



Avia-GIS NV "Agriculture and Veterinary Information and Analysis" is a Belgian SME founded in 2001 that specializes in the collection, processing and analysis of spatial information as a basis for the development of data driven space-time information systems (STIS) applied to veterinary and public health in general and (emerging) zoonoses and vector-borne diseases (VBD) in particular. We focus on the application of state of the art techniques that broaden the scope of conventional analyses and help bridge the gap between research and decision-making including: geographical information systems (GIS), spatial modelling and analysis, earth observation and satellite navigation.

Avia-GIS is active in two main domains: (1) optimized health information systems and (2) precision pest management solutions. Within these domains Avia-GIS offers a range of services to research teams, governmental agencies, international organizations and the industry. These include: software, database and mobile applications development/maintenance; research and technical development; consulting; and capacity building. Our products generate high quality data, save time and reduce costs.

Avia-GIS develops and maintains Pan-European networks within their activity domains and establish strategic alliances with other key-players.

By attending, you will know about AVIA-GIS, its focus and products & services. You will also get introduced to one of its products: **VECMAP®** which is a **'one-stop-shop'** system and service that supports all steps required to map and model, at various scales, the distribution of disease vectors, to plan surveillance & control programs, and manage the entire database.

## About VECMAP®

The growth of world trade and international travel has opened up routes for disease vectors to reach new territories, such as the tiger mosquito worldwide. In addition, growing leisure time spent outdoors in the developed world, and travel to the tropics, means that there is more scope for people to come into contact with disease vectors. The spread of Lyme Disease is a well-known example. And, of course, global warming that is increasing the risk of the introduction of new pathogens in local or newly established vector populations. Such as bluetongue in ruminants, and chikungunya and zika virus in humans.

This new threat to humans, animals and crops calls for management which is based on accurate risk assessment. However, mapping the presence of disease vectors in the wild is a complex multi-staged task. If it is not done right, the mapping may be very costly and/or fail to produce correct insights for management and policy.

Whilst **VECMAP®** was originally developed to map and model vectors of disease, it can be used for any vector, host pathogen or other species depending on its environment for its survival, thus, expanding its application from medical and veterinary entomology to other fields such as epidemiology, biodiversity, agro-forestry etc.

**VECMAP®** is a fully integrated system which replaces a range of free and paid-for software that typically carries out only part of the comprehensive workflow it contains. In addition, **VECMAP®** allows field-sampling campaigns to be optimised so that wasteful over-sampling is avoided, hence, fieldwork is less expensive and more efficient.

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**VECMAP® Lite**, our free version of **VECMAP®**, is the perfect introduction to spatial modelling. It allows existing data sets to be ordered, queried and analysed, and contains the bulk of the spatial analysis and modelling steps of the **VECMAP®** workflow.

**VECMAP® & VECMAP® Lite** can be used by a wide range of practitioners either on their own or supported by Avia-GIS experts who are acknowledged leaders in entomology, remote sensing and spatial modelling.

" **VECMAP® on-tour**" is our new Avia-GIS initiative to organize introductory workshops hosted by institutions throughout Europe which are at the heart of the action.