

# EYWA: A key tool to the epidemics arsenal

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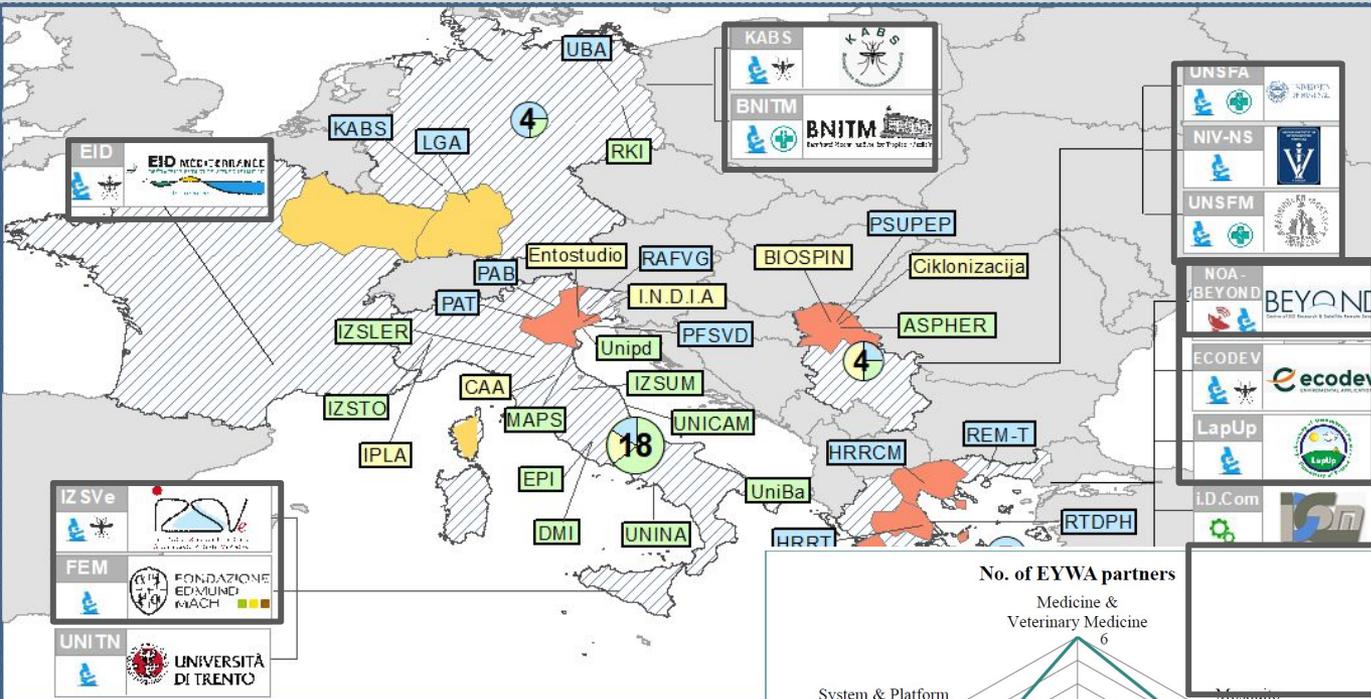
## Introduction - A global problem

- ❑ **Climate Change, globalisation** and other drivers are altering ecological conditions for **mosquitoes**.
- ❑ Globally, [Mosquito-Borne Diseases \(MBDs\)](#) as **malaria, dengue** and **yellow fever**, and **Zika** are present in over 100 countries over the world.
- ❑ Each year they account for some [700,000 deaths](#) globally. **Malaria**, which represents more than half of these, is tragically most lethal for kids aged under five in the sub-Saharan regions.
- ❑ But **Europe** is also considered as a “hot spot” especially because of the **West Nile Virus epidemic** due to elevated temperature. Also local expansion of **chikungunya** and **dengue fever** in continental Europe has increased [by over 40% compared to the 1950 baseline](#)<sup>1</sup>.

## Working towards a solution

- ❑ The need to confront, control, and foresee this continuous threat gave birth to the **EYWA early warning system**.
- ❑ It is a niche **state-of-the-art tool** to sustain **targeted door-to-door awareness** and **aversion of human cases in thousands of villages** in the European territories.
- ❑ The **EYWA** system is the outcome of a 3-year voluntary action with the ultimate vision to introduce EYWA as a **key tool** to the epidemics arsenal and contribute significantly to **combat and control MBD**.
- ❑ It operates and distills information to monitor human health, supported by diverse domains of expertise including **EO**, advanced **epidemiological** and **entomological modeling**, and innovative **AI** and **ML** big data analytics.
- ❑ The Early Warning System has been operational since **2020** and in **2021** supported **10 regions in 5 European countries (France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Serbia)**. In late 2021 EYWA was also successfully onboarded as a pilot to the e-shape project with a goal to bring the operational services in non-European countries, specifically in **Cote d'Ivoire** in Africa and **Thailand** in Asia.
- ❑ This endeavor was a significant accomplishment and EYWA was awarded with the **1st European Innovation Council Horizon Prize on Early Warning for Epidemics**.





