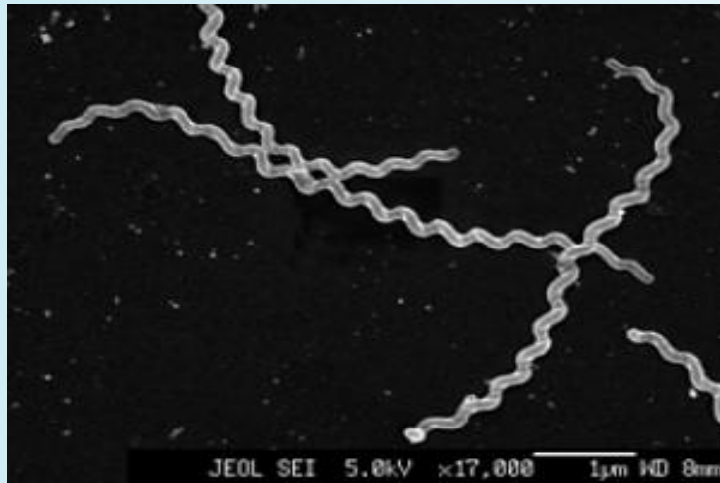


**Leptospirosis prevention in
Mahasarakham Province (Thailand)
in a One Health perspective**

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Human Leptospirosis

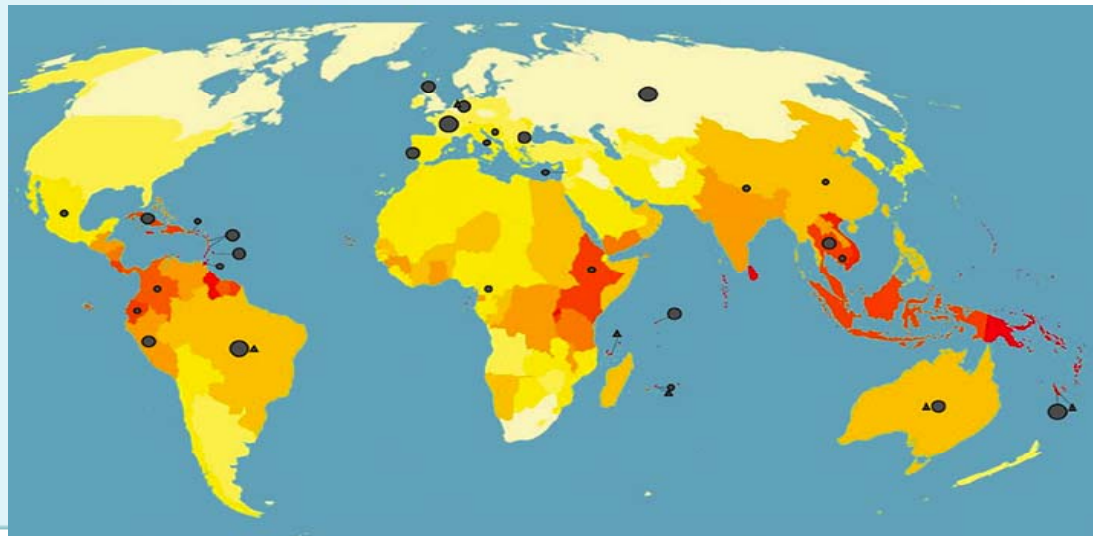


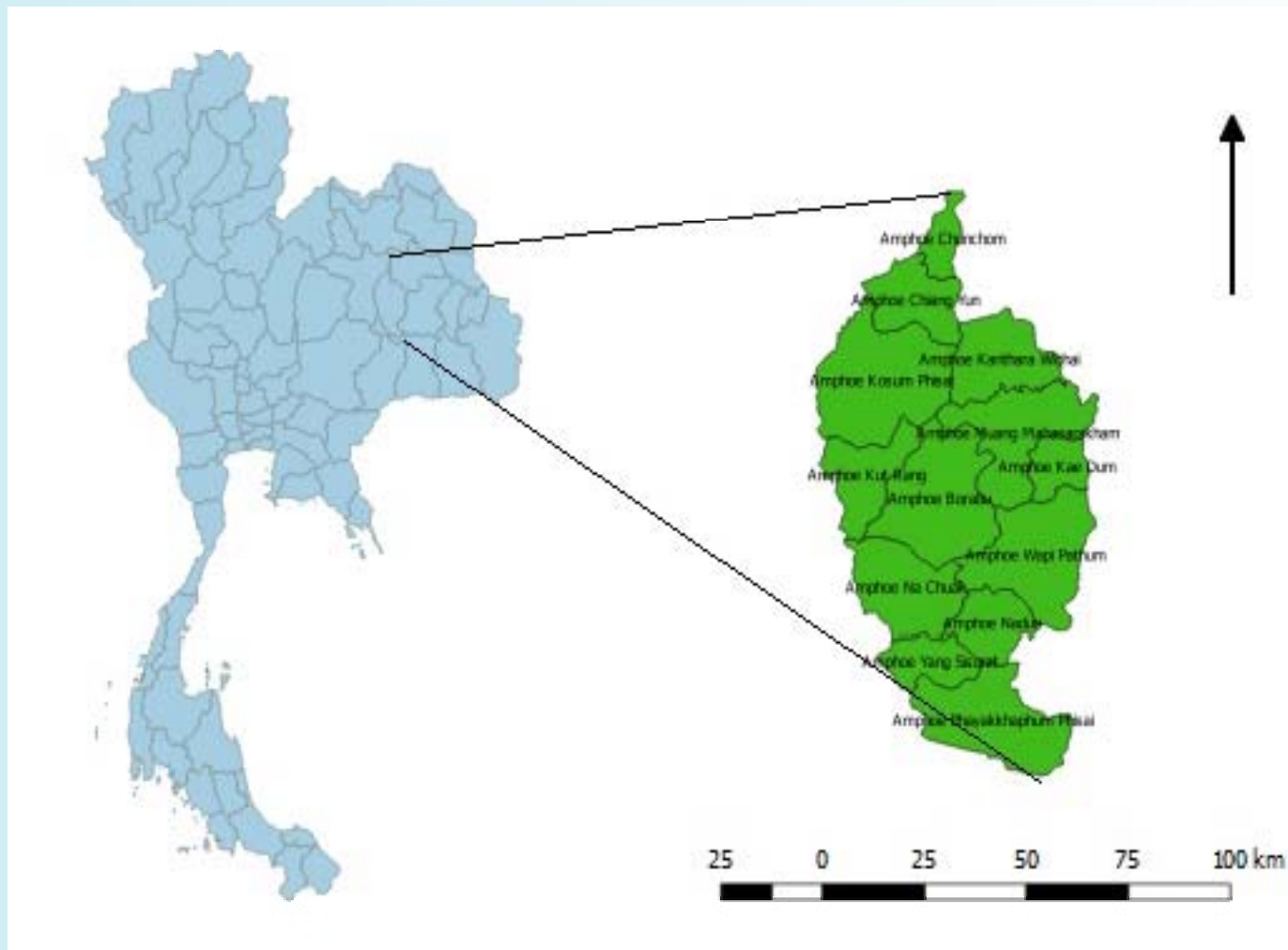
Leptospirosis is an important zoonotic disease and is considered as one of the most widespread zoonoses.

([Bharti et al., 2003](#); [PAUL N. LEVETT, 2001](#))

More than 70,000 cases have been recorded since the emergence of this disease in Thailand

([Morand, et al., 2018](#))





Leptospirosis is an important health issue and need to improve the leptospirosis prevention and control policy.

Study design

Qualitative study

Data collection



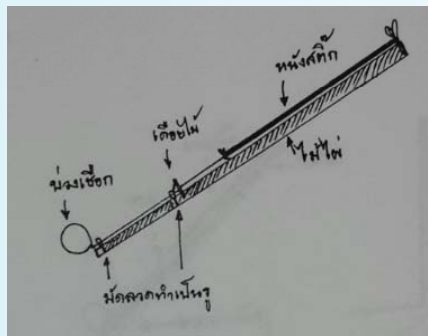
1. Primary documents
2. Collected data among officers from different administrative departments

Leptospirosis prevention and control policy implementation before 2000

- The policy implementation in this phase was not clearly framed at the local level.
- The Ministry of Public Health(MOPH) decided to improve the knowledge about leptospirosis at the Regional Public Health Office.
- Public health officers were charged to educate people.
- Public health officers were the only persons in charge of Leptospirosis prevention and control.

Leptospirosis prevention and control policy implementation 2000 to 2003

- In 2000, the province of Maharakham was chosen by the MOPH as a pilot province.
- Those measures improved the awareness of public health officers regarding their role in policy implementation.



Leptospirosis prevention and control policy implementation 2000 to 2003

- The MOPH supported various media about leptospirosis prevention and control.
- A “war room” was established to handle leptospirosis. The “Special Response Team” comprising disease prevention officers, environmental officers and disease prevention agents of sub-districts.

(Bureau of General Communicable Department of Disease Control, 2000)

(Department of Disease Control: Ministry of Public Health and Office of the Basic Education Commission: Ministry of Education, 2003).



