

This report should be submitted within 2 weeks after you return to Japan. Please do not change

(~~Abroad~~ Domestic) Internship report form (Student) 2023/06/09(Year/Month/Day)

Name	Pondpan Suwanthada
Laboratory	Bioresources
Year (Grade)	3
Internship institution	The Regional Representation for Asia and the Pacific of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH RRAP)
Internship period	Internship period: 04/03/2023 - 06/02/2023 (Departure Date from Sapporo: 04/03/2023 , Arrival Date in Sapporo: 06/02/2023)
Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To gain a deeper understanding of WOAHA's mission and activities - To gain experience in international collaborations and international working situations, as it is one of the desired workplaces - Develop good relationships with the organisation for future career opportunities.

- The reason why you chose this institute

WOAH (World Organization for Animal Health) is a leading organization dedicated to addressing animal diseases and zoonoses. Their primary focus is to promote transparency in the global animal disease situation. Furthermore, they play a crucial role in supporting veterinary services by providing essential infrastructure and educational services. With the aim of fostering a sustainable world, I have chosen to be an intern in this organization to gain profound insights into their effective works for improving animal health on a global scale.

- Result of the activity (about 800 words、 provide photos, tables and figures that clearly show the activities during the period)

During my internship, I attended both internal and external meetings and seminars that greatly enriched my understanding of global issues and effective problem-solving strategies in different regions. Some notable events I participated in include the Global Conference on Emergency Management, WOAHA Regional Staff Meeting with the Director General - Asia and the Pacific, Regional Commission Meeting, South Asia Rabies Laboratory Network Meeting, and the meeting for Focal

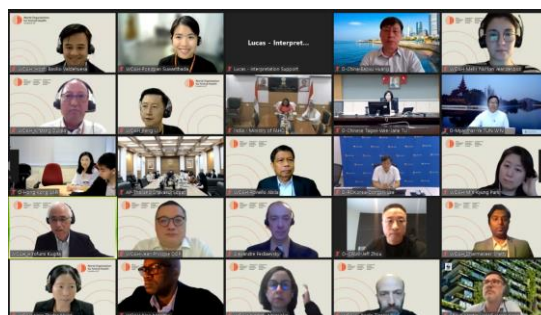


Figure1 Participants of Regional Commission Meeting

Commission Meeting, South Asia Rabies Laboratory Network Meeting, and the meeting for Focal

Points for Communication. These meetings provided me with invaluable insights into the diverse solutions being implemented worldwide. For instance, at the South Asia Rabies Laboratory Network Meeting, I gained a comprehensive understanding of how rabies cases are controlled and managed in this area. It was interesting to learn that limited diagnostic tests posed a critical challenge in the specific region. The countries needed to send suspected samples to other countries for diagnosis, which often resulted in delayed disease control efforts. This experience emphasized the significance of capacity building in healthcare systems.

During my internship, I actively supported and contributed to various meetings and activities, such as the Asian Association of Veterinary Schools' annual meeting and the General Commission Meeting of WOAHRAP which will be organized at Hokkaido University. I was involved in different aspects of these events, ranging from making annual newsletter, announcements and collecting abstracts to tracking submissions and assisting with logistics. Additionally, I am delighted to share that I have been given the opportunity to speak at the upcoming annual meeting of AAVS, where I will discuss the topic of "Toward a researcher who can contribute to One Health." By this, I gained experience on organizing the seminar or conference that would be advantage for me in the future.



Figure2 AAVs newsletter, 2023

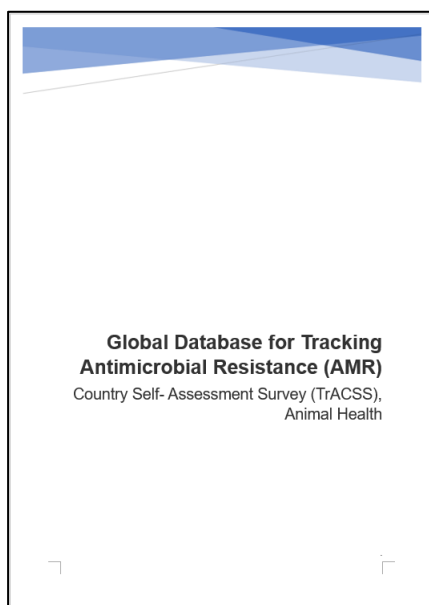


Figure3 TrACSS report on animal health.

