

LECTURE

INNOVATIONS FOR THE DISCOVERY OF UNKNOWN PATHOGENS

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In the talk, an overview of methods for discovering hitherto unknown pathogens in hotspot areas for infectious disease emergence will be given and their immediate benefits and potential of translation from the local to a global scale will be highlighted. Examples include clinical surveillance of common human infectious diseases in rural Africa, the discovery of *Bacillus cereus biovar anthracis* as an anthrax causing member of the *Bacillus* family, a so far unknown manifestation of monkey poxviruses, and novel data on leprosy in wild chimpanzees that raise the question of an environmental reservoir.



ABOUT THE SPEAKER:

Prof. Dr. Fabian Leendertz is the Founding Director of the Helmholtz Institute for One Health in Greifswald, and a Professor at the University of Greifswald. Between 2012 and 2021 he was the Head of the project group for “Epidemiology of Highly Pathogenic Microorganisms” at the Robert Koch Institute. Since 2020 he belongs to the Advisory Board of the One Health Initiative by the Federal Ministry of Cooperation and Development in Germany. His research interests include Nature Microbiology, Ecology, and Evolution.

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