

SUMMARY

The 4th Joint Meeting of The ASEAN Plus Three Field Epidemiology Training Network (ASEAN+3 FETN) with The ASEAN Veterinary Epidemiology Group (AVEG) hosted by Lao PDR during 14 - 15 December 2021

Referring to the 11th ASEAN + 3 FETN steering committee meeting held on 13-14 January 2021 hosted virtually by the ASEAN + 3 FETN Coordinating Office. All ASEAN + 3 FETN steering committees agreed to conduct the fourth Joint Meeting of The ASEAN Plus Three Field Epidemiology Training Network (ASEAN+3 FETN) with The ASEAN Veterinary Epidemiology Group (AVEG) for strengthening collaboration and inclusiveness in enhancing the collaboration of applied field epidemiology capacity between ASEAN + 3 FETN and AVEG to prepare for mitigating the consequences of life-threatening zoonotic infectious diseases.

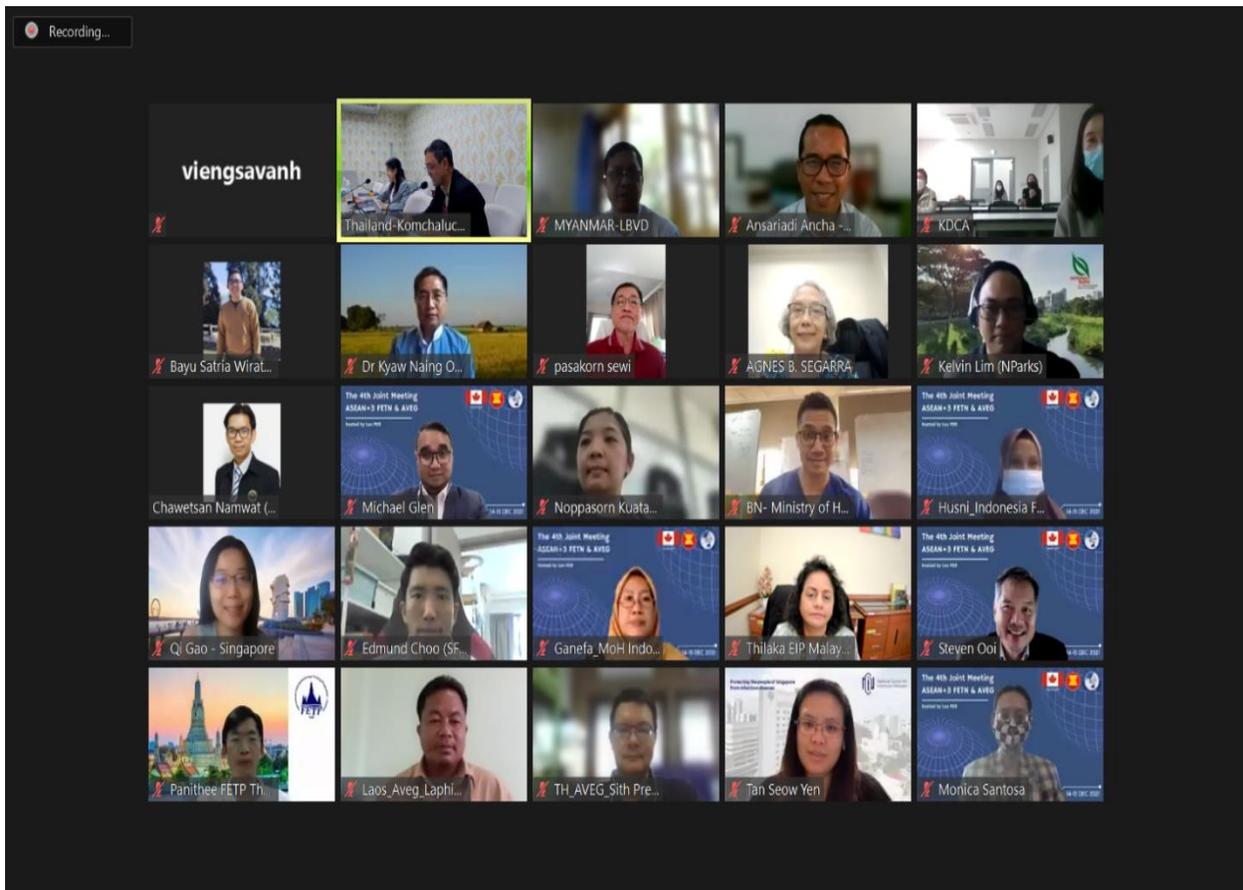
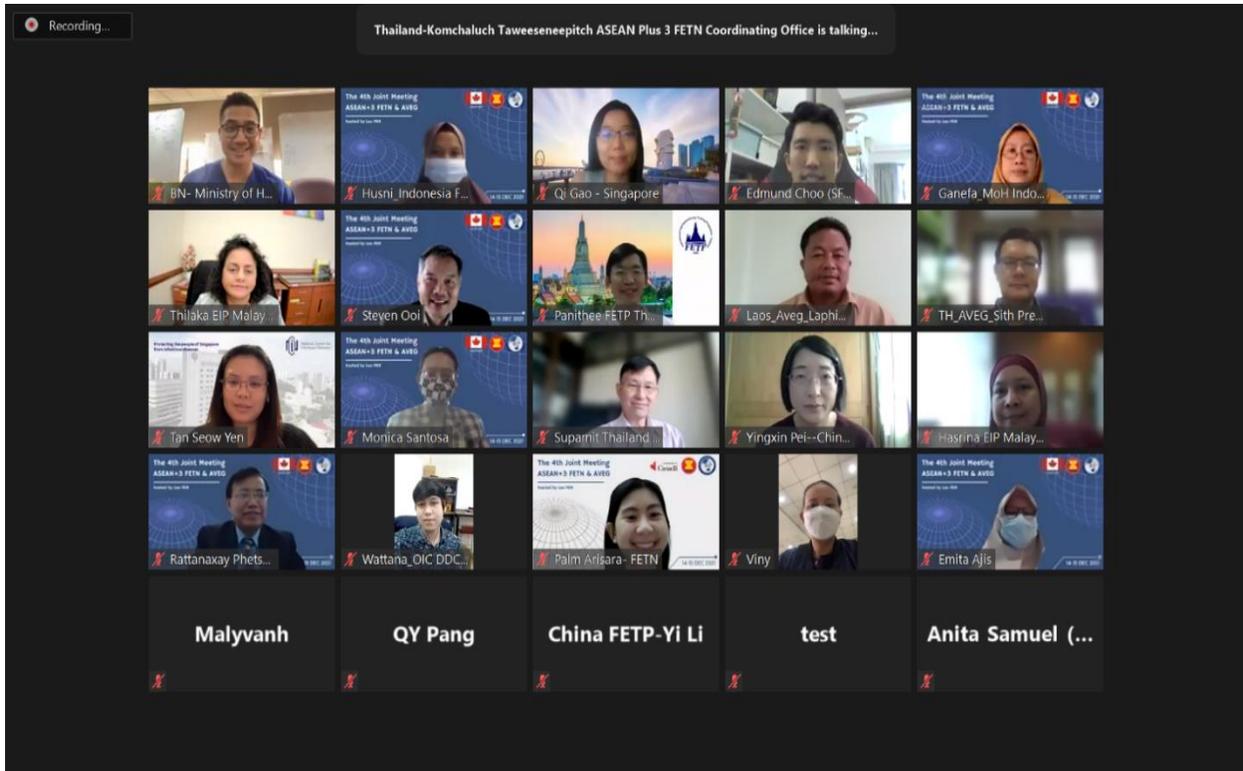
To prevent an outbreak and avoid the loss in the ASEAN member countries timely and efficiently, the multisectoral and multidisciplinary collaboration between epidemiologists from the public health sector and the animal health sector is needed to strengthen regional and global health security. The said meeting was held on 14 and 15 December 2021. From 09:00 – 12:00 AM ICT time (GMT+7).

