



## **International FETP Training for Trainers (IFETP Training for Trainer)**

### **Background**

Within the first decade of the International Field Epidemiology Training Program (IFETP)-Thailand, we have produced 30 international graduates for six countries, i.e. Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, and Vietnam and distributed to the Ministry of Health in Southeast Asian countries. The graduates' contribution for public health surveillance and response in this region is increasing gradually. One field epidemiology training program (FETP) was established and directed by the FETP graduate, Dr. Fadzilah Kamaludin, Malaysia since 2003 Epidemiology Intelligence Program (EIP). Many graduates work as key people in surveillance and response in their countries, i.e. Dr. Heng Seng (Chief of Surveillance Bureau, CDC, Cambodia), Dr. Phonpaseuth Oanaphom, (Chief of Epidemiology Section, Health Department Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR), Dr. Pham Hung, and Dr. Tin Tin Aye (Chief of Epidemiology, MOH Myanmar). Many pieces of field work during the training have been accepted for oral and poster presentations in well-known field epidemiology conferences.

Since the recent urgency of flu-pandemic preparedness, there have been efforts from various organizations to establish an FETP in Lao PDR., Vietnam, Myanmar and Cambodia. This is the perfect time to expand training capacity for countries in this region. Field training is impossible without a sufficient number of trainers. These trainers must also effectively train utilizing their understanding of epidemiology and practice.

Entering the second decade of the IFETP, the requirements and curriculum have been restructured to become more focused and more effective in building the capacity of field epidemiologists in this sub-region. We intend to produce more field-oriented epidemiologists, instead of research-oriented. The new direction can be reached if we have enough capable training staff in each country. Moreover, the senior graduates can help facilitate outbreak findings and investigations.

### **Program Goal**

To provide training to future professional trainers of IFETP, thereby increasing their skills to train others in field epidemiology.

## Program Objectives

1. To train the professional trainer on the skills required to teach FETP participants
2. To increase the knowledge and accredit ability of new trainers to the international level, especially in Southeast Asian countries.

### Competency Development:

1. **Teaching:** train public health professionals  
ex. tutorial round
2. **One-to-One coaching:** mentor public health professionals, supervise data analyses of surveillance, supervise international trainee
3. **Field Management:** Response the outbreak and outbreak management
4. **Leadership:** field group leader, problem shooter, spirit of field worker
5. **Communication and Networking:** negotiating for field work and implementing action, attend International Conference
6. **Writing:** case study, editing abstract and manuscript.

At the end of the six-month training, the professional trainer should effectively demonstrate that he/she can:

- utilize his/her epidemiologic skills to train others in identifying problems and making recommendations for public health concerns
  - train others to effectively manage and respond to an outbreak and other urgent health events
- train others to enhance the current surveillance system
  - train others to become potential trainers in field epidemiology
  - train others to improve the cross-border health network

## Program Design

The six-month program is designed for FETP graduates to become professional trainers of IFETP. The trainee will receive training in Thailand for four months and demonstrate training gained through the program for two months in his/her country (see Figure 1). The facilitated field work is enhanced in some aspects such as teaching, field management, leadership, communication, writing and networking. The faculty will assess the trainee's skills and identify points to improve as well as identify a Thai Senior FETP Trainer who will become the trainee's supervisor.

## Qualification of International FETP Trainer:

- Graduate from IFETP Thailand, FETP, EIP, EIS or other applied field epidemiology program

- Works in the Ministry of Health
- Able to be field epidemiologist trainer
- Experience in field epidemiology at least 2 years
- Able to stay in Thailand at least 3-6 months

### **Benefit to Participant**

- Become certified as an IFETP Trainer
- Per diem include meals and accommodation fee
- Health insurance
- Attending the international epidemiology conference
- Support in attending the advanced workshop/training course.

### **Benefit to the Participant's Country**

The country gains a trainer that will ensure a rapid response to an outbreak or other public health emergency. Through this program that is conducted by FETP-Thailand, these trainers are qualified to provide a short field epidemiology course to future trainees of FETP.

