

1st TRAINING SCHOOL
Harmonizing *Aedes* Invasive
Mosquito (AIM) surveillance
across Europe
13-17 January 2020
Akrotiri Cyprus



<https://www.aedescost.eu/>



Illustrations Ana L Ramirez



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I am a Research Professor at the Catalan Institute for Research and Advanced Studies (ICREA) and affiliated to the Centre for Advanced Studies of Blanes (CEAB-CSIC) Spanish Research Council and the Ecological and Forestry Applications Research Centre Universitat Autònoma of Barcelona (CREAF)

My research interests lie somewhere between empirical data analysis and modelling:

- 1) Animal Movement, Dispersal, and Behavioural Ecology
- 2) Bringing together Statistical Physics and (data-driven) Ecology
- 3) Develop Ecological Theory and Computational Methods
- 4) Use of Novel Technologies and Citizen Science for AIM surveillance and disease-risk evaluation



Romeo Bellini

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I am a Professor in Entomology currently covering the positions of Director of the Entomology; Zoology Sanitary Dept. at the Centro Agricoltura Ambiente “G.Nicoli” (<http://www.caa.it/content/home/default1.asp>) in Italy and I am responsible of the IAEA Collaborating Centre on SIT application against *Aedes* mosquitoes. I have 30 years of experience in mosquito ecology studies and management of mosquito control programmes in Italy and other Mediterranean countries. I served as a European Director of the SOVE (1998-'99) and as the Italian Director of the European Mosquito Control Association (2003-'05). I am providing expert consultations to international bodies such as the World Health Organization (WHO) Europe, the European Centre for Diseases Prevention and Control (ECDC), the European Food Safety Agency (EFSA), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). I am an author or co-author of 90 referred scientific publications.





Alessandra della Torre

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I have been for more than 20 years the leader of the Medical Entomology group in SAPIENZA University (Rome, Italy). My research interests focus on mosquito vectors of human pathogens in Europe and in Sub-Saharan Africa. With reference to European mosquito species I focus mostly on *Aedes albopictus*, in particular on: 1) the species bionomics in invaded and stably colonized regions; 2) understanding the major ecological determinants of the species distribution in urban areas; 3) development and testing of conventional and new tools for surveillance, monitoring and control; 4) the public health risk associated to the species presence in Europe. With reference to Afrotropical malaria vectors, my major interest is the genetic sub-structuring within the *Anopheles gambiae* complex and its impact on malaria epidemiology. I have participated as coordinator, group leader or working group coordinator to several projects funded by EU-FP7, NIH-USA, WHO, Institut Pasteur Italy, Italian Ministries of Research, of Health and of Defence, and by SAPIENZA University.



Filiz Gunay, PhD

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I am a Research Assistant at Hacettepe University in Ankara, Turkey, where I received a B.S. degree in Biology and an M.S. degree in Ecology. My PhD thesis was on the mosquito fauna of Turkey with morphological identification techniques and DNA barcoding, in association with Natural History Museum in London and Smithsonian Museum in Washington DC. I worked in IRD Montpellier, France, for 6 months as a Post-Doc Researcher to prepare a computer-aided identification key for mosquitoes in Europe, North Africa and Middle East, named MosKeyTool. My research interests are vector ecology, morphological-molecular taxonomy of mosquito species. I am the author of over 20 scientific papers and attend international conferences regularly. As a member of Society for Vector Ecology, I am currently involved in 1 national and 4 international projects. I am the Scientific Communication Manager of AIM-COST Action.





Kelly Martinou

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I am the Head of the Laboratory and PI of the Vector Ecology and Applied Entomology at the Joint Services Health Unit, British Forces Cyprus since 2015. My interests revolve around three research themes:

1. Integrated Vector Management in Cyprus and overseas
2. Research and Policy regarding invasive alien species
3. Citizen science and awareness raising regarding vectors of pathogens

Since 2015, I am responsible for mosquito surveillance in the Sovereign Base Areas of Cyprus (Akrotiri, Episkopi & Dekheleia) and other British Overseas Territories. Since 2018, I initiated in Cyprus the mosquitoes without borders network an island wide mosquito citizen-science initiative in collaboration with a fantastic team of informed citizens and researchers.

