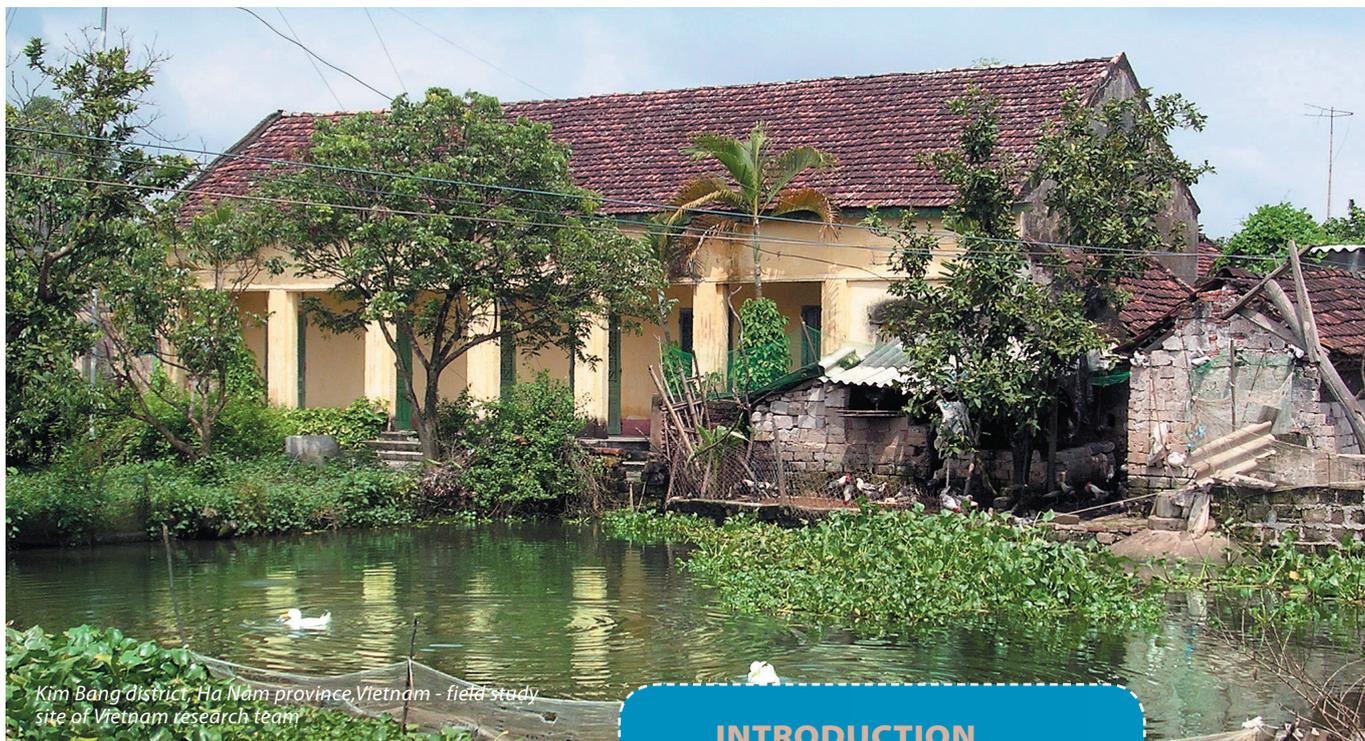


The Field Building Leadership Initiative (FBLI): Advancing Ecohealth in South East Asia



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Kim Bang district, Ha Nam province, Vietnam - field study site of Vietnam research team

INTRODUCTION

THIS BULLETIN PROVIDES AN UPDATE ON THE FBLI PROGRAM ACTIVITIES EVERY SIX MONTH. THIS PROGRAM AIMS AT BUILDING THE FIELD OF ECOHEALTH BY INTEGRATING RESEARCH, KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING TO FOCUS ON SOLVING HUMAN HEALTH PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH AGRICULTURAL INTENSIFICATION IN SEA COUNTRIES. IN THIS ISSUE, YOU WILL LEARN MORE ABOUT THE WHAT HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED IN EACH COUNTRY TEAM OR COMPONENT AS WELL AS THE CHALLENGES THAT FACE THEM. AT THE SAME TIME, SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NEXT ACTIVITIES WILL BE UNVEILED.

ACTIVITIES DONE IN THE PERIOD FROM DECEMBER 2012 TO MAY 2013

Capacity Building Component

Capacity Building Component includes Future Leader, Degree Training, and ToT training sub-components. Over the last few months, the first draft of Leadership Module has been finished and being reviewed. Trainers of the module have been identified and criteria for participants have been developed. The number of prospect participants has been expanded and other training organizers have been identified to participate in the training.

