

## **ASEAN HEALTH COOPERATION CONCEPT NOTE <sup>1</sup>**

### **I. PROJECT TITLE:**

*(Provide a concise project title that captures the essence of the proposed activity, i.e. ASEAN – Canada's GPP Project on Mitigating Biological Threats – Laboratory Capacity Development for Diagnostic EDP.*

Biosafety and Biosecurity system improvement in ASEAN and Lao PDR

Task 1: ASEAN-Canada's GPP workshop on knowledge Management of Biosafety Regulation

Task 2: Biosafety improving in the national facility of Lao PDR

### **II. BRIEF PROJECT DESCRIPTION-300 WORDS MAX:**

*(Provide a brief description of the proposed activity its objective and key activities or outputs)*

Biosafety and Biosecurity are global concerned and have been stated these issues both in the WHO International Health Regulation and Global Health Security Agenda. Biosafety regulations are critically important manual used to be a reference in health laboratories dealing with infectious substances; Recently, there are many international Biosafety manual that every country in the world used to be a reference such as: Laboratory biosafety manual 3rd Edition 2004 By World Health Organization, Canadian Biosafety Standards and Guidelines - 1st Edition 2013 By Public health Agency of Canada and Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories 4th Edition 1999 by Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

*Task 1: ASEAN-Canada's GPP workshop on knowledge Management of Biosafety Regulation*

The workshop aims to 1) To review and sharing existing national legislation Biosafety in ASEAN countries member states, 2) To identify potential checklist of pathogen can be transfer and prohibited in each countries member states, 3) To strengthening cooperation – collaboration of Biosafety network among ASEAN member states. The Knowledge management of Biosafety Regulation workshop is a new initiative on management of Biosafety legislation to sharing among ASEAN country to review the existing legislation and priority list pathogen could be transfer to another country to confirm.

This workshop will be organized two full days meeting, first session is country experience sharing on Availability of the legislation on and its implementation and enforcement of each country such as: Law, National policy, Strategy, legal framework for Health laboratory in 10 countries ASEAN member states, the second session is a group discussion to identified gap Legislation Share by member states: What are the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats in implementing biosafety frameworks in your country and the last session are summary outcome of the workshop and key strategic components intend to reinforce the Biosafety. After workshop completion, Lao team will continue to collect the Biosafety regulation in AMS and summary all the existing legislation and find the gap.

*Task 2: Biosafety improving in the national facility of Lao PDR*

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<sup>1</sup> This concept note is based on the ASEAN Cooperation Project Proposal as of 2017 approved by the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) to ASEAN

The aims of project is 1) To improve the national biosafety and biosecurity system is in place for related ministries, 2) To disseminate and implement the national Biosafety and Biosecurity regulation in nationwide, 3) To strengthening Biosafety and Biosecurity capacity of the National Reference Laboratory in order to meet IHR and Global Health Security Agenda core capacity Requirement, 4) To strengthen capacity of trainers for care and maintenance of laboratory equipment, in order to ensure availability of functional essential standard equipment in National reference laboratory and all health facilities throughout the country.

National Biosafety and Biosecurity regulation workshop: about 2-3 people from each concerned ministry (Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Transportation and Public Work, Ministry of Post and Telecommunication, Ministry of Education) will be invited.

Biological Safety cabinets certification

- Purchase the Biological Safety cabinets certified kits
- BSC certified activities for the whole country: certifiers will go to each facility to inspect and certify the BSC's that available and repair if necessary.
- Training on BSC to the Lab personnel in collaboration with Thailand team.

