

Dear [FirstName] [LastName],

From the Coordinator

1-10-2009 14:27:40

EPIZONE started its 4th year. In the period before the summer holidays, the EPIZONE Work Package leaders, Theme leaders and the Administration Bureau in Lelystad worked hard to complete the Annual Report, year 3. We are very glad we were able to...

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Professor Wim van der Poel member of the Executive Board of the ETPGAH and the Project Management Board of DISCONTTOOLS, and elected in the ESVV board.

14-9-2009 16:36:48

Wim van der Poel (Central Veterinary Institute, Lelystad, The Netherlands), coordinator of EPIZONE, has become a member of the Executive Board (EB) of the ETPGAH and the Project Management Board (PMB) of DISCONTTOOLS. Wim accepted the invitation to...

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4th Annual Meeting EPIZONE 7-10 June 2010

1-10-2009 13:52:59

The Scientific Committee for the 4th Annual Meeting of EPIZONE is now known. Taking their place on this committee are: Martin Beer, Marie Frédérique Le Potier, Linda Dixon, Christian Griot, Elisabeth Erlacher-Vindel, Alexander Donaldson, Dirk Pfeiffer...

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EPIZONE presented at the National Veterinary Conference in Poland

14-9-2009 15:04:17

June 9th 2009, at the National Veterinary Institute in Pulawy, the yearly Polish National Veterinary Conference was held. This meeting was organized by Professor Zygmunt Pejsak and Dr Tadeusz Wijaszka, director, of the PIWet Institute, both active...

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3-day workshop on Epidemiological tools to support veterinary authorities and risk managers in controlling animal disease epidemics

10-9-2009 14:01:58

EPIZONE is offering the opportunity to participate in a 3-day workshop on Epidemiological tools to support veterinary authorities and risk managers in controlling animal disease epidemics. For details on the objectives and program, click here. The workshop is...

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European Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians officially announced

17-9-2009 16:41:52

On the 18th of June 2009, the foundation of the European Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (EAVLD) was officially announced at the WAVLD-meeting. The EAVLD is modelled on the American and World Association of Veterinary Laboratory...

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Short Term Mission, Yajing Song

14-9-2009 15:11:03

Yajing Song, Master of Medicine, Lanzhou University, Lanzhou Veterinary Research Institute (LVRI) visited the National Veterinary Institute (SVA) Uppsala, Sweden, 1 November 2008 - 21 March 2009. Host at SVA was Neil LeBlanc, PhD, senior scientist,...

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Short Term Mission, Valentina Panzarin

14-9-2009 17:00:30

Short Term Mission, Valentina Panzarin from Istituto Zooprofilattico perimentale delle Venezie, Italy to Danish Veterinary Institute, Community Reference Laboratory for Fish Diseases, Aarhus, 20 - 30 April 2009. Aim of the visit I attended a short-term...

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Short term mission Dr. Lihong Liu

24-9-2009 16:20:32

Dr. Lihong Liu from the Department of Virology, Immunobiology and Parasitology (VIP) of the National Veterinary Institute (SVA) Uppsala, Sweden visited the Veterinary Laboratories Agency (VLA), United Kingdom, from 7 to 18 September 2009. The aim...

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Meetings and Events

1-10-2009 16:40:57

28 - 30 October 2009 -EPIZONE course: Science Communication, Aarhus, hosted by VET-DTU, Denmark. Fully booked! 2 - 6 November 2009 -EPIZONE course: Design and analysis of transmission experiments, Wageningen, hosted by CVI, The Netherlands. Fully...

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Your news item for the next EPIZONE update is most welcome. Please submit via:

[EPIZONE update News gathering](#)

Contact information:

E-mail: epizone.cvi@wur.nl

www.epizone-eu.net

EPIZONE is the Network of Excellence for Epizootic Disease Diagnosis and Control, supported by funding under the Sixth Research Framework Programme of the EU.

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From the Coordinator

EPIZONE started its 4th year.

In the period before the summer holidays, the EPIZONE Work Package leaders, Theme leaders and the Administration Bureau in Lelystad worked hard to complete the Annual Report, year 3. We are very glad we were able to send the report to Brussels without delay. With the finalization of the Joined Program of Activities 4 in June 2009, EPIZONE started its 4th year.

