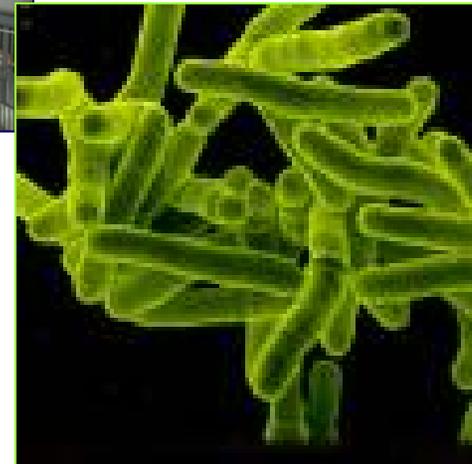




Biosecurity Engagement Program



**U.S. Department of State
Bureau of International Security and
Nonproliferation
Office of Cooperative Threat Reduction**

Biosecurity Engagement Program:



Mission

To develop cooperative international programs that promote the safe, secure, and responsible use of biological materials that are at risk of accidental release or intentional misuse.



U.S. DEPARTMENT of STATE

Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation Office of Cooperative Threat Reduction (ISN-CTR)

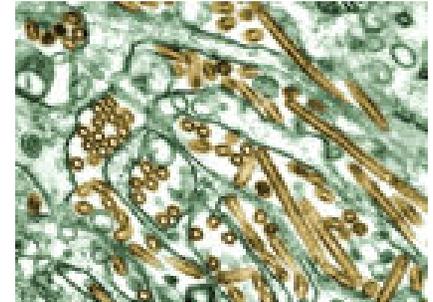
A Global Mission

- A **proactive** approach to reducing the threat of procurement and diversion of materials, equipment, technology, and expertise applicable for illegitimate science. **Historically focused on Russia/Formal Soviet Union, Iraq, Libya, recently starting efforts in SE and South East Asia and other countries in the Middle East.**
- A critical need to engage countries in 'high-risk' regions and **partner nations** to strengthen collaboration on mutual national security and public health interests:
- ISN/CTR Launches Biosecurity Engagement Program (BEP) in April, 2006.
 - Similar efforts on Chemical and Nuclear Security also begun.

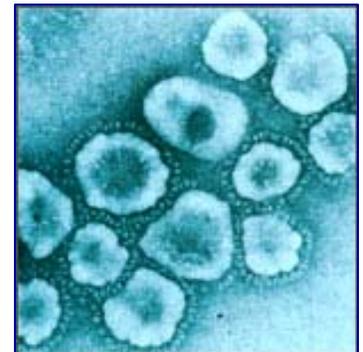
The Global Biological Threat



- Established presence of transnational terrorist groups- interested in WMD
- Global outbreaks of emerging and reemerging infectious diseases
- Natural outbreaks generate unpredictable sources of potentially dangerous pathogens
- 'Proliferation' of BSL 3-4 capacities



H5N1 Virus



Biosecurity Engagement Program



- CTR: Addressing emerging Terrorist threat
 - BEP new in 2006
 - Reducing terrorists access and exploitation of legitimate bioscience to pursue bioterrorism
- Engage legitimate bioscientists around the world to
 - Ensure safe and secure use of dangerous biological agents
 - Strengthen capacities to detect and control infectious disease
- CTR: build relationships, share technical expertise, and promote good practices
 - Draws upon diverse set of USG agencies for expertise including DOD, DOE, HHS, USDA, USAID, EPA, Partners with international organizations such as WHO, OIE, FAO, and INTERPOL



Initial BEP Efforts



- **Risk assessments** (regional, country and institute specific)
- Country-specific strategies
- Technical assistance for security and safety upgrades at BSL3 facilities
- Grants Assistance Program Funding
 - Strengthen infectious disease research, surveillance
 - **Avian influenza** presents risks and opportunities
 - NAMRU, AFRIMS, USDA-ARS, HHS-CDC and NIH support
- BEP pilot countries:
 - Indonesia (FY06)
 - Philippines (FY06)
 - Pakistan (FY07)
 - Yemen (FY07)
 - Egypt (FY07)
- Demonstrate ability to implement effective programs in two regions:
 - Southeast Asia
 - Middle East



Biosecurity Engagement Program



Pathogen Security & Biosafety Projects

Working with international bioscience laboratories in the areas of pathogen security and biosafety, including assistance in risk assessment, safety and security consultations, and design and implementation.

Training for scientists, laboratory managers, and policy makers on surveillance, diagnostics, biosafety, and pathogen security to raise awareness and to promote effective laboratory practices.



Surveillance and Diagnostics

Assisting with, designing and implementing surveillance and molecular diagnostic systems that strengthen infectious disease detection and response.

Grants Assistance Program

The BEP Grants Assistance Program provides funding to institutions for projects that advance BEP objectives. Proposals can be submitted under "Apply for Support."

www.bepstate.net
Apply for Support



Global Cooperation

Reducing the risk of biological threats by collaborating with partner governments to develop biosafety and pathogen security standards that are consistent with national and international guidelines, norms and requirements.

