

MediLabSecure



Regional Meeting & Technical Workshop on Public Health

Albania
Armenia
Bosnia & Herzegovina
Georgia
Kosovo
Moldova
Montenegro
Serbia
The Former Yugoslav
Republic of Macedonia
Turkey
Ukraine



BELGRADE
15th-17th
November 2016



This MediLabSecure event has been organised by Institut Pasteur



The MediLabSecure project is supported by the European Commission
(DEVCO: IFS/21010/23/_194)



«Kosovo» designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and ICJ Advisory opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

CONTEXT & PURPOSE

The MediLabSecure project, financed by the European Commission (DG-DEVCO), is a «one health» project aiming at establishing a framework of multisectoral collaboration in order to improve communicable diseases surveillance, biosafety and capacity building among laboratories of the Mediterranean and Black Sea region.

Since its beginning in 2014, the MediLabSecure multidisciplinary network of laboratories and public health institutions has been growing and many actions have already been implemented for awareness, risk assessment, monitoring and control of vector-borne and emerging viruses with a «one health» vision.

We convene today for the first regional Meeting and second technical workshop on public health of the MediLabSecure project. Eleven countries of the MediLabSecure network are represented at this meeting: Albania, Armenia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Georgia, Kosovo, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey and Ukraine.

In line to the proposals raised by the network laboratories' and public health institutions' representatives during the MediLabSecure project mid-term meeting held in Paris in December 2015, Crimean-Congo Haemorrhagic Fever (CCHF) virus has been identified as a major health concern for Balkans and Black Sea countries. To respond to this need, this «one health» meeting has been designed to address clinical, entomological, epidemiological, diagnostic as well as human and animal health aspects of CCHF.

This regional meeting will also be an opportunity to discuss current and common public health issues. For example, two update sessions, one about Zika virus and one about vector control have also been scheduled. Moreover, this event is held in the context of the «One Health Day 2016», increasing the MediLabSecure network visibility and enhancing collaboration opportunities within the global «one health» community.

A panel of international specialists has been invited to give presentations and share the latest breakthroughs on CCHF and Zika infections and their vectors. Transversal sessions and group activities on topics such as vector control, biorisk management, serosurveillance and seroprevalence studies have been organised. To make the most out of this gathering of the network representatives, the second MediLabSecure technical workshop on Public Health has been embedded into this regional meeting, and will focus on CCHF risk assessment. A rapid risk assessment exercise on CCHF will be carried out, with the help of facilitators from key international agencies and institutions, in a multisectoral manner with representatives of animal health, human health and public health institutions as well as medical entomologists. Therefore, this meeting, by encouraging information sharing, has the aim to foster cross-sectoral dialog focused on ensuring the sustainability of «one health» activities in the involved institutions.

At the end of the meeting, parallel sessions within each speciality will allow for in-depth discussions among the participants and partners on technical subjects related to the project aims, tools and outcomes, and will contribute to the finetuning of the forthcoming actions.

This regional meeting will result in a broadened engagement and will strengthen and foster collaborations within the MediLabSecure network and beyond.

TRIBUTE

This Regional Meeting of the MedilabSecure Project is dedicated to the memory of Dr Dragan Ilic, Director of Institute of Public Health of Serbia “Dr Milan Jovanovic Batut”.

Dr Ilic has strongly supported the Episouth project, which is at the origins of MediLabSecure. We had the honor and privilege to work with him since the development of Episouth in 2007. Since the start of MedilabSecure, Dr Ilic was one of the most convinced sustainers of integration between human, animal, and entomological sectors, promoting and facilitating the participation of Serbian Institutions and Laboratories in the project activities and events.

We appreciated his commitment and availability, his genuine and concrete openness to collaboration and cooperation between professionals, disciplines, and countries.

He motivated us in so many ways.

Thanks a lot Dr Dragan Ilic.



Dr. Dragan Ilic
1954 - 2016

MEETING FOREWORD

*by Verica Jovanovic, MD, MSc
Acting Director
Institute of Public Health «Dr Milan Jovanovic Batut»
Serbia*

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

Dear guests attending the MediLabSecure Regional Meeting,

Respectful colleagues,

It is my pleasure to greet you on behalf of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Serbia and the Institute of Public Health of Serbia, that I represent, as well as on behalf of Mr Nenad Petrovic, Director of Veterinary Directorate, and to welcome you all. I would like to thank the organizers for choosing Belgrade, our beautiful capital, to host this first MediLabSecure Regional Meeting.

