

# EcoHealth initiatives in Southeast Asia and perspectives of linkages with Africa

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**Africa 2013**  
Ecosanté/Ecohealth



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# Introduction



Africa 2013  
Ecosanté/Ecohealth

- EcoHealth: comprehensive concepts to look at health as an integrative component of the complex relation of human, animal and environment.
- Ecohealth was introduced in Southeast Asia (SEA) mid/late of the 2000s by IDRC
- Its development in the region shows a dynamics in the landscape of research and application of Ecohealth in various fields such as emerging and zoonotic diseases, agriculture and health, education and training.
- **Objective:** to review ecohealth activities in SEA of the last 10 years to address lessons learned, challenges and future of Ecohealth in the region and discuss the linkages with Africa.

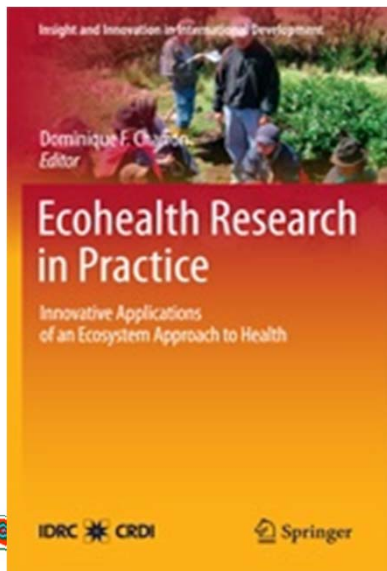


# Methods



- We analyzed all the Ecohealth programmes, initiatives implemented in the past 10 years with support of IDRC in SEA.
- The level of ecohealth characterized by how much “ecohealth content” was analyzed.

A loose guide to considering how research incorporates “Ecohealth”



## Six Ecohealth Principles

- Systems thinking
- Transdisciplinarity
- Participation
- Sustainability
- Gender & social equity
- Knowledge to action

