

THE PHILIPPINES' EXPERIENCE ON PVS PATHWAY

Regional Workshop for WOA H Focal Points for Aquatic Animals

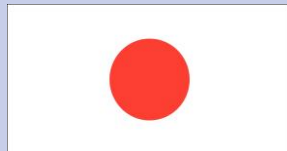
Joselito R. Somga, DVM

7 – 9 July 2026 | Tokyo, Japan

WOAH Focal Point for Aquatic Animals
Chief Fishing Regulations Officer
Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources



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



Aquaculture Species





PVS Evaluation and Gap Analysis of Aquatic Animal Health Services



PVS Evaluation Mission (February 03-18, 2013)



PVS Gap Analysis Mission (January 19-28, 2016)



Preparing for PVS Evaluation



Request
through OIE
Delegate

July 2011



Approval of
Request by OIE

May 2012



Creation of
BFAR Task force

May 2012



Consolidation
and Submission
of Documents

Dec 2012



Orientation of
OIE Mission for
BFAR Key
Officials

January 2013





OIE PVS Country Mission – Opening Meeting (BFAR Central Office)

OIE Team

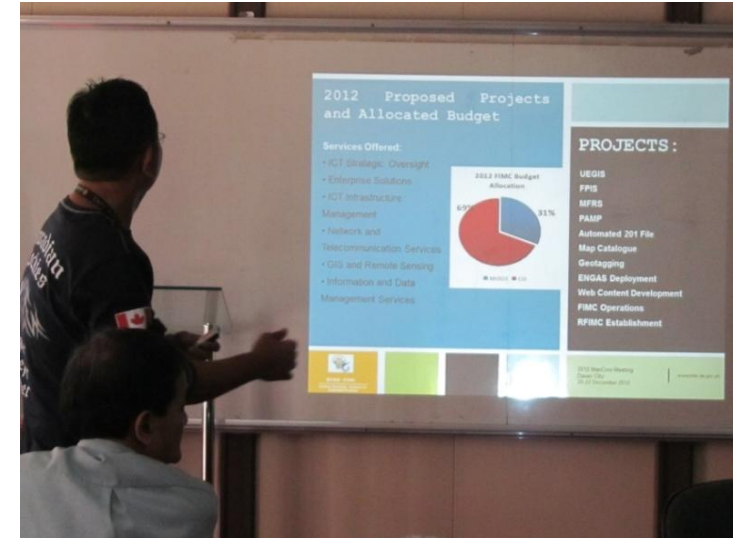
Dr. Herbert Schneider
Dr. Geoff Grossel
Dr. Gillian Mylrea





Briefing/Discussion Session with BFAR Key Divisions and Offices

- Administrative Division
- Planning Division
- Finance Division
- Legal Division
- Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Division
- Fisheries Regulatory and Quarantine Division
- Fisheries Information Management Center





A map of the Philippines with 13 regions and the Central Office marked by red squares. The regions are labeled as follows: Region I, Region II, Region III, Region IV, Region V, Region VI, Region VII, Region VIII, Region IX, Region X, Region XI, Region XII, and Region XIII. The Central Office is located in the center of the country. Regions I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XI, XII, and XIII are circled in blue. Region III and the Central Office are circled in red.





Visit to BFAR Aquaculture Facilities

- National Fisheries Biological Center
- National Integrated Fisheries Technology Development Center
- National Freshwater Fisheries Technology Center
- Regional Mariculture Technology Development Center





Field visit to Private Aquaculture Farms

- Milkfish intensive cage culture system
- Tilapia cage culture in Taal lake
- *Penaeus monodon* hatchery
- *Penaeus vannamei* and Milkfish hatchery
- Intensive shrimp grow-out farm





Meeting with Private Sector and Stakeholders

- Taal Lake Aquaculture Alliance (Tilapia culture)
- Negros Prawn Producers Cooperative
- Phil Shrimp (Shrimp Producers Association)
- Balingasag Milkfish Investors Association
- Aquaculture Feed Miller
- Philippine Tropical Fish Exporters Association
- Philippine Alliance of Seafood Exporters Association





Visit to Border Control Posts and Exporter Facilities

- Manila International Airport
- Manila South Harbor
- Cebu International Airport
- Manila Customs Office
- Fisheries Exporter Processing Plant
- Marine Ornamental Fish Exporter





Meeting with Regulatory Board and Academe

- Philippine Board of Veterinary Medicine
 - Veterinary Statutory Body
- University of the Philippines
 - College of Fisheries
- Central Luzon State University
 - College of Veterinary Medicine
 - College of Fisheries
- Molecular Biology and Biotechnology lab
- Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) AQD





Closing Meeting - Presentation and Discussion of Key Findings and Recommendations





