



TERAMO

/

ISTITUTO
ZOOPOFILATTICO
SPERIMENTALE
DELL'ABRUZZO
E DEL MOLISE
"G. CAPORALE"

OH and Funding - Italy

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National and International Ref Labs

Veterinary Public Health in Italy

- Veterinary services fall under the Ministry of Health.
 - Located within the One Health Department.
 - Integration of animal health, food safety, and public health.
- Department for One Health.
 - **DGSAF**: national plans, surveillance, regulations.
 - Coordination with EU/WOAH/ECDC.

IZS Network

- 11 Istituti Zooprofilattici Sperimentali.
 - Diagnostics, epidemiology, research.
 - National & international reference labs.

Regional Level

- Regions manage veterinary systems.
 - Implement national plans.
 - Coordinate ASL activities and emergencies.

One Health Implementation

- Strong structure
 - Veterinary sector leads zoonoses & arbovirus surveillance.
 - Further integration with human prevention desirable.



Ministero della Salute

Direzione Generale della Prevenzione Sanitaria

Piano Nazionale della Prevenzione 2020-2025

1. Prevention of chronic diseases

Promotion of healthy lifestyles, physical activity, proper nutrition, and reduction of smoking, alcohol consumption, overweight and obesity.

2. Vaccination prevention

Improving vaccination coverage, recovering unvaccinated individuals, and strengthening immunisation programs for adults and vulnerable populations.

3. Environmental prevention and safety in living and working environments

Protection of air and water quality, monitoring of environmental and climate-related risks, food safety, and workplace health and safety.

4. Prevention of infectious diseases and preparedness for health emergencies

Strengthening epidemiological surveillance, rapid response to outbreaks, enhancing laboratory capacity, and implementing a One Health approach to emerging threats.



National Arbovirus Surveillance Plan

- Italy's best operational One Health example.
 - IZS network leads surveillance in wild birds and mosquito vectors.
 - Animal/vector detection triggers public health actions (blood donor restrictions, enhanced surveillance).
 - Demonstrates strong integration between veterinary and human health sectors.

Genomic Surveillance & Viral Evolution

- Veterinary laboratories perform extensive genomic sequencing of arboviruses.
 - Genomic data allow early detection of variants and reassortant strains.
 - Supports risk assessment for human and animal health.
 - A cornerstone of Italy's One Health surveillance capacity.

From Structure to Practice

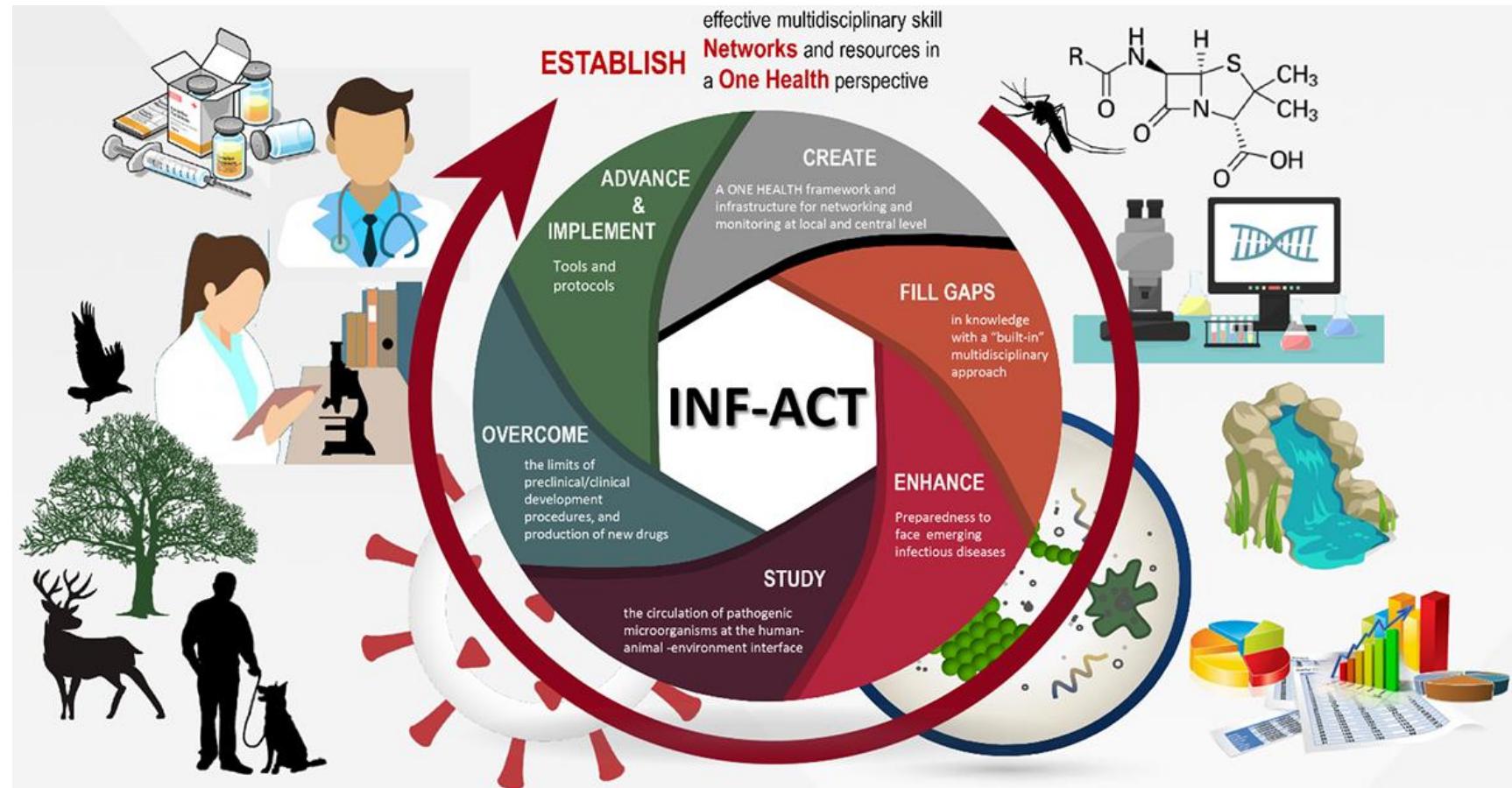
- Italy has a robust institutional foundation for One Health.
 - Practical implementation can still be improved, especially in cross-sector coordination.
 - Greater synergy between veterinary services, public health, and prevention units would increase effectiveness.
 - Future adjustments could bring Italy closer to a fully operational One Health system.

