



Activity Title and Number : Consultation to Harmonise Animal Health Reference Laboratories; A386-C3

Beneficiary: Ministry of Agriculture (MOA)

Location and Date: Xi'an and Qingdao, China; 23-31 October, 2014

Stakeholders: Livestock producer associations and industry, animal health industry, academic institutions.

Brief Activity Report

Relevance and Impact

During the dialogue between MOA and the Directorate General for Health and Consumers (DG SANCO) in March 2012, both sides agreed to cooperate in the area of Laboratory Quality Assurance. To facilitate this cooperation, EUCTP II organised a roundtable (activity [A138-C3](#), April 2012) and a study visit (activity [A166-C3](#), July 2012) to establish a road map to support the harmonisation and standardisation of animal health reference laboratories in China. CAHEC and ANSES agreed to a 3-year work plan to enhance CAHEC's laboratory capacity to become a reference laboratory for brucellosis in China. Brucellosis is a disease with high prevalence in China affecting human and animal health and causing detrimental effects on the safety of animal origin products. Regional laboratories are essential to provide diagnostic services to regional veterinarians and livestock producers. However, these laboratories need to be accredited with Central laboratories to ensure that the diagnostic tools applied in the field do not deviate from standards procedures and generate information used in regional and national programs to eradicate zoonotic diseases that represent food safety risks. In this context, a series of activities were organised, including study visits to France ([A209-C3](#) [A280-C3](#) and [A319-C3](#)), and consultations in China ([A149-C3](#), [A249-C3](#) and [A306-C3](#)). The activity described herein supports the MOA strategy to enhance the capacity of animal health laboratories to support the enforcement of the Food Safety Law in China and the harmonisation of standards.

Activity Description

Three EU experts travelled to Xi'an and Qingdao to work with the Chinese experts in charge of the CAHEC Laboratory dedicated to zoonotic diseases. In Xi'an, a region with one of the highest incidences of brucellosis in China, the experts assessed the brucellosis surveillance and control systems currently operating in that region, and the current capacity of the brucellosis regional laboratory. During the consultation CAHEC organised a two-day international seminar on the role of reference laboratories in the control and surveillance of brucellosis in domestic animals and a visit to CAHEC's laboratory. Fifteen experts from 15 Chinese provincial disease control and prevention centres and veterinary bureaus, and 14 experts from countries neighbouring China attended the international seminar facilitated by experts from ANSES and CAHEC.



Participants during the workshop

Results and Dissemination

- ✓ CAHEC experts enhanced their capacity in lab procedures to support brucellosis surveillance programs.
- ✓ Experts from countries neighbouring China gained new knowledge on brucellosis control in China and became familiar with CAHEC's laboratory capacity to enforce the control and surveillance programs for brucellosis.
- ✓ Chinese experts gained new knowledge to support the integration of regional animal health laboratories into a national brucellosis surveillance program.