

ERFAN and Vector-Borne Diseases WG in North West Africa

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ERFAN Secretariat

OIE Regional meeting on Vector-borne diseases in North Africa

3rd December 2020



WHAT IS ERFAN?



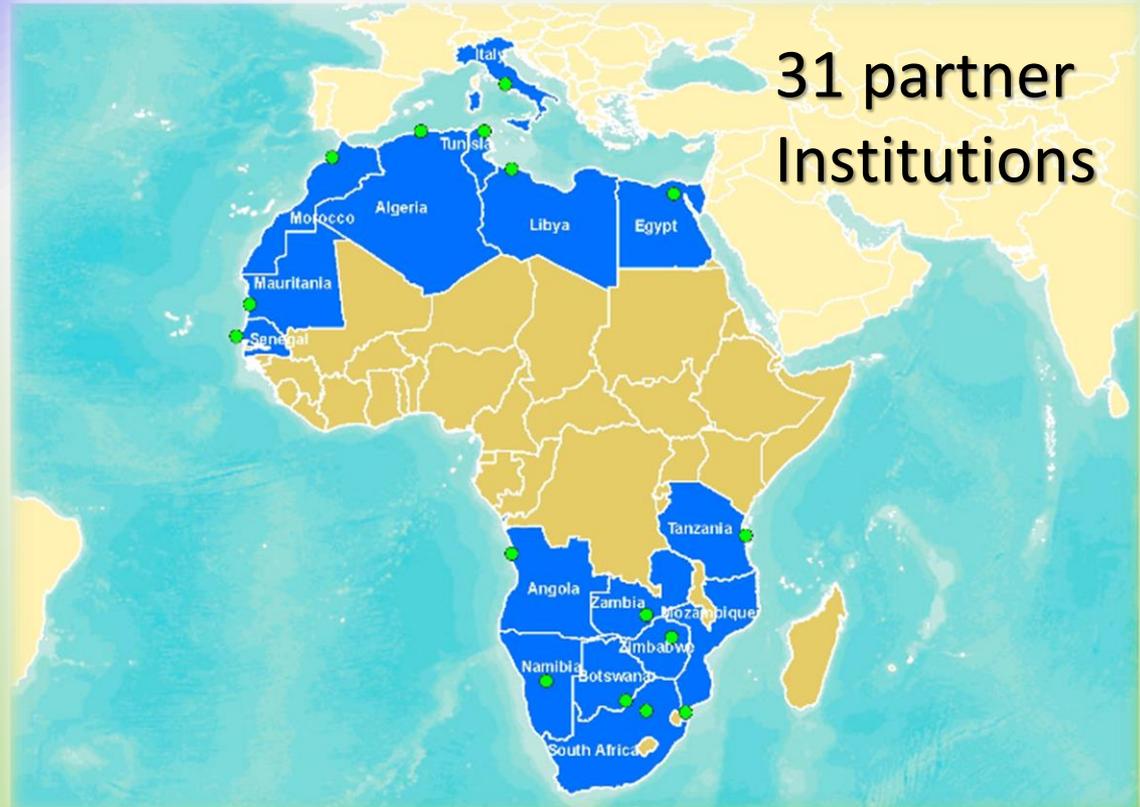
What is ERFAN?



ERFAN is an OIE Project
funded by the Italian Ministry of Health

What is ERFAN?

ERFAN is an international scientific network of 15 African countries and Italy
25 African Veterinary Institutions and 6 Italian ones



About us in Northern and Western Africa

1. **Algérie**, Ministère de l'Agriculture, du Développement Rural et de la Pêche, Alger
2. **Algérie**, Université Saâd Dahlab de Blida
3. **Algérie**, Ecole normale supérieure d'Ouargla
4. **Egypt**, Cairo University , Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Cairo
5. **Libya**, National Centre for Animal Health, Tripoli
6. **Libya**, University of Tripoli, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Tripoli
7. **Maroc**, Laboratoire Vétérinaire Central, Rabat
8. **Maroc**, Institut Agronomique et Vétérinaire Hassan II, Rabat
9. **Mauritanie**, Centre National d'élevage et de Recherches Vétérinaires, Nouakchott
10. **Tunisie**, Institut de la Recherche Vétérinaire de Tunis
11. **Tunisie**, Ecole Nationale de Médecine Vétérinaire, Sidi Thabet
12. **Sénégal**, Laboratoire National d'Elevage et de Recherches Vétérinaires, Dakar

