



China Field Epidemiology Training Program for Veterinarians (CFETPV) in action



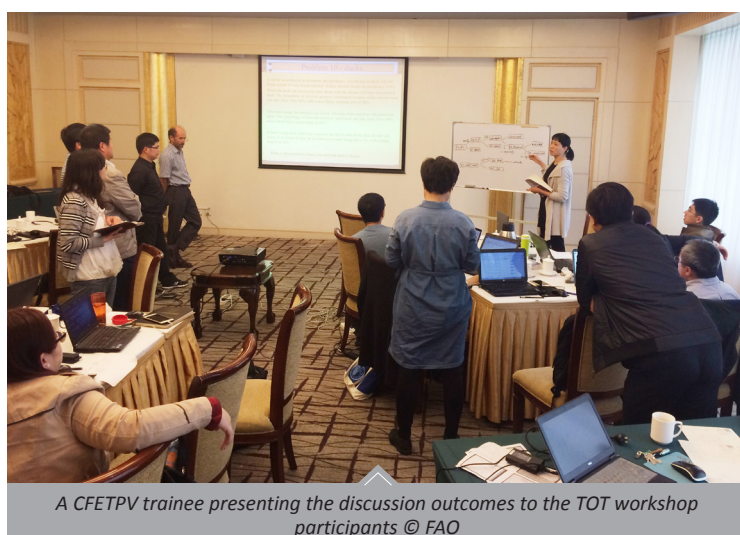
International and Chinese trainers having a hot discussion © FAO

The Module 4 of the 3rd cohort of the China Field Epidemiology Training Program for Veterinarians (CFETPV) was held in Qingdao from 5-29 April 2016. The key objective of 4-week training was to help trainees to consolidate and integrate veterinary epidemiology knowledge learnt from the previous training modules and in field practice, thereby enabling the trainees to effectively tackle animal health problems and apply the knowledge they learnt to their daily work with confidence.

In the first week, CFETPV Chinese trainers - Drs Shen Chaojian, Wang Youming and Liu Hualei from China Animal Health and Epidemiology Center (CAHEC) helped

trainees to review their field practice tasks. The second week was delivered by Prof Dirk Pfeiffer and Dr Julian Drewe from the Royal Veterinary College (RVC), London, and Chinese trainer Dr Wei Xinjie from CAHEC. Under the guidance of the trainers, the trainees reviewed previous topics covered in the introductory module and the Module 1 to 3 by using participatory approaches and exercises. The third week focused on advanced data analysis with some exercises to integrate this knowledge by using real world examples. It was delivered by Prof Javier Guitian from the RVC and Chinese trainer Dr Li Yin from CAHEC. The fourth week was aligned with the Linking Epidemiology and Laboratory Research on Transboundary Animal Diseases and Zoonoses in China and EU (LinkTADs) WP3 training course. Drs Flavie Goutard and Marisa Peyre from French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development (CIRAD) conducted a three-day session on application of surveillance evaluation. In the last two days of the week, Prof Ian Robertson and Dr Cai Chang from Murdoch University were also invited to deliver a session on the application of risk analysis.

In addition, the fourth workshop for Training of Chinese trainers (TOT) was also held in Qingdao from 25-29 April 2016. It focused on application of risk analysis, including scenario tree, various quantitative methods and application of risk analysis software. The workshop was delivered by Prof Ian Robertson and Dr Cai Chang from Murdoch University, and facilitated by Dr Guo Fusheng and Mr Tang Hao from FAO China Emergency Center for Transboundary Animal Diseases (ECTAD) Office. In total 19 participants attended the 5-day workshop, including nine CFETPV Chinese trainers, eight graduates from the 1st and 2nd cohorts of the CFETPV and two professionals from China Animal Disease Control Center (CADC). The teaching had good combination of lectures, class exercises and case studies, while participatory approach was used throughout the training, which ensured full engagement of the participants. An interactive session on three participants' field



A CFETPV trainee presenting the discussion outcomes to the TOT workshop participants © FAO

project on risk analysis received very positive feedbacks from the participants. 3rd cohort trainees also attended this session. They expressed that it was a good approach to strengthen their understanding on risk analysis and made reflections on their field practices. It is the first time to engage CFETPV graduates in the TOT workshop, which facilitated the communication among the CFETPV network.

In the forthcoming months, four CFETPV trainers will work with the RVC trainer team to develop case study with Chinese context for the introductory course. It aims to establish a case bank of CFETPV, to further strengthen the sustainability of CFETPV.

➤ Towards sustainability: CFETPV Chinese trainers study tour to the Netherlands



Drs Yu Qi and Liu Chunguo with government officials from the EZ and NVWA © FAO

To help China develop its in-country trainer resources on veterinary epidemiology, the government of Kingdom of the Netherlands supported a study tour of two Chinese trainers from the CFETPV in April 2016. They have been providing support to veterinary epidemiology development in China ever since from 2011.

Drs Yu Qi and Liu Chunguo visited several institutions in the first week, including the Ministry of Economic Affairs (EZ), the Netherlands Food and Consumer Products Safety Authority (NVWA), the Central Veterinary Institute (CVI) and the Animal Health Service (GD). Through the exchange with the colleagues in the Netherlands, they had basic understanding of the veterinary system in the Netherlands and were impressed by its modern, scientific-based veterinary services, such as regionalization and electronic certification. Following the visit, Drs Yu and Liu attended a 4-week advanced veterinary epidemiology course which was hosted by the Utrecht University. The course had good combination of lectures and practical exercises, and each participant accomplished an individual data analysis assignment on risk factor and transmission modeling at the end of the course.

Two Chinese epidemiologists expressed that the course enhanced their understanding and application of statistical methods and transmission modeling. They plan to share what they learnt with other Chinese trainers and CFETPV trainees in future trainings.

Capacity building of the Chinese trainers has become one of priorities of the CFETPV, which is the key step to drive the sustainability of the program. This initiative has been well supported by various international partners. For instance, the European Union (EU) funded a Chinese trainer to conduct a 3-week exchange program at the Royal Veterinary College, UK in October 2015. The CFETPV will seek more international exchange opportunities for the Chinese trainers, which will not only contribute to building their capacities, but also strengthening the communication with international society.

! Upcoming activities

1. The Veterinary Epidemiology for the Executives (FETPV-E) workshop will be held in Kunming, Yunnan Province from 21-22 June 2016.
2. The 4th CFETPV stakeholder meeting (i.e. Workshop on role of veterinary epidemiology in evidence-based animal health policy development) will be held in Beijing on 24 June 2016.
3. The China-Lao PDR-Myanmar-Viet Nam-Thailand Transboundary Animal Diseases (TADs) Control Meeting will be held in Vientiane, Lao PDR from 27-30 June 2016.



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