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International Atomic Energy Agency

Agence internationale de l'énergie atomique

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National Liaison Officers /

National Coordinators

In reply please refer to: ME-RER5025-2101102

Dial directly to extension: (+43 1) 2600-22419

2022-05-13

Subject: Virtual Event- Regional Workshop on Neglected Zoonotic Diseases, Vienna, Austria, from 20 to 24 June 2022

Dear National Liaison Officer / National Coordinator,

I am pleased to inform you that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is organizing the Virtual Regional Workshop under the IAEA technical cooperation project RER5025, "Improving Early Detection and Rapid Response to Potential Outbreaks of Priority Animal and Zoonotic Diseases".

The purpose of the virtual event is to build capacities in different aspects connected to Tick-borne encephalitis (TBE), Mediterranean spotted fever (MSF), Lyme borreliosis, Tularemia, Anaplasmosis, Dirofilariasis, Piroplasmosis, Besnoitiosis and Leishmaniasis.

The attached Information Sheet provides further details, including technical and administrative aspects of the event. Selection of participants will be in accordance with IAEA procedures. Member States are strongly encouraged to identify suitable women participants.

For participants who indicate their need, the IAEA could provide financial support to contribute to the expenses of their costs for internet connection for the duration of the event in line with IAEA rules and procedures.

We would appreciate receiving your country's nominations by **5 June 2022** through the IAEA's InTouch+ platform (<https://Intouchplus.iaea.org>). Should this not be possible, applicants may download the Nomination Form for the course from the [IAEA's webpage](#). Completed forms must be endorsed by the relevant government authority and may be sent to the IAEA, preferably by email to Official Mail - IAEA Mail address Official.Mail@iaea.org, with copy to Ms Ludmila Wiszczor L.Wiszczor@iaea.org. Please be advised that late nominations or replacements of participants after the closing date for nominations will not be accepted.

We look forward to receiving your early response.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Wiszczor', with a stylized, cursive script.

Ludmila Wiszczor
Programme Management Officer
Division for Europe
Department of Technical Cooperation

Enclosure: Information Sheet



Virtual Event- Regional Workshop on Neglected Zoonotic Diseases

Hosted by

The International Atomic Energy Agency
IAEA Headquarters
Vienna, Austria

20 to 24 June 2022

Ref. No.: ME-RER5025-EVT2101102

Information Sheet

Purpose

The purpose of the virtual event is to build capacities in different aspects connected to Tick-borne encephalitis (TBE), Mediterranean spotted fever (MSF), Lyme borreliosis, Tularemia, Anaplasmosis, Dirofilaria immitis, Piroplasmidosis, Babesiosis and Leishmaniasis.

Working Language

The working language of the event will be **English**.

Deadline for Nominations

Nominations received after **5 June 2022** will not be considered.

Project Background

Animal diseases, including vector borne diseases (VBDs), can cause massive losses in livestock and seriously decrease their productivity, creating considerable socio-economic consequences. Both worldwide and in Europe, the number of outbreaks of transboundary animal diseases (TADs) is growing, including African and classical swine fever; peste des petits ruminants (PPR); bluetongue; sheep and goat pox; lumpy skin disease (LSD); highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) and foot-and-mouth disease (FMD). Movement of livestock due to international trade has led to the emergence or re-emergence of several TADs in Europe. Both domestic animals and wildlife are often implicated as the source of human infection (zoonosis), affecting thousands of people in the region each year and creating a public health concern. This could lead to international trade restrictions and decreased economic activity. Significant gaps exist in understanding other important, but neglected, VBDs (TBE; Lyme borreliosis; dirofilariasis; Mediterranean spotted fever; tularaemia; besnoitiasis; anaplasmosis; piroplasmosis). Animal and zoonotic diseases, including VBDs, occur suddenly, often with unpredictable patterns. Therefore, the proposed project will develop emergency preparedness kits that will enable IAEA Member States (MSs) to early detect and report emergent animal and zoonotic diseases including neglected VBDs.

