

# PREPARE

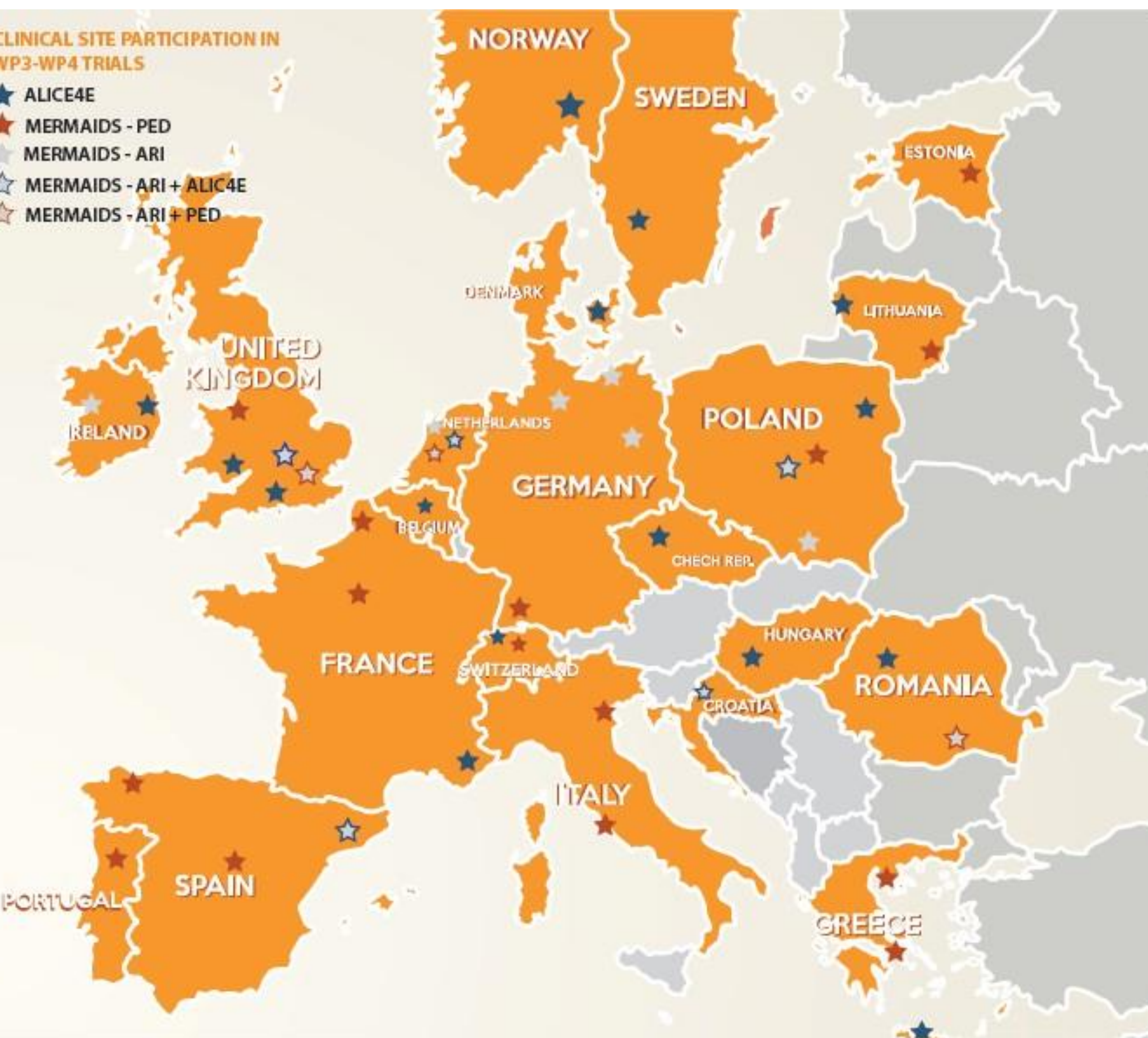
## Platform for European Preparedness Against (Re-)emerging Epidemics



### What is PREPARE?

PREPARE is a clinical research network established with support of European Union funding running from 1 February 2014 to 31 January 2019. The challenge of **PREPARE** is to build Europe's capacity for harmonised large-scale clinical research studies on infectious diseases (ID), prepared to rapidly respond to any severe ID outbreak and providing real-time evidence for clinical management of patients and for informing public health responses.

### PREPARE Clinical Trials



#### WP3 PRACTICE A: MERMAIDS

WP3 aims to deliver large scale prospective observational studies of infections with epidemic potential in Europe.

The 3 observational 'Multi-centre European study of MAjor Infectious Disease Syndromes (MERMAIDS)' protocols have been finalised: acute respiratory infections (ARI) in adults (n=2000), arbovirus compatible febrile illnesses (ARBO) in adults (n=1500), and community acquired sepsis-like syndrome and paediatric acute respiratory infections (PED) in infants and children (n=1000). The studies will be carried out across Europe from 2015 until 2018. ARI has started recruitment and ARBO and PED will start May 2016.

#### WP4 PRACTICE B: ALIC<sup>4E</sup>

WP4 is delivering the largest-ever pragmatic, publically funded randomized trial of antivirals for influenza-like-illness in primary care, using an innovative adaptive trial design. This 'Antivirals for influenza Like Illness? A rCt of Clinical and Cost effectiveness in primary CarE (ALIC<sup>4E</sup>)' study has started recruitment in January 2016 and will be carried out during three influenza seasons in 17 countries.

#### WP5 PRACTICE C: AD-SCAP

WP5 aims to evaluate different clinical management options for patients with community acquired pneumonia (CAP), who are admitted to the ICU requiring invasive mechanical ventilation.

