

HEALTHY FUTURES



HEALTHY FUTURES

Health, environmental change and adaptive capacity; mapping, examining & anticipating future risks of water-related vector-borne diseases in eastern Africa

Collaborative Project
Seventh Framework Programme
Cooperation

Deliverable D6.4

News Release

Grant Agreement no. 266327

The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Community's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) under grant agreement no 266327.

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www.healthyfutures.eu



Work Package	6		
Task	6.2		
Dissemination level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted to other programme partners (including the Commission Service) <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted to a group specified by the consortium (including the Commission Service) <input type="checkbox"/> Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including the Commission Service)		
Publishing date	Contractual: September 2011	Actual: August 2011	
Deliverable	6.4	Version 1	Draft <input type="checkbox"/> Final <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
WP/Task Leader	AquaTT		
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Contributors	AquaTT, TCD		
Short summary	A News Release highlighting project developments was released in August 2011. The News Release is available in English and Kiswahili. Both versions are available to download on the project website http://www.healthyfutures.eu/ .		
Keywords	Dissemination, Press, News		
Document	HEALTHY FUTURES D6.4 News Release		

History Chart

Issue	Date	Changed page (s)	Cause of change	Implemented by
v.1	August 2011			

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HEALTHY FUTURES –Anticipating Future Climate Change Impacts on Water-related Vector-borne Diseases through International & Inter-disciplinary Collaboration

[Release Date: 26/08/2011]

Over the next four years, an EU-funded team of international and inter-disciplinary health, environment, socio-economic, disease modelling and climate experts, in addition to governmental health departments, aim to respond to concerns of environmental change in eastern Africa. The project titled HEALTHY FUTURES has received Euro 3.38 million under the EU's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7).

The project, which launched in January 2011, focuses on three water-related, high-impact vector-borne diseases (VBDs) (malaria, Rift Valley fever and schistosomiasis) in eastern Africa (comprising the countries of Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and United Republic of Tanzania). It will take into account environmental and climatic trends and changes in socio-economic conditions to predict future risk outbreaks and impact (direct and indirect) on human health.

Led by Trinity College, University of Dublin (Ireland) the project will see a total of 15 partners located on the continents of Africa and Europe (Ireland, Italy, Austria, Sweden, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, South Africa and United Kingdom) come together to enhance the capacity of health and veterinary services at local, national and supra-national levels to respond to changes in risk of transmission and outbreaks of the VBDs as a result of a convergence of changing climatic, land use and socio-economic conditions.

Guided by the concept that the stability of livelihoods, i.e. their strong resilience, crucially depends on maintaining environmental integrity, HEALTHY FUTURES, with its integrated holistic approach and innovative methodological developments, will improve disease outbreak surveillance and early warning via the provision and effective implementation of a new generation of Decision Support tools for VBD risk reduction in Africa. The aim of the project is to increase quality of life and contribute towards the reduction of disease burden, help to reduce poverty and increase health and well-being.

Although a major concern for the global community, the effects of environmental change, such as climate change, will be felt most acutely among the poorest members of society. At the kick-off meeting, project coordinator Professor David Taylor of Trinity College stated, "Outbreaks of water related, vector borne diseases such as malaria, have complex relationships with environmental conditions. As environmental conditions change, such as through climate and land use changes, then the incidence of disease outbreaks is likely to change. Although all those living in areas where

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conditions become conducive to disease outbreaks are vulnerable, generally the most marginalised members of society are at greatest risk. HEALTHY FUTURES aims to minimise these risks by improving our ability to predict and to communicate the extent and severity of future outbreaks under different environmental change scenarios”.

For more information please visit: www.healthyfutures.eu

Note to Editors

Detailed partner profiles are available on request.

Trinity College Dublin is the coordinator of this project, with AquaTT as the project administrator partner. The HEALTHY FUTURES project has received funding from the European Union Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) under grant agreement n° 266327.

Trinity College Dublin (TCD), founded in 1592, is the oldest University in Ireland. TCD now has more than 15,700 students, 3,700 staff and 86,000 alumni, while in 2007-2008 its staff secured more than €70m in research income. TCD is widely recognised for the high quality of its graduates, the international standing of its research and scholarship, and the value it places on contributing to Irish society and the wider world. In the most recent (2009) THES survey of universities internationally, TCD was ranked in the top 50 (43rd) and in the top 15 (13th) universities in the world and in Europe, respectively.

Contact: Prof. David Taylor (Project Coordinator), School of Natural Sciences, TCD (email: taylor@tcd.ie)

AquaTT is an international foundation which provides project management and training services to support the sustainable development of Europe's aquatic resources. AquaTT's mission is to bridge the knowledge gap between the dynamic R&D environments and the progressive commercial sector. AquaTT supports its target audiences through the provision of support services and through participation in, and coordination of EU projects and initiatives in the area of knowledge management including customised dissemination, education, training and technology transfer.

Contact: Paul Lowen (Project Officer), AquaTT (email: paul@aquatt.ie)

News Release Kiswahili Version

Habari za Mradi wa Afya Bora ya Baadaye | 2011



Afya Bora ya Baadaye-Kutazamia mabadiliko katika tabia ya nchi kwa siku zijazo na namna yatakavyoathiri Magonjwa ya vimelea yanayotokana na maji kupitia ushirikiano wa kimataifa na taaluma mbalimbali

(Tarehe ya kutolewa: 26/08/2011)

Kwa miaka miine ijayo, timu ya wataalamu wa kimataifa wa taaluma mbalimbali za afya, mazingira, jamii na uchumi, uonyeshaji mitindo ya magonjwa na tabia ya nchi, iliyofadhiliwa na jumua ya Ulaya pamoja na idara za afya za serikali, inalenga kuitikia mashaka ya mabadiliko katika tabia ya nchi Afrika mashariki. Mradi huu, huitwao 'Healthy Futures' umepokea Euro milioni 3,38 kupitia kwa mradi wa seventh framework programme (FP7).

