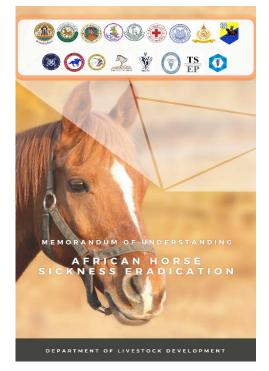




Public-private partnership on African horse sickness eradication in Thailand





Disease control could not be accomplished successfully without good collaboration. After the first outbreak of African horse sickness (AHS) in March 2020, the Department of Livestock Development, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (DLD)* put a lot of effort into the control and prevention of the disease. The DLD was also aware that this was the first AHS occurrence in Thailand and the South-East Asian region. To combat the disease, the DLD realised that public-private Partnership (PPP) is the key.

The DLD combined the efforts of all partners, 17 agencies, including government and private sectors, in this fight. On 14 July 2020, the DLD held the signing ceremony of the memorandum of understanding (MOU) - African Horse Sickness Eradication. The purpose of this MOU was to enhance and strengthen collaboration among stakeholders for the appropriate and effective implementation of prevention and control measures. The collaboration includes most essential aspects in controlling the disease, such as disease surveillance, vaccination campaign, movement control, animal identification and registration.

Examples of our collaborations

- Vaccination campaign: all vaccinated horses must be kept in the netting stable. The DLD provides no cost vaccines and the Thailand Equestrian Federation (TEF) supports nets to small-scale horse holders.
- **Movement control**: besides law enforcement by the DLD, the TEF will impose penalties, such as ban on competition, to any individuals who violate the AHS movement control.

- **Disease surveillance in zebra**: to monitor AHS in zebras, the DLD provides laboratory diagnosis, while the Department of National Park, Wildlife, and Plant Conservation and Zoological Park Organization conduct sample collection.

Our collaboration is not only in the paper but we are also implementing them!

* The Department of Livestock Development (DLD) is the Veterinary Services of Thailand.

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DLD, DNP and ZPO team for surveillance in zebra.



TEF donated nets to the DLD local office to distribute to horse owners.

