CLAIMS:

1. An expression cassette comprising;

i. a flavivirus structural gene,

ii. a furin gene, and

iii. a bicistronic expression element positioned between the flavivirus structural gene and the furin gene, wherein:

i) the flavivirus structural gene comprises a partial capsid protein (delC), a complete membrane precursor (prM) protein coding sequence and a complete envelope (Env) protein coding sequence, wherein the delC coding sequence comprises the C-terminal anchor containing the signal sequence for prM; or

ii) wherein the flavivirus structural gene comprises a partial capsid protein (delC), a membrane (p7) protein coding sequence and complete envelope (E1 and E2) protein coding sequences, wherein the delC protein coding sequence comprises the C-terminal anchor containing the signal sequence to E1.

2. The expression cassette according to claim 1, wherein the bicistronic expression element is selected from the group comprising an internal ribosome entry site (IRES) and F2A.

3. The expression cassette according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the furin gene comprises a furin signal peptide (fsp) and a furin proprotein coding sequence.

4. The expression cassette according to any one of claims 1 to 3, further comprising a partial capsid protein (delC) coding sequence, wherein the delC protein coding sequence comprises the C-terminal anchor sequence containing the signal sequence for prM or E1, fused in frame to the 5’ end of the furin signal peptide coding sequence.

5. The expression cassette according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the delC protein does not contain the first 108 nucleotides of the capsid protein coding sequence.

6. The expression cassette according to any one of claims 1 to 5, comprising a promoter to drive transcription of the expression cassette.

7. The expression cassette according to any one of claims 1 to 6, comprising a polyA signal sequence positioned at the 3’ end of the furin gene.

8. The expression cassette according to claim 7, wherein the polyA signal sequence is a SV40 late polyA signal sequence.

9. The expression cassette according to any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein the furin gene is selected from the group comprising human, non-human mammal or insect furin gene.

10. The expression cassette according to claim 9, wherein the furin gene is human.

11. The expression cassette according to any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein the flavivirus structural gene and the furin gene are codon-optimised for expression in insect cells.

12. The expression cassette according to any one of claims 1 to 11, wherein the flavivirus is selected from at least one of the group comprising Dengue virus, Zika virus, Yellow fever virus, West Nile virus and Japanese encephalitis virus and serotypes thereof.

13. The expression cassette according to any one of claims 1 to 11, wherein the flavivirus is Hepatitis C virus.

14. The expression cassette according to claim 12, wherein the flavivirus is selected from at least one of the group comprising Dengue virus serotype 1, Dengue virus serotype 2, Dengue virus serotype 3, Dengue virus serotype 4 and Zika virus.

15. The expression cassette according to claim 14, wherein the Dengue virus serotype is DENV2.

16. The expression cassette according to any one of claims 4 to 15, wherein the cassette is homologous or heterologous with respect to the partial capsid protein delC.

17. The expression cassette according to claim 16, wherein the cassette is heterologous and comprises a Dengue virus delC coding sequence and a ZIKA virus delC coding sequence.

18. An expression cassette according to any one of claims 1 to 17, comprising a nucleic acid sequence selected from the group comprising SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 9 SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 11, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 13 and SEQ ID NO: 14.

19. A method for the production of recombinant secreted flavivirus structural proteins and/or VLPs comprising the steps: cultivating a eukaryotic cell that has been transfected with a plasmid containing an expression cassette as defined in any one of claims 1 to 18, and recovering the recombinant secreted virus structural proteins and/or VLPs from the cell or the cultivation medium.

20. The method according to claim 19, wherein the eukaryotic cell has been infected with a recombinant baculovirus expressing said expression cassette.

21. The method according to claim 19, wherein the eukaryotic cell is selected from:

i) a mammalian cell;

ii) a Chinese hamster ovary cell or human kidney cell;

iii) an insect cell, or

iv) a Sf9 insect cell from *Spodoptera frugiperda*.