One Health funding from the IZS Network

- Most One Health funding across the IZS Network originate from IZS-driven research and field activities.
- Key funded initiatives of IZSAM include:
 - **MedNet 4 OH** – funded by AICS, supporting Tunisian hospital authorities to strengthen infectious disease diagnostics.
 - **PROVNA/PROVBA** – funded by WOAH, improving surveillance and laboratory capacity for priority pathogens.
 - **ECOSURV** – funded by EFSA, enhancing integrated surveillance and risk assessment frameworks.
 - **INF-ACT** – funded by Italy's National Recovery and Resilience Plan (NextGenEU)



One Health basic and translational actions addressing unmet needs on emerging infectious diseases



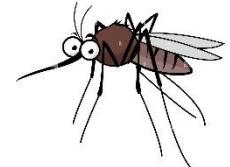
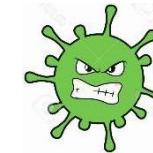


Malattie infettive emergenti nell'uomo con approccio One Health

5 Nodi di Ricerca

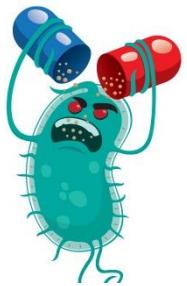
3 verticali

1. Minacce virali emergenti e riemergenti (focus su virus respiratori e zoonosi)
2. Malattie trasmesse da vettori
3. Malattie causate da agenti patogeni resistenti ad antibiotici (focus sui meccanismi di AMR)



2 trasversali

1. Epidemiologia integrata in chiave One Health: monitoraggio e modelli matematici
2. Sviluppo nuove strategie terapeutiche



Scopo del Nodo 1



Creazione network nazionale per affrontare futuri virus emergenti o riemergenti dal punto di vista medico e biologico

4 WPs

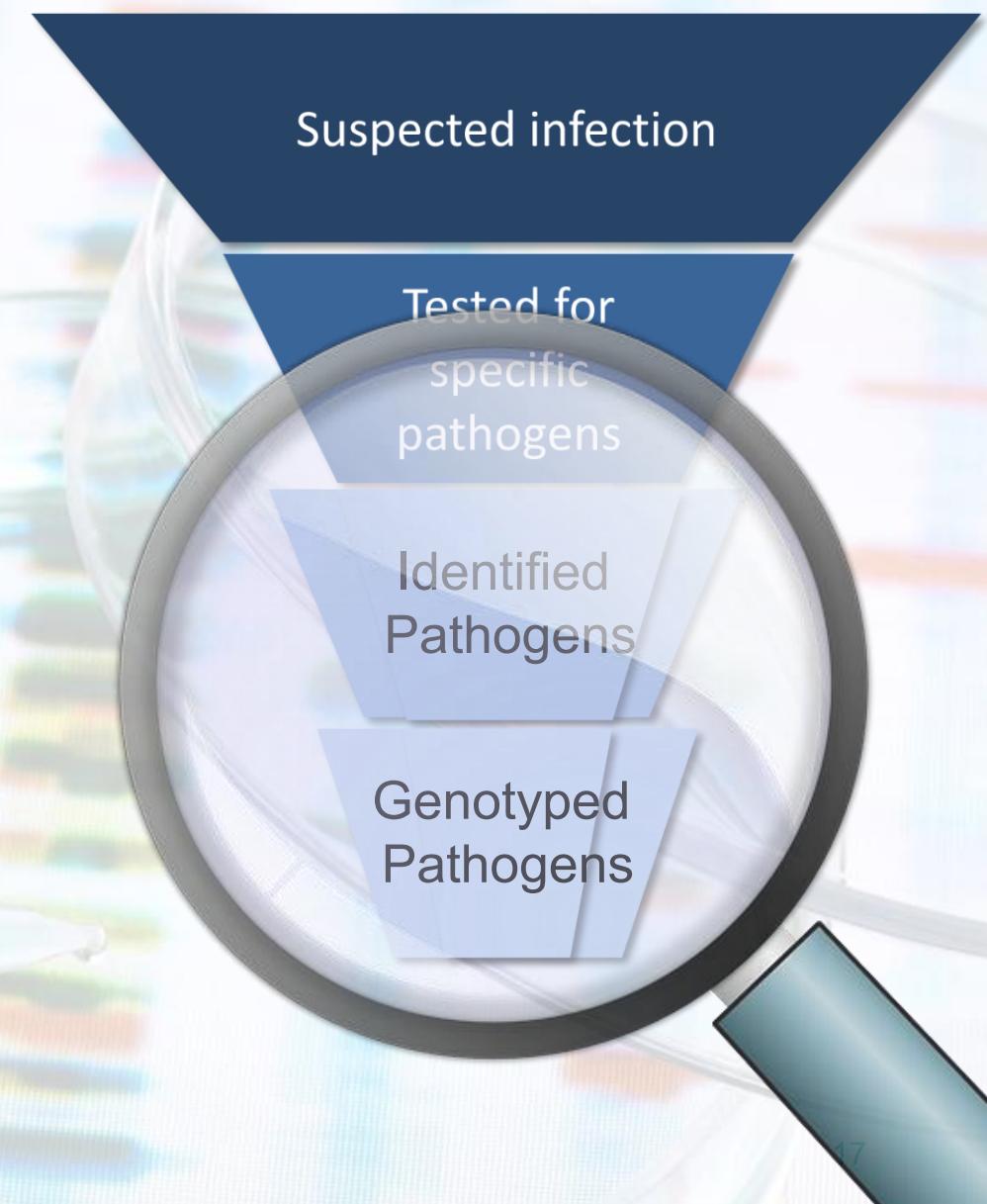
- 1.1** nuovi approcci diagnostici per monitoraggio delle infezioni virali respiratorie
- 1.2** interazione virus-ospite e immunoediting
- 1.3** monitoraggio della comparsa di nuovi virus nell'interfaccia uomo-animale
- 1.4** manifestazioni cliniche di virus emergenti e riemergenti e sviluppo di vaccini e terapie



Why Genomic Capacity Matters

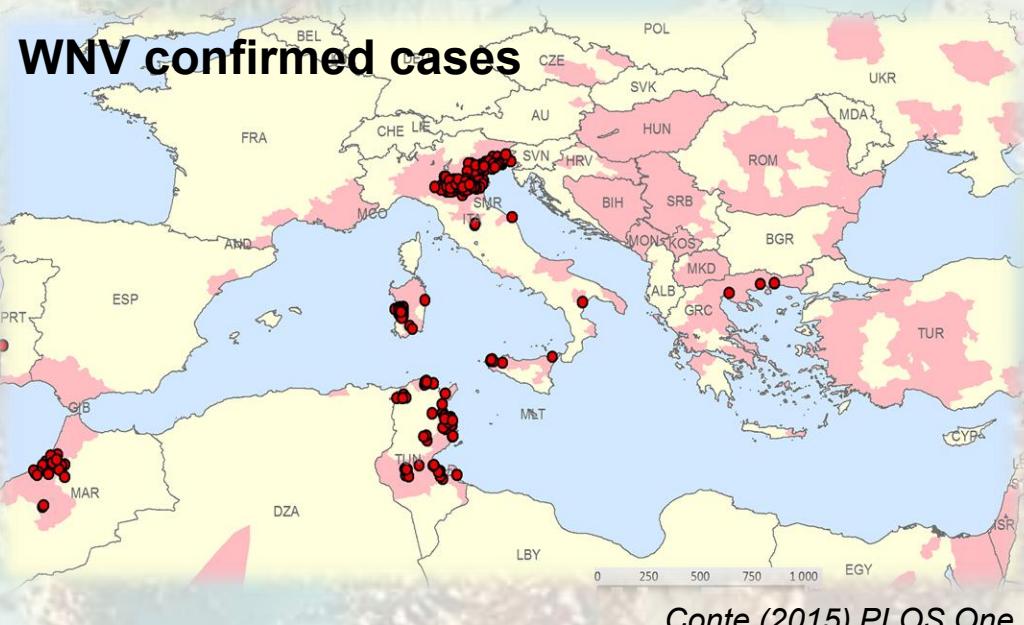
Addressing Diagnostic Gaps through Genomic Surveillance