### III. PROJECT CLASIFICATION: ASCC BLUEPRINT:

*(Provide information to explain how the project activity will contribute to ASEAN's goal and relevant SDGs and targets. For this section you may refer to the first and two pages of ASEAN Health Cluster Work Prorgamme 2016-2017)*

### IV. PROPOSED COMMENCEMENT & COMPLETION DATE:

**The project is one year project that will start from May to December 2018**

Time	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
ASEAN-Canda GPP workshop on Knowledge management for Biosafety regulation												
Biological Safety Cabinets certified activities												
Implementation of Biosafety and Biosecurity regulation												

### V. PROPONENT'S (MINISTRY OF HEALTH) NAME AND ADDRESS & IMPLEMENTING AGENCY'S (RELEVANT DIVISION WITHIN MOH THAT WILL ORGANISE THE PROJECT ACTIVITIES) NAME AND ADDRESS :

*(Kindly fill in the implementing agency if it is different from the proponent)*

Ministry of Health

*Department of Communicable Disease Control  
Simeoung Rd, Ban Thatkao, Sisattanak District  
Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR  
Office: (856)-21-264324 / Fax: (856) – 21-264326*

*Ministry of health  
Department of Communicable Disease Control  
National center for laboratory and epidemiology  
Km3, Thaddeua road, Sisattanak district, Vientiane capital, Lao PDR*

## **VI. PROJECT JUSTIFICATION, REGIONALITY AND BENEFICIARIES – 600 WORDS MAX**

### **(a) Current Problem**

*(Describe briefly the issues or problems in the region or sector that the project seeks to address.  
Explain what is causing these issues or problems. Your write-up has to be clearly linked to the  
project objective)*

Biosafety and biosecurity issue is a major concern globally, the people who are working with biological laboratory where the live microorganism are replicate and dangerous or unknown pathogen for diagnosis every day, they need to be aware of the safe working and have more responsibility to not expose the community to the biorisk. Often suspicious of work taking place in laboratories, the uninformed public may feel threatened by the presence of a biological laboratory in their neighborhood. With the increasing biological threat from emerging infectious diseases and bioterrorism, it has become essential for governments around the globe to increase awareness and preparedness for identifying and containing those agents. Biosafety and biosecurity issues have to be act seriously and practically in the country where the biological laboratory is being conducted.

The Ministry of Health of Lao PDR recognizes the importance of laboratory biosafety, biosecurity and established National biosafety and biosecurity authority(NBA) in 2017, that include members from different institutions of 3 ministries( Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and Ministry of Science and Technology) . NBA developed the National Biosafety Regulation and Biosafety Manual, these regulation and guidelines were based on international and regional norms and biosafety documents.In order to disseminate and implementation of the regulation, the participants of the National workshop are required decision makers from relevant Ministries, internal and International development partners, Chief of Hospital laboratories in Central level.

Lao PDR had conducted Joint External Evaluation in Feb 2017, Biosafety and Biosecurity was evaluated and recommended the priority actions: 1) Establish a national licensing and regulating body for biosafety and biosecurity. In addition to facility management regulations, this body should create national standards and guidelines for packaging and transportation of samples (both domestically and internationally); training and certification; assessment and inspection; and administration of occupational health programmes for laboratorians; 2) Conduct a national inventory of dangerous pathogens across all human and animal health laboratories, using a list of select agents specifically.

Identified for Lao People's Democratic Republic, and update laboratory-specific risk assessments as appropriate following this inventory; 3) Identify, train and accredit biosafety/biosecurity officers and security. The main public health laboratories e.g. NCLE, Centre for Malariology, Parasitology and Entomology (CMPE), National Tuberculosis Reference Laboratory (NRL), National Animal Health

Laboratory (NAHL) and international foundations laboratories in Lao PDR (CILM, IPL, LOMWRU) have biosafety and biosecurity management programs and supporting documents available to include biosafety, biosecurity, incident response and emergency plans. Most of these laboratories had assessed on biosafety and biosecurity by third party. NCLE is a National reference laboratory for Influenza virus, Influenza virus H5, H7, Dengue virus, Chikungunya virus, Corona virus, Zika, measles and rubella, Melioidosis, Bacillus anthracis and other enteropathogen samples therefore, the biosafety and biosecurity system should be a good model to ensure NCLE is safe working facility in order to strengthen and achieve the IHR and GHSA core capacity requirement.

