief, journal articles	ILRI
Periodical	HPAI update, Global overview	FAO
Periodical	MMWR, EID journal	CDC
Print	Zoonoses poster (TH)	USDA
Print	Specimen collection manual	USDA
Print	Technical report	ILRI
Workshop	Animal Dz analysis	FAO
Workshop	Regional training, meeting	Massey
Workshop	ICEID	CDC

Research/Knowledge Generation

Topic	Activities	Partners
Ecohealth/OneHealth	ECO2D2	RVC
Ecohealth/OneHealth	6countries	ILRI
Ecohealth/OneHealth	Pigproduction(LA)	ACIAR
Ecohealth/OneHealth	OHcollaborationevaluation(BT)	Massey
Livestockmarket/valuechain	RiskofDztransmission(CN)	FAO
Livestockmarket/valuechain	SAARC	RSU
Livestockmarket/valuechain	Socio-economic(VN)	OIE
Surveillance	Socio-economic(TH,VN)	CIRAD
Surveillance	Smartphone(VN)	FAO
HPAI	LBMSampling(VN)	FAO
HPAI	Riskmapping,H5/H9outbreakstudy(NP)	SAARC,RSU
HPAI	Analysisofdatabank(India)	ECTADIndia
HPAI	Evaluateantigenforfieldtesting(VN)	FAO
Rabies	Jointinvestigation(CN)	FAO
Rabies	Fieldwork(ID)	ACIAR
Rabies	Dogpopulation(SL,BT)	Massey
Rabies	KAP(India,BD)	Massey
Rabies	Dogbehavior(ID)	ILRI
Brucellosis	Jointinvestigation(CN)	FAO
Brucellosis	Afganistan,Brilanka,India	Massey
Brucellosis	China	ILRI
Leptospirosis	Nepal,Brilanka	Massey
FoodSafety	VibrioInSeafood	FUB
FoodSafety	SlaughterhouseHygiene(TH)	ILRI
Anthrax	Case-control,Surveillance(BD)	Massey
Rodentborne diseases	Riskassessment(CA)	CIRAD,IPC,NaVRI
CCHF	Pakistan	
FMD	RiskassessmentSimulation,Modelling(TH)	CSU
FMD	RegionalDiseaseRiskmapping	SAARC,RSU
Pigdiseases	Surveillance(LA)	CIRAD
Pigdiseases	Production/Health(LA)	ACIAR
Pigdiseases	LongitudinalStudyofRiskAH+PH(VN)	ILRI
Pigdiseases	LaoPDR	ILRI

Annex 6: Presentations

**Progress Report of Epidemiology Consortium
Collaborative Activities
August 2011 to December 2012**



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1

ECTAD Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases

Acknowledgements

- ECTAD RAP Staff
- Chairs and Facilitators
- Consortium Members

2

ECTAD Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases

Outline

Composition of the Epidemiology Consortium

Review of the Work Plan of 2011 Meeting

Highlights of Activities Across Thematic Areas

Review Objectives of the Meeting

3

ECTAD Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases

Epidemiology Consortium

Capacity development
Information sharing
Knowledge generation and utilization



4

ECTAD Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases

2011 Epidemiology Consortium Meeting

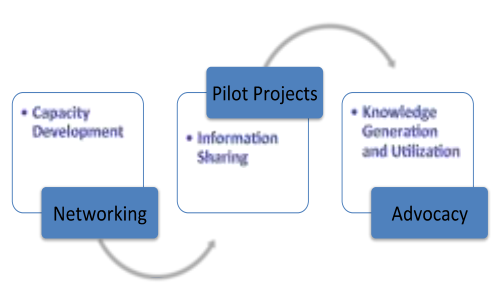
Promote the application of epidemiology to influence policy for the control of TAD and EID through multi-disciplinary and multi-sectoral involvement.

- 37 Attendees
- 20 National, Regional and International Organizations and Institutions
 - Scope of Work
 - Development
 - Research
 - Government
 - Teaching
- One Health Focus:
 - Domestic Animal, Human, Wildlife Health

5

ECTAD Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases

**Proposed 2011 Work Plan Modalities
Among Three Thematic Areas**



6

ECTAD Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases

Collaborative Activities Since August 2011: CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Networking! 2013 Epidemiology Consortium Meeting (PMAC)

FETP-FETPV-WILD Planning for Joint Pilot Training in June 2013 Human-Animal-Wildlife Interface

Links with Regional Initiatives ASEAN – Five Year Strategy for EPI Capacity Development





ASEAN+3 Field Epidemiology Training Network (FETN) Meetings



ECTAD Regional Centre for Technical Cooperation

Collaborative Activities Since August 2011: CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT!

