

**Foresight**

Infectious Diseases: preparing for the future

OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND INNOVATION

**T9: Guide to Related Initiatives**

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## **Introduction**

This guide is an overview of related initiatives external to the UK, and concerned with the detection and identification of infectious diseases. The initiatives it describes exist at a range of political levels. They include supra-national efforts within the EU and the activities of international agencies such as the UN. Given the size and scope of US investment in this field, a number of national initiatives funded by the US government have also been included.

The aim has not been to drill down to the level of individual research projects, but to focus on major initiatives, research programmes and surveillance networks. For each entry in the following data table a short description of key activities is given, with links to websites for further information.

In each case, the principal area of inquiry has been identified – whether the main focus of the organisation is animal, human or plant disease. In addition, an attempt has been made to identify boundary-spanning organisations that address zoonoses, and organisations with particular interests in emerging infections, new diagnostic techniques and drug resistance.

International		
<b>Animal and zoonoses</b>	<p><b>OIE (World Organisation for Animal Health)</b></p> <p>An intergovernmental organisation that aims to ensure transparency in global animal disease by collecting, analysing and disseminating veterinary scientific information. Activities include an alert procedure to warn the international community of exceptional epidemiological events in member countries. It highlights emerging diseases with significant morbidity or mortality, or zoonotic potential.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.oie.int/eng/en_index.htm">http://www.oie.int/eng/en_index.htm</a></p>
<b>Human</b>	<p><b>UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund)</b></p> <p>Focus on improving the health of children, with priorities in HIV/AIDS and immunisation.</p> <p>Technical and policy documents address immunisation strategies and procedures, integrated management of childhood illness and malaria.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.unicef.org/index.html">http://www.unicef.org/index.html</a>  <a href="http://www.unicef.org/immunization/index_documents.html">http://www.unicef.org/immunization/index_documents.html</a>  <a href="http://www.unicef.org/health/index_documents.html">http://www.unicef.org/health/index_documents.html</a></p>
<b>Human</b>	<p><b>WHO (World Health Organization)</b></p> <p><b>WHO Regional Office for Africa Communicable Disease Surveillance and Response</b></p> <p>Includes a regional programme on communicable diseases surveillance and response, to ensure the availability of guidelines for integrated approaches. Provides technical support for strengthening national communicable disease systems through the implementation of the Regional Strategy for Integrated Disease Surveillance, and the establishment of operational epidemic management committees and epidemic rapid response teams. Links with regional and global networks for disease surveillance and response, thereby participating in global effort for the control of communicable diseases.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.who.int/topics/infectious_diseases/en/">http://www.who.int/topics/infectious_diseases/en/</a>  <a href="http://www.afro.who.int/csr/">http://www.afro.who.int/csr/</a></p>
<b>Human</b>	<p><b>WHO Regional Office for Europe Communicable Disease Surveillance and Response</b></p> <p>The Communicable Disease Surveillance and Response programme works to strengthen infectious disease surveillance capacity at all levels (international, national and subnational), including developing early warning mechanisms to detect disease outbreaks and to protect the health of the European Region and beyond.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.euro.who.int/surveillance">http://www.euro.who.int/surveillance</a></p>

