

Training of livestock keepers on animal health in Muong Bon and Hat Lot communes, Son La province, Vietnam



INITIATIVE ON
Sustainable Animal
Productivity

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Cover photo: Group photo at Cu Nghe communal house (credit: NIVR/ILRI – Huy Nguyen).

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About SAPLING: CGIAR's Sustainable Animal Productivity for Livelihoods, Nutrition and Gender Inclusion (SAPLING) is working in seven countries focusing on livestock value chains to package and scale out tried-and-tested, as well as new, innovations in livestock health, genetics, feed and market systems. SAPLING aims to demonstrate that improvements in livestock productivity can offer a triple win: generating improved livelihoods and nutritional outcomes; contributing to women's empowerment; and reducing impacts on climate and the environment. Its seven focus countries are Ethiopia, Kenya, Mali, Nepal, Tanzania, Uganda and Vietnam.

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Background

SAPLING is one of the CGIAR Initiatives focusing on sustainable animal productivity, aiming to transform livestock sectors in target countries to become more productive, resilient, equitable, and sustainable. In Vietnam, the SAPLING Initiative, known as Chăn-Hênh, focuses on two high-potential value chains–pigs and beef–to enable small-scale producers to capitalize on market growth opportunities.

Under the previous Li-Chăn project (2019-2021), implemented in Chieng Chung and Chieng Luong communes, several key animal health constraints were identified in Mai Son, Son La:

1. Most small-scale livestock keepers rely on traditional husbandry practices, lacking knowledge of livestock management and biosecurity.
2. A high prevalence of infectious animal diseases, including African Swine Fever, Foot and Mouth Disease, Pasteurellosis, and Lumpy Skin Disease.
3. A shortage of qualified animal health workers and limited access to veterinary services.

To address these challenges, animal health interventions were implemented to improve knowledge and awareness among livestock keepers and local animal health workers. While these interventions yielded promising results, their effectiveness was not fully evaluated due to the limited duration of the project.

Building on the foundation of the Li-Chăn project, the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) partnered with the National Institute of Veterinary Research (NIVR) to implement activities under the Animal Health component (WP1) of the Chăn-Hênh initiative. These activities emphasize herd health through improved biosecurity, animal management, housing, vaccination, parasite control, and antimicrobial use, among other measures.

To bridge existing capacity gaps, four training workshops on animal health were organized in Muong Bon and Hat Lot communes, Mai Son district, Son La, on September 18-19, 2024.

Objective of the training

The training aimed to increase knowledge and awareness of pig and cattle livestock keepers on animal herd health, focusing on biosecurity and vaccination.

Location and date of training

Four in-person training workshops were organized on September 18-19, 2024, as follows:

Table 1. Training location and dates

Date	Location	Participants	Modality
September 18, 2024 - Morning	Na Sy village communal house, Hat Lot commune, Mai Son, Son La	Women and men livestock keepers in Na Sy village	In-person training
September 18, 2024 - Afternoon	Cu Nghe village communal house, Hat Lot commune, Mai Son, Son La	Women and men livestock keepers in Cu Nghe village	In-person training

September 19, 2024 – Morning	Rung Thong village communal house, Muong Bon commune, Mai Son, Son La	Women and men livestock keepers in Rung Thong village	In-person training
September 19, 2024 – Afternoon	Me village communal house, Muong Bon commune, Mai Son, Son La	Women and men livestock keepers in Me village	In-person training

Who conducted the training

The training was conducted by Bui Ngoc Anh and Tran Ngoc Anh from the National Institute of Veterinary Research (NIVR), along with Dinh Phuong Nam from the Vietnam National University of Agriculture. Additional support was provided by other NIVR staff, including Nguyen Quang Huy, Tran Danh Son, and Nguyen Thi Thu Hien. On the local level, support came from Ngo Thanh Luan of the Son La Sub-Department of Animal Health and Lo Quang Thanh from the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI).

