

THE PLANET

EARLY CAREER RESEARCHER

BULLETIN



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The Planet is an Early Career Researcher (ECR) Bulletin published on a quarterly basis by inVIVO Planetary Health. *The Planet* contains global and local planetary health news stories, *Spotlight* - an ECR interview, advice from senior researchers, events and quizzes!

If you have any feedback or would like to contribute to *The Planet* in the future, contact our editors:

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Planetary Health

Background art throughout *The Planet* by Susan Prescott



Spotlight

Early Career Researcher Interview



Name: Dr Kelvin Momanyi BVM, MSc

Discipline: One Health Research Associate

How did you get to where you are now?

I can trace my enthusiasm for One Health to 2013 as a fourth-year undergraduate student pursuing the Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Nairobi where I founded the One Health Club. The aim of the club, which exists to date, is to cultivate holistic thinking towards solving societal problems among university students from various disciplines.

After graduating in 2014, my goal was to pursue a career in One Health, and by then the University of Edinburgh was the first, globally, to offer an MSc in One Health through online distance learning (ODL). My Masters research project focused on the evaluation of the implementation of One Health in Kenya using the Network for Evaluation of One Health (NEOH) framework. The ODL option was quite favourable for me, as it allowed me to continue working at the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) as well as pursue my dream course. This offered me the opportunity to not only learn the concepts of One Health and put them to use while working with multidisciplinary team of scientists investigating the emergence of pathogens in urban and peri-urban environments of Nairobi under the UrbanZoo project.

What is your current research and how does it relate to planetary health?

My most recent role, July 2017 to August 2019, as a Research Associate under ILRI, involved developing an integrated surveillance system for 15 zoonotic diseases in both animals and humans in western Kenya with a strong focus of disseminating findings to the public, policy and scientific community. My role involved contextualizing the burden of zoonotic diseases in the communities we worked in and identify smart approaches towards their control such as incorporating digital, social and print media to catalyse safer practices.

What are your plans for the future?

My current role as a Campaign Officer at the World Animal Protection (Africa) involves championing for better welfare for farm animals. My goal, now and in future, is to use evidence to progressively educate the public, producers and retailers to commit to higher welfare food systems. Improved animal welfare results to not only better human welfare (improved food safety, additional income, reduced antimicrobial resistance) but also to improve environmental health e.g. by reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Planetary

Health in the News



Local News

The first African conference on Edible Insects took place from 14th-16th August in Harare, Zimbabwe. While insects have long been part of local traditional diets (entomophagy), especially in sub-Saharan Africa, development of the edible insect industry has been slow. This conference brings together scientists, industry, and development partners to consolidate efforts to embrace the use of insects as food and feed.

The conference programme and list of abstracts is available here:

