



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

Practical Management Strategies for Avian Influenza and Emerging Infectious Diseases ‘The Implementation Toolkit’

**Workshop communiqué
Workshop 1 Bangkok, Thailand, 18-19 June 2008**

The workshop “Practical Management Strategies for Avian Influenza and Emerging Infectious Diseases – the Implementation Toolkit” was held in Bangkok, Thailand from 18-19 June 2008. The Workshop was convened by the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, in conjunction with the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Agricultural Technical Cooperation Working Group (APEC ATCWG).

The aim of the Workshop was to introduce the Toolkit project to APEC member economies and to engage participants in discussion on the toolkit framework and content.

The objectives of the workshop were to:

- Identify the information needs of APEC member economies and end-users of the toolkit, with relation to the management of avian influenza (AI) and other emerging animal diseases (EIDs), so that the toolkit may be tailored to the needs of the participants.
- Identify existing resources and examples of successful practice that would be valuable inclusions to the toolkit.
- Identify key user requirements relating to the format, technology and design of the toolkit, to ensure that the toolkit is accessible and user-friendly.

Participants were welcomed by Dr Laddawan Rattananakorn, Senior Veterinary Expert, Thailand Department of Livestock Development (DLD). Key note addresses were delivered by Dr Koji Nabae, Regional Coordinating Officer for United Nations System Influenza Coordination (UNSIC), Dr Mohammad Azhar, HPAI Campaign Management Unit, Indonesia Ministry of Agriculture, Dr Sang-Jin Lee, Director, Veterinary Epidemiological Division, ROK Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and Dr Van Dang Ky, Chief of Epidemiology Division, Vietnam Department of Animal Health.

Representatives from ten APEC member economies as well as Laos, Myanmar, the United Nations System Influenza Coordination (UNSIC), Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Secretariat, AusAID, Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), and the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) also participated in the workshop. A full list of participants is provided at *Attachment A*.

The Workshop was structured around three main components:

- a. Identification of key challenges with EID efforts and current information needs

- b. Discussion of materials for inclusion in the Toolkit
- c. Toolkit format and website design

Day 1 of the Workshop included an overview of international policy directions presented by UNSIC, as well as presentations from Indonesia, Republic of Korea and Vietnam on their activities with relation to AI. Australia presented an overview of the Toolkit project and the elements being proposed as a framework for the Toolkit itself.

Workshop participants, working in small groups, were then asked to explore the past, present and future challenges and issues relating to the management of AI and other EIDs. Groups developed an initial list of member economy information needs and presented their findings to the workshop. The outcome of this activity was a consolidated list of member economy issues and challenges, and a preliminary list of needs to be addressed by the Toolkit.

Day 2 of the Workshop concentrated on developing the content and format of the Toolkit. An introductory session on ideas, resources and examples which could be included in the Toolkit, set the scene for further small group discussions. There was a presentation on the Toolkit format and website design, after which there was plenary discussion.

Outcomes and Next Steps

- Participants agreed that the workshop was a valuable opportunity to explore member economy challenges and issues relating to highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) and other EIDs, in order to consider information needs that could assist them to address these issues.
- The workshop agreed on the importance of the Toolkit being a needs-based resource, targeted to provide guidance on issues of concern to member economies.
- The workshop agreed that the Toolkit should be designed to assist with capacity building not just for HPAI, but also for other existing and EIDs (particularly those with zoonotic potential) facing member economies.
- The workshop considered that the Toolkit will be a valuable APEC contribution to the global community.
- Participants agreed to take an active role in promoting the toolkit and advising on information or best practice examples that would be a valuable inclusion in the toolkit.
- The workshop agreed the importance of member economies and Myanmar, Laos and Cambodia, continuing to work collaboratively on the development of the Toolkit, including working closely with international and regional organisations such as FAO, OIE, UNSIC, ASEAN, and other relevant agencies.
- The workshop agreed that the 12 proposed Toolkit elements (or chapters), which reflect the UNSIC-World Bank 6 Success Factors and components of the New Delhi Roadmap, provided a valuable framework upon which to base the Toolkit. These elements are:
 - 1) Biosecurity: The frontline defence
 - 2) Building and maintaining Commitment
 - 3) Assessments: knowing where we stand
 - 4) Surveillance
 - 5) Incentive and/or compensation schemes
 - 6) Preparedness planning: the key to effective action

- 7) Response and emergency management
 - 8) Effective mobilisation of civil society and the private sector
 - 9) Communication
 - 10) 'One World, One Health'
 - 11) Looking forward – Planning strategically
 - 12) Regional and Global Collaboration
- The workshop noted that the following areas would be a valuable addition to the toolkit framework:
 - Social and economic issues
 - Markets and slaughter (biosecurity)
 - Vaccination in animals
 - Governance and veterinary legislation.
 - Participants identified a range of topics and materials that should be covered by the toolkit, including:
 - Risk assessments
 - Early detection and early warning mechanisms
 - Examples of effective surveillance programs
 - Diagnostics
 - List of reference and accredited private laboratories
 - Live bird market standards
 - Animal movement management and control
 - Cross border management
 - Stamping out protocols
 - Compensation schemes
 - Human resource capacity building
 - Scholarships and training opportunities
 - Mechanisms for effective private - public sector partnerships
 - Contacts and links for further advice
 - Participants discussed issues relating to the usability, design and format of the Toolkit, and found the preliminary directions to be acceptable. The workshop also agreed that:
 - Translation programs should be considered for Toolkit material
 - Information should be peer-reviewed and concise
 - An intuitive search facility for the Toolkit is important. The search facility should also provide related topics and suggestions for additional search topics.
 - The workshop noted the second workshop will take place in Hanoi in August 2008, during which a draft of the Toolkit would be presented and reviewed.
 - The workshop noted the launch of the Toolkit is scheduled for the next Ministerial conference for Avian and Pandemic Influenza in Egypt in October 2008.

Attachment A

Workshop participants

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