The host of the workshop is Lao PDR by facilitated by the ASEAN Secretariat, ASEAN Plus 3 FETN Coordinating Office, Office of International Cooperation Thailand and ASEAN Plus Foundation. The web conference software, "Zoom", was used.

Day 1: 14 December 2021: Closed Session

1. Chair: Dr Rattanaxay Phetsouvanh, Chair of ASEAN Plus 3 FETN Steering Committee
Facilitators: ASEAN Secretariat, ASEAN Plus 3 FETN Coordinating Office and Office of International Cooperation Thailand

Present: 42 valuables focal points of ASEAN Plus 3 FETN and AVEG from Brunei Darussalam, China, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Republic of Korea, Thailand, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Japan, Lao PDR, Singapore. The ASEAN Secretariat, ASEAN Plus 3 FETN Coordinating Office, Office of International Cooperation Thailand and ASEAN Plus Foundation.



WELCOME REMARKS

2. The Day 1 FETN-AVEG meeting 2021 was chaired by Dr Rattanaxay Phetsouvanh, Director General of Communicable Diseases Control, Ministry of Health Lao People's Democratic Republic and Chair of ASEAN Plus 3 FETN Steering Committee. He extended a warm welcome to all participants. He outlined the objectives of the meeting, which were to share updates, information, and lessons from the COVID-19 response by ASEAN+3 FETN and AVEG, to review the progress of implementation on the existing agreed joint activities between ASEAN+3 FETN and AVEG from 2016 – 2020, and to develop the 5-years strategic framework of cooperation (2021-2025) between ASEAN+3 FETN and AVEG.



