



A view from EPIET/EUPHEM cohort 2022 and MediPIET cohort 5 introductory course, Spetses, Greece, 2022.

Editorial

Dear EAN friends,

It has already been a few months since the last newsletter and we would like to share with you what has been going on with the EAN board, the network, as well as upcoming events and plans.

In this “back to school” edition of the EAN newsletter, you will:

- **Hear about our plans for ESCAIDE 2022, the 25 (+2) years anniversary of the network and so many opportunities to meet again!**
- Meet two fellows from cohort 2020, who just came back from deployments in Mozambique: **Emily Meyer** and **Joaquin Baruch**
- Read about the **EAN Mini Module on Media and Infodemic Management (Stockholm)** and **Online R course with Applied Epi**
- Learn more about the 11th TEPHINET Global Scientific Conference in Panama, last September with a report from our correspondents: **Catarina Krug**, **Katja Siling**, **Gamze Aktuna**, **Barbara Schimmer**, **Hannah Taylor** and **Carmen Varela**
- Read about where alumnis went to work post-graduation with an analysis of the EAN survey brought to you by **Camille Jacqueline** (EUPHEM, cohort 2021)
- And much more...

Enjoy the newsletter and hopefully see you all soon.

The EAN Board

The EAN board

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Word from the president

Dear EAN friends and colleagues,

After two and a half hectic years, we are proud to say that most EAN activities are back to normal and it is a tremendous pleasure to know that we will be meeting so many of you at ESCAIDE 2022, very soon.

It will be a great opportunity for so many of us to meet fellows from the three (yes, three!) graduating cohorts (2018, 2019, 2020) that will be present there, as well as current fellows and other alumni!

Speaking about activities that are going back to normal, this year for ESCAIDE, we are even doing more than ever before! Not only will we be organising the usual EAN Dinner & Drinks (Vapiano, TBC), career compass, EAN annual general assembly, BarCamp, best oral presentation and photo contest, but you will also get a flurry of pre- and post- ESCAIDE activities.

On Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd, the Public Health Agency of Sweden will be hosting an EAN mini-module on Media and Infodemic Management, while on Saturday 26th, we will be celebrating the 25 (+2) years of the programme, with a scientific meeting followed by a dinner and party. We hope to see many of you there (maybe, not all until 3AM, though).

Speaking of EAN activities, several positions (deputy-treasurer, deputy secretary, vice-president) are open for elections and we would love to have some new blood join us.

Do not hesitate to contact us if you would like to join us in the Board. It can require some hard work, but it is always very rewarding to actively participate in the life of the network!

Looking forward to seeing you at ESCAIDE !

Iro on behalf of the EAN Board

Iro, Stine, Anna, Laura, Charlotte, Tim, Justine



Welcome to cohort 2022!

Dear Fellows, we are very excited to welcome you within the EAN!

We are here to hear your thoughts about the challenges and opportunities that present themselves during your fellowship.

We will be in contact with your cohort representatives to catch up and see where we can support you.

You can contact us anytime via our [email](#) or via any of the other EAN platforms: [Website](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Facebook](#) accounts. We wish you the very best for your fellowship and look forward to meeting you soon at ESCAIDE.

If you have not done so, yet, please join our [Discord](#)!

It is a forum to connect, exchange and discuss information within the network. Here, you will get the latest EAN-related information and news as well as be able to find and share resources on analytics, surveillance or outbreak investigations, public health microbiology or discuss the latest news and developments in the field of infectious diseases. After joining the server, you will be directed to the welcome-and-rules channel where you can read more about all the different features and learn how to use the server. Once you are done with that, please come and tell us a few words about you in the #introducing-yourself channel!

Congratulations to cohort 2020!

As the Board of the EPIET Alumni Network (EAN) and on behalf of the whole network, we would like to offer our heartfelt congratulations to you on completing your fellowship!

And secondly, to welcome you (again, and now, formally as alumni) to our EAN family.

As Fellows, you've been non-fee-paying members of the EAN for the last two years, but now that you've completed the Programme, you are eligible to join the Alumni Network as full members, i.e. with voting rights. [Renewing your membership is easy and you can do it through our website.](#)

There are plenty of activities where your input and availability are very welcome: the newsletter is always open to contributions and editors, mini-modules on your favourite topics can be organised with the support of the EAN Board, and new ideas to foster and strengthen the network can be implemented together.

Reach out to us to make it happen! If there is anything you would like to raise with the Board, just approach us, we'd be happy to hear from you.

We hope to see you at ESCAIDE and celebrate your graduation together!



Stories from the field: Two deployments in Mozambique

Emily Meyer, cohort 2020



Emily Meyer, PAE fellow, cohort 2020

Let's start with some details about you. Can you tell us a bit about your background? Where are you based now?

I am Emily and I was a cohort 2020 PAE fellow at Robert Koch Institute (RKI). I am a medical doctor by training with an MSc in Public Health from LSHTM. After graduating from medical school, I did the Mercator Fellowship on International Affairs and worked on how to use sociocultural norms for outbreak control during a dengue outbreak in Senegal and in the US to support Save the Children on using social behaviour change communication during humanitarian interventions, as well as in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh to support outbreak control and emergency preparedness in the Rohingya camps.

