

Update is a monthly newsletter from the European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership.



E D C T P

EDCTP Update

October 2018

Supported by the European Union



Highlights

- [World Health Summit / Union 2018 / ASTMH 2018](#)
- [Open calls for proposals](#)
- [Results of Ebola emergency call](#)

Contents

- EDCTP is looking for a Project Officer
- [Recently signed projects](#)
- [Project news](#)
- [Recent events](#)
- [Funding and awards](#)
- [Resources](#)

EDCTP is seeking a Project Officer (The Hague Office)

We are looking for a Project Officer to be based at the EDCTP office in The Hague. The officer will be a member of the Calls and Grants team and will be responsible for managing the external peer review of applications submitted to EDCTP, contract negotiation, monitoring and evaluation of EDCTP projects, as well as contributing to EDCTP's funding strategy, policies and publications.

The contract will be for a fixed-term period of one year.

Applications before 28 November 2018

[Read more](#)

Recently signed projects

[Targeting control and elimination of NIDs through clinical trials \(2017\)](#)

- **STOP:** Project Coordinator: Dr Jose Muñoz Gutierrez * Towards the interruption of transmission of soil-transmitted helminths: Clinical research development of a fixed-dose co-formulation of ivermectin and albendazole
[Article on STOP kick-off meeting.](#)

[Career Development Fellowships 2017](#)

- **ID93-TBVaccine:** Fellow: Dr Babatunde A. Adeagbo * Strategies to optimise the stability and bio-activity of a clinical tuberculosis vaccine
- **PENETRATE:** Fellow: Dr C.G. Banda * Impact of standard antiretroviral therapy on the pharmacokinetic profile and placental penetration of piperaquine administered as

dihydroartemisinin-piperaquine for intermittent preventive treatment of malaria among HIV-infected pregnant women in Malawi

[Ethics and regulatory capacities 2016](#)

- **BERC-Luso:** Project Coordinator: Prof. Maria do Céu Patrão Neves * Biomedical ethics and regulatory capacity building partnership for Portuguese-speaking African countries

[Ethics and Regulatory capacities 2017](#)

- **BREEDSAFCA:** Project coordinator: Dr Jerome Ateudjieu
Strengthening the regulatory framework to upgrade ethical review of clinical research and drugs safety monitoring in Cameroon
- **Reg. Science Fellows:** Project coordinator: Ms Tariro Makamure-Sithole * Competence-based fellowships for African medicines reviewers and regulatory science professionals
- **SEN-ETHICS:** Project coordinator: Dr Samba Cor Sarr * Upgrading national ethics review systems and regulatory bodies in Senegal
- **STReK:** Project coordinator: Prof. Walter Jaoko * Strengthening research ethics review and oversight in Kenya

[Back to top](#)

Projects

EDCTP | Ebola emergency call | September 2018

On 3 September 2018, EDCTP launched a €2.25 million emergency funding initiative in response to Ebola virus disease (EVD) outbreaks in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). This emergency call was open for proposals for seven days. After three weeks, five out of nine proposals were given the go-ahead to start as soon as possible, to make sure no time is lost to start the necessary clinical studies of diagnostics, therapeutics and epidemiology which can only be done in the hopefully short period of the Ebola outbreak.

The five consortia that got the go-ahead were:

- AdjustEBOVGP-Dx project
- EPIRISK-Ebov study.
- CAPA-CT II project
- PEAU-EBOV-DRC
- MobEBO-DRC project.

[Read more](#)

Pediatric Pranziquantel Consortium | Schistosomiasis in Kenya | Phase III trial

News from the Pediatric Pranziquantel Consortium which conducts the EDCTP-GHIT-co-funded phase III PZQ4PSAC clinical trial. On the consortium website [Schistosomiasis in Kenya: an interview with Dr. Maurice R. Odiere](#)

The Global Health Innovative Technology Fund (GHIT) and EDCTP formed a partnership last year and their first action was to co-fund the PZQ4PSAC phase III clinical study, which is sponsored by Merck KGaA and conducted by the Pediatric Pranziquantel Consortium.

[Read more](#)

PANDORA consortium | Workshop zoonosis | 29-31 October 2018

The Pan-African network for Rapid Research, Response, relief and preparedness for infectious diseases epidemics (**PANDORA**) held an ['inception workshop' on zoonoses](#) for consortium partners at the Muhimbili University for Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS), in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania from 29-31 October 2018. See also the [tweets](#) of the Southern African Centre of Infectious Disease Surveillance

TRUST | Research ethics | 5th Newsletter

The [TRUST project on global research ethics](#), in which EDCTP is a project partner, published its [fifth newsletter](#). Among other news, the publication captures the meeting in the European Parliament (29 July 2018, Brussels, Belgium). The main project deliverable - the TRUST Global Code of Conduct for Research in Resource-Poor Settings - was presented at the meeting and adopted by the European

Commission as an official reference document for all Horizon 2020 projects. The code was and will be presented at many international conferences. [The code is available](#) in Chinese, English, French, German, Hindi, Japanese, Portuguese, Spanish and Russian.

