Knowledge changes and lessons learned, looking at outcome pathway of an EcoHealth project

Outcome Mapping and EcoHealth Uptake Assessment of the *Ecosystem Approaches to the Better Management of Zoonotic Emerging Infectious Diseases in the Southeast Asia Region (EcoZD)* project

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Project Overview

**EcoZD Project:**
- Generate evidence-based knowledge
- Build capacity for sustainable ZEID management
- Strengthen networks & develop capacity of ZEID actors
Key messages

Outcome pathway: intentional stakeholder engagement

- Influenced knowledge, attitude, and practices (KAP) changes of targeted stakeholders.
- Fostered teams’ internal KAP changes and learning.
- Paraprofessionals are important actors in ZEID management.
- For sustainable ZEID management, capacity building for paraprofessionals is very critical.
## Project’s Expected Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Stakeholders</th>
<th>Expected Outcomes</th>
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</table>
| 1  Policy-makers                                         | • Convinced by research findings  
• Incorporated EH approach in policy-making process                        |
| 2  National partners                                     | • Actively contribute towards research  
• Engage community leaders  
• Disseminate best practices                                  |
| 3  10-15 members of EcoZD Country Teams                  | • Have clear understanding of EH  
• Continue to advocate beyond EcoZD                                       |
| 4  2 EcoHealth Resource Centres                         | • Provide EH advocacy, training and mentoring of the region  
• Link with other integrated health initiatives                         |
Project Strategies and Methods

Outcome Mapping (OM)

- An actor-centred participatory planning, M&E tool.

- Outcomes = changes in KAP & behaviour of targeted stakeholders

- Putting learning and people at the centre of development

Source: www.outcomemapping.ca
Project Strategies and Methods

OM, a guideline to construct outcome pathway:
Two-level framework to capture outcomes
Project Strategies and Methods

Creating outcome pathway:

Country Teams + Targeted Stakeholders

- Project’s goals, objectives & outcomes
- Goals of engagement
- Progress indicators
- Assessing & Documenting outcomes
- Planning & implementation
- Adaptation of strategies
Project Strategies and Methods

Key themes of progress indicators:

Layer 1: ILRI – Country Teams

- Understanding and applying EcoHealth principles.
- Communicating research findings.
- Networking & policy engagement.

Layer 2: Country Teams – Targeted Stakeholders

- Improved understanding/specific knowledge.
- Changes in practices.
- Communication of particular knowledge/practices to communities.
Outcomes: KAP changes

Knowledge changes reflected in self-assessment

**Progress Indicator 3**: Strategically plan communication and dissemination of research findings to targeted stakeholders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Self-assessment 1*</th>
<th>Self-assessment 2*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>L+</td>
<td>M+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>M-</td>
<td>H</td>
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Outcomes: KAP changes

Increased understanding of EcoHealth and improved internal learning & communication

- Perspectives towards transdisciplinary research
- Adoption of new research tools
- EH an approach for complex challenges
- Potential impacts
Outcomes: KAP changes

Paraprofessionals’ improved knowledge in performing their ZEID management tasks

- Better understanding of particular diseases
- Cross sectional learning & collaboration
- Improved communication strategies to communities
Lessons Learned: Challenges

Challenges in creating outcomes through intentional outreach

• M&E concept & implementation

• Language capacity

• Integration of social science & qualitative methods

• Limited resources & capacity affecting internal learning and hindering changes
Lessons learned: Enabling factors

Towards creating intentional outreach and outcomes

• Share goals & objectives with stakeholders
• Make intentional stakeholder engagement an integral component of research process
• M&E, a formative process for EH research management
• Adaptive & team-specific strategies
Conclusion

• Intentional stakeholder engagement strategy contributed to:
  ✓ EcoZD team members’ adoption of EcoHealth approach
  ✓ Capacity building of actors for sustainable management of ZEID

• Participatory M&E serves as platform for exchange and learning, a source for adaptive management strategies
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