



13th EPIZONE Annual Meeting

„Breaking Walls“

26-28 August 2019, Berlin, Germany
Hosted by the Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut

Thomas C. Mettenleiter, Martin Beer, Franz J. Conraths, Sandra Blome, and Bianca M. Bussmann
August 2019, Greifswald - Insel Riems, Germany

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WELCOME

13th EPIZONE Annual Meeting *“Breaking Walls”*



Dear EPIZONE friends,

We are happy to welcome you to the 13th EPIZONE Annual Meeting in Berlin!

The Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut (FLI) is hosting this meeting and has done its utmost to develop an inspiring conference program, in the lovely venue ‘Kalkscheune’ in the heart of Berlin. The theme of this meeting is “Breaking Walls” referring to the history of the city and as metaphor for the Epizone goal to improve international cooperation within the field of epizootic diseases research and control. Infectious diseases don’t respect walls or borders!

Our organising and scientific committees developed a program with 9 renowned keynote speakers and more than 200 abstracts presented as talks or posters. The focus of the meeting will be on the EPIZONE partner institutes’ recent research in the field of epizootic animal diseases to exchange the latest research information and to establish new contacts and collaborations. The Young EPIZONE group has organised an interesting program for young scientists focussing on issues relevant for junior scientists.

Looking at the current challenges to control important epizootic diseases like African swine fever and bluetongue, the collaborations established by and maintained within EPIZONE are as important as ever. With this 13th annual meeting, we hope to foster them further to which the enjoyable social program certainly also will contribute. We are sure that the lively capital of Germany will be the perfect place to create a stimulating atmosphere of exciting talks, inspiring discussions, and scientific curiosity.

We wish you an interesting and fruitful meeting,

Thomas C. Mettenleiter
President of the Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut

Wim van der Poel
Coordinator of EPIZONE





Thank you!

**We are very grateful to the following companies for supporting
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THANK YOU to everybody else involved in the 13th EPIZONE Annual Meeting

- ◆ Administration Bureau EPIZONE at Wageningen University
- ◆ All members of the committees
- ◆ Keynote speakers
- ◆ Chair persons
- ◆ Oral presenters and poster presenters
- ◆ Participants





Conference Committees

Conference Committees

The 13th EPIZONE Annual Meeting is organized by the Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut, Federal Research Institute for Animal Health, Germany.

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- ◆ Thomas C. Mettenleiter
- ◆ Anne Balkema-Buschmann
- ◆ Martin Beer
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EPIZONE Organizing Committee

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- ◆ Manon Swanenburg
- ◆ Monique Bakker
- ◆ Daniël van den Bergh



P15 - INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION ON ZOOZOSES RISK MANAGEMENT ON THE FARM

Milena Samojlović¹, Dejan Bugarski¹, Claudio Colosio^{2,3}, Francesca Bai³, Jože Starič⁴, Jarkko Leppälä⁵, Risto Rautiainen⁵, Diana Lupulović¹

¹ *Scientific veterinary institute "Novi Sad", Novi Sad, Republic of Serbia*

² *Department of Health Sciences of the University of Milan, Italy*

³ *Occupational Health Unit and International Centre for Rural Health of the Saints Paolo and Carlo Hospitals, Milan, Italy*

⁴ *Veterinary faculty, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia*

⁵ *National Resources Institute, Luke, Finland*

Animal husbandry is a high-risk subsector of agriculture as it involves exposures to potentially hazardous animals, materials and machinery. Zoonoses are defined as infectious diseases transmitted from animals to humans and vice versa, and they are considered as one of the main occupational hazards in animal husbandry. An international network 'Safety Culture and Risk Management in Agriculture (SACURIMA, COST Action 16123)' was established to evaluate health and safety programs, advance risk management knowledge, improve statistics on injuries and illnesses, and publish obtained results. With the aim to identify emerging zoonoses and to define preventive and control measures for occupational zoonotic hazards, a Workshop "Safety and Risk Management tools adapted to Zoonoses risks" was held in Novi Sad in March 2019. Q-fever, leptospirosis, Hepatitis E, West Nile virus, brucellosis, avian and swine influenza and mycobacterial diseases were recognized as important zoonotic hazards for farm workers. The main risk factors include contact of workers with infected animals (saliva, blood, feces); material and products from infected animals; contaminated aerosols, dust, water and infected vectors involved in transmission of zoonoses. In Serbia, the most common zoonosis among livestock owners is Q-fever with 332 human cases reported between 2007 and 2016. The conclusions of the Workshop were that safe and clean environment, regular health monitoring, education, use of protective equipment, vector and pest control strategies and biosecurity measures are the most important preventive and control measures. The participants initiated work on multidisciplinary approach involving veterinarians, physicians and public health officials to meet these requirements.

Contact: Milena Samojlović
milena.s@niv.ns.ac.rs

