

Strategies to Prevent (STOP) Spillover

Impact Brief

Vietnam

Using PPE in raising and taking care of wildlife

Activity 2.2.2.1 to identify at least three different biosafety improvements for value chain actors to test and validate, using trials of improved practices on demonstration farms and social behavior change approaches to disseminate results.

INTRODUCTION

In Vietnam the wildlife human interface was prioritized as the interface of focus for the STOP Spillover project. Based on the results of the qualitative risk assessment (Activity 1.2.6.1) and rapid biosafety training assessment/barrier analysis (Activity 1.3.1.1), an OH-DReaM working group was formed to work with target value chain actors at the interface level to implement “trials of improved practices.”

Trials of improved practices (TIPs) are a participatory formative research method that can be used to test and refine potential interventions on a small scale, prior to broader implementation. TIPs enlist members of the target population to pilot test the practices and recommend modifications.

Stakeholders who adopt and/or adapt these practices become demonstration farms where other actors can go to learn, and model recommended practices. This brief is based on the Trials of improved practices for PPE use for Sambar deer farmers (10 farmers) and a replication trial for other 10 farmers keeping bamboo rat, civet, porcupine. This activity was initiated in September 2022, with a follow up activity in March 2023.

Expected Outcomes

Techniques to improve the adoption of biosafety practices are tested and validated at the wildlife farming interface level in Dong Nai.



Sambar deer farming



A farmer cleaning the Sambar deer barn

Achievements (Sambar deer farmers)

- 10/10 farmers who raised sambar deer and participated in TIP I had knowledge on and repeated the benefit of PPE use.
- 10/10 farmers applied one or more PPE (protective clothes, face mask, gloves, boots) during their farming activities.
- 10/10 farmers agreed that peer educators do have influence on them.
- 2/10 farmers said that they have changed their behavior to frequent use of PPE because of contact with their peer educator.
- 5/10 farmers designated an area for changing protective clothes but were not putting their clothes there regularly.
- 8/10 farmers used face masks properly including how to put them on, take them off and dispose them.
- 10/10 farmers wear gloves while collecting animal waste; 2/10 farmers wear gloves when cleaning the barn.
- 10/10 households designated a hand washing area, but only 2/10 were observed to have soap/ disinfectant available.



Farmers clothed in their PPEs

Achievements (Replication in other wildlife farms)

- 10/10 bamboo rat, civet, porcupine farmers have used one or more PPE (protective clothes, face mask, gloves, boots), no one applies full PPE in their work.
- Farmers say they use gloves and boots to prevent them from wildlife bites or attacks.
- 10/10 respondents have a hand washing area with soap available sometimes, sometimes not.
- All farmers committed to use PPE in all farming activities.
- Farmers agreed that the peer educator approach helps them adopt biosecurity measures including PPE use in their wildlife farming.



Extension group for TIP I

Socio media outreach

The photos and news of the PPE session were posted on a porcupine farmer's Facebook page with 3,700 followers. Within a mere 19 hours, the post garnered 83 likes and 12 individuals shared the post with others. Additionally, these visuals and information were also disseminated through a widely used messaging platform called Zalo, reaching an even wider audience.

Participants Reflections

“Today I am happy, the activity was fun, helpful, and meaningful, it allowed us to grasp the concepts of zoonotic diseases and biosecurity while providing an opportunity to put our knowledge into practice. It was especially beneficial to experience the entire process firsthand, wearing the necessary PPE” a women’s reflection during TIP I



Deer farmers commitment TIP I