One of the significant projects I undertook during my internship with WOAHRAP involved preparing reports on the current situation of Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in Asia and the Pacific. These reports utilized the Global Database for AMR Country Self-Assessment Survey (TrACSS) and focused on both the general AMR situation in the region and specifically on AMR in companion animals. The first report offered an overview of the AMR situation, management, and implementation, particularly in the context of animal health. This report aided in understanding the current scenario and provided insights for future strategic decisions and

policymaking. The latter report focuses on the transmission of resistant pathogens between owners and their pets, contributing to the spread of resistant bacteria. We are currently in touch with WOAAH to publish these reports on their website, ensuring accessibility to a wider audience. I also had a chance to present my work to the entire office, with the goal of fostering future collaboration. During the presentation, I received invaluable suggestions and comments that greatly contributed to the enhancement of my research and overall work.



Figure3 I presents my project to the officers.

As WOAAH RRAP serves as a hub for Asia and the Pacific, numerous visitors came to the office for knowledge exchange and collaboration. This gave me the opportunity to meet and interact with diverse individuals, further expanding my knowledge and broadening my perspective on global health. One such visitor was Fred Unger, a veterinary epidemiologist and senior scientist from the International Livestock Research Institute



Figure4 Fred Unger from ILRI gives presentations.

(ILRI). He kindly gave an informative presentation on the infectious disease found in livestock, particular in Southeast Asia region. Through this presentation, I gained a deep understanding of the importance of establishing partnerships and collaborations between organizations to achieve sustainable health outcomes.

Moreover, beyond the working hours, I had the privilege of developing my interpersonal skills by engaging and spending time with colleagues from different backgrounds, generations, and nationalities. As most of the officers are foreigners, we explored Japanese culture together building the strong relationship. This experience provided me with a rich multicultural environment that enhanced my ability to work effectively in diverse teams. The cross-cultural interactions and exchanges



Figure5 Dinner with visitors and colleagues.

not only broadened my horizons but also fostered a deep appreciation for the connection of our world. This exposure to diverse perspectives and worldviews profoundly shaped my understanding of global health and the factors that influence it. Recognizing the importance of inclusivity and cultural sensitivity, I enhanced my communication and teamwork skills, learning to bridge gaps and adopt mutual understanding even in different viewpoints.

Overall, my internship experience offered me a multitude of opportunities to learn, contribute, and grow both professionally and personally. I am grateful for the valuable experiences and the insights gained during this period, which have shaped my understanding of global health and equipped me with a broader skill set to tackle future challenges in the field.

What do you think the positive impact of the activity will have on your further career path?

Working in the organization can impact my student life in various aspects. It could improve my critical thinking, global awareness and adaptability skills by collaborating with people from different cultures and backgrounds. It also helps me learn from experienced colleagues and utilize best practices in the future. Additionally, I would have experience performing a gap analysis utilized data obtained from over the world regarding animal health and diseases. Hence, this is a good chance to understand the global situation and learn how the organization could develop the strategy to combat the future burdens. This internship strongly supports me on my future career path since working with this organisation is one of the desired workplaces. 000

Advice for your junior fellows

- **Be ambitious**, echoing the motto of Hokkaido University. Set your sight high and avoid confining yourself to your comfort zone. This will lead to valuable and unforgettable experiences.
- **Begin saving**: While we are fortunate to receive support from WISE and other sources, it's important to remember that we need to pay upfront and wait reimbursement later on.

Approval supervisor	of	Institution • Official title • Name Graduate School of Infectious Diseases, Division of Bioresources • Professor • Yasuhiko Suzuki
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- ※1 Send the electronic file to the WISE Program Office
- ※2 Attach a copy certificate of the content of internship activity that is prepared by the counterpart at the internship institution (any form with a signature of the counterpart).
- ※3 The Steering Committee for the WISE Program will first confirm the content of this report and report will be forwarded to the Educational Affairs Committee for credits evaluation.

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