I feel very privileged to be the Science Communication Manager for COST Action 17122 Alien CSI and a lead author for the IPBES global assessment of invasive alien species. I am a Research Associate at Cyprus Institute and Enalia Physis. I am the Deputy Editor in Chief for the Journal of Bioinvasions Records.

If you wish to find more about our work please visit martinoulab.weebly.com and <https://www.ris-ky.eu>



Sabine Meurrens

I obtained my MSc in Ecology and Biodiversity from the Free University of
During my studies I did an internship with the Flemish Research Institute
(INBO). After graduation I travelled abroad and did two more internships
and research, gaining more experience in doing field work as well as an
internship was with Nature's Valley Trust in South Africa, the other with
organisation in the US. Since September 2019 I am working as product sp
providing support and training to customers in working with the compan
During the training school I will demonstrate how VECMAP can be used for
projects.



Miguel A Miranda

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I am a Senior Lecturer of Zoology at the University of the Balearic Islands since 1995. My scientific career began with the study of the parasitoids of the pine processionary

(*Thaumetopoea pityocampa*). From 1995 to 1999 I conducted my PhD about the Mediterranean fruit fly (*Ceratitis capitata*). From 2000 I started to work on the vectors of the genus *Culicoides* (Ceratopogonidae), vectors of the bluetongue virus. The activity on those vectors has occupied much of my scientific research over the past 19 years. I am a member of several international committees. Research during the period 2000-2019 has also included other groups of vectors, such as ticks, sandflies and especially mosquitoes, such as the Asian tiger mosquito *Aedes albopictus*. Similarly, I have also conducted extensive scientific work in the study of other insects of economic importance, such as Hymenoptera, the red palm weevil; parasites of bees, such as *Varroa destructor*, and parasites of domestic animals such as *Oestrus ovis*. Since 2017 I am also working on the bioecology and control of the Aphrophoridae (Hemiptera) that transmit the bacteria *Xylella fastidiosa* in the Balearic Islands. Since 2015, I am a member of the Animal Health and Welfare Panel of EFSA (European Food Safety Agency).





Dušan Petrić

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I am a medical entomologist. Since 1980, my research activities in Laboratory for medical and veterinary entomology, Faculty of Agriculture, Novi Sad, Serbia, and my international collaboration were oriented to mosquito systematics, ecology, host searching behaviour, monitoring/surveillance and control. Besides, I am teaching general and medical entomology and academic skills to BSc and PhD students. Also was involved in the quality control of mosquito control measures. Together with colleagues from Germany, Italy and France, since the end of the last century have been evaluating adult mosquitoes sampling techniques. Have been organising and coordinating research on black flies and their control, entomological surveillance of WNV and most recently involved in projects on Asian tiger mosquito mass rearing and control by Sterile Insect Technique (SIT), biting midges, sand flies and pathogens they transmit. Co-authored three books on mosquito ecology and control and was engaged as expert lecturer/trainer/consultant by ECDC, EFSA, IAEA and IRD.





Francis Schaffner

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I am a medical and veterinary entomologist, focusing first on mosquitoes, but also on biting midges, sand flies, and biting flies. I devoted the first part of my career to sustainable mosquito control and to mosquito taxonomy in France, first in Alsace, later on the Mediterranean coast. From 2007 to 2013, I was working at the University of Zurich, Switzerland, Institute of Parasitology, developing research and surveillance programmes of insect vectors. I remain associate researcher at that Swiss institute. I also worked from 2009 to 2016 for Avia-GIS, a Belgian company that is developing tools for surveying vectors. Since 2016, I am working as freelance consultant, mainly supporting international bodies (ECDC, EFSA, WHO) and national authorities to develop networking (e.g. VectorNet), performing needs assessments and designing risk management plans for vector-borne diseases. I have now 33 years of experience in surveillance, control, taxonomy, ecology of insect vectors and transmission of human and animal vector-borne disease pathogens, in Europe but also in EU Overseas Countries and Territories, Middle East and Northern Africa. I have already published 100 articles in peer-reviewed journals and 49 other papers, booklets, book chapters or CD-ROM, 93 reports, and presented 206 contributions to international (172) or national (34) meetings. I am a founding member of EMCA and member of 11 other international or national scientific societies, I was leading the *Aedes albopictus* and other invasive mosquitoes working group until 2015, and I am a co-editor of JEMCA.