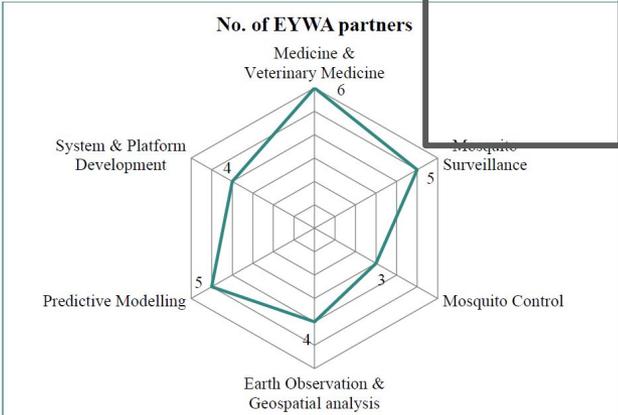
**EYWA team**  
**15 partners**  
**5 countries (~30M citizens)**  
**National/International Roles as Reference Entities**

**Data Handling, Mosquito Surveillance & Control, Medical & Veterinary Medicine from all 5 countries:**  
BEYOND/NOA, ECODEV, LapUp, AUTH, UTH (GR)  
IZSVe, FEM (IT)  
UNSF, UNSFM, NIV-NS (SRB)  
KABS, BNITM (GER)  
EID-Mediterranee (FR)

**BEYOND/NOA:** Crosscutting role for Big Data manipulation, standardisation, harmonization & storage.

**Predictive modelling:** BEYOND/NOA, ECODEV, LapUp

**System, Web Platform and mobile applications development:** BEYOND/NOA, i.D.Com, ECODEV, LapUp



**LEGEND**

Operational Demonstration	Organization Role	Network of Stakeholders
2020 TRL > 7	EARTH OBSERVATION	Number
2021 TRL > 7	SERVICE PROVIDER	Type
New engagements	RESEARCH	1 - 10
2021-2025	MOSQUITOES	11 - 20
PARTNER	HEALTH	RESEARCH
LOGO		GOVERNMENT
		PRIVATE SECTOR
		STAKEHOLDER

**EYWA engages 40 stakeholders globally up to now & has received Letters of Support from: Germany, Italy, Serbia, Greece, USA, Brazil & India**

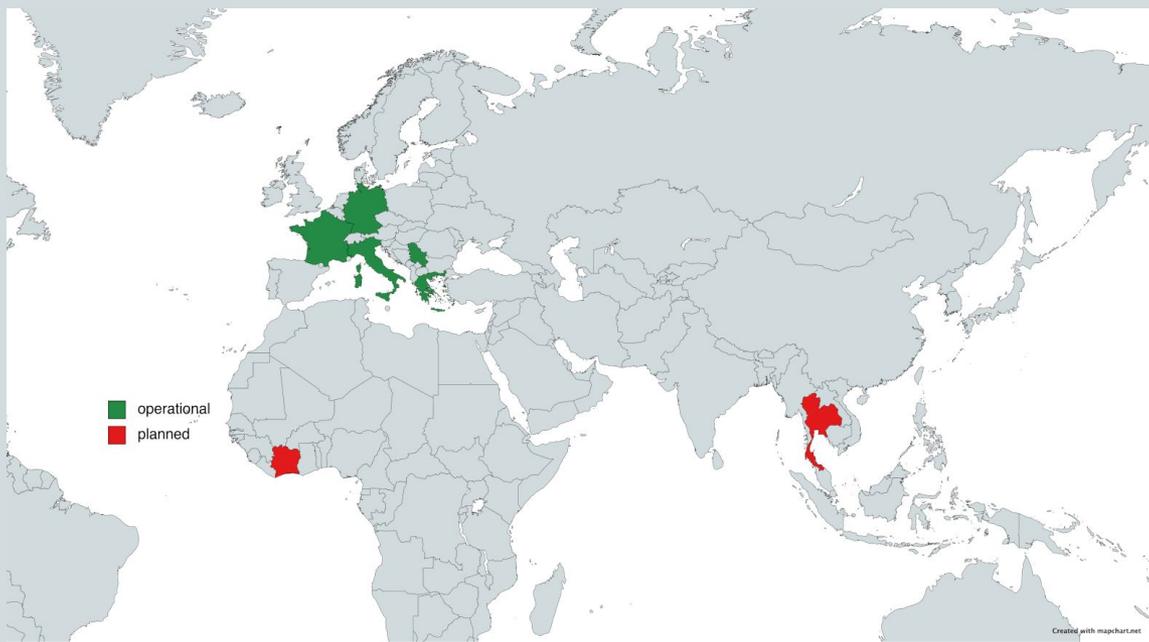
**211 publications & more than 44,450 citations**

