



ERFAN Project – Enhancing Research for Africa Network

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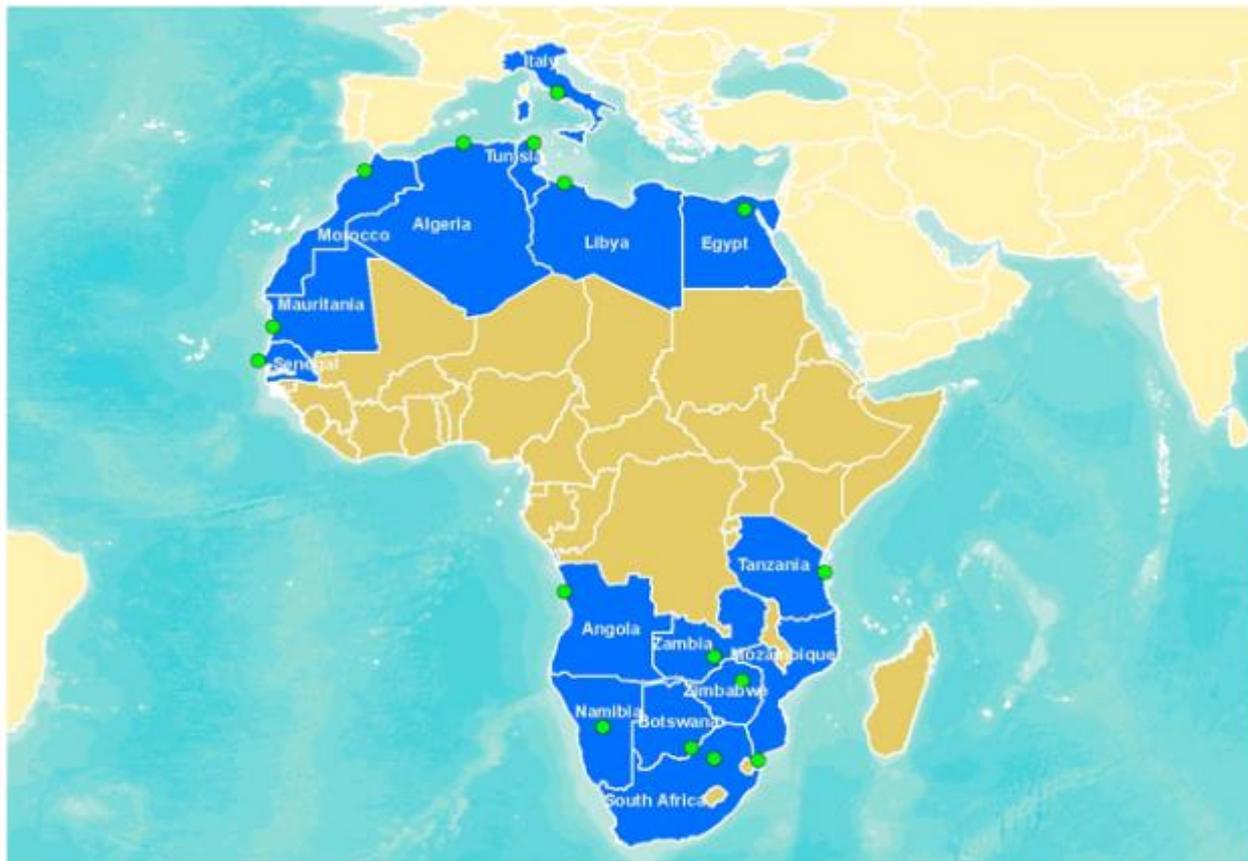
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Larnaca, Cyprus

ERFAN Project



It is a scientific Network – under the auspice of CVOs - of African and Italian Veterinary Institutions promoting collaborations and coordination to address health priorities in Africa through applied research.



Veterinary
Laboratories



Veterinary
Services



Veterinary
Schools

ERFAN Project (Structure)

- ❑ The Secretariat = IZS Teramo
- ❑ The Scientific Committee = consists of the an appointed person from each Veterinary Institution and of a President (*to be designed during the first general meeting of ERFAN*)
- ❑ The Steering Committee composed by:
 - Dr Romano Marabelli, or a Representative of the OIE
 - Dr Silvio Borrello, or a Representative of the Italian Ministry of Health
 - 6 Delegates from the African Veterinary Institutions. The delegates will be designed during the first general meeting of ERFAN (*to be designed during the first general meeting of ERFAN*)
- ❑ Technical Working Groups

2nd ERFAN Regional Meeting in North Africa (5 -7 November 2019)

The 2nd regional meeting for North Africa has registered the participation of about 40 participants.

The official opening was attended by:

- ❑ the Head of the Cabinet of the Minister of Agriculture of Tunisia (Mr Boubaker Karray),
- ❑ the Italian Ambassador in Tunisia, His Excellency, Mr Lorenzo Fanara,
- ❑ the OIE Sub-Regional Representative for North Africa, Dr Rachid Bouguedour, the Sub-Regional Coordinator for North Africa and FAO Representative to Tunisia, Dr Philippe Ankers,
- ❑ the Chief Veterinary Officer of Italy, Dr Silvio Borrello and
- ❑ the Chief Veterinary Officer of Tunisia, Dr Malek Zrelli.



2nd ERFAN Regional Meeting in North Africa

During the official opening, it was recognised that the initiative is very valuable since the issue of “research” is essential to innovate and to improve capacity – as a whole – for the Good Governance of Veterinary Services and, therefore, could be considered by a country as part of foreign policy (e.g. improve capacity and find solutions for better negotiating issues related to import/export or to ensure sustainable food security for citizens).

Italy side: This project is led by IZSAM (Teramo) – where is based the Secretariat - but other Italian IZSs [Mezzogiorno (IZSM), Piemonte, Liguria e Valle D’Aosta (IZSPLV), Puglia e Basilicata (IZSPB) and Sicilia (IZSSI)] are part of the initiative by providing specific expertise.

Africa side: 15 African countries (7 in North Africa and 8 in Southern Africa) have joined the network and, specifically, 29 Veterinary Institutions including Central Laboratories and Faculty of Veterinary Medicine.

2nd ERFAN Regional Meeting in North Africa

The meeting was the opportunity to present the activities of the ERFAN partners and debate the potential areas of interest for the Mediterranean basin where focusing research activities as well as training and technical assistance.

During the 2nd ERFAN Regional Meeting in North Africa, the following Working Groups were endorsed:

- Food safety
- Brucellosis
- Bovine tuberculosis
- Vector-borne diseases
- Mycoplasmosis of small ruminants (including Contagious Agalactia)
- Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSE)
- Anthrax

2nd ERFAN Regional Meeting in North Africa

The Regional ERFAN meeting was so the opportunity to present two projects currently under preparation:

- ❑ Animal welfare issues (project Tunisia and Italy)
- ❑ Camel Prion Disease with the objective of increasing surveillance in North Africa



Thank you for your attention



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