Leptospirosis prevention and control policy implementation from 2004 to 2010

Implementation	Activities	Responsible person
Early detection	Share outbreak information with healthcare providers	Patients Public health volunteers
Early diagnosis	Make a preliminary diagnosis from the patient's history and symptoms such as acute fever, headache, muscle pain following the Leptospirosis diagnosis guideline	Healthcare providers
Early treatment	Give treatment to patient, following the leptospirosis diagnosis guideline.	Healthcare providers
Early control	Prevention and control of leptospirosis one week after receiving the leptospirosis report.	Surveillance and Rapid Response Team
Coordination	Investigate causes of leptospirosis cases and prepares advice for the people in the community. For example, advice about feeding animal, monitoring animal diseases and reporting leptospirosis cases.	Public health officers Livestock department
Community involvement	Community participate in the prevention and control of leptospirosis. For example warning about leptospirosis, establishing the leptospirosis prevention in the community etc.	Community

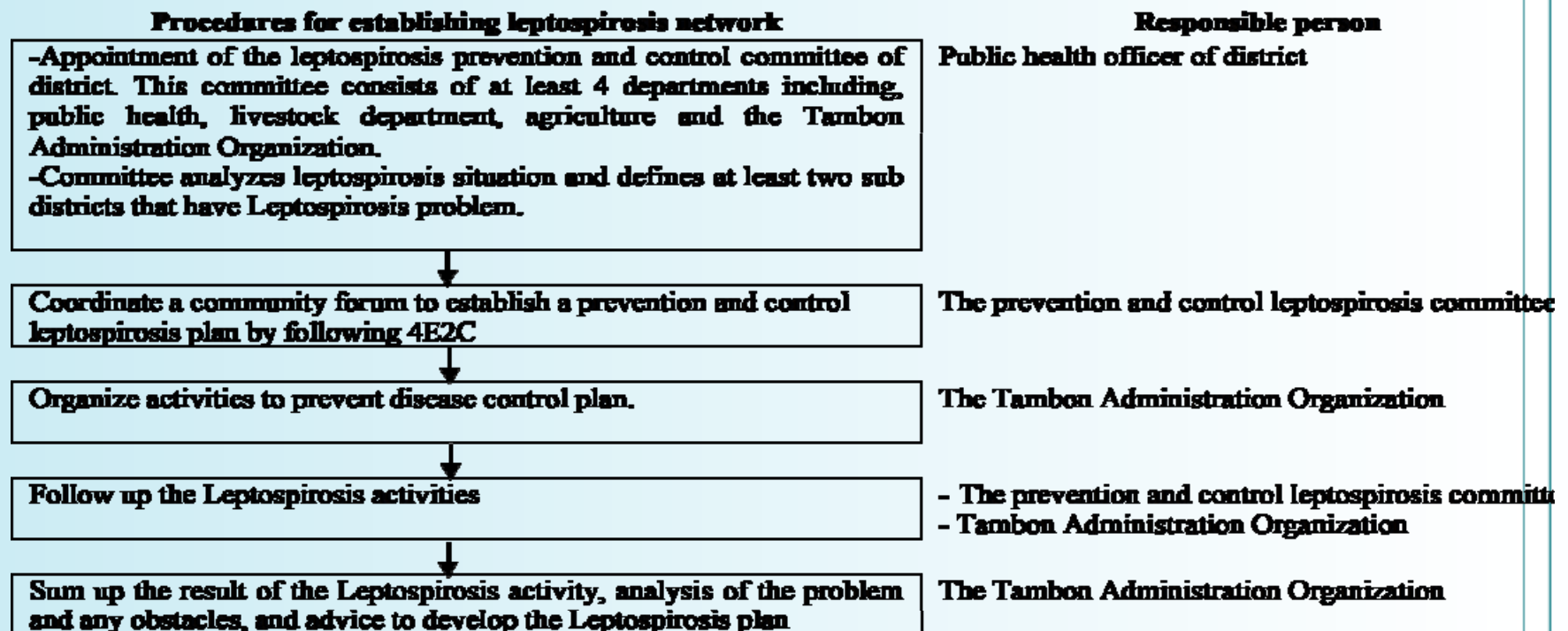
Leptospirosis prevention and control policy implementation from 2004 to 2010

- The cooperation between public health officers in the district is now clearly established.
- A movement of decentralization in the Health Sector allocated a proportion of the central budget to the LGO. There was no specific obligation to work on health issues.
- Public health department work jointly with Livestock department only in the case of an outbreak to investigate the disease.



Leptospirosis prevention and control policy implementation 2011 to 2014

In 2011, the Department of Disease Control of the Ministry of Public Health established the prevention disease standard “The District Strengthening Disease Control”.



Leptospirosis prevention and control policy implementation 2011 to 2014

- Between 2011 to 2014, The Committee of Communicable Diseases of the province created at that time became an important mechanism making all sectors aware of health issues
- There were cooperating between departments in the level of province for the prevention and control of epidemic even before the promotion of the One Health concept.
- The cooperation stayed informal at that time: for a specific mission in case of zoonotic disease outbreak.

Leptospirosis prevention and control in Mahasarakham Province, One Health perspective



- There are guidelines for cooperation between departments following “The District Strengthening Disease Control” adopted before Thailand decided to use the One Health approach.

- There is a lack of linkages to ensure comprehensive disease prevention activities with other departments



Thank you very much.

