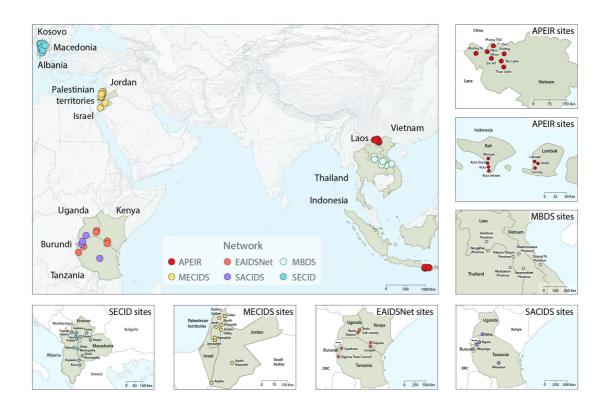
NOVEMBER 2018 | NEWS

#### Welcome...

to our CORDS November 2018 newsletter. CORDS is a Non-Governmental Organisation comprised of six international networks, working to reduce and prevent the spread of diseases by exchanging information and best practice. Our vision is a world united against infectious diseases. Early detection of outbreaks helps keep disease transmission to its area of origin, which, in our increasingly mobile world, is vital to stopping life threatening diseases such as Zika, Ebola and Yellow Fever. The collective expertise of the CORDS networks and their close relationships with local communities facilitate timely detection and response to outbreaks. Visit our website here <a href="http://www.cordsnetwork.org">http://www.cordsnetwork.org</a>



## The CORDS InterNetwork Project

Event-based surveillance (EBS) is a key component of early warning and response systems for the prevention and control of disease outbreaks, particularly infectious diseases. Supported by a grant from The Rockefeller Foundation and in collaboration with Ending Pandemics, the six CORDS member networks have started to assess EBS systems and practices in their regions, with a focus on cross border sites and digital health data collection. The Overall objective is to enable the real-time detection of, and respond to, One Health priorities, in order to strengthen health and security amongst local communities in cross-border areas.

The project has a mixed method design. Quantitative approaches include a descriptive cross-sectional questionnaire and qualitative approaches include structured interviews with key stakeholders, document

reviews, site visits, secondary data analysis and observations of EBS systems and practices. 14 of the 28 CORDS member network countries are included in the assessment - Indonesia, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam, Burundi, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Israel, Jordan, Palestinian territories, Albania, Kosovo and Macedonia. There are 53 cross border sites. A standardised assessment tool has been developed in web and paper-based formats to include quantitative and qualitative indicators assessing national, cross-border and community levels. Data is currently being collected and the full results of the InterNetwork Project will be available in February 2019. For further information please contact Lisa Danquah

#### lisa.danquah@cordsnetwork.org

# CORDS discusses the fight against Antimicrobial Resistance with Wellcome Trust and Oxford University's Big Data Centre

CORDS Executive Director Dr Christophe Longuet, CORDS Strategic Partnership Manager Paul Asquith, and CORDS Project Manager Lisa Danquah met with Dr Josie Golding and Kori Cook from the Epidemic Preparedness Team, and Alice Jamieson from the Policy Team, on the 25th of October 2018 at the Wellcome Trust in London to discuss potential collaboration in the fight against Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR). The Wellcome Trust were keen to learn about the work of the CORDS Networks in Africa, Asia, the Balkans and the Middle East and both CORDS and Wellcome Trust pledged to increase information-sharing and collaboration in the fight against AMR.

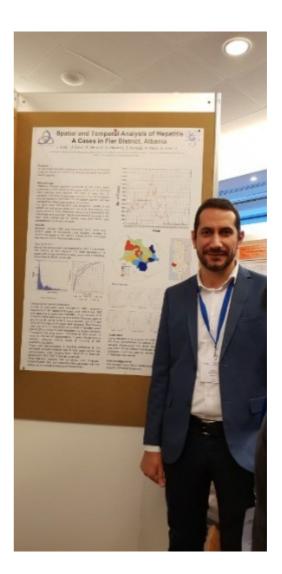
Paul Asquith also met with Dr Catrin Moore and Dr Barney McManigal of the Global Research on Antimicrobial Resistance (GRAM) Project at the University of Oxford on the 30<sup>th</sup> of October 2018 to discuss potential collaboration with CORDS Networks to improve data sharing in the fight against AMR. GRAM is a partnership between the University of Oxford and the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) at the University of Washington, funded by the UK Department of Health, the Wellcome Trust and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The goals of the project are to collect and share up-to-date global resistance data on selected bacterial pathogens; map the distribution of resistance of selected bug-drug combinations; and incorporate the mortality and morbidity caused by these disease-resistant infections into IHME's ongoing Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Study estimates.