## Reaching out globally

- EYWA** engages more than **40 stakeholders** at a **European and global** scale providing essential data and feedback.
- The **EYWA consortium** signed an MoU with the **European Commission's Joint Research Center (JRC)** to further advance the collaboration towards the common goal of **expanding and exploiting the innovations** in the early warning forecasting services.
- Furthermore it is being considered for EYWA to provide support to the **European Health Emergency and Response Authority (HERA)** of the **European Commission**.
- Participation in: GEO Health Community of Practice, GEO & EuroGEO Symposiums, GEO-CRADLE Initiative, EO4GEO community.**

## Expanding the service to non-European territories

- ❑ **EYWA** was **on-boarded** as a pilot to the **e-shape H2020 project**, with the major goal of **expanding** the support of the services to **non-European territories**, specifically **Thailand** and **Côte d'Ivoire**.
- ❑ **Expand the database of entomological data, train and adapt** the models to new regions **climatic** and **socioeconomic** conditions.
- ❑ **Strengthen the models** and help **make an impact to the people** in these regions by **supporting** the on the ground **awareness campaigns**.

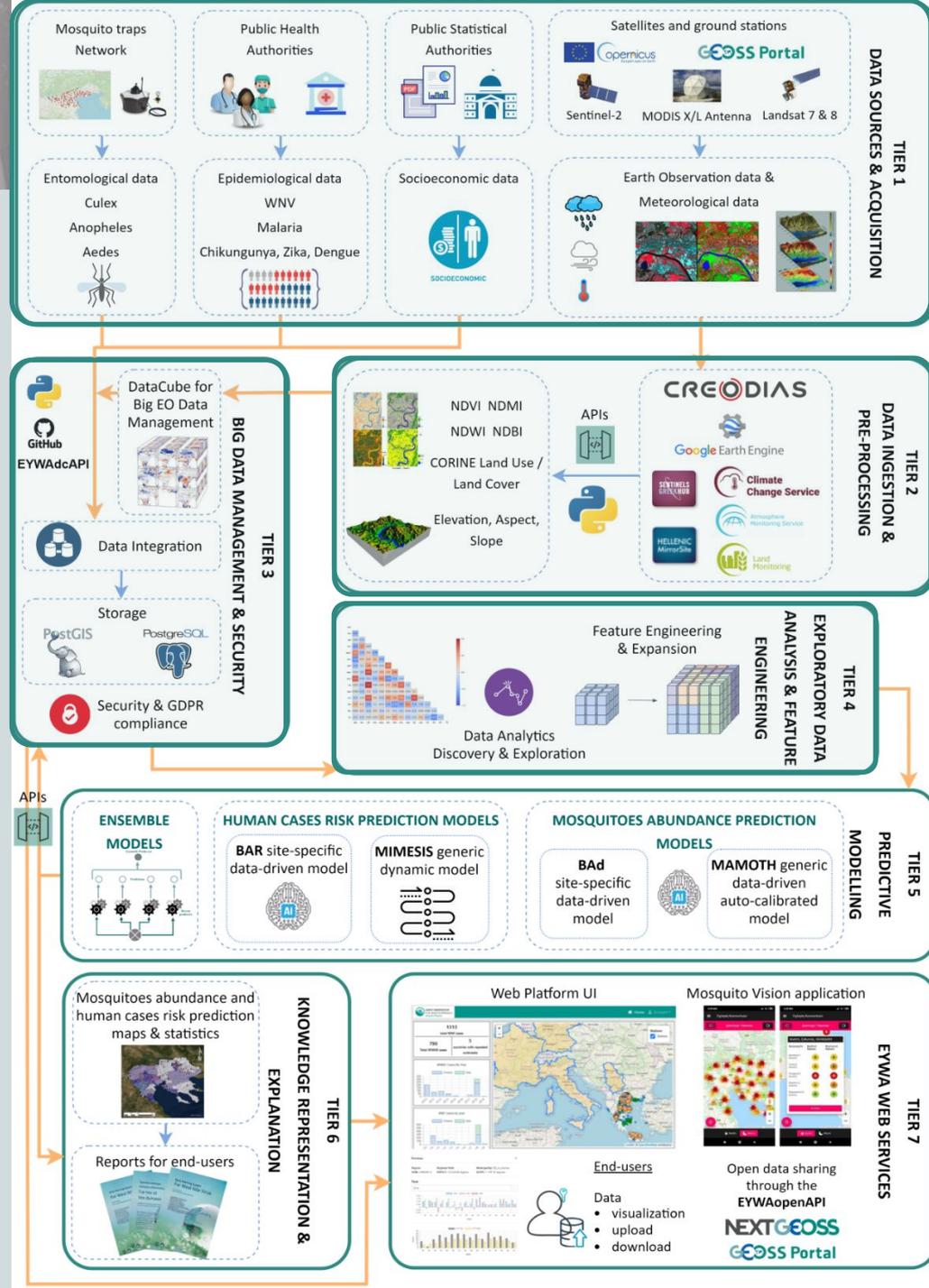


## What does EYWA provide?

- ❑ **MIMESIS, BAr WNV risk models.**
  - Provide risk maps of pathogen circulation on **Municipality & Settlement/Village** level
  - So far available in **4 regions in Greece** and **1 region in Italy**, expanding to more regions.
  - Support supplementary preventive actions (more intense larviciding).
  - Provide complementary door-to-door awareness campaigns.
