**The RG Implementation Research on tour at KIT 2026 – a collection of impressions**

From 17th to 20th of June, the 17th Congress for Infectious Diseases and Tropical Medicine (KIT) was organized in the heart of Cologne. KIT brought together researchers from different backgrounds, disciplines, and nationalities but with a focus on Germany – and in-between them was the RG Implementation Research. This time, the group was nearly complete and able to present various projects! From Daniela diving into the concepts of implementation science and why we need it, Lara presenting claims data on imported NTDs in Germany, Alexandra discussing mpox vaccine acceptance during the first outbreak in Madagascar, to Noëla providing first insights into the assessment of FGS burden in Madagascar, Pia unveiling risk perceptions and exposure routes of schistosomiasis in mothers and infants of Madagascar, and Jana introducing novel concepts of FGS diagnostics – we had it all. The team was also joined by former colleagues Alexina and Jean-Marc, enabling the team to talk about old times, make new memories, but also discuss future plans and possible joint activities. As it is difficult to put the whole experience of the team into a collective summary, we wanted to collect individual impressions from KIT 2026!

*Impressions from the team during the conference.*

Jana: "I think Ebola is one of the most fascinating viruses out there and I generally find clinical and field related aspects of Ebola super interesting. So listening to a "Ted talk" from a Charité doctor explaining step by step the medical story of a patient infected with the Bundibugyo virus during the current outbreak and giving insights into the decision-making in terms of dealing with the disease in the absence of treatment guidelines was one of my highlights."

*The team at the KIT Charity-Lauf.*

Daniela: "The participation at the KIT Charity-Lauf showed me concretely the importance of group work and the spirit of our team which values much more the team success instead of the individual one!"

*The team gathered at the conference.*

Pia: "The major highlight of the KIT for me was to gather (nearly) the full group as well as friends of the group together – because like this we really were able to show how interdisciplinary our group is. Besides this, it was amazing to meet all the old and new connections from the "Ausschuss NTD" of the DTG and have tons of long discussions and gather tons of inspiration!"

Noëla: "Attending the 17th KIT congress in Cologne was an enriching experience for me. My highlight was giving my first oral presentation, where I had the opportunity to present our group research. Despite the fact that most of the sessions were held in German, which somewhat limited my understanding of lectures, it was a great opportunity to learn more about the clinical and hospital-based aspects of infectious diseases beyond my own field of research."

KIT 2026 was an interesting conference that not only allowed us to showcase our work and inspire new ideas and collaborations for the future, but it also helped us survive the intense German summer heat of 38 °C with ice cream and coffee :D