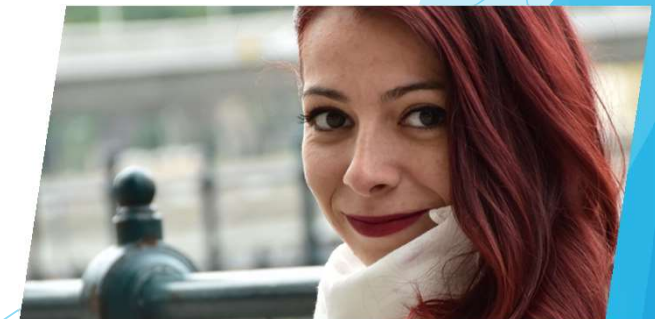


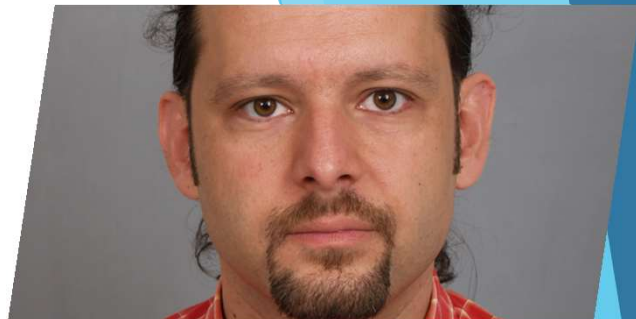
Willy Wint

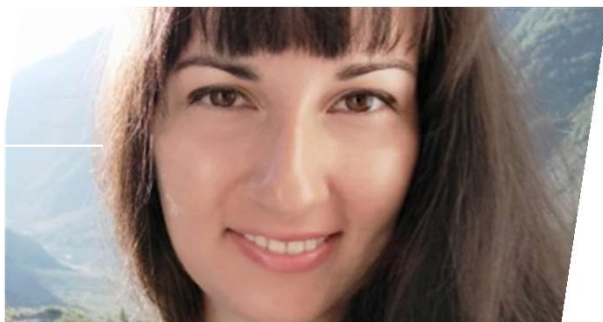


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Managing director and senior analyst of a small consultancy, with close links to the Department of Zoology, Oxford University. In the eighties and early nineties), ERGO specialised in Agricultural Survey, largely in Africa, and led the field in aerial survey design and implementation. Over 2 million square kilometres were surveyed over 10 years, much of it several times, pioneering the formalising the use of geolocation in animal and ground survey, and developing integrated air and ground survey and analysis techniques still in use today. In more recent years our activities have moved away towards geospatial analyses and modelling, and have included the production of continental disease vector distributions and the first ever Global Livestock Maps and for the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the UN (google “FAO GLW”). Increasingly, these core activities have required supporting data archive construction management together with website construction and design, Data Management Website for the EU funded FP6 Project EDENext (edenextdata.com), as well as spatial analysis. Closer to home, in recent years ERGO has worked on various spatial aspects of human and animal health with ECDC (VBORNet, EPOC, VECTORNET), EFSA, a number of EU FP7 and H2020 projects (IDAMS, VMERGE, PALEBLU), and the European Space Agency (VEDCMAP, LYMEAPP). There is also a long and continuing history of research in the distribution and spread of bovine tuberculosis for the UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.









