



# LBVD-JICA Bulletin



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By the Project Office : LBVD REGION OFFICE CAMPUS, 78<sup>TH</sup> ST., PYI GYI TAGON TSP, MANDALAY

## FOREWORDS

Dear Readers,

I have been encouraged by many of your comments on our editing policy after the first publication. This newsletters firstly intended to publicize the progress of this specific project to local and international readers. However, I prioritize to emphasize the important roles of LBVD in the development of rural economy of Myanmar through research and extension of livestock.

In dairy sector of the country, for example, 47kg of milk/milk products are consumed per capita per year and 70% of them (value basis) is imported from foreign countries. I wonder if people of Myanmar is willing to fall a prey to the international Milk Giants forever? How do they evaluate their own capabilities of milk production? They may have sufficient productivity, but the challenge is the product quality which prohibits the local milk to enter city markets. It is only LBVD that could assist them to improve it and bridge the village and the markets with collaboration of private sectors.

Dr. Kanameda Massy, Chief Advisor



How can village milk enter the local markets? The quality of locally produced milk is insufficient for processing to market-valued products for the middle class consumers.



FAQ

Photo by Tochigi Prefecture Government

Response to the threat of transboundary animal health crisis is one of the common problems among all countries.

## Why FMD must be controlled?

FMD virus spreads very quickly and infects vulnerable cloven-hoofed species of animals. It is not zoonotic, nor seriously harmful to indigenous cattle in endemic countries. However, it gives a tremendous damage to productive animals with genetic improvement. Moreover, the presence of FMD in a country becomes a trade-barrier in a bi-lateral treaty. These are the reasons why every country tries to control and eliminate the disease. FMD is one of the most difficult diseases to control due to the complicated virus characteristics and its high infectivity which can cause airborne transmission and mass outbreaks. It is, therefore, required to develop the fundamental functions of whole livestock sector to combat this problem.

The Project is to assist the capacity of LBVD in terms of vaccine production, diagnostic system and veterinary networking between local farmers and administration. The number of experts dispatched and the counterpart staff assigned are limited but we will maximize the different opportunities in this project to create most favorable condition for Myanmar's sound livestock development.

## Seasonal Migratory Cattle

To prevent spread of diseases from one tsp to another

A large number of local cattle are seasonally migrating in Mandalay Region. We hypothesize that they are the most probable carrier of animal diseases if they were not properly immunized. This project will create interventions on these cattle herds for mitigating animal disease incidence in the townships concerned.

A workshop, organized on 6<sup>th</sup> Aug., revealed the outline of their movement and population, at least 8,000 heads of cattle are migrating from their original townships of Ngazun, Tada-U and Natoegy to transient sites of Amarapura, Patheingyi, Madaya and up to Singu in dry season. A subsequent questionnaire survey was conducted on 27<sup>th</sup> Sep. in Tada-U with assistance of village-leaders to get more precise profiles of the migration. The project plans to have further surveys in nearby townships.



Veterinary officers from related townships and districts are keen to exchange information of the migratory herds and welcome JICA's interests during the workshop (6<sup>th</sup> Aug.).

# AMR Surveys for Mandalay Meat

Mandalay Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, Sintgaing Tsp

Public Health

The Region Autonomy of Mandalay, in collaboration with LBVD, funded the study for antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in search of the involvement of livestock sector in the region. In the study, 240 chicken samples from local markets of 2 townships and 2 broiler farms, has been examined in MVDL from Sep. to Dec. 2019.

The global increase in human diseases caused by drug resistant bacteria due to overuse and misuse of antibiotics is a major public health concern. It is more difficult and costly to treat antibiotic-resistant infections and people do not always recover.

The results of the examination will provide baseline information of the extent of AMR problem and assist to control improper use of antibiotics in livestock.



Laboratory staff of MVDL, Sintgaing Tsp, routinely examine samples to offer more precise information on what happens in upper Myanmar.

## Farmers' Needs Survey: Pyin Oo Lwin

For the better livestock agriculture with less troubles in livestock feeding and health

The town of POL is seeing a burst of investment, the roads are getting busier and new constructions are mushrooming up. On the other hand, POL has advantage in agriculture production due to the favorable climate, and it is actually famous mostly for its fruits, jams, vegetables, coffee and fruit wines. LBVD estimates the cattle population to be 5800 and 1400 for draft and dairy, respectively.

The project is focusing on its topographical advantage, i.e. completely lying between mountains in the north and the south, which might make it possible to control movement of animals. It seems significant to set POL as one of the model areas for infectious animal disease control supported by improved veterinary services and institutional network.

LBVD survey team interviewed a total of 134 households

of 9 sample villages on 16-17 Aug. 2019 to understand the current situation of veterinary-farmer interface for animal disease control activities.

Their report indicates that the farm households in the survey area do not have routine communication with or technical supports from the livestock administration office. The project continues prospecting for livestock development in the highland township with high potential.



The Survey team (from the left): Drs. Han Win Thant, Tint Tint Soe, Hitalar San, Khin Thu Thu Win (Natoegyí Tsp), and Mr. Wai Lin Aung

## OIE Regional Meeting

Sendai, North-eastern Japan, Sep.2~6, 2019

Dr. Ye Tun Win, Director General of LBVD, at the same time Chief Vet Officer of Myanmar, attended the 31<sup>st</sup> OIE Regional Conference held in Sendai City, Japan, to discuss various hot issues with delegates from Asia-Pacific Region. In the midst of the event, Japan Vet Medical Association and JICA co-hosted a special session, "Veterinary Capacity in Asia," in which the contributions of the 2 organizations were introduced with many cases of human resource development. Before the closing, Dr. Kanameda presented this newly-started project of institutional capacity development for disease control in Myanmar, which may have given much anticipation to international audiences.



Veterinary Capacity in Asia  
JVMA and JICA

The presenters (from the left): Dr. Kanameda, Dr. Taira (JICA), Dr. Ye Tun Win (LBVD), Profs. Gombojav & Otgontugs (Mongolia), and Prof. Sakoda (Hokkaido Univ).

## Grant Aid Works in Progress

New National FMD Laboratory In Yangon

Construction and design engineers were sweating blood to build historic Vaccine Production and Diagnosis Buildings in LBVD's Insein campus in the midst of Yangon's rainy season. The 2 buildings are to be completed and handed over to LBVD before the end of 2020.

The progress will be fully reported in the following issues.

Dr. Sake witnesses diagnosis building, fully masked with construction nets, and being renovated with modern technology.



## EDITOR'S POSTSCRIPT

The project team has obtained more information which is necessary to formulate the project activities. The first meeting of Joint Coordination Committee in which both the planning and progress is monitored, will be organized at the end of Dec. 2019.



Apart from such an official event, your comments and inquiries of any sorts are most welcome.

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