

Call for Abstracts / Papers:

2013

Conference on

**“A world united against
infectious diseases:
cross-sectoral solutions”**

29 January–2 February 2013

Bangkok, Thailand

**Prince
Mahidol
Award
Conference
2013**

**1st Global
Conference
on Regional
Disease
Surveillance
Networks**

**2nd International
One Health
Congress**

**Centennial
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Background

The Prince Mahidol Award Conference (PMAC) is an annual international conference focusing on policy-related health issues of global significance. The conference is hosted by the Prince Mahidol Award Foundation, the Thai Ministry of Public Health, Mahidol University and other global partners. It is an international policy forum that Global Health Institutes, both public and private, can co-own and use for advocacy and for seeking international perspectives on important global health issues.

The Conference in 2013 will be jointly organized for the Prince Mahidol Award Conference 2013, the 1st Global Conference

on Regional Disease Surveillance Networks, the 2nd International One Health Congress, and the Centennial Commemoration of the Rockefeller Foundation. This event will be co-hosted by 7 organizations, namely the Prince Mahidol Award Conference, the World Health Organization (WHO), Connecting Organizations for Regional Disease Surveillance (CORDS), One Health Congress, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the Rockefeller Foundation, and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) with the support from other key related partners. The Conference will be held in Bangkok, Thailand, from **29 January–2 February 2013**.

Theme and Topics for Abstract / Paper Submission

The 2013 Conference will focus on interdisciplinary collaborations and communications in all aspects of policy and actions for human and animal health, as well as environmental health, in response to the theme: **“A world united against infectious disease: cross-sectoral solutions”**.

This call is to invite abstracts / papers for presentation at the 2013 Conference, with the objective of fostering such collaboration and communication across disciplines to better address the control and the consequences of emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases which link to the human-animal-ecosystems interfaces, and to provide insight into factors which lead to zoonotic transmission. The priority focus is not in the works or achievement of one sector, but more on the cross-sectoral collective actions.

Abstracts / Papers should fall under 3 main sub-themes in relation to the One Health approach:

- 1. Surveillance System**
Highlight and share experiences on cross-sectoral surveillance models at the human-animal-environment interface at local, national, regional and global levels leading to concrete recommendations for implementation and financing.
- 2. Preparedness and Response**
Highlight shared experiences and dynamics of cross-sectoral relationships related to preparedness and response leading to concrete policy recommendations to achieve strengthened preparedness and response systems, and to understand the factors leading to zoonotic transmission at the human-animal-ecosystems interfaces.
- 3. Systems Strengthening**
Highlight and share experiences concerning the development and inter-relationships of each of the building blocks of integrated and collaborative systems, leading to concrete recommendations.

In each sub-theme, the discussion will be under inter-related issues (see Figure 1 for correlation of sub-themes and issues related to sub-themes):

1. Policy movement
2. Social movement
3. Knowledge generation and management
4. Cross-sectoral collaboration
5. Innovation
6. Broad implication and involvement of other sectors

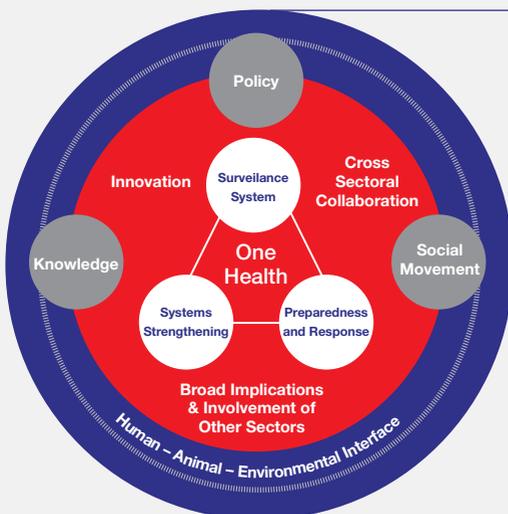


Figure 1: Sub-themes and issues to be discussed

Topics / questions of interest for abstract / paper submission include but are not limited to:

1 / Surveillance System

- Are the surveillance systems and strategies that are in place at the national level adequate to detect infectious disease threats at the human–animal interface?
- What is the impact of regional and global surveillance networking and financing mechanisms of regional and global surveillance?
- How to broaden and realign human animal wildlife surveillance systems for One Health
- What constitutes a One Health surveillance approach?
- Example of participation from lay people, media, private sector and society towards effective and transparent surveillance system

