

The Global Vector Hub - building entomological capacity worldwide and improving epidemic preparedness

The Global Vector Hub (GVH) is an exciting new online platform currently under development at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), focusing on control of arthropod disease vectors globally. An early version was launched in summer 2020 in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic to address the urgent need for accurate and up-to-date information and resources on vector-borne diseases and vector control interventions. Following on from this success, a revised version will be released in 2023.

The aims of the GVH are to assist in **capacity building** for vector control globally, establish a **community of practice** for vector control interventions, and enable stakeholders to make **evidence-based decisions**. The main audiences of the GVH are **public health officials, vector control agents** and **vector researchers**.

The GVH consists of a community-led, online, **open-access** resource to provide comprehensive information on vector control and vector biology. This includes geo-tagged entomological **data** and epidemiological data, a searchable registry and worldwide **network** of vector researchers and vector controllers, and a comprehensive **resource** database of training and educational materials, vector control guidelines and research tools.

In addition, the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR) and the GVH have developed a web-based **global directory of medical entomology courses** as a new resource for strengthening the capacity of scientists combating neglected tropical diseases and other vector-borne diseases. The directory currently lists a total of 126 medical entomology courses offered both on-campus and through distance learning in 32 countries across all WHO regions, covering seven languages. The freely available directory was developed in collaboration with the GVH and Arctech Innovations, following the mapping of courses available globally. WHO's Department of Control of Neglected Tropical Diseases and the WHO Global Malaria Programme have also reviewed the directory and provided recommendations. For each course, session dates, course outline, fees, language of instruction and responsible managers are listed.

We are also planning to include versions in Spanish, French and Portuguese as soon as possible.