- Significant number of infections remain unexplained due to limitations in diagnostics
- Standard PCRs focus on limited number of pathogens
- Lack of genotyping limits epidemiological understanding and diagnostic improvements

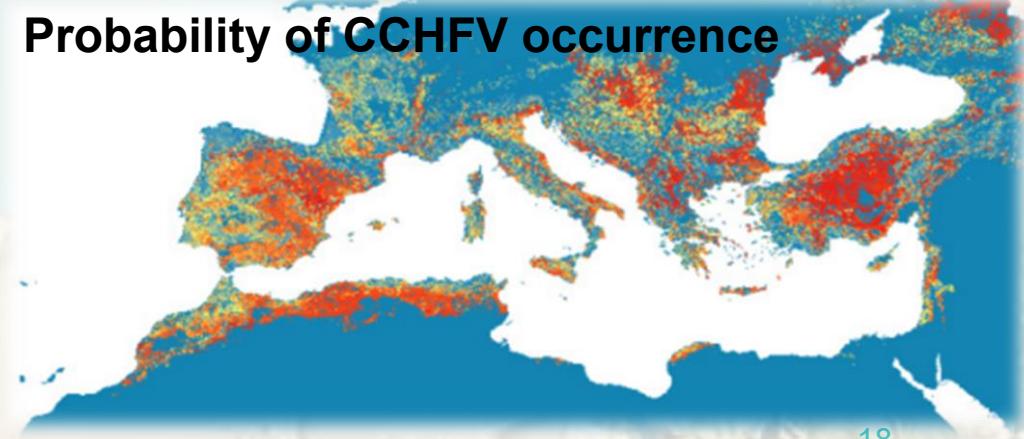


One Health Challenge in the Mediterranean Region

- Zoonotic threats are rising in frequency and complexity
- Migration, climate change, and trade impact cross-border disease dynamics
- Fragmented coordination between human, animal, and environmental sectors
- Surveillance systems often limited to a few known pathogens with underreporting of emerging diseases
- High density of domestic animals, wildlife interfaces, and intensive agriculture increase risk of spillover



Conte (2015) PLOS One



ECDC (2023) CCHFV technical report ¹⁸

IZS



AGENCE ITALIENNE
POUR LA COOPÉRATION
AU DÉVELOPPEMENT

الجمهورية التونسية



وزارة الصحة



World Health
Organization



- Based on early COVID-era pilot collaborations with Tunisian laboratories
- Increase of diagnostic capacity and harmonization across multiple institutions
 - Direct diagnostic
 - Sequencing (including metagenomics)
 - Bioinformatics and metadata

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AGENCE ITALIENNE
POUR LA COOPÉRATION
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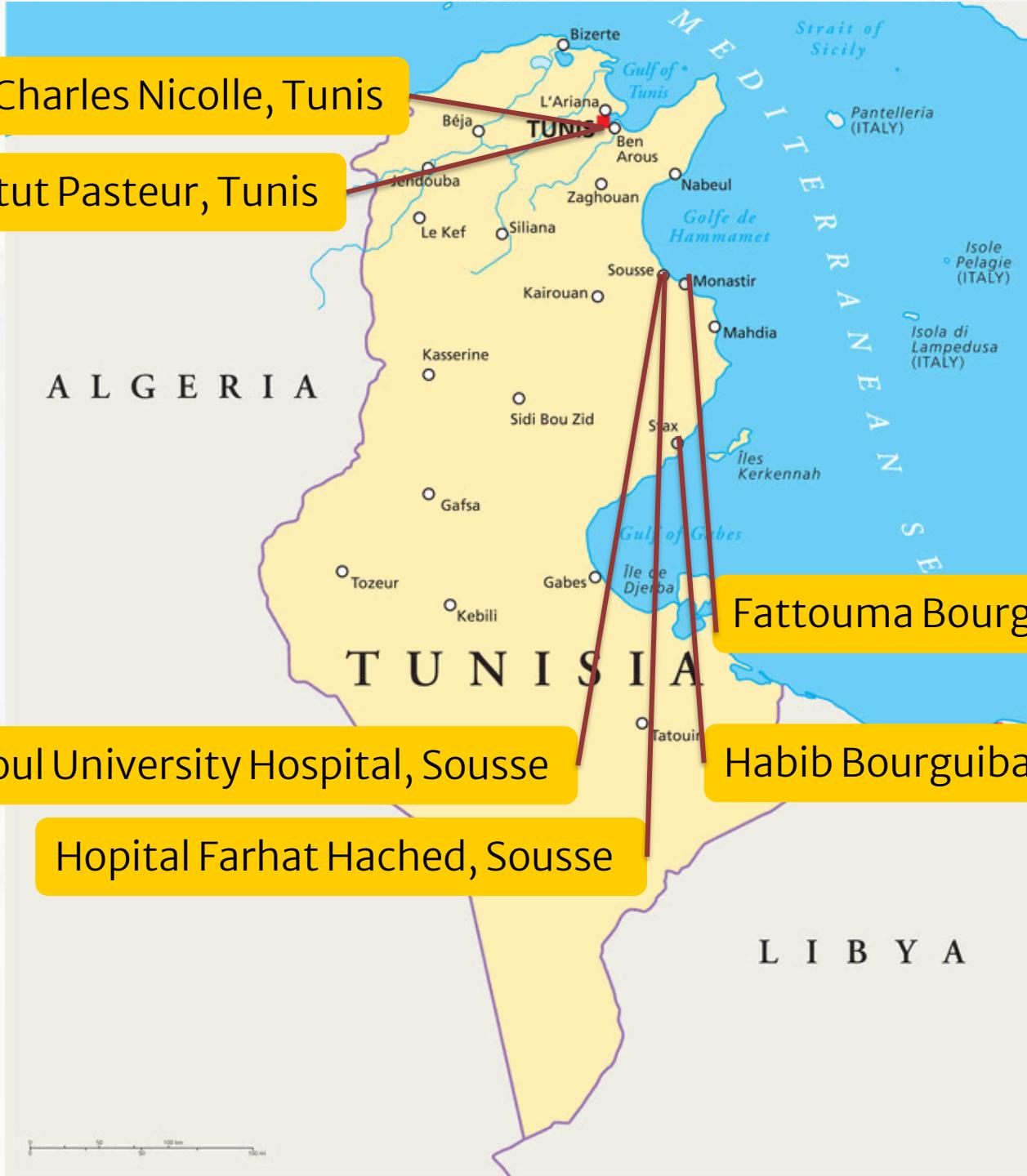
وزارة الصحة



