

Updates on Asia-Pacific Aquatic Animal Health Network (AP AquaNet)

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World Organisation
for Animal Health
Founded as OIE



World
Organisation
for Animal
Health
Founded as OIE

Organisation
mondiale
de la santé
animale
Fondée en tant qu'OIE

Organización
Mundial
de Sanidad
Animal
Fundada como OIE

33rd Conference of the Regional Commission for Asia and
the Pacific, New Delhi, India, 13 – 16 November 2023

1. Aquaculture in Asia-Pacific
2. Asia-Pacific Aquatic Animal Health Network (AP AquaNet)
3. Updates on aquatic animal health activities under the AP AquaNet





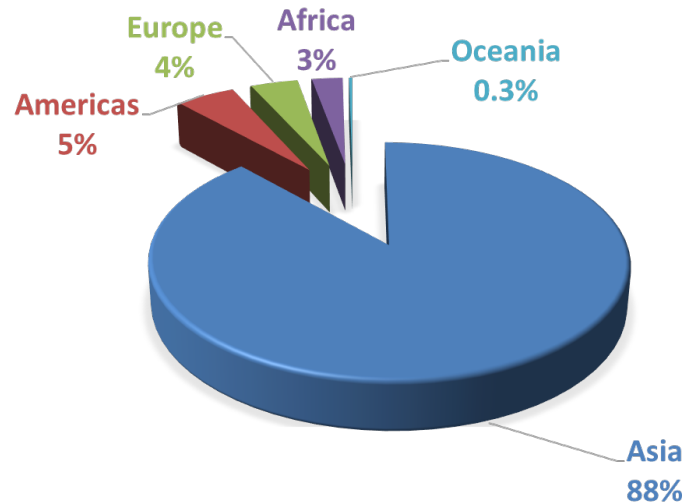
Aquaculture in Asia-Pacific



Aquaculture in the Asia-Pacific

Production

- ❖ Significant food production sector
- ❖ Livelihood opportunities (small-scale farming communities)
- ❖ Contributes to food security, nutrition and poverty alleviation



Source: FAO, 2023. Global aquaculture production 1950-2021 (FishStatJ)

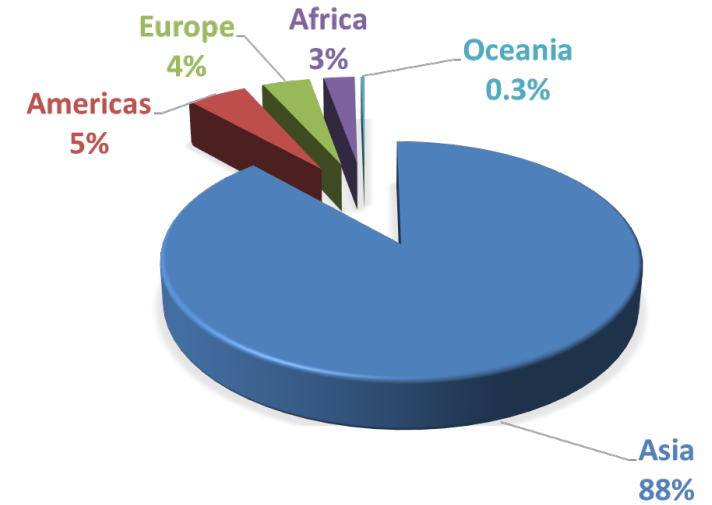
Rank	Country	Production (x1000 T)	%
1	China	51,200	56.3
2	India	9,403	10.3
3	Indonesia	5,515	6.1
4	Viet Nam	4,736	5.2
5	Bangladesh	2,639	2.9
6	Norway	1,665	1.8
7	Egypt	1,576	1.7
8	Chile	1,427	1.6
9	Thailand	990	1.1
10	Myanmar	929	1.0
...	more		
	Total global production	90,900	100.0

Aquaculture in the Asia-Pacific

Asia-Pacific accounts for about **90%** of global aquaculture production

Fish Consumption:

Asia accounts for nearly 70% of global consumption.