  - In **2021** more than **31,000** households in reached in the **Central Macedonia region of Greece**.
- ❑ **BAd mosquito abundance model.**
  - Works on a **Settlement** level.
  - Available in **Greece** soon in more regions
  - Powers the “**Mosquito Vision**” mobile application, used in more than **2400 villages in Greece** sending out notifications on high nuisance and getting crowdsourced feedback.
- ❑ **MAMOTH mosquito abundance model.**
  - Works on a trap level.
  - Available operationally in **4 European countries in 2021**, expanding to more in 2022.
  - Supports different mosquito species including **Culex, Aedes albopictus and Anopheles**.

## Making it work

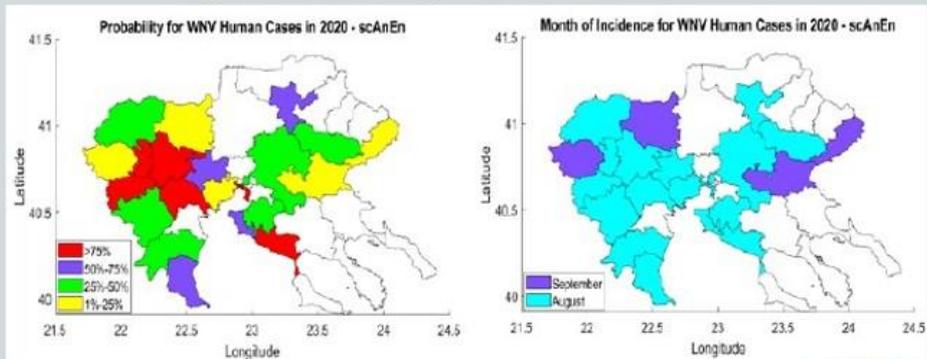
- Time-series of **entomological, epidemiological, socio-economic, satellite Earth Observation, meteorological and geomorphological data**
- 36 features for each of the **39.000 mosquito collections in our database.**
- A “MAMOTH” feature space of at least **10-years time-series of data** for mosquito-traps network in 10 regions in Europe.
- **Environment proxies** (Sentinel 2, Landsat 7/8):
  - Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (**NDVI**)
  - Normalized Difference Moisture Index (**NDMI**)
  - Normalized Difference Water Index (**NDWI**)
  - Normalized Difference Build-Up Index (**NDBI**)
- **Meteorological Data (Copernicus ERA-5, MODIS, IMERG):**
  - Wind, Land Surface Temperature (**LST**), Rainfall
- **Geomorphological Data** (Alos Palsar, Copernicus Water & Wetness):
  - Elevation, Aspect, Slope
  - Other composite features related to the proximity of trapping sites to mosquito breeding sites, waste treatment facilities, water bodies and more.