What was the context of your deployment?

The Cyclone Gombé made landfall in Nampula, Mozambique on 11 March 2022. Strong winds and heavy rainfalls destroyed houses, flooded the streets, damaged health-care facilities and schools, interrupted electricity supply and destroyed crops, increasing the risk of food insecurity. More than 736 000 people were affected and about 23 000 people were displaced. I was deployed to Nampula city to support the WHO Country Office. Furthermore, cholera outbreaks were reported from the neighbouring provinces.

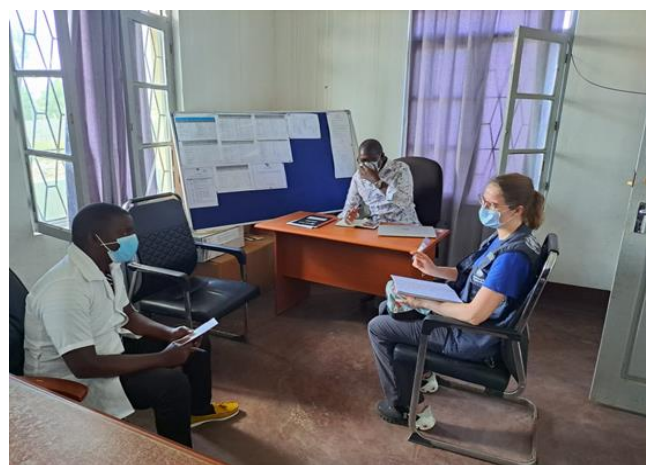
What motivated you to go?

I like to work in situations in which various actors from different sectors collaborate; in which government, NGOs and international organisations work together and which are dynamic and diverse. I was also curious to support a WHO country office and to learn more about its role and mandate in such a setting. After nearly two years of working on COVID-19, I was also very interested in conducting field epidemiology for other diseases.

What were your roles and responsibilities during the deployment?

As the only epidemiologist in Nampula, I was responsible for the weekly epidemiological bulletin and to update the other health

cluster partners on the epidemiological situation. I analysed and visualised the surveillance data to identify and verify outbreak alerts and I conducted outbreak investigations and coordinated their response. I also assessed barriers to using the electronic Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (eIDSR) system. Furthermore, I supported the preparedness for potential Cholera outbreaks in Nampula. Using data provided by the provincial public health agency, I searched for districts that reported a high proportion of adult acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) cases. In collaboration with the district surveillance officer, we identified the health facilities and communities reporting these high numbers. We then went to collect environmental samples, with colleagues from the provincial public health microbiology lab, to assess if the water sources were contaminated. In districts with high risks of AWD outbreaks, we assessed if sufficient stocks for diagnosing, treating and preventing AWD outbreaks were available. I also established an Excel dashboard to visualise the surveillance data which makes it easy to identify trends in the different districts of Nampula. Some fellows from the Mozambican FETP worked at the provincial and district public health agencies so it was really nice to collaborate and to learn from each other when assessing the surveillance data or investigating outbreak alerts.



Discussing the response to outbreak alerts at the district health office in Moçimboa da Praia.

What were the challenges you may have encountered?

My main challenge was the language barrier. Luckily, very patient and kind colleagues supported me by translating to English and my Spanish skills helped me to get around quite quickly with a mix of Spanish and Portuguese. Another difficulty was that the access to surveillance data or lab results was sometimes delayed. Furthermore, some of the most affected health districts were far away from Nampula City, where we stayed, so we were limited in assessing these districts and communities.

What were the more enjoyable aspects of your work?

I learned a lot about Mozambique, the country's history, culture and food. Another bonus was learning to speak some Portuguese. I was fortunate to add two weeks of holidays in Mozambique so I could also enjoy the beautiful reefs in Vilanculos and surfing in Tofo.

What was the added value (if any) of your deployment to your professional and personal development?

It was enriching to work in a setting that is very different from RKI and to work on diseases that are less prevalent in Germany. I also learnt to use Excel and how to create a dashboard with it, which is a skill I had honestly underestimated before this deployment. I thought knowing R was more than enough. Personally, it was a

great opportunity to learn Portuguese and about the country. Realising how much I enjoy working in field epidemiology, the analysis of surveillance data and the response to outbreaks, I decided to go on a deployment with Epicentre / MSF France after finishing PAE.

Would you recommend other fellows to go on international missions?

Definitely! The GOARN deployments are a great option to widen your horizon and to get insights into a different surveillance system and outbreak response. I would recommend going for longer than six weeks to have enough time to understand the context well and to work in it.

Joaquin Baruch, cohort 2020



Joaquin Baruch, EPIET fellow, cohort 2020

Let's start with some details about you. Can you tell us a bit about your background? Where are you based now?

