



# Strengthening Epidemiology Capacity Using a One Health Framework in South Asia

Pete Jolly, Joanna McKenzie, Roger Morris, Eric Neumann, and Lachlan McIntyre

International Development Group
Institute of Veterinary, Animal and Biomedical Sciences





**ADMINISTERED BY** 

**IMPLEMENTED BY** 









#### **EDUCATING FOR GLOBAL ISSUES**

Chinese Graduates of Massey's World Bank-Funded "One Health" Program







- One Health Regional Training in Animal and Human Health Epidemiology—South Asia
  - 69 Doctors and veterinarians from Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka
  - Funded by EU AHIF Trust Fund via the World Bank 4½ years, 2010–2014
- One Health Education in Epidemiology & Biosecurity—China and Mongolia
  - 19 Government-sector doctors and veterinarians
  - Funded by World Bank2 years, 2013–2014





- Integrating Education and Action for One Health Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal
  - One Health Epidemiology Fellowship Program
  - Funded by EU One Health Program in Asia
     3 years, 2014–2017
- Veterinary Education Twinning Program
  - Massey University & University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka
  - Funded by NZAid, 5 years, 2014–2019
  - Using OIE framework, improving health and reducing poverty through strengthened veterinary education





- Joint education of human, animal and wildlife health professionals to Master's degree level
  - MVM / MPH (Biosecurity), MSc (One Health)
  - Flexible, cohort-based, can be completed in-service
- Collaborating with national institutions in-country
  - Institutional capacity building
  - Extend operational training to wider stakeholder groups
- Applied focus on priority zoonotic diseases
  - Situation assessment & applied epidemiology research
  - Economics and disease control policy evaluation





- Collaborative Investigation Projects (CIPs)
  - focused on needs and priority zoonoses
  - Structured methodologies, mentoring and reporting
- Generate outputs to inform disease control policy evaluation and economic analyses for endemic zoonotic diseases
- Projects form the focus for further expert assistance and operational training
- Broaden engagement through national and regional workshops and symposia

#### **Key Components**

#### Cohort approach

- Develops highly skilled cohorts, nationally and regionally
- Builds cross-sectoral knowledge, relationships & understanding



- Function effectively when return to service
- Cohorts provide a key resource for future collaborative activities and specialised training
- 'Educate the educators' graduates trained to develop and deliver training materials for national use



### Integrating Education and Action for One Health Afghanistan | Bangladesh | Bhutan | Nepal

#### **Development Objective**

To develop a collaborative approach to investigation and control of zoonotic diseases among the human, animal, and wildlife health sectors through education and joint action











# One of Four INNOVATE Projects funded through the EuropeAid One Health Program in Asia

#### Coordinating with three other projects:

- □ Fighting Zoonoses in Afghanistan, Bangladesh & Nepal
  - Relief International (based in Nepal)
- □ LACANET—Development of One Health Surveillance and
  - Laboratory Network—Lao PDR-Cambodia
    - Institute Pasteur Cambodge (based in Cambodia)
- ComAcross—Companion Approach for cross-sectorial collaboration in health risk management Southeast Asia
  - CIRAD (based in Thailand)







#### **Approach**

## Human health, animal health and wildlife sector professionals

- Studying together in a Master's degree program in epidemiology and biosecurity
- Strengthening cross-sectoral communication and collaboration frameworks
- Collaborative investigation projects including field research and evaluation of zoonotic disease control policies and economics
- Stakeholder engagement nationally and regionally through workshops and symposia
- 'Educate the educators'











- Implemented in collaboration with local Host and Collaborating institutions in each country
- Active role in co-creating and coordinating program
- Fellowship students are co-located at the Host institutions
- Study and work in-country and through regional workshops
- Communication and collaboration across organisational and geographic boundaries facilitated using Hubnet, an online collaboration platform



