

Press Release

◆ For more information please contact
Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Indonesia Office
TEL: 62-21-5795-2112 FAX: 62-21-5795-2603 E-mail: pr@jica.or.id

May 22th, 2017

Japan Supports Research on Higher Risk Viruses at IPB

On 8th May 2017, the Bogor Agricultural University (IPB) inaugurated a biosafety level (BSL) - 3¹ laboratory set up under the “Project for Ecological Studies on Flying Foxes and Their Involvement in Rabies-related and Other Viral Infectious Diseases” being conducted in collaboration among IPB, Nagoya University, Yamaguchi University, and Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology. The Project is jointly supported by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED) for 5 years from 2015 to 2020.

The inauguration ceremony held at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine was attended by Mr. Kozo Honsei, Minister/ Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Japan in Indonesia, and Mr. Naoki Ando, Chief Representative, JICA Indonesia Office. This is one of the few BSL-3 laboratories and IPB is the first institute in Indonesia that houses a BSL-3 laboratory at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine.

This Project studies bats as carriers of viruses that can cause deadly diseases in humans. It also has conducted ecological studies of the bats in Indonesia, which is still unknown. The researchers are also attempting to detect viruses they carry. This study is very important given that bats can fly long distance so they have the potential to spread viruses widely while they show few symptoms of virus infections. The flying patterns of bats and their role in the spread of deadly viruses are also being surveyed under the joint study.

This laboratory was constructed in accordance with the standard set by the World Health Organization (WHO), which makes it safe to work with high risk viruses. This laboratory, using Japanese Technology, is designed to save energy for cost-efficient operation. “It is necessary for continuous support for researches of this kind that use hi-tech laboratory equipment provided under this project. I’m expecting support from the Government of Indonesia for IPB for this purpose,” said Professor Eiichi Hondo of Nagoya University as the principal researcher of the Project.

【For further information and request for interview】

JICA Indonesia Office :

Ms. Etsuko YAMAGUCHI
Project Formulation Advisor
Telephone : (+62)811-986-5024
Email : Yamaguchi.Etsuko.2@jica.go.jp

Ms. Rizki Dinar (Kiki)
Program Officer
Telephone : (+62)813-1144-1783
Email : rizkidinar.in@jica.go.jp

¹ Laboratory appropriate for work with bioagents that can cause humans and animals serious diseases but cannot transmit from human to human and has effective treatment and prevention measures

Press Release

◆ For more information please contact
Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Indonesia Office
TEL: 62-21-5795-2112 FAX: 62-21-5795-2603 E-mail: pr@jica.or.id

[Photos]



Caption :
Cutting ribbon ceremony by representative from IPB and representative Japan Embassy in Indonesia.



Caption :
Group shot of all representatives from both Indonesia and Japan side.

Press Release

◆ For more information please contact
Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Indonesia Office
TEL: 62-21-5795-2112 FAX: 62-21-5795-2603 E-mail: pr@jica.or.id



Caption :
Group shot of members from IPB and Japan researchers.