	<p><b>Centralized Information System for Infectious Diseases (CISID)</b> The Centralized Information System for Infectious Diseases (CISID) uses advanced technology to collect, analyse and present data on infectious diseases in the WHO European Region.</p>	<a href="http://data.euro.who.int/cisid/">http://data.euro.who.int/cisid/</a>
<b>Human</b>	<p><b>WHO Public Health Mapping</b> The Public Health Mapping and GIS programme allows the computer-assisted visualisation of disease foci, the monitoring of newly infected or reinfected villages, the identification of at-risk populations, and the highly targeted, cost-effective distribution of interventions. It is an example of how technologies developed to accelerate the control of one disease can expedite the control of others. It is a global partnership involving WHO Regional and Country Offices, WHO member states, infectious disease programmes, UN agency and multilateral partners, research institutes, WHO collaborating centres and the private sector.</p>	<a href="http://www.who.int/health_mapping/en/">http://www.who.int/health_mapping/en/</a>
<b>Drug resistance</b>	<p><b>WHO Drug resistance</b> Information on antibiotic resistance of bacterial strains isolated from food, animals or from food of animal origin</p>	<a href="http://www.who.int/drugresistance/en/">http://www.who.int/drugresistance/en/</a>
<b>Animal and plant</b>	<p><b>FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations)</b> <b>Agriculture Department</b> <b>Animal Production and Health Division</b></p> <p><b>Emergency Prevention System (EMPRES) for Transboundary Animal and Plant Pests and Diseases</b> Established in 1994 to minimise the risk of major losses and emergencies resulting from the spread or migration of agricultural pest and disease problems across national boundaries.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.fao.org">http://www.fao.org</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/programmes/en/aga_prog.html">http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/programmes/en/aga_prog.html</a> <a href="http://www.fao.org/EMPRES/default.htm">http://www.fao.org/EMPRES/default.htm</a></p>
<b>Animal</b>	<p><b>Animal disease component</b></p> <p>Focus on major transboundary livestock diseases, including Rinderpest and other epidemic animal diseases (contagious bovine pleuropneumonia, foot-and-mouth disease, contagious caprine pleuropneumonia, peste de petit ruminants, Rift Valley fever and lumpy skin disease). Has developed TADinfo, a unique veterinary software package under open source licence that is designed to provide data management and decision support to national veterinary epidemiology units. It was developed as part of FAO's EMPRES programme as an applied, practical, simple and down-to-earth software package to help veterinarians solve pressing real-life problems.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/programmes/en/empres/home.asp">http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/programmes/en/empres/home.asp</a> <a href="http://www.fao.org/ag/aga/agah/empres/tadinfo2/e_tadinf.htm">http://www.fao.org/ag/aga/agah/empres/tadinfo2/e_tadinf.htm</a></p>
<b>Plant</b>	<p><b>Locust and Other Migratory Pests Group</b> Small six-person group running web-based news service about these pests.</p>	<a href="http://www.fao.org/WAICENT/FAOINFO/AGRICULT/AGP/AGPP/locusts/Default.htm">http://www.fao.org/WAICENT/FAOINFO/AGRICULT/AGP/AGPP/locusts/Default.htm</a>

<b>Zoonoses</b>	<p><b>Veterinary public health and feed and food safety</b></p> <p>Role relates to the production and consumption of food of animal origin. Also deals with zoonoses, as well as aspects of occupational diseases and environmental health where animal are involved.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/programmes/en/A6.html">http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/programmes/en/A6.html</a></p>
<b>Plant</b>	<p><b>Agriculture Department</b> <b>AGP Plant Production and Protection Division</b></p> <p>Biosecurity in relation to the spread of plant pests and weeds including International Standards for Phytosanitary measures, reduction of risks of pesticide use to human health and the environment, and ecological approaches to sustainable intensification of crop and grassland production and diversification opportunities.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.fao.org/ag/">http://www.fao.org/ag/</a> <a href="http://www.fao.org/ag/AGP/Default.htm">http://www.fao.org/ag/AGP/Default.htm</a></p>
<b>Zoonoses</b>	<p><b>HIV infections and zoonoses</b></p> <p>FAO guideline book outlining the most important zoonoses that play a significant role in the epidemiology of AIDS, and providing a practical and manageable tool for health workers involved in the care of HIV infected humans.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.fao.org/documents/show_cdr.asp?url_file=/docrep/007/y5516e/y5516e00.htm">http://www.fao.org/documents/show_cdr.asp?url_file=/docrep/007/y5516e/y5516e00.htm</a></p>

Europe		
Human	<p><b>European Commission</b></p> <p><b>European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control</b></p> <p>The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control is a new EU agency, created in 2005 to strengthen Europe's defences against infectious diseases such as influenza, SARS and HIV/AIDS. The ECDC will work in partnership with national health protection bodies across Europe to strengthen and develop continent-wide disease surveillance and early warning systems. By working with experts based in these national bodies the ECDC will pool Europe's health knowledge, so as to develop authoritative scientific opinions about the risks posed by new and emerging infectious diseases.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.ecdc.eu.int/">http://www.ecdc.eu.int/</a></p>
Zoonoses	<p><b>European Food Safety Authority</b></p> <p><b>Zoonoses monitoring and data collection</b></p> <p>Collects information on the occurrence of zoonoses, zoonotic agents, antimicrobial resistance in zoonotic agents and food-borne outbreaks in the EU and European Economic Area. Community summary report is published each year.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.efsa.eu.int/science/monitoring_zoonoses/catindex_en.html">http://www.efsa.eu.int/science/monitoring_zoonoses/catindex_en.html</a></p>
Animal	<p><b>DG Health and Consumer Protection Public Health</b></p> <p><b>Animal health strategy</b></p> <p>The Commission intends to develop a new and improved animal health strategy to improve the prevention and control of animal disease in the EU. It would develop policy for disease prevention, make emergency vaccination a more viable option, simplify legislation and make better use of financial resources.</p>	<p><a href="http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph_threats/com/comm_diseases_en.htm">http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph_threats/com/comm_diseases_en.htm</a></p> <p><a href="http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/animal/diseases/strategy/index_en.htm">http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/animal/diseases/strategy/index_en.htm</a></p>
Human	<p><b>DG Health and Consumer Protection Public Health</b></p> <p>Public health section supports a number of networks on communicable diseases:</p>	<p><a href="http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph_threats/com/comm_diseases_en.htm">http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph_threats/com/comm_diseases_en.htm</a></p>

Human  
(continued)

**Network for the Surveillance and Control of Communicable Diseases**

Established by the European Parliament, the aim of the Network is to promote cooperation and coordination between the member states, with the assistance of the European Commission, with a view to improving the prevention and control of communicable diseases in the EU. The Network includes an Early Warning and Response System (EWRS). It is a network involving the Commission, and the competent public health authorities in each member state responsible for determining measures to protect public health.

<https://webgate.cec.eu.int/ewrs/>

**Basic Surveillance Network (BSN)**

The network is administered by the Swedish Institute for Infectious Disease Control and collects basic data on approximately 40 different diseases.

<https://www2.smittskyddsinstitutet.se/BSN/index.jsp>

**European Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance System (EARSS)**

International network of national surveillance systems, collecting comparable and validated antimicrobial resistance data for public health purposes.

<http://www.earss.rivm.nl/>

**European Influenza Surveillance Scheme (EISS)**

EISS presents clinical and virological data on influenza in 23 European countries. It collects and exchanges information on influenza activity, provides relevant information about influenza to health professionals and the general public, contributes to the annual determination of the influenza vaccine content and contributes to European influenza pandemic preparedness activities.

<http://www.eiss.org/index.cgi>

**European Laboratory Working Group on Diphtheria (ELWGD)**

Diphtheria surveillance network of epidemiologists and microbiologists from 40 countries, including each EU member state, associated countries and beyond.

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph\\_threats/com/networks/network\\_dipnet\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph_threats/com/networks/network_dipnet_en.htm)

**European Network for Diagnostics of Imported Viral Diseases (ENIVD)**

Network of European laboratories working on diagnostics of 'imported', rare and emerging viral infections such as ebola.

<http://enivd.de/>

**European Programme for Intervention Epidemiology Training (EPIET)**

Network of field epidemiologists sharing common objectives and methods when responding to communicable disease threats. Collaborates closely with national training programmes to promote intervention epidemiology.

<http://www.epiet.org/>

**The European Surveillance of Antimicrobial Consumption (ESAC)**

International network of surveillance systems, aiming to collect comparable and reliable antibiotic use data in Europe.