### **Roles and Responsibilities of a Trainer**

- Provide technical support to Thai and International trainees for field investigation
- Supervise field epidemiology work for the first component, such as the first outbreak investigation and surveillance system evaluation
- Assist Thai FETP trainees to develop and prepare their presentation of field works
- Provide technical support to international trainees during their return to FETP Thailand (e.g. data analysis, literature review, etc).
- To be a facilitator for small group discussion/exercise on Introductory Course on Field Epidemiology (a one-month course)
- Assist learning ability
- Accompany FETP advisors to supervise inter. trainees in trainee's countries (up to two trips)
- Assist Thai/Inter. Trainees in the preparation of abstracts and presentations for the International Conference

### **Requirements**

During the six-month training period, the trainee should conduct work under the program's

requirements and complete the tasks assigned, which include:

- 1 Case study
- 1-2 Tutorial round in terms of methods in epidemiology
- 1-2 Trainee's manuscript or full reports under the supervision of an IFETP Trainer.

## Monitoring and Evaluation

### Topics

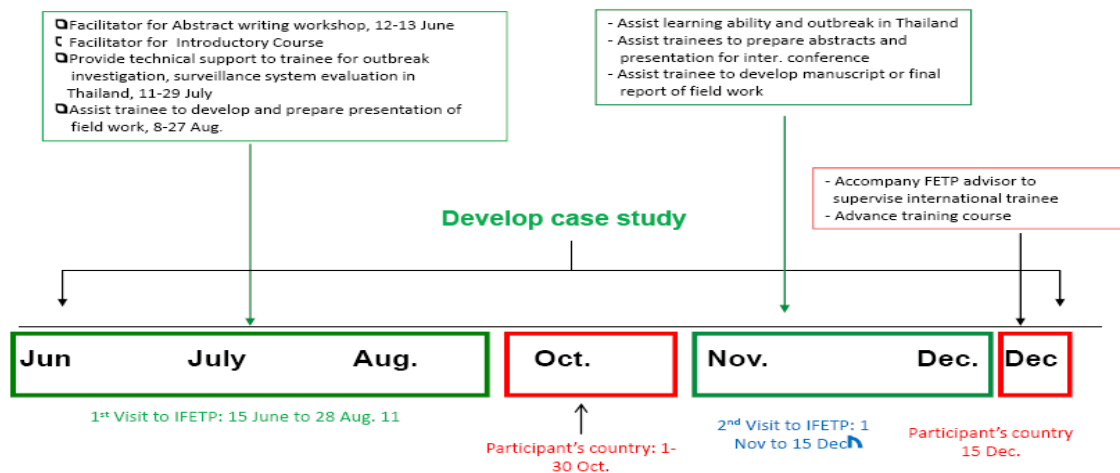
1. Judgment
2. Skills in Field Epidemiology
3. Public Health Ethics
4. Responsibility
5. Ability to Promote Self Learning
6. Knowledge
7. Emotional Quotient
8. Passion and Ability in Teaching

### Methods and Materials for Evaluation

1. Activity report-monthly
2. Work of trainees he/she supervises
3. Every 3-month assessment by FETP faculty
4. Develop one published article by oneself or advisee

### Overview of Curriculum and Requirements

The course will officially start on June 15, 2011 by FETP-Thailand at the Ministry of Health. Throughout the entire six-month period, the trainee will develop a case study. The agenda includes:



**First Phase (2.5 months)**

- Orientation at FETP-Thailand
- Provide technical support to trainee for outbreak investigations, surveillance system evaluation in Thailand
- Assist trainee to develop and prepare presentation of field work

**Second Phase (1 Month)**

- Return to participant's country to demonstrate training received

**Third Phase (1 Month)**

- Return to Thailand
- Assist learning ability
- Assist trainees to prepare abstracts and presentation for International Conference
- Assist trainees to develop manuscript or final report of field work

**Final and Fourth Phase (1 Month)**

- Return to participant's country to demonstrate training received
- Accompany FETP advisor to supervise international trainee
- Advance training course

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