



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

EVIDENCE-BASED RISK MANAGEMENT ALONG THE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION AND MARKET CHAIN



CAMBODIA



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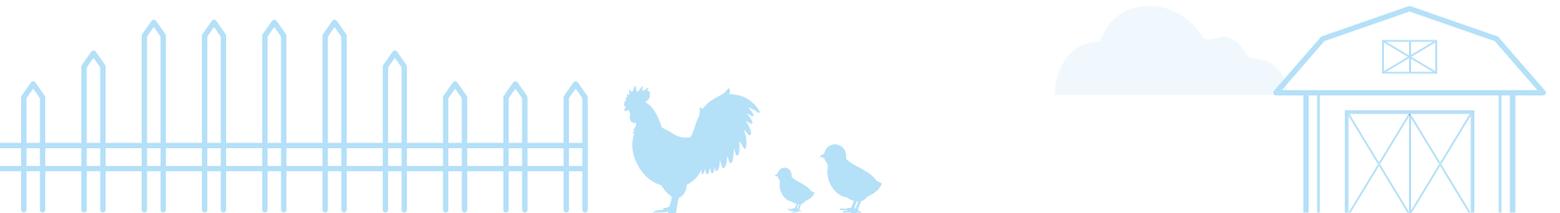
IMPROVING BIOSAFETY AND BIOSECURITY OF TAKEO LIVE BIRD MARKET THROUGH STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION

Since Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) H5N1 was first reported in Cambodia in 2004, outbreaks have repeatedly occurred. Takeo Live Bird Market (LBM) is one of the largest in the country and its poultry value chain connects throughout Cambodia. Moreover, the intensive cross-border movements of people, poultry and poultry products makes Takeo province a high-risk area where HPAI and Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza (LPAI) can easily spread from neighbouring areas.

The prolific works of the Pasteur Institute of Cambodia and the National Animal Health and Production Research Institute have shown that circulation of avian influenza (AI) viruses in the LBM can put poultry and stakeholders at risk of infection.

By improving biosecurity and hygiene practices in the sale and slaughter of poultry in live bird markets, the project Evidence Based Risk Management Along the Livestock Production and Market Chain greatly contributes to reduce the circulation of AI viruses and lower the risk of disease transmission. The project is supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

The provincial local government in Takeo and the Office of Animal Health and Production, market poultry traders, sellers and slaughterers are working together in a multi-stakeholder approach to improve the safety of LBM especially the practices of poultry sale and slaughter with guidance from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the Cambodian General Directorate of Animal Health and Production (GDAH).