Training agenda

The following training methods were applied during training: PowerPoint presentations, group discussions, case studies, and practical demonstrations. The training agenda includes topics as follows (the detailed agenda is shown in Annex 1):

- Biosecurity: Participants were divided into two groups to discuss case studies related to animal diseases, followed by a PowerPoint presentation.
- Practical demonstration on disinfection: The participants were shown how to select and use disinfectants and the disinfection procedure. They then had the opportunity to practice these techniques.
- Vaccine and antibiotic: Provide an overview of commonly used vaccines and antibiotics, followed by detailed explanations. The importance of vaccination was highlighted.
- Routine management practices: PowerPoint presentation on routine management practices to maintain animal health and productivity.
- A representative from the Son La Sub-DAH shared the disease situation and veterinary activities in Son La province.
- Discussion on gender: Two focus group discussions during each training have been held to discuss challenges faced by women and men livestock keepers.

Throughout the training, trainers responded and provided explanations to questions raised by trainees regarding animal health, including:

- Diagnosis and treatment of some common pig diseases
- A cow drinks less water after calving
- Disposal of dead animals
- How to use lime powder for disinfection
- Solution for polluted water and the use of chloramine B

Each participant received one training material booklet and a disinfectant bottle to encourage compliance with biosecurity practices.

Four posters on African Swine Fever (ASF), Lumpy Skin disease (LSD), biosecurity, and antibiotics were also used for the training and then shared with farmer groups.

Training materials and posters for training can be found here:

- Training material for livestock keeper: <https://hdl.handle.net/10568/135986>
- Poster African swine fever: <https://hdl.handle.net/10568/159266>
- Poster Lumpy skin disease: <https://hdl.handle.net/10568/159266>



African swine fever and Lumpy skin disease posters

Training participants

Trainees were selected from four Chăn-Hênh farmer groups in Muong Bon and Hat Lot communes. Village heads, village animal health workers, commune animal health workers, commune extension workers from the four villages, representatives from the Son La Sub-Department of Animal Health, and commune authorities were also invited to participate.

Over the course of two days, a total of 105 trainees (54 men and 41 women livestock keepers) attended four training workshops, with each workshop limited to 20-30 participants.

Table 2: Summary of Training Participants

Time	Location	Men		Woman		Total	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
September 18 - Morning	Na Sy village - Hat Lot commune	13	12.38	13	12.38	26	24.76
September 18 - Morning	Cu Nghe village - Hat Lot commune	18	17.14	12	11.42	30	28.57
September 19 - Morning	Rung Thong village - Muong Bon commune	12	11.42	14	13.33	26	24.76
September 19 - Afternoon	Me village - Muong Bon commune	11	10.47	12	11.42	23	21.90
Total		54	51.41	51	48.59	105	100

Comments and next step

Participants found the training informative and highly relevant to their needs, with many expressing a strong interest in receiving further training and technical support on animal health.

To address animal outbreaks in the region, two posters on African swine fever and Lumpy skin disease were developed and distributed during the training sessions and via the Zalo group. A total of 16 posters were shared with 8 farmer groups.

Training materials have also been provided to the Mai Son Agriculture Service Center, enabling them to conduct 56 training courses on biosecurity and animal health, reaching approximately 2,000 trainees. The Mai Son Agriculture Service Center will continue organizing similar training sessions for livestock keepers in the future.

Additionally, focus group discussions on gender revealed valuable insights into the challenges faced by both men and women in animal health. This information will be shared with Work Package 3 for further action.

Photos



Theoretical training (photo credit: Huy Nguyen/ILRI-NIVR)



Practical training session on disinfection (photo credit: Huy Nguyen/ILRI-NIVR)