The 'Adaptive Design platform for Severe CAP (AD-SCAP)' simultaneously studies interventions across 3 treatment domains (antibiotics, steroids and ventilation strategies). A feasibility study has started recruitment and the actual study will start later this year. Around 100 sites across Europe will participate in the study.

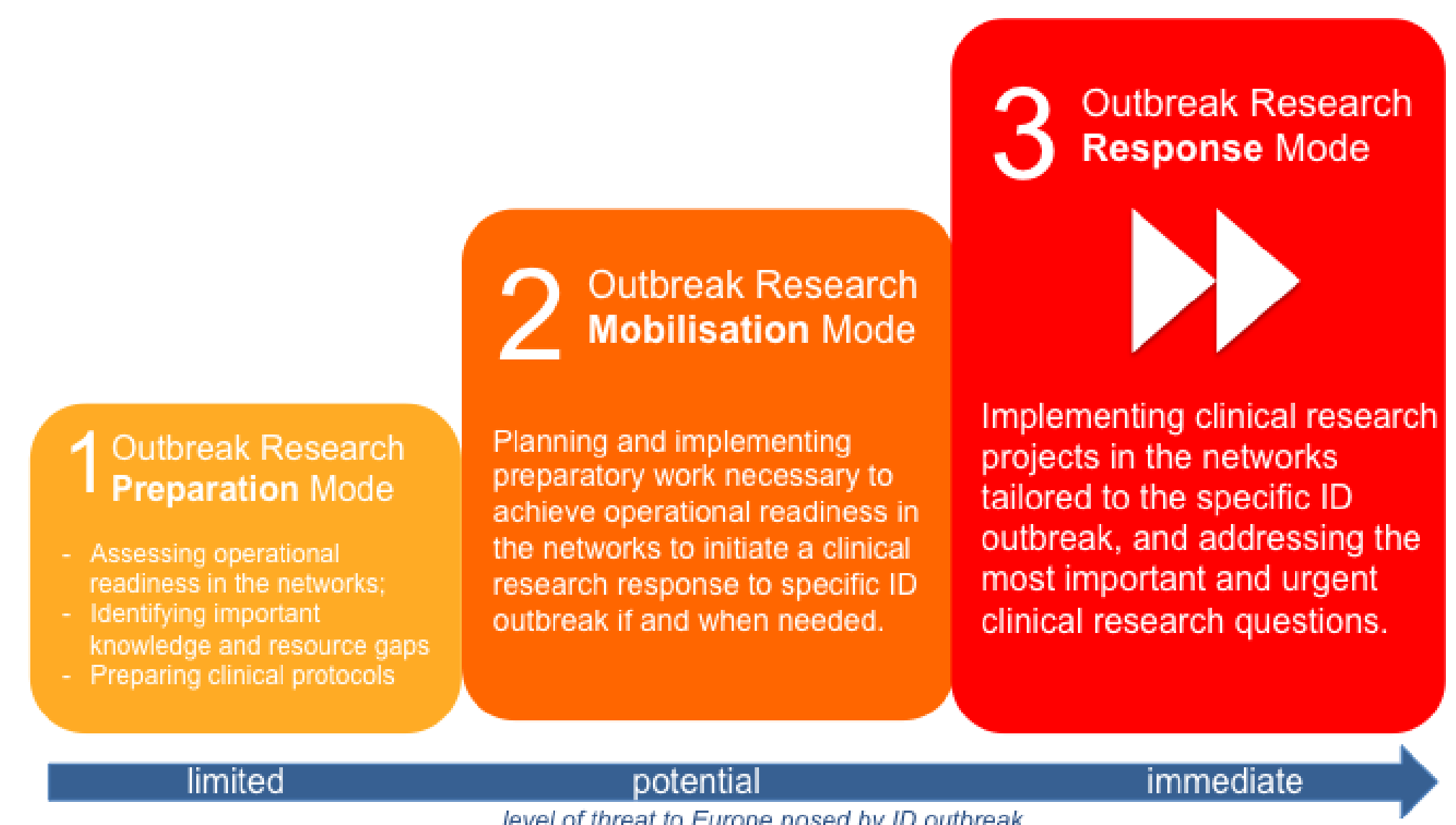
All PREPARE observational and intervention studies are designed and performed in close collaboration with the pathogenesis (WP6), diagnostic (WP7) and IT (WP8) workpackages. Efficient conduct of the studies is guided and monitored by WP1 EARL (Ethical, Administrative and Logistical solutions), and training of the sites is supported by the WP9 package on Education and training which hosts the PREPARE Virtual Learning Centre (<http://prepare.ersnet.org/home.aspx>).

### Outbreak Response Modes

In addition to the interepidemic 'peace-time' activities, PREPARE can and will initiate ad-hoc activities in response to ID outbreaks of concern. When responding to an actual ID outbreak, the scope and scale of this response are customized to the specific ID outbreak (see Figure), depending on the epidemic risk, particularly to Europe.

PREPARE has entered outbreak Mode 1 in response to the current Zika virus outbreak, for which activities include:

- the MERMAIDS ARBO virus study in the Balkans that will begin in May 2016 has been modified to allow enrollment of adult Zika cases, both those presenting acutely and those with Guillain-Barré syndrome. Depending on how the Zika virus epidemic evolves, the study may be rapidly expanded to regions where the *Aedes albopictus* vector is present, such as Italy, France, Spain, Slovenia and Montenegro.
- in collaboration with ISARIC, PREPARE has contributed to establishment of publically available Zika research tools to collect clinical and laboratory data. (<https://zikainfection.tghn.org/research-tools-and-resources/>)
- in collaboration with ECDC, information regarding European laboratory preparedness to detect Zika infection has been collected from PREPARE and COMBACTE LAB-Net laboratory contacts through a questionnaire.



### Connect

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