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Dr Louis Clement Gouagna is a research scientist at the French Institute for Research and Development (IRD) and work as a team member of MIVEGEC ("Maladies Infectieuses et Vecteurs : Ecologie, Génétique, Evolution et Contrôle"), a joint Research Unit bringing together over 150 staff research scientists from the IRD, the National Centre of Scientific Research (CNRS) and the University of Montpellier, with specific interests on infectious diseases and arthropod vectors, ranging from genomes to ecosystems and from fundamental to applied research. Dr Gouagna did his undergraduate degrees in science at the University of Yaoundé, Cameroon. He then moved to the ORSTOM center in Cameroun where he obtained his PhD in the Hosts-vectorsparasites laboratory through the University of Yaoundé (Cameroon) and the Catholic Medical University of Nijmegen (The Netherland). During this time he was awarded a Fellowship from AUPELF-UREF for his doctoral work (1996-1999) on parasitological and immunological determinant of Plasmodium-Anopheles interactions. In 1999, he joined the ICIPE in Nairobi - Kenya for his postdoctoral studies and immediately took up a consultant position under the Human Health Division at the ICIPE field station at Mbita Point where he established a laboratory and enhance research capacity for advanced research on the biology of malaria vector, malaria vector competence and transmission. He has become a permanent senior research scientist in Medical entomology at the IRD since 2004. Dr Gouagna has more than 18 years of experience in laboratory and field research conducted mainly at field sites in Africa, including Cameroun (6 years), Kenya (5 years), Burkina Faso (4 years), where he coordinated several



research project addressing a wide range of questions on the biology of malaria vectors including vector ecology, host and plant feeding behaviours, vector competence, biotic and abiotic transmission blocking mechanisms and malaria parasite transmission. Currently, he is posted at the IRD research station in La Reunion Island since 2010. Since moving to La Reunion Island, Dr Gouagna has established a research programme covering the development of SIT package against *Aedes albopictus* and *Aedes aegypti* in the Islands of the West Indian Ocean. He is pursuing this interest in collaboration with investigators from national and international research centers and funded from regional, national and EU sources. Current research work is aimed at understanding the biology, ecology and reproductive behaviour of disease transmitting mosquitoes, and to generate the essential knowledge that may be applied to guide the design of new vector control methods, and developing and testing operationally effective concepts for SIT application.

Dr Gouagna has been involved in the WHO AFRO capacity building initiative on integrated vector management and is also an active member of the joint FAO-IAEA technical cooperation programs for the advancement of knowledge on SIT strategy. He has a record of over 80 presentations in internationally established conferences and over 70 articles published in major international peer-reviewed multidisciplinary scientific journals on medical entomology, parasitology, ecology and infectious diseases.