

Strategies to Prevent (STOP) Spillover

Impact Brief

Viet Nam

Preventive Healthcare, Treatment, and Management of Common Diseases in Targeted Wildlife

Activity 2.2.2.3: Essential Preventive Healthcare Initiative for Farmed Wildlife (vaccination, deworming, rational antibiotic use, and endemic disease reporting)

INTRODUCTION

Essential preventive health care, which includes core measures such as vaccination, rational antibiotic use, deworming, and effective disease monitoring and reporting, has been widely adopted in traditional livestock farming. These practices have been proven to effectively control infectious diseases among farmed domestic animals, reduce the risk of zoonotic diseases and antimicrobial resistance for humans, and bring financial benefits to farmers. However, the same attention and implementation has not been given to captive wildlife and wildlife farmers. Commercial farming of civets, porcupines and bamboo rats has developed in Vietnam in the last few years and wildlife farmers have less farming experience than livestock farmers. Diseases in civets, sambar deer, porcupines, and bamboo rats are not fully documented in textbooks and not typically included in veterinary curricula. Wildlife farmers rely on experience, and veterinary agencies do not provide specific instructions on farmed wildlife diseases and their treatment. Veterinary staff are familiar with how to identify and treat diseases in livestock based on industry guidelines, but lack confidence, knowledge, and practice with wildlife. The solution is to consolidate disease management in farmed wildlife under the responsibility of veterinary agencies through intensive training on diseases and specific treatments and preventive measures for veterinary staff, community health workers, and farmers.



STOP Spillover collaborated with Dong Nai province to organize three training courses on Preventive Wildlife Healthcare, Treatment, and Management of Common Diseases in Targeted Wildlife. This activity aligns to several GHSA indicators (Preventing the emergence or release of pathogens with potential for international concern: Zoonotic diseases (1.2) and biosafety (1.4), and JEE indicators 5.1 (Surveillance of zoonotic disease) and 5.3 (Sanitary animal production)).

Course 1: Advance training on Preventive Wildlife Healthcare, Treatment, and Management of Common Diseases in Targeted Wildlife for One Health officials

Outcomes: Participants can describe the common diseases of the 4 focus species of farmed wildlife and provide basic diagnostic services, and appropriate first line clinical and preventive care

Participants: 36 in total (5 females and 31 males) comprising veterinarians, agriculture, and forest ranger officials of the province and three target districts (Tan Phu, Dinh Quan, and Vinh Cuu)

Date: 5 days: 4-8th March, 2024

Venue: Hall of Tan Phu District Cultural Information and Sports Center, Tan Phu People's Committee, Tan Phu District, Dong Nai province



Course 2&3 Essential Preventive Wildlife Healthcare, Treatment, and Management of Common Diseases in Targeted Wildlife for COHW in Tan Phu and Dinh Quan Districts

Essential Preventive Wildlife Healthcare, Treatment, and Management of Common Diseases in Targeted Wildlife for COHW in Vinh Cũu District

Outcomes: Participants explore knowledge on disease detection and diagnosis, treatment (including for zoonotic diseases and the “One Health Approach” with practical demonstration during the training. Create awareness among wildlife farmers on the role of community OH workers in disease control, production, management, and disease reporting.

Participants: 39 (6 females & 33 males)

38 (22 male & 16 females)

Date: 8 days: 11-12; 17-19; 25-27 of March

8 days: 14-15; 21-23; 28-30 of March

Venue: Vinh Cũu People's Committee

Tan Phu People's Committee

Insights from participants



I find it very useful; the content is good and appropriate. I hope there are more classes like this for other farm owners to participate in. (Mr. Vo Van Ngau Em, civet farmer in Tan Phu district)



This is very productive training that I have attended. I learned a lot from lectures of trainers and from the practical session at farm on how to handle civets and bamboo rats as well as know how to examine and inject them. I will use the knowledge to share with other colleagues and apply in my current work (shared by Dr. Le Tân Viet – head of Tan Phu animal health station)



Very interesting training program. I not only learned about animal healthcare but learned a lot from trainer’s method especially from the “problem base learning” sessions. (Shared by Dr. Le Ngoc Phu - Tan Phu veterinary staff)



This class is so fun. I learned a lot of new knowledge from experts and other participants. If the project organizes other training classes, I will participate. (Ms Truong Thi Nuong, bamboo rat farmer Dinh Quan district)



This class is very useful, I learned a lot of new knowledge and skills. The session I like most is the introduction of diseases, treatment and prevention. Currently I am raising sambar deer but will soon raise civets, so I really enjoyed this class (Ms Chu Thi Minh, sambar deer farmer in Vinh Cũu district)

Next Steps

- Incorporate the inputs from farmers and partners to improve two handbooks on wild animal healthcare for veterinarians and farmers.
- Provide supportive supervision for COHW after the training.
- Link to the implementation of biosafety-biosecurity certification activity.