

TOPIC:

2. Mosquito-borne Diseases (dengue, malaria, yellow fever, zika, chikungunya);

APPROACH:

4. Vector control and surveillance including a) new surveillance and vector control alternatives, and b) insecticide resistance.

Controlling vectors: Do we need normal or post-normal science?

Keywords: Vector control, normal science, post-normal science

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Is there just one science, the one we have, the given? Or on the contrary, are there several possible sciences? In the later case: which are their differences? Are they compatible? Complementary? Opposite?

I will try to persuade the audience that at least three sciences can be distinguished: original blend, techno-science (normal science) and science of the postnormal age (call it transcendent science as it needs to go outside its field into the realm of decision making). I will distinguish the three at the epistemological level (arguably the deepest level) so that it may happen that what is scientific knowledge for one is not so for another.

Inormal science is mostly concerned with the development of technologies, in turn, the transcendent science must meet challenges outside its own realm, such as: global warming, global epidemics policies, extinction of species, desertification, the nuclear energy use and in general all sort of interventions in the environment.

What has to do this philosophical inquiring with SOVE? I will show that controlling vectors belongs to both normal science and science for the postnormal age and requires the collaboration of both forms. The actual problem being that transcendent science needs to be developed.