[Back to top](#)

Recent events

DNDi | 11th DNDi Partners meeting | Kampala, Uganda, 04 Oct 2018

DNDi organised its 11th partners' meeting in Kampala Uganda on 04 October. See the DNDi press release after the meeting: [11th DNDi Partners Meeting celebrates African leadership in innovation for R&D and access to medicines](#). Dr Michael Makanga participated in the meeting and was part of the closing panel.



The closing panel from left: Co-moderator Dr Marie-Paule Kieny Chair of DNDi Board; Dr Alwyn Mwinga patient representative, DNDi Board; Dr Margareth Ndomondo-Sigonda NEPAD; Dr Els Torreele MSF Access Campaign; Nevin Bradford, Cipla Africa; Dr Michael Makanga EDCTP; Dr Dan Hartman Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation; Dr Luc Kuykens, Sanofi; Dr Sue Kinn DFID; and co-moderator Dr Bernard Pécoul DNDi Executive Director.
(Photo: courtesy of DNDi)

WHS 2018 & Grand Challenges Annual Meeting | 14-18 October 2018 | Berlin

The [World Health Summit \(WHS\)](#) (14-16 October) and the [Grand Challenges annual meeting](#) (15-18 October) took place in Berlin, Germany. They were organised by the Gates Foundation, Wellcome Trust and the German Government. Jointly, the meetings have hosted about 3000 participants, including ministers and government leaders. Overall [programme here](#) and [photo galleries here](#).

Dr Michael Makanga participated on behalf of EDCTP in several sessions:

- On 14 October (11:00-12:30) EDCTP - together with FIND and the Max Planck Society - hosted the session 'Bridging the valley of death: Keeping the pipeline alive for novel intervention measures against poverty-related diseases'. The session was chaired by Prof Stephan Kaufmann and Dr Michael Makanga (EDCTP). [Session programme here](#).



Left to right: Prof. Dr med. Gérard Krause, Ambassador Harald Braun, Dr. Umesh Shaligram, Dr Catharina Boehme, Prof. Feiko ter Kuile, Dr. Mutsa Bwakura-Dangarembizi, Dr Michael Makanga, and Prof. Stefan Kaufmann (Photo: courtesy of WHS).

- On 15 October, Michael Makanga joined the Funder's Forum Partner meeting, where current and potential Grand Challenges funders discuss interests and priorities.
- On 16 October, at the African R&D funders meeting, he was one of the panelists to discuss how to achieve more systematic collaboration.
- On 17 October, he contributed to the session on 'Health systems strengthening and health crisis prevention' with a presentation on 'Integrating research partnerships into health structures'.

Dr Michael Makanga: "The German representatives to EDCTP, Ms Andrea Spelberg and Dr Detlef Böcking, and Prof. Stefan Kauffman (a member of the EDCTP Scientific Advisory Committee) have greatly supported EDCTP by creating many opportunities during the conference to present what EDCTP has to contribute, both in sessions as in several side meetings."

Union | TB Science 2018 | 23-24 October 2018

EDCTP co-sponsored the pre-conference scientific meeting on TB interventions. The meeting had 350 participants.

[Read more](#)



Prof. Martin Boeree (PanACEA II project) speaking at TB Science 2018.

Union | 49th World Conference on Lung Health | 24-27 October 2018

The 49th Union meeting on lung health took place in The Hague, Netherlands. See also the [Union's Annual Report 2017](#). The conference programme [here](#).

EDCTP extends its warm congratulations to Prof. Sir Alimuddin Zumla (member of the EDCTP Scientific Advisory Committee) who received the prestigious Union Medal. See his [acceptance speech](#).

EDCTP also warmly congratulates His Excellency, [Dr Aaron Motsoaledi](#), Minister of Health of South Africa who received the 2018 Kochon Prize for his outstanding political leadership to end TB. The second Kochon prize was awarded to the Global TB Caucus, an international network of political representatives who work across geographical and political divides engaging civil society and other stakeholders to fight against TB.

The Kochon Prize is awarded by the Kochon Foundation in South Korea. The Chairman of the foundation, Mr. Doohyun Kim, presented the awards along with Dr Lucica Ditiu, Executive Director of the Stop TB Partnership.

Several EDCTP staff attended the conference and a booth was contributed to the exhibition section of the conference.



Left to right: Ana Lúcia Weinberg (EDCTP), Dr Ole Olesen (EDCTP) and Dr Norbert Heinrich (Ludwig Maximilians University Munich, Germany, who is involved in the EDCTP-funded PanACEA II project).

World Vaccine Congress - Europe | Lisbon, Portugal | 29-31 October 2018

Dr Michael Makanga (EDCTP Executive Director) participated in the [World Vaccine Congress Europe](#) which took place in Lisbon, Portugal from 29-31 October 2018. On Thursday 30 October (at 16:35) he gave a presentation on 'Vaccine clinical trials capacity in emerging economies: the African context'.