ROLL OF INTRODUCTION

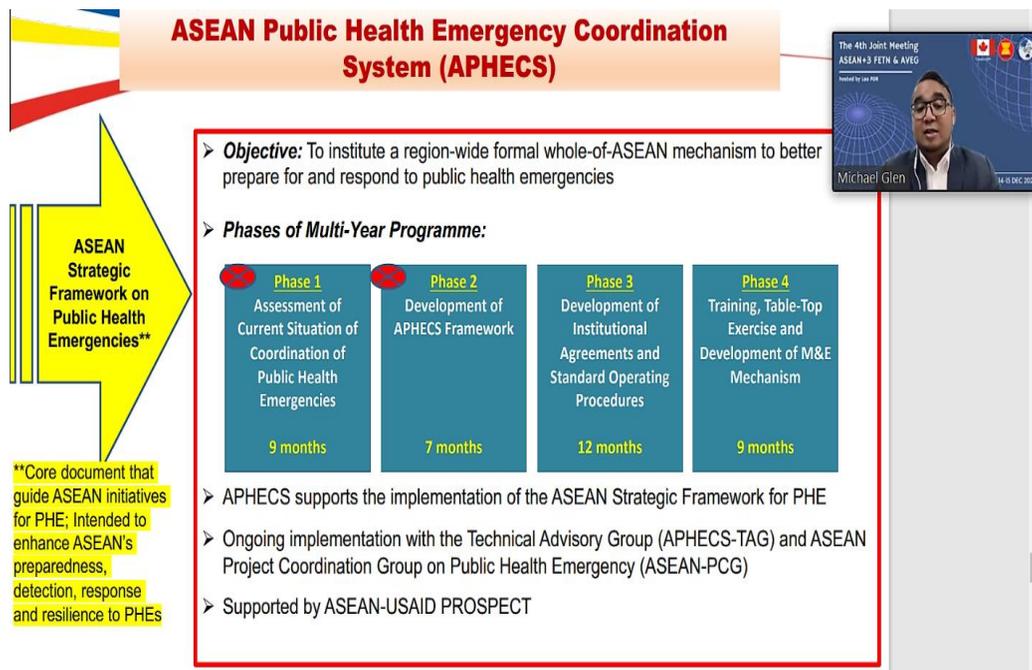
3. Mr Chair invited the Assistant ASEAN Plus 3 FETN Coordinator, Dr Arisara Choochern, to do a roll call and ask all participants to introduce themselves briefly.

ADOPTION OF MEETING OBJECTIVES AND THE AGENDA

4. Mr Chair invited the ASEAN Plus 3 FETN Coordinator, Dr Komchaluch Taweeseeneepitch, to outline the meeting objective and the agenda to let participants understand. All participants agreed with no objection to all objectives and meeting agenda. See more detail in Annex 1.

Agenda Item 1: UPDATES FROM THE ASEAN HEALTH SECTOR AND ANIMAL HEALTH SECTOR ON THE STRATEGIC DIRECTION FOR 2021 – 2025

5. Dr Michael Glen from Health Division – ASEAN Secretariat gave the overview of the outcomes from relevant ASEAN Meetings and the development of the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Animal Health and Zoonoses (ACCAHZ). He highlighted that the joint activities between ASEAN Plus 3 FETN and AVEG are in line with Strategic Thrust 2: Disease control and food safety to expand trade and protect human health. The potential activities are addressed in activity 2.1.2. Increase capacity development in Veterinary Epidemiology and undertake relevant epidemiological works. He mentioned the objective of developing the ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Animal Health and Zoonoses (ACCAHZ). The general objective is to establish and sustain a regional mechanism that will facilitate coordination and cooperation among AMS and relevant national and international partners and stakeholders to prevent, control, and eradicate transboundary animal and zoonotic diseases in the region. See more detail in Annex 2. All participants actively participated and asked questions during the presentation.



ASEAN Public Health Emergency Coordination System (APHECS)

Objective: To institute a region-wide formal whole-of-ASEAN mechanism to better prepare for and respond to public health emergencies

Phases of Multi-Year Programme:

Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4
Assessment of Current Situation of Coordination of Public Health Emergencies	Development of APHECS Framework	Development of Institutional Agreements and Standard Operating Procedures	Training, Table-Top Exercise and Development of M&E Mechanism
9 months	7 months	12 months	9 months

APHECS supports the implementation of the ASEAN Strategic Framework for PHE

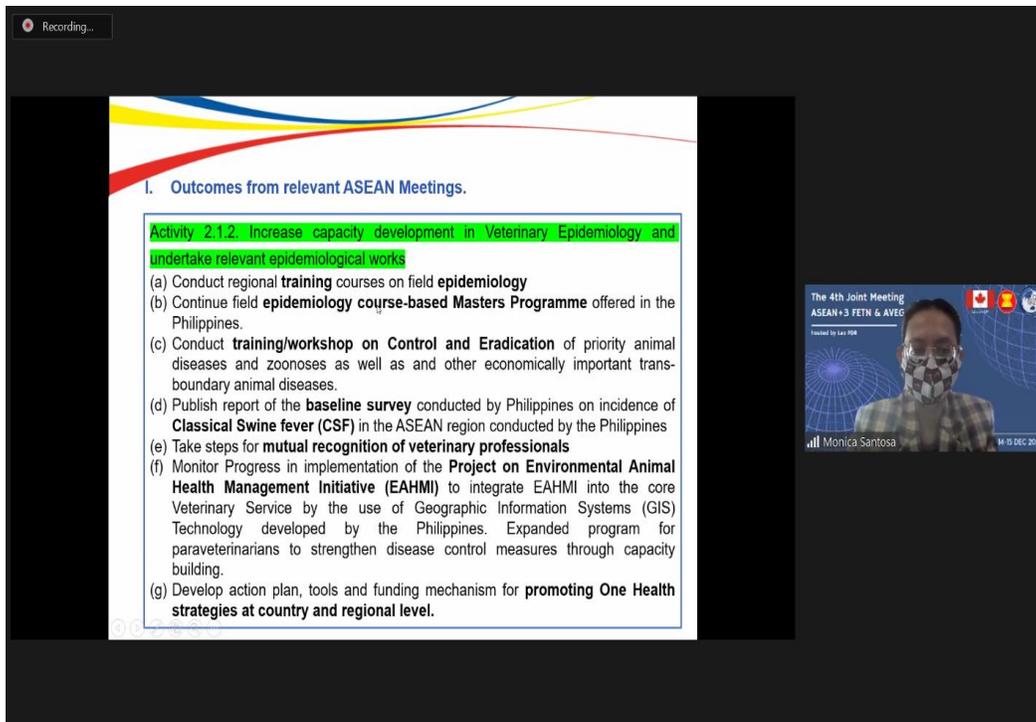
- Ongoing implementation with the Technical Advisory Group (APHECS-TAG) and ASEAN Project Coordination Group on Public Health Emergency (ASEAN-PCG)
- Supported by ASEAN-USAID PROSPECT