I grew up mainly in Uruguay but moved around the Americas, Europe, and Africa. I initially worked as a veterinarian, focusing on eradication and control programmes for zoonotic diseases in South America and the United States. After working for FAO in control efforts for rabies in humans, I pursued a PhD epidemiology. During EPIET, I was based in Malta and mainly worked on COVID (yes, the pandemic cohort!). I led the national SARI surveillance and vaccine effectiveness teams and had the privilege to do two GOARN missions. During the first one, I worked with the WHO office in Algeria to set up electronic surveillance and contact tracing systems with Go.Data in the Saharawi refugee camps on the Algerian-Mauritanian border. I now work at RKI, in the ZIG WHO HUB office, working on needs assessments for epidemic and pandemic control and preparedness, and as an epidemiologist with the Pandemic Science Institute (University of Oxford).

What was the context of your deployment?

An armed conflict has been ongoing in Cabo Delgado, northern Mozambique, since 2017, and over the last two years, the conflict has intensified. Currently, this province has roughly 2 million people and has seen a displacement of 900,000 of them. Therefore, there is a severe IDP crisis in the area with all the usual suspects in terms of diseases in refugee/IDP camps.

What motivated you to go?

I've always loved Mozambique. I lived there for three years as a child, and that had an influence on my life. Also, I have worked in refugee settings before, and I saw this opportunity as one to learn more and provide any help I could.

What were your roles and responsibilities during the deployment?

My role was to support the government in its surveillance capacities and outbreak response. I was based at the WHO IM office in Pemba, Cabo Delgado, and we worked on a range of diseases: from alerts and responses to cholera, polio, measles, and rabies to training on community-based surveillance.

We also responded to an outbreak of rabies in the northern-most districts, where many IDPs are located. We set up a response team with the Ministry of Agriculture, the MoH and FAO. We organised a vaccination campaign for dogs, brought diagnostic kits to the area, created a one health platform for surveillance, and they are now working on getting human post-exposure prophylaxis from other countries for free! It was a great experience.



Team preparing for surveillance and vaccination campaigns.

What were the challenges you may have encountered?

I think one of the main challenges was the security situation. Not necessarily that I was at risk, but that we couldn't access certain areas or that people that we trained and supported on surveillance at the local level were displaced by armed attacks. It's a complex situation that requires to be adaptable. Luckily, the team at WHO and the government are motivated and very capable, so sometimes it is a matter of not getting discouraged and moving forward despite the challenges.

What were the more enjoyable aspects of your work?

I loved the team at the government and the WHO office. They had one focus: to do the best they could to help those displaced and the community they served. I think that their resilience and happiness made a world of difference.

What was the added value (if any) of your deployment to your professional and personal development?

I learned a lot! Imagine evaluating and setting up surveillance channels, respond to outbreaks, and deal with international and national partners in 2 months. It's like an intensive EPIET!

Would you recommend other fellows to go on international missions?

100%. I think it's a great experience. Whether you want to work internationally or locally after the fellowship, these international missions provide you with perspective, a toolbox for resilience, great friendships, and loads of learning experiences!

Pictures source: <https://www.taskforce.org/field-epidemiologist-brings-partners-together-to-respond-to-a-suspected-rabies-outbreak-in-northern-mozambique/>

Where do fellows go after graduation?

Current fellows were wondering where do graduates work, right after they finish the fellowship and how much did the fellowship benefit their career. **Camille Jacqueline**, EUPHEM fellow and cohort representative from cohort 2021 offered to investigate it and analysed data from the EAN survey.

Among the alumni that answered to the EAN survey conducted in 2021, a vast majority (86%) found that their participation in the fellowship had increased their employability. The opinion was particularly positive in the EUPHEM programme in both MS- and EU-tracks, with only 4% and 0% disagreeing with that statement, respectively. However, 19% alumni from the PAE programme strongly disagreed with that statement and only 60% of them thought that participation in the fellowship had increased their employability (Table 1).

Table 1: Participation in the fellowship increased employability (in %).

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree
EPIET EU-track	67	22	4	1	7
EPIET MS-track	40	40	16	0	4
EUPHEM EU-track	55	41	0	4	0
EUPHEM MS-track	14	57	29	0	0
PAE	59	19	3	0	19
Overall	59	27	6	1	7

Similarly, when asked whether doing the fellowship had helped them to better perform in their roles, compared to how they would have done without the fellowship, 90% of alumni reported that the fellowship had helped them (Table 2). This was the case for 100% of EUPHEM EU- and MS-track respondents, 90% and 88% of EPIET-EU and MS-tracks, respectively, while 18% of PAE respondents disagreed with this statement.

Table 2: Participation in the fellowship helped better perform your role (in %).

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree
EPIET EU-track	59	31	0	1	9
EPIET MS-track	46	42	0	8	4
EUPHEM EU-track	65	35	0	0	0
EUPHEM MS-track	14	86	0	0	0
PAE	55	26	0	5	13
Overall	56	34	0	2	8

When asked about the first job they had following graduation, 52% of EPIET EU-track fellows and 50% of PAE fellows answered they had found it with the help of friends, colleagues, alumni or training site supervisors (Table 3). Overall, 29% were getting help from their previous employer, including 80% and 60% of EPIET and EUPHEM MS-tracks, respectively. Contrarily to other programmes and tracks, EUPHEM EU-track graduates reported that the Internet was the principal resource they used to find their first job, after they graduated (Table 3).

Table 3: How did you find your first job (in %).