The Degree Training has been officially processed to the Curriculum Committee Board, Faculty of Science, supported by relevant documents. The proposal for Degree Program has been submitted for PMAC 2014. The first Ecohealth-One Health short course in Hanoi marked the launching of the TOT training manual and TOT highlights video. Those material are hosted by VWB/VSF website and disseminated widely in the website of Center for Public Health and Ecosystem Research (CENPHER) and through emails in the partner network.

Research Component

Most of the research teams in four countries of Thailand, China, Indonesia and Vietnam have completed their questionnaires and surveys.

- In *Thailand*, specific field site and questionnaires which listed important issues i.e., agricultural practice related to vector borne disease transmission, migrant workers, disease prevention and control, impact of rubber plantation expansion, pesticide uses. The research team has met and finished the preliminary survey with stakeholders i.e., staff of Chachoengsao Rubber Research Center as well as owners and workers of the rubber plantations.
- In *Indonesia*, the report on diary production in Bahasa was finished. The structured questions, variables of the questionnaire, FGD, and other data collection methods have been developed as well as the framework for intervention which was based on serial discussions with local leaders. The research station Pangalengan (research site) has been set. Local research team has received necessary authorities papers for research activities.



China team group discussion

- In *China*, research design was approved by the IDRC while the literature review was completed. The stakeholder interviews already took place. Some data collected about the use and sales of pesticide. Three targeted towns and four villages have been selected during the field trip to Younmou Country to revise the research protocol.
- In *Vietnam*, stakeholder workshop at the research site of Hanam province was organized in 19th January, 2013. The CBA (Community Based Method) and PRA (Participatory Rural Assessment) tools have been chosen for research, replacing KAP method. Three targeted communes have been selected and 19 field visits have been made. In the newly selected commune of Le Ho, a survey was conducted from 14- 17th May to collect information of agricultural activities by using informal conversations during visit to 19 households. Field notes have been made and archived for further use.

Ethnical approval for research has been obtained in Vietnam and Indonesia in February and June 2013 respectively. For Thai and Chinese research team, the approval is still in process.

Other activities

The EcoZD-FBLI First Ecohealth Short Course



Participants at the first EcoZD-FBLI Ecohealth- One Health Short Course, Hanoi, 27-30 May 2013

The first EcoHealth-OneHealth short course in Vietnam took place May 27 through May 30, 2013, hosted by the Center for Public Health and Ecosystem Research (CENPHER) out of the Hanoi School of Public Health (HSPH) and International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI). The participants included

an international, multi-disciplinary, and multi-sector team of representatives from across the globe, including Vietnam, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand, the United States, and the Netherlands.

The short course fostered an opportunity to highlight the conceptual framework of EcoHealth and One Health and its potential utility in the advancement of the public health agenda. Specifically, activities generated from the workshop provided a chance to demonstrate the utility and application of the theory in the context of infectious disease control and prevention, using risk analysis as a tool. Through the introduction of concepts and didactic teaching, application of case studies, and participation in fieldwork, participants in the workshop were able to learn about the major concepts of EcoHealth and hone the skills necessary for its application in their respective fields of expertise. The course focused on how ecohealth can be applied for infectious diseases and risk assessment.

The material of the course for 4 days training including presentations, video, and photos can be found at this link: <http://cenpher.hsph.edu.vn/english/content/ecozd-fbli-ecohealthone-health-short-course-material-0>

CHALLENGES DURING THIS PERIOD

For *Capacity Building* component, the curriculum development for degree program and certificate training could not be done after obtaining the comments or feedback from the Mahidol University. For *Research*, the research of Thai team, the secondary data (climatic, epidemiological and land use data) is in the process of official request from government authorities. The study in term of relationship between climatic factors and disease incidence, and land use change and disease incidence will be investigated only when the secondary data is done.

SOME HIGHLIGHTS FOR UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- For research, data analysis and field survey will be carried out in Thailand, China, Indonesia and Vietnam from June, 2013 on ward.
- For Degree Program, the announcement will start as soon as all the necessary papers obtained from the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Faculty of Science of the Mahidol University. The Degree Program will be presented at the PMAC 2014. The Ecohealth Manual will be more widely disseminated.



Contact:

Coordinating Unit
Center for Public Health and Ecosystem Research (CENPHER)
Hanoi School of Public Health
138 Giang Vo, Ba Dinh, Hanoi, Vietnam
Tel: +844 6273 3162 | Fax: +844 6273 3172
Email: cenpher@hsph.edu.vn
Website: <http://cenpher.hsph.edu.vn/english/research/fbli>



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