

Asia-Pacific Aquatic Animal Health Network (AP-AquaNet)

Regional Workshop for WOAHA Focal Points for Aquatic Animals

Chyna Yong Suit-B (DVM, PhD)

7 – 9 July 2026 | Tokyo, Japan

Aquatic Animal Health Officer,
WOAH Regional Representative
for Asia and the Pacific



World Organisation
for Animal Health



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry



国立大学法人

東京海洋大学

Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology



Background



- Expert consultation meeting on Aquatic Animal Disease Diagnosis and Control, Nov 2018, Bangkok, Thailand
 - In response to the growing threat of emerging aquatic animal diseases, limited resources, the need for greater transparency in disease reporting, and the lack of a coordinated regional mechanism to address these challenges
 - Proposed a **Regional Collaboration Framework**, specifically focusing on emergency response and laboratory capacity building
 - Webpage for information sharing



**Collaborating
Centres and
Reference
Laboratories in
Asia Pacific**

**Aquatic
Animal
Health
Standard
Commission**

**Focal Points
for Aquatic
Animals in
Asia Pacific**

**WOAH
Regional
Representation
Asia Pacific**

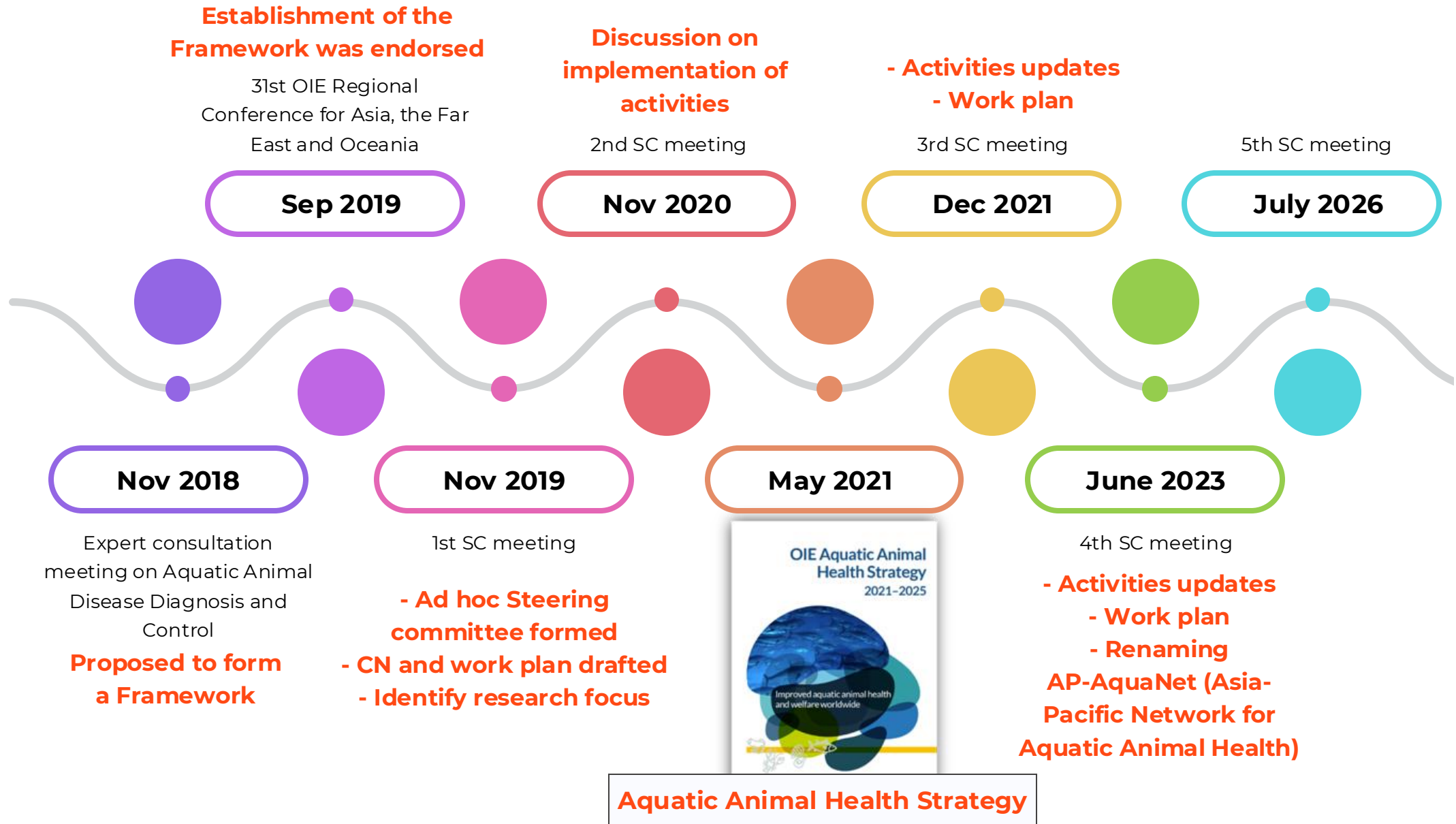
Partners:

**Other
Partners &
Institutions:**

Regional network is an excellent mechanism to operationalize the Aquatic Animal Health Strategy to meet regional needs and strengthen collaboration.

**NACA,
SEAFDEC,
FAO.**

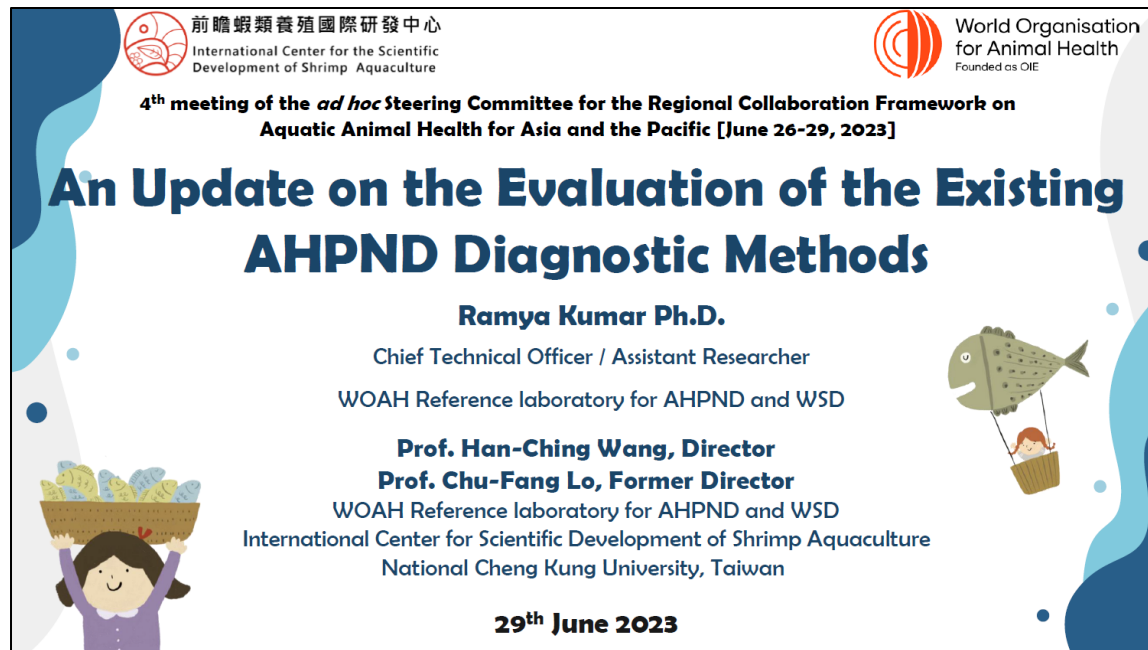
**Universities,
Research
institutions,
Private
companies,
Donor.**





Flagship activities (2020 – 2022)

- Aquaculture Biosecurity in small-scale holders
- Evaluation of AHPND causative agent
- Regional collaboration to respond to emerging diseases of aquatic animals



Network of Aquaculture
Centres in Asia-Pacific



World Organisation
for Animal Health
Founded as OIE

Collection and Evaluation of Existing Guidelines and
Awareness Materials on Aquaculture Biosecurity for Small-
scale Farms in the Asia-Pacific Region

Final Report

Prepared by:

Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific

Eduardo M. Leño (Project Leader)