World Health
Organization

Hopital Charles Nicolle, Tunis

Institut Pasteur, Tunis



Fattoouma Bourguiba University Hospital, Monastir

Sahloul University Hospital, Sousse

Habib Bourguiba, Sfax Hospital

Hopital Farhat Hached, Sousse



What We Sequence and Why

Neurological Infections

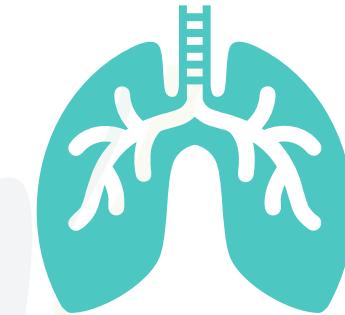
(meningitis, encephalitis, and neuro-fever syndromes)

- West Nile virus
- *Haemophilus influenzae*
- Meningococcal Disease



Respiratory Infections

Supporting Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI) and Influenza-like illness (ILI) surveillance



Integrating Sequencing in Key Surveillance Systems

Neurological Infections



Metagenomics for undiagnosed cases



Identifying new target to be included in routine surveillance

Respiratory Infections



Targeted sequencing for pathogens of interest

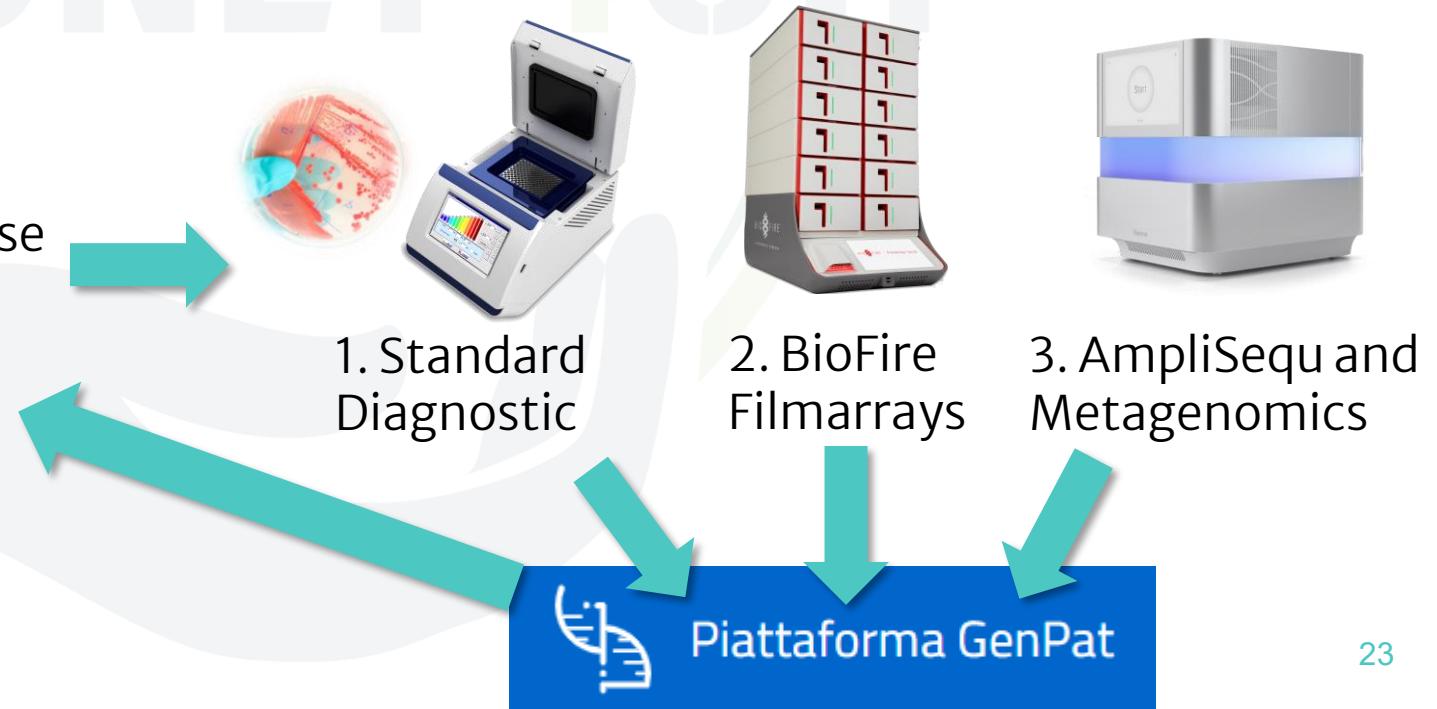


Optimizing current assays used in routine surveillance based on detected genomic changes

Workflow Overview

- Providing harmonized direct diagnostic, NGS platform and consumables
- Training scientists on sample preparation, library building, bioinformatics

- Hopital Charles Nicolle, Tunis
- Institut Pasteur, Tunis
- Sahloul University Hospital, Sousse
- Hopital Farhat Hached, Sousse
- Hospital Habib Bourguiba, Sfax
- Fattouma Bourguiba University Hospital, Monastir
- Ministry of Health
- National Observatory of New and Emerging Diseases (ONMNE)



Evidence for Better Public Health Decisions

Supporting Public Health Decision-Making

- Genomic surveillance provides real-time, locally relevant evidence for decision-makers
- Supports targeted updates to testing strategies, vaccination campaigns, and clinical management
- Enables coordinated responses across sectors—human health, veterinary, and environmental
- Aligns Tunisia with regional and international goals for epidemic preparedness and AMR monitoring



PROVNA project



2022-2024

Main objective: ECOREGIONS IN NORTH AFRICA

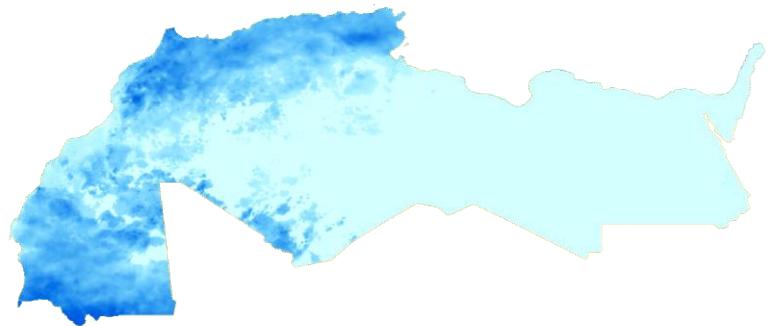
To define the “ecoregions” of the North African territory (Mauritania, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, and Egypt), each one characterized by distinct environmental and climatic factors.