GRAM are seeking scientific collaborators who are interested in working together to improve the accuracy of regional estimates of AMR and it was agreed that CORDS would share information about GRAM and facilitate bi-lateral discussions with CORDS Networks to promote this in the coming months. For more information visit

### www.wellcome.ac.uk

www.bdi.ox.ac.uk/research/oxfordgbd2





CORDS attends the International Meeting on Emerging Diseases and Surveillance, Vienna (IMED 2018)

The International Meeting on Emerging Diseases and Surveillance, organised by ProMed and the International Society for Infectious Diseases (ISID), took place in Vienna, Austria from the 9th to the 12th of November 2018 (<a href="http://imed.isid.org/">http://imed.isid.org/</a>.) Session topics included emerging infectious diseases in humans and animals, antimicrobial resistance, lessons learnt from Zika, Ebola, Mers-CoV and other epidemics and infections related to travel and migration of humans and animals. Ending Pandemics also organised a side-meeting on EpiCore <a href="https://www.endingpandemics.org/projects/epicore/">www.endingpandemics.org/projects/epicore/</a>

CORDS Executive Director, as a member of the scientific committee at the event co-chaired a session on 'One Health - Emerging Threats Across Species Boundaries' where Kujtim Mersini, from the Southeast European Centre for Surveillance and Control of Infectious Diseases (SECID), gave a review on Brucellosis in Albania. The work of CORDS member networks was explained to delegates in the form of an information booth and poster presentations. Lisa Danquah presented a poster on the CORDS InterNetwork project on One Health events detection in cross-border areas. SECID presented their 'Assessment of Community Event Based Surveillance in Cross Border Areas in Selected Countries of South East Europe' and 'Spatial and Temporal Analysis of Hepatitis A Cases in Fier District, Albania' a project with the support of Ending Pandemics.



## SECID holds workshop on event based surveillance in Albania

A 'Workshop on Event Based Surveillance, 'Event Information and Data Collection at Community-Level in Cross-Border areas – Albania, Macedonia and Kosovo' took place from the 30th to the 31<sup>st</sup> of October 2018 in Korça, Albania. The workshop was organised by the Southeast European Center for Surveillance and Control of Infectious Diseases (SECID), based at the Institute of Public Health, in Tirana, Albania. The event was part of the InterNetwork project that all six of CORDS member networks are working on, funded by The Rockefeller Foundation.

The aim of the workshop was to strengthen health and security amongst local communities in cross-border areas by assessing event information and data collection. The objectives were: to present the assessment of current event based surveillance systems in human and animal health from cross-border areas, analyse the barriers and best practices of communication and collaboration, discuss the role of digitalisation and to identify the next steps in order to scale up best practice. Experts from human, veterinary and food safety fields attended, including those from the Institutes of Public Health, Veterinary Institutes and Food Safety Agencies of Albania, Kosovo, Macedonia and representatives from the Hellenic Center for Disease Control and Prevention and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. For more information visit

### www.secids.com

## International Society for Disease Surveillance Annual Conference, San Diego

The International Society for Disease Surveillance (ISDS) is holding its annual conference in San Diego, America from the 29<sup>th</sup> of January 2019 to the 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2019. The event is dedicated to the advancement of the science and practice of bio surveillance. Over 400 professionals will attend to learn of the latest achievements, analytic methods, best practices and technical innovations in this field. The conference will begin with the One Health Symposium on the 29<sup>th</sup> of January, followed by the ISDS event on the 30<sup>th</sup> of January onwards. For more information visit

https://www.healthsurveillance.org/page/conference





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