Aquaculture Development



Example
Map of known ongoing or historic transfers and movements of species for aquaculture around, or into the Bay of Bengal

Movement of live aquatic animals and aquatic animal products within and across national boundaries is a **necessity for economic, social and industry development purposes.**



Trading and Movement



May lead to introduction of new and emerging pathogens and to disease establishment – may pose risks to importing country's animal, plant and human health status.





Asia-Pacific Aquatic Animal Health Network (AP AquaNet)





Asia-Pacific Aquatic Animal Health Network (AP AquaNet)

A framework of actors to strengthen laboratory capacity for aquatic animal disease activities in Asia and the Pacific

Framework objectives

- ❖ Strengthen collaboration between WOAHA Reference Centres and Members
- ❖ Share and exchange information e.g., test validation, reference materials, and positive samples

Rationale

Challenge

- ❖ Increase in emerging disease occurrence but limited resource
- ❖ Need for improved transparency of aquatic animal disease information
- ❖ Lack of coordination mechanism among stakeholders

Regional experts agreed:

- ❖ Need for proficiency testing, test validation, and emergency response
- ❖ Need to draw existing activities and professional expertise of WOAHA Reference laboratories



Expert Consultation Meeting on Aquatic Animal Disease Diagnosis and Control, Bangkok, Thailand, November 2018

