

## DEVELOPMENT OF ONE HEALTH WORKFORCE OF THAI UNIVERSITY NETWORK FOR COMMUNITY-BASED LEARNING ON INFECTIOUS DISEASES PREVENTION

Sunpetch Angkititrakul\*

Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Khon Kaen University, Khon Khaen 40002, Thailand

Khon Kaen University (KKU) was established as the major university for the north-eastern region of Thailand. The major mission of KKU is to prepare future global citizens to work in a continually changing world.

The majority of Thais living in rural areas work in the agricultural sector. Health problems in humans and animals in the rural areas are current issues, which many organizations participate to try to solve. For example, infectious diseases, such as avian influenza, fasciolosis, foot and mouth disease, hemorrhagic septicemia, melioidosis, opisthorchiasis, and rabies, still cause economic loss, morbidity and mortality in the rural communities.

In order to prevent infectious diseases, it is necessary to educate people and to have collaboration among experts from government, academia and leaders in the community. Thai universities are key pillars in educating the future One Health Workforce build their capacity working in the community. In this project academic staff of six universities (Chiang Mai University, Chulalongkorn University, Kasetsart University, Khon Kaen University, Mahidol University, and Prince of Songkla University) with different backgrounds, disciplines and sectors joined together to form a workforce planning group with the objective of strengthening students' understanding and acquisition of competencies required in the One Health workforce, and also to enable researchers and instructors participating in this project gain a broad view of multidiscipline collaboration that could be integrated into graduate curriculum and teaching. Student preparation phase was conducted during July 10-11, 2016 during which lectures on One Health knowledge were delivered by staff and invited experts (Fig). Students then participated during July 12-22, 2016 with the community of Nong Bua Lam Phu province in on-site activities of building good relationship and productive collaboration with the community, collecting data using questionnaires related to human health, animal health, environment care, and developing plans and activities to implement One Health goals.

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\*Corresponding author: E-mail: sunpetch@kku.ac.th



Fig – Typical One Health preparatory session for undergraduate students of Khon Kaen University, Khon Kaen, 12-22 July 2016.

Objective 2: Education & Pre-Service Training of One Health Students (Future Workforce)