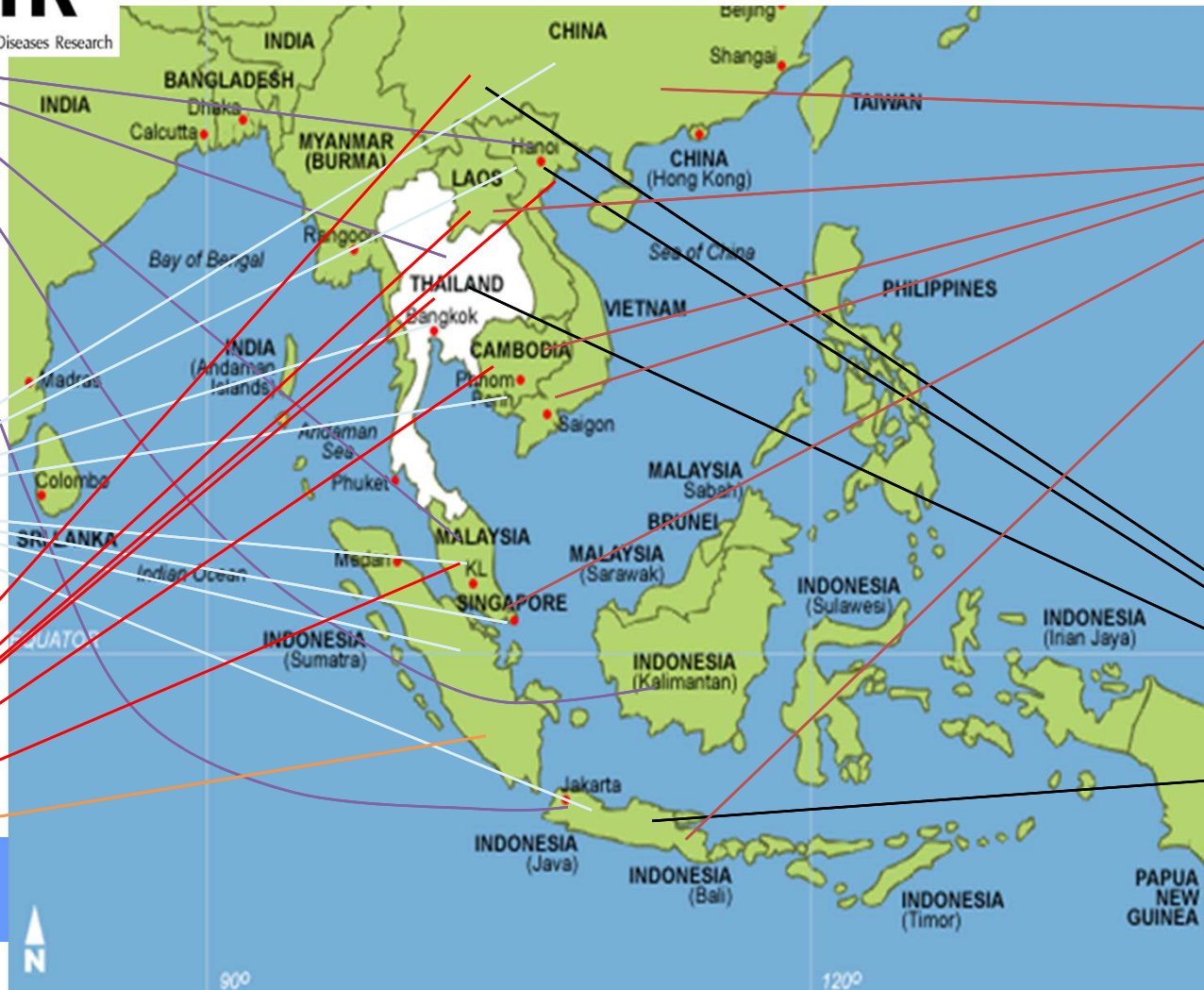




Asia Partnership on Emerging Infectious Diseases Research



**EcoEID**



Afri  
USON



***Main ecohealth projects in Southeast Asia, October 2013***



# 1. APEIR: Asia Partnership on EIDs Research



- APEIR is a research partnership (>30 institutions in 6 countries...)
- APEIR (former APAIR) was initially established in 2006 in response to the spread of HPAI in the region. Since 2009 it has considered a wider range of diseases - EIDs.

Five studies on avian influenza (AI)

Multi-country teams for each study

## In the past....

- i. Migratory birds & AI network
- ii. Socio-economic impacts of AI
- iii. Backyard poultry systems & AI
- iv. Policy analysis
- v. Effectiveness of AI control measures