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph\\_threats/com/networks/network\\_esac\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph_threats/com/networks/network_esac_en.htm)

**European Surveillance of Sexually Transmitted Infections (ESSTI)**

New pilot initiative funded by the European Commission, the aim of which is to explore the feasibility of establishing a European-wide network for surveillance of STIs.

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph\\_threats/com/networks/network\\_essti\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph_threats/com/networks/network_essti_en.htm)

**European Union Invasive Bacterial Infections Surveillance network (EU IBIS)**

Aims to improve epidemiological information on invasive disease caused by *N meningitidis* and *H influenzae* in the EU.

<http://www.euibis.org/>

**European Centre for the Epidemiological Monitoring of AIDS (EuroHIV)**

EuroHIV has coordinated the surveillance of HIV/AIDS in the World Health Organization (WHO) European Region (51 countries) since 1984. Its mission is to understand, improve and share European HIV/AIDS surveillance data to inform disease prevention, control and care. Its objectives include making international comparisons, assessing trends, characterising affected populations, predicting disease burden and evaluating surveillance methods.

<http://www.eurohiv.org/>

**Surveillance of tuberculosis in Europe (EuroTB)**

EuroTB started in 1996, with the objective of improving the contribution of public health surveillance to tuberculosis control in Europe and the standardisation of tuberculosis surveillance methods.

<http://www.eurotb.org/>

**Surveillance Community Network for Vaccine Preventable Infectious Diseases (EUVAC.NET)**

The aim of the network is to operate a surveillance network for vaccine-preventable infectious diseases using epidemiological and laboratory surveillance and managerial methodologies.

<http://www.euvac.net/graphics/html/EUVAC/index.html>

**The European Working Group for Legionella Infections (EWGLI)**

European surveillance scheme for travel-associated legionnaires' disease. 34 countries now participate in the scheme. Members are scientists with an interest in improving knowledge and information on the clinical and environmental aspects of legionnaires' disease through better diagnosis, management and treatment.

<http://www.ewgli.org/>

**Inventory of Resources for Infectious Diseases in Europe (IRIDE)**

Inventory of resources and means for controlling communicable diseases in EU member states, started in 1997. Described as a helpful tool for describing and evaluating the different resources on control of communicable diseases in Europe, its major limitation was the lack of subsequent updates, although in 2000 the EU DG SANCO agreed to support the present project, entitled Expanded Inventory of Resources on Infectious Diseases Control (co-ordinated by the Italian Istituto Superiore di Sanità).

<http://iride.cineca.org>  
<http://www.iss.it/>

<b>Drug resistance</b>	<p><b>European Research on antibiotic resistance</b></p> <p>Includes antibiotics in food-producing animals.</p>	<p><a href="http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/leaflets/antibiotics/index_en.html">http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/leaflets/antibiotics/index_en.html</a></p>
<b>Animal</b>	<p><b>European Technology Platform For Global Animal Health Vision 2015</b></p> <p>Industry-led platform launched in December 2004 in Brussels, which brings together the veterinary pharmaceutical industry, biotechnology companies, livestock producers, research institutions, universities, regulatory authorities and the financial world. Supported by the Development Commissioner, the Science and Research Commissioner and the Health and Consumer Protection Commissioner. The initiative is being set up to deliver new or improved tools, in particular vaccines and diagnostics, for the control and prevention of major animal diseases in the developing world and in Europe.</p>	<p><a href="http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/agriculture/events/conferences.html#vision2015">http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/agriculture/events/conferences.html#vision2015</a>  <a href="http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/agriculture/pdf/etpgah_vision2015_paper-final_en.pdf">http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/agriculture/pdf/etpgah_vision2015_paper-final_en.pdf</a></p>

