



Concept Note
Regional Workshop on the Application of the FAO Laboratory Mapping Tool (LMT)
1-5 August 2016
Bangkok, Thailand

1. Background

The economic and public health implications of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) and other Emerging Infectious Diseases (EIDs) pose threats to the prosperity and well-being of the people of the Member States of Asia. Emerging Infectious Diseases continue to arise and pose threats to animal and human health, e.g. Middle-East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS-CoV), Ebola virus disease, and Nipah virus disease.

Early detection of these pathogens is paramount to safeguard animal and human health, hence a functional and operational laboratory system is needed as a first line of defense to detect, control and prevent EIDs and high impact transboundary animal diseases. Deficiencies in the capacities and capabilities of laboratories may lead to inadequate responses to disease emergencies at the animal-human interface and could lead to significant economic losses and human lives.

As part of efforts to address these deficiencies, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has developed the FAO Laboratory Mapping Tool to aid laboratory assessment. Originally, this tool was developed and used under the IDENTIFY project of the Emerging Pandemic Threats (EPT) program funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The tool allows the generation of a laboratory profile or “map”, and can be adapted to demonstrate functionality and capacity status of a laboratory, or to establish a baseline for laboratory status prior to a capacity building program; progress and impact can be measured against this baseline during and after the program.

The FAO LMT is based on a standardized format that allows data to be captured either by external evaluators or through self-assessment. The tool is designed to facilitate the assessment of laboratory functionality in a systematic and semi-quantitative manner.

Application of the FAO Laboratory Mapping Tool in Asia and Africa under the USAID funded Emerging Pandemic Threats Program (EPT) facilitated standardized assessments of a large number of laboratories and the evaluation of strengths and weaknesses at the national and regional levels. Results served to measure general progress of laboratories and targeted interventions, e.g. improvement of QA and biosafety systems.

As an addition to the general LMT, additional modules are being developed to address specific laboratory needs to complement the general LMT. A (bio)-safety LMT (BLMT) was developed to assess the safety of laboratories. Further, additional modules will be developed to assess Antimicrobial Resistance capacities (AMR), Quality Assurance (QA) and specific disease diagnosis, such as AI and FMD.





2. Objectives:

The main objectives are to introduce participants to the FAO Laboratory Mapping Tool (LMT) and to show its practical application in a laboratory setting and how to interpret the LMT results. Further the workshop will also familiarize the participants to additional modules such as the FAO Biosafety Laboratory Mapping Tool (BLMT).

Specific objectives include:

- A. Explain the principles of LMT and how to interpret outcomes of an LMT assessment
- B. Present examples of the LMT approach in the region
- C. Practical training on the use of LMT in the laboratory and feedback sessions to evaluate participants laboratory assessments
- D. Present the additional LMT modules: BLMT, AMR, QA
- E. Practical training on the use of BLMT in the laboratory and feedback sessions to evaluate participants laboratory assessments
- F. Develop future plans to implement FAO LMT in the region

3. Workshop format:

Through theoretical plenary and practical laboratory sessions, the participants will become familiar with the general LMT and how to interpret LMT results. Secondly, additional modules such as BLMT will be demonstrated and practiced. Details and functionality of FAO LMT and BLMT will be explained to the participants by experts with experience in using the tool in the region. Practice assessment will be organized at the laboratories of the National Institute of Animal Health (NIAH), Thailand for the participants to get familiar with the tools, and feedback sessions will be organized to evaluate their assessment and to harmonize the assessments.

4. Dates and Venue

1-5 August 2016 at National Institute of Animal Health (NIAH), Bangkok

5. Expected participants

- A. Nominated laboratory quality assurance manager and biosafety officer from national leading laboratories from the following countries: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan Philippines, Sri Lanka, Singapore, and Viet Nam
- B. Representative from private sector to be linked to the regional animal health laboratory network
- C. FAO national laboratory coordinators in the region
- D. International development partners such as USAID and US Centers for Disease Control (CDC)-Thailand



6. Resource persons and experts

- A. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
- B. Mahidol-Oxford Research Unit (MORU)
- C. National Institute of Animal Health (NIAH)

DRAFT AGENDA

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1-5 August 2016

National Institute of Animal Health (NIAH), Department of Livestock Development (DLD), Bangkok, Thailand

Date	Time	Description	Note
Day 1 Mon 1 Aug 2016	9:00-9:20	Welcome address NIAH FAO	Preecha Wongwicharn Wantanee Kalpravidh
	9:20-9:50	Introduction to the workshop	Filip Claes Stuart Blacksell
	9.50-10.15	Participant introductions	Participants
	10:15-10:45	Group photo & coffee break	
	10:45-12:00	Explanation of LMT concept	Stuart Blacksell, Paul Selleck, Eric Hanssen, Chris Morrissy,
	12:00-13:00	Lunch	
	13:00-14:30	Use of LMT in the region, practical examples	Filip Claes, Chris Morrissy, Stuart Blacksell
	14:30-15:00	Break	
	15:10-16:30	Introduction of main categories and questions of the LMT	Stuart Blacksell, Paul Selleck, Eric Hanssen, Chris Morrissy
Day 2 Tue 2 Aug 2016	9:00-9:15	Review of Day 1's activities	Stuart Blacksell, Paul Selleck, Eric Hanssen, Chris Morrissy
	9:15-10:30	LMT Laboratory inspection	Virology Bacteriology Pathology
	10:30-10:45	Break	
	10:45-12:00	LMT Laboratory inspection	Virology Bacteriology Pathology
	12:00-13:00	Lunch	
	13:00-14:45	Complete LMT document	Participants
	14:45-15:00	Break	
	15:00-16:30	Feedback session LMT: Presentation and comparison of results	Participants
Day 3 Wed 3 Aug	9:00-9:15	Review of Day 2's activities	Stuart Blacksell, Paul Selleck, Eric Hanssen, Chris Morrissy
	9:15-10:30	LMT Laboratory inspection	Immuno-serology

2016			Parasitology Pathology
	10:30-10:45	Break	
	10:45-12:00	LMT Laboratory inspection	Immuno-serology Parasitology
	12:00-13:00	Lunch	
	13:00-14:45	Complete LMT document	Participants
	14:45-15:00	Break	
	15:00-16:30	Feedback session LMT: Presentation and comparison of results	Participants
Day 4 Thu 4 Aug 2016	9:00-9:15	Review of Day 3's activities	Stuart Blacksell, Paul Selleck, Eric Hanssen, Chris Morrissy
	9:15-10:30	Introduction of the BLMT module	Stuart Blacksell
	10:30-10:45	Break	
	10:45-12:00	BLMT Laboratory inspection	Virology Bacteriology Pathology
	12:00-13:00	Lunch	
	13:00-14:45	BLMT Laboratory inspection	Virology Bacteriology Pathology
	14:45-15:00	Break	
	15:00-16:30	Feedback session on BLMT: Presentation and comparison of results	Participants
Day 5 Friday 5 Aug 2016	9:00-9:15	Review of Day 4's activities	Trainers
	9:15-10:30	Discussion on issues and problems with assessments Solutions for harmonization	Participants
	10:30-10:45	Break	
	10:45-12:00	LMT laboratory portals: a way to visualize and analyze national LMT results	Beatrice Mouille
	12:00-13:00	Lunch	
	13:00-14:45	The next modules: brief overview of AMR and QA	Beatrice Mouille
	14:45-15:00	Break	
	15:00-16:30	Discussion on next steps on application of the LMT in the region	Participants
	16:30-17:00	Closing ceremony and certificate delivery	Preecha Wongwicharn Filip Claes