Progress and outcomes

Expert consultation meeting on aquatic animal Disease Diagnosis and Control

Nov 2018



- Proposed to form a Framework

- Establishment of the Framework was endorsed

Sep 2019



31st OIE Regional Conference for Asia, the Far East and Oceania

First Steering Committee Meeting

Nov 2019



**- Ad hoc Steering Committee formed;
- ToRs and work plan drafted;
- Research focus identified**

- Discussion on implementation of activities

Nov 2020

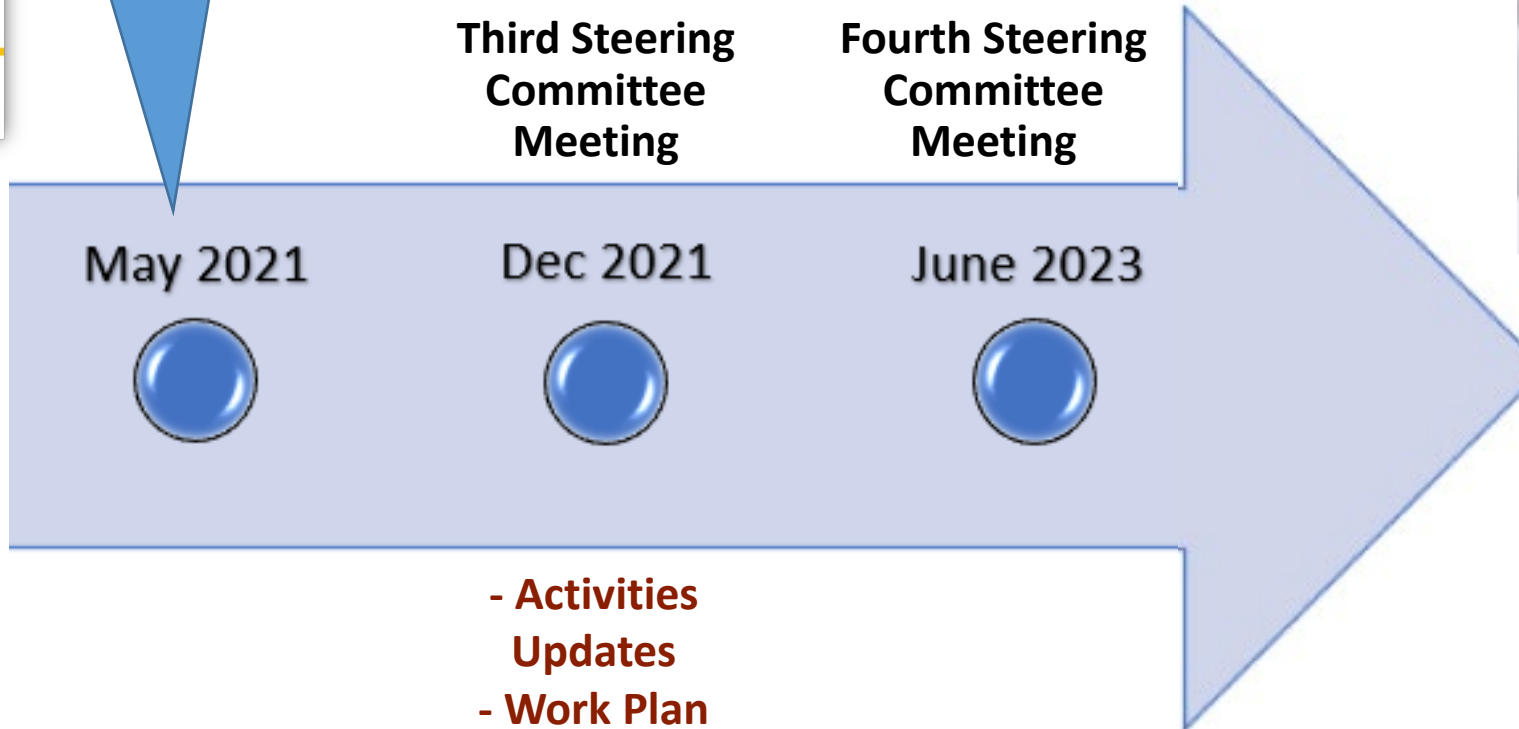


Second Steering Committee Meeting

Progress and outcomes

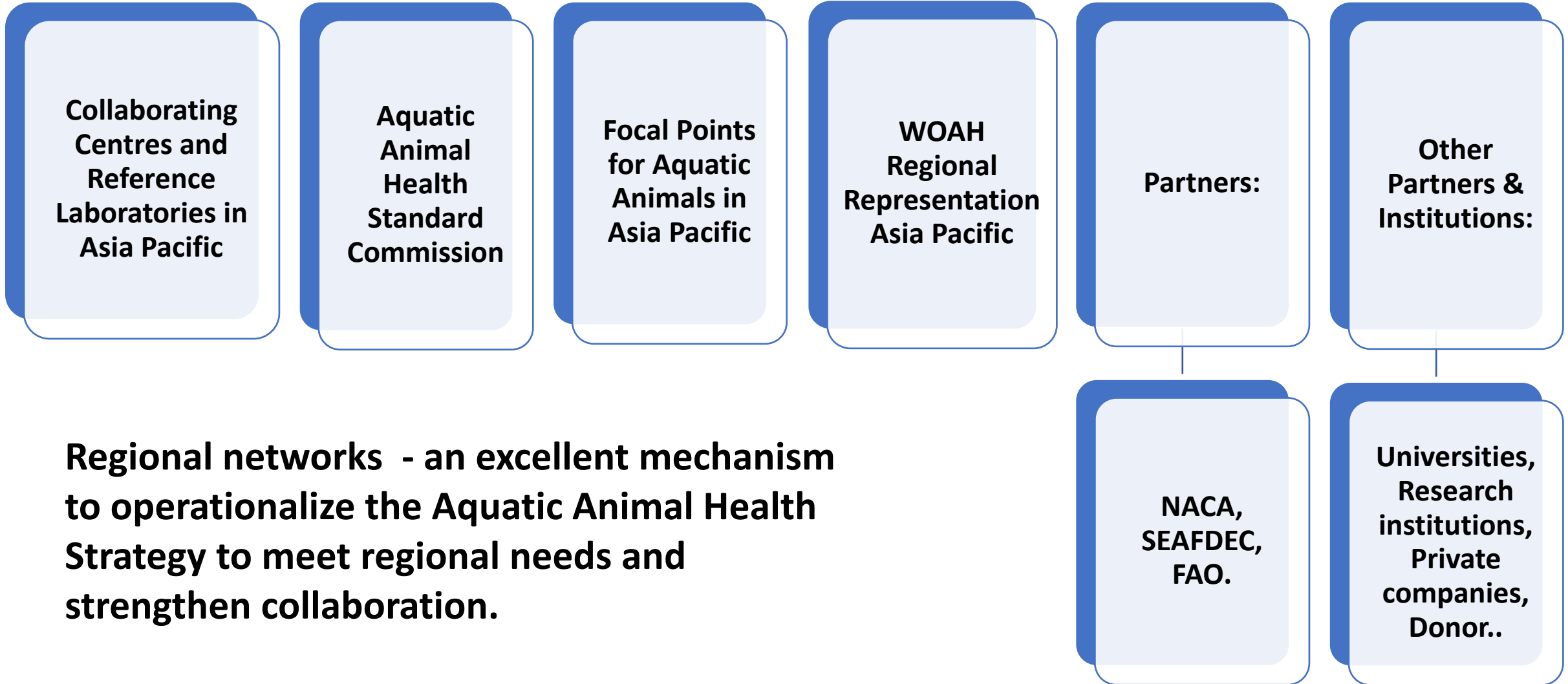


WOAH Aquatic Animal Health Strategy launched



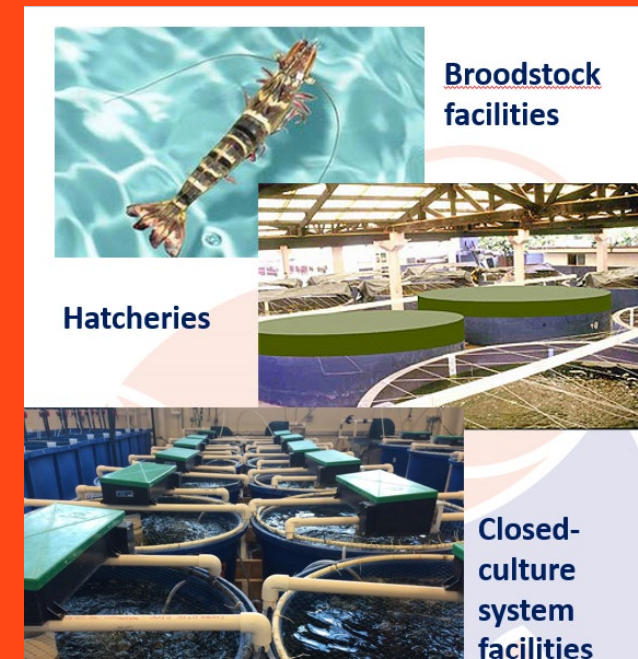


Stakeholders involved in the network for Asia-Pacific



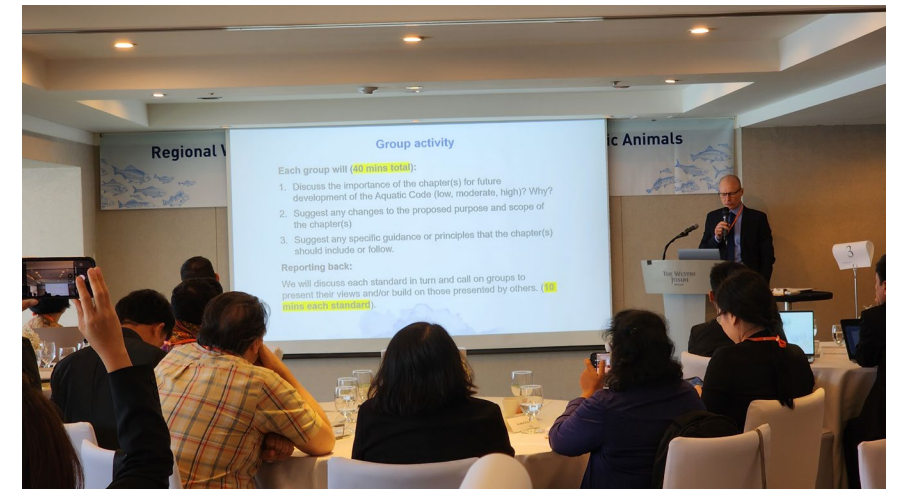
Regional networks - an excellent mechanism to operationalize the Aquatic Animal Health Strategy to meet regional needs and strengthen collaboration.

