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PANDASIA Stakeholder Mapping Workshops



On October 17 to 19, 2023, the PANDASIA project, supported by the European Union (EU) and the UK Research and Innovation (UKRI), organized two stakeholder mapping workshops in Bangkok, Thailand. Work Package 1 is a component of PANDASIA that uses quantitative and qualitative studies to generate important information about context specific structural drivers and barriers and environmental conditions to better understand animal, human and environmental interactions which may influence potential zoonotic spillover.

Primary Objectives of PANDASIA

The primary objectives of the project involve the gathering of social and biological data, modeling zoonotic spillover rates, and studying disease emergence in high-risk settings in Thailand. The project emphasizes community-driven and co-created interventions. The research strategies will be executed through assigned work packages that aim to enhance health literacy and preparedness among local communities and public, human, and animal health authorities. Collaboration with potential stakeholders at various levels is crucial for the project's success.

Engaging Stakeholders in PANDASIA

The main objectives of these workshops were to establish connections and good relations with relevant stakeholders and engage them throughout the project's lifecycle to understand current implementation processes relevant to One Health, wildlife, and spillover prevention. Representatives from relevant ministries and civil society organizations (CSOs) involved in human and animal health, agriculture, and the environment participated at national, regional, provincial, and local levels. They presented current programs and activities related to One Health (OH) approaches to sustain the health of people, animals, and the ecosystem.



Opening of the Workshop and Key Participants

Dr. Soawapak Hinjoy, Director of the Office of International Cooperation, Department of Disease Control, Ministry of Public Health, opened the workshop and gave a welcome message. Prof. Dr. Alongkorn Amonsin, Director of the Center of Excellence for Emerging and Re-emerging Infectious Diseases in Animals (CUEIDAs), Faculty of Veterinary Science, Chulalongkorn University, presented PANDASIA's objectives and engagement strategies.



On October 17–18, 2023, the PANDASIA Stakeholder Mapping Workshop was attended by a total of 25 participants from government stakeholders at various levels.


A total of 11 participants represented the central government, including the Department of Livestock Development from the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, the Department of National Parks, Wildlife, and Plant Conservation from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, the Department of Health Service and Support, the Office of International Cooperation, the Division of International Disease Control Ports and Quarantine, the Division of Epidemiology, the One Health Coordinating Unit, the Division of Communicable Diseases, and the Department of Disease Control from the Ministry of Public Health.

For government staff from Chanthaburi Province, there were 9 participants from the Chanthaburi Provincial Health Office, the Chanthaburi Provincial Livestock Office, Soi Dao District Health Office, Ban Tao Than Health Promoting Hospital from Soi Dao District, Ban Khlong Yai Health Promoting Hospital and Ban Thepnimit Health Promoting Hospital from Pong Nam Ron District, and the Marine Ranger Special Unit from Thewa Phitak Camp.

For government staff from Chiang Rai Province, there were 5 participants from Wiang Kaen District Health Office, Mae Fah Luang District Health Office, Wiang Kaen Hospital, Mae Fah Luang Hospital, and the Chiang Rai Provincial Livestock Office.



Prof. Dr. Alongkorn Amonsin
Director of Center of excellence for emerging and re-emerging diseases in animals (CUEIDAs),
WP1 Leader



On October 19, 2023, a total of 10 participants were from civil society organizations, including the representatives from

- Thailand One Health University Network (THOHUN);
- World Vision Foundation of Thailand (WVFT)
- Sueb Nakasathien Foundation
- Institute of HIV Research and Innovation (IHRI)
- Thai Health Promotion Foundation
- WildAid Thailand
- Zoological Society of London-Thailand (ZSL-Thailand)

Furthermore, three international teams participated in the PANDASIA workshop, including representatives from Queen Mary University of London (QMUL), the Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research (Leibniz-IZW), and the Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU).



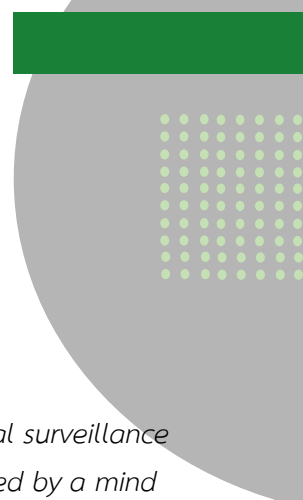
Insights from Relevant Ministries

Dr. Ratanaporn Tangwangvivat, One Health Coordinating Unit, Division of Communicable Diseases, Department of Disease Control, Ministry of Public Health, spoke about the ministry's programs on emerging infectious diseases and the One Health System in Thailand.

Particularly to animal health and human health-related programs,

Dr. Sith Premashthira, Department of Livestock Development, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, presented the government's current animal disease surveillance systems, whereas Dr. Pawinee Doungnern, Division of Epidemiology, Department of Disease Control, Ministry of Public Health, highlighted the human disease surveillance system in the public health sector.

Activities: Participants engaged in a challenge session to identify issues and gaps in local surveillance systems during the COVID-19 pandemic. They collaborated in group discussions, followed by a mind mapping exercise to assess the implementation of the 'One Health' framework in their contexts.



Insights from Civil Society Organizations

On October 19, 2023, the second workshop was attended by representatives from various civil society organizations. The participants actively shared their current programs and practices on community engagement and sustainable actions related to addressing emerging infectious diseases, COVID-19, pandemic readiness, and understanding and applying the One Health.

Activities: Participants engaged in workshop activities where participants collaboratively created a mind map, enhancing their understanding of the interconnectedness of human, animal, and environmental health. Following this, they engaged in activities, working in groups to identify and discuss challenges and gaps within their local surveillance systems during the COVID-19 pandemic. This activity aimed to deepen their understanding of practical issues and encourage solutions under the 'One Health' framework.

Closing Remarks and Project Emphasis

The closing remarks were given by **Dr. Hans Overgaard**, Norwegian University of Life Sciences, the Principal Investigator of PANDASIA. He emphasized the importance of engaging stakeholders to achieve the goals of the project and for the benefit of local populations and communities in Thailand.



Dr. Hans Overgaard
PANDASIA Project Investigator, WP7 Leader

