

International conference on “Emerging and Trans boundary Diseases of Global Importance” held on 15-and 16 July, 20 13

Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (TANUVAS), University of Nottingham, UK and Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, USA have been collaborating on a tripartite research partnership under UKIERI which aims to develop capacities of veterinary scientists and livestock farmers in India. The project involves various key activities such as faculty and PhD student exchange, international conference and farmers’ awareness workshops for capacity building of veterinary scientists and livestock farmers in India.



Under this tripartite partnership, an international conference on ‘Emerging and Transboundary Diseases of Global

Importance’ was organized at the Madras Veterinary College campus of TANUVAS on 15-16 July 2013. The conference was inaugurated by Dr. C.Renukprasad, Vice-Chancellor, Karnataka Veterinary, Animal and Fishery Sciences University, Karnataka in the presence of Dr.R.Prabakaran, Vice-Chancellor, TANUVAS, and Chennai.



The research partnership supports faculty and PhD student exchange, conference and farmers awareness workshops for capacity building of veterinary scientists and livestock farmers in India. While PhD student and faculty exchange is specifically focussed on influenza virus research, the conferences are focussed on state of the art knowledge transfer to

veterinary scientists in India on emerging and trans-boundary diseases of global importance including influenza.

The conference was well attended with over 189 participants that included experts from the UK, USA and India. 150 abstracts were received for poster presentations. A post conference ‘Farmers meet’ was arranged on 17 July. The meet was attended by 52 farmers, representatives from industry and subject matter specialists from the three participating countries. Selected vaccines and diagnostic



assays developed by Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University were showcased during this meet including release of an inactivated 'Classical Swine Fever Vaccine' for field use by Dr. R.Prabakaran, Vice-Chancellor, and TANUVAS. The meet provided opportunities for farmers to directly engage with industry and academia.