About us in SADC Region

1. **Angola**, Instituto de Investigação Veterinária, Luanda
2. **Botswana**, National Veterinary Laboratory, Gaborone
3. **Mozambique**, Laboratório Central de Veterinária, IIAM, Maputo
4. **Mozambique**, Centro de Biotecnologia, Universidade Eduardo Mondlane, Maputo
5. **Namibia**, Central Veterinary Laboratory, Windhoek
6. **Namibia**, University of Namibia, Faculty of Veterinary Science, Windhoek
7. **South Africa**, University of Pretoria, Faculty of Veterinary Science, Pretoria
8. **South Africa**, Onderstepoort Veterinary Research Institute, Pretoria
9. **South Africa**, Jembi Health Systems, no profit Organisation, Cape Town
10. **Tanzania**, Veterinary Laboratory Agency, Dar es Salaam
11. **Zambia**, Central Veterinary Research Institute, Lusaka
12. **Zimbabwe**, Central Veterinary Laboratory, Harare
13. **Zimbabwe**, Zimbabwe University, Faculty of Veterinary Science, Harare

Italian Ministry of Health

Directorate General for Animal Health and veterinary medicinal products

1. Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Department of Food Safety, Nutrition and Veterinary Public Health, Rome
2. Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale dell'Abruzzo e del Molise, Teramo
3. Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale del Mezzogiorno, Portici-Napoli
4. Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale del Piemonte, Liguria e Val D'Aosta, Torino
5. Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Puglia and Basilicata, Foggia
6. Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Sicilia, Palermo



ERFAN primary objective

***Strengthening Research and Promoting
Development in Africa,
through the support of the OIE Reference
Laboratories and Collaboration Centres, and the
regional Poles of Excellence created as a result of
OIE Twinning Projects***



VECTOR BORNE DISEASES/RVF NWA WORKING GROUP

**Meeting with
IZSAM's African
partners
(March 2017)
founded by
IZSAM-Teramo**



**1st ERFAN
Regional
Meeting in
North Africa
(3-4 May 2018)
founded by
IZSAM-Teramo**





2nd ERFAN North West Africa Regional Meeting (5-7/11/2019) founded by OIE



Meetings output

- 1. Identified scientific areas of common interest included Vector-borne diseases/RVF**
- 2. Defined the participation in the single ERFAN working group, by the partner Institutions according their scientific interest**

The Working Groups/ Focus Areas

“One Health”



- Animal welfare
- CBPP and others Mycoplasmal diseases
- Food Hygiene
- Public Health: Anthrax, Bovine tuberculosis and Brucellosis WGs
- **Vector Borne Diseases/Rift Valley Fever**
- Training in Veterinary Sciences
- TSE