Kristina Atanasova
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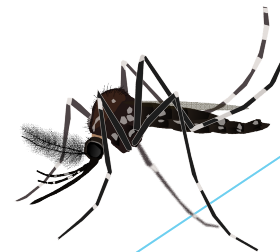
I am a 6th year veterinary student at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in Skopje, North Macedonia. I became particularly interested in the subject of Parasitology about 3 years ago, but the mosquito world is still fairly new to me, since I've been working on that for a couple of months now. I guess at the moment, my interests are gaining a lot more knowledge in the field from more experienced doctors, professors and scientists. When I am asked to define my interests about something, I always say that I am pretty much interested about everything in that matter, because if I find the topic attractive, I want to know about it as much as I can, which applies to the mosquitoes as well. I am aware there is a lot to learn, which is what I am focused on right now, as well as gathering as much knowledge as I possibly can about the mentioned topic



Karin Bakran-Lebl

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I am a zoologist from Vienna, Austria. I have been working with mosquitoes since 2011, when I started on a post-doctoral project on the dynamics of mosquito borne viruses (University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna). After a maternity leave, I started focusing on the possible pathways for introducing invasive alien mosquito species. Since 2018 I am conducting a mosquito monitoring programme at the Vienna International Airport for the Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety (AGES). Further, since 2019 I am additionally working for the University of Veterinary Medicine, where I am involved in mosquito monitoring programmes of several Austrian provinces.



Dario Brdarić

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I work at the Institute of Public Health for the Osijek Baranja County, Osijek, Croatia as a Head of Department for Disinfection, Disinsection and Deratization. My main duties are focused on prevention of vector-borne diseases and public health surveillance. I am an Assistant Professor at the University of Osijek, Faculty of Dental Medicine, Department of Public Health and Course Leader at the University of Applied Health Sciences, Department of Environmental Health, Zagreb, Croatia. I serve as a Secretary of European Federation of Environmental Health. I worked with the WHO on environment and health topics. I have more than 13 years of rich experience in environmental protection, policy development in the public health field. I completed my PhD in environmental sciences at the University of Osijek and Ruđer Bošković Institute in Zagreb, Croatia. My research interests include prevention of vector-borne diseases, exposures to chemical and biological pollutants, water, sanitation & hygiene (WASH) programmes and development of public health policies.

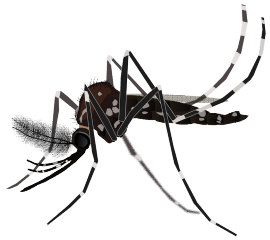


Isra Deblauwe

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I hold a PhD in sciences and I have over 13 years of experience in veterinary and medical entomology with a special interest in vector ecology, monitoring and taxonomy. Since 2012, I have coordinated several *Aedes* invasive mosquito species (AIM) monitoring projects and I was invited as an expert in the Working Group of Exotic Mosquitoes and Other Vectors (WG EMOVE) of the National Environment and Health Action Plan in Belgium. I currently work at the Entomology Unit of the Institute of Tropical Medicine in Antwerp, where I am the daily coordinator of the current AIM surveillance project in Belgium.





Steffanie Teekema Dirks

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Hi, my name is **Steffanie**, I am 28 years old and I live in a small city in the Netherlands with my husband, kid and cat. During my study in Biology, I specialized in vector ecology and studied the host seeking behavior of *Culex pipiens* mosquitoes. It was during my internship at the Centre for Monitoring of Vectors (CMV) that I became familiar with the famous tiger mosquito, as I studied the effects of the use of larvicides against *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes at used tire companies in the Netherlands. Today, I am again part of the Centre for Monitoring of Vectors, which operates from the Dutch Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority. Here, we monitor indigenous and exotic vectors in the Netherlands, we give advice to policy makers and initiate control measures with the aim of preventing the establishment of exotic mosquito species. I like spending time in the laboratory identifying mosquitoes, they just look astonishing under the binocular, whereas I am also interested in the analysis of e.g. trap catch data.