Indonesia Training



- Indonesian national biosafety and biosecurity workshop, Nov 2005
 - SNL/IBTR
- BWC national legislation workshop, Mar 2006
 - DOS/ISN/CB (Greg Stewart)
- BSL3 design and operation training workshop at Balitvet, Jun 2006
 - SNL/IBTR and MRI
- International Visitors Program, Oct 2006
- ABSA conference participation, Oct 2006
- BSL3 hands-on training in Atlanta, Oct 2006



Pathogen Security Collaboration in Indonesia



- Department of Agriculture: Indonesian Research Institute for Veterinary Science (Balitvet), Bogor
 - Fixing the zoonosis air handling system;
 - BSL3 lab completion postponed and providing technical assistance on lab design;
 - Hope to complement the work of others at the regional Disease Investigation Center (DIC) labs through lab capacity building assistance and training.
- Department of Health: National Institute of Health Research and Development (Litbangkes), Jakarta
 - BSL3 lab completion postponed;
 - Sending expert team to provide training on sequencing equipment sitting in lab.
- Indonesian Commission on Animal Health
 - Medion International collaboration.

Philippines Training



- Department of Health Training Seminar on Laboratory Biosecurity and Biosafety
 - Manila, July 2006
 - Cebu, July 2006
- International Visitors Program, Oct 2006
- ABSA conference participation, Oct 2006
- Anti-terrorism Task Force (Office of the President) Focus Group Discussion on Counterbioterrorism and National Survey of Dangerous Pathogens
 - March 2007
- Philippines Biosafety and Biosecurity Office Training Program planned for 2007-2008 (DOH, DA, University, Private Sector).
- Philippines National Police Training Seminar on Bioterrorism and Laboratory Biosecurity Awareness





Pathogen Security Collaboration: Philippines

- Risk Assessment of the Research Institute of Tropical Medicine (RITM)—January 2007:
 - Will determine priority assistance areas to improve safety and security and consolidate most extensive dangerous pathogen collection in the Philippines.
- National survey of laboratories with potential agents of bioterrorism:
 - Interagency initiative designed to scope problem by creating a national database of all laboratories that work with dangerous pathogens and toxins (lead by RITM).
- Support to Department of Health Action Plan on laboratory biosafety and biosecurity:
 - Plan to develop national guidelines on standards and procedures for laboratory biosafety and biosecurity;
- Working with the Anti-Terrorism Task Force to develop biosafety and biosecurity policy paper and raise awareness of bioterrorism threats.

BEP Middle East: Laboratory Visits



Egypt Visits:

- Ministry of Agriculture laboratory- Dokki, Cairo.
- Medicine and Biotechnology Institute at Misr University for Sci. & Tech.
- Central Labs at Ministry of Health and Population
- Agricultural Research Center/Animal Health Research Institute
- VACSERA- Egyptian Organization for Biological Products and Vaccines
- National Research Center
- April Workshop for Biosafety and Biosecurity in Cairo for Egyptians

Egypt Future Plans:

- Visit additional institutes
- Additional trainings and workshops, technical assistance for capacity building, disease surveillance assistance

Yemen Visits and Outreach:

- Central Health Laboratory, Saana
- Central Veterinary Laboratory, Saana
- College of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine at Thamar University, Thamar
- University of Science and Technology Hospital, Saana
- Meeting with Ministry of Public Health
- Meeting with Minister of Health
- Meetings with USAID and WHO

Yemen Future Plans:

- BS&S and disease surveillance workshop in June, 2007.
- Additional trainings and workshops, technical assistance for capacity building, disease surveillance assistance

Additional 2006 Middle East Activities



- Laboratory Biosecurity and Biosafety Workshop, April 2006, Amman Jordan
 - 15 countries in the Middle East
- Sponsored American Biosafety Association (ABSA) conference delegation: October 2006
 - Over 40 participants from 17 countries including: Egypt, Libya, Jordan, Pakistan, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Philippines, Malaysia, Russia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Georgia, Russia
- Iraq and Libya:
 - “Biosafety and Biosecurity in General Labs Workshop” held in Benghazi, Libya, January 2005
 - “Iraqi Laboratory Biosafety Train-the-Trainers Workshop” held in Amman, Jordan, February 2006
 - Iraq/U.S. Biological Risk Workshop to be held in Amman, Jordan, 18-20 December 2006
 - BEP sponsored Sandia and CDC Participation in Libya Disease Surveillance Workshop slated for Spring 2007
 - DOS/CTR is sponsoring training at NAMRU-3 for Iraqi scientists to learning skills for Avian Influenza detection



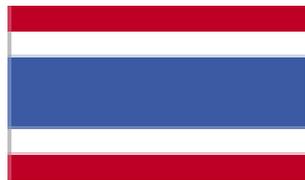
BEP Sponsored
ABSA Delegation
Boston, MA
October 2006

BEP in Thailand and Malaysia:2007



Thailand

- BSL3 design assistance, BIOTECH;
- Work with CDC and AFRIMS to place BEP outpost for regional training and R&D support;
- Attend SNL organized Asian BS&S conference, Bangkok;
- Assist with DOJ-FBI joint bioterrorism prevention and response workshop.



Malaysia

- Planned Engagement:
 - MFA, MOD, MOSTI, IMR engagement;
 - Assist with BWC enforcement and national legislation to combat bioterrorism;
 - Biosafety and Biosecurity training and lab capacity building assistance;
 - University outreach;
 - Private biotech sector outreach;
 - Balance security concerns impacting private sector R&D



Conclusions:



BEP strengthens biosafety and biosecurity world-wide:

- Collaborative scientific engagement:
 - Build meaningful collaborations
 - Protect and advance science
 - Strengthen public health capacities
 - Provide resources and tools to improve BSS
 - Strengthen regional ties
- Diplomatic efforts: working closely with International Governments



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