Pilot and Ongoing Projects

FETPV China	Second Cohort
	
FETPV India and SAARC	Three short courses
	
FAO India	National Staff GIS Training
	
Cambodia CAVET	First FETPV short course
	

ECTAD Regional Centre for Technical Cooperation

Collaborative Activities Since August 2011: CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Advocacy

FETPV Short Course for SAARC Countries



ASEAN – FETPV recognized as a regional training platform



ECTAD Regional Centre for Technical Cooperation

Collaborative Activities Since August 2011: INFORMATION SHARING

Networking! 2013 Epidemiology Consortium Meeting (PMAC)

Tripartite Organizations Zoonosis Conference Calls and Meetings



Regional Initiatives ASEAN – RSU/REC via EU-HPED

SAARC – RSU/REC via EU-HPED



GREASE Management of Emerging Risks in Southeast Asia




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Collaborative Activities Since August 2011: INFORMATION SHARING!

Networking

Resource Mapping Mapping tool under development to link members through Regional Organizations




Sharing Research Findings FETPV and other presentations at 2013 ICVS

ECTAD Regional Centre for Technical Cooperation


Collaborative Activities Since August 2011: INFORMATION SHARING!

Pilot and Ongoing Projects

EMPRES-I Training ASEAN and SAARC Countries



Scientific Task Force of Wildlife and Ecosystem Health Co-conveners: UNEP, FAO Partners Include: CIRAD-AGIRS, Max Planck Institute of Ornithology



ICARUS FAO and Max Planck Institute Host Telemetry Data Sharing

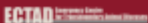
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Collaborative Activities Since August 2011: INFORMATION SHARING!

Advocacy

Epidemiology Consortium Presentations/Posters	ISVEE Submission	PMAC Submission!
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Collaborative Activities Since August 2011: RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE GENERATION!

Networking

RESPOND	SEAOHUN	
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 	<p>REVASIA!</p>	<p>Research on Surveillance Methods for Animal Health!</p> <p>Eight Countries for 2013 OSIR (Outbreak Investigation Surveillance Reports) Scientific Writing Workshop</p>
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Collaborative Activities Since August 2011: RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE GENERATION!

Pilot Projects

<p>Bat Studies!</p>  	<p>Philippines, Viet Nam, Thailand</p> <p>Partners: DAFF, PREDICT, Kasetsart University, Thai Research Fund!</p>	 <p>Rabies, Dog Ecology, KAP Studies</p>
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<p>Vietnam, Philippines, Lao, Indonesia</p> <p>Multiple sources of funding including USAID, EU, others</p>		
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Collaborative Activities Since August 2011: RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE GENERATION!

Advocacy

No specific mechanisms yet exists for animal health related research advocacy with ASEAN or SAARC

<p>Renewed consultation and advocacy with CVOs and epidemiologists is needed</p>	<p>2010 Consultative Meeting</p> 
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Review of 2013 Meeting Objectives

1. Update on!ConsorDum!acDviDes!across! the!maDc!areas!
2. Review!exisDng!regional!plaZ!orms!and! strategies!and!idenDfy!concrete!acDons!to! promote!sustainable!resource!mobilizaDon!
3. IdenDfy!terms!of!reference!and!acDviDes!for! the!ConсорDum!in!2013!!

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"The whole is greater than the sum of its parts"
- Aristotle



18



Engagement of ASEAN on regional epidemiology, capacity development and networking

Veterinary Epidemiology Consortium Meeting
28 January 2013

ECTAD European Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases

Outline

- ASEAN (in brief)
- Why engaging ASEAN?
- ASEAN cooperation on animal health
- Entry points
- Next steps

ECTAD European Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases





ASEAN IN BRIEF



ECTAD European Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases

ASEAN (in Brief)

- Association of Southeast Asian Nations
- Established since 1967
- 10 Member States

ECTAD European Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases

SIGNIFICANT MILESTONES

- Bali Concord II 2003
- Vientiane Action Programme 2004
- The Signing of the ASEAN Charter & Singapore Declaration on the ASEAN Charter 2007
- Entry into force of ASEAN Charter 15 December 2008
ASEAN Secretariat Jakarta
- Cha-am Hua Hin Declaration on the Road Map for the ASEAN Community 2009

ASEAN COMMUNITY 2015

- ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC)
- ASEAN Economic Community (AEC)
- ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC)
- Initiative of ASEAN Integration

*Slide from Dr. Suriyan, ASEC

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ASEAN Community

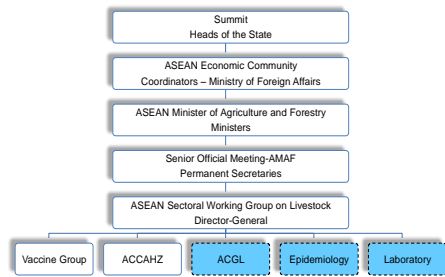


ASEAN Community 2015

- ASEAN Political-Security Community (APSC)
- ASEAN Economic Community (AEC)
- ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC)

