

SCIENTIFIC WRITING WORKSHOP, 2015

24 –28 AUGUST 2015

The Grand Luang Prabang Hotel

Luang Prabang, Lao PDR

Background

Department of Livestock Development (DLD), Department of Disease Control, THAILAND in collaboration with international organizations such as FAO and US CDC have promoted and developed multi-sectoral in-service training programs in country and regional level. Many outputs from the various multi-sectoral training programs has been delivered and impacted to strengthen disease surveillance, prevention and control system in country and regional level.

There are, however, limited communication skills among many trainees and epidemiologists that may limit utilization of the output. Effective communication can lead to reliable disease control and prevention measures and communications through scientific publications can also increase impact on wider area.

Scientific Writing Workshop is organized for Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP)/FETP-Veterinarian/FETP-Wildlife alumni, trainees and field epidemiologists in Southeast Asia. The aims of this workshop are to enhance the writing skill of participants in producing scientific manuscripts that are acceptable for reviewing by the international journal and promote multi-sectoral collaboration by sharing experience and expertise. The workshop will include the various types of publications including full research manuscripts, abstracts to scientific conferences, technical reports and data presentations in scientific conferences. Participants will learn how to organize and write the core sections of research papers and articles (i.e. abstract, introduction, materials & methods, results, discussion and references), and discover the power of figures and tables to visualize or detail results. Each participant will be asked to produce manuscript of a publication of their own choice.

Participants will be able to:

- To illustrate the key importance of the finding into an easy-to-understand scientific language, and thus the value of scientific writing.
- To familiarize themselves with some (rhetorical) key principles that can enlighten their manuscripts and abstract without oversimplifying scientific issues.
- To write the content of the core sections of research manuscripts (i.e. title, abstract, introduction, material & methods, results, discussion and references).

Course component

1. Opening, introductions, orientation and course administration
2. Introduction to research methodology

Learning objective

Participants are able to understand scientific research methodology

Learning method

Lecture

3. Structure of scientific article and writing up

Learning objective

Participants are able to

- Understand major components of scientific article
- Understand key concern of scientific writing

Learning method

- Lecture
- Exercise and discussion

4. Manuscript and abstract writing

Learning objective

Participants are able to

- Understand major components of manuscript and abstract

Learning method

- Lecture
- Exercise and discussion

5. Principles of independent review process of scientific manuscripts
6. Write up session of an outline of a publication by each of the participants

Course methodology

Title	Lecture	Writing	Discuss with mentor	Total
1. Opening, introductions, orientation and course administration	1	-	-	1
2. Introduction to research methodology	1	-	-	1
3. Structure of scientific article and writing up	3	8	6	17
4. Manuscript and abstract writing	3	12	6	21
Total	8	20	12	40

Duration

- The course will start on Monday 24th August 2015 and end on Friday 28th August 2015.

Venue

- The Grand Luang Prabang Hotel, Luang Prabang, Lao PDR

Target participants

- FETP, FETPV, FETPW trainees and alumni
- Field Epidemiologist in Southeast Asia
 - o Total participants will include public health personnel, Medical Doctors and Veterinarians

Role	Group	Number	Remark
Participants (21)	FETP trainee	5	4 Thai participants 1 International participants
	FETP fellowship	5	International participants
	FETPV trainee	4	International participants
	FETPV fellowship	7	5 Thai participants 2 International participants
Mentors (15)	FETP	7	3 Thai participants 4 International participants
	FETPV, FAORAP	8	7 Thai participants 1 International participants
Supporting staffs (5)	FETP staff	2	Thai staff
	FETPV staff	3	Thai staff
Resource people (2)	CSU Fort Collins, U.S.A	2	International participants
Total		43	24 Thai and 19 international participants