Location of Takeo Province



Map source: ©Shutterstock, 2019

This map is based on UN map no. 4170 rev. 17 February 2019

The total number of backyard poultry in Takeo province is

2 351 981 heads



1 619 876
Chicken



727 652
Duck

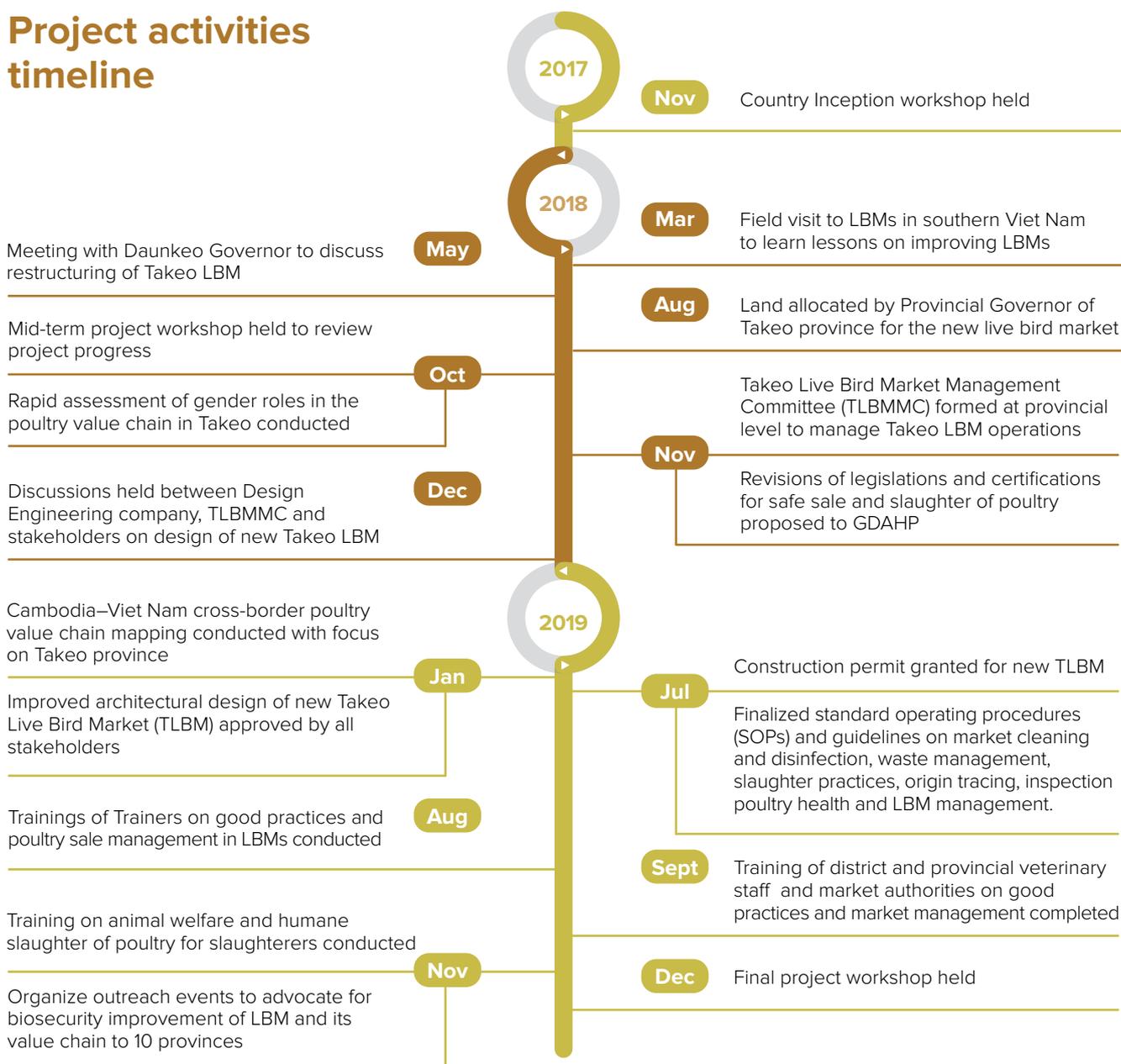


Total number
of chicken farms
37



Total number
of duck farms
344

Project activities timeline



Project outputs

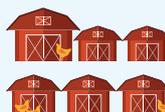
01 Stakeholder coordination and governance strengthened for management and improvement of a safer market in Takeo province and its value chain



7 project coordination meetings held between GDAH and FAO



TLBMMC established and endorsed for improved coordination



6 Live bird market committee meetings held to finalize design and functioning of the market



1 Women's group of vendors and slaughterers formed to provide engagement in design of new LBM



3 Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) held with women's group to provide inputs into LBM design and equipment requirements for TLBM

02 Plan for the market's physical restructuring developed



1 design of new TLBM agreed by stakeholders and endorsed by TLBMMC. Land for new market allocated



Legal opinion and permit for restructuring obtained and tender process for building contractor completed

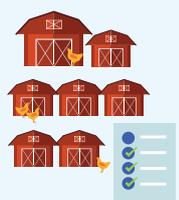
03 Biosecurity practices at the market improved



3 SOPs on improving market biosecurity and 1 guideline on market management developed



10 trainers, including one local female trainer, trained to deliver trainings on SOPs



12 vendors, 5 slaughterers and 3 market authorities trained on SOPs and guidelines



