



RPHL Network's First Steering Committee (2026-2028)

Building on the March 2025 Annual Meeting agreement, The RPHL Network warmly welcomes its first Steering Committee for 2026–2028 and extends its sincere appreciation to Thailand, Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Lao PDR, the Philippines, and Singapore for their commitment to guiding the Network's strategic direction through shared leadership and regional collaboration.

The 2nd RPHL Network Newsletter highlights key activities from April to June 2026, showcasing peer-to-peer collaboration and collective efforts by all 14 Members to strengthen laboratory systems of both national and regional levels.

*We sincerely thank Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand for hosting and facilitating key activities, and the Subject Matter Experts from Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Singapore for sharing their expertise and fostering continued capacity development. We also appreciate the **new partnerships established with key partners** to further strengthen collaboration and support the RPHL Network's objectives such as, Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness (ACDP), the University of Melbourne, Griffith University, Laboratory Biorisk Consultancy & Training (LBCT) Pte. Ltd., Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, Yizeta Pte. Ltd., Duke National University of Singapore, the Environmental Health Institute (EHI), Biorisk Association of Singapore (BAS), National University Hospital (NUH), and National Reference Laboratories, Australia.*

Enjoy reading and stay tuned for the next issue in October 2026!



Jintana Sriwongsa
Regional Programme Director
RPHL Network



Building Stronger Labs Together : Papua New Guinea Paves Its Path Forward

Papua New Guinea is advancing its first National Laboratory Strategic Plan (NLS) 2026–2030 through a SWOT Analysis held on 8-10 April 2026. Through the RPHL Network's peer-to-peer approach and support from Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia, and Thailand, the workshop brought together 30 stakeholders to strengthen national laboratory planning.



Meet the Mentors: Advancing Biorisk Management Together

Bringing together expertise and resources from countries and partners across the region, the programme promotes peer-to-peer learning, hosted by National University of Singapore Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, to support laboratory leaders in turning biorisk management knowledge into practical and sustainable solutions.



Training of Trainers for Regional Quality Management Systems Champions

Building regional expertise and peer learning to strengthen laboratory QMS and progress toward ISO 15189 accreditation.

From 4–8 May 2026, the RPHL Network, co-hosted with the Ministry of Health, Indonesia, held the Regional QMS Workshop in Jakarta, Indonesia, 16 participants from Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste, and Viet Nam to strengthen QMS capacity. The initiative aimed to strengthen QMS and accreditation competencies, promote peer learning, and build a regional pool of technical experts.



Strengthening Pathogen Genomics Capacity for Public Health Laboratories

Building regional expertise in pathogen genomics to strengthen laboratory preparedness and respond to public health threats.

From 11–15 May 2026, the RPHL Network and Research Institute for Tropical Medicine co-hosted a Pathogen Genomics Training in Manila, Philippines, bringing 18 participants from eight RPHL Network member countries, with technical training delivered by RITM's Advanced Molecular Technology Laboratory to strengthen regional genomics capacity.



Enhancing Laboratory Systems through Bilateral Cooperation

Building regional expertise and peer learning to strengthen laboratory QMS and progress toward ISO 15189 accreditation.

From 18–22 May 2026, the RPHL Network strengthened Thailand–Timor-Leste cooperation through follow-up mentoring and peer-to-peer technical support. The mission enhanced coordination with WHO and reached agreement to develop an MoU between Thailand and Timor-Leste to support continued laboratory collaboration.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual Partnership Forum (APF) 2026

22-24 September 2026
Brunei Darussalam