Activities in the last few months

There have been a number of activities which help the network run smoothly in the last few months and there are several new developments:

New members have been elected to the External Advisory Panel (EAP) and the Management Advisory Board (MAB) . In the EAP Prof. Dirk Pfeiffer has replaced Prof. Mark Woolhouse. We look forward to working with Dirk in the coming years. The midterm election of new MAB members is not completed yet,

The last EPIZONE [Internal Call has been launched](#),

We have had a fruitful combined meeting of Theme 6 (Surveillance and Epidemiology) and Theme 7(Risk Assessment) in Wusterhausen,

Both the EPIZONE courses "Design and analysis of transmission experiments" and "Training course in Science Communications" are fully booked,

In the meantime the Administration Bureau is already working hard to prepare the 4th Annual Meeting EPIZONE 2010 in St. Malo. The Scientific Committee has been formed, chaired by Philippe Vannier,

In October 2009 there will be a meeting of the Executive Committee,

To make EPIZONE activities known outside the network, as coordinator I made presentations about the EPIZONE network activities at the [WAVLD](#) meeting in Madrid in June and at the National Veterinary Meeting in Pulawy, Poland, also in June. In addition EPIZONE activities will be presented at a Food Science meeting organized by [COMMNET](#) coming November in Brussels.

I, as coordinator of EPIZONE, have been elected in the [ESVU](#) board, and invited to be a member of the [ETPGAH](#) executive board and the [DISCONTTOOLS](#) project which offers a great advantage to improve liaisons between different organizations.



Wim van der Poel, Coordinator of EPIZONE

Professor Wim van der Poel member of the Executive Board of the ETPGAH and the Project Management Board of DISCONTTOOLS, and elected in the ESVV board.

Wim van der Poel (Central Veterinary Institute, Lelystad, The Netherlands), coordinator of EPIZONE, has become a member of the Executive Board (EB) of the ETPGAH and the Project Management Board (PMB) of DISCONTTOOLS.

Wim accepted the invitation to be a member: "also on behalf of EPIZONE I hope I can be of help to the ETPGAH and DISCONTTOOLS . EPIZONE already has a belief in having good contact with ETPGAH and DISCONTTOOLS, giving input for these projects wherever appropriate and working in good alignment with these".

Wim also has been elected in the ESVV board.

Both memberships offer a great advantage to improve liaisons between different organizations.

4th Annual Meeting EPIZONE 7-10 June 2010

The Scientific Committee for the 4th Annual Meeting of EPIZONE is now known. Taking their place on this committee are: Martin Beer, Marie Frédérique Le Potier, Linda Dixon, Christian Griot, Elisabeth Erlacher-Vindel, Alexander Donaldson, Dirk Pfeiffer (Royal Veterinary College, London), Markus Czub, Alex Morrow (DEFRA), Wim van der Poel and Michèle Bouloy (Institut Pasteur). Chairman is Philippe Vannier. The first keynote speakers will soon be announced for the meeting.

WP/IC/Theme meetings

The organising committee again offers you the unique possibility to book a meeting room, in Saint Malo, France on June 7 and June 10, 2010. Please send all information below to epizone.cvi@wur.nl

1. for with WP /IC/Theme, do you want to book a meeting room
2. how many persons to you expect to come?
3. which date and time do you prefer?

Extra information:

Time slots: June 7 Morning (3,5 hours), 7 Afternoon (3,5 hours), 7 Full day, 10 Morning (3,5 hours).

Refreshments (June 7&10) and lunch on the 7th of June are provided ‘

You have to bring your own laptop

Meeting rooms are free of charge

3-day workshop on Epidemiological tools to support veterinary authorities and risk managers in controlling animal disease epidemics

EPIZONE is offering the opportunity to participate in a 3-day workshop on Epidemiological tools to support veterinary authorities and risk managers in controlling animal disease epidemics. For details on the objectives and program, [click here](#).

The workshop is planned for the 21-23 April 2010 and will go-ahead if we have enough participants interested in the workshop.