<https://tinyurl.com/y2565rcw>

Global News

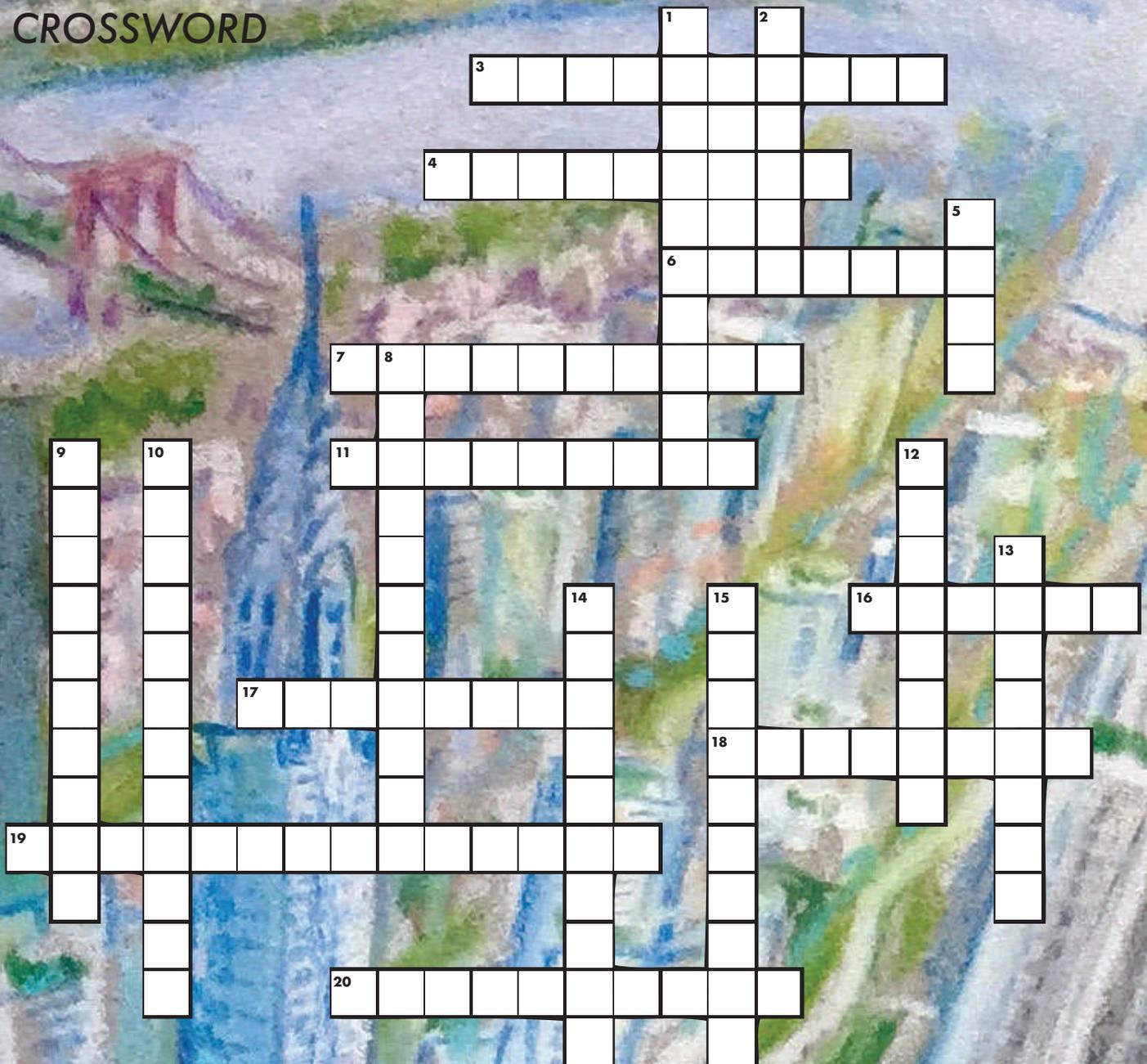
The World Health Organisation (WHO) has joined forces with the European Commission to promote the benefits of vaccines. The Global Vaccination Summit in Brussels aims to increase global action to prevent the spread of diseases. According to the President of the European Commission Jean-Claude Juncker, 1.5 million deaths a year could be prevented if we improve global vaccination coverage. Measles cases have surged in 2019, with "90,000 case reported in the first half of the year". More on this story here:

<https://tinyurl.com/y336togk>



THE PLANET

CROSSWORD



Across

- 3 A type of intelligence
- 4 Microbial imbalance in the body
- 6 Relating to eating and nutrition
- 7 Maintaining stability under pressure
- 11 Identifier of a biological process (portmanteau)
- 16 Study that follows a group of people over time
- 17 Extended period of relatively hot weather
- 18 Hopefulness and confidence about the future
- 19 Manufacturing decreases, services increase
- 20 Existential distress caused by environmental change

Down

- 1 Gibson (1966); object possibilities for action
- 2 Type of travel; human energy only
- 5 Bacterial disease and town in the US
- 8 Changes caused by gene expression modification
- 9 Assisting 80% of the world's flowering plants
- 10 Reaction to stress; red and swollen
- 12 Measure of all exposures
- 13 Bringing people together
- 14 Unjust and avoidable differences
- 15 Related to cost of chronic exposure

Planetary Health Events

DOHaD 2019

Melbourne Australia

20-23 October 2019

Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, South Wharf,
Victoria, Australia

Annual Public Health@Cambridge Network Showcase 2019: Planetary Health

*Jointly hosted by University of Cambridge Conservation
Research Initiative*

Fri, 15 November 2019 09:00 – 18:00 GMT

David Attenborough Building, Pembroke Street, Cambridge

Global Congress for Climate Change & Sustainability Professionals

Jointly hosted by ACCO and ISSP

09-12 December 2019

The Westin Chicago Northwest, Illinois, USA



THE PLANET'S

Media Picks

Creative Media Recommendation:

Wai - Maori Electronica Roots <https://www.waimusic.co.nz/>

Ecosono - <http://www.ecosono.org/>

Wai is the Maori word for water and this family ensemble create innovative electronic music deeply rooted in life and the natural environment. This is quite unlike anything you've heard before.

Self-described as 'experimental sound art', Ecosono record sounds from nature itself and perform with a strong theme of environmental preservation.