Assumption: similar areas (in space and/or time) are subject to similar diseases (especially vector-borne diseases)

ECOREGIONALIZATION in North Africa

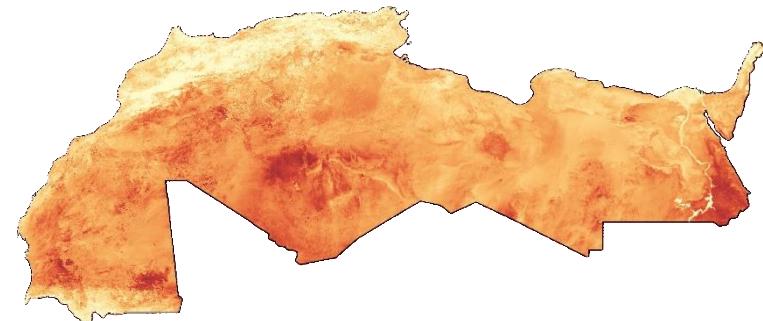
Selected Earth Observation data (2018-2022)

Rainfall



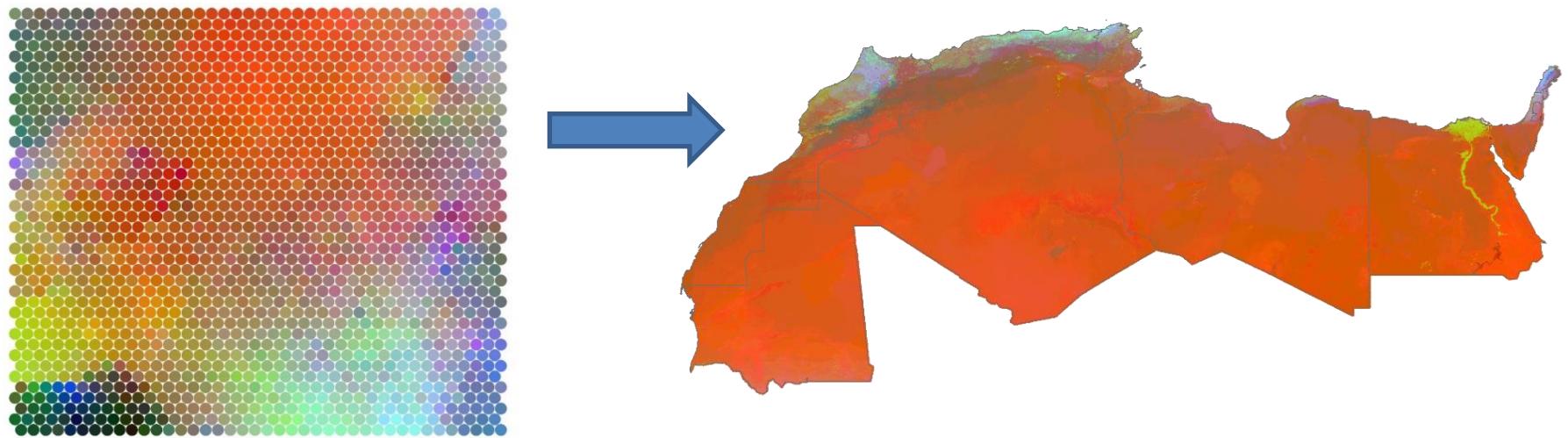
- Land Surface Temperature Day and Night - LSTD and LSTN,
- Normalised Difference Vegetation Index - NDVI,
- Soil moisture - SM,
- Normalised Difference Water Index - NDWI,
- Rainfall - RF

250 mt spatial resolution
16 days temporal resolution



- Collected
- Aggregated
- Standardised at a seasonal/year level

ECOREGIONALIZATION in North Africa



Emerging VBDs could benefit from the approach:

1. Definition of ecoregions
2. Mapping the climatic and environmental similarity
3. Inform in which areas a specific VBD can potentially spread/persist

→ How can we identify these areas?

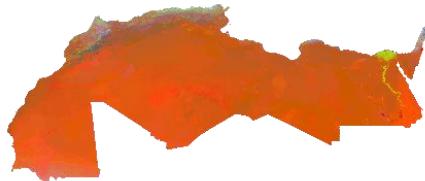


NA phase 2



Given the work done, it is crucial to combine the decision-making tools based on eco-regionalization with data from in-field surveillance.

Ecoregions
in NA



Suitability
for RVF

→ Essential to strengthen the capacity of the National Veterinary Authorities to effectively prevent, predict, detect and respond to diseases – with the optimisation of the available resources.

PROVNA phase 2

Duration (months):

18 months

General Objective

To establish a **risk-based surveillance system** across the six North African countries, using the eco-regionalization method, to monitor the emergence and spread of key animal and zoonotic diseases transmitted by mosquitoes.

APPENDIX 1

PROJECT PROPOSAL

Establishment of a risk-based surveillance system for Mosquito-Borne Diseases in North Africa (PROVNA2)

Work Package 5: Surveillance activities on wild and synanthropic mammals

T5.4*	<i>Disease Y detection in selected animal species</i>	<i>Hedgehogs, rats and bats will be targeted for the presence of new pathogens. Faeces, lungs, intestine, other internal organs and oral or rectal swabs will be tested. Around 50 samples from hedgehogs, 240 from rats and 30 from bats will be tested each year, by NGS analysis and metagenomics.</i>
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Disease Y

An unknown disease that can affect any animal species and may pose a threat to humans



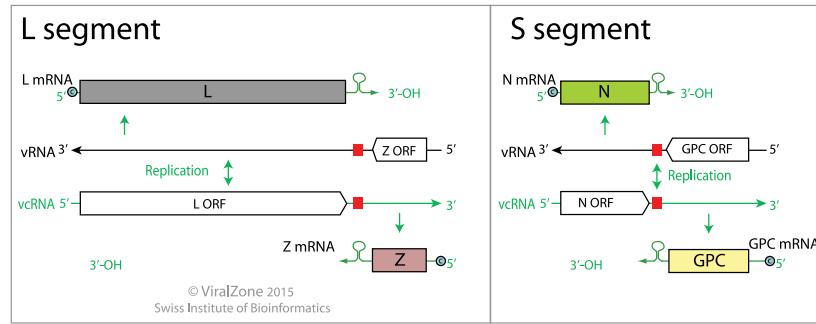
EcoSurv

Rodents



- Rodents have historically been associated with major pandemics, including the medieval plague (*Yersinia pestis*).
- Reservoirs of pathogens relevant to livestock, such as PEDV, Aujeszky's disease virus, PCV2, and Influenza A virus.
- Involved in the spread of *Leptospira*, *Salmonella*, and antibiotic-resistant bacteria.
- Reservoirs of zoonotic agents, including members of the genus *Hantavirus* (HFRS, Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome).

Roditori



- Reservoirs of zoonotic agents such as viruses belonging to the genus *Mammarenavirus*
- **Lassa virus**
 - **Disease:** Lassa fever
 - **Symptoms:** The infection may begin with fever and general malaise, followed by gastrointestinal symptoms and, in severe cases, shock and multi-organ failure.
 - **Transmission:** Believed to be transmitted to humans through contact with infected rodents.
- **Lymphocytic choriomeningitis virus (LCMV)**
 - **Disease:** Lymphocytic choriomeningitis
 - **Symptoms:** It may present as an influenza-like illness that can progress to meningitis or meningoencephalitis.
 - **Transmission:** Transmission to humans occurs through contact with secretions from infected rodents.