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ASEAN Animal Health Mechanisms



ASWGL

- ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Livestock
- Membership: Heads of the departments (DG, CVO)
- Meet at least once a year (usually Apr-May)
- Chairmanship – alphabetical rotation
- Recommendations are drawn – by consensus – which confer political commitments



ASWGL Fopcal Points: Picture taken during 20th ASWGL Meeting, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, May 2012



WHY ENGAGE ASEAN



- ASEAN has legal personality
- "Member States shall take all necessary measures, including the enactment of appropriate domestic legislation, to effectively implement the provisions of this Charter and to comply with all obligations of membership"



- Commitment at high level
- Sustainability



EXISTING ASEAN COOPERATION




ASEAN cooperation on animal health

- ASEAN Animal Health Trust Fund (AAHTF)
- Synergizing Information Systems
 - ARAHIS and AHPISA
- ASEAN priority diseases
 - AI, ND, FMD, CSF, PRRS, Rabies, BSE
- Establishment of ASEAN Coordination Centre for Animal Health and Zoonosis



ASEAN priority diseases

- HPAI
 - ASEAN Taskforce for HPAI Control (HPAI Taskforce)
 - Continue to advocate and support the ASEAN Roadmap, ongoing initiatives, and existing frameworks
 - Draft project proposal to support the implementation of the Roadmap in Cambodia, Lao and Myanmar



ECTAD Regional Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases 13

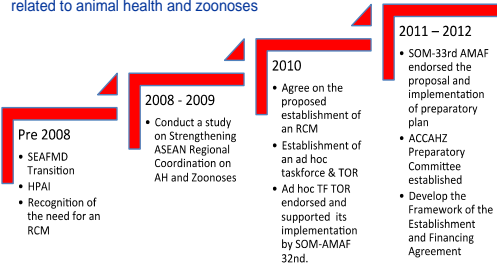
ASEAN priority diseases

- CSF (lead country – PH: lead lab - VN)
 - The project proposal is currently being developed
 - The proposal to be expanded to other swine diseases
- Rabies (lead country – Vietnam)
 - Regional rabies control strategy to be developed
 - Joint activity with AEGCD
- BSE (lead country – Thailand)
 - A project proposal on BSE surveillance and risk assessment to be developed

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Establishment of ACCAHZ

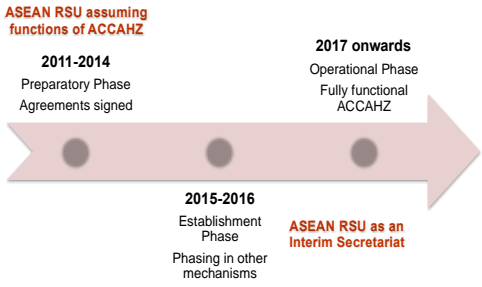
Regional coordination mechanism on matters related to animal health and zoonoses



- Pre 2008**
 - SEAFMD Transition
 - HPAI
 - Recognition of the need for an RCM
- 2008 - 2009**
 - Conduct a study on Strengthening ASEAN Regional Coordination on AH and Zoonoses
- 2010**
 - Agree on the proposed establishment of an RCM
 - Establishment of an ad hoc taskforce & TOR
 - Ad hoc TF TOR endorsed and supported its implementation by SOM-AMAF 32nd.
- 2011 – 2012**
 - SOM-33rd AMAF endorsed the proposal and implementation of preparatory plan
 - ACCAHZ Preparatory Committee established
 - Develop the Framework of the Establishment and Financing Agreement

ECTAD Regional Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases 15

Establishment of ACCAHZ



ASEAN RSU assuming functions of ACCAHZ

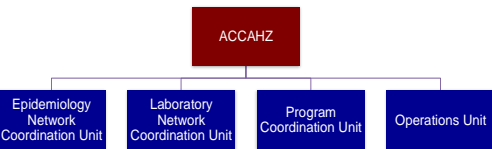
- 2011-2014** Preparatory Phase
Agreements signed
- 2015-2016** Establishment Phase
Phasing in other mechanisms
- 2017 onwards** Operational Phase
Fully functional ACCAHZ

