

PRINCE MAHIDOL  
AWARD CONFERENCE  
2013

1<sup>st</sup> GLOBAL CONFERENCE  
ON REGIONAL SURVEILLANCE NETWORKS

2<sup>nd</sup> INTERNATIONAL  
ONE HEALTH CONGRESS

CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION  
of the Rockefeller Foundation

A World United Against Infectious Diseases:  
**CROSS-SECTORAL SOLUTIONS**

Jan 28<sup>th</sup> - Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2013 | Bangkok, Thailand

The conference for good health of humans | animals | the environment

# PLENARY 1

## One Health: Meeting the Challenge of a *“World United Against Infectious Diseases”*

- **PMAC 13 provides an opportunity to assess what investments are required to reduce both risk of emergence of new diseases of animal origin and its potential economic and human toll.**
- **At the heart of our deliberations needs to be recognition that no country or organization can be successful on its own and must partner with a range of multi-lateral, bi-lateral, national, non-governmental, community and private sector players.**

## Reducing the threat posed by new emergent diseases requires a strategic approach that:

1. Builds on the understanding that the future well-being of humans, animals and the environment are inextricably linked,
2. Promotes cross-sectoral coordination that spans the animal health, public health, environmental and conservations communities,
3. Targets promotion of those policies and the strengthening of those skills and capacities critical for both minimizing the risk of new disease emergence and the ability to limit their social, economic and public health impact,
4. Uses a “risk” based approach to target investments to those places, populations, times and situations where the likelihood of disease emergence is greatest.

## A “One Health” partnership must be guided by the following assumptions:

- All populations are vulnerable to new diseases emerging in other **countries**; it is in our collective interest to strengthen the capacity of all high-risk countries to prevent the emergence and spread of these new disease threats.
- **Deadly zoonotic disease threats will increase steadily** in the coming decades driven by population growth and expanded interactions between people, animals and the environment.
- **Innovations and models of cross sectoral and cross border cooperation are currently available** that if properly deployed could greatly reduce the risk of new disease emergence and their impact.
- **It is possible to minimize the potential economic and public health impact** of a new disease through enhanced surveillance and early deployment of control measures.
- **Enhanced coordination across animal, human, conservation, and environmental sectors will contribute to reduced risk of new disease emergence** and lead to early and effective control minimizing their impact should they emerge.

This year's Prince Mahidol Award Conference is a unique opportunity to explore:

- **What progress has been made in recent years in our ability to pre-empt and combat newly emergent disease threats**
- **What challenges remain, and**
- **What solutions can be garnered in the spirit of solidarity and Cross-Sectoral cooperation to more fully develop system capacities for global surveillance, prevention, preparedness and response.**