Martina Ferraguti

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My name is Martina and I was born in Rome on 4 June 1987. Graduated in Biological Sciences at the University of Roma Tre, (Italy) with specialization in Biodiversity and Ecosystem Management in 2011, I defended my PhD in the Doñana Biological Station, Seville (Spain), in 2017. My research activity focuses on the analyses of the impact of ecological processes and anthropic alterations of the environment on the transmission of mosquito-borne pathogens such as West Nile virus, avian malaria parasites and filarial worms, an area of growing interest given the increase in the incidence of emerging and re-emerging diseases in the modern scenario. During my Ph.D. I have described the environmental factors affecting the composition and distribution of the mosquito community and the role of biotic and abiotic factors that determine the infection of wild vertebrates finally identifying how biodiversity globally determines the exposure and success of transmission of these pathogens in the wild. Overall, these results allowed me, and the scientific community, to identify the complex transmission networks of vector-borne pathogens, including those that potentially spread emerging zoonotic diseases and could have an impact on human and animal health.



Rafael Gutiérrez López

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After completing my PhD on the factors that determine the vector competence of mosquitoes from different pathogens in Jordi Figuerola's lab at Doñana Biological Station (Seville, Spain), I started working as a postdoc researcher at CIBIO-InBIO, University of Porto, Portugal, where I am studying the effect of deforestation on the dynamics of vector-borne diseases in mainland and island areas.

My research interests are:

- 1) Ecology and Evolution of the host-pathogens and vector-pathogens interactions
- 2) Transmission dynamics of vector-borne diseases
- 3) Mosquito vector competence

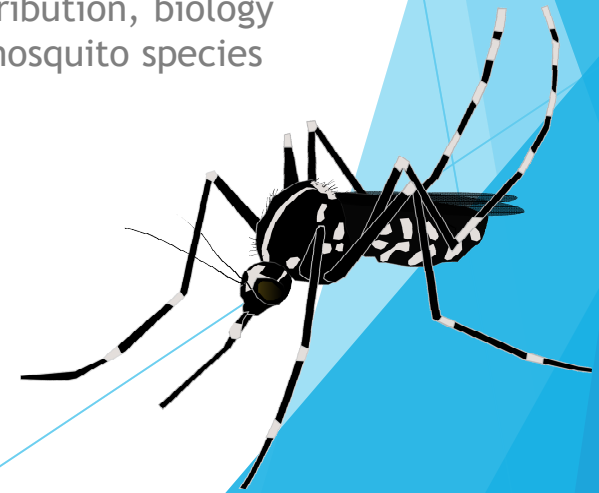




Cintia Horváth

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I have graduated from the Babes Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca with an MSc degree in medical biology, in 2018, and I have started my PhD at the University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Cluj-Napoca at the Department of Parasitology and Parasitic Diseases under the guidance of Prof. Dr. Andrei Daniel Mihalca. Currently I study the distribution, biology and ecology of invasive mosquito species in Romania





Perparim Kadriaj

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I am working in Institute of Public Health as Vet/Entomologist, and I am part of the group dealing with surveillance of *Aedes albopictus* since 2010. I have obtained my PhD in Veterinary and Medical Entomology in 2018. My main research interest is vector ecology and control, with a focus on mosquitoes, sand flies and ticks borne diseases. I was involved in the EU ECDC/EFSA VectorNet project, EU-COST EurNegVec and actually, I participate also in other international networks and technical cooperations such as, EU-COST AIM, EU-MediLabSecure and IAEA RER5022. I have been strongly involved in field research as part of the Mosquitoes Working Group in the FP7 EDENext project.

Since 2014 there is a Mosquitoes Control Programme in urban and coastal areas of Albania focused on the control of native and invasive species. I have contributed in establishing and implementation of the programme and now I am part of the monitoring group for the evaluation of the efficacy of the treatment through entomological surveillance. We use ovitraps with weekly frequency and BG-sentinel traps for 24 hour twice a month, for the surveillance of the tiger mosquito. During the field work, I have routine contact with citizens that inform us about the problems, presence/absence of mosquitoes during the day in their properties. I maintain close contact local public health authorities and local government for any problem related with mosquitoes.