Updates on aquatic animal health activities under the AP AquaNet



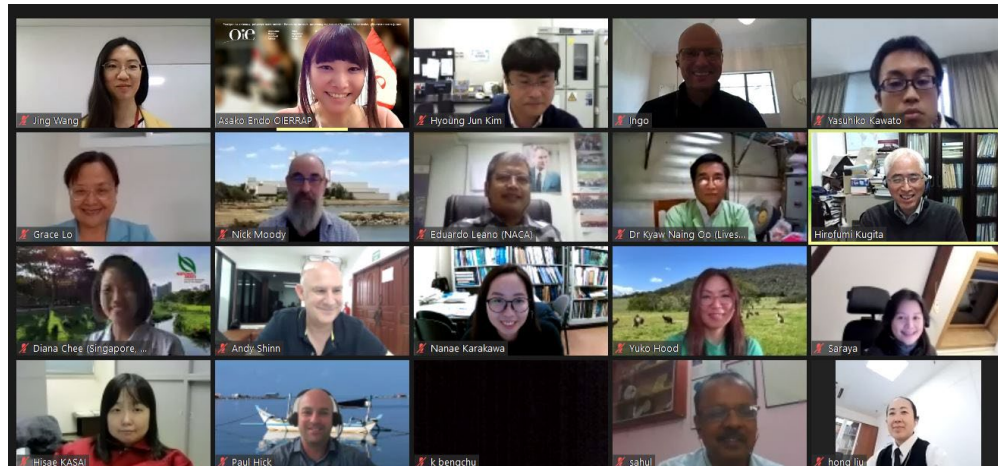
Regional Workshop for WOAHA National Focal Points for Aquatic Animals

- ❖ Busan, Republic of Korea
- ❖ 26 – 28 June 2023
- ❖ 48 attendees
- ❖ Standard, disease reporting, aquaculture biosecurity, laboratory capacity, emergency preparedness, AMR in aquaculture, PVS aquatic



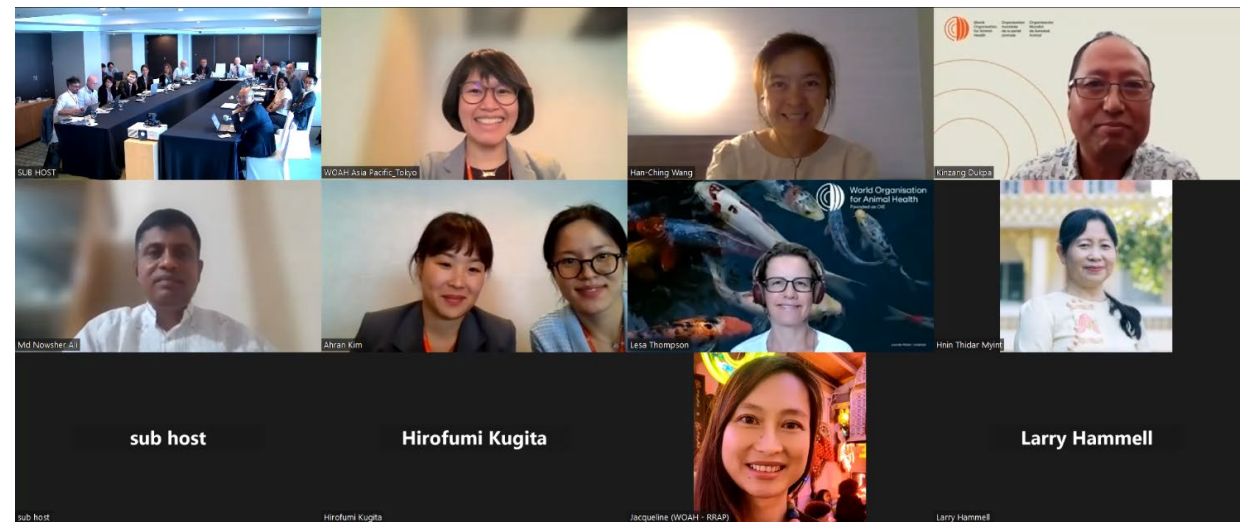
Meetings of *ad hoc* Steering Committee of the Regional Collaboration Framework for Aquatic Animal Health Network for Asia and the Pacific or AP AquaNet