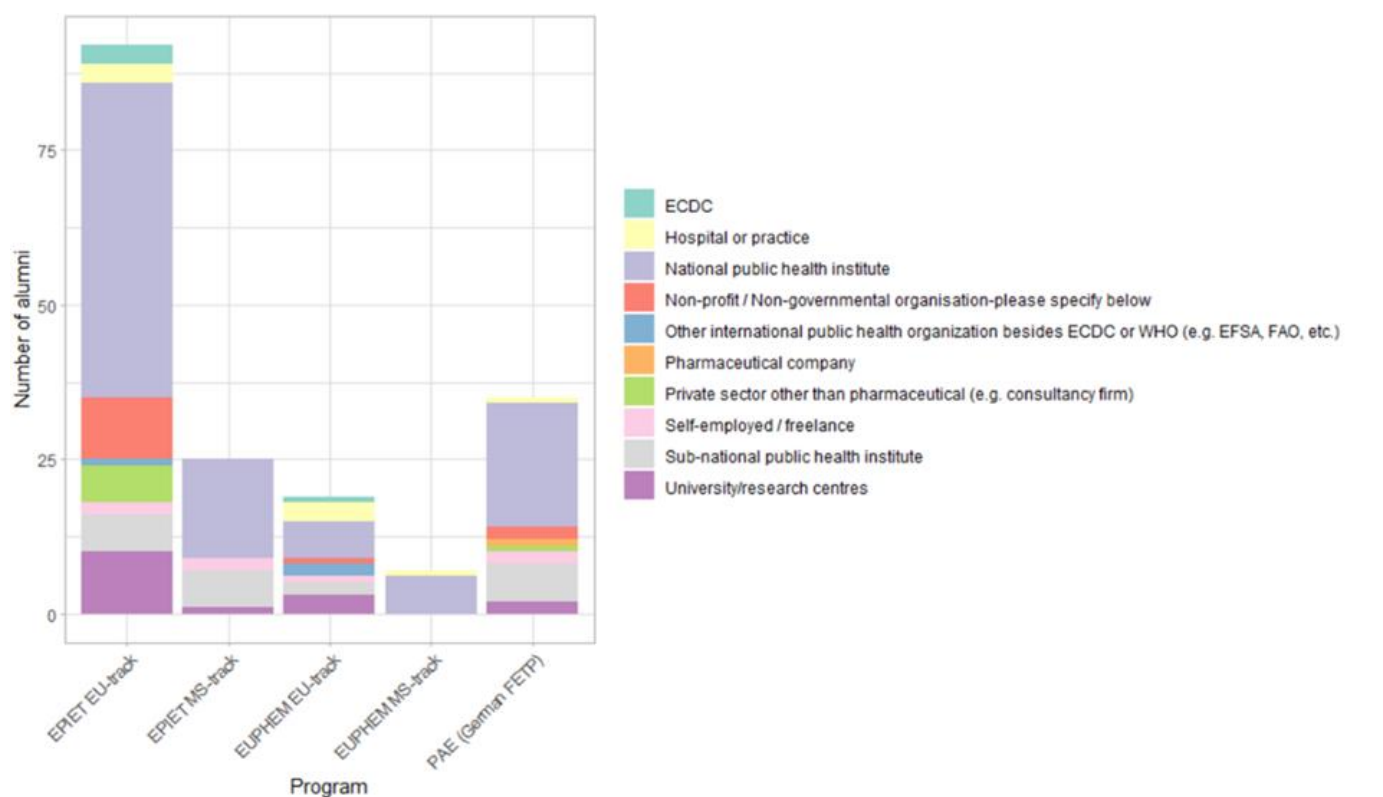
	EAN bulletin	FLC	Friends, alumni	Internet	Previous employer	TS supervisor	Within host site
EPIET EU-track	3	6	24	7	24	27	8
EPIET MS-track	0	0	13	7	80	0	0
EUPHEM EU-track	0	5	20	30	10	15	20
EUPHEM MS-track	0	0	20	0	60	20	0
PAE	3	0	25	9	25	25	12
Overall	2	4	23	10	29	23	9

The vast majority of the alumni (45%) reported that their first job was for a National Public Health Institute. EUPHEM EU-track graduates were the only ones who reported a first job in pharmaceutical companies (Table 4 & Figure 1).

Table 4: First organisation graduates worked for (in %).

	EPIET EU-track	EPIET MS-track	EUPHEM EU-track	EUPHEM MS-track	PAE	Overall
ECDC	7	3	10	0	5	6
Hospital	4	3	17	12	8	6
NPHI	36	70	33	88	50	45
NGO	6	0	7	0	5	5
EFSA/FAO	3	0	3	0	0	2
Pharma	0	0	3	0	0	0.5
Private	9	0	3	0	0	5
Freelance	5	3	0	0	5	4
Sub-NPHI	7	21	10	0	18	11
Academia	6	0	7	0	7.5	5
WHO	16	0	7	0	2.5	9.5

Figure 1: Where did you find your first job?



