

# Newsletter

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## PANDASIA Project Participates in the Asian Neglected Tropical Disease Conference 2025 (NTDASIA 2025)

*The PANDASIA project, represented by the project principal investigator Dr. Hans J. Overgaard and its research team, participated in the Asian Neglected Tropical Disease Conference 2025 (NTDASIA 2025).*



The NTDASIA 2025 was held on 27–28 November 2025, in Khon Kaen, Thailand. The conference was hosted by the Faculty of Medicine, Khon Kaen University, under the theme “Translating Systems Thinking into Real-World Impact for SDG 2030.” The event aimed to create a regional platform for advancing science, policy, and practice in NTD prevention and control.

This conference sought to accelerate innovation, foster transdisciplinary collaboration, and promote the translation of scientific knowledge into practical and impactful interventions across Asia. The conference’s objectives included:

1. To bring together scientists, public health professionals, policymakers, and practitioners from across Asia to share knowledge, innovations, and field experiences related to NTDs.
2. To promote systems thinking and transdisciplinary approaches to tackle complex NTD challenges, including One Health, EcoHealth, and planetary health perspectives.
3. To facilitate the translation of scientific advances—from basic research to community-level implementation—through successful models, digital innovation, and social engagement.
4. To strengthen regional and cross-sectoral partnerships that support integrated NTD control and elimination strategies aligned with UHC and SDG targets.

PANDASIA was strongly represented at the conference, with multiple scientific contributions showcasing the project's interdisciplinary and community-based approach. These contributions included an oral presentation by Dr. Hans J. Overgaard, titled “Upstream zoonotic spillover prevention: What is needed?”, which addressed key challenges and strategies for preventing zoonotic spillover at its source.



Additionally, the PANDASIA team displayed two poster presentations. The first poster, presented by Mr. Mohamed Gawad and Dr. Hans J. Overgaard on behalf of the PANDASIA team, focused on “Community-based socio-ecological research to understand and prevent zoonotic disease spillover in Thailand: the PANDASIA project.”

In addition, the second poster, presented by Dr. Ines Veiga, Asst. Prof. Dr. Mijail Naranjo-Zolotov, Asst. Prof. Dr. Patcharin Lapanun, Dr. Monchai Phonsiri, and Dr. Hans J. Overgaard, highlighted “The role of communication technologies in promoting One Health awareness in rural Thailand.”



Notably, the PANDASIA project won first prize for the poster titled “Community-based socio-ecological research to understand and prevent zoonotic disease spillover in Thailand.” These presentations reflected PANDASIA’s commitment to prevention-oriented research, community engagement, and interdisciplinary collaboration, thereby contributing to scientific exchange and regional dialogue on reducing zoonotic disease risks in Thailand and across Asia.