- ❖ 1st meeting (Bangkok, Thailand, November 2019)
- ❖ 2nd meeting (Virtual meeting, December 2020)
- ❖ 3rd meeting (Virtual meeting, December 2021)
- ❖ 4th meeting (Busan, ROK, June 2023)



The 4th meeting of *ad hoc* Steering Committee for the AP AquaNet

- ❖ Busan, Republic of Korea
- ❖ 29 June 2023
- ❖ Adopted new name Asia Pacific Aquatic Animal Health Network (AP Aqua Net)
- ❖ Reports on Flagship activities (2020 – 2022)
- ❖ Flagship activities (2023 – 2025) identified
- ❖ Experts and partners provided updates on projects implemented at their institutes.



Flagship activities (2020 – 2022)

- ❖ Aquaculture Biosecurity in small-scale holders
- ❖ Evaluation of AHPND causative agent
- ❖ Regional collaboration to respond to emerging diseases of aquatic animals

International Center for the Scientific Development of Shrimp Aquaculture
World Organisation for Animal Health
Founded as OIE

4th meeting of the *ad hoc* Steering Committee for the Regional Collaboration Framework on Aquatic Animal Health for Asia and the Pacific [June 26-29, 2023]

An Update on the Evaluation of the Existing AHPND Diagnostic Methods

Ramya Kumar Ph.D.
Chief Technical Officer / Assistant Researcher
WOAH Reference laboratory for AHPND and WSD

Prof. Han-Ching Wang, Director
Prof. Chu-Fang Lo, Former Director
WOAH Reference laboratory for AHPND and WSD
International Center for Scientific Development of Shrimp Aquaculture
National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan

29th June 2023



Network of Aquaculture
Centres in Asia-Pacific



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Collection and Evaluation of Existing Guidelines and Awareness Materials on Aquaculture Biosecurity for Small-scale Farms in the Asia-Pacific Region

Final Report

Prepared by:
Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific
Eduardo M. Leaña (Project Leader)
Senior Programme Officer, Aquatic Animal Health Programme

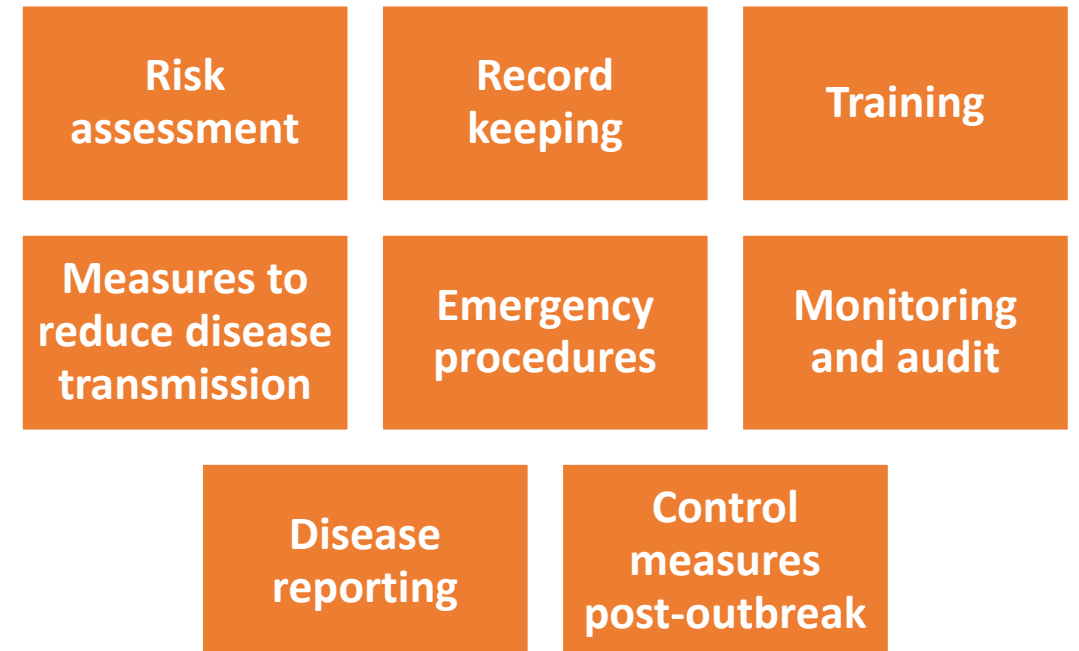
June, 2022

<https://rr-asia.woah.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/final-report-woah-naca-aquaculture-biosecurity-project-final.pdf>

