

## XI International Conference

7-10 November 2023, Palma, Spain





## **KEYNOTE SPEAKERS – SHORT CVs**



Dr. Alexandra Chaskopoulou Research Entomologist EBCL, USDA-ARS

Dr. Alexandra Chaskopoulou earned her PhD from the University of Florida (UF) in 2010 with a specialty in Medical & Veterinary Entomology. Upon graduation Alex worked as a researcher at UF and in 2014 accepted a new position as a research scientist with the European Biological Control Laboratory of the USDA-ARS in her home country Greece. Her primary research is focused on developing novel approaches for the surveillance and management of arthropod vectors of medical and veterinary importance with a focus on mosquitoes, sand flies and ticks. Her research interests include epidemiology of vector borne diseases, vector ecology, and vector management technologies.



Dr. David T. Dyjack

National Environmental Health Association (NEHA)

David T. Dyjack, Dr.PH, CIH is Chief Executive Officer of the 7,000-member National Environmental Health Association (NEHA), a position he has held since May 2015. Under his leadership NEHA has increased its membership by 55% and grown staff from 28 to almost 60 full-time employees in Denver, Washington D.C. and other states. Dr. Dyjack is Principal Investigator on three environmental health workforce capacity building grants, one from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and two from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. These awards represent almost \$60

million intended to increase capacity of the environmental health profession in federal, state, territorial, local and tribal environmental public health programs. Throughout his career Dave has worked in over 50 countries, most recently in the Republic of Palau, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, South

Sudan, and Haiti. Dr. Dyjack earned a doctorate in public health from the University of Michigan, an MSPH from the University of Utah, and is a board-certified industrial hygienist (CIH).



Dr. Lucía García San Miguel Rodríguez-Alarcón

Ministry of Health, Madrid · Coordinating Center of Sanitary Alerts and Emergencies

Doctor of medicine with specialties of clinical microbiology-infectious diseases and preventive medicine-public health. She has worked in healthcare, research, teaching and international cooperation. Since 2011 she has worked in public health and since 2016 in the Coordination Center for Alerts and Emergencies (CCAES) of the Ministry of Health. In recent years, she has developed activities related to surveillance, alert management and preparedness and response plans for vector-borne diseases. Among them, she has participated in the management of the Zika alert, cases of autochthonous dengue, surveillance of the expansion of the *Aedes albopictus* vector and alerts caused by cases of Crimean-Congo virus disease and West Nile fever. She is currently involved in the coordination of the Vector-borne Disease Preparedness and Response Spanish National Plan.



Dr. Florence Fouque

Medical Entomologist

(Polytechnic School of Zurich, Switzerland)

and Faculty of Medicine, Montpellier, France)

Scientist and Focal Point for vectors at TDR/WHO

My professional experience and activities are on the broad knowledge on vectors and vector-borne diseases as well as on the development and implementation of new strategies to prevent and control vector-borne diseases such as the arboviral diseases, malaria and leishmaniasis, including the strengthening of capacity in those fields. After my Ph.D. studies at the Polytechnic School of Zurich (ETH), Switzerland, I became an assistant in the same Institution between 1991 and 1993 to work on the biological control of vectors and pests. Then, I spent a post-doctoral training in Berkeley University, California, US in 1993 and joined the International Network of the Pasteur Institutes for more than 20 years to work first in French Guiana for 11 years and then in/for different countries affected by Tropical Diseases and Poverty. I had the opportunity to participate and lead several research projects on different vectors and vector-borne/zoonotic diseases, acquiring experience and knowledge on both the biological elements and the project management in different ecological, socioeconomics and political environments. The research programs I was involved in were also contributing actively to regional and country efforts to develop sustainable local research capacity, develop successful partnerships and collaborations. In 2014, I joined the WHO Special Programme for research and training on Tropical Diseases (TDR) to manage activities investigating the global and local challenges impacting the transmission of

pathogens through vectors. These activities were interdisciplinary (biology and sociology) and multisectoral, in collaboration with water, agriculture and environment among others, as well as communities to develop new approaches and build strong capacity to improve the health of the most vulnerable. Among the projects supported at TDR which I had the opportunity/pleasure to manage, a strong emphasis was on residual malaria, multisectoral approaches for prevention and control of vector-borne diseases including the One Health and Zoonotic diseases, insecticide resistance of vectors of arboviral diseases and innovative vector tools such as the Sterile Insect technology (SIT). These activities include the support to the research projects, the capacity building and the development of Networks (both regional and worldwide) to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and build up capacity.