



Activity Title and Number: Food Safety surveillance and risk assessment; A446-C3	Beneficiary: Ministry of Agriculture (MOA)
Location and Date: Qingdao, July 6-10 2015.	Stakeholders: Chinese Food and Drug Administration (CFDA), Agro-food Industry, Academic institutions.

Brief Activity Report

Relevance and Impact

In 2007, the Chinese Animal Health and Epidemiology Center (CAHEC) of MOA was mandated to be a key national center for risk assessment (RA) of animal origin products. This created a considerable need for CAHEC's capacity building to fulfill its mandate. The activity described herein follows up on A220, A251C3, A301C3, A304C3, A360C3 and A380C3 aimed at enhancing CAHEC's competence on RA. It is also a part of the Field Epidemiology Training Program for Veterinarians (FETPV) from MoA. This program improves animal and public health using risk based approaches to control emerging infectious and zoonotic diseases that have profound impact on the safety of animal origin products. Additionally, this activity supports the enforcement of Article 21 of the recently amended Chinese Food Safety Law which states *"Food safety risk assessment results shall be the scientific basis for developing, modifying food safety standards and implementing food safety regulatory work"*. This activity increases the proficiency of the participants in the use of risk assessment in the development of surveillance strategies for diseases that affect food safety.

Activity Description

Seventy veterinary professionals from provincial and central level Animal Disease Control Centres participated in this 5-day interactive seminar to gain understanding on how the prevalence of diseases, such as Schmallenberg disease, are detrimental for domestic and international trade and food safety.

Participants engaged in group discussion, exercises and simulations to emulate risk assessment and risk based surveillance in field.

Key technical topics during the activity:

- Epidemiology and disease control strategies
- International approaches and practical examples using key topics and target diseases
- Risk based approaches to disease prevention and control, including surveillance
- Surveillance Strategies
- Zoning/Compartmentalization
- Trade based on risk assessment
- surveillance system in China and the EU
- Surveillance evaluation



Central and Provincial level executives from MOA engaged in interactive training on risk assessment and epidemiology

Results and Dissemination

- ✓ MOA officials were empowered to contribute to the strategic development of the FETPV at provincial level.
- ✓ The capacity of veterinary professionals was enhanced to support epidemiology systems at provincial level.
- ✓ High ranking officials from the MOA gained knowledge about the interaction of human and animal health systems and as a result, they will be better prepared to understand how to foster cross-institutional collaborations to investigate zoonotic disease outbreaks.