The MediLabSecure network gathered nineteen non-EU partner countries around the Mediterranean and Black Sea Regions to collaborate by addressing public health-related national needs. The Project, coordinated by the Institut Pasteur, started as a framework for collaboration in the field of communicable diseases surveillance and training in the Mediterranean Basin. MediLabSecure builds on a network of laboratories previously created by another EU-funded project, Episouth Plus.

The main goal of this project is to prevent vector-borne diseases around the Mediterranean and Black Sea regions by creating laboratory networks, as a cluster for awareness, risk assessment, monitoring and control of these diseases.

Bearing in mind the importance of the main objective of this project concerning public health on the regional level, it was the privilege of the Institute of Public Health of Serbia "Dr Milan Jovanovic Batut" to accept the call, and to participate in MediLabSecure public health working group (WP5) study activities. I express my gratitude to the MediLabSecure management for selecting Serbia, represented by expert institutes and universities, to be involved into the MediLabSecure situational analysis of integration of surveillance of mosquito-borne viruses in the Mediterranean and Black Sea Region.

As a result, the first MeSA Study site visit was performed in Serbia (Belgrade and Novi Sad) in July this year, led by our dear colleagues Maria Grazia Dente and Flavia Riccardo from the National Institute of Health from Rome (Istituto Superiore di Sanita-ISS), with whom we have excellent collaboration on different public health topics.

This study visit enabled all stakeholders to discuss main challenges and success stories in establishing a functional and most importantly, inter-sectoral collaboration and integration of surveillance between the human, animal and entomological sectors in three countries: Serbia, Tunisia & Georgia.

The MeSA Study in Serbia focused on West Nile virus surveillance across the human, veterinary and entomological sectors.

The MeSA Study Report, has been designed and implemented by the ISS Team (Maria Grazia Dente, Flavia Riccardo and Silvia Declich) as a part of the WP5-Public Health Working Group of MediLabSecure.

The main aim, presented in the Report, is to reinforce preparedness in public health activities of the MediLabSecure Network by investigating and improving the standard methods of surveillance of arboviral diseases towards integrated surveillance, integrated risk assessment and early case detection, and I believe that we will have the opportunity during this event to hear and learn more from the speakers on these topics.

Once again, I am convinced that expert professionalism and transdisciplinary synergism, will let us achieve the best results and reach the goals of this project.

Thank you for being here.

I wish you an enjoyable and productive meeting and a pleasant stay in Belgrade.

AGENDA

Tuesday 15/11

1

Crimean-Congo Haemorrhagic fever

08:30 REGISTRATION

09:00 Foreword Verica Jovanovic

09:20 Crimean Congo Haemorrhagic fever virus: Virus-host interaction Ali Mirazimi

10:00 Animal health aspects related to CCHF Aykut Ozkul

10:45 BREAK

11:15 Ticks and pathogen transmission Sarah Bonnet

12:00 CCHF vectors: surveillance Aleksandra Petrovic

12:30 CCHF diagnostic techniques Ali Mirazimi

13:00 LUNCH & GROUP PHOTO

14:15 Biorisk management tool «BioRAM Lite» Philippe Dubois

14:45 Group work: Exercise with the «BioRAM Lite» tool

16:00 BREAK

16:30 Discussions on the results of the biorisk group exercise Philippe Dubois

19:30 DINNER IN TOWN

Wednesday 16/11

2

Zika virus

09:00 Zika virus introduction and epidemiology Jean-Claude Manuguerra

09:30 Zika virus diagnostics Camille Escadafal

10:00 Zika virus potential vectors Vincent Robert

3

Vector control

10:10 BREAK

10:30 Vectorial competence Vincent Robert

11:00 Vector control Marija Zgomba & Dušan Petric

11:45 Insecticide resistance John Vontas

12:30 LUNCH

4

Rapid risk assessment

13:30 Live demonstration of mosquito trapping tools Dušan Petric

14:00 Risk assessment exercise «pre-test»

14:30 Rapid Risk Assessment methodology Thomas Mollet & Tarik Derrouh

15:00 Exercise presentation Maria-Grazia Dente

15:30 Seroprevalence studies & examples Maria Van Kerkhove

16:00 Serological studies on CCHF in animals in Europe Martin Groschup

5

Seroprevalence & serosurveillance

16:30 BREAK

17:00 Panel discussion: evaluation and relevance of serosurveillance programs according to contexts

