

## Short Scientific Report

### COST Action Vademecum

#### After the STSM

The grantee is required to submit a short scientific report to the host institution (for information) and MC Chair (or to the STSM coordinator) for approval within 30 days after the end date of the STSM containing:

- Purpose of the STSM;
- Description of the work carried out during the STSM;
- Description of the main results obtained;
- Future collaboration with the host institution (if applicable);
- Foreseen publications/articles resulting from the STSM (if applicable);
- Confirmation by the host institution of the successful execution of the STSM;
- Other comments (if any).

**Name: Viktor Zöldi**

**COST STSM Reference Number: COST-ONLINE\_STSM-TD1303-17153**

**Dates: from 30/05/2014 to 28/07/2014**

**Address of the host institution:**

Laboratory of Parasitology

Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Venezie

Viale dell'Università, 10

35020 Legnaro (Padova)

Italy

**Person responsible: Dr. Gioia Capelli, gcapelli@izsvenezie.it**

### **Purpose of the STSM**

This STSM course was intended to give to the applicant a complete view of the organization of a Regional Plan of Surveillance for vector-borne diseases, mainly West Nile virus, endemic in north-eastern Italy. The course was designed to be in majority practical and range from field activity to laboratory practice, including mosquito identification, biomolecular detection of mosquito viruses, sequencing and phylogenetic analyses. The applicant will also be involved in epidemiology, including database building, data entering, maps and GIS-related management of the WN in the area.

### **Description of the work carried out during the STSM**

#### **I. Seminars**

**Seminar 1:** Taxonomy, Systematics and Classification of mosquitoes

**Seminar 2:** Biomolecular research of viruses into mosquitoes

**Seminar 3:** Correct sequence alignment: the basis of good phylogenies.

**Seminar 4:** Laboratory breeding of mosquito populations.

**Seminar 5:** Organization and management of a database for vector surveillance

**Seminar 6:** The integrated surveillance of vector-borne diseases: entomology, serology, bird surveillance

**Seminar 7:** Introduction to GIS and statistics

**Seminar 8:** Principle of modelling

#### **II. Field Practical Exercises:**

The field activity is provided weekly and include the choice of the sites, the positioning and recovery of different kind of traps. The applicant is encourage to follow some of these activities to understand the amount of work which is necessary to implement an entomological monitoring.

#### **III. Laboratory Practical Exercises**

**Laboratory practical 1:** preparation, taxonomic identification of specimens with classical morphological methods.

**Laboratory practical 2:** preparation of specimens for molecular analyses

**Laboratory Practical 3:** sequencing and blast analyses

**Laboratory Practical 4:** colony rearing and breeding of mosquito species

**Laboratory Practical 5:** map construction

**Laboratory Practical 6:** statistical analyses

**Laboratory Practical 7:** evaluation of the cost of entomological monitoring

### **Description of the main results obtained**

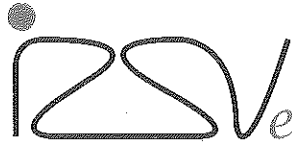
In describing the main results obtained I think the following lessons learnt are the most important ones:

- the implementation of the surveillance system requires specialized knowledge and trained personnel,
- it should be financed by a specific resource, preferably at both national and regional levels,
- the entomological survey is an important part of the surveillance system and can provide data on the presence, density, spatial and seasonal distribution of vectors. Such kind of data are the basis for modelling and risk map building,
- the main benefits of the entomological monitoring:
  - it can be important part of an early warning system,
  - with detection of the virus (for example West Nile virus) in mosquitoes, it gives indications on their vector competence,
  - the genetic characterization of viruses gives information on lineages and strains circulating in the area, even in the absence of clinical cases,
  - knowledge on the distribution of positive mosquito pools also gives help to define an area in danger for organ and blood donors.

### **Future collaboration with the host institution**

Regarding future cooperation, the Institute (IZS) is available for offering any collaboration on vector surveillance. They offer evaluation of eventual studies, projects, monitoring and surveillance activities. They also can give us all the help we will need, including revision of proposals, surveillance settings and field surveys.

Moreover, since *Aedes albopictus* is already introduced to Hungary, we are planning a pilot monitoring system in order to follow the possible spread of the species in the near future. As part of this, we will try to find a grant source to invite Dr. Montarsi to Hungary to help in this initial steps.



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The host institution

Laboratory of Parasitology,

Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale  
delle Venezie, (ITALY)

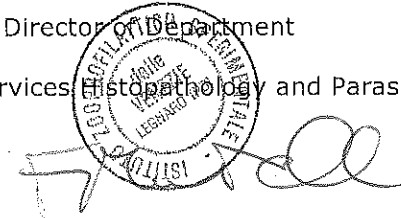
Confirms that

Viktor Zöldi has participated in the activity of the laboratory from  
15 June 2014 to 15 August 2014 and has achieved the results  
defined of the COST STSM Action (COST STSM Reference Number:  
COST-ONLINE\_STSM-TD1303-17153)

Legnaro (Padua), 11 September 2014

Director of Department

Diagnostic Services, Histopathology and Parasitology



Centro di referenza nazionale per l'ittipatologia e Laboratorio di referenza OIE per l'encefaloretinopatia virale. Centro di referenza nazionale e Laboratorio di referenza OIE e FAD per la malattia di Newcastle e l'influenza aviaria. Centro di referenza nazionale e Laboratorio di referenza OIE per le salmonellosi. Centro di referenza nazionale e regionale per l'apicoltura (CRA). Centro di referenza nazionale per la rabbia. Centro di referenza nazionale per gli interventi assistiti dagli animali (pet therapy). Centro di collaborazione OIE per l'epidemiologia e la formazione in relazione al controllo di malattie aviarie emergenti. Centro di referenza nazionale e di collaborazione OIE per le malattie infettive nell'interfaccia uomo-animale. sede del Centro regionale di epidemiologia veterinaria (CREV) "Giovanni Vincenzi".