Maximum of 20 participants

There is a maximum of 20 places reserved for EPIZONE members for this workshop (Selection criteria will e.g. be time of registration and motivation). More information about costs and EPIZONE refund will published as soon as possible.

Registration will be open end of October 2009.

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European Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians officially announced

On the 18th of June 2009, the foundation of the European Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (EAVLD) was officially announced at the WAVLD-meeting. The EAVLD is modelled on the American and World Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians (AAVLD and WAVLD respectively).

What is EAVLD

The EAVLD is a non profit, independent association that aims to improve veterinary and public health by providing a platform for communication among veterinary laboratory diagnosticians and to promote the highest standards in European veterinary laboratories. The desire is to create an inclusive forum for veterinary laboratory scientists working in all disciplines across the full range of animal species.

Membership of the EAVLD is open to any individual with an interest in veterinary laboratory diagnostics. Membership fees will be only €20 per year.

The first congress

A General Meeting will be held every two years. The meeting will be held during the biennial EAVLD congress, at which the latest developments and standards in veterinary diagnostics will be disseminated. The first EAVLD congress will be hosted by the Central Veterinay Institute in Lelystad, from 15-17 September 2010. During the meeting, the board members of the association will also be elected. The main board members are currently:

President: Andrew Soldan, VLA, UK (president@eavld.org)

Secretary: Willie Loeffen, CVI, The Netherlands (secretary@eavld.org)

Treasurer: Frederik Widén, SVA, Sweden (treasurer@eavld.org)

More information can be found on the website of the EAVLD: www.eavld.org. Beside information on the EAVLD you can find pdf-version of the EAVLD-brochure and the first announcement for the EAVLD congress. Membership forms are also available on-line. These can be send to the secretary by e-mail (preferably), fax or regular mail.

We need YOU to build an association that can make a difference!

Short Term Mission, Yajing Song

Yajing Song, Master of Medicine, Lanzhou University, Lanzhou Veterinary Research Institute (LVRI) visited the National Veterinary Institute (SVA) Uppsala, Sweden, 1 November 2008 - 21 March 2009. Host at SVA was Neil LeBlanc, PhD, senior scientist, Joint Research and Development Division of Departments of Virology SVA and SLU.

Objectives of the mission

- learn techniques for antigen preparation
- learn the Luminex technology combined with the xMAP method
- start a PhD project

The reason for my visit

In August 2007, I, by Prof. Hong Yin, was chosen out of many students to attend the workshop in the EU China South East Asia Dialogue for the development of research areas in Animal health. In that meeting I met Prof. Martin Wierup who participated, as European Commission representative on animal health in this and a previous meeting in China during 2007 (Research cooperation between EU and China in Life Sciences and Biotechnologies Beijing and Wuhan). Prof. Martin Wierup introduced me to the ongoing process of cooperation in research between China and EU and inspired to participate and also facilitated and supported my project and stay as the head of Department of Biomedical Sciences and Veterinary Public Health at Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), Uppsala Sweden.

What I liked the most during my visit

To meet and work with the scientists from different countries, feel and learn from their experiences and ways of working. I, in particular, was impressed by the professors' professional spirit, e.g. Prof. Sandor Belak, head of Joint Research and Development Division of Departments of Virology SVA and SLU, and their responsible ways, e.g. Prof. Martin Wierup. Meanwhile it was exciting to improve my scientific and personal potential and to explore the unknown.

I would like to recommend this short term mission program to somebody else. Because STM will be a good chance to learn new methods and technology, broaden minds and develop potential.

Short Term Mission, Valentina Panzarin

Short Term Mission, Valentina Panzarin from Istituto Zooprofilattico perimentale delle Venezie, Italy to Danish Veterinary Institute, Community Reference Laboratory for Fish Diseases, Aarhus, 20 – 30 April 2009.

Aim of the visit

I attended a short-term mission for a Training course in molecular diagnostics of Fish Disease founded by EPIZONE. The training was hosted by the European Community Reference Laboratory for Fish Diseases (National Veterinary Institute, Technical University of Denmark, Aarhus) under the supervision of Dr. Niels Jørgen Olesen, Dr. Søren Kahnsand, Dr. Søren Peter Jonstrup.

