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2<sup>nd</sup> **inoVEC**

**Conference**

# “Tackling vectors of emerging arboviruses through Research & Innovation”



**October 07-08, 2026**  
Agropolis International  
Montpellier, France



Deploying research  
Sharing science  
Transforming the future

# 2<sup>nd</sup> INOVEC Conference: Tackling vectors of emerging arboviruses through Research & Innovation

## 1. Background

Vector-borne diseases, which account for approximately 17% of infectious diseases, currently represent a major global public health challenge. Long associated with countries in the Global South, they have experienced a resurgence worldwide, particularly mosquito-borne arboviral diseases (dengue, Zika, chikungunya), driven by the combined effects of urbanization, increased global mobility, and climate change. These dynamics have led to an unprecedented expansion of vectors, notably *Aedes albopictus* and *Aedes aegypti*.

Prevention of these diseases still relies largely on vector control. However, the global resurgence of arboviral diseases — particularly dengue — highlights the limitations of currently available tools and underscores the urgent need to develop more sustainable, innovative, accessible, and community-engaged vector control strategies grounded in a One Health approach. These approaches must simultaneously integrate improvements in population health and well-being, biodiversity conservation, environmental protection, and local ownership of control actions.

During the 1st International INOVEC Conference held in Dar es Salaam (Tanzania) in August 2024<sup>1</sup>, several key gaps and recommendations were identified, notably the need to strengthen intersectoral and international collaboration in order to foster innovation and accelerate the implementation of new chemical, biological, and genetic vector control methods. The discussions also highlighted the importance of policy advocacy to facilitate the integration of these new tools into existing public health strategies, as well as the critical role of community engagement and operational research in deploying sustainable solutions adapted to local contexts.

These themes will therefore be addressed during the 2nd INOVEC Conference, which aims to present the latest advances and innovations in the surveillance and control of vectors of emerging arboviral diseases. By leveraging multidisciplinary approaches — spanning biological sciences, social and human sciences, geography, and engineering — the conference will convene leading actors from research and innovation, industry, and public health to drive practical, sustainable, and context-specific solutions for the control of arboviral disease vectors across Europe and worldwide.

## 2. Scope of the conference

The 2nd International Conference, organized by IRD with the support of the Horizon Europe INOVEC project, will provide a platform for exchange and dialogue among key actors involved

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<sup>1</sup> Poinsignon A, Fournet F, Ngowo HS, Franco Martins Barreira V, Pinto J, Bartumeus F, Kaindoa EW, Corbel V. Advances in surveillance and control methods for Aedes-borne diseases and urban vectors: report of the International Conference, August 2024, Tanzania. *Parasit Vectors*. 2025 Jun 6;18(1):212. doi: 10.1186/s13071-025-06838-4. PMID: 40481523; PMCID: PMC12142953.

in the prevention and control of vectors of emerging arboviral diseases. The conference aims to review emerging evidence on vector ecology, biology and control, strengthen scientific and operational partnerships, and promote both basic and translational research, with the ultimate goal of reducing the burden of vector-borne diseases. The scientific programme will be structured around three thematic areas, as outlined in Section 8.

### **3. Objectives of the INOVEC Conference**

- i) To foster knowledge sharing in the biology, ecology and genetics of vectors of arboviral diseases in Europe and beyond;
- ii) To assess the effectiveness of innovative tools, approaches and technologies for vector control, and to identify key gaps, challenges and research priorities;
- iii) To strengthen intersectoral and international collaboration, and to facilitate dialogue leading to actionable outcomes that support improved public health responses to vector-borne diseases.

### **4. Format of the conference**

The conference will be held at **Agropolis International in Montpellier, France**, and will consist of two days of scientific presentations. Keynote speakers will be invited to provide internationally recognised expertise and strategic perspectives in the field. A call for abstracts will be launched to ensure broad participation and a balanced representation of speakers. In addition, a round-table discussion will explore how innovation can be effectively translated into vector control policies. Finally, an industry session will allow companies to present the latest advances in vector control products and technologies. The conference will be free of charge, but registration will be mandatory.