ASEAN Strategic Framework on Public Health Emergencies**

**Core document that guide ASEAN initiatives for PHE; Intended to enhance ASEAN's preparedness, detection, response and resilience to PHEs

Video Inset: The 4th Joint Meeting ASEAN+3 FETN & AVEG. Speaker: Michael Glen. Date: 14-15 DEC 2020.

6. Miss Monica Ariella S. Santosa from the Food, Agriculture and Forestry Division (FAFD) of the ASEAN Secretariat gave the overview of the ASEAN Post-2015 Health Development Agenda: Alignment and Complementarity. The agenda addressed the potential collaborative activity with ASEAN Plus 3 FETN by responding to all hazards and emerging threats. By compliance with the Mitigation of Biological Threats (MBT) Program funded by Canada's GPP. The program support activity strengthens public health and animal health epidemiology capacity - ASEAN+3 FETN. She highlighted the theme of collaborative training activities focusing on the one health approach and Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR). See more detail in Annex 3. All participants actively participated and asked questions during the presentation.



7. Miss Monica Ariella S. Santosa from the Food, Agriculture and Forestry Division (FAFD) of the ASEAN Secretariat gave the overview of the ASEAN Post-2015 Health Development Agenda: Alignment and Complementarity. The agenda addressed the potential collaborative activity with ASEAN Plus 3 FETN by responding to all hazards and emerging threats. By compliance with the Mitigation of Biological Threats (MBT) Program funded by Canada's GPP. The program support activity strengthens public health and animal health epidemiology capacity - ASEAN+3 FETN. She highlighted the theme of collaborative training activities focusing on the one health approach and Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR). See more detail in Annex 3. All participants actively participated and asked questions during the presentation.

Agenda Item 2: SHARING OF BEST PRACTICES, EXPERIENCES, AND LESSONS FROM ASEAN+3 FETN AND AVEG IN RESPONDING TO COVID-19

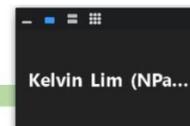
8. Dr Chawetsan Namwat, the Director, Division of Disease Control in Emergency Situation, Department of Disease Control, Minister of Public Health from Thailand, shared the best practices, experiences, and lessons on responding to the pandemic COVID-19. He announced that Thailand won United Nations Public Services Awards. He emphasized that the success factors in COVID-pandemic control compose staff, staff and system. The disease control policy in 2020 is to prevent infection, whereas the disease control policy in 2021 is to prevent death. See more detail in Annex 4. All participants actively participated and asked questions during the presentation.



9. Dr Kevin Lim, the Director of Veterinary Health Management Branch from Animal and Veterinary Service of National Parks Board from Singapore. He presented the roles of veterinary professionals to be in charge of responding COVID-19 pandemic. He highlights wildlife's surveillance and monitoring systems, such as the bio surveillance program. The concern is about the resurgence of the COVID-19 pandemic. COVID-19 created disruptions and generated uncertainties for animal industries, veterinarians, pet owners and the public. One Health Multi-Sectorial Collaboration is the most critical approach. Multi-agency workshops and discussions organized to drive a whole-of-government biosurveillance framework to address diseases of public health concern. Sharing from veterinary and human epidemiologists with field officers from various disciplines and job scopes could enhance the development of the One Health Field Epidemiology Course. See more detail in Annex 5. All participants actively participated and asked questions during the presentation.

