Meeting participants

Two representatives from the APMEN countries represented at the Surveillance and Response Training attended the Surveillance and Response Working Group (SRWG) meeting: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Nepal, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vanuatu, and Vietnam attended the training. Most participants had not attended a Surveillance and Response Working Group meeting so background was given on the formalization of the SRWG (which occurred at APMEN VI in Manila in March 2013) and the main objectives of the working group.

2013 Meeting summary

A summary of the 2013 working group meeting was given, as background for the participants who did not attend the 2013 meeting (please see Session 12 presentation slides)

Update on progress

An update of the progress of the SRWG was given, achievements since March 2014, when the working group was formalized. Major progress included development and execution of the 10 day training course (Wuxi October 20-29) and development and dissemination of a survey on populations at higher risk (more responses needed).

2015 workplan development

A draft 2015 workplan was distributed to the group and a discussion was held on whether the activities were priority for the working group. Workplan activities are shared across the network for cohesion and for potential shared funding. Some activities proposed during the meeting were discussed during the 2013 meeting, such as the need to share SOPs.

Additional activities or areas of work discussed:

- Need for increased capacity of BCC activities to maintain a memory of the disease and increase advocacy at the grassroots level. This area of work will be brought back to the network as it is part of the advocacy activity of the network. The community engagement workshop was held as part of the advocacy work.
- Vector control response – this will be sent to the APMEN Vector Control Working Group.
- Limited/low capacity to review and analyze surveillance data. APMEN can prioritize capacity building in data management and establish a mentor network.
- Need to collect SOPs on stratification, specifically
Topics for trainings identified during the business meeting. APMEN needs to identify other training activities/programs ongoing and collaborate and cost share with these existing opportunities. APMEN can consolidate efforts so that multiple countries benefit. Possibility to find additional funding for training (eg, TDR grants). More training and more fellowship is needed. Priority training topics discussed were:

- GIS
- Vector control response – APMEN Vector Control Working Group to be informed.
- Stratification (WHO may have a course)
- Entomological surveillance – APMEN Vector Control Working Group to be informed
- Data analysis: Mentoring network needed
- Web based surveillance system, IT system for rapid reporting
- Clinical trial research - APMEN Vivax Working Group to be informed.

**SRWG meeting 2015**

Taking into account the many factors influencing the choice of location (visa requirements, flight routes and cost, venue and hotel costs), Thailand is a good option for the 2015 meeting. May or June 2015 is proposed.

**SRWG governance document**

This document is to be embedded within the APMEN Governance document. A draft was circulated to all meeting participants and feedback requested; no feedback was immediately provided. The SRWG Secretariat will email the document out to the training participants and NMCP managers (APMEN representatives) to gather any comments or questions by mid-November. The document will then be sent to the APMEN Advisory Board for review as part of the APMEN governance process.