# Indicative EYWA operational results during the period | April – October 2020

Human case risk forecast – Region of Central Macedonia -  
Dynamic modelling – Issued on 25/07/2020



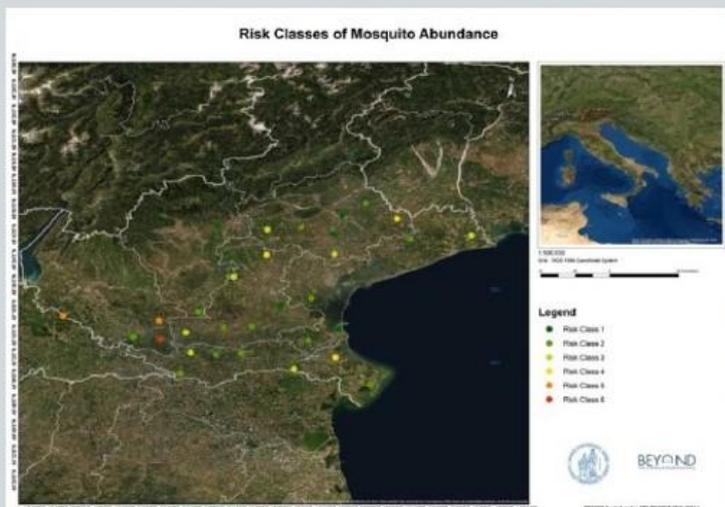
Human case probability map (left) and probable month of human cases incidence (right)



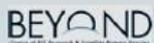
Mosquito Vision:  
Smartphone  
application for 5-  
day predictions of  
evening and night  
nuisance from  
mosquitoes



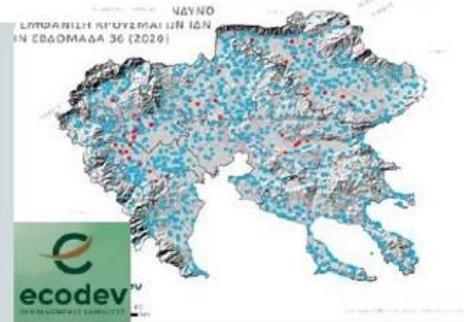
Mosquito  
abundance  
forecasts in the  
1040 municipalities  
of Central  
Macedonia for the  
week 02/09 έως  
06/09/2020



Mosquitoes  
population  
risk map -  
Data Driven  
Model -  
Region of  
Veneto (Italy)  
Period  
25/08/2020-  
25/09/2020



Human case risk  
forecasts for WNV  
incidence calculated  
over the 1040  
municipalities in Central  
Macedonia for the week  
31/08-06/09/2020



## In a nutshell

- ❑ **EYWA** was borne out of a need to create a state-of-the-art early warning system for the rising threat of Mosquito borne Diseases.
- ❑ Fusion of big **Earth Observation** data with **in-situ** collected, to feed advanced **deterministic & machine learning** based modelling.
- ❑ **West Nile Virus risk** models provide **early warning** for pathogen circulation to help support the preventive actions, and guide targeted door-to-door awareness campaigns.
- ❑ **Mosquito population abundance** models provide early warning for multiple mosquito genuses and different spatial and temporal resolutions.
- ❑ The project has **developed standards** to support the **decision making** on:
  - local (via **Public Health Authorities, Vector Control Companies**)
  - European (through an established collaboration with the **EC JRC**)
- ❑ Established a large **database** of **entomological & epidemiological** data to support research.
- ❑ Is continuously expanding the **network of stakeholders** to new regions on a global scale.

# Thank you!



## Contact us:

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EuroGEO Action Group  
for Epidemics)  
(Lead Partner of EYWA)

Earth Observation for Epidemics  
of Vector-borne Diseases /  
EuroGEO Action Group

**EuroGEO**

## 15 Partners | 5 Countries

### Greece

*National Observatory of Athens (NOA) – BEYOND Centre of EO Research & Satellite Remote Sensing*

*Ecodevelopment S.A*

*University of Patras – Physics Department - Laboratory of Atmospheric Physics (LapUP)*

*Dimitrios Vallianatos (IDCOM)*

*Aristotle University of Thessaloniki*

*University of Thessaly, Medical School. Laboratory of Hygiene and Epidemiology*

### Italy

*Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale delle Venezie (IZSVe)*

*Edmund Mach Foundation*

*University of Trento*

### Serbia

*University of “Novi Sad”, Faculty of Agriculture, Laboratory for Medical and Veterinary Entomology*

*Scientific Veterinary Institute “Novi Sad”*

*University of Novi Sad, Faculty of Medicine*

### Germany

*German Mosquito Control Association (KABS)*

*Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine*

### France

*EID Méditerranée*