Biosurveillance Programmes

- Since 2011, NParks and researchers have been collecting samples from bats and other wildlife to test for a number of viruses.
- Increased public awareness of biosurveillance programmes to monitor animal diseases
- Public communications on the risks of wildlife and how to minimise human-wildlife conflict
- Importance of sustained and regular disease biosurveillance

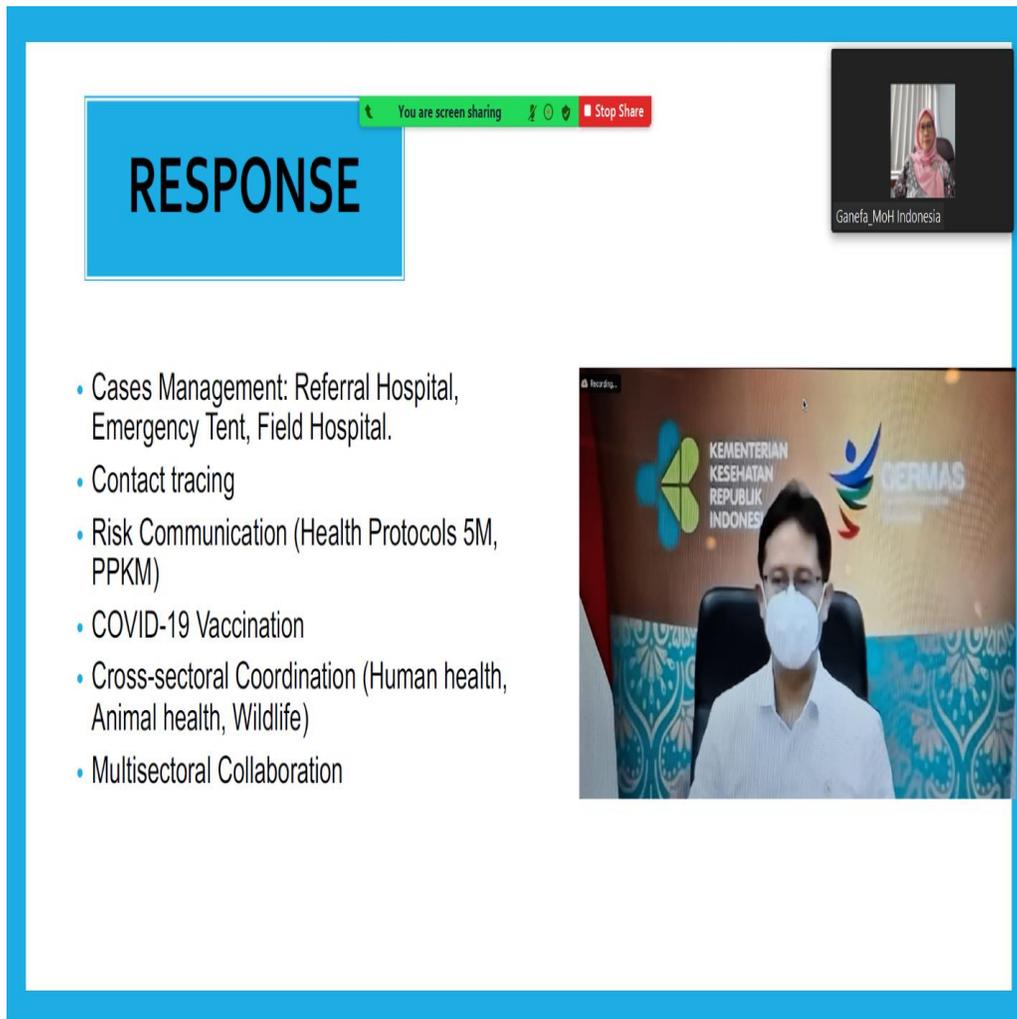


NParks: Coronavirus not found in bats and other animals in Singapore so far



While initial reports suggested that the new coronavirus possibly came from bats, the experts from NParks have said there is no need to panic when they are seen, and to just make sure to keep a distance from them

10. Dr Siti Ganefa Pakki from Indonesia shared the Indonesia public health in responding to COVID-19. She concluded that critical of one health approach. Indonesia has three pillars to respond and mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic as follow; 1) prevent such as joint risk assessment, 2) detect such as Disease prevention at the port of entry for both human and animal and 3) respond such as Risk Communication. See more detail in Annex 6. All participants actively participated and asked questions during the presentation.



The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting interface. At the top, there is a status bar indicating 'You are screen sharing' and a 'Stop Share' button. The main content is a slide with the following text:

RESPONSE

- Cases Management: Referral Hospital, Emergency Tent, Field Hospital.
- Contact tracing
- Risk Communication (Health Protocols 5M, PPKM)
- COVID-19 Vaccination
- Cross-sectoral Coordination (Human health, Animal health, Wildlife)
- Multisectoral Collaboration

On the right side of the slide, there is a small video feed of a woman identified as 'Ganefa_MoH Indonesia'. Below the slide, there is a larger video feed of a man wearing a white face mask, speaking in front of a backdrop that reads 'KEMENTERIAN KESEHATAN REPUBLIK INDONESIA' and 'GERMAS'.

Agenda Item 3: REVIEW AND UPDATES ON THE PROGRESS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF JOINT AGREED ACTIVITIES OF ASEAN+3 FETN AND AVEG (2016 – 2020).

11. Dr Komchaluch Taweeseeneepitch, ASEAN Plus 3 FETN Coordinator, reported the progress of the jointed activities, which got the concurrent from the three previous joint meetings. He announced the joint training activities in 2022: joint tabletop exercise & guideline development and a Joint training workshop on policy communication held in February 2022. See more detail in Annex 7.