2 / Preparedness and Response

- What have been demonstrated to be among the “core competencies” required for One Health preparedness and response
- Highlight existing cases / examples (global, regional, national) of One Health related preparedness and response and how they address cross–sectoral collaboration, joint risk assessment of emergent potential threats, innovation and systems strengthening
- Identify gaps / barriers that impede effective preparedness and response planning and execution
- Highlight the role of untapped partners including the private sector in strengthening preparedness and response e.g., the livestock industry and extractive industry, as well as other relevant sectors
- The role of “risk stratification” in targeting resources for prevention and control
- The role of behavior change in reducing the risk of disease emergence and spread
- What is the role for emergent technologies and approaches in prediction / risk assessment to guide policy and resource allocations for public health measures (within countries and international examples)
- Understanding the animal–human–ecosystems interfaces, the mechanisms of transmission and the factors predisposing to increased opportunities for transmission
- Understanding the dynamics of disease emergence and spread and its implication for:
 - policy formulation
 - cross–sectoral collaboration
 - targeting preparedness and response
 - systems capacities
 - innovation

3/ Systems Strengthening

- How can these different sectors within a country establish trust and transparency, and establish processes and infrastructure for information sharing and communication (intra- and inter-agency communication)?
- How should the cross-ministry and cross-agency work be led, supported and financed?
- What are the metrics for evaluation of the impact of cross-sectoral collaboration for threats arising at the human-animal interface?
- How can public communications be used to convey effectively an understanding of the issues and the approach, as it affects practices and livelihoods?
- What is the role of civil society and private sector in contributing / participating / defining needs and practices? How can governance mechanisms incorporate their contribution?
- What is the potential contribution of emergent technologies to improve / accelerate detection and assessment of familiar and new / uncharacterised risks? (diagnostics / IT / risk analytic tools)
- What kind of skills and knowledge must be present in the workforce of the collaborating sectors, and how can new educational approaches be designed to produce appropriately skilled individuals?
- How can the Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) and the International Health Regulations (IHR) offer a more coherent approach to the development of national core capacities? How can they contribute to country-level governance at the human-animal interface?
- What is the role of the Tripartite (WHO, FAO, OIE) in establishing key principles and actions at the international level and in supporting countries in development of practical policies and programs?

Type of Submission

There are 2 types of submissions according to this call.

1. **Abstracts** (containing no more than 250 words) that illustrate original ideas / information or experience elsewhere. The main messages should not have been presented at any international meetings.
2. **Papers** (containing no more than 1,500 words) for panel discussion that consists of a moderator and 3 or more panelists. The paper should focus on “current debates”, “controversial issues” or “outstanding cases and challenges”. Based on the paper submitted, the author is also required to submit a one-page session proposal (containing no more than 400 words) including session structure and names of the moderator and panelists. To encourage further discussion and collaborations in broader aspects, it is suggested that the panelists should comprise those from different institutions or work settings (policy-maker, academia, industry, provider, etc.) and at least half from developing countries. (**Note: There are limited slots available for papers for panel discussion.**)

Abstract / Paper Guidelines

All submitted abstracts / papers will be reviewed by the International Scientific Committee. The authors of the accepted abstracts and panelists as stated in the accepted papers are invited to give presentations at the 2013 Conference during the week of **29 January – 2 February 2013**.

Successful individual abstracts are required to submit a 1,500–word paper of the selected abstract to be printed in the Conference Book. The deadline for the submission of the paper is 1 December 2012.

Abstracts/papers should clearly state:

- Rationale / background information
- The objective(s) of the presentation
- Main messages and lesson learned of significance
- The advancement over previous work, policy implications or practical recommendations

Abstract / Paper Submission Instructions

Submission Deadline 30 April 2012

The deadline for submission of abstracts / papers is **30 April 2012** at 4:00 pm of local time in Thailand (GMT+7).

All abstracts / papers must be submitted electronically at the Conference website: www.pmaconference.mahidol.ac.th.

Please follow the instructions indicated in the online submission system.

Funding Opportunity

Funding support for travel and accommodation for presenters, whose abstract / paper are selected, is available at limited number. Please indicate in your submission if you would like to be considered for the available scholarships.

Contact

For further inquiries on abstract / paper submission, please contact the Conference Secretariat at pmaconference@mahidol.ac.th.
