

**WOAH Regional Workshop on Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) and Other Priority
Transboundary Animal Diseases (TADs) Control in Asia and the Pacific
Manila, Philippines
8 to 10 July 2025**

Rationale

WOAH RRAP organised the WOA Regional Workshop on Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) and Other Priority Transboundary Animal Diseases (TADs) Control in Asia and the Pacific, in Manila, Philippines, from 8 to 10 July 2025. This in-person workshop brought together relevant stakeholders from WOA Members across the region, with the aim of building capacity and strengthening regional collaboration for the prevention and control of LSD and other TADs. The programme featured an engaging plenary session of the whole Asia Pacific region and specific sessions for the sub-regions (ASEAN and South Asia) to share technical updates, support strategic planning and foster cross-border cooperation in responding to TADs control or eradication. The ASEAN session included a dedicated session to develop an implementation plan and finalise monitoring and evaluation (M&E) indicators (both baseline and targets) for the ALPCS. The South Asia session sought to develop a draft outline on priority issues and potential actions for LSD and other TADs and discussed the establishment of sub-regional cross-border collaboration mechanism.

The meeting notes:

- The importance of improved understanding and sharing of information on the global and regional LSD situation, including current and ongoing efforts and advances in diagnostics, surveillance, vaccination, and prevention
- The need to increase awareness and disseminate among WOA Members knowledge on WOA standards and guidelines, including WOA procedures for self-declaration of disease-free status
- The potential benefits of establishing a cross-border collaboration mechanism for the control of TADs and to facilitate livestock trade whilst managing sanitary risks
- The need for follow-up actions on control of LSD and other TADs in South Asia, especially actions taken on the recommendations from past workshops shared, and the way forward and further actions discussed
- The ongoing development of an implementation plan for ALPCS by ASEAN Member States (AMS), agreeing with the baseline and targets for the ALPCS M&E indicators
- The endorsement of ASEAN LSD Prevention and Control Strategy by ASEAN governing bodies

The meeting recommends:

- Enhancing regional coordination to facilitate the exchange of knowledge, experience, expertise, and best practices among Members, partners, and other stakeholders including the private sector
- Strengthening the enabling environment for emergency preparedness and response by reviewing and harmonising legal frameworks in line with national and regional contexts
- Exploring and developing actions on regional vaccine cooperation mechanisms, including both bilateral and multilateral partnerships
- Advocating the benefits of disease control, vaccine investment and vaccine adoption to policymakers and donors through evidence-based cost-benefit analyses
- Strengthening surveillance capacity and early warning systems for the timely detection of LSD and other TADs
- Conducting cross-border and national simulation exercises and after-action reviews to test, evaluate, and refine emergency preparedness plans
- Mitigating cross-border disease risks through improved coordination, robust legal frameworks, and strengthened regulatory measures for animal movement, including health checks and certification
- Engaging the research community to conduct applied studies on the transmission mechanisms of LSD, particularly recombinant strains and to assess the duration of immunity provided by vaccines, including the development and application of DIVA (Differentiating Infected from Vaccinated Animals) technologies
- Monitoring and sharing information on the LSDV and other TADs circulating strain to ensure that diagnostic and control measures including vaccination are fit-for-purpose
- The establishment of a WOAHP Reference Laboratory for LSD in the region
- Developing in-country disease prevention and control programmes for LSD, including the use of tools such as surveillance, vaccination, including an exit strategy
- The use of WOAHP self-declared disease status mechanism to self-declare the freedom of a country, zone or compartment for LSD and other TADs.

Action points for Southeast Asia

- Request nomination of the National LSD Focal Person from those ASEAN Member States who have not nominated;
- Develop surveillance guidelines and apply measures in line with WOAHP international standards to support self-declaration of freedom from LSD
- Report the progress of development of Implementation Plan and M&E framework for ALPCS to ASEAN Secretariat and 33rd Meeting of ASEAN Sectorial Working Group for Livestock (ASWGL).

Action points for South Asia

- Reactivate the established mechanism of South Asia Laboratory Directors' Forum (SADLF) and the South Asia Epidemiological Network (South Asia EpiNet) by endorsing a Delegate level meeting or by CVO level meeting with technical assistance from WOAHA
- Regular catch-up meetings for information sharing and conduct of collaborative activities of the SADLF and the South Asia EpiNet
- Consultation and development of surveillance plans with consultation and approval of respective governments
- Advocacy of timely vaccination of priority diseases based on economic consequences and cost benefit analysis
- Timely organizing of SAARC CVOs Forum Meeting with technical assistance from WOAHA/FAO
- Reviewed two-year workplan (2026 – 2027) for TADs in South Asia to be validated by Members

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