In addition, there are many biosafety cabinet (BSC) including in the national laboratory had not been certified, the daily work of the laboratory staff is at risk. Since previously the BSC certified was based on external company which is not easy and costly. Create the BSC certified mechanism inside the country is critically considered

As NCLE is a National laboratory, the numbers of students were coming for the practices for the bacteria culture, serology and molecular testing. Since the students have no much knowledge on biosafety and biosecurity and laboratory regulation, because of NCLE is working with dangerous pathogens, the biorisk is considerably importance to protect the student as safe working and practice. Therefore we propose to have a training center for the student that set up as specific laboratory training room for students which will provide an appropriate equipment and material.

(b) Regionality

As Lao PDR bordered by 5 countries: China, Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam with a good transportation across border. The biological material and dangerous pathogen can easily spread through-out regions if the biosafety is not properly implemented, in order to prevent the potential risk of hazards which will be release to the environment and community, the improvement of biosafety is critically important.

Lao PDR has successfully develop the nation biosafety regulation in 2018 which is cover all cover animal health laboratory and other biohazard. In order to implement the regulation, the dissemination for concerned institution country-wide is necessary.

As ASEAN-GPP has supported the BSC training for AMS, Lao PDR has sent 2 participants to attend the course, in order to complete the course all participant require to pass the examination and obtain the BSC certificates from International Federation of Biosafety Associations(IFBA) which is a big challenge of Lao participant since the is no any BSC certified equipment in the country.

(c) Project History

*(If available, list related projects/activities previously or currently implemented relevant to the ASEAN Health Sector at the regional or global levels. Describe how these activities/projects complements them)*

(d) The Beneficiaries

*Project will be directly benefit to MOH that will have the safe working facility and also to ministry of agriculture and Ministry of science technology*

## VII. PROJECT RESULT

Objectives	Results/ Outputs	Indicators	Means of Verification	Main Activities	Indictors	Means of Verification
Objective/out come: (The intended physical activity, financial, institutional, social, environmental or other development results to which a project is expected to contribute)	(What results will the project lead to, for example any products and services or changes that are relevant to the achievement of objective(s))	(How will the project's activity achievement be measured? Please indicate feasible quantitative and qualitative measures)	(How will information be collected to support these indicators)	(List the actions or activities that your project will carry out to achieve the above results/outputs)		
<b>Task 1:</b> The aims to 1) To review and sharing existing national legislation Biosafety in ASEAN countries member states, 2) To identify potential checklist of pathogen can be transfer and prohibited in each countries member states, 3) To strengthening cooperation – collaboration of Biosafety network among	1) Agreement of ASEAN member countries on priority list of pathogens can be transfer and prohibited  2) Identification of level of support and resources required for Biosafety legislation  3) A draft flowchart of	1) Summary Biosafety legislation in AMS/ASEAN 2) Find the gap of Biosafety legislation in ASEAN	ASEAN-Canada GPP workshop on Knowledge management for Biosafety legislation	1) Conduct the ASEAN-Canada GPP workshop on Knowledge management for Biosafety legislation 2) Collect Biosafety legislation of AMS 3) Find the gap of Biosafety legislation	1) # of workshop on Knowledge management and AMS participants  2) # of Biosafety legislation Collection  3) # of find the gap of Biosafety legislation	1) List AMS who has Biosafety legislation  2) Sharing Summary and gap of Biosafety legislation in ASEAN  3) Progress report

ASEAN member states.	Local and in some cases international sample pathogen transfer to lab reference among ASEAN member country and Regional.  4) Identify key area gap of Biosafety Regulation and to recommend practical solutions  5) Generating the take-home messages to advocate with policy-makers.					
<b><u>Task 2:</u></b> The aims of project is 1)to improve the national biosafety and biosecurity	<i>1.Strengthen the biosafety system that will support the laboratory personnel to have a safe</i>	1.Establish the BSC certified system in the country to ensure that all BSC are function	Biological Safety cabinets certification	1. Train lab personnel on BCS use and basic maintenance and certification	1. 30 participants will attend the training 2. 34 BSCs	1. List of trainee who was trained 2. Report of materials sent to

