The Livestock Waste Management in East Asia Project (LWMEA)

Newsletter

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The Second STRAW Mission, Bangkok, Hanoi, and Guangzhou, 7-13 May 2009

The mission team included of Mr Colin Burton (waste system engineer), Dr Harald Menzi (agronomist), Dr Peter Thorne (software specialist) and Ms Nawarat Chalermpao (assistant coordinator, RFO) visited the Project Management Officers (PMO) and local experts in Thailand, Vietnam and China during 7-13 May 2009 to present the progress on a computer based software package of the Decision Support Tool (DST) on manure management practices(STRAW: Support for the Treatment and Recycling of Animal Wastes).

STRAW is a system to assess manure streams for intensive livestock production with the aim of controlling negative impacts for the environment and supporting the user in choosing and implementing an optimal manure management strategy. The aim is also to use the livestock waste more efficiently by recycling it in crop production.

The PMO and local experts provides the feedbacks on the first impression at the first view of the software, its user friendliness, and the aspects that should be changed, improved, and added to the package.

The mission team also met with national counterparts (data coordinators) to finalize STRAW data file.

For more details, please see the consultants' report on STRAW mission here

The First CoSiMo Mission, Bangkok, Vung Tau and Guangzhou, 12-20 February 2009

The first CoSiMo mission led by Dr. Ge Backus (senior economist, Wageningen University) and Ms Nawarat Chalermpao (assistant coordinator, RFO) was held in Thailand, Vietnam and China during 12-20 February 2009. The team met with policy researchers and policy officers from each country to present and discuss on the concept and planned activities of CoSiMo.

CoSiMo is a decision support tool that focuses on the farmer cost of compliance and determines expected consequences of alternative policy options. It focuses on policies that induce farmers to adopt environmental friendly practices, to remove farms to another location, or eventually to close farms. The cost effectiveness of these policies has to be evaluated in relation to the autonomous industry development towards less and larger farms.

The mission aims at getting the industry picture shape, by evaluating and discussing on the data collection for the pig industry module and the cost of compliance module. It also discuss on policy options, countries' typical farm types and time frame of the study.

Please click here for more details of the CoSiMo concept.

The Fourth Regional Coordination Group (RCG) Meeting, Vung Tau, Vietnam, 15 to 16 February 2009

The Regional Facilitation Office (RFO), FAO organized the fourth regional coordination group (RCG) meeting on the Livestock Waste Management in East Asia Project (GCP/RAS/215/WBG) from 15 to 16 February 2009 in Vung Tau, Vietnam.

RCG members from China, Thailand, Vietnam and the RFO attended the meeting. The countries' representatives presented a project progress in their countries to the meeting. The RFO showed the progress of Decision Support Tools development and an annual work plan for 2009. The RCG members made additional recommendations to the project implementation and approved the work plan for 2009.

Prior to the meeting, the RCG members visited Tien Phong Pig Husbandry Association, Cu Chi district, Ho Chi Minh city. The RCG members were really interested and impressed by the works of this association.

Please click here for more information and presentations from the fourth RCG meeting

Workshop on Spirulina Cultivation on Treated Water from Pig Farms, Rachaburi and Nakormpratom, Thailand,7 and 9 January 2009,

Department of Livestock Development (DLD), Thailand arranged the workshops on spirulina cultivation on treated water from pig farms during 7 and 9 January 2009 in Rachaburi and Nakormpratom provinces. The participants were pig farmers and DLD officers in these 2 provinces.

Spirulina is a source of protein, carotenoids, chlorophyll, vitamin B12, Gamma Linoric acid and others. It is used as a nutritional and therapeutic supplement for human. Also, it is used in animal feed, especially fancy fish, red carp, carp feed. DLD in collaboration with the Algae Biotechnology Center of King Mongkut Institution of Technology, Thonburi (KMITT) have studied the possibility of spirulina cultivation on treated water from pig farm for use as an animal feed.

KMITT has installed two types of tanks for spirulina cultivation. Small tanks were installed in a small farm (100 pigs) in Nakormprathom. Experimental tanks were installed in a large farm (15,000 pigs) in Rachaburi. Spirulina can be cultivated in both types of farm. The research showed that treated water from pig farm can be used for cultivating spirulina. More study on marketing opportunity will be done by KMITT.

For those who are interested, please contact Mr Arux Chaiyakul, PMO manager, DLD, Thailand at aruxch@yahoo.com

Regional Training on Mitigating Green House Gas (GHG) Emissions from Landless Livestock Production in East Asia, Suwon, The Republic of Korea, 1-4 December 2008

GyeongGi-Do Province, the Republic of Korea and FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific jointly organized the regional training on mitigating green house gas (GHG) emissions from landless livestock production in East Asia. The training was conducted from 1 to 4 December 2008 in Suwon, the Republic of Korea.

Climate change is still a relatively new scientific domain, and its interaction with the livestock sector even more so. Addressing the public and private sector, the training addressed both the technical and policy dimensions of the livestock-climate change nexus. Given the growing importance of intensive animal production systems in the region, the training focused of the mitigation of green house gas emissions from these sources.

Click here for presentations, photos and more information on the workshop

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