Asian Partnership on Emerging Infectious Disease Research

A Regional Network to Facilitate EcoHealth and Emerging Disease Control

Description	In 2005, the Asian Partnership on Avian Influenza Research (APAIR) was initiated to promote regional research collaboration on avian flu (H5N1). Subsequently in 2009, the network was renamed as the Asian Partnership on Emerging Infectious Disease Research (APEIR) in order to examine a wider range of emerging infectious diseases (EIDs), including the pandemic swine flu (H1N1) outbreak. APEIR is a unique trust-based regional network comprising researchers, officials and practitioners from Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Thailand and Vietnam. APEIR is formed by building joint work among different institutions in the most severely affected Asian countries to fight avian influenza in the region.
Purpose	To develop a strong regional partnership in Asia that generates multi-disciplinary collaborative research on emerging infectious diseases based on the Ecohealth concept, and which facilitates communication and knowledge sharing among countries to reduce the threat of EIDs and the burden on these countries, especially on poor and marginalized groups in the region.
Scope	Regional - Asia
Primary Funders	APEIR receives financial support from Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and the research institutions in the respective countries. The key institutions include the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Ministry of Public Health of Thailand, the National Research Council of Thailand, the Ministry of Science and Technology of Viet Nam, the Ministry of Research and Technology and the Ministry of Health of Cambodia.
Participants & Key Collaborators	More than 30 partner institutions representing a range of expertise and sectors are currently participating in five APEIR research projects on: wild migratory birds, socioeconomic impact, backyard poultry, policy analysis, and control measures.
Definition of One Health	APEIR work is underpinned by principles of ecohealth, which addresses emerging infectious diseases as a development problem, rather than a medical one. As a holistic systems-based approach that places human health and wellbeing in the context of environmental, social and economic causes and impacts, ecohealth requires multidisciplinary research teams and involves all relevant stakeholders.
Monitoring & Evaluation Strategy	APEIR has recently developed a Strategic Plan 2010-2013, which guides its work. This plan is being implemented to help ensure that APEIR fulfills its promise as a catalytic leader, broker and doer within the Asian EID research community.
Sources of Information	http://www.apeiresearch.net/main.php
Contact	APEIR Regional Coordinating Office (Thailand) Tel: (66) 2832-9200 (ext.9212); Fax: (66) 2832-9201 Email: xuantung168@yahoo.com; pornpit@health.moph.go.th