Agenda Item 4: DISCUSSION ON THE 5-YEARS STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK OF COOPERATION (2021 – 2025) BETWEEN ASEAN+3 FETN AND AVEG.

12. Dr Michael Glen from Health Division – ASEAN Secretariat presented the draft version of the 5-years strategic framework of cooperation (2021-2025) (see more detail in Annex 8) to all focal points from ASEAN Plus 3 FETN and focal points from AVEG. Mr Chair opened the floor for discussion and asked for feedback. All participants actively participated and asked questions during the presentation. Finally, Mr Chair summarized that there are no more comments and feedback from the meeting. The meeting agreed to let Health Division-ASEAN Secretariat, FAFD – ASEAN Secretariat and ASEAN Plus 3 FETN Coordinating Office distribute the drafted version to all focal points to get concurrent/Ad-referendum by the second week of January 2022.



Day 2: 15 December 2021: Open Session

Agenda Item 5: ONGOING AND FUTURE PARTNERSHIP WITH DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

13. The Day 2 FETN-AVEG meeting 2021 was chaired by Dr Rattanaxy Phetsouvanh, Director General of Communicable Diseases Control, Ministry of Health Lao People's Democratic Republic and Chair of ASEAN Plus 3 FETN Steering Committee. He welcomed all valuable participants. He presented the agreed 5-years Strategic Framework between ASEAN Plus 3 FETN and AVEG from the first day. The overall objective of the Strategic Framework was addressed (Annex 9). The project activities in each program objective are elaborated. He opened the floor for discussion and pointed out the concerns for notation and consideration for developing partners.

Recording... You are viewing Michael Glen's screen View Options

Draft_ASEAN+3 FETN and AVEG Strategic Framework 2021-2025 - Saved to my Mac

Programme Objectives	Programme Key Performance Targets	Project Activities	Expected Output	Lead/Co-Lead Country	Partner and Resource
To strengthen regional and national workforce capacity of human and animal health on epidemiology to complement the operation of ACPHEED and ACCAHZ	By 2025, Joint capacity building/tabletop exercises/exchange of trainer/trainees among AMS from human and animal health sector are annually/regularly conducted towards the operation of ACPHEED and ACCAHZ	Multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary training/exercises/exchanges on zoonotic specific/common topics/needs among ASEAN Member States and Partners are regularly conducted	1. # multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary training/exercises/exchanges jointly participated and/or organised by the ASEAN+3 FETN and AVEG members 2. Recommendations/policy brief transpired from the multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary training/exercises/exchanges is produced	TBD	Tripartite Canada U.S. ASEAN EOC Network ACPHEED and ACCAHZ ACB
		Joint cross-border diseases surveillance capacity building and/or tabletop exercise/joint outbreak investigation	# of diseases surveillance capacity building/tabletop exercise/joint outbreak investigation at cross-border are jointly participated and/or organised by the ASEAN+3 FETN and AVEG members		Tripartite Canada U.S. CDC ASEAN EOC Network

Page 3 of 3 428 words English (United States) Focus 147%

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The 4th Joint Meeting ASEAN+3 FETN & AV... hosted by Lao PDR
Talking: Rattanaxy Phetsouvanh
15 DEC 2021

14. Dr Masaya Kato, the WHO SEARO, gave the presentation. He overviewed the roles and works of SEARO to the health emergency program by strengthening regional alert, preparedness and responses. He mentioned supporting the collaborative FETN and AVEG activities by strengthening FETP and epidemiologist and public health workforce, enhancing information sharing and exchange, and supporting epidemiological investigation and study through WHO Collaborative Center as requested. See more detail in Annex 10. All participants actively participated and asked questions during the presentation.



WHO SEARO Health Emergencies Programme – Strengthening regional alert, preparedness and response

- Advancing implementation of IHR(2005)
 - IHR capacity assessment, e.g. SPAR, JEE, SimEx, AAR/IAR
 - IHR capacity strengthening
 - Guided by APSED III and 5 year South-East Asia Regional Strategic Plan
- Strengthening regional alert and risk assessment
 - IHR event communication (e.g. notification, verification)
 - Regional event-based surveillance
 - Regional risk assessment
 - Information products – Regional situation report, Regional dashboard
 - Regional guidance/framework, e.g. International contact tracing

World Health Organization
 REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE SOUTH-EAST ASIA
 Masaya Kato SEARO

15. Miss Jenifer Lai from Global Affairs Canada gave the presentation. She mentioned that the collaboration with ASEAN is against the spread of weapons and materials of mass destruction. The large scale of infectious disease is the most concern of biological threat. In addition, most new emerging infectious diseases came from wildlife animals. Therefore, the development of joint field epidemiology capacity is needed. Mitigation of Biological Treat (MBT) program support health security purposes from 2014 to 2022. Global Affairs Canada is willing to strengthen global mechanisms for responding to & investigating deliberate use of disease. See more detail in Annex 11. All participants actively participated and asked questions during the presentation.