Reflections on the 11th [TEPHINET](#) Global Scientific Conference in Panama, 4-9 September 2022

Three fellows: Catarina Krug (EPIET, cohort 2021), Katja Siling (EPIET cohort 2020), Hannah Taylor (UK-FETP, Cohort 2021), two scientific coordinators: Gamze Aktuna (PAE/EPIET SC) and Barbara Schimmer (EPIET SC) and Carmen Varela, head of the Public Health Training section at ECDC, attended this conference and are excited to report back to you their experiences on site.



Celebrating World Field Epidemiology Day, 7th September 2022, Panama

From 4-9 September 2022, the 11th TEPHINET Global Scientific Conference was held in Panama, co-hosted with the Executive Secretariat of the Council of Ministers of Health of Central America and the Dominican Republic (SE-COMISCA). There were almost 400 on-site and 222 virtual attendees from 65 countries. Nearly 100 speakers representing organisations including, but not limited to, TEPHINET, SE-COMISCA, the Panamanian and Dominican Republic Ministries of Health, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Gorgas Memorial Institute for Health Studies, Costa Rican Institute for Research and Teaching in Nutrition and Health (INCIENSA), European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, Central American Field Epidemiology Network (REDCEC), WHO, Ending Pandemics, Resolve to Save Lives, and many more contributed to the programme.

Pre-conference workshops

The Sunday before the conference was a nice opportunity to already get to know some participants during interactive learning sessions covering various topics from Introduction to R, epidemic intelligence, case studies on non-communicable diseases, to subjects dealing with the FETP curriculum focusing on learning theories, continuous quality improvement and impact evaluation. Some of us attended the learning sessions on "Monitoring and Evaluation of FETPs" to learn about other countries' experiences.

Keynote sessions, oral and poster presentations

In the opening ceremony examples were given on how FETP were developed in the region and how they have expanded, also learning from the response to natural disasters. The conference featured keynotes on topics ranging from SARS-CoV-2 genomic surveillance and sequencing, global elimination of hepatitis C, and regional perspectives on strengthening Field Epidemiology Training Programmes (FETPs). Chikwe Ihekweazu, assistant director general of the newly established [WHO hub on Pandemic and Epidemic Intelligence](#) spoke about opportunities and challenges to "step up" field epidemiology and stressed the importance of institutionalisation of FETP programmes in national public health

institutes, how to work more interdisciplinary in order to address the complexity of current and future pandemics (summary available on [BMJ blogs](#)). Another keynote also highlighted that we need to become better ancestors, introducing a virtual learning series, produced by the Center for Global Health Innovation, documenting the history and 9 key lessons learned from the 1980 campaign to eradicate smallpox highlighting the contribution of Dr. William H. Foege. By consciously applying these generic but important lessons, we can learn how to be better prepared to address the global health threats of today and the ones we will be facing in the future across different disciplines. At the plenary about the Global Field Epidemiology Roadmap, co-chairs and members of the FETP enterprise Strategy Leadership Group (SLG) presented some of their ongoing activities. Carmen Varela, from ECDC, talked about continuous improvement and modernization of FETPs, with focus on the value of the competency frameworks, like the one developed by FAO-WHO-WOAH with a One-Health approach, and the recently published list of Applied infectious disease epidemiology competencies for field epidemiologists in Europe. The session also featured an interesting update from US CDC about the importance of FETPs being managed (institutionalized) by public health institutes or Ministries of Health, due to their in-service nature and for sustainability purposes.



Following the Keynote Session: "An Opportunity to "Step Up" Field Epidemiology", with Chikwe Ihekweazu, Assistant Director General for Surveillance and Health Emergency Intelligence, World Health Organization (WHO), 7th September 2022

Oral and poster presentations

During the conference, trainees and recent graduates of Frontline, Intermediate and Advanced FETPs presented on topics ranging from COVID-19 to food and waterborne disease outbreaks, HIV, antimicrobial resistance, cardiovascular disease (CVD) and noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), malaria, and much more. TEPHINET received 379 abstract submissions from 72 countries and accepted 265 for oral and poster presentation. Of these, 101 oral

and 103 poster presentations were given at the conference. Catarina Krug presented an HUS/STEC outbreak in France associated with a specific brand of pizza and she explained how supermarket loyalty cards and receipts helped in the investigation. Katja Siling presented on HIV diagnostics and positivity rates in anonymous testing centres in North Rhine-Westphalia and how they dropped during the COVID-19 pandemic. Hannah Taylor discussed the use of a directed acyclic graph for conceptual framework and study protocol development exploring relationships between housing characteristics and household transmission of COVID-19 in England in 2020.



Field Visits to Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance, 7th September 2022, Panama

Field visits during [World Field Epidemiology Day](#)

We had the opportunity to visit Manzanillo International Terminal, Regional Logistics Center for Humanitarian Assistance, Panama City Wastewater Treatment Plant, and Gorgas Memorial Institute for Health Studies on the fourth day's afternoon of the conference, where field epidemiologists gained broad understanding of Panama's experience in public health action.

