



Announcement of CALL 2020 FOR MVNA-FUNDED Short-term mission (STM) and Workshop (WS) PROPOSALS

The tenth call for the Med-Vet-Net Association Short-Term Mission (STM) and Workshops (WS) applications opens on **10 December 2019**.

Call Topics

Applications are invited for Short-Term Missions and Workshops related to the mission and strategic goals of the Association, especially:

- sharing of expertise and harmonization of methodologies stimulating the integration of the Med-Vet partner institutes' scientific activities; and
- fostering One Health research at the interface of humans, animals and the environment to improve prevention, detection and control of zoonoses and AMR.

Preferentially the proposals should address one or more of the following Med-Vet-Net Association priority areas:

- NGS validation/standardization of NGS on zoonotic pathogens
- Vector borne zoonotic infections
- Upcoming zoonotic threats outside the EU, entering the EU through immigrants, transport of animals, food etc.
- Zoonotic pathogens present in Eastern-European countries (e.g. *Trichinella/Echinococcus*)
- Factors influencing transmission of zoonotic agents through the environment
- Risks for the spread of zoonotic agents associated with climate change (e.g. the effect on vectors and transmission of diseases)
- Zoonotic risks associated with alternative methods of rearing livestock (e.g. more sustainable systems of keeping animals)
- Zoonotic risks associated with alternative methods for food and feed production incl. increased use of side streams and biproducts (circular bioeconomy)
- Training in, and harmonisation of, diagnostic, research and surveillance activities

And priority topics defined by EFSA and ECDC as discussed at the occasion of the OneHealth EJP Scientific Research Agenda:

- Rapid risk assessment tools for the introduction of zoonotic and foodborne diseases
- Strengthened infection prevention and control measures, including development and assessment of interventions that prevent the development and spread of AMR
- Factors associated with emergence of antimicrobial resistant strains in the food supply chain

Eligibility of Applicant and Associated Affiliations

- Only scientific staff from, and PhD students based at, the partner institutes of the Med-Vet-Net Association are eligible to apply.



- PhD students should either be registered through their institute or be based at a member institute.
- Workshops should promote attendance of a representative from the majority, if not all, member institutes.
- Applicants can allocate funds to invite external experts who will provide clear benefits to the expected outcomes. Their inclusion should be justified in the application.
- Preference will be given to applicants who have not received funding in 2019.

Where can STMs / WS be undertaken?

- STMs must take place at an institute external to that of the applicant. STMs implemented in one of the Med-Vet-Net Association member institutes will have priority over other applications for STMs outside the Med-Vet-Net Association.
- WS can take place at the institute of the applicant.
- Applications that propose to bring in scientific tools or expertise in key areas beyond those available at MVNA institutes will also be welcomed.
- Applications dealing with missions to or workshops organized with Eastern-European Member States are especially encouraged to send in their applications.

Important Dates

- Deadline for applications is **27 January 2020**.
- Applicants should be informed of outcome by **23 March 2020**.
- Applicants should plan for STMs to be completed by **31 July 2021**.

Applications should be submitted to **Cindy Dierikx**, the Med-Vet-Net Association Project manager at: cindy.dierikx@rivm.nl

Advisory notes and annexes

Evaluation criteria

1. Scientific Aims

- Scientific merit will be the primary criterion used to assess applications.
- Beyond skills and expertise development and expertise for the applicant, applications should clearly define how objectives would stimulate recurrent bi/multilateral collaborations with scientists within the participating Med-Vet-Net Association member institutes, or from academia to MVNA partners.
- Applicants working in veterinary/food (VET) institutes going on mission to medical/public health (MED) institutes and vice versa, will have priority over other applicants (if the topic adheres to one of the MVNA strategic aims)
- Applicants of VET and MED institutes that pair up to go on a mission to either a VET or a MED institute will have priority over single person short term missions. In this case, please mention clearly in the application the name and institutes name of the other

applicant (see application form). Both applicants have to send in their application themselves, both applications will be evaluated as one.