Martin Groschup, Ali Mirazimi, Aleksandra Petrovic, Maria Van Kerkhove

Chair: Miguel Ángel Jiménez Clavero

Thursday 17/11

6

Rapid risk assessment on CCHF (continuation)

08:30 Group work: Rapid risk assessment for CCHF

10:00 BREAK

10:30 Group work: Rapid risk assessment for CCHF

11:30 Outcomes of the working groups

12:00 Risk assessment exercise «post-test»

12:15 LUNCH

7

MediLabSecure coordination

13:30 Parallel sessions: discussion within specialities' groups

15:00 BREAK

15:30 Concluding remarks Kathleen Victoir

15:45 END OF MEETING

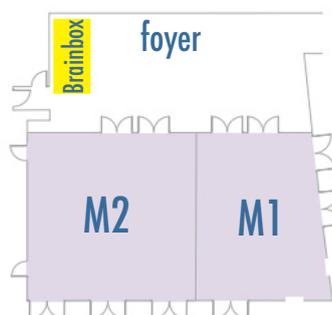


LOCATIONS

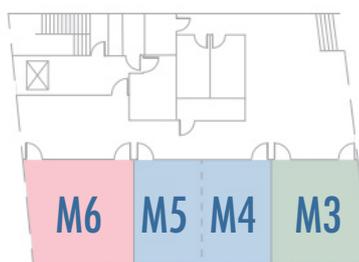
Radisson Blu Old Mill Hotel, Belgrade, Serbia

- M1 & M2 (ground floor)
- Foyer (ground floor)
- Hotel restaurant «OMB Larder»
- Restaurant *Dva Jelena*
- Meeting rooms
- M3, M4, M5 & M6 (2nd floor)
- Brainbox (ground floor)
- (please refer to lists on the doors)

Ground floor



Second floor



SPEAKERS



Sarah Bonnet

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www.researchgate.net/profile/Sarah_Bonnet/contributions

Following a Master 2 in parasitology, in which she was interested in *in vivo* and *in vitro* studies on the toxic proteins of an entomopathogenic fungi, *Conidiobolus coronatus*, at Institut Pasteur in Paris (France), Dr. Sarah Bonnet focused on the study of malaria. Her PhD in parasitology at the University Pierre et Marie Curie (Paris, France) allowed her to approach this disease under various aspects: on the one hand in the field with IRD in Cameroon (studies on malaria transmission from human to mosquito and epidemiological impact of the transmission blocking immunity in a pilot area in Cameroon; entomological and epidemiological studies, experimental infection of mosquitoes, etc.), and on the other hand in the laboratory at Institut Pasteur in France, on the samples collected in Cameroon (identification of differentially expressed cDNAs in *Anopheles gambiae* infected with *Plasmodium falciparum*). The 3-years post-doctoral internship at the Institut Pasteur in Paris allowed her to approach another part of the cycle of *P. falciparum*, by studying the expression (baculovirus) and the vaccinal potentialities of a merozoites protein of *P. falciparum*.

Recruited by INRA in 2004 at the Veterinary School of Nantes, she was then interested in the interactions between the parasite *Babesia divergens* and its tick vector *Ixodes ricinus*: she achieved to reproduce the complete cycle in the laboratory, to identify specific proteins of the parasite stages present in the tick, epidemiological field studies as well as artificial feeding of ticks to validate vectorial competency of new parasite species.

In 2015, Dr Bonnet was the winner of the Biology prize *Alfred Kastler* awarded by the *Animal rights, Ethics and Sciences Foundation (LFDA)*.

Further to a mobility, she works now since 2008 as a Research Director for INRA in the joint unit BIPAR (INRA-ANSES-ENVA) at the Veterinary School of Alfort (Maisons-Alfort, France), where she pursues epidemiological studies, and has set-up a breeding of *I. ricinus* to work on the interactions between this tick and tick-borne bacteria. Her current studies involves, among other topics, the study of tick physiology and the development of a vaccine against the ticks with the aim to develop new control measures.



Maria-Grazia Dente

Senior researcher
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Dr. Maria Grazia Dente, public health expert and experienced project manager presently works at the Communicable Disease Epidemiology Unit at Istituto Superiore di Sanità (ISS) (Rome, Italy).