This project is focusing on (1) improving capabilities of MSs to perform early and rapid disease diagnosis of targeted priority animal and zoonotic diseases; (2) improving capabilities of MSs to perform early and rapid disease diagnosis of neglected animal and zoonotic VBDs; (3) epi and diagnostic techniques/tools integration into the MSs official monitoring and disease surveillance/control plans. An important part is the rapid information exchange between labs and the authorities, supporting integration of tools for real time situation analysis and the rapid decision making at authority level. Crucially, the project allows for much-needed flexibility, as the priority diseases can never be fully predicted.

Scope and Nature

- i. General information about the diseases, recent epidemiological situation in Europe and the world, laboratory techniques for detection and characterisation, as well as international regulations and control measures will be reviewed by the experts.
- ii. Participants will receive in advance the updated Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for detection and characterisation of the causative agents.
- iii. Experts will be available for discussing with participants their presentations, SOPs, international regulations, local and regional issues connected to the diseases included in the scope of the workshop.

Expected Outputs:

The virtual workshop will improve early detection and rapid response to potential outbreaks of neglected zoonotic diseases through:

- a. Better knowledge of the epidemiological situation, detection and characterisation of the causative agents, international regulations, and control measures for TBE, MSF, Lyme borreliosis, Tularemia, Anaplasmosis, Dirofilariasis, Piroplasmosis, Besnoitiosis and Leishmaniasis;
- b. Distribution of valid SOPs and other materials concerning different matters connected to the diseases listed above;
- c. Improved collaboration among participants and experts on the scope of workshop.

Participation

The virtual workshop is open to candidates from Member States (MS) participating in the TC project RER5025.

Each MS is invited to nominate up to 2 candidates who must match the profile described in the corresponding paragraph, indicating the order of priority.

Participants' Qualifications and Experience

The virtual workshop is open to the staff members of the laboratories from the MS participating in TC project RER5025. Thereby, the preference will be given to the staff-members responsible for laboratory diagnosis of infectious viral/bacterial/parasitic animal diseases, serological screening and molecular characterisation of animal pathogens.

Application Procedure

Candidates wishing to apply for this event should follow the steps below:

1. Access the InTouch+ home page (<https://intouchplus.iaea.org>) using the candidate's existing Nucleus username and password. If the candidate is not a registered Nucleus user, she/he must create a Nucleus account (<https://websso.iaea.org/IM/UserRegistrationPage.aspx>) before proceeding with the event application process below.
2. On the InTouch + platform, the candidate must:
 - a. Finalize or update her/his personal details, provide sufficient information to establish the required qualifications regarding education, language skills and work experience ('Profile' tab) and upload relevant supporting documents;
 - b. Search for the relevant technical cooperation event (EVT2101102) under the 'My Eligible Events' tab, answer the mandatory questions and lastly submit the application to the required authority.

NOTE: Completed applications need to be approved by the relevant national authority, i.e. the National Liaison Office, and submitted to the IAEA through the established official channels by the provided designation deadline.

For additional support on how to apply for an event, please refer to the [InTouch+ Help page](#). Any issues or queries related to InTouch+ can be addressed to InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org.

Should online application submission not be possible, candidates may download the nomination form for the meeting from the [IAEA website](#).

Administrative and Financial Arrangements

Nominating authorities will be informed in due course of the names of the candidates who have been selected, and will at that time be informed of the procedure to be followed with regard to administrative and financial matters.

Selected participants who indicate their need, will receive financial support to contribute to the expenses of their costs for internet connection for the duration of the event in line with IAEA rules and procedures.

Disclaimer of Liability

The organizers of the event do not accept liability for the payment of any cost or compensation that may arise from damage to or loss of personal property, or from illness, injury, disability or death of a participant while he/she is travelling to and from or attending the course, and it is clearly understood that each Government, in approving his/her participation, undertakes responsibility for such coverage. Governments would be well advised to take out insurance against these risks.

IAEA Contacts

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