EcoHealth-OneHealth Resource Centers in Thailand and Indonesia – establishment, success and perspective

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Part of ILRI EcoZD project

- To address capacity building needs on EcoHealth (EH)
- EH hub for the region



First steps towards establishment

Write shop

- October 11-12, 2010 at Chiang Mai University, CMU
- January 11-13, 2011 at Universitas Gadja Mada, UGM
 - How other disciplines can contribute to human health
 - Brainstorming on ideas for an EHRC
 - Mission and vision
 - Organizational structure
 - Potential priority activities



Write shop – CMU* & key activities

*Health, Vet Med, Social Science, Socio Econ Science

Activity	Rating
Synthesizing the state of knowledge on EH	8
Workshop on research methods for EH	5
Investigate funding for EII	5
Produce bulletin/newsletter on EH	5
Launch new research on EH	4
Developing training material on EH for students to put a EH perspective on their work and support in publication	4
Developing case studies on EH in Thailand	3



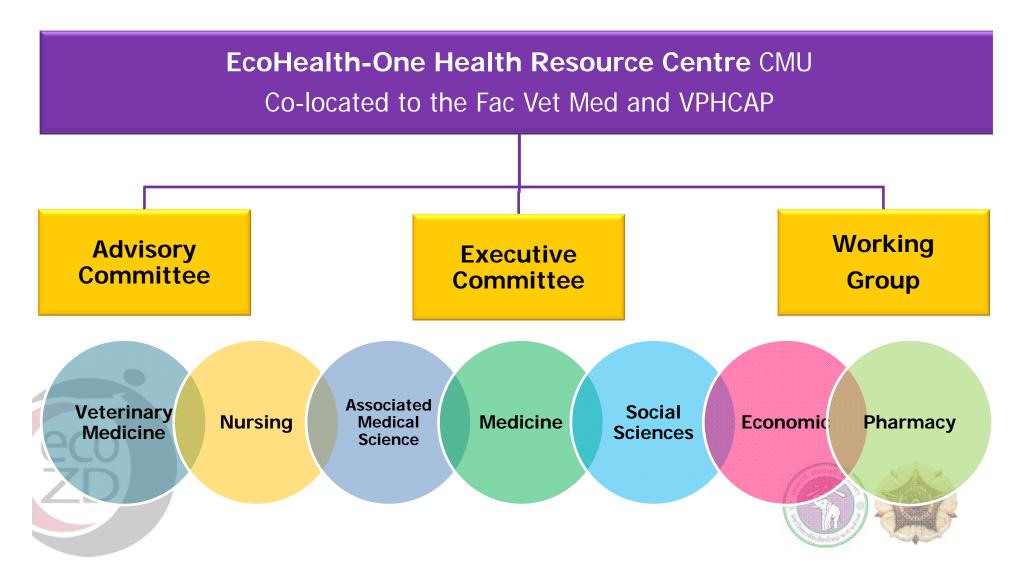
Key activities:

- Capacity building
- Research
- Communication/networking





EHRC CMU – organizational structure





EHRC UGM – organizational structure

EcoHealth Resource Centre UGM

Initially co-located under the Vet Fac but later uner UGM

Advisory Working Committee Group Agric. Animal **Forestry** Social Anthrop **Biology** Medical Veterinary Geology enginee Sciences science (wildlife) ology Medicine ring

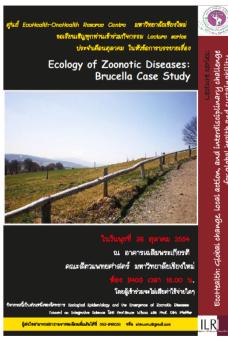


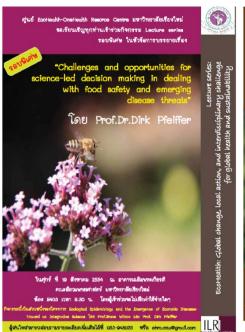
Capacity building

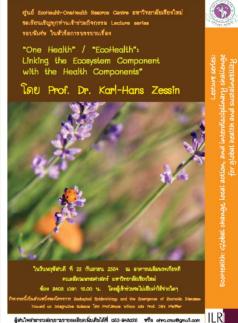


- EcoHealth lectures/lecture series (1st year)
- EcoHealth/One Health guest lectures