She dedicated the recent years to the implementation of international Projects (as Team Leader or key expert) mainly on the sectors of Preparedness and Response to Health Threats; Health Security; Surveillance of Infectious Diseases; Migrants Health.

She has relevant experience in working with large scientific networks including the multi-institutions and multi-financed project EpiSouth and EpiSouth Plus for which she has been the Coordinator since its institution in 2006.

She is co-leading the Public Health working group of the MediLabSecure project at the ISS.



Tarik Derrough

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Dr. Tarik Derrough has been employed at ECDC since 2010 as an expert for vaccine preventable disease. He is a core member of Epidemic Intelligence and Response Section within the Surveillance and Response Support unit.

As part of the Epidemic Intelligence and Response Section activities, Tarik contributed to the scientific opinion and rapid assessment of numerous threats in the EU and was engaged in crisis teams at ECDC. He facilitated a number of internal and external trainings on the conduct of rapid assessment for communicable diseases. He took part in international outbreak response assignment.

As part of vaccine preventable disease activities, his initial assignment when joining ECDC was to engage ECDC in the EU-wide surveillance of measles, rubella and pertussis and contribute to ECDC activities in relation to the measles, rubella and congenital rubella elimination plan. He has then contributed to supporting the EU response to polio threats. Lately he was engaged in providing options for preserving vaccination programmes in some EU countries in light of ongoing vaccine shortage. Tarik has also a special interest in immunisation information systems and currently leads that activity at ECDC.

Prior to joining ECDC, Tarik worked for 10 years in activities including vaccine safety, phase III and phase IV clinical trial of new vaccines. Tarik is a pharmacist by training and then specialised in epidemiology and public health.



Philippe Dubois

Consultant in quality & biorsik management for laboratories

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Dr. Philippe Dubois contributed to fundamental research on putative targets for the development of a vaccine against the human malaria *Plasmodium falciparum* and published more than 40 scientific articles on the topic. After many years of basic fundamental research, he turned his interest on delivering more practical capacity building for developing countries and worked at the WHO Office in Lyon, France, to provide support and help to national public health laboratories in developing and less advanced countries. He is now a self-employed consultant in Quality and Biorisk Management for Public Health Laboratories.



Verica Jovanovic

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Prim. Dr. Verica Jovanovic has been Acting Director of the Institute of Public Health of Serbia «Dr. Milan Jovanovic Batut» since October 2016. She is a social medicine specialist; she acquired her bachelor degree in medicine and her specialization from the University of Belgrade. She got her MSc on management in healthcare services at the Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Università degli Studi «La Sapienza», in Rome, and she became a Primarius of Medicine in 2013.

She is currently producing her PhD thesis at the Medical University of Kragujevac, Serbia. She has participated in many national and international training programs and courses in the public health domain.

Dr. Jovanovic is a member of the Medical Society of Serbia, social medicine sessions, the Serbian Medical Chamber, and the Association for Public Health of Serbia. She is also the ECIB contact of the Ministry of Health in JRC (Joint Research Center EU) for the improvement of breast cancer screening in the EU; representative of the Institute of Public Health «Dr. Milan Jovanovic Batut» in the international team of Mediterranean countries for the amelioration of the screening of malign diseases, led by the EUROMED project (Italy, WHO); and lecturer in the Continual Medical Education program and mentor in social medicine expertise at the Medical University of Belgrade.

Dr. Jovanovic worked as national coordinator of a number of projects of the Ministry of Health pertinent to the upkeep of public health – the management of medical waste, the improvement of preventive healthcare services, etc. She is the co-author of the program (CME) in the public health domain and of over 30 publications and a number of handbooks in health and safety in dealing with medical waste. She is a member of the Ministry of Health's team for European integrations for «Chapter 28».



Martin Groschup

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Professor Martin H. Groschup has been director of the “Institute of Novel and Emerging Infectious Diseases” since 2001.

He is a veterinary specialist in Microbiology and Virology and had recently made substantial contributions to research efforts on emerging viruses, e.g. West Nile, Crimean-Congo Hemorrhagic fever and hepatitis E viruses.

Pr. Groschup is specialised in pathogenetic and molecular diagnostic studies, including animal models, with zoonotic flaviviruses and bunyaviruses as well as prions. He is head of the BSL4 Unit (under commissioning) at Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut (FLI).

Pr. Groschup habilitated at the University of Veterinary Medicine Hannover in 2001 where he has been, since 2005, an Extraordinary Professor.



