

STRATEGIC SECTOR COOPERATION ON FOOD SAFETY BETWEEN VIETNAM & DENMARK, Annual report for 2019

Danish Authorities in International Cooperation



Project description

The aim of the Vietnam-Denmark SSC is to contribute to improved food safety in the pork value chain in Vietnam. The focus of the project is on providing assistance with the development of the framework for risk-based food safety management, in particular for:

- feed safety management and control
- prudent use and control of veterinary drugs

The project enables government-to-government cooperation with the purpose of knowledge sharing concerning effective policy and regulatory tools, exchange of experiences concerning best practices for addressing key feed and food safety concerns, and capacity building.

Key activities in year 2019 (reporting year)

- Four missions in Vietnam during which Vietnamese and Danish experts worked on improving the Vietnamese legal framework for feed safety management and veterinary drug management.
- Two consultative workshops in Vietnam on draft legal documents on feed management.
- Field visit to map and consult stakeholders in the area of veterinary drug management.
- Field visits to feed businesses to experience feed management practices and discuss draft legislation.

- Continuous alignment with other food safety-related activities, including the International Centre for Antimicrobial Resistance Solutions, ICARS, and by participation in the Food Safety Working Group.
- A series of preparatory meetings concerning the development of phase II of the project.
- Participation of 54 Vietnamese governmental officials and researchers in 13 DFC scholarship courses in Denmark.
- Continuation of the SSC-related "VIDAPIG - Health and Antibiotics in the Vietnamese Pig Production" research project by the University of Copenhagen, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) and the Vietnamese Ministry of Health.
- Conduction of a Knowledge Sharing Workshop addressing the need for capacity building in food safety management.
- The signing in December 2019 of an arrangement concerning phase II of the SSC and of the project document by, respectively, the Vice-Minister of MARD and the Danish Ambassador to Vietnam and the Deputy Directors General of MARD's Department of Livestock production and the Danish Veterinary and Food Administration.

Main achievements and lessons learned in 2019 (reporting year)

In 2019, substantial Danish input was provided to draft legislation on feed management implementing the 2018 Law on Animal Husbandry. In addition, continued assistance was given to the development of the legal framework regulating the use of veterinary drugs, which is still in the drafting process. The project has also resulted in extensive continued knowledge exchange and capacity building in food safety-related issues.

A lesson learned from working directly with drafting legislation is that it is time consuming, while the outcome is ultimately beyond our control. However, if successful, this approach can be a real catalyst for change.

Status: Phase I

Project period: [3/2017 to 12/2019]

Partners: Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Vietnam and Danish Veterinary and Food Administration

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