Preparing for PVS Gap Analysis Mission



Request through
OIE Delegate
(BAI Director)
February 2015



Approval of
Request by OIE
August 2015



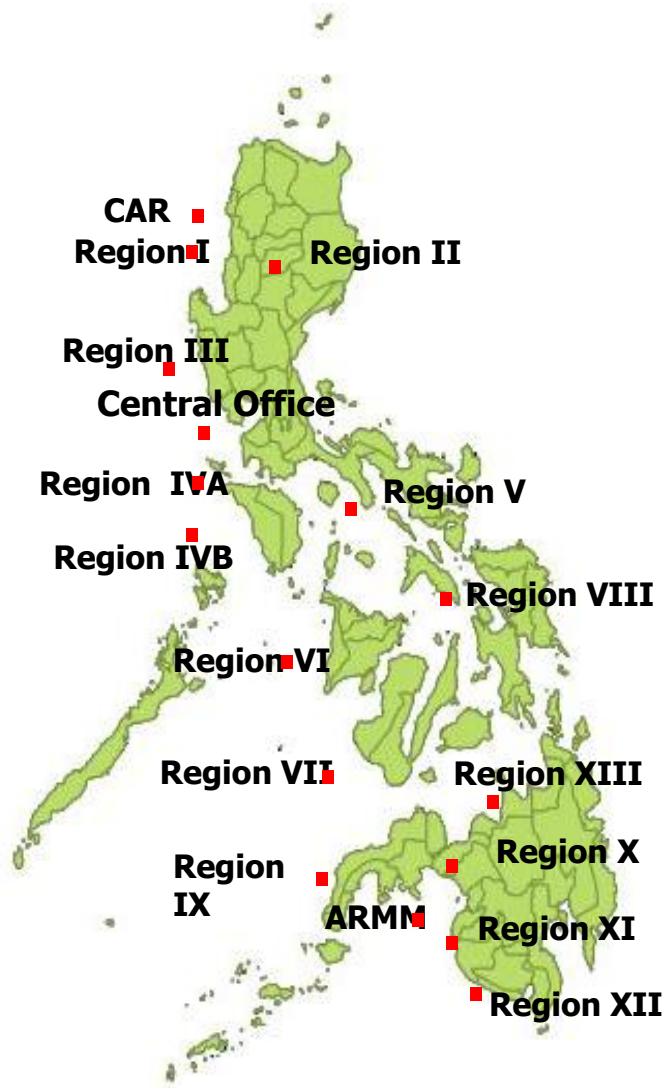
Preparation of
BFAR
Oct. 2015 - Jan. 2016

OIE Team

Dr. Francois Gary (*Team Leader*)
Dr. Marie Evans (*Technical Expert*)
Dr. Geoff Grossel (*Technical Expert*)
Dr. Pablo Belmar von Kretschmann
(*observer*)



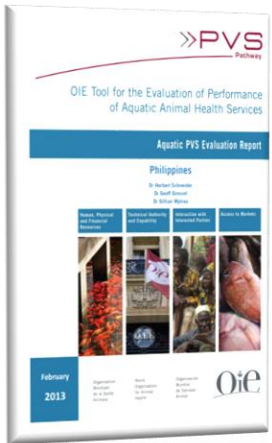
PVS Gap Analysis Mission, February 18-28, 2016



PVS Findings and Recommendations

Provided an objective and systematic assessment of the strengths, weaknesses, gaps, and priority areas of the national aquatic animal health services to:

- Prioritize investments in critical areas such as laboratory diagnostics, disease surveillance, biosecurity, and workforce development.
- Strengthen justification for budget allocation and resource mobilization.
- Guide the development and updating of national aquatic animal health strategies, policies, and action plans for progressive improvement of aquatic animal health services.



Key Outcomes and Impacts

- Increased awareness and recognition of key officials on aquatic animal health as a critical component of sustainable aquaculture development and trade.
 - *Creation of permanent positions for Veterinarians and Fishery Regulatory Officers at the Central and all Regional Fisheries Offices*
 - *prioritization of funds in laboratory infrastructure (construction of Central Integrated Fisheries Laboratory, upgrading and improvement of BFAR Regional Laboratories*
- Approved by Commission on Higher Education the inclusion of Aquatic/Fish Disease/Medicine in the Curriculum for Veterinary Medicine Course
(*as proposed by Committee of Regulatory Board of Veterinary Medicine*)
- Improved alignment of national regulations with WOAHA Aquatic Animal Health standards and other international standards, guidelines and recommendations.





Lessons Learned/Key Takeaways

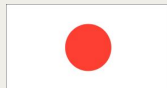
- Preparation and documentation are critical (*i.e., close coordination/communication with the key officials/personnel, stakeholders that will be involved in the PVS Evaluation/Gap Analysis, logistical support, response to Pre Mission questionnaire*).
- The PVS evaluation should be viewed as a capacity-building exercise rather than an audit.
- Strong leadership, commitment and support from key officials are essential to facilitate resource mobilization, and implementation of recommendations.
- Prioritization of recommendations is necessary
- The evaluation provides a valuable baseline for continuous improvement - results can be used to monitor progress over time and support periodic reassessments.
- Continuing technical capacity building, training and professional development are critical to maintain effective aquatic animal health services.
- Continuous improvement and alignment with WOAHA standards enhances confidence for trade and market access.



Thank you



World Organisation
for Animal Health



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry

