

Subject: Training visits of researchers from Montenegro to international partner institutions NIV

Place: Novi Sad, Serbia

Date: 1st November to 6th November, 2015

Procurement plan: Training, line 5

Training visit to Novi Sad is planned to provide a five-day meeting with training on diagnostic procedures and skills for detection of pathogens in mosquitoes to LOVCEN project researchers from Institute for public health – IPH. The training will take place at Scientific Veterinary Institute “Novi Sad” - NIV.

Training visit goals and activities WP 2 b

Important issue which is foreseen as LOVCEN project goal is detection of pathogens in mosquitoes and humans, and it is part of WP1 and WP2 activities. These training targets experts from IPH which should improve their skills related to the laboratory methodology for detection and characterization of vector borne pathogens in mosquitoes. Among large number of different vector borne pathogens that could be transmitted by mosquitoes, most of them are viruses, so West Nile virus will be chosen as a model virus for training purpose. This training will also educate the trainees with the knowledge related to the application of different laboratory diagnostic methodologies in various types of surveillance programmes. So, the training will be conducted in two phases:

In the first phase, the trainees will receive the theoretical knowledge about the existence and possibilities of different laboratory diagnostic procedures, including mainly different molecular diagnostic procedures, but also the conventional / classical ones. The advantages and disadvantages of different methodologies will be stressed and the exact/optimal solution for their applications.

In the second phase of training the trainees will practically (exercises by their hands) work on different procedures, including the preparation of mosquito samples, extraction of nucleic acids to molecular diagnostic techniques as RT-PCR and real-time RT-PCR.

In the third phase, special attention will be devoted to the usage of different laboratory diagnostic technique in different type and stages of disease surveillance programmes. Through a combination of discussions, presentations and exercises the training provides the following learning outcomes:

- to get basic knowledge about different types of laboratory diagnostic methodologies and procedures for detection of vector borne pathogens in mosquitoes
- to acquire practical exercise in different molecular (RT-PCR and real-time RT-PCR) and classical (virus isolation) diagnostic procedures for pathogen/virus detection in mosquitoes.
- to learn how to prepare the mosquito samples for detection of pathogens
- to learn how to use different diagnostic procedures in pathogen surveillance programs in mosquitoes
- to learn how to equip and how to prepare the laboratory facility in IPH for pathogen detection in mosquitoes.

Main goal of this visit is raising awareness and training of PHI project staff for usage of different laboratory diagnostic techniques for detection of pathogens in mosquitoes.

Arrival date: 01st November, 2015

Departure date: 06th November, 2015