Camille Escadafal

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Dr. Camille Escadafal started working on the development of diagnostic tools for arboviruses at the Institut Pasteur of Senegal. She followed the EUPHEM fellowship of the ECDC in public health microbiology and completed a PhD in virology at the Robert Koch Institute.

She is now working at the Institut Pasteur in Paris as project manager of the Human Virology working group of MediLabSecure project. Within the Laboratory of Urgent Biological Threats, she is also involved in the development of new diagnostic methods for epidemic-prone viruses and participated to field missions during the Ebola outbreak in Guinea and Zika outbreak in Brazil.



Jean-Claude Manuguerra

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Dr. Jean-Claude Manuguerra heads a Research Unit focused on Environment and Infectious risks, which harbours a Laboratory dedicated to the Urgent Response to Biological Threats (CIBU) at the Institut Pasteur in Paris, France.

Initially qualifying as a veterinary surgeon, he then went on to obtain a PhD in virology at the Institut Pasteur, completing his post doctoral at the UK National Institute for Medical Research in London.

Prior to his current role he worked as co-director of the National Influenza Centre for North France (1994-2003), one of the 13 laboratories of the WHO Laboratory Network on SARS and for which he went to Hanoi for the control of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) outbreak in 2003.

He has also participated in a number of other field missions: Cambodia (2004) for avian influenza, Sri Lanka (2005) following the Tsunami, Mexico (2009) for pandemic A(H1N1) influenza, Saudi Arabia (2013) for the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome and more recently Guinea - Conakry (2014) and Macenta (2015) for Ebola.

Dr. Manuguerra is leading the human virology working group of the MediLabSecure project at the Institut Pasteur.



Ali Mirazimi

*Professor of clinical microbiology
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National Veterinary Institute and Public Health Agency of Sweden
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Dr. Ali Mirazimi is Professor at Karolinska Institute, department of clinical microbiology. He is also a senior expert at national Veterinary Institute and Public Health agency of Sweden. He received his Ph.D in Infection Biology in 2000 from the Department of Microbiology, Tumour biology and Cell biology at Karolinska Institute. Short after, he received a junior lecturer position at Karolinska Institute.

In 2002, he received a position as Molecular virologist at Swedish Institute for Infectious Disease control. In 2006, he achieved Associate professor Position at Karolinska Institute. He has been the head of the BSL-4 Virology Unit at the Centre for Microbiological Preparedness at Swedish Institute for Infectious diseases (2004-2010).

Today, he is coordinating several national and international research program. His group is interested to understand the molecular pathogenesis of emerging viruses. The major focus is the role of Innate Immunity for controlling the viral replication cycle. He is also interested to investigate the virus-host cell interaction and virus biology. His group is also interested in developing diagnostic tools for BSL-4 agents detection.



Thomas Mollet

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Dr Thomas Mollet is medical doctor and epidemiologist. He worked several years with Doctors Without Borders in Africa as well with a private company to implement public health program in Africa.

Dr Mollet worked also for the French National Health surveillance Institute (InVS) and he has been working at ECDC for the last 7 years.

Dr Mollet is in charge of the Epidemic Intelligence group who insure the outbreak early detection for EU.



Aykut Ozkul

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Dr. Aykut Ozkul graduated from Ankara University in 1987 with Doctor of Veterinary Medicine title. He has completed his PhD in 1992 in Graduate School of Health, Ankara University. He joined Shafiqul Chowdury's lab School of Veterinary Medicine, Kansas State University in Postdoc position in 1999.

His research group focused on Bovine Herpesvirus type-1, Morbillivirus and some Arbovirus infections. The group primarily interested with molecular epidemiology and vaccinology of given virus infections. He and his research group developed Marker BHV-1 vaccine for local use in 2007 for the very first time. In Morbillivirus researches, the main focus of interest is Peste des Petit Ruminants Virus (PPRV), which is highly contagious and devastating disease of small ruminants in the region. He has also been studying intensively some regional zoonotic arbovirus infections having negative impacts also on human health such as West Nile, Crimean Congo Hemorrhagic Fever infections in departmental BSL-3(+) and ABSL-3(+) facilities for last 6 years.



Dušan Petrić

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Dr. Dušan Petrić is a professor at laboratory for Medical and veterinary Entomology at the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Novi Sad, Serbia. He has done research on mosquitoes, black flies, sand flies and biting midges since 1981. He was associate research fellow at the Institute of Zoology, University of Heidelberg, and KABS/GFS, Ludwigshafen on Rhine, Germany in 1990–2000. He was a Visiting Professor at the University of Manchester, School of Biological Sciences, Department of Environmental Biology, U.K. in 1991–1992.