## 5. Conference Themes

SN	THEME	DESCRIPTION	RELATED RESEARCH ACTIVITIES/TOPICS
1	<b>Biology, Ecology &amp; Genomics of Vectors</b>	This theme focuses on the biological and ecological characteristics of vectors, including genomics and population genetics findings, with the aim of improving understanding of their behavior and spatial distribution, in order to support the development of more targeted and effective control strategies.	<p><b>Behavioral ecology of vectors:</b> host-seeking behavior, feeding preferences and patterns, daily activity and resting behavior;</p> <p><b>Reproductive biology:</b> breeding habitats and preferences, reproductive cycles and strategies, factors influencing reproductive success;</p> <p><b>Vector competence:</b> ability to transmit specific pathogens, factors influencing vector competence, and evolutionary aspects of vector competence;</p> <p><b>Impact of environmental factors:</b> influence of climate on vector distribution and abundance, effects of urbanization on breeding sites, ecological impacts of anthropogenic activities on vector habitats;</p> <p><b>Population dynamics and genetics:</b> population structure and dynamics of vectors, genetic diversity and gene flow, and evolutionary aspects of vector populations;</p> <p><b>Insecticide resistance:</b> distribution, intensity, underlying mechanisms, and implications for vector control interventions;</p> <p><b>Spatial ecology and movement patterns:</b> movement patterns of vectors, dispersal capabilities and range, and spatial analysis of vector population distribution.</p>
2	<b>Integrated Approaches for the Control of vectors of Arboviral Diseases</b>	This theme explores integrated approaches to control vector populations and more broadly the diseases they transmit.	<p><b>Multi-disease vector control strategies:</b> development and implementation of strategies addressing multiple disease vectors and approaches for controlling urban vectors;</p> <p><b>Multi-sectoral collaboration:</b> collaboration between health and non-health sectors in vector control, and involvement of agriculture, environmental, and other relevant sectors in integrated approaches;</p>

			<p><b>Integrated surveillance and monitoring:</b> latest technologies in vector surveillance, including Artificial Intelligence tools, and strategies providing a holistic view of vector populations;</p> <p><b>Capacity building and training:</b> training programs for healthcare workers, community members, and policymakers;</p> <p><b>Policy and governance:</b> development of policies supporting integrated vector control and Governance structures that facilitate collaboration between different sectors.</p>
3	<p><b>Advances and Innovation in Vector Control</b></p>	<p>This theme reviews progress and remaining knowledge gaps in vector control strategies, including novel technologies and citizen science-based approaches, while acknowledging the contributions of both the private sector and research institutions.</p>	<p><b>Novel strategies for vector control:</b> examining innovative approaches to vector control beyond traditional methods, discussing the use of biological control agents, genetic modification, and novel pesticides;</p> <p><b>Public-private partnerships in vector management:</b> discussing the role of industry in the research, production, and distribution of vector control tools;</p> <p><b>Community engagement and empowerment:</b> focusing on actively involving communities in integrated vector control programs by understanding and influencing human behaviors, thereby enhancing participation, ownership, and the overall effectiveness of disease prevention and control efforts.</p>

## **6. Organization Committees**

### **6.1 Scientific Committee**

Vincent Corbel	IRD, France	<a href="mailto:vincent.corbel@ird.fr">vincent.corbel@ird.fr</a>
João Pinto	UNL, Portugal	<a href="mailto:jpinto@ihmt.unl.pt">jpinto@ihmt.unl.pt</a>
Anne Poinsignon	IRD, France	<a href="mailto:anne.poinsignon@ird.fr">anne.poinsignon@ird.fr</a>
Florence Fournet	IRD, France	<a href="mailto:florence.fournet@ird.fr">florence.fournet@ird.fr</a>
Pie Müller	Swiss TPH, Switzerland	<a href="mailto:pie.mueller@swisstph.ch">pie.mueller@swisstph.ch</a>
Camille Simon-Chane	ENSEA, France	<a href="mailto:camille.simon-chane@ensea.fr">camille.simon-chane@ensea.fr</a>

### **6.2 Logistic Committee (Bureau)**

Vincent Corbel	IRD, France	<a href="mailto:vincent.corbel@ird.fr">vincent.corbel@ird.fr</a>
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Valérie Delplanque	IRD, France	<a href="mailto:valerie.delplanque@ird.fr">valerie.delplanque@ird.fr</a>

## 7. The INOVEC project

The INOVEC project is a large pan-European, cross-sectoral and multidisciplinary network actively developing, optimizing and promoting integrated approaches and innovative tools for the surveillance and control of mosquito vectors of emerging arboviruses. INOVEC gathers 25 academic and non-academic institutions specialized in vector biology, social sciences and product development to stimulate basic and applied research, strengthen capacities, promote career development and facilitate knowledge and technology transfer to countries at increasing risk of arboviral diseases.

INOVEC has the commitment to coordinate and integrate sectors in order to maximize impact, raise awareness of policy makers and stakeholders, and participate in the improvement of innovation potential at the European and global level. INOVEC contributes to international efforts to improve global health and human well-being by reducing the burden of vector borne diseases.

More information on:

 <https://inovecproject.com/> |  [https://twitter.com/inovec\\_project](https://twitter.com/inovec_project) |

 <https://www.linkedin.com/company/inovec-project/>

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The INOVEC Project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe Research & Innovation programme under **Grant Agreement N° 101086257**. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or European Research Executive Agency (REA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.