Senior Programme Officer, Aquatic Animal Health Programme

June, 2022

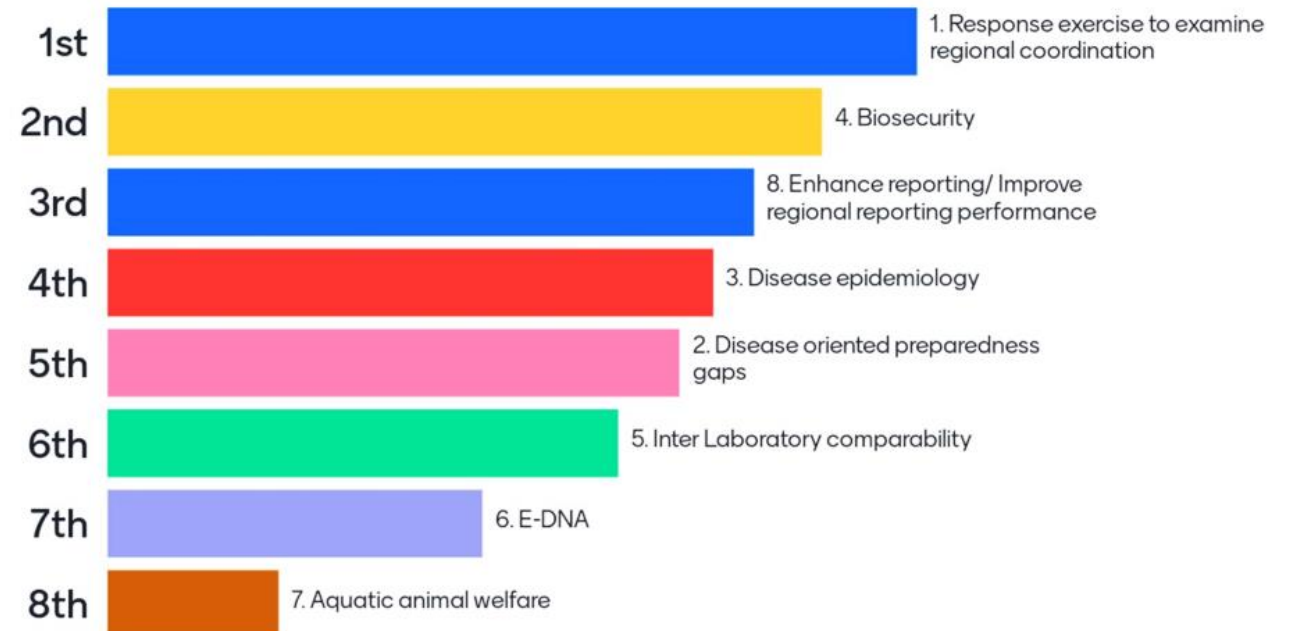
<https://rr-asia.woah.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/final-report-woah-naca-aquaculture-biosecurity-project-final.pdf>



Flagship activities (2023 – now)

1. Response exercise to examine regional coordination and response to emerging disease
2. Assessment of on-farm biosecurity in aquaculture
3. Improving Aquatic Animal Diseases Reporting in Asia and the Pacific

4th Meeting of the Steering Committee on Regional Collaboration Framework on Aquatic Animals Health in Asia and the Pacific (29 June 2023)



AP-AquaNet Flagship 2: Assessment of on-farm biosecurity in aquaculture

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Name of the speaker (add)

7 – 9 July 2026 | Tokyo, Japan

Position of speaker (add)



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Priority 2: Assessment of farm-level biosecurity implementation in small-scale aquaculture farms

Objectives:

1. To assess farm-level aquaculture biosecurity implementation among small-scale farms in selected cultured species in the region
2. To identify gaps and issues on small-scale farm-level aquaculture biosecurity implementation;

Expected outputs:

1. Recommendations to address the identified gaps and problems in the implementation of farm-level biosecurity among small-scale aquaculture farms



Training workshop on farm-level biosecurity assessment in small-scale aquaculture, Bangkok, 6-9 May 2025

<https://rr-asia.woah.org/en/events/workshop-aquaculture-biosecurity-assessment/>



Aquaculture biosecurity assessment questionnaire

The objective of this questionnaire is to understand the current state of farm biosecurity and to identify gaps and issues in the implementation of farm-level biosecurity among small-scale aquaculture farms.