Molecular diagnostic tools

After a brief introduction to the major piscine viruses, we mainly focused on the molecular diagnostic tools for the detection of the following pathogens: KHV (*Koi Herpes Virus*), ISAV (*Infectious Salmon Anemia Virus*), EHNV (*Epizootic Haematopoietic necrosis virus*), VHSV (*Viral Haemorrhagic Septicaemia Virus*).

The diagnostic phases were followed by discussion meeting within the trainers and the supervisors in order to elucidate and debate all the possible problems occurring during the molecular diagnosis, such as the use of internal controls, contaminations, gel electrophoresis interpretation, sequencing, etc

Improving skills

In conclusion the training was very useful for improving our skills on the molecular diagnosis of viral fish disease. The acquired VHS protocol will be applied in our laboratory for the routine diagnosis of the virus in trout farms, overcoming all the disadvantages related to conventional PCR. The same protocol will be applied for detection of the virus in wild marine fish from different areas of the Mediterranean Basin. Viruses obtained from fresh and marine water will be processed for full-length G-gene sequencing and phylogeny will enable us to provide precious data and enrich the "Fish pathogens" database, as research activity within the EPIZONE network.

Concerning the molecular diagnostic tools applied for the diagnosis of ISA, EHN and KHV they will be tested in our laboratory and compared for the sensitivity to the protocols we have in our lab.

Reinforced the relationships

Finally, this training reinforced the relationships already existing between IZSve and Danish Veterinary Institute, creating a cooperative environment between the partners, and allowing fruitful exchanges of data, protocols, strains and ideas (i.e. use of internal controls, validation procedures, etc...).

Short term mission Dr. Lihong Liu

Dr. Lihong Liu from the Department of Virology, Immunobiology and Parasitology (VIP) of the National Veterinary Institute (SVA) Uppsala, Sweden visited the Veterinary Laboratories Agency (VLA), United Kingdom, from 7 to 18 September 2009.

The aim of the visit

- to evaluate a new TaqMan assay for specific detection of C-strain vaccine.
- a further aim was to compare the assay's performance with the one published by Leifer et al. (2009). The topic has been defined within EPIZONE workpackage 4.3 DIVA Diagnostics.

Evaluation, seminars, discussions, demonstration

The visit mainly focused on evaluation of the newly developed assay. From previous animal experiments, VLA has collected valuable samples that are suitable for this purpose. The visit also included seminars and discussions. I presented my studies on Pestivirus phylogeny and molecular diagnostic assays including PriProET assay and also demonstrated how to set up a PriProET assay, which was very helpful.

Fruitful visit

VLA is internationally recognised as a centre of excellence in veterinary research. This visit should contribute to a close collaboration between two institutes. The visit is so fruitful and I surely recommend this short term mission to others.

Meetings and Events

- 28 - 30 October 2009 -EPIZONE course: Science Communication, Aarhus, hosted by VET-DTU, Denmark. Fully booked!
- 2 - 6 November 2009 -EPIZONE course: Design and analysis of transmission experiments, Wageningen, hosted by CVI, The Netherlands. Fully booked!
- 12-13 November 2009 -EPIZONE meeting on Molecular detection and diagnosis of KHV, Lelystad, hosted by CVI, The Netherlands
- 18- 20 November 2009-Theme 5 meeting Paris, hosted by AFSSA, France
- 14 -15 January 2010 -Half Yearly meeting for Theme Leaders, Work package leaders, EAP, MAB, CF, Lelystad, hosted by CVI, The Netherlands
- 21 - 23 April 2010 -EPIZONE course: "Epidemiological tools to support veterinary authorities and risk managers in controlling animal disease epidemics"
- 10 - 12 May 2010 -International conference EDEN 2010: Emerging Diseases in a changing European eNvironment
- 7-10 June 2010 -4th Annual Meeting EPIZONE "Bridges to the Future", ST Malo, hosted by AFSSA, France
- 15-17 September 2010-1st EAVLD Congress, Lelystad, hosted by CVI The Netherlands
- 20-24 August 2012 -ISVEE 13th International Symposium on Veterinary Epideiology& Economics, Maastricht, The Netherlands