



D7.2 Short term visit programme report



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in China and EU

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and zoonoses

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RE	Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Services)	
CO	Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Services)	

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Royal Veterinary College



Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement.



National Veterinary Institute



Shanghai Veterinary Research Institute



Harbin Veterinary Research Institute



China Animal Health and Epidemiology Center



China Animal Disease Control Center



Sociedade Portuguesa de Inovação



Huazhong Agricultural University

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Introduction

In May 2014 the Royal Veterinary College in London, UK hosted an academic visit by Dr Kang Jingli of the China Animal Health and Epidemiology Centre (Qingdao, China).

The major aims of this visit were to deepen knowledge about each other's organisations, and facilitate Kang Jingli's training in epidemiological techniques for animal health management. Specific aims for Kang Jingli were:

- Learn about animal health information systems and database management.
- Learn about animal disease surveillance, outbreak investigation and risk analysis.
- Discuss interesting programmes for possible collaborations in the future

Kang Jingli was hosted by the RVC from 6th May 2014 until 30th May 2014.

Specific training activities

During the visit, Kang Jingli undertook a number of training activities including meetings with RVC staff, external experts, and independent learning activities. These included:

- Collaboration with Louise Wall on LinkTADs project activities including helping to design a questionnaire as part of WP2.
- Discussion of epidemiology and socio-economic impact of peste des petits ruminants with Bryony Jones.
- Participation in RVC Veterinary Epidemiology MSc course lecture on disease control taught by Jane Gibbens of the Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency (AHVLA).
- Introduction to SERVAL project - a generic surveillance evaluation framework for animal health surveillance systems – with Julian Drewe.
- Tour of Cambridge University.
- Overview of ASFORCE project on African swine fever, with Timothée Vergne.
- Visit to the UK government Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) to learn about animal health surveillance in the UK, including a meeting with the UK Chief Veterinary Officer.
- Visit to the Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency (AHVLA), an agency of Defra, for a tour of high biosecurity laboratories and to learn more about surveillance and outbreak investigation including a case study on a recent UK foot-and-mouth disease outbreak.

- Discussion of the NEAT project on animal health economics, with Houda Benanni.
- Overview of RVC research on brucellosis control with Wendy Beauvais and Hannah Holt.
- Networking at RVC PhD research presentation day.
- Introduction to veterinary practice surveillance with Dan O’Neill.
- Discussion of RISKSUR project and economics of surveillance with Barbara Haesler.

Knowledge exchange

During the course of the visit, Kang Jingli delivered a presentation to UK colleagues to give an overview of CAHEC, its remit and structures; and animal health surveillance in China. This fostered greater understanding by colleagues in the UK of the equivalent animal health structures in China and an appreciation of some of the challenges faced.

This presentation was delivered to experts and animal health stakeholders in:

- Defra (Nobel House, London)
- AHVLA (Weybridge laboratory, Surrey)
- RVC Veterinary Epidemiology, Economics and Public Health research group

This series of presentations helped to forge links between China and the UK; and between CAHEC and its UK counterparts, which was a key objective of this short-term visit programme.

Overview of key achievements and future work

Kang Jingli felt that the most rewarding aspects and beneficial achievements of the visit included:

- Learning more about epidemiology systems and the main tasks involved in surveillance and investigation at national level in the UK
- Becoming familiar with advanced research areas, topics, and current programs in the UK, especially at the RVC
- Studying animal disease surveillance technical methodology used in field practices
- Learning about the catalogue of animal diseases which the UK government controls and prevents at the national level

In terms of the limitations of this short-term visit, Kang jingli felt that the following activities could have improved the experience further:

- To learn more about how animal health information systems operate and how to create databases
- To work more with the AHVLA, and learn more details about epidemiology investigation procedures and surveillance plan making
- To participate in ongoing research projects with RVC staff, and attend more bachelor and master degree's courses at the RVC, especially in surveillance and risk analysis.

Kang Jingli felt that some of the greatest benefits of the short term visit were to make contact with many key persons in Defra, AHVLA and RVC, and build links with these organizations. Furthermore, it was very beneficial to build links between university, government and technical institutions. Establishing and promoting cooperation between these institutions will help to extend our work area and find potential projects with which we can collaborate together in the future.

Overall, the key aims for this visit were met and some additional benefits were also found. Reviewing the achievements of the visit and having a de-briefing session between Kang jingli and RVC at the end allowed us to explore ways to improve the programme for future exchange visits.