Mradi huu, ulioanzishwa Januari 2011 una lengo la kushugulikia magonjwa matatu yaletwayo na maji, "high-impact" VBDs (Malaria, homa ya bonde la ufa na kichocho) katika nchi za Afrika mashariki zikiwemo Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda na Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania. Utatilia maanani mitindo ya mazingira/tabia ya nchi na mabadiliko ya hali ya kijamii na kiuchumi ili kubashiri hatari za kuzuka kwa magonjwa katika siku zijazo na athari (waziwazi, na zisizokusudiwa) kwa afya ya binadamu.

Ukiongozwa na chuo kikuu cha Trinity, Dublin, Ayalandi mradi huu utawaleta pamoja washiriki 15 walioko bara za Afrika na Ulaya (Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, Afrika kusini, Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania, Ayalandi, Italia, Uswizi, Austria na Uingereza. Washiriki hawa watatilia nguvu uwezo wa huduma za afya na huduma za maradhi ya wanyama katika viwango vya mitaa, kitaifa na juu ya mataifa kuitikia mabadiliko katika hatari ya usambazaji na mlipuko wa VBDs kutokana na mabadiliko katika tabia ya nchi, matumizi ya ardhi na hali katika jamii na uchumi.

Ukiongozwa na dhana kwamba uthabiti wa riziki, hivyo kwamba, unyumbukaji thabiti, unatokana na kuhakikisha kwamba mazingira yanahifadhiwa, Mradi wa Afya Bora ya Baadaye, ukitumia mkabala wa jumla na methodolojia zenye uvumbuzi, utaboresha namna mlipuko wa magonjwa unachunguzwa na utoaji wa onyo mapema kwa kutumia vifaa vya kisasa vya kuwezesha kutoa uamuzi ili kupunguza hatari za VBDs barani Afrika. Nia haswa ya mradi huu ni kuongezea ubora wa maisha na kuchangia katika kupunguza magonjwa, na hivyo kupunguza umaskini na kuongezea afya bora na hali njema ya maisha.

Hata kama mabadiliko ya tabia ya nchi hushughulikiwa na jumua ya ulimwengu, watakaoathiriwa zaidi na mabadiliko katika tabia ya nchi ni wale maskini zaidi katika jamii. Kwenye mkutano wa

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kuanza wa mradi huu, mratibu wa mradi Professor David Taylor wa Trinity College Dublin alisema “Mlipuko wa magonjwa yanayosababishwa na maji, kama vile malaria, yanauhusiano changamani na mazingira. Hali ya mazingira inavyoendelea kubadilika, kama vile kupitia ubadilikaji wa tabia ya nchi na matumizi ya ardhi, ndivyo basi kuenea kwa magonjwa kunaweza kubadilika. Hata kama wale wote wanaoishi katika maeneo yanayokumbwa na mlipuko wa magonjwa haya wako hatarini, wale watakoathiriwa zaidi ni waliotengwa katika jamii. Mradi wa Afya Bora ya Baadaye unuia kupunguza mashaka haya kwa kuboresha uwezo wa kutabiri na kuelezea kiasi na ukali wa mlipuko wa magonjwa wa siku zijazo katika hali tofauti za mabadiliko ya mazingira”.

Maelezo zaidi yanaweza kupatikana kupitia: www.healthyfutures.eu

Tangazo kwa wahariri

Maelezo kamili ya washiriki yatatolewa kwa maombi

Trinity College Dublin ni mratibu wa mradi huu, AquaTT ikiwa ni msimamizi mshiriki. Mradi huu umepokea ufadhili wa milioni €3.38 kupitia kwa mradi wa seventh framework programme (FP7/2007-2013) chini ya makubaliano ya hazina no 266327.

Chuo Kikuu cha Trinity cha Dublin, kilianzishwa mwaka wa 1592. Hiki ndicho chuo cha zamani sana nchini Ayalandi. Kwa wakati huu TCD ina wanafunzi zaidi ya 15,700, wafanyikazi 3,700, na idadi ya wanafunzi 86,000 waliosomea huko, na kwa muda wa 2007-2008 wafanyikazi wake walipewa zaidi ya euro milioni 70 za utafiti. TCD inajulikana kote kwa wanafunzi wake waliohitimu, na pale wamefika ulimwenguni katika utafiti na ufadhili wa masomo, na mchango waliotoa katika nchi ya Ayalandi na ulimwenguni kote. Katika utafiti uliofanywa na THES wa hivi karibuni (2009) wa vyuo vikuu vya ulimwengu, TDC ilipewa nafasi ya 43 katika vyuo 50 bora ulimwenguni na kupewa nafasi ya 13 katika vyuo 15 bora Ulaya.

Mawasiliano: Prof. David Taylor (Mratibu wa Mradi), School of Natural Sciences, TCD (Barua pepe: taylor@tcd.ie)

AquaTT ni taasisi ya kimataifa ambayo hupeana huduma za masomo na usimamizi wa miradi ili kuhimilisha maendeleo endelevu katika maliasili majini mwa Ulaya. AquaTT hufanya kazi ya kuunganisha maarifa kati ya utafiti na maendeleo katika mazingira na katika sekta ya biashara. Aquatt huhimili hadhira yake kwa kutoa huduma mbalimbali ikiwemo kuwahusisha kwenye miradi ya jumua ya Ulaya na pia kuratibu miradi hii katika nyanja za maarifa kama vile elimu, mafunzo na kuhamisha teknolojia.

Mawasiliano: Paul Lowen (Msimamizi wa Mradi), AquaTT (Barua pepe: paul@aquatt.ie)