



<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	Dengue and Chikungunya prevention using genetically modified mosquitoes – current facts, literacy and public opinions – Ref <sup>a</sup> . PTDC/IVC-ESCT/2486/2014
<b>BRIEF DESCRIPTION</b>	Dengue and Chikungunya are currently considered the major arboviral infections worldwide. These diseases are transmitted by mosquitos present in some European countries, namely in Madeira Island. Genetically modified mosquitoes (GMM) have arisen as a new approach for prevention and control, but this entails several complexities like government and community acceptance. Lack of evidence is reported on community literacy and evaluation of mosquito field-trials studies. This study will provide objective insights regarding these techniques and its impact on the community as well as knowledge about community opinions and literacy levels about this type of vector control approach.
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	To collect and synthetize the critical existing information regarding the topic; to develop a tool to measure public literacy and describe literacy levels in two geographic locations of interest; to explore public views and opinions in those regions regarding the use of genetically modified mosquitoes to prevent the introduction and spread of diseases.
<b>IMPLEMENTATION</b>	Major outcomes: a) integrated review regarding strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of the use of current GMM technologies for insect-borne diseases prevention, in general, b) report on lessons learned and local community’s experiences regarding previous GMM field trials; c) definition of a “modified mosquito literacy” and development of a score tool to assess it; d) GMM literacy level of Lisbon and Funchal residents and respective personal-socio-demographic determinants; e) report on Lisbon residents’ and active politicians views and opinions regarding the use of GMM for insect-borne diseases prevention according to GMM literacy level.
<b>FUNDING AGENCY</b>	Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia (FCT)
<b>DURATION</b>	2016-2019
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