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## 8. Programme of the conference

Location-conference and accommodation: Agropolis International 1000, Avenue Agropolis, 34394 Montpellier Cedex 5, [agropolis@agropolis.fr](mailto:agropolis@agropolis.fr)

Expected dates: 7-8 October 2026

DAY	SESSION	TIME	DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES	SPEAKER
<b>DAY 1</b>				
<b>1</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Opening Ceremony</b>		
		<a href="#">8:30</a> <a href="#">9:00</a>	Registration	
		<a href="#">9:00</a> <a href="#">9:15</a>	A welcome statement, acknowledging the guests, introduction to the conference	IRD representative
		<a href="#">9:15</a> <a href="#">9:30</a>	An overview of the INOVEC Project, discussing overarching themes	Vincent CORBEL, IRD, France
<b>1</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>Scientific Session I: Biology, Ecology &amp; Genomics of Vectors</b>		
		<a href="#">9:30</a> <a href="#">10:00</a>	Keynote Speaker 1 (25'+5')	To be invited
		<a href="#">10:00</a> <a href="#">10:30</a>	Keynote Speaker 2 (25'+5')	To be invited
		<a href="#">10:30</a> <a href="#">11:00</a>	Coffee Break	
		<a href="#">11:00</a> <a href="#">12:00</a>	Presenter 1 (10'+5')	
			Presenter 2 (10'+5')	
			Presenter 3 (10'+5')	
			Presenter 4 (10'+5')	
		<a href="#">12:00</a> <a href="#">12:30</a>	Turbo Talk Session	
		<a href="#">12:30</a> <a href="#">14:00</a>	Lunch Break	

<b>1</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Scientific Session I: Biology, Ecology &amp; Genomics of Vectors</b>		
		<a href="#">14:00</a>	Presenter 5 (10'+5')	
		<a href="#">15:00</a>	Presenter 6 (10'+5')	
			Presenter 7 (10'+5')	
			Presenter 8 (10'+5')	
<b>1</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>Scientific Session II: Integrated Approaches for the Control of <i>Aedes</i> and Other Vectors of Arboviral Diseases</b>		
		<a href="#">15:00</a>	Presenter 9 (10'+5')	
		<a href="#">16:00</a>	Presenter 10 (10'+5')	
			Presenter 11 (10'+5')	
			Presenter 12 (10'+5')	
		<a href="#">16:00</a>	Coffee Break	
		<a href="#">16:30</a>		
<b>1</b>	<b>E</b>	<a href="#">16:30</a>	<b>Industry Session</b>	
		<a href="#">17:30</a>		
		<a href="#">17:30</a>	Cocktail	
		<a href="#">19:30</a>		
<b>DAY 2</b>				
<b>2</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>Welcoming of the Participants</b>		
		<a href="#">8:30</a>	Registration	
		<a href="#">9:00</a>		
<b>2</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>Scientific Session II: Integrated Approaches for the Control of <i>Aedes</i> and Other Vectors of Arboviral Diseases</b>		
		<a href="#">9:00</a>	Keynote Speaker 3 (25'+5')	To be invited
		<a href="#">9:30</a>		
		<a href="#">9:30</a>	Keynote Speaker 4 (25'+5')	To be invited
		<a href="#">10:00</a>		
		<a href="#">10:00</a>	Coffee Break	
		<a href="#">10:30</a>		
		<a href="#">10:30</a>	Presenter 13 (10'+5')	
		<a href="#">11:30</a>	Presenter 14 (10'+5')	
			Presenter 15 (10'+5')	

			Presenter 16 (10'+5')	
<b>2</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>Scientific Session III: Advances and Innovation in Vector Control</b>		
		<a href="#"><u>11:30</u></a>	Presenter 17 (10'+5')	
		<a href="#"><u>12:30</u></a>	Presenter 18 (10'+5')	
			Presenter 19 (10'+5')	
			Presenter 20 (10'+5')	
		<a href="#"><u>12:30</u></a>	Lunch Break	
		<a href="#"><u>14:00</u></a>		
<b>2</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>Scientific Session III: Advances and Innovation in Vector Control</b>		
		<a href="#"><u>14:00</u></a>	Presenter 21 (10'+5')	
		<a href="#"><u>15:00</u></a>	Presenter 22 (10'+5')	
			Presenter 23 (10'+5')	
			Presenter 24 (10'+5')	
		<a href="#"><u>15:00</u></a>	Coffee Break	
		<a href="#"><u>15:30</u></a>		
		<a href="#"><u>15:30</u></a>	Round Table	How to translate research & innovation into vector control policies?
		<a href="#"><u>16:30</u></a>		
		<a href="#"><u>16:30</u></a>	General Discussion	
		<a href="#"><u>17:00</u></a>		