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Answer given by Mr Várhelyi
on behalf of the European Commission
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The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) collects surveillance data on locally acquired West Nile virus (WNV) infections¹, dengue² and chikungunya³ cases. It publishes worldwide epidemiological overviews for chikungunya⁴ and dengue⁵. With the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), it funds 'VectorNet' to ensure surveillance of vectors carriers of zoonotic and human diseases⁶.

The ECDC coordinates the Emerging and Vector-borne Diseases (VBD) network⁷. EU reference laboratories⁸ were designated to provide support to national reference laboratories, including in the area of VBD⁹. Furthermore, it has published several documents on VBD^{10,11,12,13,14,15,16}.

EU4Health Programme funds a project to eliminate *Aedes aegypti* in Cyprus¹⁷. It is also funding the development of new diagnostic tests for VBD to develop new rapid and sensitive diagnostic tests to enhance early detection of diseases¹⁸. It includes a EUR 20 million contribution agreement for supporting the development of dengue medical countermeasures, given growing needs due to climate change. It is also supporting Member States with EUR 10 million joint action for the scaling up of national systems for vector threat detection and control capacities, including planning and implementing countermeasures for the control of disease-transmitting vectors and promoting cross-border collaboration among epidemiologists, entomologists, public health officials, among others.

¹ <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/west-nile-fever/surveillance-and-disease-data/disease-data-ecdc>.

² <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/dengue/surveillance-and-updates/seasonal-surveillance-dengue-eueea-weekly>.

³ <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/chikungunya-virus-disease/surveillance-and-updates/seasonal-surveillance>.

⁴ <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/chikungunya-monthly>.

⁵ <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/dengue-monthly>.

⁶ <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/about-us/partnerships-and-networks/disease-and-laboratory-networks/vector-net>.

⁷ It primarily consists of public health epidemiologists from national public health institutes in EU/European Economic Area countries.

⁸ Article 15 of Regulation 2022/2371 <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2022/2371/oj>.

⁹ EU reference laboratories are designed for a period of seven years. There are, amongst others, EU reference laboratories in Italy and in Sweden to lead quality control, including to contribute to the work on VBD.

¹⁰ <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/publications-data/surveillance-prevention-and-control-west-nile-virus-and-usutu-virus-infections>.

¹¹ <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/publications-data/vector-control-practices-and-strategies-against-west-nile-virus>.

¹² <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/publications-data/west-nile-virus-risk-assessment-tool>.

¹³ <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/publications-data/public-health-guidance-assessing-and-mitigating-risk-locally-acquired-aedes-borne>.

¹⁴ <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/publications-data/deferral-criteria-and-testing-strategies-dengue-virus-blood-donors-returning>.

¹⁵ <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/chikungunya/surveillance-and-updates/risk-assessment>.

¹⁶ <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/infectious-disease-topics/dengue/strategies-and-guidelines-dengue>.

¹⁷ Through the Sterile Insect Technique: https://health.ec.europa.eu/publications/2024-eu4health-work-programme_en.

¹⁸ Through the EU4Health Programme, EUR 10 million for Call for Proposals to cover diseases which include dengue, Zika, chikungunya and West Nile Virus.

Through Horizon 2020¹⁹ and Horizon Europe²⁰, over EUR 500 million were invested in projects to combat VBD.

The Commission supports regional and global health under various instruments²¹; including for sustainable health security using a One Health approach²² and the Pandemic Fund²³.

¹⁹ https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-2020_en.

²⁰ https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe_en.

²¹ E.g.: Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation instrument (NDICI) - Global Europe: https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/new-%E2%80%98ndici-global-europe%E2%80%99-2021-2027_en.

²² With more than EUR 430 million https://capacity4dev.europa.eu/resources/team-europe-tracker/partner-countries/sub-saharan-africa/sustainable-health-security-africa_en.

²³ With more than EUR 400 million <https://www.thepandemicfund.org/>.