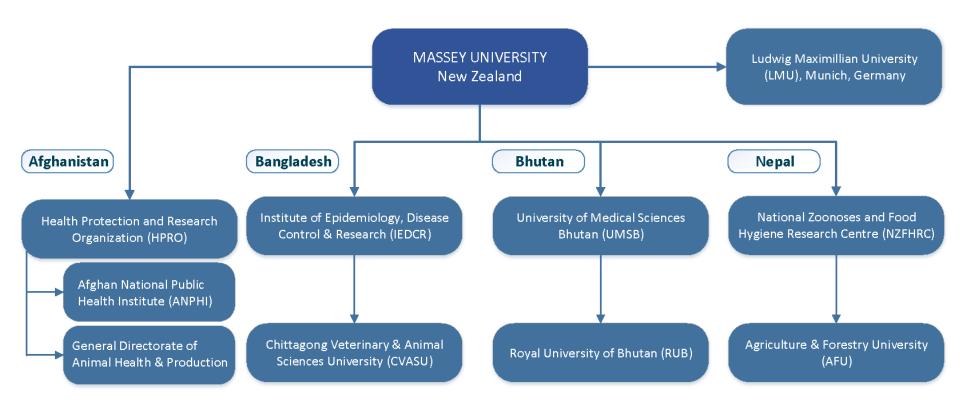








#### **Organisational Arrangements**









UNIVERSITY OF NEW ZEALAND

Students and Host Organisation Representatives















- Disease situation assessment and collaborative investigation projects, including field research focussed on priority zoonoses
- Data is compiled and used to conduct disease control policy evaluations including economic analyses and design of appropriate One Health strategies
- Outputs include scientific papers, conference presentations and draft policy recommendations
- Local curriculum development & outbreak simulation exercises







#### Diseases for investigation, by country

Country	Disease 1	Disease 2	Disease 3	Disease 4
Afghanistan	Brucellosis	Q fever	Rabies	Toxoplasmosis
Bangladesh	Al	Nipah virus	Anthrax	??
Bhutan	Rabies	Scrub typhus	Hydatidosis	Bovine TB
Nepal	Brucellosis	Japanese encephalitis	Porcine cysticercosis	Zoonotic visceral leishmaniasis





#### **Collaborative Investigation Projects - Afghanistan**

- Knowledge, attitude and practices (KAP) of health-care providers in Afghanistan with respect to diagnosing and treating zoonoses
- Descriptive analysis of animal-related brucellosis data collected through passive and active surveillance systems in Afghanistan to inform brucellosis control policies
- 3. Risk factors and clinical patterns of Q fever amongst patients with fevers of unknown origin in Helmund Province







#### **Collaborative Investigation Projects - Bangladesh**

- 4. Characterisation of the movement and contact patterns of poultry potentially associated with transmission of newlyintroduced subtypes of avian influenza virus in two districts of Bangladesh, using social network analysis
- 5. Association of date-palm sap collection, consumption and marketing practices with risk of Nipah virus infection in people in Bangladesh







#### **Collaborative Investigation Projects - Bhutan**

- 6. Descriptive epidemiology and identification of risk factors of clinical scrub typhus in people in Bhutan
- 7. Assessment of knowledge, attitude and practices of clinicians in administration of post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) for rabies exposure in Bhutan











#### **Collaborative Investigation Projects - Nepal**

- 8. Assessment of biosecurity practices and network analysis of cattle and buffalo movements to understand the risk of spread of brucellosis in Nepal
- 9. Risk mapping for Japanese Encephalitis (JE) using network analysis of swine movement and environmental factors including patterns of land-use in Nepal







#### Learning our way forward: what's new

- Integrated key components into a 2-year full-time
   One Health Epidemiology Fellowship Program
- Implemented in collaboration with local Host and Collaborating institutions in each country who play an active role in co-creating and coordinating program
- Fellowship students are co-located and work full-time at the Host institutions
- Regional coordinator based in Bhutan supporting activities in the four countries – local mentoring and support
- Extended the wildlife component of the Master's degree





#### Learning our way forward: what's new

- Collaborative investigation projects run parallel with the Master's program, rather than following it
- Strong focus on disease control policy evaluation through integrated education, situation assessment and policy analysis
- Development and incorporation of web-based modelling and economic analysis tools to support zoonotic disease control policy evaluation
- National language training materials will be developed by Fellows to support wider national training
- Integrated program attracting national interest and favourable reviews and feedback in the target countries





#### **Acknowledgements**

- European Union
  - Avian & Human Influenza Trust Fund
  - One Health Programme in Asia
- World Bank
- NZ Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- Governments of Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka
- Massey University
- Roger Morris, Jo McKenzie, Lachlan McIntyre, Eric Neumann, Ron Jackson, Eve Pleydell, Paul Charsley, Litty Kurian, Ahmed Fayaz, Tania Dennison

**FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION** 

**ADMINISTERED BY** 

**IMPLEMENTED BY** 