Wai and Ecosono have recently collaborated to tremendous effect, bringing together contemporary computer music and ecoacoustic approaches through sound, song, movement and ecology.



THE PLANET'S

ECR Competition!

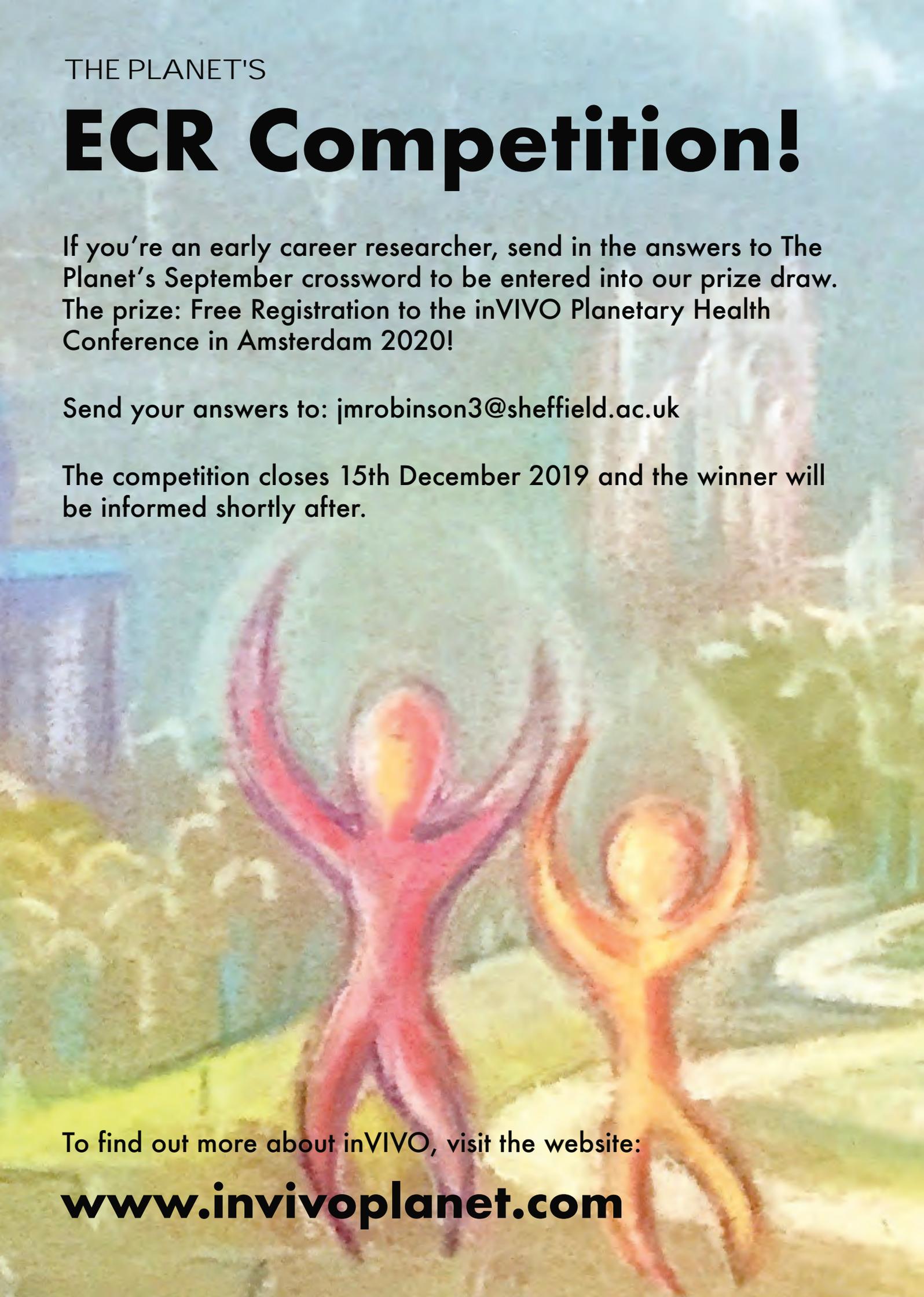
If you're an early career researcher, send in the answers to The Planet's September crossword to be entered into our prize draw. The prize: Free Registration to the inVIVO Planetary Health Conference in Amsterdam 2020!

Send your answers to: jmrobinson3@sheffield.ac.uk

The competition closes 15th December 2019 and the winner will be informed shortly after.

To find out more about inVIVO, visit the website:

www.invivoplanet.com



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