



## NADIR: The European Network for Animal Disease and Infectiology Research Facilities

Europe has numerous experiment facilities meeting strict biosafety standards that are used to study a variety of zoonotic emerging diseases and other animal infectious diseases. These facilities had loose connections, meaning there is often redundancy between disease collections. The EU-funded NADIR project aims to bring these research facilities together to reduce overlap, optimise research tools and boost European potential in the field of animal infectiology.

### ● WORKING TOGETHER TO UNDERSTAND DISEASE



Animal infectiology facilities are a key element of European research. The diseases they store and data they produce are used by researchers in various fields across Europe. By bringing together these diverse animal disease infectiology facilities, Europe can become a world leader in the field. As such, NADIR is bringing together these research centres to reduce redundancy, bridge gaps and achieve economies of scale, all the while using the resources saved to modernise existing facilities and construct new ones.

There is a strong demand in Europe today for medical and veterinarian research. This research also needs to meet current safety and ethical requirements while providing reliable

knowledge into physiopathology of emerging infectious diseases and their diagnosis, conditions of transmission, as well as vaccine and therapeutic trials.

To achieve its ambitious goals, NADIR will intensify exchanges between project partners in the areas of communications, knowledge sharing and best practices. There will also be increased resource sharing between partners, particularly in regards to animal lines and materials developed in-house. Moreover, access to state-of-the-art facilities will be provided to partners and non-partners alike and joint research will improve services currently offered by the network.

## ● MAKING CONNECTIONS



Through the various network and joint research activities of the NADIR project, a strong infrastructure will be created and will be owned by the network partners. Access will also be provided to all interested institutions and researchers, in part, through the creation of an electronic gateway. This will ensure that everyone interested in taking advantage of the network is able to and will allow researchers to take advantage of Europe's animal disease infectiology resources.

Moreover, the project will allow for greater coordination between partners. This means sharing resources, staff, information and the most up-to-date technologies. There will

also be better standardisation so that methods and protocols are consistent across the project, ensuring that mammalian diseases are stored in the same fashion leading to better, more harmonised research. New ethical standards will also be adopted by project partners.

Lastly, NADIR is also working on developing new technologies to be used in infectiology. Researchers are designing state-of-the-art imaging technologies, molecular tools, animal lines and infection models. Together, these will allow researchers to conduct better research and develop a better understanding of mammalian disease pathology.



**Project acronym:** NADIR

**Funding scheme (FP7):** Integrating Activities (IA)

**EU financial contribution:** €7.5 million

**EU project officer:** Christos Profilis

**Duration:** 48 months

**Start date:** 1 May 2009

**Completion date:** 30 April 2013

**Partners:**

Institut national de la recherche agronomique (FR)  
Aarhus Universitet (DK)  
Agence française de sécurité sanitaire des aliments (FR)  
Centre de Recerca en Sanitat Animal (ES)  
Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut (DE)

Institute for Animal Health (UK)  
Instituto Nacional de Investigación y Tecnología Agraria y Alimentaria (ES)  
Kimron Veterinary Institute (IL)  
Moredun Research Institute (UK)  
Veterinærinstituttet (DK)  
Veterinærmedisinsk oppdragscenter (NO)  
Veterinary Laboratories Agency (UK)  
Central Veterinary Institute of Wageningen (NL)  
Parco Tecnologico Padano (IT)  
University of Nottingham (UK)  
INRA Transfert (FR)

**Coordinator:** Frederic Lantier, Institut national de la recherche agronomique, Frederic.Lantier@tours.inra.fr

**Project webpage:** [www.nadir-project.eu](http://www.nadir-project.eu)