ASTMH | 67th Annual meeting | 28 October - 1 November 2018

Jointly with the Wellcome Trust, EDCTP organised a symposium as a contribution to the programme (session 169). It will focus on the conduct of controlled Human Infection Studies in low- and middle-income countries. Challenge studies can play a key role in research to address important public health needs.

[Read more](#)

ASTMH 2018
28 October-1 November 2018 • New Orleans, USA

Human infection studies: Experiences and opportunities from LMICs

EDCTP-Wellcome Trust symposium

1 November 2018 | 08:00-09:45 | Session 169

Marriot New Orleans, room Mardi Gras EFGH (3rd floor)



[Back to top](#)

Funding and awards

EDCTP Calls for proposals

The following 2018 calls for proposals are open:

- [Ethics and regulatory capacities](#) closes 22 November 2018
- [Career Development Fellowships](#) closes 27 November 2018
- [Preparatory Fellowships - Joint call with AREF](#) closes 1 February 2019

- [Senior Fellowships](#) closes 28 February 2019

LSHTM | Greenwood Africa Award | Nominations by 9 December 2018

The [Greenwood Africa Award](#) recognises the research achievements and future potential of a mid-career African scientist in contributing to the control of infectious disease in sub-Saharan Africa. It is awarded to an individual who shows exceptional promise as an African research leader. Nominations by Sunday 9 December 2018

The Award is being inaugurated to mark Professor Greenwood's 80th birthday in 2018. Professor Sir Brian Greenwood, British physician, biomedical research scientist, and academic, has spent over 50 years carrying out research in Africa. His work has had an extensive impact on major infectious diseases including malaria, meningitis, pneumonia and Ebola.

MRC UK | Joint Global Health Trials scheme - call 9 | Development Grants

The UK Department for International Development (DFID), the UK Medical Research Council (MRC), the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) and Wellcome are pleased to announce the launch of the [ninth call for proposals under this initiative](#) to fund global health trials. Call opens 14 November 2018 and closes 05 February 2019

[Back to top](#)

Resources

EDCTP resources

- [Tackling infectious disease in sub-Saharan Africa. EDCTP-funded clinical studies for medical interventions 2003-2018](#)
- [EDCTP Annual Report 2017 - Maintaining momentum](#)
- [Strategic Research Agenda \(2017 update\)](#)
- [Strategic Business Plan 2014-2024](#)
- [EDCTP Corporate brochure 2018](#)
- [EDCTP2 policy on clinical trials registration, publication and data sharing](#)
- [Acknowledging EDCTP: A guide for grantees](#)

TDR | Ebola Data Platform | Call for experts | Nominations by 23 November

The Ebola Data Platform has been established to develop and promote research on Ebola Virus Disease. The platform aims to aggregate and standardise clinical, epidemiological and laboratory data on Ebola infection, and make it available to researchers.

[Nominations for members of the Ebola Data Platform Data Access Committee](#) are now open. Please consider nominating individuals to contribute expertise to this pioneering collaboration in Ebola and emerging infections research. (Information also in French)

AMHR | Medicines regulatory systems strengthening and harmonisation in Africa

Article on [Prioritising an overarching approach to medicines regulatory systems strengthening](#)

Nature | African research careers | 31 October 2018

Munyaradzi Makoni wrote on research careers in Africa: [Research is often unpaid in sub-Saharan Africa](#) stating that over 80% of academics and students polled report that they have held unpaid research positions.

Institut Pasteur | New lab in Guinea | 22 October 2018

The Pasteur Institute in Guinea officially opened its first laboratory in Guinea on 22 October 2018. It is hosted by the Gamel Abdel Nasser University of Conakry: [L'Institut Pasteur de Guinée inaugure son premier laboratoire à Conakry](#).

Paul Ouma and Emelda Okiro | Mapping access to health care in Africa |

Article based on project mapping access to hospitals across Africa: ['People across Africa have to travel far to get to a hospital. We worked out how far'](#)

NIH-Fogarty International Centre | WorldReport | New funding data |

From the news item at NIH Fogarty International Centre. "New data on research activities conducted in 2017 have been added to World Report, the open-access, interactive mapping database highlighting biomedical research investments and partnerships from some of the world's largest funders.

This recent update includes new data provided by the European Commission, EDCTP , Medical Research Council (MRC), National Institutes of Health, Institut Pasteur, and Wellcome Trust.

The 2017 data adds more than 90,000 new records to World Report. Although World Report has been expanded to cover the globe, a focus on research in Africa remains a priority. This latest addition includes over 3,000 records in Africa, reflecting research being conducted at more than 1,000 research institutions. [Read More](#)

[Back to top](#)

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The EDCTP2 programme is supported under Horizon 2020,
the European Union's Framework Programme for Research and Innovation

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