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## Capacity of vector control programmes for early warning and detection of vector-borne disease outbreaks in West Africa

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In West Africa, the social, environmental, urban and global risk factors for the emergence and re-emergence of vector-borne diseases are increasing, thus favouring the exposure of populations to the bites of vectors and therefore to the transmission of pathogens.

Early warning and detection of epidemics can limit the spread of pathogens, thus saving human lives and livestock and preserving the economy of populations.

This paper reveals the strengths and weaknesses of national vector control programmes in West Africa, and the bottlenecks affecting the proper implementation of vector surveillance activities, which is the main pillar for: i) the adoption of appropriate prevention measures, ii) early warning and detection of epidemics, and iii) appropriate (evidence-based) response (control) in a timely manner to a possible epidemic, in order to reduce incidence.