Pipistrelli



- Numerous new **RNA viruses identified**, associated with diseases of potential pandemic concern.
- Over 1,400 bat species exist worldwide, hosting a vast and largely unexplored viral diversity with zoonotic potential.
- **Risk factors favoring the spread of new viruses:**
 - Habitat loss
 - Food scarcity
 - Exposure to toxic substances
- **Zoonotic viruses detected in European bats:**
 - *Lyssavirus, Filovirus, Coronavirus, Astrovirus, Orthoreovirus*



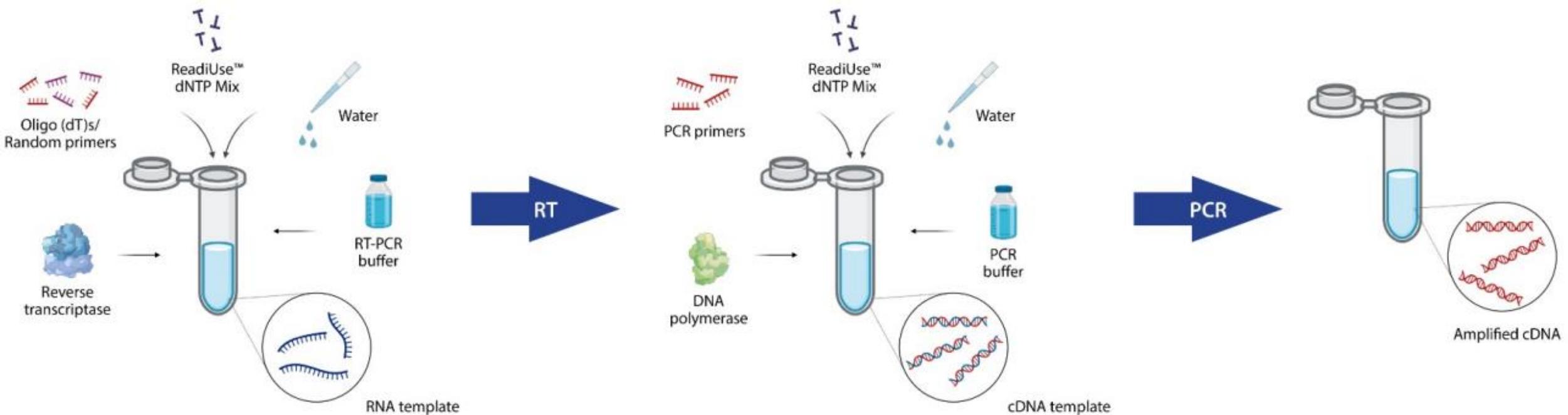
Rentokil

100 ANNI



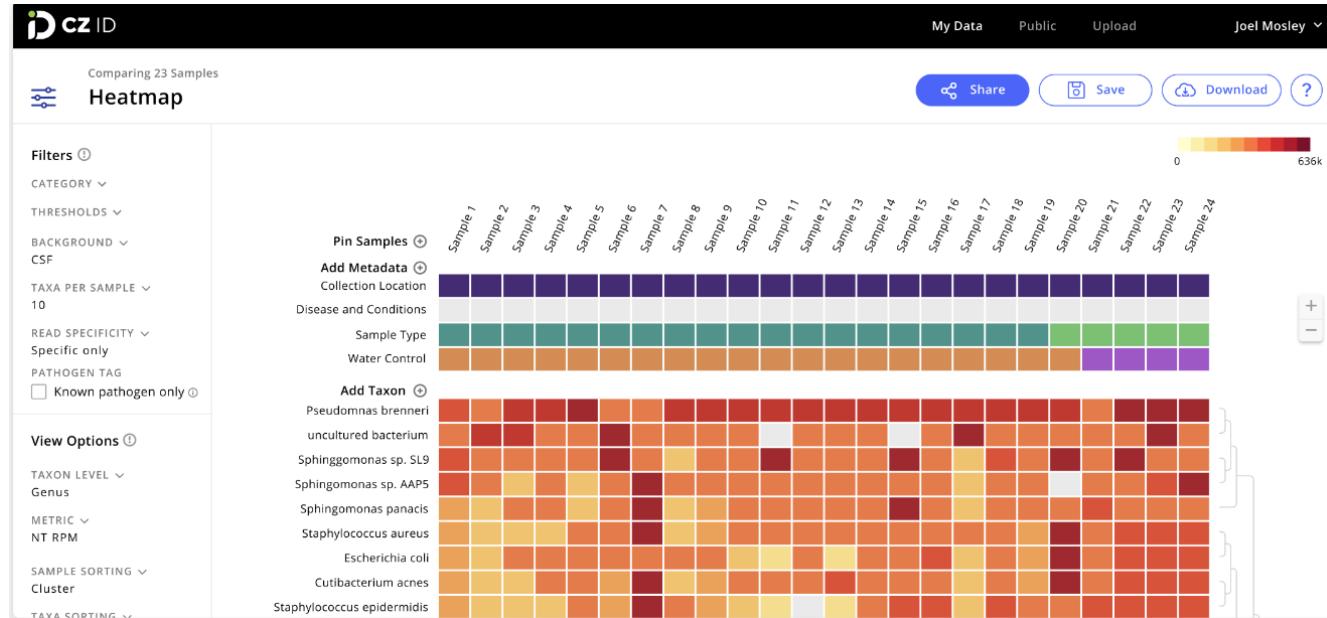
EcoSurv

Workflow- Retrotrascrizione e amplificazione dell'RNA virale con random primers



EcoSurv

Analisi Metagenomica con CZ ID



- **Classificazione tassonomica delle reads (NCBI database)**
- **Visualizzazione dei risultati con Heatmap**