Section 1: General information

1.1 Farm location – Region: _____

1.2 Farm location – State/Province/Division: _____

1.3 Farm location – District: _____

1.4 Do you practice polyculture (culturing multiple species together) or monoculture (culturing a single species) on your farm?

1.5 Species that are cultured on the farm (Select all that apply):

1.6 Name of the farm: _____

1.7 Number of ponds/banks in your farm: _____

1.8 Average stocking density (animals per pond/bank): _____

1.9 Note that for polyculture or multiple species in the same pond/bank, use the average number of animals regardless of their size.

Section 2: Farm location

2.1 Use of disinfection of the vehicle in the entrance of the farm or before entering cultured area (vehicles include those used for harvesting):

2.2 Did you observe other animals (or around any pond on the farm) Select all that apply:

2.3 Prior to or during stocking, did you use any chemicals or net, rope, screen, fence to prevent unwanted animals (e.g., fish, shellfish, crabs) from entering the water for reservoir?

2.4 Prior to or during stocking, did you use any physical barriers (e.g., net, rope, screen, fence) to prevent unwanted animals (e.g., fish, shellfish, crabs) from entering the water for cultured pond?

2.5 Prior to or during stocking, did you use any point enclosure methods (e.g., net, rope, screen) to prevent unwanted animals (e.g., fish, shellfish, crabs, birds, dogs/cats) from entering the pond?

Section 3: Farm practices

3.1 Use of disinfection of the vehicle in the entrance of the farm or before entering cultured area (vehicles include those used for harvesting):

3.2 Did you observe other animals (or around any pond on the farm) Select all that apply:

3.3 Prior to or during stocking, did you use any chemicals or net, rope, screen, fence to prevent unwanted animals (e.g., fish, shellfish, crabs) from entering the water for reservoir?

3.4 Prior to or during stocking, did you use any physical barriers (e.g., net, rope, screen, fence) to prevent unwanted animals (e.g., fish, shellfish, crabs) from entering the water for cultured pond?

3.5 Prior to or during stocking, did you use any point enclosure methods (e.g., net, rope, screen) to prevent unwanted animals (e.g., fish, shellfish, crabs, birds, dogs/cats) from entering the pond?



Project progress

Implementing Members	Proposal	MOA	Data collection
Philippines			
Malaysia			
Sri Lanka			
Thailand			
Bangladesh			



Data Analysis

Annex 2 Example outputs for farmer’s report card

Table 1 Biosecurity scores against district and national averages (0–100)

Category	Score	District average	National average
Farm access management	70	66	60
Pest management	55	53	60
Equipment and staff management	80	65	58
Record keeping system	90	78	70
Seed and stocking management	40	50	65
Pond management	70	64	60
Water management	80	80	70
Overall biosecurity score	69	74	70

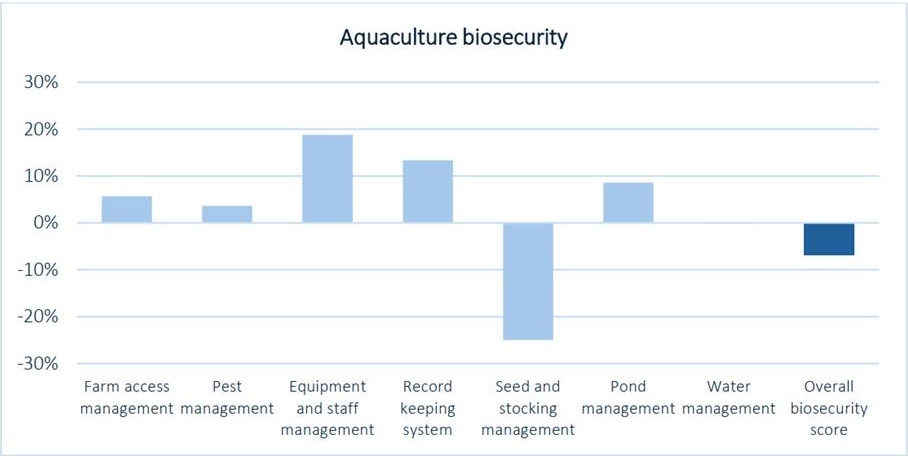


Figure 2 Biosecurity performance by category: % difference from district average, highlighting strengths and opportunities for improvement



Thank you



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