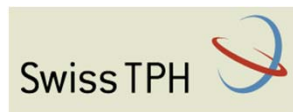
## In recent years

- i. Poultry Production Clusters
- ii. Small-Scale Poultry Slaughter Houses

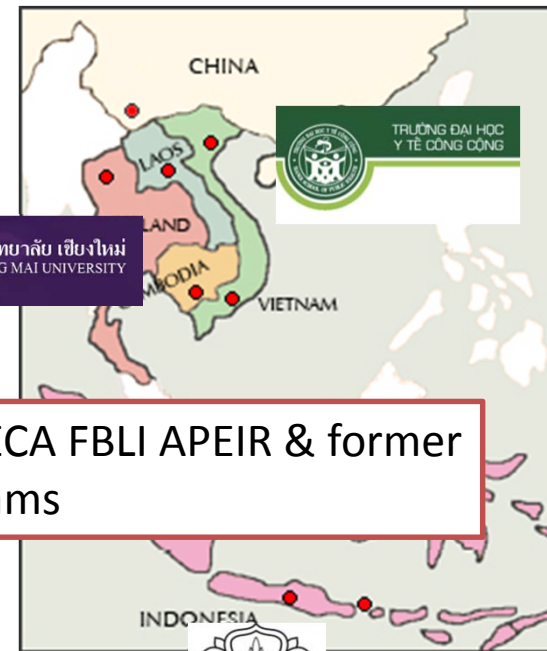
## Now and future

- i. AMR
- ii. Wildlife

## 2. Ecosystem Approaches to the Better Management of Zoonotic Emerging Infectious Diseases in Southeast Asia (EcoZD)



### Regional Expertise

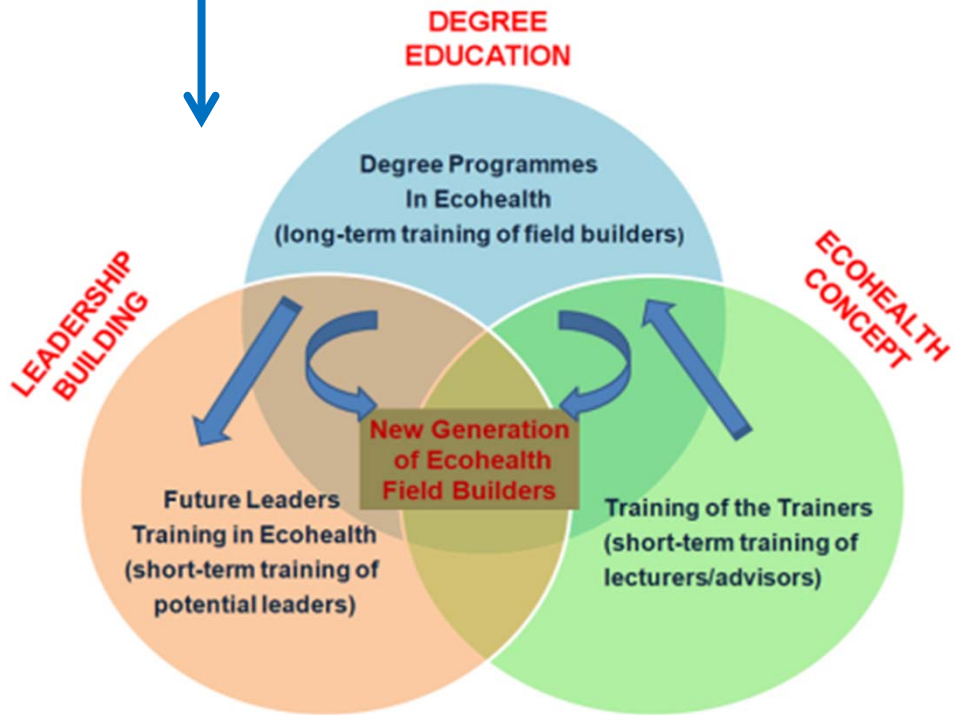
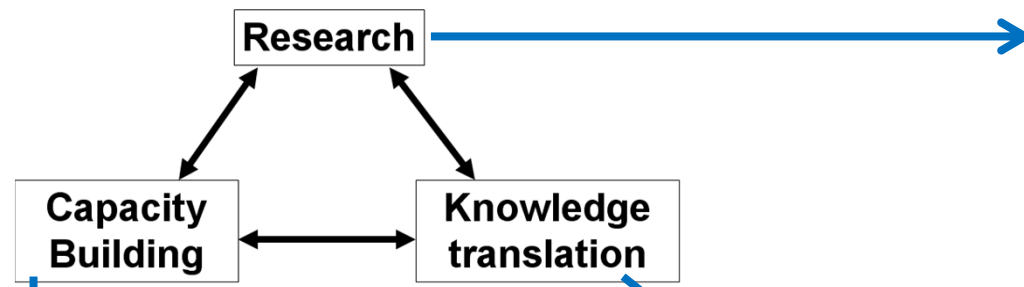


EcoEID BECA FBI APEIR & former EcoZD teams



# 3. Field Building Leadership Initiative - FB LI

- “Site based- concept”**
- Yuanmou (CN)
  - Hanam (VN)
  - Chachoengsao (TH)
  - Pangalengen , West Java