25th Anniversary of TEPHINET celebrated as 25 Years of Global Health Workforce Capacity Building

We looked back on the network's accomplishments and our impact on public health over the years. It was special to see how an official celebration of #TEPHINETat25 was integrated in a specific session, featuring presentations from Belize, Pakistan, and Zambia FETPs and 'storytelling' reflections from previous TEPHINET leaders, and of course, a giant cake that was offered to every participant with an official cake cutting ceremony by TEPHINET director Carl Reddy. A good example for EPIET 25th+2 celebration the day after ESCAIDE. In summary this was a truly global conference and we can learn a lot from the public health advocacy workshop, integrating pre-conference workshops for networking and acquiring skills, focus on training, teaching and evaluation to strengthen national FETPs and the celebration party of the 25th anniversary of an integral part of the scientific conference. It was also interesting to hear how different tiers of FETPs (frontline, intermediate or advanced, like EPIET) strengthen the public health system in countries.

[TEPHIconnect](#)

As EAN alumni we really recommend to stay in touch with TEPHINET through TEPHICONNECT and take part in their training activities. We can present our work at TEPHINET and our colleagues can present their work at ESCAIDE. We have discussed how we could be more in touch with our colleagues from FETPs in other countries and learn from each other as we experience similar challenges. One of the ideas that arose during this meeting was to establish a community of practice (CoP) through the TEPHIconnect platform. By having regular Zoom sessions and webinars we can stay in touch at operational coordinator level (not only the strategic level). We identified a clear need to share materials and pre-test them, talk about further continuous professional development after our advanced FETP training in order to keep addressing the current changes and challenges in international public health and global health security. By connecting we save time, learn from each other, and do not need to reinvent the wheel completely when implementing new or specific training and modules in our FETP.

International Nights

The enthusiasm shown during the International Nights with many FETPs delegations dressed up in traditional costumes was contagious, as they danced fantastically on the stage and we got to know about each country. We also enjoyed and joined in the folklore dances given by what seemed like professional dancers but were actually staff members working at the Panamanian Ministry of Health during daytime. Next time, in three years, the European delegation will make sure to prepare for this unforgettable session on time and be on the stage as well.

Sources: [11th TEPHINET Global Scientific Conference](#) | [TEPHINET](#)



11th TEPHINET Global Scientific Conference attendees: Barbara Schimmer, Gamze Aktuna, Katja Siling, Hannah Taylor and Catarina Krug

Trainings and mini modules

Online R course with Applied Epi

Following the EAN survey, we identified a strong interest for R courses, and we are collaborating with [Applied Epi](#) to offer a high quality introductory R course to our members. Applied Epi is a not-for-profit organisation and all their facilitators are highly experienced in field epidemiology.

It's a 35-hours of synchronous, virtual instruction in 10 modules of 3.5 hours each, which started on 27 September.

The "Introduction to R for Applied Epidemiology" includes basic R syntax, data import and cleaning, project organisation, joining and pivoting data, data visualisation with {ggplot2}, epidemiological plots, summary tables, GIS demo, reproducible reports with R Markdown.

We know that there is a financial hurdle to many people, and that many employers would not finance a course like this ad hoc, but we hope that this will increase in the future so that more and more epidemiologists can become members of the R community.

The board has decided to sponsor 4 EAN members following several criteria: country of citizenship and/or employment, current employment situation, previous experience and how improving their R skills would benefit the network at a later stage through capacity building and supervision of projects with fellows.

We received 8 application for an EAN grant and 4 members were sponsored (one with a 90% grant and 3 with a 50% grant).

Spots for this course were limited to 24 people - but if the interest is high we can try to organise another course with Applied Epi in the future. Please leave your feedback [here](#), including other times and formats that would be more suitable.

We are very pleased to collaborate with Applied Epi to be able to offer a high quality course tailored to epidemiologists and we hope to continue this collaboration and keep spreading the word!

EAN mini module on Social media and infodemic management

Excitingly, right before ESCAIDE we will also run another EAN mini-module. On 21-22 November 2022 we will spend a day and a half working on media and infodemic management.

During our members' survey in 2021, the need for media training was highlighted and we took that as a call to action. Considering the increasing importance of misinformation and infodemic management that the pandemic has demonstrated we decided to

combine the two topics as an introductory course on both media and infodemic management.

Participants will spend half a day with experts from both areas to discuss the theoretical concepts around the topics as well as do's and don'ts for speaking with journalists. The second (full) day will then be filled with practical exercises.

ESCAIDE 2022



ESCAIDE Stockholm and online, 23-25 November 2022

European Scientific Conference on Applied Infectious Disease Epidemiology

We are very excited to see that the [ESCAIDE conference](#) is going to be a hybrid event this year, **on 23-25 November 2022**. This means, not only that we can participate and reconnect in person with the EAN family, but also that people who cannot join in person due to individual constraints may still participate and benefit from the conference and exchanges.

The EAN board will be participating in person, with an info stand again and we will also be organising the BarCamp and Career Compass session. There will of course also be our general assembly, including updates on what has happened over the past year, plans for the future, and the election of new board members!

If you are interested in becoming a board member this November, reach out to us eanboard@gmail.com.

Pre-ESCAIDE EAN Dinner and drinks

We are looking forward to getting back to one of EAN's old pre-ESCAIDE traditions!

Come and meet us on November 22nd at Vapiano Gamla Stan (Munkbrogatan 8, 111 27 Stockholm) starting from 6:30PM.

You will get to meet friends and colleagues, chat with the new cohort of fellows as well as the graduating ones, drink, eat and (why not) dance at the Drinks & Dinner social event of EAN!!