ASEAN RSU as an Interim Secretariat

ECTAD Regional Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases 16

Establishment of ACCAHZ

- ACCAHZ proposed structure



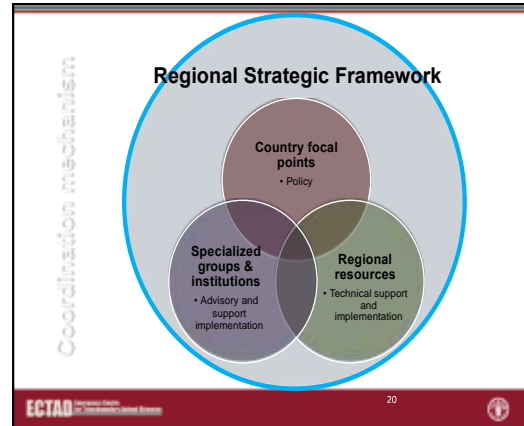
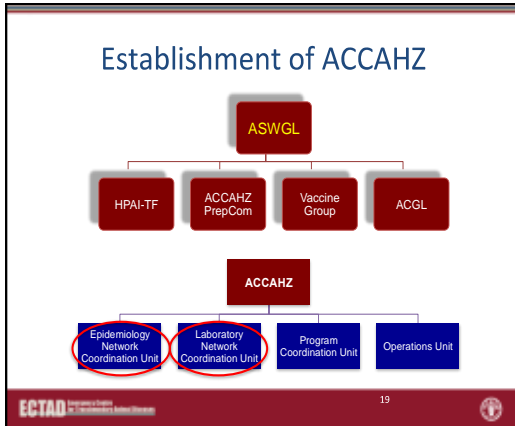
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graph TD
    ACCAHZ[ACCAHZ] --> ENU[Epidemiology Network Coordination Unit]
    ACCAHZ --> LNCU[Laboratory Network Coordination Unit]
    ACCAHZ --> PCU[Program Coordination Unit]
    ACCAHZ --> OU[Operations Unit]
  
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ECTAD Regional Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases 17

THE ENTRY POINTS

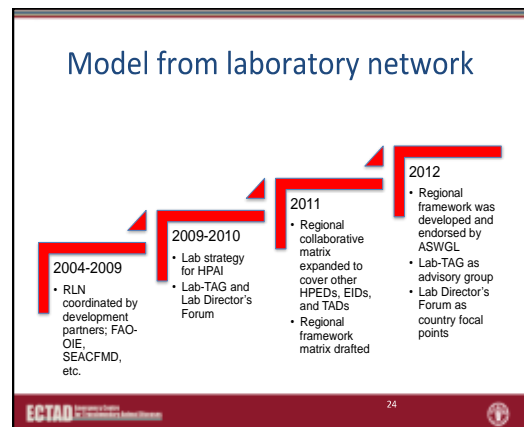
ECTAD Regional Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases 18



- ### Specialized institutions
- Issues
 - Driven by external agencies
 - Ownership and commitments from Member Countries
 - Sustainability
 - Duplications and competitions
- ECTAD European Centre for Translational and Applied Disease Research

- ### Regional resource group
- Issues
 - Under-utilized
 - Over-utilized
 - Limited cross-fertilization of expertise between countries
 - Human resource management \rightarrow reduction in government sectors
- ECTAD European Centre for Translational and Applied Disease Research

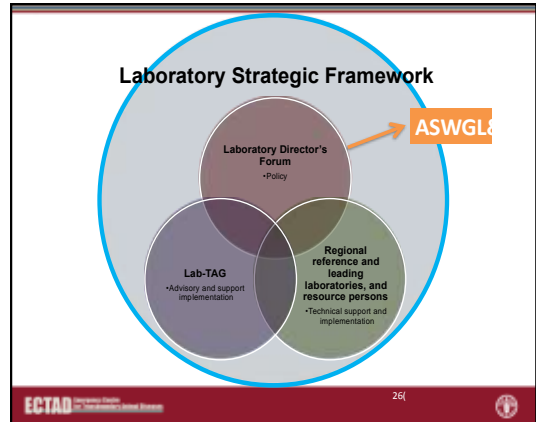
- ### Country focal points
- Issues
 - Not institutionalize (not yet exist) under ASEAN mechanism
 - Established for specific purposes – sometimes too narrow (disease specific), and driven by external agencies
 - Limited commitments and ownership
- ECTAD European Centre for Translational and Applied Disease Research



Laboratory Strategic Framework

- Regional Strategic Framework for Laboratory Capacity Building and Networking in ASEAN
- Led by Member Countries, with support from partners
- Prioritized needs of ASEAN and its Member Countries
- 6 strategic goals and 16 strategic objectives
- Implementation
 - In a short term, the implementation of the Framework will be coordinated by the ASEAN Secretariat, with assistance from the ASEAN Regional Support Unit, in close consultation with the **Regional Laboratory Advisory Group**
 - In a mid and long term, the Member States which implement national laboratory capacity building programs will assume responsibility

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Epidemiology Strategic Framework

2010

- CVOs meeting identified the needs to develop a regional strategy

2011

- Meeting among experts and regional resource persons to initiate the development

2012

- The initiative was presented to ASWGL, which support was extended
- Consultative workshop among AMS was organized
- Regional Framework and roadmap are drafted

