Welcome to the 1st Newsletter of 2012!

This is one of the last NL of SAPUVETNET III as a project. Unfortunately in May we will edit our last NL as a group financed by the European Union. The good news is that this was not a motive to demotivate. Instead quite the opposite, we searched new opportunities to keep us together. This need and will, prove of solidity and sustainability, which the group could achieve as an all, is shown in the several activities of both European and Latin American members. We will keep you updated about the success of each one of those. We plan to announce as soon as possible one of the initiatives that, as we hope, will ensure our future sustainability as a group: creating a non-profit international association, through which we pretend to continue the work started by SAPUVETNET project and to which we invite you to become member; in these matters we will provide you more information in our last NL in May.

Stay alert! We have many dreams we would like to share with you!

Manuela Vilhena & Luís Carlos Villamil
The 6th meeting of the SAPUVETNET coordinating group was held in Rome, Italy from 12th to 17th September 2011. The meeting was successfully held at the FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization) headquarters, facilitated by Dr. Katinka de Balogh, Head of Animal Health - Veterinary Public Health Division, who promoted the first SAPUVET project and is a member of SAPUVET II.

At this meeting, the last presential one of SAPUVETNET III project, scheduled as part of the plan of activities for 2011, one of the topics discussed was future sustainability of the project. Following is a brief overview of the topics that were discussed:

- **The future of SAPUVETNET project**: Financing options for future sustainability of the project. Joint masters and/or post-graduate programs between Europe and Latin America.

- **Veterinary Public Health Manual**: Dr. Natalia Cediel at the University of La Salle in Colombia, presented the complete version of the Manual of Public Health. An interactive instructive and educational manual that shall soon be ready and made available to all universities that wishes to use the innovative VPH teaching.

- **Review of the project’s page**: www.sapuvetnet.org and its improvement.

- **Visits to the FAO Crisis Center**, and commemoration of the World Rabies Day.

- **Veterinary Public Health Curriculum Model**: Issues regarding creation of a common model for VPH were discussed and working groups were established, based on the manual groups, to define competencies that are to be acquired in each subject. It was determined that it would be impossible to give credit since the teaching methods are very diverse.
• Electronic Conference “Human Migration and Zoonosis: Topics for the conference and possible speakers were discussed.

• The DVDs made by the University of Turin, regarding the dressing of poultry, dressing of rabbits, and the interactive manual for dressing of cattle, were distributed to all the participants from different countries and copies will be made available for distribution in all participating countries.

• Also some samples of the 4th issue of the SAPUVET magazine were distributed.

• At the meeting SAPUVETNET had the support of collaborator, Dr. Paulo Cesar from the Rural University of Rio de Janeiro in Brazil and Dr. Raul Vargas from the National Autonomous University in Mexico.
Since 2008, the veterinary and public health community has been celebrating the “World Rabies Day” every September 28th. This year was no exception. The SAPUVETNET project supported campaigns that were underway in the project's member countries. In the case of Colombia, the Universidad de La Salle organized a series of presentations to raise awareness of government public health institutions, set up a Rabies room and carried out anti-rabies vaccination on animals.
The Sapuvet project was present at the 3rd International Congress on Climate Change and Sustainable Development in La Plata, Argentina, presenting a poster on “THE INFLUENCE OF CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE AND THE (RE-) EMERGENCE OF ZOONOSIS: THE EXPERIENCE OF VETERINARY PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION IN THE SAPUVETNET NETWORK.”
The 1st International Congress on Pathogens at the Human-Animal Interface, was held on 15 – 17 September in Addis Abeba, Ethiopia. The project coordinator, Dr. Manuela Vilhena, served as SAPUVETNET III project representative and made a presentation on: “What kind of Public Health do we want? Why do we need a VPH curriculum?”. The participants at the conference showed considerable interest for the presented topic. There was much demand for the DVDs produced by the University of Turin, some of which were distributed at the conference.
URB-AL is a regional cooperation program of the European Commission with Latin America, whose aim is to increase social and territorial cohesion within the subnational and regional communities in Latin America.

As a specific objective this program aims to consolidate or promote public policies and procedures for social cohesion, which could become reference models providing Latin American governments with possible solutions.

The second “URBsociAL” was a Euro-Latin American meeting on social cohesion and local public policies that ended in Rosario (Santa Fe Province) with presentation of an “agenda” which includes contributions from over 23 countries and 150 cities represented at the meeting and workshops.

The so-called Agenda URBsociAL Rosario 2011 includes 13 specific recommendations on the topics discussed and analyzed on 21 - 25 September in the workshops in Rosario (Argentina): local development potential for cohesion and inclusive growth, land use and sustainable development and institutional innovation. This agenda is available in English, Spanish, Italian and Portuguese at:


On the last day of URBsociAL workshop in addition to presentation of the findings of the workshops, a session was held about the EU regional programs and territorial cooperation. Here SAPUVET participated along with other European Union (EU) projects.

The aim of participation of the European Union (EU) projects, such as ours, was to provide a brief explanation, in a non-academic manner, of the contents of the project and suggest possible cooperation with URBAL project. With this
regard the following were defined as possible areas in which SAPUVETNET could develop partnerships with municipalities: improving food safety; early vector detection and control; programs for preventing animal diseases (zoonosis); development of disease surveillance systems; readiness to assist in natural disasters; responsible animal ownership and control of stray animals.