Prof. Petrić has published numerous high quality articles in peer reviewed journals and has 308 citations, h=8 (SCOPUS), co-authored 2 books (Kluwer Academic, Springer), 1 book chapter (Nova Science Publishers). He has coordinated 2 national and 4 international projects and has presented 5 invited lectures worldwide, participating in VBORNET (European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control - ECDC), consortium member of VECTORNET (ECDC, European Food Safety Authority -EFSA) and MediLabSecure (DG-SANCO/EAHC and DEVCO/EuropeAid) projects. He is the Associate Editor of Medical and Veterinary Entomology, has been reviewing articles for 7 SCI journals and organized 2 international conferences.

Contribution to the know-how in vector research and control are the following: a) temperature regulated membrane feeding device (1994 – further developed by Hemotek); b) model on temperature impact on mosquito host seeking behaviour (1995); c) standardization of mosquito surveillance techniques in Europe (from 1999); d) the novel edge treatment approach to biological control of black fly larvae in large lowland river system (2009).



Aleksandra Petrović

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Dr. Aleksandra Petrović is an assistant professor of Zoology at the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Novi Sad (UNS, Serbia). She received her BSc from Faculty of Sciences, Department of Biology and Ecology (UNS) and her MSc and PhD from Faculty of Agriculture (UNS), "Agricultural, Medical and Veterinary Zoology" study group.

Since 2005 she has worked as a teaching and research assistant and since 2015 as an assistant professor at the Faculty of Agriculture (University of Novi Sad). Currently, Aleksandra Petrović teaches the following subjects: Biology, Zoology, Biodiversity, Parasitology and Vectors and Zoonoses.

Dr Petrović's research interests are biology and ecology of ticks and tick hosts. She has several published papers and she is a member of many projects, including ECDC "Guidance, data collection and scientific advice on tick-borne diseases" (OJ/24/04/2014 - PROC/2014/013).



Vincent Robert

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Dr. Vincent Robert is senior researcher and medical entomologist. He is the key-expert of the medical entomology network MediLabSecure.

He has more than 30 years of experience in medical entomology in tropical area (Africa and Madagascar) and in Euro-Mediterranean area. He conducted many researches on malaria and arbovirus transmission by mosquitoes. He belonged to the team that first discovered the huge impact of insecticide impregnated bednet in reducing malaria transmission and malaria deaths. He also has a large experience in teaching (Institut Pasteur) and publishing articles and books.



Maria Van Kerkhove

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*Technical Consultant
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Dr Maria Van Kerkhove is the Head of the Outbreak Investigation Task Force at Institut Pasteur's Center for Global Health. She is an infectious disease epidemiologist with strong field experience in infectious disease outbreaks and epidemiologic investigations. Her main research interests include zoonotic, respiratory and emerging/re-emerging viruses such as avian influenza, MERS-CoV, Ebola, Marburg and Zika. Dr Van Kerkhove is particularly interested in investigating factors associated with transmission between animals and humans, studying the epidemiology of zoonotic pathogens, and ensuring research on infectious diseases directly informs public health policy for action.

Dr Van Kerkhove is also a technical consultant for WHO as a member of the MERS-CoV task force. Dr Van Kerkhove regularly participates in Missions to affected member states, including the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Qatar and the Republic of Korea.

Dr Van Kerkhove was previously employed by Imperial College London in the MRC Center for Outbreak Analysis and Modelling where she worked closely with WHO on influenza, yellow fever, meningitis, MERS-CoV and Ebola Virus Disease.



Kathleen Victoir

*Scientific Programs Coordinator
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Dr Kathleen Victoir, is the General Secretary of Scientific programs at the Department of International Affairs at the Institut Pasteur in Paris. Since 9 years she is involved in the set up and coordination of laboratory and related surveillance networks, research projects and scientific consortia within the Institut Pasteur International Network and in the Mediterranean Region. Within the different projects, Kathleen has been responsible for more than 15 training modules going from IHR to specific diagnostic workshops.

From August 2014 until the end of 2015 she was the co-coordinator of the Institut Pasteur International "Ebola Taskforce" together with Prof. F. Rey.

