PANDASIA
PREVENTING FUTURE PANDEMICS
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Newsletter

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Third Annual Meeting of the PANDASIA Project

Theme: "Sharing Vision, Sharing Solutions for Pandemic Preparedness in Southeast Asia,"
at The Natural Garden Resort, Chanthaburi, Thailand, on June 4–6, 2025

The **Third Annual Meeting of the PANDASIA Project** brought together an international and interdisciplinary consortium of scientists, policy experts, local partners, and communication specialists to reflect on progress and deepen collaboration. Held in the scenic Natural Garden Resort in Chanthaburi, Thailand, the event revolved around this year's theme **"Sharing Vision, Sharing Solutions",** a call for action to co-create inclusive strategies that strengthen public health systems and pandemic literacy in the region.

Dr. Hans Overgaard, the Principal Investigator of PANDASIA, opened the event by emphasizing the project's commitment to transdisciplinary collaboration in tackling pandemic risks. "Only through a shared vision can we identify sustainable solutions," Dr. Overgaard emphasized. Dr. Overgaard's keynote underscored the importance of uniting academic research, field operations, and community engagement to reduce the threat of zoonotic spillovers in Southeast Asia.

Two globally recognized experts delivered presentations. They were **Prof. Dr. David Hayman** and **Prof. Dr. Serge Morand.** Their work aligns with PANDASIA's mission to enhance pandemic preparedness through integrated, science-based, and community-informed approaches. Their contributions brought global perspective, scientific depth, and policy relevance to the consortium's efforts.

Prof. Dr. David Hayman is an affiliated member, One Health High-Level Expert Panel (OHHLEP). **Prof. Dr. Hayman**, as an infectious disease epidemiologist discussed the systemic factors driving infectious disease emergence and advocated for holistic, integrated health approaches. His work champions the interconnectedness of human, animal, and environmental health, an approach that is central to PANDASIA's risk assessment and pandemic literacy framework. He brought a broader international lens on zoonotic disease emergence, helping PANDASIA align its strategies with global health security efforts. His research helps guide the modeling and surveillance components of PANDASIA in identifying high-risk areas and early warning systems. "Prof. Dr. Hayman's insights helped sharpen the consortium's understanding of the upstream drivers of pandemics—vital for developing local solutions with global significance."

Prof. Dr. Serge Morand serves as Coordinator, Health Disease, Ecology, Environment, and Policy (HealthDEEP) Project. Prof. Dr. Morand promotes science-policy dialogue, key to PANDASIA's goal of translating science into practical, community-supported policies. He shared lessons from Laos and Thailand on using ecosystem-based policies to inform public health decisions and support science-policy dialogue. His work in Thailand and Lao PDR mirrors PANDASIA's geographic and ecological focus, offering tested models for integrating health, biodiversity, and sustainability. His ecological perspective reinforces PANDASIA's transdisciplinary approach, which combines biological, environmental, and behavioral data. "Prof. Dr. Morand's experiences illustrated how ecological knowledge, and local governance can work together to inform smarter pandemic responses." In essence, both experts strengthened the scientific and policy credibility of the meeting and helped bridge global theory with local action, exactly the kind of synergy that defines PANDASIA's approach.

During the last day of the three-day gathering, the consortium members shared field findings and cross-cutting updates on their activities such as: Animal sampling and surveillance; Laboratory and genetic analysis; Mathematical modeling of zoonotic spillover risks; Community-based communications and behavior change research; and Management and cross-consortium collaboration updates. These updates demonstrated how technical laboratory research, social sciences, and local knowledge converge in the project's innovative early warning systems.




As the PANDASIA project is implemented in Thailand, the country's geographic position as a transition zone between biodiverse forests and densely populated urban areas makes it a critical hotspot for zoonotic disease emergence. Therefore, local partners from the Office of Natural Resources and Environment, Khao Soi Dao Wildlife Breeding Center, and Rambhai Barni Rajabhat University also joined the meeting and experienced grounding the PANDASIA's scientific discourse of real-world challenges.

Therefore, **"Sharing Vision, Sharing Solutions"** represents more than just collaboration, it is about co-creation with communities, policy leaders, and influencers to build trust and resilience. Our PANDASIA recognizes that: **"The best solutions do not come from the top down, but from the ground up, where trust is built and lives are lived."** By empowering local voices, the project strengthens pandemic readiness while making scientific knowledge accessible and actionable.




PANDASIA is implemented by 10 leading institutions across Europe and Asia: Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU), Norwegian Veterinary Institute (NVI), Heidelberg University Hospital (HUH), Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research (Leibniz-IZW), Wolfson Institute of Population Health, Queen Mary University of London (QMUL), University (UM), NOVA Information Management School, Khon Kaen University (KKU), Mahidol University (MU), and SUPA71 Co., Ltd (SUPA71)

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