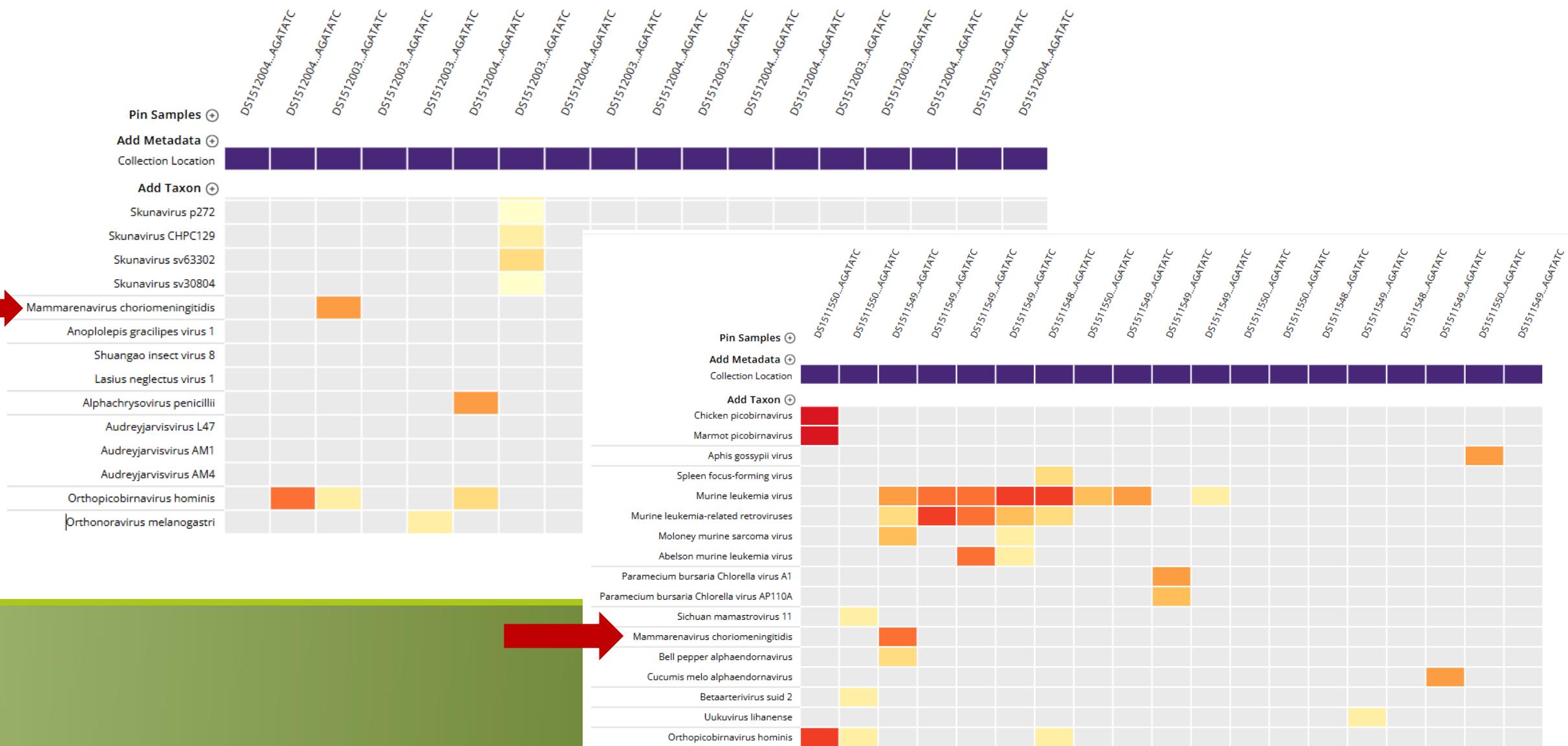


EcoSurv

Rodents from Camerun



EcoSurv



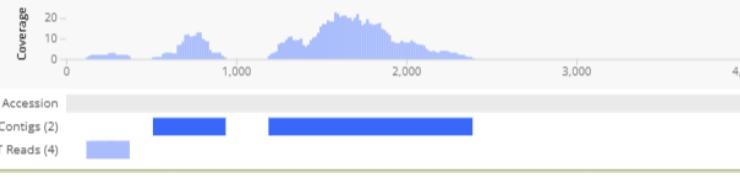
▼	□ Mammarenavirus (1 viral species)		🔍	➕	☰	⬇	40.4 49.3	186 227	4 6	145 208	87.4 89.5	719.4 219.8	10⁻¹⁹⁰ 10 ⁻¹⁵⁸
□	Mammarenavirus choriomeningitidis						40.4 49.3	186 227	4 6	145 208	87.4 89.5	719.4 219.8	10⁻¹⁹⁰ 10 ⁻¹⁵⁸
➢ □	Gammaretrovirus (4 viral species)						31.5 100.1	145 461	3 6	32 441	86.7 84.1	139.5 248.4	10⁻⁴¹ 10 ⁻¹³⁴
➢ □	Alphaenornavirus (1 viral species)						2.2 2.2	10 10	1 1	8 8	99.9 99.8	251.8 83.2	10⁻¹³¹ 10 ⁻⁵¹
➢ □	Mamastrovirus (1 viral species)						0.0 0.4	0 2	0 0	0 0	0.0 54.0	0.0 50.0	0 10 ⁻⁶
➢ □	Picobirnavirus (1 viral species)						0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0

Mammarenavirus choriomeningitidis Coverage
DQ868486.1 - Lymphocytic choriomeningitis virus strain Pasteur se... ▾

10 viewable accessions (14 total) ⓘ



NCBI Reference	DQ868486.1 - Lymphocytic ch...	Aligned Contigs	2	Coverage Depth	2.1x	Max Alignment Length	1201
Custom Reference		Aligned Loose Reads	4	Coverage Breadth	26.1%	Avg. Mismatched %	14.3%
Reference Length	7229						



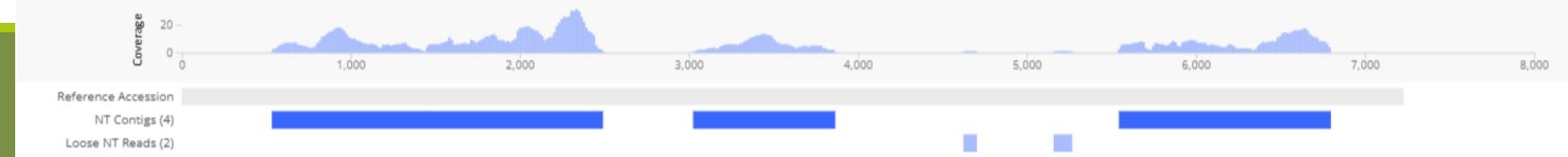
	Taxon	Score	Z Score	rPM	r	con...	con...	%id	L	E v...	NT	NR
▼	□ Mammarenavirus (1 viral species)	-	-	140.2 137.7	739 726	10 9	703 697	86.3 92.1	1,112.2 372.9	10⁻²⁷⁴ 10 ⁻²⁵⁹		
□	Mammarenavirus choriomeningitidis	-	-	140.2 137.7	739 726	10 9	703 697	86.3 92.1	1,112.2 372.9	10⁻²⁷⁴ 10 ⁻²⁵⁹		
➢ □	Gammaretrovirus (4 viral species)	-	-	21.3 28.7	112 151	5 5	101 117	83.2 87.1	369.9 148.7	10⁻⁷⁹ 10 ⁻⁸⁰		
➢ □	Picobirnavirus (5 viral species)	-	-	9.5 130.0	50 685	0 6	0 304	87.6 71.3	68.8 141.4	10⁻²² 10 ⁻⁵⁵		

Mammarenavirus choriomeningitidis Coverage
DQ868486.1 - Lymphocytic choriomeningitis virus strain Pasteur se... ▾

10 viewable accessions (13 total) ⓘ



NCBI Reference	DQ868486.1 - Lymphocytic ch...	Aligned Contigs	4	Coverage Depth	4.7x	Max Alignment Length	1255
Custom Reference		Aligned Loose Reads	2	Coverage Breadth	58.8%	Avg. Mismatched %	12.0%
Reference Length	7229						





Lancia analisi

Search...

