

Universidad Mayor de San Simon  
P.O. Box 538  
Cochabamba, Bolivia  
(b) (6)

Our Wildlife Trust staff will lead bat sample collection in Bolivia with support from our primary collaborator, Dr. Luis Aguirre from BIOTA. BIOTA has been running a nationwide program on bat conservation (Programa para la Conservación de los Murciélagos de Bolivia, PCMB) under the supervision and coordination of Dr. Luis F. Aguirre with approval from the Bolivian Wildlife Department. As part of this work, team members of PCMB have been leading workshops to teach local stakeholders bat identification, how to conduct rabies analysis (immunofluorescence techniques), and supporting government health officials in controlling vampire bat populations. The expertise of PCMB researchers will be vital to conduct activities for any NIAID bat work in Bolivia. PCMB has a robust database of bats and established field sites in most of the Bolivian National Parks. Carlos Zambrana-Torrel, Wildlife Trust Research Associate, will help to coordinate Bolivian research activities. Following IACUC approval, samples of bats will be taken regularly and will support monitoring of species as well as diseases.

We are expecting approval and export permits to send samples to the Center for Infection and Immunity at Columbia University for viral discovery.

## **Vietnam**

### **Primary Collaborator:**

Dr. Jeremy Farrar  
Oxford University Clinical Research Unit  
(b) (6)  
190 Ham Tu, District 5  
Ho Chi Minh City, VietNam  
(b) (6)

Wildlife Trust scientists will lead bat sample collection in Vietnam with support from our primary collaborator, Dr. Jeremy Farrar at the Oxford University/Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Unit (OUCRU) in Ho Chi Minh City and with approval from the Wildlife Department. Little information exists on bats and their pathogens in Vietnam. A biodiversity hotspot, the Mekong Delta, including parts of Vietnam and five other countries, is home to over 1,100 animal species. Approximately 90 species of bats have been reported for Vietnam. The Mekong Delta Region is composed by (b) (4) in southwestern Vietnam with a variety of physical landscapes,

ranging from mountains and highlands to the north and west to broad, flat flood plains in the south. Being a low-lying coastal region, the Mekong Delta is particularly susceptible to floods resulting from rises in sea level. Building on recent modeling work conducted by Wildlife Trust, a more detailed surveillance plan will be implemented in collaboration with our partners to map potential emerging disease outbreaks using digital surveillance and targeted wildlife sampling around areas of risk. We will collaborate with OUCRU to develop this of targeted bat viral sampling around areas of undiagnosed encephalitis. This would include mapping cases of undiagnosed encephalitis, and then targeting active bat surveillance in these regions. Our proposed work will support the monitoring and sampling of bat communities in the area and will strengthen wildlife surveillance. Proximity to urban areas will facilitate the transportation from field sites to laboratories ensuring a cold chain is maintained for samples. Following IACUC approval, samples of bats will be taken regularly and will support monitoring of species as well as diseases.

We are applying for approval and export permits to send samples to the Center for Infection and Immunity at Columbia University for viral discovery.

## **Malaysia**

### **Primary Collaborator:**

Mr. Tom Hughes

(b) (6)

Veterinary Research Institute  
D203, Block D, Paradisa Tropika  
Persiaran Meranti  
Bandar Sri Damansara  
Kuala Lumpur 52200, Malaysia

(b) (6)

### **Secondary Collaborator:**

Dr. Abdul Aziz Jamaluddin

(b) (6)

Deputy Director General  
Department of Veterinary Services  
Ministry of Agriculture Malaysia  
8th & 9th Floor, Wisma Chase Perdana  
Off Jalan Semantan, Damansara Heights  
Kuala Lumpur 50630, Malaysia

(b) (6)