Career Compass 2022

The Career Compass is an open Q&A session about the different career paths of established public health professionals.

This event provides the ideal platform to help junior public health professionals connect with senior professionals and discover future career opportunities.

It is organised by EPIET and EUPHEM fellows in collaboration with the EPIET Alumni Network (EAN).

The 6th edition of the Career compass will take place on Wednesday 23rd November (ESCAIDE Day 1) from 13:00 to 14:00. We are currently finalising the panel and will post this information on the [EAN ESCAIDE pages](#).

EAN General Assembly 2022

The 2022 General Assembly (GA) of the EPIET Alumni Network (EAN) is taking place physically and online on Thursday 24 November 2022, 12:30-14:00 CET.

During the GA, we will give you an overview of the activities EAN organised during the past term, let you know how we are doing financially and introduce you to TEPHINET's new focal person for European FETPs. We will also present to you our members' expectations on future activities as reported during the survey of 2021 and discuss our aspirations, challenges and possible ways forward.

We will also discuss how we could better interact with the MediPIET fellows that are now under ECDC and in close contact with the EPIET and EUPHEM family.

The EAN Board elections will also take place, and the online ballot will be open between 24-25 November.

Please note that only active (paying) members can vote. Please check your membership status and consider paying your fee (30€/year or 250€ for 10 years) if you haven't done this.

Current fellows, although not yet eligible to vote, you are still very much encouraged to attend the GA so that we can meet and welcome you personally, and you can get to know more about the EAN and what we do.

If you have a topic or issue that you would like to be discussed during the General Assembly, please send us an email at: eanboard@gmail.com.

There are three positions for the EAN Board to fill and if you are interested in joining the Board, please see below for more information about the open positions and what you need to do to apply.

Join the board!

This year, 3 positions are up!

- Vice-President
- Deputy treasurer
- Deputy secretary

More information on these positions can be found [here](#). Further details on Advisory Board duties and these positions can be found in the [EAN Statutes](#) and in the [EAN Board Handbook](#).

If you would like to announce your candidature for one of the advisory board positions, please let us know by email to eanboard@gmail.com by 23 November 2022 the latest, so we can send out the list of potential candidates before the GA at ESCAIDE.

Please specify for which position you would like to be considered and provide us with a brief introduction on your background and why you are interested in the specific position, including a recent photo of you, which will be shared with the members.

If you are not able to attend the GA, you can of course still apply! In that case we would really appreciate it if you could send us a two-minute video expressing your motivation to become part of the next EAN advisory Board. We will play this video during the introduction of candidates during GA.

Alternatively, you can make your candidacy known to us just prior to the GA (until 12:00 CET on Thu 24 Nov), however, this will allow less time for canvassing!

BarCamp 2022

If you are coming to this year's ESCAIDE, make sure to post your ideas of topics through the ESCAIDE 2022 app and visit the BarCamp on the evening of Wednesday 24th November.

It is a dynamic forum for the discussion of raw ideas, methodological hiccups, data challenges and more. It is a great setting for professional exchange of ideas with your peers in a relaxed environment.

During this informal event, the audience is generating the content. The BarCamp participants create the agenda. On the first day of the conference and on the morning of the second day, ESCAIDE attendees propose topics or volunteer to speak briefly about their ideas, puzzling findings, methodological challenges, etc through the ESCAIDE 2022 app.

You can see pictures of previous events at the [BarCamp@ESCAIDE page](#).

Best Oral presentation 2022

Following the tradition, the EAN will select the oral presentation which is the most effective in transmitting a public health message.

The oral presentations will be judged by a committee of EAN members that are neither part of the graduating or current cohorts.

Only presentations of submitted abstracts, presented orally during parallel sessions are eligible.

The winner of the “best oral” prize will be awarded by the EAN President at the closing ceremony

Photo contest 2022

Stockholm will see a new edition of the ESCAIDE photo contest, organised by EAN in collaboration with ESCAIDE. It is open to all conference attendees.

Therefore, if during your adventurous life as epidemiologist, microbiologist, public health expert:

- you came across a situation, a landscape, a character, an unusual and memorable “something” related to public health;
- you took a picture that can represent and depict one of the many facets of the life in “the field” and/or in “the lab”;
- you want to share your memories and emotions with those who can grasp their meaning;

Note that if other people are identifiable on your pictures, you would require their written consent for the photo contest.

Please email us at eanboard@gmail.com with up to two photographs (from 31st October to 20th November) including the following information:

- Photographer’s name
- Date of the photograph
- Place of the photograph (location, country)
- Title of the photograph
- Accompanying text (120 words max)

Accepted formats for the photographs are the following: jpg, tiff, png, psd, bmp. Files must not be over 10 MB.

ESCAIDE participants will vote for the best photo between 23-25 November through the ESCAIDE 2022 app.

We will announce and award the winner of the ‘best photo’ during the ESCAIDE closing ceremony

25 (+2) years anniversary of EPIET

On 26th November, starting from 10AM CET, right after ESCAIDE 2022 and cohorts 2018, 2019 and 2020 graduation party, we will be organising the celebration of the 27-year anniversary since the start of the EPIET programme and 22 years since the EPIET Alumni Network was formally created.