Lecturers and Writing Coaches

- Dr. Mo Salman Professor of Veterinary Epidemiology, Animal Population Health Institute, College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Colorado State University, USA (main lecturer)
- Dr. Sangeeta Rao, Assistant Professor, Colorado State University Department of Clinical Sciences (Statistician)
- FETP, FETPV, FETPW-Thailand
- OSIR editorial board
- Regional Experts
- US CDC, FAO and OIE

15:30 – 15:45	Break	
15:45 – 16:30	Break-out group session – First Assignment	Participants
	Each participant will share the outline of his/her manuscript with the rest of the group members.	
	Outcome:	
	An outline of the manuscript will be produced by each of the participants. The outline should include sub-headings of the specific items that the participant would like to include in the manuscript.	
16:30	Wrap-up & Assignment – All participants should be expected to prepare their modified aims, outline of a manuscript, and the potential journal(s) for submission	Mo Salman and Sangeeta Rao

TUESDAY AUGUST 25

08:00 – 9:00	Review	Workshop Coordinators and Facilitators
	Questions and Answer –	
	Aims and research questions	
9:00 – 12:00	Presentation of the modified aims with the outline of a manuscript by each participant.	Participants with the facilitators
	Outcome:	
	Building the framework of the manuscript by each of the participant	
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch	
13:00 – 15:00	Data Type & Data Presentation	Sangeeta Rao
15:00 -15:15	Break	
15:15 – 16:30	Break-out group session – Second Assignment	Participants
	Each group should attempt to determine the data type with proposed data presentation for each of their research projects	
16:30	Wrap-up & Assignment	Facilitators
	Every participant is expected to show on Wednesday their modified aim with the appropriate classification of all the collected research data and proposed types of	

data presentation. The break-out group members should work together to support the entire team.

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 26

08:00 – 9:00	Review	Facilitators
	Questions and Answers on the different type of data and the variation in the data presentation – Reference to CDC booklet	
9:00 – 12:00	Data type and data presentation by each of the participants with feedback from the facilitators including a break	Participants
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch	
13:00 – 15:00	Statistical tests and the link to data type	Sangeeta Rao
15:00 -15:15	Break	
15:15 – 16:30	Break-out group session – Third Assignment	Participants
	Each group should attempt to determine the type of statistical test for their own project with the link to their hypotheses and data presentation. The break-out group members should work together to support the entire team.	
16:30	Wrap-up & Assignment	Facilitators
	Each participant is expected to have a draft of a manuscript as per the previously discussed outline with sufficient modifications to their analysis and presentation of the findings	

THURSDAY AUGUST 27

08:00 – 9:00	Review	Facilitators
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions and Answers – Draft of the manuscript • Review of the check list under the handout of Publish or Perish 	
9:00 – 12:00	Break-Out Group- Fourth Assignment	Participants
	Includes Break (10:00 – 10:20)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft of each manuscript to be reviewed by at 	

least two other participants;

- Feedback to the main author about the draft with constructive suggestions;
- Each break-out group is responsible as a team to select two manuscripts for the presentation for the entire participants in the workshop.

12:00 – 13:00	Lunch	
13:00 – 15:00	Assignment and reading time of four modified manuscripts for a review to the entire participants including the facilitators	Participants and facilitators
15:00 – 15:15	Break	
15:15 – 16:30	Feedback from the reviewers – Four manuscript	Facilitators and selected participants
16:30	Wrap-up & Assignment Modifications of the four manuscripts for a second submission to the reviewers' team	Facilitators

FRIDAY AUGUST 28

08:00 – 9:00	Submission of the revision of the four manuscripts to the reviewers <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reviewers should be able to review the revisions	Facilitators
9:00 – 12:30	Assignment and reading time of 6-7 modified manuscripts for a review to the entire participants including the facilitators (break is included)	Participants and facilitators
12:30-13:30	Lunch	
13:30 – 15:00	Wrap up of the workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establish time frame for submission;• Consultation through email for final version of the submission;• Evaluation of the workshop• Certificate ceremony	Workshop Coordinators and Facilitators