## Where is FBLI active?

Reduce pesticide use and its health and environment impact in Yuanmou County, Yunnan Province, China



Better Human and Animal Waste Management in Hanam Province, Vietnam (Eco-HAWAM)



Rubber Plantation Expansion and Increased Risk of Vector-Borne Diseases in Eastern Thailand



Dairy Production: Connecting Issues and Finding Interventions for Small-Scale Farming in a Southeast Asian Context



“Site-based concept”

- Yuanmou (CN)
- Hanam (VN)
- Chachoengsao (TH)
- Pangalengen , West Java (ID)





## 4. **EcoEID: Ecohealth Emerging Infectious Diseases Research Initiative**



To enhance preparedness and systemic response capacities to the threats from emerging infectious diseases (EIDs) and diseases with pandemic potential in SE Asia and beyond.

3 research projects

3-4 countries/ project

1. Emerging Food-borne Diseases and Eco-health in Southeast Asia
2. Eco-Health Assessment on Poultry Production Clusters for the Livelihood Improvement of Small Producers
3. EIDs in Global Outreach Hot Spots

## 5. BECA: Building Capacity for Ecohealth Research and Practice in Southeast Asia



The long term goal of this project is to **reduce the risk of EID outbreaks in Southeast Asia** through increased capacity in preventing and responding to EIDs through the **development and promotion of sustainable ecosystem approaches to health**, thereby promoting healthy livelihoods and reducing poverty in the region.

### Activities and objectives

1. Methodologies for developing and measuring impact
2. Informing and influencing local and regional policy formulation
3. Promote and facilitate regional networking and collaboration
4. Process oriented approach to monitoring and evaluation

# Ecohealth: good uptake and well perceived

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- Ecohealth has been well perceived and taken by partners, in particular academia, policy makers and communities and generated some good research results in the field of ZEIDs.
- Some projects focused purely on capacity, others on research or both.
- However, the challenges remain