Annex 1: Training Agenda

Time	Topic/Activity	Responsible person
Day 1: September 18, 2024 - Morning		
Na Sy village's communal house		
8:00 – 8:15	Registration of participants	All
8:15 – 8:30	Welcome remarks from the local commune representative	Lo Van Cuong
	Overview of the training, objective, and expected outcomes	Nguyen Quang Huy
8:30 – 9:15	1. Biosecurity	Dao Duy Tung
	Case study/ group work	
	Biosecurity	
	Q&A	
9:15 – 9:30	2. Practical demonstration on disinfection	Nguyen Quang Huy
9:30 – 9:40	Tea break	
9:40 – 9:50	Animal diseases situation in Son La province	Nguyen Thanh Luan
9:50 – 10:15	3. Routine management practices	Bui Ngoc Anh
	Routine management practices for cattle	
	Routine management practices for pig	
	Q&A	
10:15 – 10:45	4. Vaccine and antibiotic	Tran Ngoc Anh
	Vaccine	
	Antibiotic and AMR	
	Q&A	
10:45 – 11:00	Focus group discussion on gender	Nguyen Quang Huy
11:00 – 11:30	Reflection and closure	All
Day 1: September 18 2024 - Afternoon		
Cu Nghe village's communal house		
2:00 – 2:15	Registration of participants	All
2:15 – 2:30	Welcome remarks from the local commune representative	Lo Van Cuong
	Overview of the training, objective, and expected outcomes	Nguyen Quang Huy
2:30 – 3:15	1. Biosecurity	Dao Duy Tung
	Discussion on case study	
	Biosecurity	
	QA	
3:15 – 3:30	2. Practical demonstration on disinfection	Nguyen Quang Huy
3:30 – 3:40	Tea break	

3:40 – 3:50	Animal diseases situation in Son La province	Nguyen Thanh Luan
3:50 – 4:15	3. Routine management practices	
	Routine management practices for cattle	Bui Ngoc Anh
	Routine management practices for pig	
	Q&A	
4:15 – 4:45	4. Vaccine and antibiotic	
	Vaccine	Tran Ngoc Anh
	Antibiotic and AMR	
	Q&A	
4:45 – 5:00	Focus group discussion on gender	Nguyen Quang Huy
5:00 – 5:30	Reflection and closure	All
Day 2: September 19, 2024 - Morning		
Rung Thong village's communal house		
8:00 – 8:15	Registration of participants	All
8:15 – 8:30	Welcome remarks from the local commune representative	Ha Van Trung
	Overview of the training, objective, and expected outcomes	Nguyen Quang Huy
8:30 – 9:15	1. Biosecurity	
	Discussion on case study	Dao Duy Tung
	Biosecurity	
	Q&A	
9:15 – 9:30	2. Practical demonstration on disinfection	Nguyen Quang Huy
9:30 – 9:40	Tea break	
9:40 – 9:50	Animal diseases situation in Son La province	Nguyen Thanh Luan
9:50 – 10:15	3. Routine management practices	
	Routine management practices for cattle	Bui Ngoc Anh
	Routine management practices for pig	
	Q&A	
10:15 – 10:45	4. Vaccine and antibiotic	
	Vaccine	Tran Ngoc Anh
	Antibiotic and AMR	
	Q&A	
10:45 – 11:00	Focus group discussion on gender	Nguyen Quang Huy
11:00 – 11:30	Reflection and closure	All
Day 2: September 19 2023 - Afternoon		
Me village's communal house		
2:00 – 2:15	Registration of participants	All

2:15 – 2:30	Welcome remarks from the local commune representative	Ha Van Trung
	Overview of the training, objective, and expected outcomes	Nguyen Quang Huy
2:30 – 3:15	1. Biosecurity	
	Discussion on case study	Dao Duy Tung
	Biosecurity	
	Q&A	
3:15 – 3:30	2. Practical demonstration on disinfection	Nguyen Quang Huy
3:30 – 3:40	Tea break	
3:40 – 2:50	Animal diseases situation in Son La province	Nguyen Thanh Luan
3:50 – 4:15	3. Routine management practices	
	Routine management practices for cattle	Bui Ngoc Anh
	Routine management practices for pig	
	Q&A	
4:15 – 4:45	4. Vaccine and antibiotic	
	Vaccine	Tran Ngoc Anh
	Antibiotic and AMR	
	Q&A	
4:45 – 5:00	Focus group discussion on gender	Nguyen Quang Huy
5:00 – 5:30	Reflection and closure	All

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