



## Memorandum of Understanding

### German-Ukrainian Partnership in Biosafety and Biosecurity

In January 2016, a project appraisal mission lead by the German Federal Foreign Office went to Ukraine to discuss the extension of the ongoing bilateral German-Ukrainian cooperation to the field of biosecurity. During the mission, the German delegation and the leadership of the National Scientific Center - "Institute for Experimental and Clinical Veterinary Medicine" (NSC "IECVM") reached consensus over the general nature of a future German-Ukrainian partnership in the field of biosafety and biosecurity.

This new cooperation will be implemented within the framework of the German Partnership Program for Excellence in Biological and Health Security, a global program initiated by the German Federal Foreign Office. The goals of this program are aligned to the G7 Biological Security Deliverables agreed to internationally.

The National Scientific Center - Institute for Experimental and Clinical Veterinary Medicine (NSC "IECVM") in Kharkiv is a leading establishment in veterinary sciences and reference activities in veterinary medicine in Ukraine. The Bundeswehr Institute of Microbiology (IMB) in Munich is the competence centre for biological medical defence and is the German implementing partner for this project.

#### Area of cooperation 1: Joint research

Both parties agree on joint research on viral and bacterial pathogens. The priority area of joint research will be on viral and bacterial diseases, including but not limited to Especially Dangerous Pathogens (EDP). Joint research projects might also include the exchange of human, animal, bacteria or virus samples and reference material between both parties.

#### Area of cooperation 2: Training of junior scientists

Both parties agree to cooperate in the training of young Ukrainian scientist with the aim of strengthening Ukrainian scientific and laboratory capacity in Ukraine in general and at the NSC "IECVM" in particular. Young researchers will to be trained by German experts within the facilities of the NSC "IECVM" in Ukraine and at the IMB in Germany. The learning goal is to improve their laboratory practice and knowledge on performing basic and advanced scientific principles in biosafety level 2 and biosafety level 3 lab environments.

#### Area of cooperation 3: Know-how transfer and capacity development

Both parties agree to engage in the exchange of know-how for the development, establishment and validation of diagnostic assays, lab quality management according to ISO EN 17025 and European biosafety and biosecurity regulations.

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