ERFAN NWA

VBD/RVF WORKING GROUP

GT 3- Maladies à transmission vectorielle/RVF

Coordinateur africain : Salah Hammami – ENMV, Tunisie

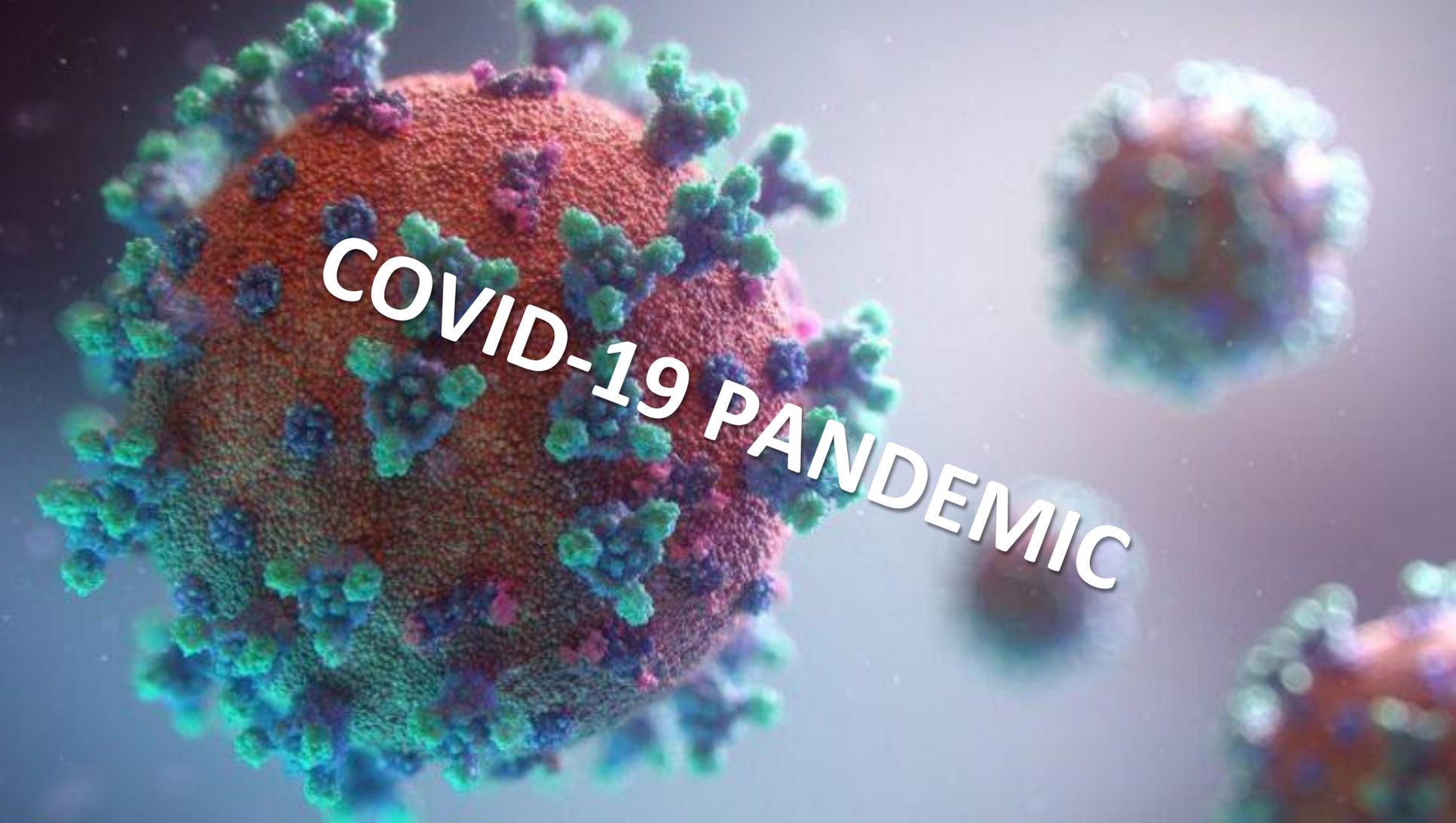
Coordinateur italien : Giovanni Savini, IZSAM

Membres	Organisation	Pays
Hafsa MADANI	INMV	Algérie
Amel ADEL	DSV	
Giovanni SAVINI	IZSAM	Italia
Ahmed Taher ELSHEH	NCAH	Libya
Fatiha EL MELLOULI	ONSSA (LRAR Casablanca)	Maroc
Ba ALIOU	ONARDEL	Mauritanie
Fatimetou bounene NDIAYE	ONARDEL	
Momar Talla SECK	LNERV	Sénégal
Mamadou Lamine DJIBA	LNERV	
Sahar Saad El-din AHMED	NRC	Egypt
Med Habib JEMLI	ENMV	Tunisie
Sghaier SOUFIENE	IRVT	
Hammami SALAH	ENMV	

Activities carried on

Pillar 1 "Technical support through the networking activities"

Activity: Organised in 2019 Inter-laboratory proficiency testing in the North West Africa on "Brucellosis, Vector-borne diseases such as Blue Tongue, West Nile Fever" with the support of OIE Reference Laboratories for the 3 diseases at IZSAM - **DONE**

A 3D digital illustration of a coronavirus particle. The particle is spherical with a textured, reddish-brown surface. It is covered in numerous spike proteins, which are depicted in various colors including green, blue, and purple. The particle is set against a light blue, hazy background with some smaller, out-of-focus virus particles in the distance. The text "COVID-19 PANDEMIC" is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font, slanted upwards from left to right across the center of the main virus particle.

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

COVID-19 Impact

Complete change in the ERFAN approach with the aim of keep the network alive through the use of :

- Online Working Group Meetings; every 3 months
- Online Information day/Training; on topics requested by the partners
- Social Media to share information until the end of the pandemic.....

when we will hug again!

Activities carried on



Pillar 2 " Capacity building through training and technology transfer"

Activity: Training course on Entomological surveillance in Libya

Virtual Learning on Rift Valley Fever and other Mosquito-borne Arboviroses: entomological surveillance; 1-15 July 2020, Organiser IZSAM, FAO/Eu-FMD and ERFAN - **DONE**



Activities carried on

Pillar 2 " Capacity building through training and technology transfer"

Activity: Training course on:

Rift Valley Fever online course;

23-26 November 2020,

Organiser FVS-Pretoria, IZSAM-Teramo,
ARC-Onderstepoort, NICD- Johannesburg
and ERFAN

78 (19) participants, **23** countries: 21 (7)
Africans + 2 Europeans, **38 (10)** Veterinarian
Institutions: 33 National, 1 NGO and 4
International as
OIE, FAO, EuFMD and IAEA - **DONE**

