



Press information

Research Network InfectControl 2020: Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut contributes to development of novel antibiotics and antiviral substances

Insel Riems, 24 July 2013. Within the next five years the research network „InfectControl 2020 - Novel Antiinfection Strategies - Science • Economy • Public“ will be funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) with a total of 45 million Euros. The Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut (FLI), together with the Ernst-Moritz-Arndt-University Greifswald, contributed significantly to the development of the research concept. Within this network, the FLI will be responsible for developing and testing antibiotics and antiviral substances for veterinary medicine. „InfectControl 2020“ is composed of leading research institutes, companies and interest groups and pursues the aim to prevent and control infectious diseases comprehensively and effectively in the future. The project explicitly supports competences available in East Germany and sets clear impulses for the further economic development of the new German federal states.

Worldwide, the importance of infectious diseases remains high. They still count among the most frequent causes of death and can have considerable economic consequences. Infectious diseases which can be transmitted between animals and humans, so called zoonoses, become more and more important. They are one of the major research topics of the FLI, which will contribute to „InfectControl 2020“ with its expertise in this field. Furthermore, this research network will be a tool to intensify the institute's cooperation with the Ernst-Moritz-Arndt-University Greifswald.

„InfectControl 2020 - Novel Antiinfection Strategies - Science • Economy • Public“ is one of 59 initiatives which were submitted to BMBF in the frame of its program „Twenty20 -

Partnership for Innovation“. 19 applicants were given the opportunity to present their initial concepts to a jury in Berlin on July 16 and 17, 2013; 10 of these will be supported with a total of up to 500 million Euros over the next five years. Axel Brakhage, Director of the Leibniz Institute for Natural Product Research and Infection Biology - Hans-Knöll-Institute - in Jena, has been designated as speaker of the consortium „InfectControl 2020“, which consists of more than 30 partners, mainly from East Germany.

More information can be found at: <http://www.infectcontrol.de/index.html>