Aquaculture Biosecurity in Small-Scale Holders

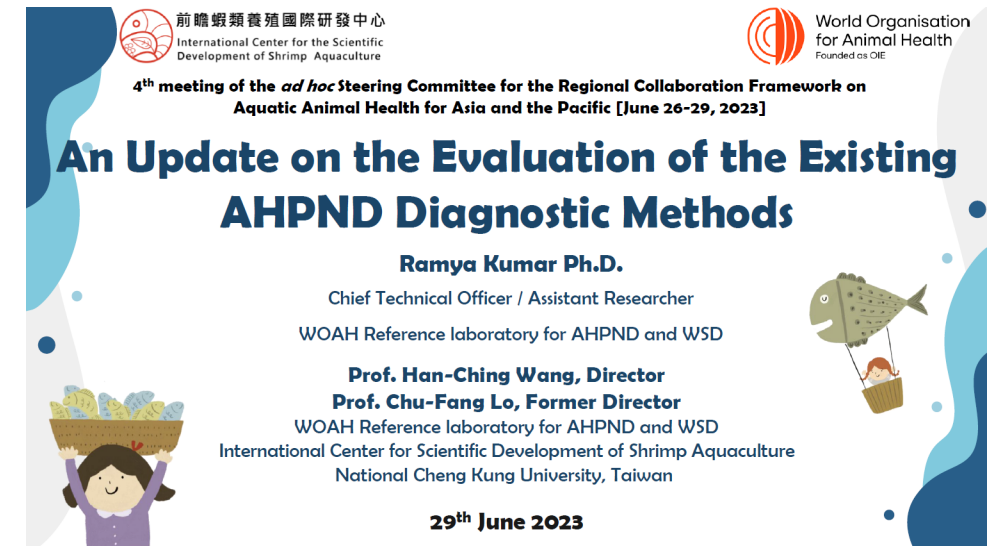
- ❖ Appropriate farm-level biosecurity measures were synthesized;
- ❖ Recommended farm-level biosecurity measures applicable to small-scale farms;
- ❖ Can be used as guidance in formulating farm-level aquaculture biosecurity measures by most countries in the region

1. Australia
2. Bangladesh
3. China
4. India
5. Indonesia
6. Malaysia
7. New Zealand
8. Thailand
9. Vietnam



Evaluation of Existing Acute Hepatopancreatic Necrosis Disease (AHPND) Diagnostic Methods

- ❖ AHPND pathogenesis is not so simple as was once thought;
- ❖ WOAAH reference laboratories and researchers are encouraged to collect histopathology data in addition to using molecular diagnostic methods;
- ❖ Suggested to continue ongoing collaborative effort from all the WOAAH reference laboratories in order to develop an optimal AHPND diagnostic protocol.



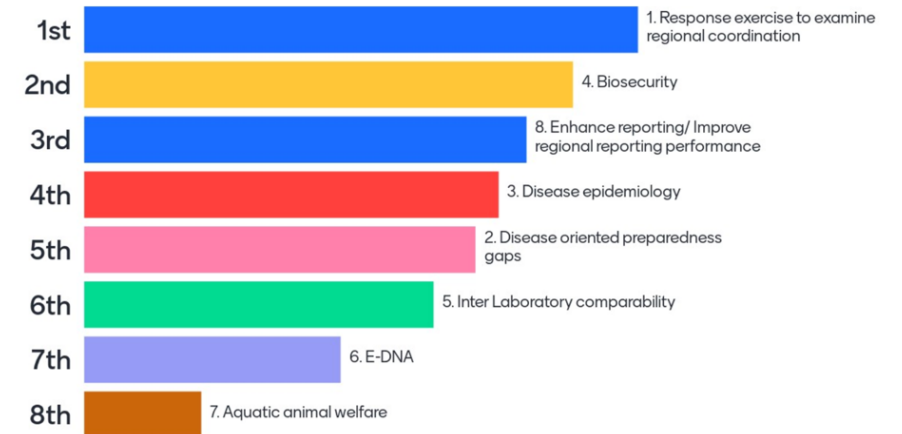
Flagship activities (2023 – 2025)