<p>system is in place for related ministries, 2)disseminate and implement the national Biosafety and Biosecurity regulation in Nationwide, 3)Strengthening Biosafety and Biosecurity capacity of the National Reference Laboratory in order to meet IHR and Global Health Security Agenda core capacity Requirement,4)to strengthen capacity of trainers for care and maintenance of laboratory equipment, in order to ensure availability of functional essential standard equipment in National reference laboratory and all</p>	<p><i>working facility</i>  <i>2.helping lab personnel to protect themselves and community from biological material contamination</i>  <i>3. protect the lab personnel who are working with BSC</i></p>	<p>properly and safe.  2.Biosafety regulation is nation-wide disseminated</p>		<p>on of all BSC in the country  2. Dissemination of biosafety regulation</p>	<p>will be certified</p>	<p>AMS  3. Progress report and wrap-up report</p>
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health facilities throughout the country.						
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**VIII. PROJECT MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENT** (A and B should be completed if source of fund is from ASEAN Trust Fund)

(a) Management Arrangements

*(Describe briefly the management structure of the clearly identify the responsible implementing agency to receive fund (if applicable), achievement of project results and submission of the completion report)*

*DCDC is main and focal point of ASEAN Cluster II in Ministry of Health (MOH) Lao PDR, all documents will be submitted to MOH for approval. The budget from ASEAN will be transferred to DCDC, then budget of each activity will be transferred to each implementer.*

*After activity completion, each implementer will be summarized both technical and financial report sending to DCDC for reporting and submitting to ASEC.*

(b) Human Resource Inputs

*(Specific type and number of personnel who are involved in the project activity)*

Task 1:

Phase 1: 2 each of AMS, ASEC, Lao organizers are 50 people will attend the workshop

Phase 2: DCDC staffs and NCLE authority and officers will support the technical for Biosafety legislation collection and summary.

Task 2: NCLE staffs and biosafety authority (13 members) will be involved in the project activities together with technical assistants from WHO.

(c) Engagement with potential partner

*(Identify potential partners that would be involve in the implementation of project activities)*

The key collaboration and partnership for strengthening capacity and developed of the National Surveillance System and Laboratory as well as Laboratory quality management, biosafety and biosecurity management programs which include: WHO, The related development partners will also be involved in implementing the activities of ASEAN-Canada GPP project.

(d) Monitoring and Evaluation Arrangements



*(Describe the plan for how the monitoring and reporting will be carried out)*

MOH will closely monitor the activity of the project to ensure that project implementation is doing on time and in the right tract and request the implementation agency to write a report and submit on time

#### **IX. PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY-300 WORDS MAX**

*(State how the output(s) of the project activities can be aligned or how this complement output of other ASEAN Health Clusters and/or non-health sector)*

AMS will know and understand the Biosafety legislation, AMS will find the gap and discuss how to solve the gap and priority list pathogen could be transfer to another country to confirm. The Knowledge management will be a new initiative on management of Biosafety legislation to sharing among ASEAN country.

After dissemination of the biosafety regulation, the implementation will be conducted with the closely monitored by biosafety authority and will expand in country-wide to ensure that the regulation has access and being implemented properly in order to make all laboratory in the country has a safe practice and safe working places.

#### **X. GENDER AND OTHER CROSS CUTTING ISSUES**

*(If applicable, please identify gender and other cross cutting (i.e. economic, environment, labour, disaster, human right, etc) issues that the project can address)*

#### **XI. POTENTIAL RISK**

*(State the significant potential risks or threats within the proponent's control that would affect the success of the project, such as lack of capable human resources, security and political, etc.)*

Risk/threat	Mitigation Strategy