Enhancing Research for Africa Network (ERFAN) presents the inaugural

Rift Valley fever online course

from the 23rd to the 26th of November 2020

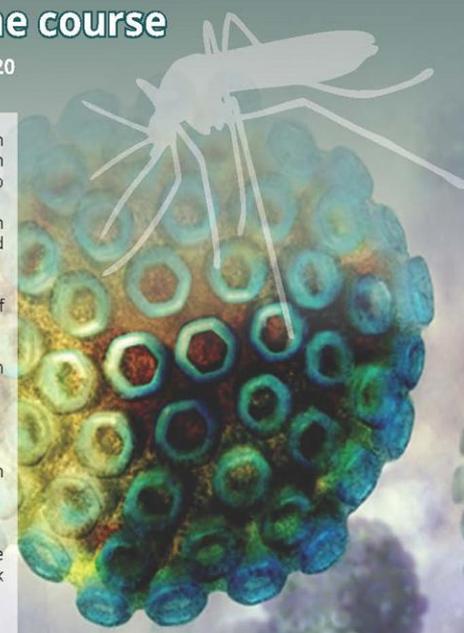
The online course will kick off with a history of RVF on the African continent and risk of its introduction in the Mediterranean Basin. The introduction will also cover current RVF work. Other topics include aetiology, epidemiology, vectors and the disease in humans and animals, diagnosis, risk reduction and control.

Presenters include experts from the University of Pretoria, National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Agricultural Research Council - Onderstepoort Veterinary Research (ARC-OVR) with its OIE Reference Laboratory for RVF, and Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale dell'Abruzzo e del Molise in Teramo, Italy.

This course is sponsored by ERFAN in collaboration with Office International des Epizooties - World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE).

If you want to be a participant in this course, please complete the registration form by clicking on the link below.

[Registration Form](#)



Activity planned in 2020

Pillar 2 " Capacity building through training and technology transfer"

Activity: Information day on:

Project design for international cooperation: online Information Days – English edition;

Days – English edition;

7-14 December 2020,

ERFAN Secretariat



Activities planned in 2021

Pillar 2 " Capacity building through training and technology transfer"

Activities:

- ERFAN Information Day on: *Élaboration de projets de coopération internationaux : journées d'information en ligne*; February 2021, Organiser ERFAN Secretariat
- Training course on: *Surveillance Entomologique en Afrique du nord ouest – Cours de formation sur la Fièvre de la vallée du Rift et autres Arboviroses transmises par les moustiques: Surveillance Entomologique* ; March 2021, Organiser IZSAM, and ERFAN

Activities planned in 2021

Pillar 2 " Capacity building through training and technology transfer"

Activities:

- ERFAN Information Day on: ***Organization and management of inter-laboratory proficiency testing***; March 2021, Organiser BNVL Gaborone, CVL Harare, IAEA Vienna, IZSAM and ERFAN
- Training course on: ***La Fièvre de la vallée du Rift*** ; First half 2021, Organiser NWA partners,....., FVS-Pretoria, IZSAM-Teramo and ERFAN



Activities planned in 2021

Pillar 3 “Capacity building through support of collaborative quality research programs”

An ERFAN proposal project on: **“Vector Borne Diseases, with particular regard to RVF; surveillance in NW Africa”** will be discussed with ERFAN partners during the next online WG meeting and presented to possible International donors



Activities planned in 2021

ERFAN Proposal project on:

**“Vector Borne Diseases, with particular regard to RVF;
surveillance in NW Africa”**

**Task 1: Defining Ecoregions in the North West Africa
through multivariate clustering approaches: a step
toward RVF surveillance**



Activities planned in 2021

ERFAN Proposal project on:

**“Vector Borne Diseases, with particular regard to RVF;
surveillance in NW Africa”**

Task 2: Decision Support Tool (*..may be in collaboration with FAO*)

Task 3: Training on Entomology



Activities planned in 2021

ERFAN Proposal project on:

**“Vector Borne Diseases, with particular regard to RVF;
surveillance in NW Africa”**

Task 4: Field activities

- ✓ Entomological surveillance
- ✓ Sentinel flocks

Task 5: Modelling - Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Methods

Activities planned in 2021

**ERFAN Proposal
project on:
“Vector Borne
Diseases, with
particular
regard to RVF;
surveillance in
NW Africa”**



**ERFAN
Secretariat
main task:
To find an
International
donor**

Activities planned in 2021

*To be able to meet again as
colleagues and friends*





***Scientific
collaboration is a
long journey not
a destination!***

ERFAN partners

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