It will be held as an hybrid event hosted at the Swedish Public Health agency (Folkhälsomyndigheten) to reflect around the past, present and future of field epidemiology in Europe.

Provisional programme is available [here](#) and the online link will be shared with you soon.

You can also contribute to the event, sharing your photos from the fellowship, you can send your pics in a zip folder to Vera Manageiro: vera.manageiro@insa.min-saude.pt

We also planned a dinner party and it has been fantastic to see how many of you are coming! **The venue is now fully booked!** We will make sure to take some pictures and share them with the network in the next newsletter!

News from the Network

Dinner & Drinks past events

We are quite happy to know that during the past months, members of our network did meet quite a lot!

8th June 2022, EPIET/MediPIET Cohort 2021 RAS module, Stockholm

Yes, after a long wait,, the EAN dinner and drinks was finally back at Vapiano. And as you know, whatever happens at Vapiano stays at Vapiano, however, we can say that fellows and alumni were delighted to finally see each other again!

30th August 2022, Projet Review Module, Lisbon

Finally, the two current cohort (C2020 and C2021) as well as MediPIET fellows got back together for Project Review Module in Lisbon. Part of a pretty packed social calendar (massive thanks to Vera for that) was also a well attended Dinner and Drinks.





14th September 2022, Berlin

Some current fellows and alumni from the RKI in Berlin welcomed the new 2021 cohort of PAE and EPIET fellows in Germany. At the beer garden Eschenbräu, some good stories and hints were shared over locally brewed beer and delicious Flammkuchen



23rd September 2022, Copenhagen

Quite a turnout for this one with EPIET and EUPHEM alumni from several cohorts ranging from 2004 to 2020. There was even a former EAN president and it seems that people had a lot of fun but forgot to take a picture. Hopefully, they plan to meet again soon in Copenhagen and will not forget to document this encounter. 😊

26th September – October 16th EPIET/EUPHEM cohort 2022 and MediPIET cohort 5 introductory course, Spetses, Greece

A real pleasure to see so many of our members taking a week or two of their time to come teach, meet and party during the introductory course, which is the cement of the programme

And...

One very important and not too last minute announcement...

EPIET/EUPHEM cohort 2021 and MediPIET cohort 4 will be having TSA module at RIVM in November and hope to see many of you join them for another EAN D&D on **Wednesday 9/11**, starting from 8PM at 't Taphuys, Mariaaplat 3, Utrecht.

If any of you would like to organise an EAN D&D in their town/city/country. Do not hesitate to reach out to the EAN!

EAN Communication channels (Discord, WhatsApp, etc.)

Since the beginning of the pandemic, EAN's WhatsApp group was activated to share and facilitate the communication between EAN members, allowing a more rapid and effective response. However, the group grew and we now need another platform for smoother communication and interaction.

EAN's Discord server is a structured forum to connect, exchange and discuss information within the network. On [EAN's Discord](#), you will get the latest EAN-related information and news as well as be able to find and share resources on analytics, surveillance or outbreak investigations, public health microbiology or discuss the latest news and developments in the field of infectious diseases. The easiest way to use Discord is by installing the Discord app on your phone and/or

desktop and then clicking that link. After joining the server, you will be directed to the welcome-and-rules channel where you can read more about all the different features and learn how to use the server. Once you are done with that, please come and tell us a few words about you in the [#introducing-yourself](#) channel! And of course, please contribute with topics and in discussions to get the discord channel to a lively forum.

EAN has an up-to-date website where you can find several resources and a dedicated member's only area with posts on jobs, courses and conferences, internal news and updates, webinar recordings, and many more!

Follow us on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [twitter](#)!

In the next edition!

- ✓ Updates on EAN projects
- ✓ Meet the new EPIET Coordinators
- ✓ Information on forthcoming EAN workshops and mini-modules
- ✓ And much more

Update your Membership

The annual membership fee is now €30 / £28.

There is a 10-year membership available at €250 / £230.

Please note that membership year runs from 1st November to 31st October of each calendar year. Make payment now and have your membership extended until 31st October 2023 (or 2032)!

Fellows in training are exempt from paying membership fees.

Renewing your membership is easy and you can do it [through our website using a credit card](#). You can also renew your membership via bank transfer using either of the accounts mentioned below. Make sure to add your name as reference in the bank transfer.

If you require any further information on membership payment, we kindly ask you to contact the EAN board (eanboard@gmail.com), putting "membership payment" in the subject line.

EURO ACCOUNT (€30 per annum)

Bank: TransferWise Europe SA

Bank address: Avenue Louise 54, Room S52, Brussels 1050, BE

Account Holder: E.A.N. (EPIET Alumni Network)

IBAN: BE88 9670 3610 1241

BIC/Swift: TRWIBEB1

GBP ACCOUNT (£28 per annum)

Bank: TransferWise

Address: 56 Shoreditch High Street, London E16JJ, UK

Account holder: E.A.N. (EPIET Alumni Network)

IBAN: GB22 TRWI 2314 7095 5404 40

Account Number: 95540440

Sort code: 23-14-70