

MOBILISE NEWSLETTER #2

Austrian Mission in Focus



Dear MOBILISE subscriber,

We're glad you've joined us today, just as we have some exciting news to share.

May marked a major milestone for the EU-funded MOBILISE project: the launch of our very first on-the-ground mission. We kicked things off in Austria, and this update offers a quick look behind the scenes — and a preview of what's coming next.



▮ © AGES/Scherbov – the MOBILISE truck stationed in Moedling, Austria

About MOBILISE

MOBILISE is an EU-funded Horizon Europe project developing a mobile One Health laboratory to strengthen outbreak detection across Europe. The lab is equipped to analyse human, animal, and environmental samples directly on-site — a critical advantage as climate change drives diseases like West Nile virus, Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever, and Dengue into new regions.

While traditional outbreak responses rely on centralised, fixed labs, this approach can leave remote or underserved areas vulnerable. MOBILISE addresses this gap with a flexible, rapid-response solution — designed to act early, move fast, and apply a full One Health perspective in the field.

If you'd like to learn more about us, feel free to visit our website by clicking the button below!

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Austria: Where it began

April 17, 2025 – Arrival & Setup

- The 11-tonne MOBILISE lab truck arrived at the Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety (AGES) in Moedling. AGES staff, supported by trainers from the Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine (BNITM), set up equipment and began refresher training on core lab processes. An extended team also received intensive hands-on training.

April 17 – May 7 – Operator Training

- BNITM trainers led detailed protocol training with AGES staff, based on a simulated case: a farmer bitten by a Hyalomma tick and infected with Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever virus (CCHFV). Teams practiced testing human, animal, and tick samples using MOBILISE procedures.



May 6 – Expert Symposium

- On May 6, the MOBILISE project brought together local experts, various ministries, and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for a focused symposium on mobile labs. The goal was to align on shared objectives and expectations for the project's next phases.

Key topics included:

- Inter-ministry coordination during crises
- Biosafety and biosecurity in mobile settings
- Comparative insights from the OneLab project



May 13–15 – Trial & Stakeholder Workshops

- A simulation exercise tested the lab's performance during a mock CCHFV outbreak. Using the MOBILISE Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS), lab data was fed directly into a real-time dashboard—developed by partners at the Austrian Institute of Technology (AIT)—and a digital forum to enable stakeholder access and coordination.
- Stakeholders then participated in a workshop to assess Austria's needs for deploying mobile labs and to explore synergies with existing systems.



© AGES/Hlous – AGES operator during field trial

Key Takeaways

- The lab was fully functional and ready
- Operators were successfully trained
- The Decision Support System (DSS) was launched and well received
- Stronger cross-sector connections were built

What's Next?

With the Austrian mission complete, teams have been moving through the next stages in Germany and Greece, with the final stop set for Tanzania in September. Each mission builds on the lessons learned so far.

Thanks for staying with us. More updates soon!

Warmly,

The MOBILISE Communications Team



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