PROJECT BRIEF | December 2017

EPT-2 PREDICT Viet Nam:
Preventing Pandemics, Protecting Global Health

© Nguyen Van Truong

IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: 1 Oct 2014 to 30 Sept 2019

PREDICT staff in Viet Nam collected oral swabs from a juvenile Sunda pangolin confiscated from the illegal wildlife trade, February 2017

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PROJECT GOALS/OBJECTIVES

- Strengthen capacity for detection and discovery of zoonotic viruses with pandemic potential through partnerships and collaboration with government and research institutions in Viet Nam.

- Prevent, detect, and rapidly respond to the spillover of novel infectious pathogens from wildlife to humans and domestic animals.

- Identify and develop key interventional strategies to reduce the risk for viral spillover from wildlife to humans by addressing wildlife trafficking and unregulated wildlife trade as drivers of pandemic disease emergence.

WCSVietnam
A Wildlife Conservation Society Program

The Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) saves wildlife and wild places worldwide through science, conservation action, education, and inspiring people to value nature. Over its proud 120 year history, WCS has significantly helped to advance wildlife conservation around the globe in partnership with governments and local communities. Currently, WCS has nearly 60 country offices worldwide, and the New York headquarters in the United States.

KEY ACTIVITIES

- Investigate and understand the potential for transmission of infectious diseases between wildlife, livestock, and humans at key human/wildlife/domestic animal interfaces along animal value chains and animal production systems, including the wildlife trade, live animal markets, and bat guano collection.
- Conduct concurrent surveillance in wildlife, human, and livestock populations at key sites, as part of a One Health approach to understanding zoonotic virus evolution, spillover from animals to humans, and viral amplification and spread, to inform prevention and control.

- Build capacity for wildlife sampling and zoonotic disease surveillance at high-risk interfaces.
- Conduct behavioral surveillance to gather relevant information about human behavior and practices that drive zoonotic pathogen spillover and host-pathogen dynamics.
- Build laboratory capacity through training and on-going research for the detection of novel viruses within national animal and public health institutions.
- Prioritize capacity for detecting pathogens of public health significance including Paramyxoviruses, Coronaviruses, Flaviviruses, Filoviruses, and Influenza viruses.

## EXPECTED OUTCOMES/FUTURE DIRECTION

- Strengthened networks, collaboration, and capacity for conducting zoonotic disease surveillance at the human/wildlife/domestic animal interface.
- Established capacity within national animal and public health laboratories to rapidly detect and characterize novel zoonotic viruses to prevent pandemic spread.

- An understanding and established "baseline" of viruses circulating in wildlife and humans at key interfaces in Viet Nam in order to guide implementation of interventional strategies.
- Application of PREDICT surveillance results to inform policies related to enforcement of wildlife trade regulations and reduction of wildlife trafficking as a means of addressing wildlife trade as a driver of disease emergence.

PROJECT LOCATIONS

Viet Nam
(Ha Noi, Dong Nai, Dong Thap, Lang Son, and Quang Ninh provinces)
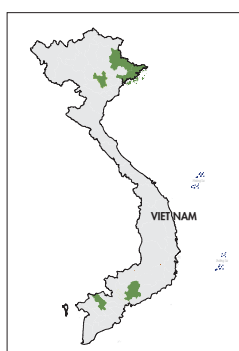
Thirty-two other countries in **Africa** and **Asia**

KEY PROJECT PARTNERS

- Department of Animal Health, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD).
- National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology (NIHE), Ministry of Health (MoH).
- Viet Nam National University of Agriculture (VNUA)
- Regional Animal Health Office No. 6 (RAHO6).
- Forest Protection Departments.
- Viet Nam One Health University Network (VOHUN).
- Hanoi School of Public Health.
- Viet Nam One Health Partnership for Zoonoses (OHP).