Katja Kalan

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I have been working at the University of Primorska since

2010 as an assistant in the field of Biology. I started work in 2007 with studies of distribution and seasonal activity of invasive mosquitoes in

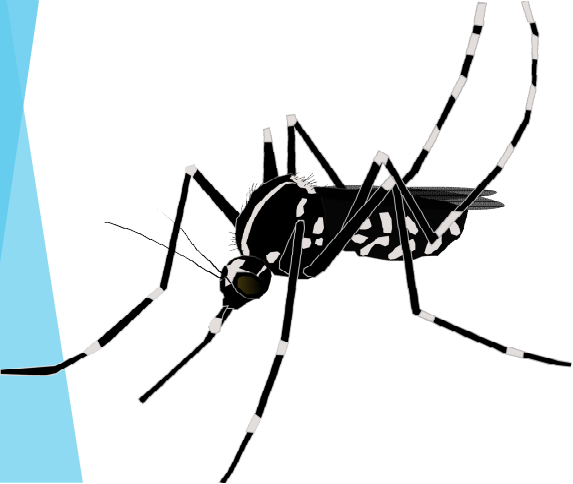
Slovenia. In 2018 I finished my PhD thesis, focused on invasive mosquitoes actual and potential distribution in Slovenia. My research is mainly focused on mosquitoes, their biology, ecology and distribution in Slovenia. In Slovenia we just started with a 3-year pilot national-wide monitoring of mosquitoes (invasive as well as native species) and the pathogens they transmit. Although the target of this project are all mosquito species, a wide part of it is dedicated to the surveillance of invasive mosquitoes. In order to improve my knowledge on the surveillance and to implement from the beginning a harmonized surveillance with other European countries, I applied for the AIM COST training school. I am certain that the involvement on this training will be of great improvement for the future work of our expanding team as well as beneficiary for the whole country, resulting in some new ideas, solutions and hopefully better results for our country.



Vasileios Karras

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I have graduated from the Technological Educational Institute of Kalamata in the department of Agricultural Technology. As a student especially interested in entomology I got in touch with the Department of Entomology and Agricultural Zoology of Benaki Phytopathological Institute in order to undertake my final year thesis and later I worked as an agronomist . Through the “journey” of experimenting and maintaining mosquito colonies I was fascinated by two things. Firstly their habits, their weapons to survive, their coexistence with pathogens and the important impact of their populations on human health. Secondly fieldwork. The beauty to be outside, setting traps, looking for appropriate spots for human landing, for oviposition, for adult traps, taking samples from stagnant water, checking for breeding sites. I seek to learn more in many fields from the variety of ways of surveillance, to molecular and morphological identification. In general I seek to get more experienced in every step of controlling mosquitoes but always in a way of experimenting for new things. For me, new and innovative means to evolve a necessary action into something easy, fast and effective.





Nikolaos Kelemenis kelemenis@ecodev.gr

Hello, my name is Nikos Kelemenis I am 38 years old,
I am married to Fratzeska and

we have a wonderful 5 years old son named Aggelos.
For the last 12 years I work as a

technologist agronomist for the Greek mosquito
control company Ecodevelopment S.A. as a pest
control project manager and field technologist.
Particularly the last season I was managing five
municipal mosquito control projects in the region of
Attica and also performing UAV aerial spraying
interventions as PIC in the frame of a large-scale
mosquito-control Programme in the Region of
Western Greece, for which I have been working since
2017.





Kornélia Kurucz
kornelia.kurucz@gmail.com

I am a biologist from Hungary. My current research is focusing on a broad-scale research of zoonotic pathogens, including their ecology, transmission and genetics. I studied biology at the University of Pécs (Hungary), and I finished my PhD in the field of urbanization ecology. After short-term postdoctoral scholarships in Göttingen (Germany) and Vienna (Austria), currently, I work in the Szentagothai Research Centre of the University of Pécs, where our research group focuses on mosquito-transmitted pathogens, particularly on the surveillance of invasive *Aedes* species emergence in Europe. After the first detection of *Aedes koreicus* in Hungary (in 2016), we started a systematic mosquito monitoring around the place of its first finding, extending our investigations to urbanized areas and we plan to complete our work with targeted surveys related to several aspects of the species, as the biology, behaviour, ecological needs, habitat preferences and even the distribution and public health relevance of *Aedes koreicus* in this region.