ECTAD 27

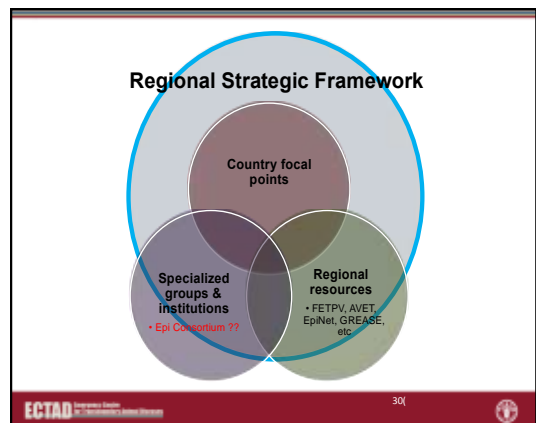
Epidemiology Strategic Framework

- Regional Strategic Framework for Veterinary Epidemiology Capacity Development and Networking in Southeast Asia
- 4 strategic goals and 16 strategic objectives
- Implementation
 - The Member States will be responsible and accountable
 - Roles of Epidemiology Consortium

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Epidemiology Strategic Framework

ECTAD 29



NEXT STEPS



Next steps

- Facilitate endorsement of the Epi Framework by ASEAN
- Support implementation of the Framework
 - FETPV, AVET, Epi Consortium, S-S Cooperation, Nat' strategies
- Institutionalize technical groups under ASEAN mechanism
 - Clearly defined roles (TORs) and plan of actions
- Coordinate with other ASEAN Sectoral Bodies: AEGCD, FETN, etc.
- + 3 countries?





The OIE SEACFMD Epinet

Consultative Meeting of Epidemiology Consortium for Emerging Zoonotic and Transboundary Animal Disease Control in Asia
 Bangkok, Thailand
 28 January 2013
Karanvir Kukreja
Project Officer
 Acknowledgements To R. Abila

OIE Sub-Regional Representation for South East Asia, Bangkok, Thailand

OUTLINE

- OIE SEACFMD
- Epinet – History and Achievements
- Future Plans

OIE Sub-Regional Representation for South East Asia, Bangkok, Thailand

SEACFMD

South East Asia and China Foot and Mouth Disease Campaign



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Objective

To coordinate animal disease control activities between countries, provide technical advice, ensure coherent strategies, and seek political and financial support to achieve FMD Freedom in the Region in year 2020.

SEACFMD approach serves as a model for regional coordination, not only for FMD, but for a range of other transboundary and zoonotic diseases.

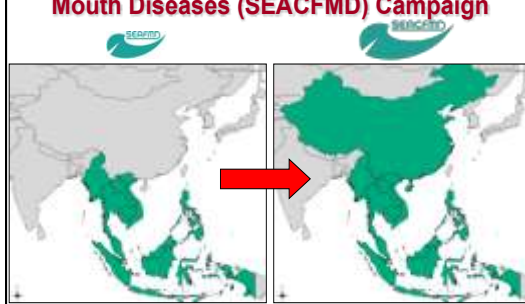
OIE Sub-Regional Representation for South East Asia, Bangkok, Thailand



- Formally established in 1997 by 7 founding members (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam)
- Regional Coordination Unit (RCU) established in Bangkok in 1997 under an agreement between OIE and Thailand
- Indonesia (FMD free country) became a member in 2000
- 4 Phases:
 - ✍ Phase 1 from 1997-2001
 - ✍ Phase 2 from 2001-2005
 - ✍ Phase 3 from 2006-2010
 - ✍ Phase 4 from 2011-2015

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The South East Asia and China Foot and Mouth Diseases (SEACFMD) Campaign



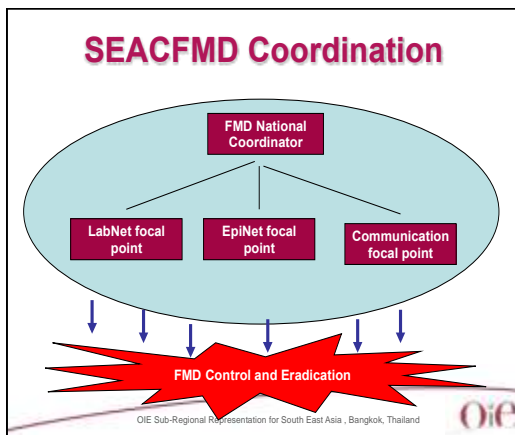
Brunei, China and Singapore joined in 2010
 Approved by the OIE General Assembly in May 25, 2010, PARIS

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Management of Disease Control