She was also responsible for the training and logistics of the IP ebola detection laboratory in Macenta, Guinea during the most recent ebola outbreak in West Africa.

Since 3 years, Kathleen heads the operational project platform at the Department of International Affairs at the Institut Pasteur.

Prior joining the Institut Pasteur International Network she worked as a consultant for MSF, a European Network in the field of – omics and technology transfer and the French Agency for Research.

Kathleen has a scientific background with a PhD in molecular genetics and has an educational degree.



John Vontas

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Professor John Vontas obtained a BSc in Agronomy from the Agricultural University of Athens (AUA) (1992), a DSPU (masters) in Horticultural Sciences from the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute Chania (MAICh, CIHEAM) (1993) and a PhD in Insect Genetics from AUA (1997).

After 3 years as a Research Fellow at the School of Biosciences (Cardiff University, UK), he was appointed lecturer at AUA (2005), Associate Professor at the University of Crete (2009) and Director of the Applied Biology and Biotechnology Division (2010-2012). After a brief period at Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (2012-2013) working for IVCC (New Paradigms), he has been Director of the Laboratory of Pesticide Science since 2014.

Pr. John Vontas is mainly interested in understanding the mechanisms by which insects (agricultural pests and mosquitoes) develop resistance to insecticides, aiming to develop new means of managing and overcoming this resistance. He is also focused on insecticide resistance, Pest control, Molecular Diagnostics, Microarrays, Recombinant Detoxification Enzymes, Insecticide Detection (Analytical Methods and Enzyme Biosensor-based), Resistance Monitoring and Information Support Systems.



Marija Zgomba

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Professor Marija Zgomba gained her undergraduate and graduate education in Pesticide Science, Faculty of Agriculture, at the University of Novi Sad and has been a visiting scientist in many prestigious institutions such as EID Montpellier (France), UC Riverside, Department for Medical Entomology, California (USA), and University of Heidelberg, Department of Zoology (Germany).

She focused her research activities on the development of chemical and biological mosquitoes and black flies control strategies, pesticides/non-target biota interactions, and ecology of medically important insects.

She was also the founder of the integrated mosquito control programme in Vojvodina Province, Serbia, in 1976, a world pioneer in evaluation of efficacy of the mosquito larvae biological control agent *Bacillus thuringiensis var. israelensis* (B.t.i.), and its impact on non-target aquatic insects. She has been responsible for evaluating pesticides and biocides; verifying laboratory and field methods for the Integrated Mosquito Control (IMC/IVC); organizing joint research projects on Public Health, veterinary and agriculture; developing alternatives to conventional insecticides and/or implementing sustainable, environmentally safe IMC/IVC methods; advocating for decentralized decision-making approaches that provide local solutions to local problems; building up combined interventions starting with locally suitable environmental management methods, to which to add biological control and eventually chemical interventions, as a result of an evidence-based assessment of the local transmission risk.

Dr. Zgomba has been involved in training and education programs and is coauthor of several books on mosquito control.

She has been a member of the Society of Vector Ecology (SOVE) and the American Mosquito Control Association (AMCA), she was one of the founders of European Mosquito Control Association (EMCA) and Director of the European SOVE from 1995 to 1998. She has received numerous recognition awards: for outstanding service as President from EMCA, the Distinguished Service Award of SOVE (2009), and the prestigious Distinguished Achievement Award of SOVE (2013) to honor and recognize her services to the profession of medical entomology, vector ecology and dedicated long-standing efforts in establishing and promoting effective mosquito and other vector control programs.

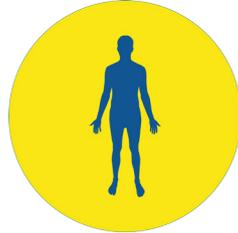
PROJECT WORKING GROUPS

Animal Virology



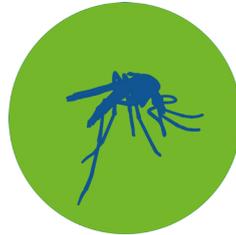
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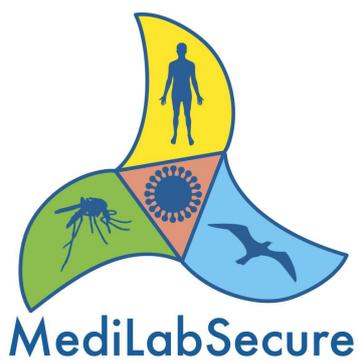
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