Job Title Nucleotide Sequence

RID H6SBHJYK014 Search expires on 11-12 23:16 pm [Download All](#)

Program BLASTN [Citation](#)

Database core_nt [See details](#)

Query ID IclQuery_3133005

Description None

Molecule type dna

Query Length 3368

Other reports [Distance tree of results](#) [MSA viewer](#)

[Edit Search](#) Save Search Search Summary

Filter Results

Organism only top 20 will appear exclude

Type common name, binomial, taxid or group name

+ Add organism

Percent Identity E value Query Coverage

to to to

[Filter](#) [Reset](#)

Descriptions Graphic Summary Alignments Taxonomy

Sequences producing significant alignments [Download](#) [Select columns](#) [Show 100](#)

select all 100 sequences selected [GenBank](#) [Graphics](#) [Distance tree of results](#) [MSA Viewer](#)

	Description	Scientific Name	Max Score	Total Score	Query Cover	E value	Per. Ident	Acc. Len	Accession
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lymphocytic choriomeningitis virus strain Pasteur segment S, complete sequence	Mammarenavirus	4454	4520	100%	0.0	89.33%	3376	QK868485.1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lymphocytic choriomeningitis virus strain Douglas strain (4707) segment S, complete sequence	Mammarenavirus	3928	3994	100%	0.0	85.89%	3375	FJ607035.1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mammarenavirus choriomeningitidis WE-NIID viral cRNA, complete genome, segment S	Mammarenavirus	3855	3922	100%	0.0	85.41%	3375	LC413283.1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lymphocytic choriomeningitis virus isolate IN-2012(M435) segment S, complete sequence	Mammarenavirus	3850	3916	100%	0.0	85.35%	3376	KF732824.1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lymphocytic choriomeningitis virus isolate Makokou segment S, complete sequence	Mammarenavirus	3843	3909	100%	0.0	85.35%	3374	KM523323.1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mammarenavirus choriomeningitidis genomic RNA, segment S, complete sequence, strain: WE, sub strain: Nag...	Mammarenavirus	3842	3908	100%	0.0	85.32%	3375	AB627951.1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lymphocytic choriomeningitis virus S RNA, complete cds	Mammarenavirus	3814	3880	100%	0.0	85.18%	3375	M22138.1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mammarenavirus choriomeningitidis strain ABQ segment S, complete sequence	Mammarenavirus	3794	3851	98%	0.0	85.41%	3311	PX021332.1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lymphocytic choriomeningitis virus strain 200504261 segment S, complete sequence	Mammarenavirus	3792	3859	100%	0.0	84.98%	3378	FJ607037.1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lymphocytic choriomeningitis virus strain 811316 segment S, complete sequence	Mammarenavirus	3782	3849	100%	0.0	84.91%	3376	FJ607031.1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lymphocytic choriomeningitis virus strain 200501927 segment S, complete sequence	Mammarenavirus	3770	3837	100%	0.0	84.83%	3378	FJ607030.1

ID Sample	Vcov (x)	Hcov (%)	Numero di read mappate	% IUPAC	% Ns	Lunghezza consensus (bp)
2025.TE.10245.1.2	964	99,7	22 108	0.03	0	3368
2025.TE.10125.1.1	3 628	100	87 699	0	0	3376
2025.TE.10245.1.2	2 423	97,4	124 298	0	2	7201
2025.TE.10125.1.1	1 823	95,7	87 428	0	4	7228

BLAST analysis



Genus	Taxon	DS1499476...678.1.7	DS1503012...45.1.12	DS1503012...45.1.13	DS1503012...45.1.14	DS1503012...45.1.15	DS1503012...45.1.16	DS1503012...45.1.17	DS1503012...45.1.18	DS1503012...45.1.19	DS1503012...45.1.20	DS1503012...45.1.21	DS1503013...45.1.2
Cardiovirus	Cardiovirus B	0	0	NA	31226	0	273	NA	0	0	174	0	34
Cardiovirus	Rodent Cardiovirus	0	0	0	21	0	NA	0	0	0	0	0	14
Cardiovirus	Marmot cardiovirus	0	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chaphamaparvovirus	Chaphamaparvovirus rodent1	0	0	NA	24	0	0	0	18	0	0	0	NA
Chapparvovirus	Murine chapparvovirus	0	0	0	2502	0	0	0	NA	0	0	0	0
Deltapartitivirus	Plant associated deltapartitivirus 5	0	0	0	0	1177	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dependoparvovirus	Anser anser dependoparvovirus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gammaretrovirus	Murine leukemia-related retroviruses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	0	0	0
Gammaretrovirus	Murine leukemia virus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	65	NA	0	0	0
Hunnivirus	Hunnivirus sp.	0	0	0	0	0	0	48	0	0	0	0	NA
Hunnivirus	Hunnivirus A	0	0	0	0	0	NA	4937	0	0	0	309	NA
Hunnivirus	Rattus tanezumi hunnivirus	0	0	0	0	0	NA	3648	0	0	0	22	NA
Jeilongvirus	Jeilongvirus myodesis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jeilongvirus	Eothenomys eva jeilongvirus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jeilongvirus	Jeilongvirus apodemi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jeilongvirus	Apodemus draco jeilongvirus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jeilongvirus	Longquan Niviventer fulvescens jeilongvirus 2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jeilongvirus	Jeilongvirus queenslandense	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jeilongvirus	Jeilongvirus beilongi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jeilongvirus	Jingmen Apodemus agrarius jeilongvirus 2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jeilongvirus	Mus musculus jeilongvirus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mamastrovirus	Rodent astrovirus	0	0	0	0	0	681	838	0	0	36	0	1872
Mupivirus	Mupivirus A	0	0	0	62	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Orbivirus	Attungu rodent orbivirus	0	0	0	10	0	101	0	0	0	52	48	0
Orbivirus	Mulberry orbivirus	0	0	0	NA	0	NA	0	0	0	17	NA	0
Orthoreovirus	Mammalian orthoreovirus	0	0	NA	0	0	35	34840	0	0	0	0	0
Parechovirus	Rattus tanezumi parechovirus	0	0	117	NA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Picobirnavirus	Picobirnavirus sp.	NA	0	7216	0	0	10	19	0	0	NA	NA	0
Picobirnavirus	Porcine picobirnavirus	0	0	2585	0	NA	NA	NA	0	0	0	NA	0
Picobirnavirus	Marmot picobirnavirus	0	0	83	0	0	NA	25	0	0	0	0	0
Picobirnavirus	Chimpanzee picobirnavirus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Picobirnavirus	Rat picobirnavirus	0	0	299	0	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	0
Picobirnavirus	Chicken picobirnavirus	0	0	97	0	0	0	NA	0	0	0	0	0
Picobirnavirus	Fox picobirnavirus	0	0	427	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Picobirnavirus	Porcine picobirnavirus group II	0	0	20268	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Picobirnavirus	Mongoose picobirnavirus	0	0	1462	0	0	0	NA	0	0	0	0	0
Picobirnavirus	Microtus picobirnavirus V-111/USA/2008	0	0	237	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Picobirnavirus	Picobirnavirus 504	0	0	NA	0	0	NA	0	0	0	0	0	0
Picobirnavirus	Turkey picobirnavirus	0	0	NA	0	0	0	NA	0	0	0	0	0
Protoparvovirus	Protoparvovirus rodent1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protoparvovirus	Hamster parvovirus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rosavirus	Rosavirus B	0	0	0	0	0	0	150	0	0	0	0	0
Rosavirus	Rosavirus C	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	0	0	0	0	0



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