- ❖ Response exercise to examine regional coordination and response to emerging disease
- ❖ Assessment of on-farm biosecurity in aquaculture
- ❖ Improving Aquatic Animal Diseases Reporting in Asia and the Pacific



Ranking

*ad hoc Steering Committee on Regional Collaboration Framework on Aquatic Animals Health in Asia and the Pacific
(29 June 2023)*



Other activities

- ❖ A platform for sharing training materials and scientific information on aquatic animal health
- ❖ Regional Aquatic Animal Disease Report

WOAH regional webinars

- ❖ Virtual Consultation Meeting on AMR and AMU in Aquaculture (June 2021)
- ❖ PVS Aquatic: Virtual Information Session for Asia and the Pacific (2023)
- ❖ Workshop for Disease Notification and Aquatic Animals Focal Points (June 2023)



<https://rr-asia.woah.org/en/projects/aquatic-animal/>



2021

- [Australia](#)
- [Bangladesh](#)
- [Brunei](#)
- [Chinese Taipei](#)
- [India \(Jan-Sep\)](#)
- [Malaysia](#)
- [Myanmar](#)
- [New Caledonia](#)
- [New Zealand](#)
- [Philippines](#)
- [Singapore](#)

2022

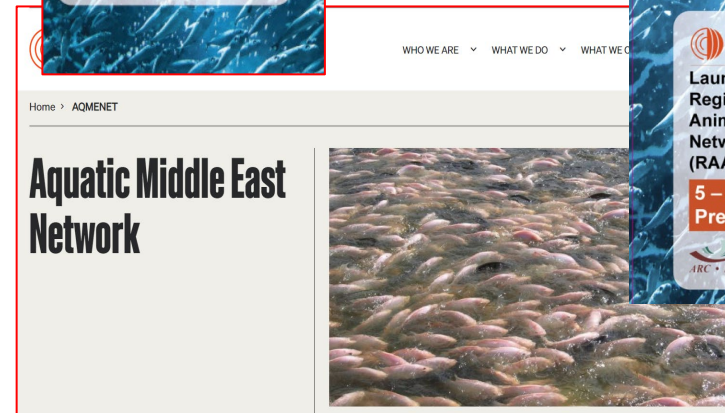
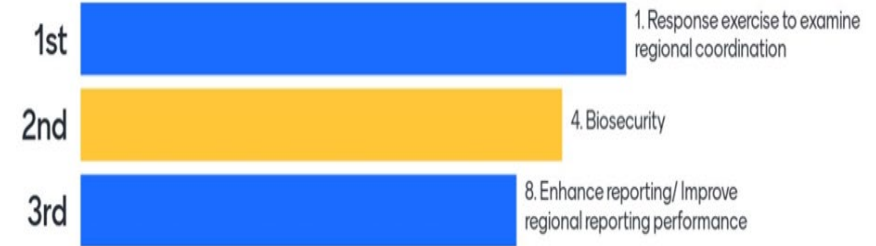
- [Australia \(Jan - Jun\)](#)
- [Bangladesh](#)
- [Chinese Taipei](#)
- [India](#)
- [Malaysia](#)
- [Myanmar](#)
- [Singapore](#)
- [Thailand](#)
- [Vietnam](#)

Priority areas for future activities

- ❖ Implementation of the WOAHA Aquatic Animal Health Strategy
- ❖ Flagship activities (2023 – 2025)
- ❖ AMU/AMR in Aquaculture (2024)

Inter-regional collaboration and knowledge sharing

- ❖ Guidance and support - a benchmark for other regional aquatic animal health networks



Thank you



AP AquaNet

