



The initiative is implemented and funded by the European Commission in cooperation with the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI). The European External Action Service (EEAS) is also involved in the follow-up of the initiative. The initiative is developed with the technical support of relevant International and Regional Organisations, the EU Member States and other stakeholders, through coherent and effective cooperation at the national, regional and international level.



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Project 15

STRENGTHENING LABORATORY BIO-SAFETY AND BIO-SECURITY THROUGH DEVELOPMENT OF A LABORATORY ISO-BANK SYSTEM

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS:

National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM, lead partner), the Netherlands; Erasmus University, the Netherlands; the Netherlands Organisation for Applied Scientific Research (TNO), the Netherlands

IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD:

1 August 2013 – 30 June 2015

GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE:

Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand

PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES:

Philippines, Thailand

BUDGET:

480,000.00 euro

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The overall objective of the project is to support the enhancement of bio-risk management at facilities in the beneficiary countries operating with biological agents or toxins, thus significantly minimising the likelihood of incidents occurring. The project seeks to strengthen national capacities for bio-security and bio-safety, the safe and secure handling of biological agents, through the development of a laboratory iso-bank system (the database). Having the database as a linking mechanism between laboratories and hospital information systems, the project will facilitate timely and efficient responses to the discovery of biological agents. As a first step, a stocktaking of existing national databases, mechanisms in place and current regulations, will be conducted, as

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well as the establishment of the needs and requirements for a laboratory database of pathogenic biological agents. Secondly, a comprehensive centralised database to be utilized by laboratory technicians will be developed based on the WHO inventory system. The laboratory database will then be linked with the existing hospital information systems to enable rapid screening of emerging diseases. In order to stimulate the cooperation and communication between institutions in the beneficiary countries, a website will be developed.

Finally, laboratory technicians will be trained on the use of the database, with a special focus on the importance of laboratory bio-risk management (bio-safety and bio-security). The training sessions will be implemented nationwide at the public and private level and are planned to take place during the final conferences organized in each of the participating countries.

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