USA		
<b>Plant</b>	<p><b>US Department of Agriculture</b>  <b>Agriculture Research Services</b>  <b>National programs for plant diseases</b></p> <p>Seeks to reduce losses caused by plant diseases by developing control strategies that are effective and affordable, while maintaining environmental quality. Research components are: the identification and classification of pathogens; biological control; cultural control; pathogen biology; genetics; population dynamics; spread, and the relationship with hosts and vectors.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usdahome">http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usdahome</a>  <a href="http://www.ars.usda.gov/main/main.htm">http://www.ars.usda.gov/main/main.htm</a>  <a href="http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/programs/programs.htm?NP_CODE=303">http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/programs/programs.htm?NP_CODE=303</a></p>
<b>Animal</b>	<p><b>National Animal Disease Center</b></p> <p>The largest federal animal disease centre in the US. It conducts research to solve animal health and food safety problems faced by livestock producers and the public. Research programmes include: the periparturient diseases of cattle; pre-harvest food safety and enteric diseases; bacterial diseases of livestock; respiratory diseases of livestock; and virus and prion diseases of livestock.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.nadc.ars.usda.gov/">http://www.nadc.ars.usda.gov/</a></p>
<b>Animal</b>	<p><b>Program for Prevention of Animal Infectious Diseases and Advanced Technologies for Vaccines and Diagnostics</b></p>	<p><a href="http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/projects/projects.htm?ACCN_NO=409533">http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/projects/projects.htm?ACCN_NO=409533</a></p>
<b>Animal</b>	<p><b>Animal Health Program</b></p> <p>Conducts basic and applied research on selected diseases of economic importance to the US livestock and poultry industries. The goals of the research mission are to produce knowledge and technology to reduce economic losses from infectious, genetic and metabolic diseases of livestock and poultry. The research components of this program include: pathogen detection and diagnostics; animal immunology; microbial genomics; mechanism of disease; genetic resistance to disease; epidemiology of disease; and strategies to control infectious and non-infectious disease.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/programs/programs.htm?NP_CODE=103">http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/programs/programs.htm?NP_CODE=103</a></p>

<b>Animal</b>	<p><b>Pathogen detection and diagnostics</b></p> <p>Aims to produce a new generation of diagnostic tools that will facilitate detection and identification of known pathogens and diseases, new variants of infectious and non-infectious agents, and emerging organisms and diseases. These new technologies will be transferred to private organisations for the purpose of commercialisation, or to state and federal diagnostic laboratories for regulatory or limited field use. Techniques that are applicable to national animal disease programs or human health problems will be standardised and validated through collaboration with other federal agencies, to provide a scientific basis for their use in surveillance of animals, animal feeds, animal products, and the environment.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/programs/programs.htm?np_code=103&amp;docid=288&amp;page=2">http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/programs/programs.htm?np_code=103&amp;docid=288&amp;page=2</a></p>
<b>Zoonoses</b>	<p>Some crossover between ARS Animal Health Program and human health, e.g. the research programme on Livestock Protozoan Parasites Impacting Animal and Human Health, which seeks to identify, determine sources, and reduce transmission of protozoan parasites that affect the health of farm animals and are also infectious for humans, that impact on food safety and contaminate drinking water.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/projects/projects.htm?ACCN_NO=405586">http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/projects/projects.htm?ACCN_NO=405586</a></p>
<b>Animal</b>	<p><b>Plum Island Animal Disease Center</b></p> <p>Sole US centre for the study of highly infectious foreign animal diseases, such as foot-and-mouth disease. Works with Homeland Security to keep these diseases out of the US, by finding quicker ways to diagnose them and by developing vaccines and other veterinary treatments.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.ars.usda.gov/main/site_main.htm?modecode=19400000">http://www.ars.usda.gov/main/site_main.htm?modecode=19400000</a></p>
<b>Animal and plant</b>	<p><b>Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)</b></p> <p>APHIS is responsible for protecting and promoting US agricultural health, administering the Animal Welfare Act, and carrying out wildlife damage management activities. APHIS' protection role also includes human health and safety, and ecosystems vulnerable to invasive pests and pathogens. In recent years, APHIS has assumed a greater role in the global agricultural arena to tackle trade issues.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.aphis.usda.gov/">http://www.aphis.usda.gov/</a></p>
<b>Animal</b>	<p><b>Veterinary services</b></p> <p>Protect and improve the health, quality, and marketability of animals, animal products and veterinary biologics by preventing, controlling and/or eliminating animal diseases, and monitoring and promoting animal health and productivity.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/who_we_are.htm">http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/who_we_are.htm</a></p>