2. Budget

- **A maximum of around €3,000** is available per mission and a maximum of **€10,000** for workshops.
- Co-financing by the hosting or home institute (or by any third party) is strongly encouraged and should be clearly indicated in the budget.
- Applicants must provide a detailed and realistic budget, indicating clearly sources of co-financing and aspects of the trips that will be covered using such additional funds.
- *Workshops should be open to participation from all MVNA partner institutes to encourage dissemination of expertise.* It is not obligatory for workshops to cover travel, accommodation and subsistence for all participants of the MVNA consortium. However, efforts should be made to distribute funds fairly to encourage participation of MVNA partners. The [treasurer](#) will be happy to advise as a number of different costing models have now been used in the planning of our workshops.
- *Participants external to the MVNA consortium are welcome but may participate at their own costs. Registration fees can be envisaged for them*
- *Experts/speakers external to the MVNA consortium are welcome and their expenses are eligible by the MVNA budget.*
- Please make every effort to make your budget as realistic as possible and see **Annex 1** for further information. The [treasurer](#) will be very happy to advise you.

3. Reporting and reimbursement

- Applicants must aim to complete their missions/WS before the **end of July 2021** and are responsible for completion of a scientific and financial report within 30 days of completion of the mission.
- In case of any delay in implementing the mission or organizing the workshop, the Project Manager must be warned in advance and the delay must be duly justified
- Once the financial report has been validated by the treasurer and the scientific report has been validated by representatives of the MVNA Scientific Committee, the Association will send the appropriate reimbursements (within 30 days of the appropriate validations).
- Recipients of support are expected to help the Association promote its scientific activities and are requested to send photographs with captions or to submit blogs of your visit/workshop to accompany your summary on our website.



Annex 1. BUDGET INFORMATION

Eligible costs

- Any direct real costs demonstrated as linked with the STM/WS are eligible for reimbursement by the Association, up to a maximum cumulated amount as validated in the budget submitted and approved in the original application.
- A non-exhaustive list of eligible costs would include: travel (preferably by public transport), accommodation, catering (only for WS), and consumable costs. Essential equipment costs claimed will be considered on a case to case basis. Please check if unsure.
- Costs claimed must be related to expenses of the beneficiaries of the STM/WS only.
- Before approving reimbursement claimed, the treasurer may ask to the beneficiaries of the STM/WS for clarifications about the costs claimed.
- For travel costs, the association shall only fund one return ticket. If for any reason (train or flight missed, travel date or time change) additional tickets are required then the institute of affiliation of the beneficiary must support the additional cost.
- Unless previously justified and agreed, train and plane tickets will be reimbursed on the basis of a second class rate.
- ***Catering for STM missions is no more an eligible cost***
- Evidence by receipt is required; a per diem subsistence allowance is not permissible, nor is a per kilometre rate for travel.
- MVNA cannot pay for fee charges.
- Please note that receipts for any cost claimed ***must be retained*** for accounting purposes (they should be scanned to PDF) and submitted with your claim on completion of the mission.

Annex 2. General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)

Please note that, in the interests of Data Protection, none of the information supplied by you will be shared with anyone outside the MVNA bureau or Scientific Committee. In the event that your application is not successful, your records will be deleted (or destroyed in the case of printed matter) 12 months after you have been notified of the decision date. For successful applicants we will keep the electronic and paper records of successful short-term missions (STMs) and workshops (WS) for a maximum period of 24 months after the decision, ***although we request permission to keep your website report displayed on the website within one year after the mission/workshop was finished and have it stored in the summary reports archive.***

The Scientific Committee will delete all their records associated with STM and WS reviews after 12 months whether or not the application was successful. You may request sight of the data we hold on you at any time. Similarly you may withdraw your consent at any time and we will delete your records.