

Zoonotic Disease Project

Background Information

In October 2008, a consultation document was prepared by FAO, OIE, WHO, UNSIC, UNICEF, and the World Bank to contribute to One World, One Health initiatives entitled “A Strategic Framework for Reducing Risks of Infectious Diseases at the Animal- Human-Ecosystem Interface”. It highlighted the significant cost that has already been incurred from AHI H5N1 disease outbreak (placed at \$20 billion) and noted the estimates that an AHI pandemic could cost the world economy over \$2 trillion. Loss of life estimates sore into the hundreds of millions. This document, which postdates planning for the Zoonotics Disease Project, combined with current global events such as the Influenza A H1N1 outbreaks, are influencing the direction of ADPC’s work in this field.

The Rockefeller Foundation contracted ADPC to undertake the Zoonotic Disease Project with a goal to strengthen capacities to manage the risks of zoonotic disease emergencies, including those with pandemic potential. Cast in the context of “One World, One Health”, the project will improve the understanding of, and strengthen tools for, preparedness in zoonotic disease risks.

A component of the Zoonotic Disease Project is the one-day workshop (ODW). This will be conducted in Bangkok involving key professionals residing in Thailand, to identify the scope for a comprehensive curriculum on zoonotic disease in the context of “One World – One Health”. The curriculum will cover a broad range of subject areas which will be required to meet the differing needs of governments and international agencies in different contexts.

The **goal** of the ODW for the zoonotic disease curriculum is to identify which subject areas are already well documented and have available content, and which subject areas represent gaps that need further development.

The curriculum will be segmented into distinct modules that could be taught individually or together as the entire course. The module content will be modeled after the Harmonized Training Materials Package (HTP) developed by the Global Nutrition Cluster in collaboration with Nutrition Works. That curriculum, as in the case of the zoonotic disease curriculum, covered a broad range of subject areas which were required to meet the differing needs of governments and international agencies in different contexts.

Modules developed under the HTP were structured into four sections, which will also serve as the model for the zoonotic disease curriculum modules, namely;

1. **Briefing paper for senior decision makers** – a fact sheet which provides an overview of the topic including a summary and key messages;
2. **Technical notes for practitioners** – contains detailed technical information, highlighting challenging areas and giving clear guidance on accepted current practice; summary, and key messages;
3. **Trainers' guide** – provides guidance on how to design a training course, through tips and examples of tools that an experienced trainers can adapt; summary, key messages; standard power point presentations, and
4. **Reference material/sources** – contains a comprehensive list of relevant reference material, case studies, including guidelines, training courses and reference manuals.

In addition to module development, participants in the ODW will be asked for suggestions of potential curriculum facilitators/teacher, and possible target audiences for the pilot workshop (to be run approximately April 2010). The development of each module will require a lead coordinator, and suggestions for these will also be sought from the ODW participants.

Following completion of the workshop, using information obtained during the ODW, ADPC will identify in consultation with Rockefeller Foundation, universities and institutions to develop the draft modules over a period of about 3 months. A one-week pilot training workshop will then be held to test the modules and identify areas for improvement. The cooperating institutions will participate in the training workshop and revise the modules based on the feedback. The Zoonotic Diseases Project is expected to be completed by July 2010.

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