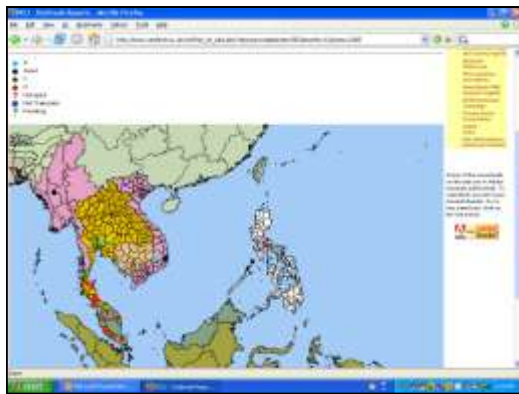
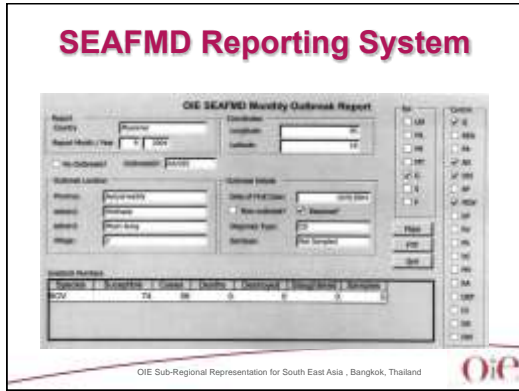
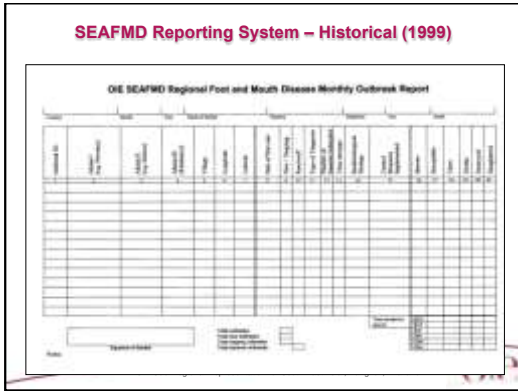
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- ## SEACFMD EpiNet - History
- First meeting conducted in 1999
 - Developed a standardized set of protocols for FMD surveillance in the SEACFMD campaign
 - A definition of an outbreak for SEACFMD and case definition established
 - Minimum requirements suggested for regional reporting
- OIE Sub-Regional Representation for South East Asia - Bangkok, Thailand



- ## SEACFMD EpiNet
- *SEACFMD Outbreak Definition: A foot-and-mouth disease outbreak is the occurrence of FMD in one or more animals in a farm, or village, or group sharing a common area (e.g. pastureland, watering point, slaughterhouse, market etc.). All cases occurring within 2 weeks of the previous case are considered as part of the same outbreak.*
 - Outbreak reporting forms help focal points to enter data for completeness to allow to construct whole picture
- OIE Sub-Regional Representation for South East Asia - Bangkok, Thailand





Role of Epidemiology Network (EpiNet)

- A regional network of epidemiological expertise to support the SEACFMD Campaign
- Advise the OIE FMD Sub-Commission on improvements in the surveillance, prevention and control / eradication of FMD

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Role of Epidemiology Network (EpiNet)

- FMD reporting to OIE SRR
- Analysis of FMD data in sub-region
- Design and facilitate implementation of surveillance activities
- Training on outbreak investigation, disease, information systems, surveillance and other epidemiological tools

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SEACFMD EpiNet

- Role
 - Prompt online Reporting through OIE's WAHIS and WAHIS Regional Core for ASEAN/ARAHIS by most countries
 - Encourages members to fulfill obligations of submitting emergency reports to OIE WAHIS for FMD outbreaks (in appropriate cases) and to submit a final report to close the event
 - Definition has helped to reduce variations in counting outbreaks

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SEACFMD EpiNet Role (cont.)

- Has encouraged FMD free countries to test emergency preparedness programs by conducting simulation exercises
- Encourages detailed analysis on spatial and temporal distributions of different FMD serotypes and topotypes in region

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SEACFMD EpiNet Role (cont.)

- Has conducted outbreak investigation training for field staff
 - OI training has been conducted in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar
 - Training Manual under review and further OI training to be conducted this year in collaboration with FAO-ROK PCP Project
 - Trainer's training in Philippines jointly conducted with FAO AVET programme
- QGIS training conducted in 2009 in Chiang Mai jointly with FAO/AHPCA-OIE in collaboration with BAI FMDTF

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SEACFMD Epinet

- Challenges
 - National FMD Reporting Systems still developing and being refined in several countries
 - Dynamic nature of animal movement
 - Delays in reporting
 - Minor Technical problems with regional reporting systems – ARAHIS

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Strategic Directions

1. Strengthen international coordination and program management
2. Mobilise stakeholder support
 - Public awareness
 - Network with private sector and key stakeholders
3. Strengthen control measures
 - Animal movement
 - Surveillance and disease reporting
 - Strengthen diagnostic and research capacity
 - Strategic vaccination

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Strategic Directions

4. Strengthen policy and legislative support
5. Strengthen capacity for emergency preparedness
 - early detection and response