# Challenges

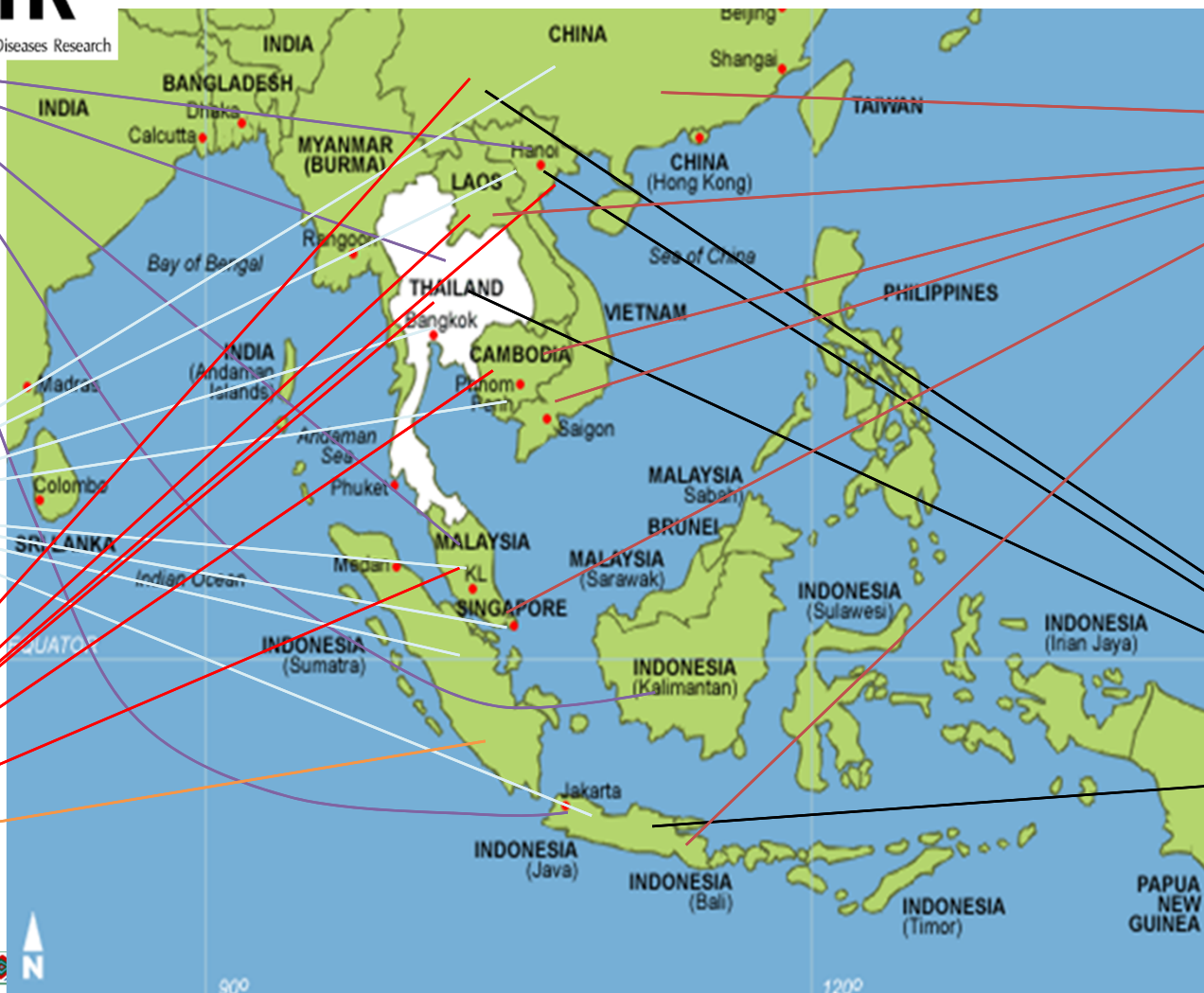
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- Project design and implementation level
- Available capacity and coordination to develop ecohealth research and teams in the countries
- Issue of ecohealth scaling-up.
- We will present the ways forward of ecohealth from a regional perspective in terms of research, training and policy translation using ecohealth in combination with One Health approach.



# Networking – Reflections on Ecohealth future in Southeast Asia



EcoEID



- INDOHUN
- THOHUN
- VOHUN
- MYOHUN



2  
EHRCs



GHI



Emerging Pandemic Threats Program

PREDICT • RESPOND • PREVENT • IDENTIFY



BILL & MELINDA GATES foundation



# Networking – Reflections on Ecohealth future in Southeast Asia



- Complementarity : **EIDs vs. non EIDs**
- **“Competitive”** networks of **Ecohealth** and **One Health** in SEA
- **Donor driven** and **weak sustainability**
- Future of Ecohealth: a more **“viable”** and **“sustainable”** network with support of several donors?

→ **A new regional platform / structure / foundation / department**

→ **regionally recognized and strongly attached to the regional and national decision bodies (ministries, ASEAN...)**

→ **with a more coordinated way of pooling resources from several donors to make more impacts in EIDs and Ecohealth research**