1 training on animal welfare and good slaughter practices conducted

04 Management of poultry value chain associated with Takeo LBM improved through traceability



1 cross-border value chain study completed and recommendations provided

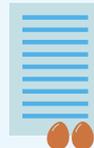


2 SOPs on origin tracing of poultry and inspection of poultry health developed

05 Awareness of all stakeholders improved for LBM biosecurity and its value chain



Post training behaviour change in stakeholders at LBM mapped

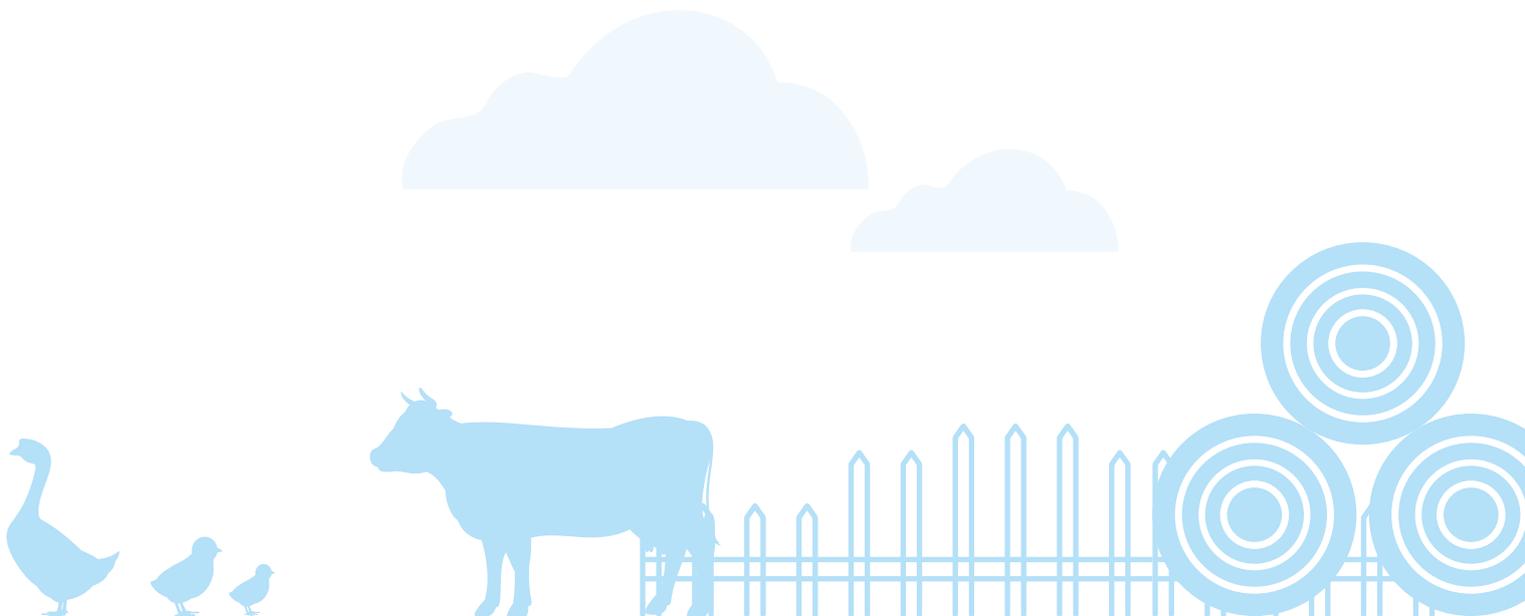


Information, Education and Communication material developed on good practices in the market



Organized outreach events to advocate for biosecurity improvement of LBM and its value chain to 10 provinces

06 Novel H7 and H5N6 virus circulation detected through LBM surveillance to prevent further spread and minimize zoonotic risk



Successes and success story

Success story 1

Revision of legislations for safe sale and slaughter of poultry

The first obstacles to safer practices are the existing country legislations which state that sale and slaughter of livestock are not applicable to poultry live bird markets. After consultation with the GDAH and other relevant national and sub-national stakeholders it was clear that a revision of legislation would be needed. What followed was a proposal to amend some articles of Sub-Decree 108, wherein “poultry shall be contained for at least two hours” for health inspection and Prakas No. 16 – “Forced feeding of poultry shall be banned”. Indeed, these important amendments will lower the risk of disease transmission and improve animal welfare.

Once the amendments are approved at ministerial level, these legislations will be applied at poultry markets to immediately improve their practices. This in turn will ensure mitigation of risk of both AI and other diseases while contributing to food safety and supply of hygienic poultry and poultry products.



Success story 2

Improved biosecurity practices in the live bird market

Improving biosecurity practices in the LBM has been a key area of work. A team of master trainers from GDAH conducted a training of trainers (ToT) for provincial veterinarians where participants gained in-depth knowledge and practical skills on LBM management and biosecurity practices as explained in the related SOPs. The trainers used several interactive methods including presentation, group discussion and a site visit to the live bird market so that are able to grasp content and put it into practice. As the vast majority of vendors, collectors/traders and slaughterers are women, the inclusion of a Cambodian female among the trainers led to the application of a gender-sensitive approach and will ensure that sessions fit the schedules of female stakeholders.

The ToT had high attendance and was greatly received. Right now the trainers are committed to further deliver newly acquired skills and knowledge to their target stakeholders not only at Takeo LBM, but also at markets in other districts and provinces.



Success story 3

Improved animal welfare and safe slaughter practices in the live bird market

The sale and slaughter of poultry in Takeo LBM is currently inadequate from the animal welfare and food safety perspective. Part of this is due to lack of awareness of good practices and the benefits of humane slaughter of poultry. An expert in animal welfare visited Takeo to discuss humane transport and slaughter of poultry. He explained the benefits of animal welfare, and how these can then lead to not only lowering risk of disease transmission, but also improve food safety and product taste. All stakeholders agreed that they could start by taking small steps, such as transporting poultry in cages and using cones for bleeding before slaughter, to improve the quality of poultry being sold from the existing Takeo LBM. Other feasible options for the new Takeo LBM have also been discussed and recommendations provided. These animal welfare improvements will serve not only as an example for other such small poultry LBMs in Cambodia, but can be applicable in the entire ASEAN region.