HOW TO SUPPORT ASEAN + 3 FETN AND AVEG

- Sustainable biosafety & biosecurity
- Strengthening global mechanisms for responding to & investigating deliberate use of disease
- ASEAN Centre for Public Health Emergencies and Emerging Diseases (ACPHEED)
- ASEAN Health Cluster II Work Plan 2021-2025

Canada
 robertclarke

16. Dr John MacArthur, Regional Director of CDC Southeast Asia Regional Office, presented the collaboration with ASEAN plus 3 FETN is to support workforce development by providing regional FETP technical advisor and One Health-based activity through regional One Health technical advisor. US CD signed the cooperative agreement with ASEAN Plus FETN Foundation to implement ASEAN Plus 3 FETN activities for 5 years. CDC Southeast Asia Regional Office, please assist the implementation of “Global Field Epidemiology Roadmap” to ensure the country having applied epidemiology capacities protect and promote health and collaborate with others to promote global health security. See more detail in Annex 12. All participants actively participated and asked questions during the presentation.

CDC Regional Office Core Areas of Support

- Surveillance and Response
- Workforce Development
- Laboratory Systems
- Public Health Emergency Management
- Infection Prevention and Control
- Antimicrobial resistance
- Border & Migrant Health
- Pandemic Preparedness and Vaccine Planning
- One Health
- Elimination

Regional FETP
 Technical Advisor

Dr. John MacAr...

17. Dr Asfri Ranguti from FAO Regional Office of ASIA and Pacific (RAP) mentioned pandemic COVID-19 has further strengthened the collaboration of both sectors – FAO supported labs in Indonesia to do COVID-19 testing. It is imperative to animal health capacity to prevent, detect and respond to zoonotic and non-zoonotic disease outbreaks at source ECTAD is critical in protecting people and animals from disease threats. He elaborated the SMART ASEAN program, which aims to strengthen ASEAN mechanisms to prevent, detect and respond to zoonotic and animal disease with pandemic potential. FAO RAP is interested in building workforce capacity for the primary two areas, One Health and AMR. See more detail in Annex 13.



Food and Agriculture
 Organization of the
 United Nations

SUSTAINABLE
 DEVELOPMENT
 GOALS

Australian
 Aid

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Background

- The 34th Session of the Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific (2018) identified One Health one of the regional initiatives in Asia and the Pacific
- COVID-19 has further strengthened the collaboration of both sectors – FAO supported labs in Indonesia to do COVID-19 testing
- Builds animal health capacity to prevent, detect and respond to zoonotic and non-zoonotic disease outbreaks at source ECTAD is critical in **protecting people and animals from disease threats**.
- FAO core activities:
 - Strengthen the capacity of animal health sector
 - Reduce the risk and impact of animal health sector
 - Zoonotic diseases
 - Transboundary animal diseases
 - Antimicrobial Resistance
 - Involve animal0-human-envoromental health sectors under One Health approach
- FAO has been closely working with AVEG and FETN+3 through various activities.

18. Dr Ronello Abila from OIE Regional Office presented OIE Regional Office is willing to support the collaboration for strengthening filed epidemiology between ASEAN Plus 3 FETN and AVEG. OIE supports the information exchange and technical guideline/material/ protocol. He announced that the WAHIS had become OIE-WAHIS. OIE-WAHIS is a modern and dynamic platform to report the animal health situation. OIE support the value chain analysis and advanced geographic information system. OIE support list of epidemiology experts/resource persons to provide expertise for the pieces of training. All participants actively participated and asked questions during the presentation. See more detail in Annex 14.



WAHIS became OIE-WAHIS (9 March 2021)

OIE-WAHIS: A modern and dynamic platform to report the animal health situation

- User friendly, intuitive, time-efficient
- High resolution dynamic mapping
- Possible Interoperability, integration and connectivity with other data and systems
- Open access of OIE WAHIS data will be foreseen

<https://wahis.oie.int>

Ronello Abila, OIE

19. Dr Vipat Kuruchittham, the Executive Director of SEAHOHUN, presented the responsibility of SEAHOHUN. SEAHOHUN aims to develop a resilient and competent One Health workforce to effectively prevent, detect and respond to infectious disease threats by leveraging education, research, and training excellence provided by member universities. SEAHOHUN advocates the role of universities to provide the capacity building, support policymakers with evidence-based information for decision making and support public health surge capacity. All participants actively participated and asked questions during the presentation. See more detail in Annex 15.



