VIETNAM

LOW 1: Wildlife Pathogen Detection—identification of novel wildlife pathogens that pose a significant public health threat

Activity 1.1 Capacity Building

- Sub-activity 1.1.1: Operationalizing One Health
 - a) National or Regional Surveillance System Improvements
 - Introduced Vietnam OIE national point person on wildlife, to Canadian Cooperative Wildlife
 Health Centre, interested in supporting a national wildlife surveillance program. Provided
 background on wildlife/livestock/human interfaces in Vietnam, One Health, and PREDICT
 to Vietnam's National Focal Point for Wildlife for OIE Regional Training.

b) Laboratory Improvements

- Improved sample management/ storage in ultralow freezers maintained at partner labs (HUA and RAHO6) in Ho Chi Minh City.
- Coordinated with IDENTIFY on consultant TOR for new biosafety protocol in HUA lab.
- Finalized partnership MOU with the Oxford University Clinical Research Unit (OUCRU), Ho Chi Minh City, for training and advanced diagnostics.

Activity 1.2: Surveillance

- Sub-activity 1.2.1: Highlights of Surveillance Activities Completed in Current Quarter
 - Piloted a wildlife survey of 74 restaurants in Hanoi to document species sold, assess risk interfaces, collect samples, and improve future survey methods and sample collection.
 - Negotiating partnership between with Welcome Trust funded 'Vietnam Initiative on Zoonotic Infections' (VIZIONs) program, implemented with University of Edinburgh, GVFI, and Welcome Trust Sanger Institute (WTSI), to sample wildlife in VIZIONs high risk cohorts and provide information on risk interfaces in six provinces.
 - Included seven Hanoi University of Agriculture (HUA) veterinary students in sample and collection training including sampling with FTA Filter cards, lysis buffer and Viral Transport Medium, environmental sampling, and PPE use.