



DTU Food
National Food
Institute



World Health
Organization



international network
Institut Pasteur



CENTRAL VETERINARY INSTITUTE
WAGENINGEN UR



Public Health
Agency of Canada

Agence de la santé
publique du Canada

Global Foodborne Infections Network: Building capacity to detect, control and prevent foodborne and other enteric infections from farm to table

MISSION

- To reduce the global burden of foodborne and other enteric infections by enhancing laboratory-based surveillance and outbreak detection and response.
- To foster collaboration and communication between microbiologists and epidemiologists working in human health, veterinary and food sciences.

GFN STEERING COMMITTEE PARTNERS

GFN collaborates with internationally recognized veterinary, food and public health organizations which provide expertise and guidance:

- World Health Organization
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (*Atlanta, Georgia, USA*)
- Central Veterinary Institute (*Lelystad, The Netherlands*)
- US Food and Drug Administration, Center for Veterinary Medicine (*Rockville, Maryland, USA*)
- DTU National Food Institute, Technical University Denmark (*Copenhagen, Denmark*)
- International Network Institut Pasteur
- European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control
- OzFoodNet (*Canberra, Australia*)
- Public Health Agency Canada (*Ottawa, Ontario and Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada*)
- PulseNet International

INTERNATIONAL TRAINING COURSES

Goal	• Build technical capacity and foster collaboration and communication between microbiologists and epidemiologists
Modules	• Laboratory • Epidemiology • Joint laboratory - epidemiology
Participants	• Microbiologists (Human, Veterinary, and Food Laboratories) • Epidemiologists (Human, Veterinary, and Food Institutes) • Representatives from 10-15 countries
Duration & Location	• 5 to 6 days • Conducted every 12-18 months at a Training Site

INTERNATIONAL TRAINING SITES



KEY ACTIVITIES

- External Quality Assurance System (EQAS):** assesses the quality of serotyping and antimicrobial susceptibility testing of *Salmonella* and other foodborne pathogens in laboratories worldwide.
- Country Databank (CDB):** passive surveillance system that collects annual *Salmonella* summary data from member institutions.
- Reference Testing:** technical advice and free of charge reference testing of *Salmonella* and other enteric pathogens by GFN steering committee partners and regional centres of excellence.
- Electronic Discussion Group (EDG):** an electronic mailing list that distributes messages on training materials, articles on foodborne and other enteric infections, and programmatic issues.
- Focused regional and national projects:** promote continued development and application of techniques learned at GFN International Training Courses.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Program Components	Activities Accomplished
International Training Courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As of 2009, 66 training courses in 17 sites around the world completed • Courses taught in: Chinese, English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, and Russian • Over 1,100 microbiologists and epidemiologists from over 130 countries trained in laboratory-based surveillance and outbreak detection and response for enteric infections
EQAS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2007, 88% correct serotyping results for 140 laboratories
CDB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By 2009, close to 1,400 members from 166 countries • More than 1,000 data sets of the top 15 <i>Salmonella</i> serotypes from 84 countries
EDG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 800 active members worldwide • In 2008, 27 messages in five languages, (English, Spanish, French, Portuguese, and Chinese) on different topics related to foodborne and other infectious enteric infections distributed
Regional and National Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2007 and 2008 - Russian Federation and China participated in pathogen-specific enhanced surveillance projects • Additional regional/national projects include enhanced surveillance and Burden of Illness

CONCLUSIONS

Continue capacity building efforts globally by:

- Building and strengthening partnerships with internationally recognized veterinary, food and public health organizations and networks.
- Conducting courses to augment and strengthen laboratory-based surveillance and outbreak detection and response skills in microbiology and epidemiology.
- Assist the International Health Regulations (2005) by building core-capacities for surveillance in countries.
- To enable countries' full participation in response to international food safety emergencies through the International Food Safety Authorities Network (INFOSAN).
- Promoting early intervention through intersectoral collaboration by linking to the Global Early Warning System for Major Animal Diseases, including Zoonoses (GLEWS).

More information: www.who.int/salmsurv