

Vietnam embarks on strengthening overall capacity of veterinary management system

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The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) held a consulting conference to support the implementation of the "Project" Strengthen the capacity of the system of veterinary specialized management agencies at all levels, in the period of 2021-2030. The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development commits to continue prioritizing and allocating resources to organize timely and effective implementation instructions in Veterinary Sector Project to 2030.

Project aims to strengthen the capacity of the veterinary management system at all levels, to ensure the effective and efficient implementation of veterinary activities, appropriate control of animal diseases, public health protection, proactive and extensive global integration.

According to FAO, over the past few years, Vietnam's agriculture sector has been very efficient. In 2022, the total export value of agricultural products exceeds \$52 billion, contributing to GDP growth of more than 6.5%; Livestock production contributes 25.2% of Vietnam's agricultural GDP.

However, Vietnam is facing many threats affecting aquaculture, such as threats from animal diseases. Animal health is a core factor for livestock production and sustainable development. Changes in livestock production increase the likelihood of new pathogens emerging, evolving, and spreading from animals to humans.

Animal diseases can have a significant impact on livestock production, commerce, livelihoods, food security and national economies, as well as human health; they severely affect endangered or threatened wildlife populations and disrupt biodiversity conservation efforts.

The FAO report states: "It is important to strengthen Vietnam's veterinary system to minimize the impact of zoonoses and zoonoses, which threaten livelihoods and food security. A strong veterinary system is essential to ensure that no one is left behind" in the country's quest to high-income status.

Pauline Tamesis, Resident Coordinator of the United Nations in Vietnam, assessed the project as one of the Vietnamese Government's strong commitments in ensuring welfare and food security as well as promoting the sustainable development of the livestock industry through effective control of animal diseases, protection of public health and the integration of the livestock industry in global trade. Pauline Tamesis believes that Controlling disease and meeting food needs still requires a One Health approach and international community should contribute to One Health to ensure sustainable human health, sustainable animal health, thereby ensuring a sustainable economic health.

Through its One Health approach, FAO has contributed to improving animal health to make livestock more efficient and sustainable, while achieving optimal health for all in human-animal aspects. material-environment.