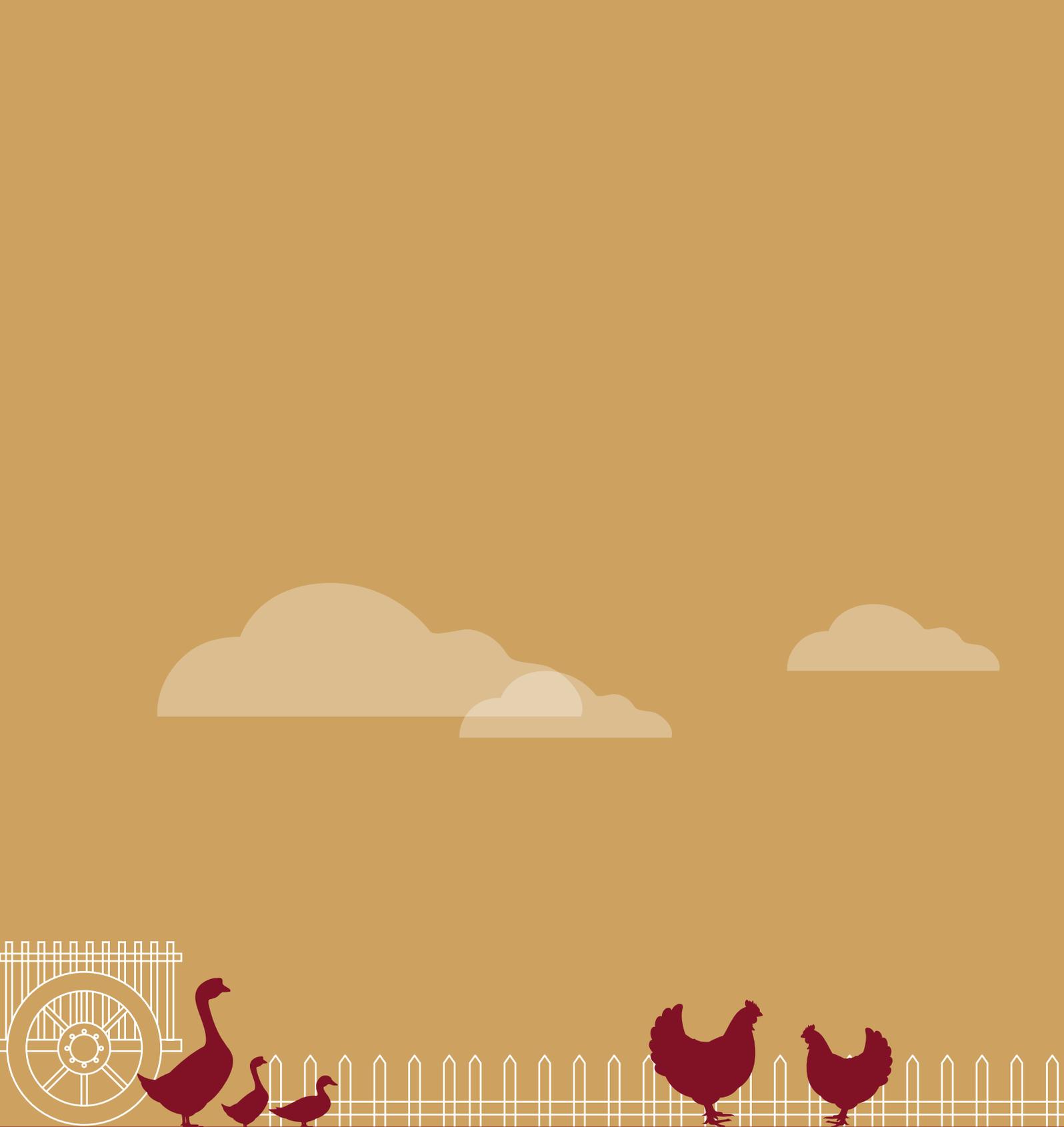
Way forward



The public-private-partnership (PPP) approach of working with local government authorities, and private stakeholders such as vendors, traders, and slaughterers applied in Takeo can be used as a model to scale up biosafety and biosecurity practices of other LBMs in the country. The setting up of the TLBMMC is an example of multi-sectoral management mechanism for efficient functioning of LBMs and will lead to community ownership and long-term sustainability. The women's group of vendors slaughterers will become champions of good practices for sale and humane slaughter of poultry and serve as an example of women's inclusion and empowerment in Cambodia.



The project has pushed forward improved legislations and practices for safe sale and slaughter of poultry. These legislations, once included in the Animal Health and Production Act, will be applied nationally to other LBMs in Cambodia. In addition, improved design of TLBM has been agreed and endorsed by stakeholders and will serve as a model for other poultry LBMs in Cambodia.



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