USAID FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

SEAHOHUN Southeast Asia One Health University Network

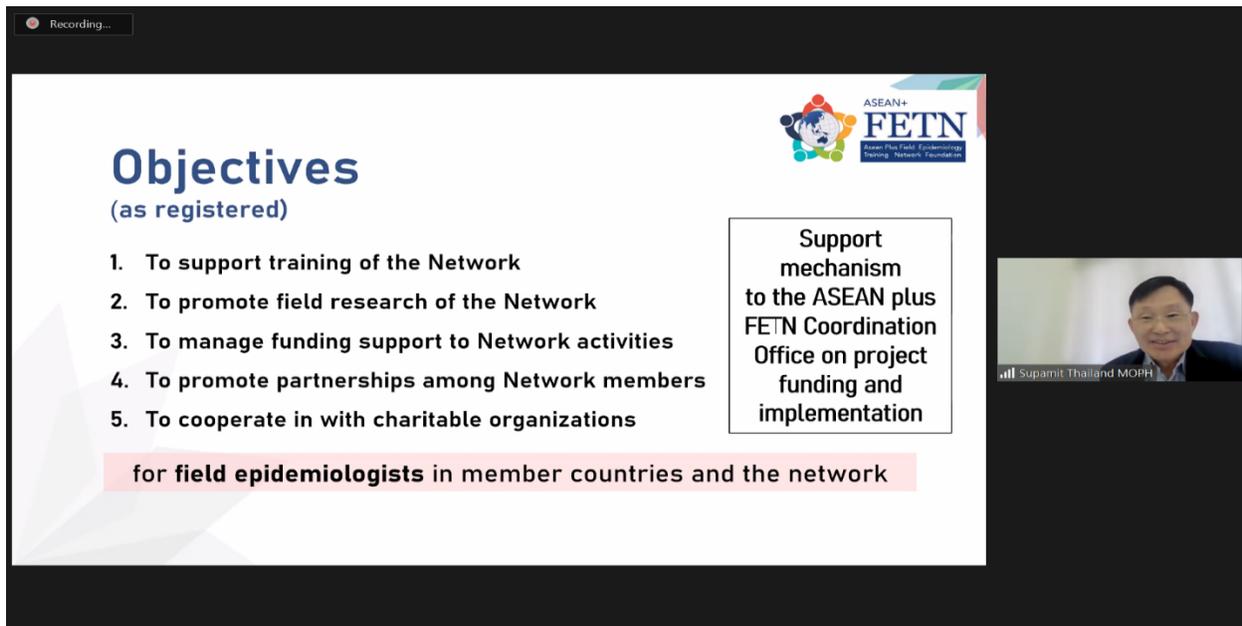
OUR MISSION: To develop a resilient and competent One Health workforce to effectively prevent, detect and respond to infectious disease threats by leveraging education, research, and training excellence provided by member universities.

SEAHOHUN advocates the role of universities to ...

- Provide the capacity building of professionals across sectors to solve complex One Health issues
- Do research that matters support policymakers with evidence-based information for decision making
- Support public health surge capacity e.g., diagnostic testing, outbreak investigation

SEAHOHUN Vipat

20. Dr Supamit Chunsuttiwat, the President of ASEAN Plus FETN Foundation, expressed his willingness to support all joint activities to strengthen the field epidemiology capacity. He mentioned the potential joint training as follows; 1) regional mentorship program, 2) strengthening field epidemiology capacities to prepare, detect and respond to public health crises/pandemics and 3) risk assessment workshop. All participants actively participated and asked questions during the presentation. See more detail in Annex 16.



Objectives
(as registered)

1. To support training of the Network
2. To promote field research of the Network
3. To manage funding support to Network activities
4. To promote partnerships among Network members
5. To cooperate in with charitable organizations

Support mechanism to the ASEAN plus FETN Coordination Office on project funding and implementation

for field epidemiologists in member countries and the network

ASEAN+ FETN
 ASEAN Plus Field Epidemiology Training Network Foundation

Supamit Thailand MOPH

Agenda Item 6: IDENTIFICATION OF POTENTIAL COOPERATION WITH PARTNERS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF 5-YEARS STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK OF COLLABORATION BETWEEN ASEAN+3 FETN AND AVEG

21. Dr Michael Glen from Health Division – ASEAN Secretariat summarized and presented the potential cooperation with partner for implementing in 5 -years strategic framework. All developing partners have potential and would support field epidemiology workforce capacity by providing technical support, grants, guidelines, etc. He highlighted that the areas of collaborative support are One Health and Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR). All participants actively participated and asked questions during the presentation. See more detail in Annex 17.

Agenda Item 6: PRESENTATION AND REVIEW SUMMARY OF AGREEMENTS AND WAYS FORWARD

22. Dr Komchaluch Taweeseeneepitch presented the agreement and way forward of collaboration in the next 5-years between ASEAN Plus 3 FETN and AVEG. He presented all partners support two main program activities of 5 -years strategic framework. He emphasized critical points as follows; 1) Mapping training, 2) Identifying new project activities and follow up pending activity due to COVID-19 pandemic and 4) creating ad hoc core group to implement approved joint activities. See more detail in Annex 18.

Closing remark

23. Dr Rattanaxy Phetsouvanh, Chair of ASEAN Plus 3 FETN Steering Committee, gave the closing remark. Dr Rattanaxy Phetsouvanh expressed his gratitude to all of you actively participating in this essential meeting. He highlighted 3 main points. First, ASEAN + 3 FETN activities have been implemented and managed systematically with great support from the ASEAN Plus 3 FETN focal points, AVEG focal points and all partners. He wishes all are safe and healthy. The Vice-Chair of AVEG from Myanmar expressed his sincere thanks to all participants for their time enhancing the joint collaborative activities for universal health in this region.



The meeting ended at 11:33 AM (Bangkok Time)