

Early Warning for Epidemics Webinar | EYWA delivers! The Stairway to Excellence

More than 80% of the global population lives in areas at risk of at least one major Vector-Borne Disease (VBD), with more than 700.000 deaths at a global scale. Mosquitoes are the protagonists of these vectors, carrying and transmitting various diseases to living beings and especially humans. Although specific actions and practices were adopted to control these diseases in Europe in the past decades, the re-emergence of outbreaks is just around the corner. Europe is experiencing an increasing number of human cases of Mosquito-Borne Diseases (MBD) in the last two decades, such as West Nile Virus, Malaria, Chikungunya, Dengue and Zika, both imported and indigenous, which demonstrates that Europe is not immune from MBD. The emergence of global trends such as the changing climatic and ecological conditions, global travel and trade, as well as human behavior are driving the re-emergence of these diseases, posing challenges to the national public health authorities in the European region. Thus, there is a constantly increasing need to innovate on how the continuous threats of mosquito-borne diseases are confronted, treated but most of all foreseen.

This need gave birth to **EYWA**, a revolutionary, scalable and sustainable **Early Warning System for Mosquito-Borne Diseases** and a game changer in the domain of epidemics. It was developed under the flag of EuroGEO Action Group "Earth Observation for Epidemics of Vector-Borne Diseases-EO4EViDence" and the coordination of [BEYOND Centre of Earth Observation Research and Satellite Remote Sensing](#) of the National Observatory of Athens. In collaboration with [Ecodevelopment S.A.](#), the [Laboratory of Atmospheric Physics of the University of Patras](#), and 12 more interdisciplinary European organisations from Italy, France, Germany and Serbia, the EYWA team is delivering scientific excellence. EYWA supports sustainability by addressing the relevant priorities of the GEO Societal Benefit Areas, the Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), such as Good Health and Well-Being (SDG 3) and Climate Action (SDG 13) and Sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11).

The system is based on a plethora of satellite and in-situ Earth Observation data and state-of-the-art technological tools, leveraging scientific knowledge and ultimately proving that EO can upend our understanding in the field of epidemics. The pivotal role of EYWA is to become a key lever for Public Health authorities and decision makers, support preparedness and timely strategic design of the health system response actions, and raise citizens awareness on the expected risk, with a view to fight Mosquito-Borne Diseases.

In this context and as a continuation of the first webinars hosted on June 9th & 14th 2020, we are organising a virtual workshop for "Early Warning for Epidemics", which will take place in April 14th, 2021.

This workshop aims to reach members of the Mosquito-Borne Diseases and Earth Observation related communities, Public Health authorities and decision makers to **showcase EYWA, its demonstrated impacts and proven use of results through selected use cases. The vision is to contribute to the process towards setting a European and even global standard for early warning and decision support to help reduce MBDs infections and prevent outbreaks along with the enduring challenges posed to the European national public health authorities in terms of MBDs prevention and control.**

For more information about the webinar, visit our website:

<http://beyond-eocenter.eu/index.php/about-us/training/eo-for-health-and-epidemics>

The EYWA consortium