TDR-GVH symposium

"Global Landscape Analysis of Training Courses in Medical Entomology for vector-borne disease control – lessons learned from existing courses and summary of needs assessment"

Monday 31 January 2022; 13.00-15.00 Geneva time

Organiser: Dr Florence Fouque, TDR
Co-organiser: Dr Frederik Seelig, GVH/LSHTM

Summary: Owing to their epidemic potential, vector-borne diseases (VBDs) are one of the major public health concerns worldwide. To address these concerns, the World Health Organization’s Global Vector Control Response (GVCR) provides the international roadmap for vector control for 2017-2030. However, a major lack of public health entomological capacity poses a systemic threat to the successful execution of this plan, creating an urgent need for improved support for training and education in public health entomology, particularly in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). Control of VBDs includes medical, environmental and social components and thus requires interdisciplinary approaches not easily found in specialized institutions. The academic and professional training on VBDs and disease vectors is currently scattered among public and private universities and institutions, and some topics are redundant whereas others are non-existent or very difficult to find. Following preliminary work with research institutions and training centres, gaps and unmet needs in training medical entomologists and vector control specialists were identified. A more harmonized and visible platform of courses for general and specialized subjects in the field of VBDs was identified as a priority to allow for a better overview of current training challenges and opportunities worldwide. To make information on training courses in medical entomology more widely accessible, a global directory was developed and shared online through the Global Vector Hub: https://globalvectorhub.lshtm.ac.uk/courses

This symposium aims to assess the global landscape of medical entomology training, taking into account the experience of current course organisers, students and stakeholders in applied medical entomology and vector control from highly diverse backgrounds. We will discuss their experience in creating courses according to open needs, providing relevant training and evaluating outcomes with their trainees, as well as discussing the needs and experience of stakeholders involved. Through this symposium, we want to understand better how medical entomology training can be improved and further capacity be created, by addressing needs ranging from basic science expertise to specialised field and technological skills. A further goal of this symposium is to engage discussion for the creation of a working group to develop a global roadmap on training in medical entomology to address the current needs and gaps.
Agenda

**Chair:** Dr Fredros Okumu (IHI, Tanzania) to present the context and activities (10 minutes)

**Panelists:**

- Prof María Guadalupe Guzmán (Pedro Kouri Tropical Medicine Institute/IPK, Cuba).
  10 min presentation on the experience of the IPK course in Cuba.
- Dr Martin Akogbeto (Centre de Recherche Entomologique de Cotonou/CREC, Benin).
  10 min presentation on the experience of the CREC/IRD course in Benin.
- Dr Michelle Katusele (New Guinea IMR, Papua-New Guinea)
  10 min presentation on the vector control experience and training needs in the Western Pacific region.
- Dr Kelly Martinou (Joint Services Health Unit/JSHU, Cyprus)
  10 min presentation on training for vector control and needs in the European region.
- Prof Theeraphap Chareonviriyaphap (Kasetsart University, Thailand)
  10 min presentation on training for vector control experience and needs in the Southeast Asia region.

**Q&A session** moderated by Chair (20 minutes)

**Discussion** (30 minutes) on the following points:

- Summarize the main challenges to deploy an adapt training offer in medical entomology.
- Discuss on the feasibility and required expertise for the development of a global roadmap.
- Establish objectives and tentative timelines for a roadmap.

**Concluding remarks by Chair and organisers.**

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**Access the recording:**

[https://who.zoom.us/rec/share/5S-pzmFeXK5azftXwf6nruvZmRgRj5mDBb9RHzFxzNY8T4kYNIImTjH5qagjWxoF.vb05_46iqe3qExyv](https://who.zoom.us/rec/share/5S-pzmFeXK5azftXwf6nruvZmRgRj5mDBb9RHzFxzNY8T4kYNIImTjH5qagjWxoF.vb05_46iqe3qExyv)

Access Passcode: **6L?c0vPg**

**View the attendance list**

**View Questions and Answers**
Presentations

Dr Kelly Martinou: Vector control experience and training needs in the European region

Professor Maria G Guzman: Global Landscape Analysis of Training Courses in Medical Entomology

Professor Theeraphap Chareonviriyaphap: Trainings for vector control experiences and needs in the Southeast Asia Region

Dr Michelle Katusele: Vector biology research and training in Papua New Guinea