Alice Michelutti

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I am a vet. I graduated in 2013 and started working in the field of clinical medicine of small animals. In 2017, I started working at IZSve, an institute of animal and public health. First, I took part in the surveillance plan for West Nile Disease in Northeastern Italy. Now I am still involved in West Nile virus circulation monitoring program, which is annually activated from May to October, but I also deal with surveillance of *Aedes* invasive mosquitoes, breeding of *Aedes* invasive mosquitoes, in particular *Aedes japonicus*, and identification of other arthropods of health concern, such as sand flies, culicoides biting midges, ticks and mites.

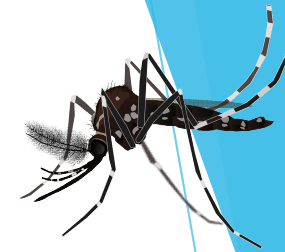
In the future, we would like to carry out researches on vector competence of *Aedes* invasive mosquitoes, which are widespread in our territory, to assess the health importance of these species for animals and human beings.





Ognyan Mikov

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I am an entomologist working in the field of medical entomology since 2002, when I started doing a doctorate on anopheline mosquitoes. I moved to invasive aedine species in Europe later and found *Aedes albopictus* in Bulgaria in 2011. During the last three years, I am performing a regular surveillance on Aedes invasive mosquitoes in Bulgaria in all regions of the country. Since 2010 I am a member of VBORNET, contributing with data on mosquitoes and sandflies. In 2015, I was the local organizing person for VectorNet's sandfly working group in Bulgaria and took part in the fieldwork in Bulgaria, N. Macedonia and Serbia. In 2016, I had the same role for VectorNet's tick, sandfly and mosquito working groups in Bulgaria and took part in the fieldwork in Bulgaria, Georgia and Armenia. My current professional experience includes collaborations with medics, veterinarians and molecular biologists. I am also a part of the team teaching a pest control training course for postgraduates held at the National Centre of Infectious and Parasitic Diseases. I am responsible for the mosquito and sandfly parts of the course.

Hugo Costa Osório

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I am a Researcher at the Centre for Vectors and infectious Diseases Research - National Institute of Health (CEVDI-INSa) in Portugal. I have a PhD in Biology - Medical Entomology - from the University of Évora. Since 2005, I have been working on mosquito vectors and vector-borne agents exploring various components of their natural cycle in the scope of Public Health. I am responsible for the Laboratory of Acarology and Medical Entomology in CEVDI. I am a team member of several ongoing projects, working on: 1) management of the National Surveillance Network of Vectors (Rede de Vigilância de Vetores - REVIVE); 2) identification of arthropod vectors and analysis of seasonal and geographic distribution; 3) study of genetic and environmental determinants in behaviour and distribution of mosquitoes; 4) arthropod containment in insectary (vector competence studies and insecticide resistance assays). Currently, I am also working on new vector control strategies against *Aedes albopictus* and *Ae. aegypti*.





Leila Tajedin

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I am a post-doctoral research fellow at University of Bergen since 2017. I obtained my PhD in molecular parasitology and biotechnology. I have always been fascinated by the complex biology of parasitic microorganisms causing vector-borne diseases and their co-evolution with their corresponding hosts. My major career goal is to research upon parasite biology and find novel solutions for diagnosis, control and treatment of the major mosquito borne diseases. I will start working on mosquito surveillance project in Norway at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences in 2020. The major goal of the planned project is to determine the diversity and distribution of potential invasive mosquito species including the ones belonging to *Aedes* family in Norway. The project will additionally try to ascertain the infection prevalence of various important arbovirus in the collected mosquitoes using metagenomics approach.