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SEACFMD Epinet – The future

- ARAHIS being integrated into Global WAHIS system
 - Preparations currently underway by ARAHIS Management with coordination of SEACFMD
 - Streamlining of ARAHIS System
- Next SEACFMD Epinet meeting to be held in June/July 2013
 - AHPISA to be discussed
 - Coordination with ACIAR Livestock Biosecurity Research Project and FAO-ROK PCP Project

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Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

SAARC-Regional Support Unit and Regional Epidemiology Centre: Key objectives, Activities and Opportunities

Mohinder Oberoi
Pasang Tshering
Khadak Singh Bisht

Sub Regional ECTAD and Regional Support Unit (SAARC Countries)
www.saarc-hped-rsu.org
FAO, Nepal

Sub Regional ECTAD and Regional Support Unit for SAARC countries

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

EU funded 'Regional Cooperation Programme on highly pathogenic and emerging diseases including the SAARC agreed priority transboundary animal diseases'

The overall objective of the HPED programme is to contribute to the improvement of food safety, human health, nutrition and well being, and alleviation of poverty in SAARC countries through improved control of highly pathogenic and emerging diseases (HPED) including the ongoing crisis due to HPAI

The specific objective is to strengthen and empower SAARC in its ability to prevent, control and eradicate HPED, including HPAI, through improved veterinary and public health services and inter-sectoral collaboration on a regional basis

2

Sub Regional ECTAD and Regional Support Unit for SAARC countries

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

- The EU funded programme has enabled the establishment of a Regional Support Unit (RSU) and Regional Epidemiology Centre (REC) and a Laboratory Coordination mechanism in Kathmandu, Nepal
- This is the first institutional mechanism to deal with TADs at regional level in SAARC member states

3

Sub Regional ECTAD and Regional Support Unit for SAARC countries

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Project implementation modalities

- The project is implemented through the RSU and REC based in FAO Sub Regional ECTAD for SAARC countries in Kathmandu
- The laboratory component is being coordinated through the designated Laboratory Coordinator based in RSU
- A close collaboration and consultation is maintained with the SAARC Secretariat for effective regional coordination among the member states

4

Sub Regional ECTAD and Regional Support Unit for SAARC countries

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Regional Support Unit

- Develop a common vision, mission and terms of reference for a regional coordination mechanism to agree on the concept to combat HPEDs in the region
 - Collaboration and consultation with SAARC
- Establish a formal regional coordination mechanism through a collaborative agreement among the eight Member States to combat HPED regionally
 - RSU and REC established
- Identify mechanisms for the long-term sustainability of the regional mechanism by ensuring regional commitment implemented through SAARC and with support from other international organizations and donors
 - High level governmental meeting

5

Sub Regional ECTAD and Regional Support Unit for SAARC countries

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Regional Support Unit

- Identify and establish mechanisms for regular interaction and information sharing between animal and human health agencies
 - Established Website www.saarc-hped-rsu.org with regional outbreak alerts
 - Bi-monthly information bulletin
 - South Asia Weekly Animal Diseases E-information
 - Meetings at National, Regional and Global level
 - One Health meetings

6

Sub Regional ECTAD and Regional Support Unit for SAARC countries

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Regional Epidemiology Centre

- Establish and coordinate regional networks on epidemiology and surveillance engaging national partners from all members states
 - Epidemiology focal points and networks
- Identify and establish a common disease information system for the sub-region and facilitate its installation and establishment
 - TAD*info* and Empres-i
- Identify training needs and conduct training for each country in all aspects of disease prevention and control
 - Surveillance trainings and workshop
 - Regional FETPV

7

Sub-Regional ECTAD and Regional Support Unit for SAARC countries

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Regional Epidemiology Centre

- Establish contact and working arrangements with appropriate staff of the Ministries and Departments and organizations
 - Epidemiology focal points
- Generate epidemiological information including characterization of livestock production systems and market chains to support risk based planning for disease surveillance and targeted control
 - Livestock value chain mapping underway
- Work closely with WHO in ensuring synergy in surveillance, epidemiological studies and control of zoonotic diseases
 - Zoonoses meetings

8

Sub-Regional ECTAD and Regional Support Unit for SAARC countries

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

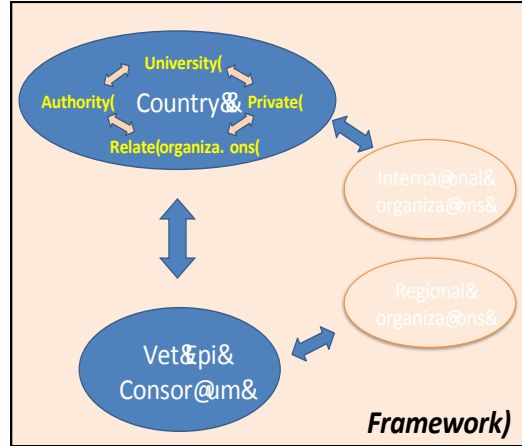
Opportunities

- The annual SAARC CVO meeting under the aegis of SAARC Secretariat
 - for advocacy and policy endorsements
- Continued regional coordination mechanisms in South Asia
 - RSU, REC and Laboratory Coordination
- Increased engagement with High level governmental officials
- Moving ahead with One Health initiative in the region
- Capacity building- Training/workshops
- Regional epidemiological and laboratory network to generate epidemiology information
 - Regional and National FETPV, value chain studies
- Information sharing and early warning system
 - Website, news letters
- Communication