We were represented in four ALFA projects, as the other other alphas were on the following topics: information technology, social inclusion and withdrawal or drop out at Latin American universities.
During the Annual Congress of the European College of Veterinary Public Health, Dr. Daniele de Meneghi member of SAPUVETNET from Italy, and Dr. Linny Keenssen, member of SAPUVETNET from the Netherlands, represented the network with a poster entitled: “Experiences in Teaching Veterinary Public Health across Latin-America and Europe: the SAPUVETNET III Project “.

Drs. De Meneghi and Keenssen highlighted the training materials developed by the project, which were of great interest in the scientific and academic community.
SAPUVETNET present in the V Congress of the Portuguese Society of Veterinary Sciences in 2011

The 5th congress of PSVS entitled “Science for a single veterinary health” was held from 13 to 15 October 2011. Profª Manuela Vilhena, the coordinator of the project, was invited by Dr. Katinga Balogh to the panel of FAO (Food Agriculture Organization) and made a presentation about SAPUVET network. The abstract of the paper can be found in the book of abstracts, which is available at:

http://www.congressospcv.net/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=52&Itemid=56
Sapuvet present at the International Congress on “Responsible use of Antibiotics in Animals” held in 2011, in The Netherlands

Dr. Mª Carmen, member of SAPUVETNET, from The United Kingdom made a presentation on “Sapuvet and Sapuvetnet Projects: a contribution to the understanding of the prudent use of antimicrobials”, which was based on the results of the electronic conference organized by the project in September 2010 on “Prudent use of antibiotics: Solution or Utopia?”.
SAPUVETNET III Project launched the 4th edition of the magazine One health, in the second half of 2011, at its coordination meeting in Rome.

We invite you to read this interesting issue with the following articles:

1. Standardization of a protocol for identifying molecular characterization of species of terrestrial strains of bacteria of the genus Brucella.
2. Frequent use of Antibacterials in cattle for milk and meat production in Lima – Peru.
4. Veterinary medicine and international commerce.
5. Myiasis in public health and veterinary public health.
6. The educational flipchart as community-based participatory methodology: the case of vector-borne diseases.
7. Fleas as vectors of emerging zoonosis.

Manuscripts can be sent electronically to the editor, Claudia Aixa Mutis, University of La Salle, email: revistasapuvet@lasalle.edu.co or in hard copy to: Cra 7 No. 174 - 85, Bogota, Colombia. The author(s) should submit the manuscript in A4 format, single-sided, single spaced and in Arial 12 point, and all information or graphic images in the original programs - Excel, Corel, or in .jpg, .bmp format.
As part of the SAPUVETNET III project, the University of Évora has developed a case study on "Foodborne diseases" that was used with students of Public Health and Preventive Medicine at the University of Turin. In September 2011, during an exchange with the University of Turin, Dr. Manuela Vilhena, Évora, and Dr. Daniele DeMeneghi, Turin, adapted the case study to the geographical and social conditions of Italy and used it with the students in the Masters of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Turin. The video presentation of the case study can be seen at:

http://www.sapuvetnet.org/ES_frameset.html
MVZ Raul Vargas of the National Autonomous University of Mexico, cooperating with the SAPUVETNET III project, through an exchange program with the University of Évora, is helping develop the program with the project coordinator. Also of value is his participation in Public Health and Preventive Medicine classes.
SAPUVETNET launched two contests to promote adherence to vaccination against rabies in countries where the disease is a public health problem: music and comic books.

As a way to raise awareness in the developing countries about the importance of vaccination against rabies and discourage abandonment of animals the SAPUVETNET project, through the University of Évora, launched two innovative contests in order to reach the target population. Thus, one of the contests, via production of a song with a catchy rhythm for the young people, and the other, creating a comic book that can be painted and read by children. Original ways of reaching those who most need accurate information. We expect great success!

The competitions and respective regulations can be found in the competitions’ page of the project:

www.sapuvetnet.org/competition.

For the music contest the 2 finalist songs can be found at:

http://www.youtube.com/user/sapuvet
On January 23, 2012, Dr. Cristina Schneider, Pan American Health Organization (PAHO / PAHO / WHO) held a conference at the University of Évora. A very interesting presentation which discussed the importance of zoonotic diseases – diseases common to humans and animals as potential public health emergencies of international concern, with the aim of contributing to the definition of effective strategies in reducing risk of infection in human and animal health interface.
The students of Veterinary Public Health at the University of Évora, prepared a public presentation, on January 23, 2012, on – “Vetor”; similar to that in other countries participating in the project. Évora has started the public health student group, with the hope that it shall sow the seeds that will provide continuity for the work carried out during the 3 years of the project. Training professionals who are capable to intervene in and inform the community, work with multidisciplinary teams and develop international projects with other similar groups, are some of the challenges.
In the next few months, SAPUVETNET shall be organizing an electronic conference “Population displacement and zoonosis. Surveillance networks: how to achieve cooperation between veterinary public health and human health?”.  

Do not miss this opportunity to participate in a contemporary issue in VPH. The date has not been confirmed due to recording and organization schedules. All participants shall be notified soon on our site. 
Do not miss it!

Visit our page: www.sapuvetnet.org