Diego Parrondo

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I am 27 years old and I come from Spain. I live in Switzerland and I have been working for a long time in the laboratory of applied microbiology, specifically my work is carried out in the Vector Group with mosquitoes (Native but especially invasive such as *Ae. albopictus*, *Ae. japonicus* and *Ae. koreicus*).

Our work is not only academic or research, but half of our team is dedicated to service projects related to the tiger mosquito. We have a well-defined monitoring and control system established in the territory for a long time that allows us to control populations and act together with state forces to reduce these vectors.

Personally, one of my multiple tasks is to develop and follow all field projects, but also some laboratory, contact institutions, coordinate the larvicidal work of municipalities, talk with citizens etc.

I am an active, energetic and outgoing person. And I'm not just an entomologist. In the past I was a magician and now I combine my research work with the work of firefighter.



Tatiana Șuleșco

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I am a medical and veterinary entomologist. I work in the Laboratory of Systematics and Molecular Phylogeny, Institute of Zoology, Republic of Moldova since 2009. My PhD thesis was focused on Culicidae (mosquitoes), particularly species diversity, ecology, distribution and public health importance in Moldova. Have been involved in international projects on vectors and vector-borne diseases surveillance like MediLabSecure, VectorNet, EurNegVec. Have been organizing and conducting research on mosquitoes and sand flies species composition and distribution in Moldova. Most recently involved in AIM-COST project activities and together with colleagues from Germany (BNITM) initiated the studies on Culicidae integrative taxonomy, mosquito host-feeding preferences and pathogens they transmit.



Kardelen Yetismis

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I have a BSc degree in Biology with an emphasis on Zoology from Ege University, Izmir, Turkey. I am currently undertaking an MSc degree at the Parasitology Department of Ege University Medical Faculty. My Master's thesis titled "Nocturnal Activity and Blood-Meal Analysis of Sandflies in Areas With Different Climatic Conditions". My main area of interests includes vector-borne diseases, especially parasites and their vectors, as well as vector behaviour in response to environmental factors. My interest in mosquitoes began when I attended to a workshop on April 2018 as part of a Darwin Plus project organized by the Joint Services Health Unit, Cyprus Institute and the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology. I also undertook a short-term scientific mission funded by COST Action Alien CSI CA 17122 titled as 'Mosquitoes without borders- Going Island wide in Cyprus' at the Joint Services Health Unit Cyprus.





Jenny Gkotsi

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After completing my studies in Agricultural Technology, I continued working as a volunteer while preparing to defend my thesis. I worked extensively on entomopathogenic fungi during that period, that was back in 2007. In 2008 I did my practical and research training in Wageningen University working in the laboratory of Biological Control (in collaboration with the University of Leiden) as well as in the Molecular identification laboratory. In 2009 I received funding from the Plant Science group of Wageningen University to continue further for one more year. After returning back from the UK with my husband and my first child, I undertook my MSc in Environmental Management. In the last 10 years I have been working in Epistimoniki Kalipsi as a consultant for various pest control projects in the private and public sector including mosquito control in municipalities in Greece. I live in the suburbs of Athens with my husband and two young boys



Christos Martinos

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I am the CEO of two pest control companies Epistimoniki Kalipsi and BioPest operating in Greece. I am a Mechanical Engineer by training with a Master's degree in Engineering Management from Brunel University, UK. After completing my studies in the UK my wife who is a qualified agronomist and I started the pest control companies in Greece. The last 5 years we have been working extensively on mosquito control at many municipalities and the private sector in Greece. We are always looking for opportunities for training and collaborations in this very exciting field of integrated vector management.





Kerem Oter

keremoter@hotmail.com

I am an Associate Professor at Istanbul University Cerrahpasa in Turkey. I received a B.S. degree in Veterinary Medicine, my PhD thesis was on the mosquito fauna of Istanbul, Turkey and he revealed the presence of *Aedes albopictus* in the north east part of the country for the first time. I still conduct surveillance in the city in order to prepare distribution maps. My other research interests include examining parasitological samples of the University's animal hospital and I teach multiple lessons based on entomology & parasitology.