Capacity building Year 2-3

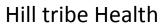


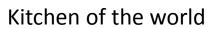
- Change from Trainee to Trainer perspective
 - Initially joint by EH experts but later more and more independently
 - Meanwhile training provided on request (e.g. by CMU for external projects)
- Provider of EH training
 - faculty level
 - other faculties
 - outside faculty (limited scope)
- Insert EH ideas in ongoing curricula
 - Undergraduate courses
 - EcoHealth manuals





Research









Mini studies by EHRC exchange students





Research

- Leptospirosis in Yogyakarta province in animals and human based on a participatory approach
- Toxoplasmosis in the Province of Yogyakarta and Bali using an EcoHealth approach
- Research related to the Student Service Activities (SSA) or Kuliah Kerja Nyata (KKN) with some EcoHealth aspects
 - Goat sharing
 - Biogas/waste management









Research process



Overall research idea circulated

Call for a meeting — working group established

Brainstorm on potential specific research topics

Identify roles of team members

Plan, conduct and evaluation

Build trust and relationship

Regular meetings

Rather small group but each member active







Communication/Networking



http://ehrc.vet.cmu.ac.th

http://www.ecohealth.fkh.ugm.ac.id

- Conferences/workshops
- Flyers, poster, radio broadcasting
- Training materials, policy briefs ect.











CMU & UGM Joint activities

Materialized idea along the process of implementation of the EHRC



- Researcher and student exchange
- Jointly organised training courses

EH and risk assessment
Jun 2012 (Chiang Mai) & May 2014 (Hanoi)(+ CENPHER & FBLI)

EcoHealth-One Health symposium

(1st Regional EH symposium, Jun 2013, Chiang Mai)







Joint activities Regular student exchange



UGM students at CMU

5-7 students, several batches for 1-2 weeks

They joined EH training at CMU



CMU students at UGM

- 2 batches, 2-4 students for 2-4 weeks
- Conducting EH Mini-Research
- Results published





Perspectives for the EHRC



UGM

- Take part in regional One Health activities
- One Health University network
- Researcher and student exchange with partner center
- Joint concept notes with partner center
- KKN & EH
- 2nd regional EH Symposium planned

CMU

- Involved in various regional One Health/EH activities
- VPHCAP FU Berlin
 - EH related topic for 1 student
- Researcher and student exchange with partner centers
- Joint concept notes with partner centers
- EH capacity provider for other projects
- 2nd regional EH Symposium planned





Observations and lessons learned

- **Dean level** open for the idea (precondition for success)
- Build up on existing linkages (which worked already in the past)
- Provide a solid background on EcoHealth
- Keep it pragmatic/doable
- Learning by doing case studies
- Target strong incentives "peer reviewed" publications, this should be not compromised
- Available human resources a limiting factor
- "Intra institutional" funding mechanism needs consideration and certain flexibility



Observations and lessons learned

- Ensure a **continued research interest** for each researcher/faculty
- Accept that you may loose some researchers on the way, focus on a rather small but active group
- Community involvement
 - > Strong in both centers
- Qualitative meets quantitative research
 - > Still expandable at both centers
 - > Use of qualitative tools remains a challenge
- Ensure the right direction
 - EH related activities should be regular revisited to ensure that you are on the right track

Final reflections

- Both centers operate independent from initial seed funding
- Time commitment of key researchers is a challenge
 - > Allocate sufficient human resources
- Monitor EcoHealth uptake
- Policy level involvement/recognition
- Funding for EH research
- Provide sufficient time for change of mindsets (e.g. qualitative versus quantitative research)





THANK YOU