



advanz
advocacy
for neglected
zoonotic diseases



Proposal full title

Advocacy for neglected zoonotic diseases

Proposal acronym

ADVANZ

Type of funding scheme

Coordination and support actions (Supporting)

Work programme topics addressed

Theme: Food, Agriculture, Fisheries and Biotechnology

FP7-KBBE-6-singlestage

KBBE.2012.1.4-03

2nd periodic report - Publishable summary

May 2015

List of beneficiaries

Participant no.	Participant organization name	Country
1 (Coordinator)	University of Copenhagen (UCPH)	Denmark
2	University of Kwa-Zulu Natal	South Africa
3	University of Edinburgh (UEDIN)	United Kingdom
4	Avia-GIS (and subcontracting African SME)	Belgium
5	Institute of Tropical Medicine (ITM)	Belgium
6	Swiss Tropical Public Health Institute	Switzerland

Project website: <http://www.advanz.org>

Publishable summary

The aim of ADVANZ (Advocacy for Neglected Zoonotic Diseases) is to persuade decision makers and empower stakeholders at local, regional, and international levels towards a coordinated fight against neglected zoonotic diseases (NZD). The action is focussed first and foremost towards Africa, where the burden from NZDs is heaviest. The project recognizes that a major part of the initiative for control of NZDs must come through a behaviour change in the population at risk. A major challenge is that NZD to a large extent are 'silent' for the humans living in communities in endemic areas. Therefore locally adapted information is required to generate awareness and alter bad practices. At the same time, the change must be approached via an informed support mechanism, veterinarian, public health and agricultural extension workers being aware of the variety of NZD and the different approaches to combat them.

The second period of the project had three main goals

1. As part of **WP1** to disseminate knowledge on NZDs and to consolidate the Pan-African platform on NZDs
2. In **WP3** to create a publishable set of advocacy materials, based on the documents compiled by WP2.
3. To complete the final arrangements and execute the fourth international meeting on neglected zoonotic diseases, the NZD4 (**WP4**)

In **WP1**, the **Pan-African OH NZD platform** has been created. The official launch of the platform took place at the NZD4 meeting. The ADVANZ.org website will be the home of the platform, where the information material created by **WP3** is also hosted. Furthermore ADVANZ has supported the development of a digital *T. solium* cysticercosis advocacy tool was published, which can be accessed through ADVANZ.org or theviciousworm.org.

Working on the data compiled by **WP2** during the first period of the project, **WP3** of ADVANZ now have set up a website which provides evidence-based knowledge of the diagnosis, prevention and control of NZDs. All data is based on the One Health approach, and targets decision making bodies involved in disease control: relevant Ministries, district health- veterinary and vector control offices and also the locally affected communities. A part of the tasks of **WP3** consisted in sub-contracting an artist who would be responsible for the artwork in the information material. After creating the ToR for the task, a Kenyan artist, Joseph Kariuki, was hired for the job.

The set of information materials can be reached through this website: <http://advocacy.advanz.org>
The work has mainly been carried out by project beneficiary number 3, AVIA-GIS. A report on creating the materials, **D3.1**, has been uploaded to ECAS.

The fourth international meeting on neglected zoonoses, *NZD4*, was successfully held at the WHO headquarters in Geneva in November 2014. Arranging the meeting was done primarily by **WP4**, with assistance from the WHO, partner 3, and partner 1, who employed a WHO volunteer for two months to assist in the arrangements in Geneva. About 110 participants joined the meeting. The official report from the meeting is to be published in May 2015. A report on the planning and meeting execution is provided in D4.1 and has been uploaded to ECAS.

The ADVANZ advisory board has been active in supporting ADVANZ, primarily in regards to arranging NZD4, but also to concerning sustaining the ADVANZ output in the future.