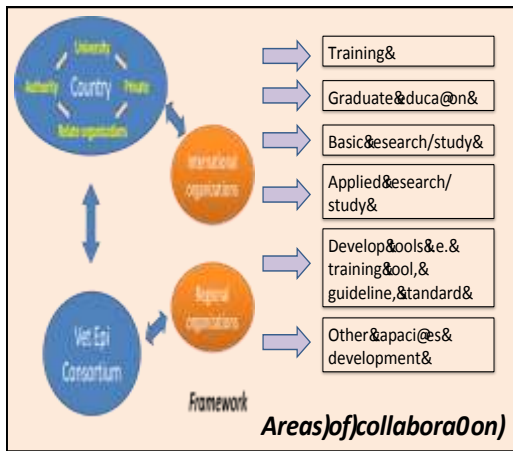
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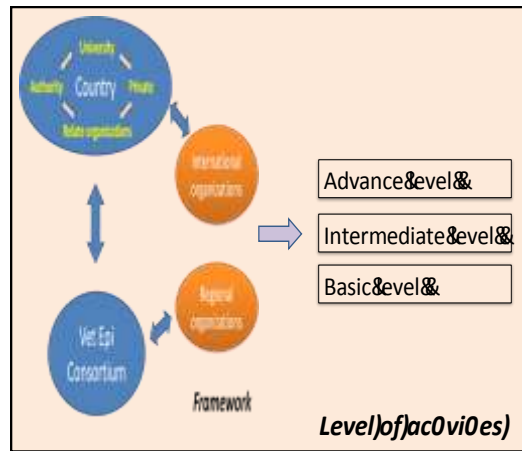
Karoon Chanachai
 Department of Livestock Development,
 Thailand



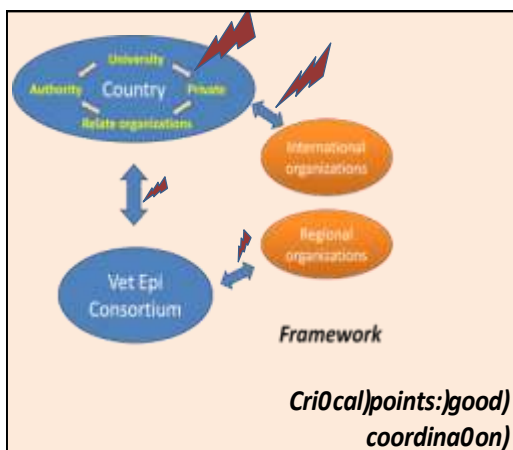
Framework)



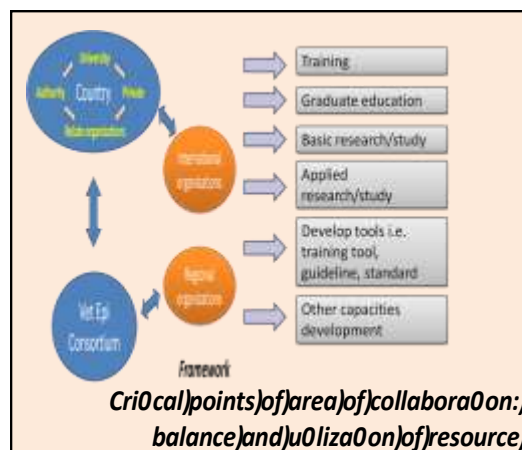
Areas of collaboration)



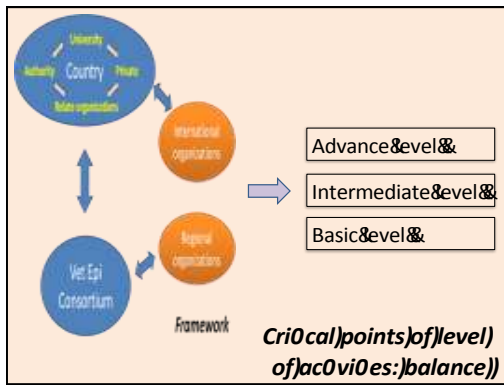
Level of activities)



Critical points: good coordination)



Critical points of area of collaboration; balance and utilization of resource)



Constraint and solution

- Communication among parties within and outside the country
- Area of interest
- Level of activities
- Language barrier