The EU-funded MediLabSecure project (2014-2021) aims at enhancing the preparedness and response to viral threats by establishing an integrated network of animal virologists, human virologists, entomologists and epidemiologists. The project encompass in 22 non-EU countries of the Mediterranean, Black Sea and Sahel areas set up and coordinated by 6 partner institutes in 4 European countries.

MediLabSecure, it is: 1 common geographic area with shared veterinarian and public health concerns; 22 countries, around 40 public health institutes, 4 networks, around 70 laboratories, more than 200 experts from all fields!

Our missions: implement and maintain the laboratories capacities for detection, diagnostics and surveillance of arboviral diseases; implement and maintain the Biosafety, biorisk management and laboratory good practices; promote networking and develop an integrated surveillance approach in the region.

- Identification & selection of laboratories
  - Expertise; Basic equipment; Diagnostic performance; Quality control procedures; National reference laboratory...
- Technical and logistical support
  - Sending of material for diagnostics (primers, probes, kits...), Sending of protocols for diagnostics; Financial support for specific trainings; Specific tools (MosKeyTool, factsheets)...
- EQAs
  - Molecular Diagnostics; Serological Diagnostics; Vector identification...
- Communication
  - Meetings & Congresses; Publications; MeSA study; Website; Social media...
- Integrated surveillance, assessment & fostering
- Site visits
  - Evaluation on site; Networking...
- Assessment of capacity and needs
  - Diagnostic capacities; Quality Management; Quality Management; Biosafety procedures; Animal facilities; Medical Entomology facilities;...
- Workshops & trainings
  - Molecular Diagnostics; Serological Diagnostics; Vector identification Data analysis; Training in Biosafety & biorisk management;...
- Networking
  - Meetings; Site visits; Workshops; Collaborations...
- Training by the trainees
  - Assessment of training efficiency; Transfer of knowledge; Exponential training efficiency...
- Adaptability & emergencies
  - Zika outbreak; MERS-CoV, Ebola; Plague...

By enhancing diagnostic capacities and regional multidisciplinary cooperation, the MediLabSecure network strives to represent a cornerstone of a collective preparedness and response to vector-borne viral threats in the Mediterranean, Black Sea and Sahel regions.

The MediLabSecure project is financed by the European Union

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