<b>Plant</b>	<p><b>Plant protection and quarantine</b> Safeguards agriculture and natural resources from the risks associated with the entry, establishment or spread of animal and plant pests and noxious weeds.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/index.html">http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/index.html</a></p>
<b>Human</b>	<p><b>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)</b> <b>National Centre for Infectious Diseases</b> <b>Office of Surveillance</b></p> <p>The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is one of the 13 major operating components of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), which is the principal agency in the US government for protecting human health and safety.</p> <p>Programmes include: antimicrobial resistance; emerging infectious diseases; epidemic intelligence service; syphilis elimination; tuberculosis elimination; and West Nile virus.</p> <p>The Emerging Infections Programs (EIPs) is a population-based network of CDC and state health departments, working with collaborators (local health departments, public health laboratories, clinical laboratories, infection control practitioners, healthcare providers, academic institutions and other federal agencies) to assess the public health impact of emerging infections and to evaluate methods for their prevention and control.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.cdc.gov/">http://www.cdc.gov/</a> <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/">http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/</a> <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/osr/index.htm">http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/osr/index.htm</a></p>
<b>Human</b>	<p><b>Institute of Medicine of the National Academies (IOM)</b></p> <p>The IOM's mission is to serve as adviser to the US, to improve health. The Institute provides unbiased, evidence-based and authoritative information and advice concerning health and science policy, to policy makers, professionals, leaders in every sector of society and the public. Current projects, events, and reports are concerned with infectious diseases and conditions such as cancer, HIV, tuberculosis and SARS.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.iom.edu/">http://www.iom.edu/</a> <a href="http://www.iom.edu/topic.asp?id=3720">http://www.iom.edu/topic.asp?id=3720</a></p>
<b>Human</b>	<p><b>National Institutes of Health (NIH)</b> <b>National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)</b> <b>Division of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases</b></p> <p>The Division of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (DMID) supports extramural research to control and prevent diseases caused by virtually all human infectious agents except HIV. Includes programme on emerging infectious diseases.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.nih.gov/">http://www.nih.gov/</a> <a href="http://www3.niaid.nih.gov/">http://www3.niaid.nih.gov/</a> <a href="http://www.niaid.nih.gov/dmid/">http://www.niaid.nih.gov/dmid/</a> <a href="http://www.niaid.nih.gov/dmid/eid">http://www.niaid.nih.gov/dmid/eid</a></p>

<p><b>Human, Animal &amp; Plant</b></p>	<p><b>National Science Foundation (NSF) Ecology of Infectious Diseases (EID)</b></p> <p>The Ecology of Infectious Diseases program solicitation supports the development of predictive models and the discovery of principles for relationships between anthropogenic environmental change and transmission of infectious agents. To that end, research should focus on understanding the ecological determinants of transmission by vectors or abiotic agents, the population dynamics of reservoir species, and transmission to humans or other hosts. Proposals may focus on either terrestrial, freshwater, or marine systems and organisms. Proposals that focus on disease systems of public health concern to developing countries are strongly encouraged. Proposals are encouraged to include links to the public health research community, including epidemiologists, medical entomologists, virologists, and parasitologists.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.nsf.gov/">http://www.nsf.gov/</a>  <a href="http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5269&amp;org=BIO&amp;from=fund">http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=5269&amp;org=BIO&amp;from=fund</a></p>
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All the reports and papers produced within the Foresight project 'Infectious Diseases: preparing for the future,' may be downloaded from the Foresight website ([www.foresight.gov.uk](http://www.foresight.gov.uk)). Requests for hard copies may also be made through this website.

First published April 2006. Department of Trade and Industry. [www.dti.gov.uk](http://www.dti.gov.uk)

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