

SUMMARY

The 3rd Regional Workshop of GHSA Detect 1 [National Laboratory System] “GHSA 2024: Advancing Collaborative Efforts Across Relevant GHSA Action Packages” 16-18 January 2019, Bangkok, Thailand

Co-hosted by: Department of Medical Sciences, Ministry of Public Health, Thailand and the Department of Livestock Development, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Thailand

INTRODUCTION

1. The 3rd Regional Workshop took place during 16-18 January 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand, to maintain the momentum of the collaborative efforts among member countries and key development partners.
2. Presided over by Dr. Opart Karnkawinpong, the Director General of the Department of Medical Sciences, on behalf of His Excellency Professor Emeritus Dr. Piyasakol Sakolsatayadorn, Honorable Minister of Public Health, Thailand, the three-day Regional Workshop was co-hosted by the Ministry of Public Health, represented by the Department of Medical Sciences, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, represented by the Department of Livestock Development in collaboration with Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations [FAO].
3. The Workshop was attended by representatives of both animal health and human health laboratories **from 22 countries**, key development partners, experts and resource persons from other relevant GHSA Action Packages such as Workforce Development [Detect- 5], Antimicrobial Resistance, AMR [Prevent -1] Zoonotic Diseases [Prevent - 2], and Biosafety & Biosecurity [Prevent - 3].
4. The three-day Workshop reached the following goals: updating GHSA 2024 directions, following up on the Detect 1 Roadmap Implementation, and proposing a set of possible collaborative regional activities with other GHSA Action Packages.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Updating on the GHSA 2024, including the Bali Declaration and GHSA 2024 direction;
- It was noted that the GHSA Steering Group is chaired by the Netherlands;
- Updating on accomplishments of the Detect 1 Action Package since 2015 with recommendations of maintaining the momentum of “Working Together” ;
- Collaboration or linkage should be expanded across other relevant action packages such as Detect - 5, Prevent -1, Prevent - 2 and Prevent - 3 and collaborating with public & private stakeholders;
- The gaps in the areas of AMR, zoonotic diseases, food safety biosafety and biosecurity, national laboratory system, and surveillance program were identified using the Joint External Evaluation assessment;
- Example of collaborative efforts across Action Packages were presented, such as simulation exercise, joint activities of Detect - 1 and Detect - 5, and Four-ways linking;
- Collaboration is the key for Action Packages of which linkages mechanism should be spelled out in each Action Package;
- Recommendations generated during the breakout sessions include an assessment and a review of laboratory capacity based on Joint External Evaluation’s results, initiation of simulation exercise (e.g. Simulation Exercise on Disease X, outbreak investigation), and enhancement of specimen referral system and biosafety management;
- Breakout sessions called “**Marketplace**” was carried out in order to share Action Packages’ progress of Laboratory, AMR, Zoonotic Diseases, Biosafety & Biosecurity and Workforce Development, to explore possible collaborations with other Action Packages, and to enhance networking;
- The Workshop proposed a set of possible regional activities between laboratory and AMR, laboratory and zoonotic diseases, laboratory and biosafety & biosecurity, and laboratory and workforce development;
- Challenges and some of the suggested implementation modalities were also discussed and identified in each group; and

- Noting the transitional period of Detect - 1 and requesting Thailand to continue taking the secretariat function.

TAKE HOME MESSAGES

- a) Noting that the GHSA 2024 goals are to work with relevant partners to support countries in evaluation, planning, resource mobilization, and implementation of activities that build health security capacity;
- b) Emphasizing on a need to work collaboratively across Action Packages, including alignment of common priorities, approaches and strategies;
- c) Urging countries to undertake/utilize the results of the Joint External Evaluation [JEE] for planning, developing a national action plan and utilizing it for resources mobilization;
- d) Continually engaging the existing regional animal health and human health laboratories networks within the region and across the regions as well as seeking out further collaborations with key international partners;
- e) Requesting the countries to identify/update national focal points of Action Package Detect - 1 and focal points of networks in order to enhance communication;
- f) Exploring possible collaborations with academia, non-governmental organizations and private sectors;
- g) Recommending countries and partners to utilise and leverage existing tools and mechanisms to strengthen multi-sectoral and multidisciplinary collaboration under the “**One Health**” approach such as the “Four-Ways Linking” and the tripartite operational tool for conducting national Joint qualitative Risk Assessment (JRA);
- h) Encouraging countries to utilize the Strategic Roadmap on Laboratory System Strengthening [2016-2020] as a tool to achieve the GHSA goals and Joint External Evaluation (JEE) targets; and
- i) Noting roles of industrial companies working under the Private Sector Round Table [PSRT] in respond to global threats as well as the work of South East Asia One Health University Network [SEAOHUN] for improving “One Health” workforce capacity with cross-sector competencies.

WAYS FORWARD OF DETECT 1 ACTION PACKAGE

- a) Maintain the momentum of “**Working Together**” among member countries, between countries, and key development partners in accelerating an implementation of the Regional Strategic Roadmap on Laboratory System Strengthening [2016-2020];
- b) During the transitional period towards the GHSA 2024, the Department of Medical Sciences of Thailand will continue as a secretariat of the Detect - 1 countries;
- c) Expand collaboration/linkages to other relevant Action Packages such as Detect - 5 [Workforce Development], Prevent - 1 [AMR], Prevent - 2 [Zoonotic Diseases], and Prevent - 3 [Biosafety & Biosecurity] at national, regional and global levels;
- d) Engage/initiate collaboration/networking with non-government organizations, academia, public & private networks/sectors including Global Health Security Consortium [GHSAC], PSRT, and SEAOSHUN;
- e) Consult/finalize among the Detect -1 countries on the GHSA Detect - 1 Action Packages Term of References;
- f) Request the Detect - 1 Leading Countries through Thailand to seek clarification from the GHSA Steering Committee Meeting in February 2019; on appropriate coordination and collaboration between Action Packages;
- g) Communicate and coordinate with other relevant Action Packages and key development partners to implement the prioritized regional activities;
- h) Enhance regular communication with countries and key development partners on key implementation timelines, achievements and remaining gaps;
- i) Develop & implement regional workplan/activities as well as promote experience sharing amongst regions; and
- j) Organize the regional platform to review the progress of an implementation of the Regional Strategic Roadmap of Laboratory System Strengthening [2016 - 2020].

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