# The way forward from a regional perspective

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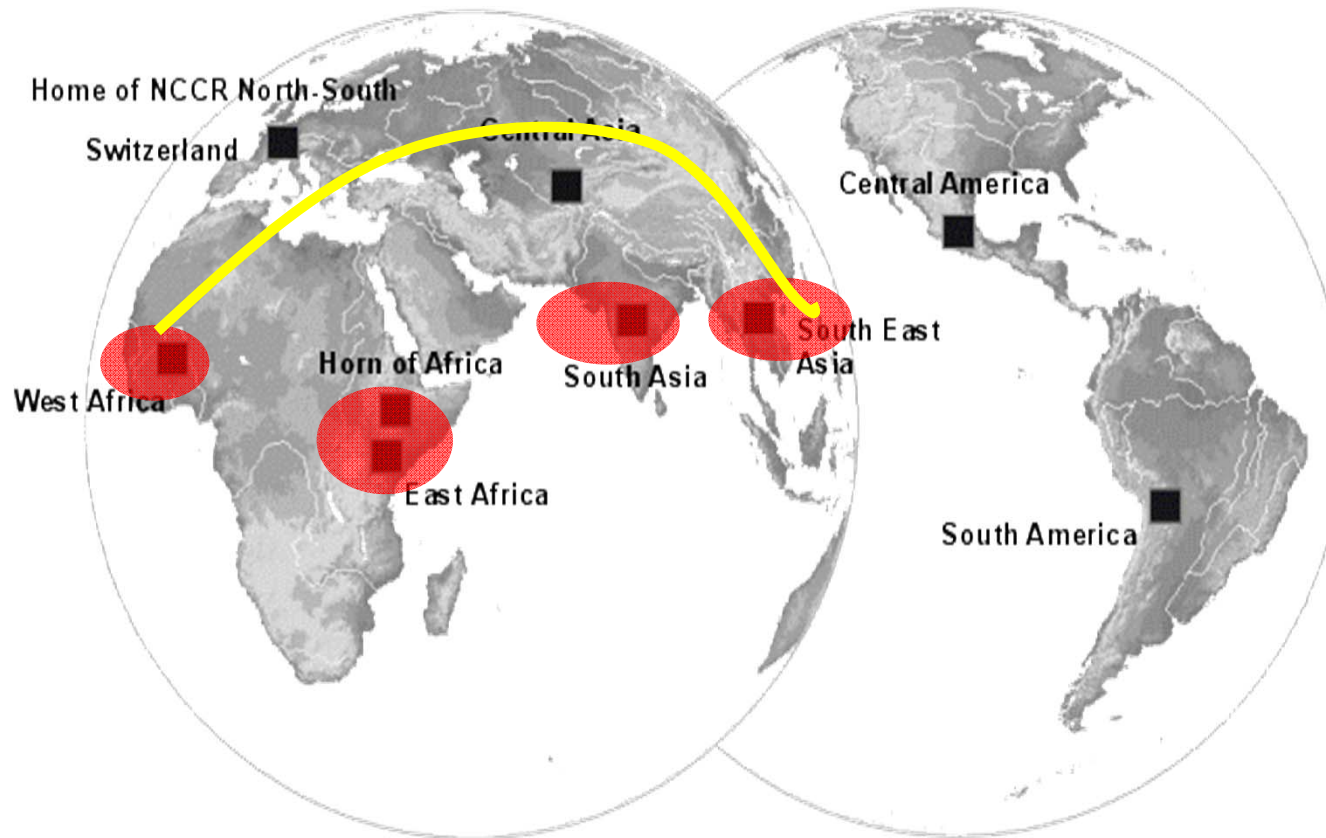


- Research: more integrated and practically oriented case studies of EcoHealth are needed.
- Training: degree training and short course in Ecohealth to expand knowledge to mainstream practitioners.
- Policy translation: sensitize policy makers to EcoHealth and good advocacy to apply EcoHealth





# Linkages to Africa



# Linkages to Africa



- Africa: many ecohealth projects focusing on climate changes, zoonotic infectious diseases, water and sanitation and in particular active in One Health.
- Asia and Africa share many similarities in terms of development issues and challenges to apply ecohealth and integrated approaches in research for development.
- NEEDs: **South-South learning** and **sharing lessons** in applying ecohealth between Asia and Africa
- **Strengthen the linkages: research, capacity building (SFFF, AfriqueOne, NCCR North-South...)**



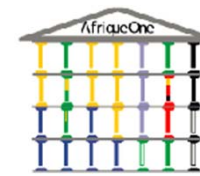
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**ECHEALTH**

