THE MEDILABSECURE NETWORK

Preventing vector-borne diseases around the Mediterranean and Sahelian countries by reinforcing an international network of laboratories and public health institutions.

www.medilabsecure.com

Presentation of the network
Emerging vector-borne diseases are strongly affected by global changes such as modifications of ecosystems, climate change, increasing urbanization, and worldwide travel. A major challenge is to predict the impact that these variations will have on public health.

Coordinated by the Institut Pasteur, and implemented by five European partner institutes, the project rotates around the interactions between five working groups. Each focuses on one discipline, while maintaining a One Health approach, to ultimately promote integrated surveillance of emerging arboviruses in the project beneficiary countries.

5 WORKING GROUPS

- **human virology**
  - Environment and Infectious Risks - Laboratory for urgent response to biological threats (ERI-CIBU)
  - Paris, France

- **animal virology**
  - Animal Health Research Center (CISA)
  - Madrid, Spain

- **medical & veterinary entomology**
  - MIVEGEC Unit IRD 224 - CNRS 5290 - UM
  - Montpellier, France

- **human and veterinary public health**
  - National Centre for Global Health (ISS)
  - Rome, Italy

- **environmental characterization & analysis**
  - AVIA-GIS
  - Zoersel, Belgium

With a One Health approach & through active networking, training and expertise exchange, MediLabSecure aims at strengthening the capacities to enhance preparedness to public health threats in the participating countries.

OBJECTIVES

Create a framework for networking to improve surveillance and monitoring of emerging vector-borne zoonotic diseases of viral origin:

- Provide training for public health experts and improve national laboratories diagnostic capacities
- Enhance intersectoral and cross-border collaboration
- Strengthen integrated surveillance (animal health, human health, entomological and environmental data)
- Provide tools for awareness, risk assessment and monitoring of the emerging viruses of interest
**OUR ACTIONS**

**Capacity building**

**Tailored workshops:** serological and molecular diagnosis of viral infections, molecular analysis, biosafety practices, vector identification, vector monitoring and control, integrated surveillance, epidemiology, epi data needs, risk assessment, etc.

**External Quality Assessment:** viral genome detection, serological evaluation, mosquito identification

**One Health networking**

**Intersectoral collaboration:** operational researches / surveys, integrated risk assessment exercises, disease-focused meetings, One Health surveillance, information sharing, exchange of SOPs and best practices, etc.

**Reinforcement of regional connections:** regional meetings, exchange visits

**Expertise**

Technical support for preparedness (lab workflow, diagnostic activities, integrated surveillance and early warning), on-site visits, etc.

The strength of this network is in its various perspectives, experience and talents. The MediLabSecure network aims at developing collective intelligence resulting in the effective mobilization of skills.

Members of the network are actively involved to build a strong and active international network of laboratories and public health institutions.