

## EDCTP Update | January 2023



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### EDCTP GA member Dr Ilesh Jani appointed as deputy Minister of Health for Mozambique

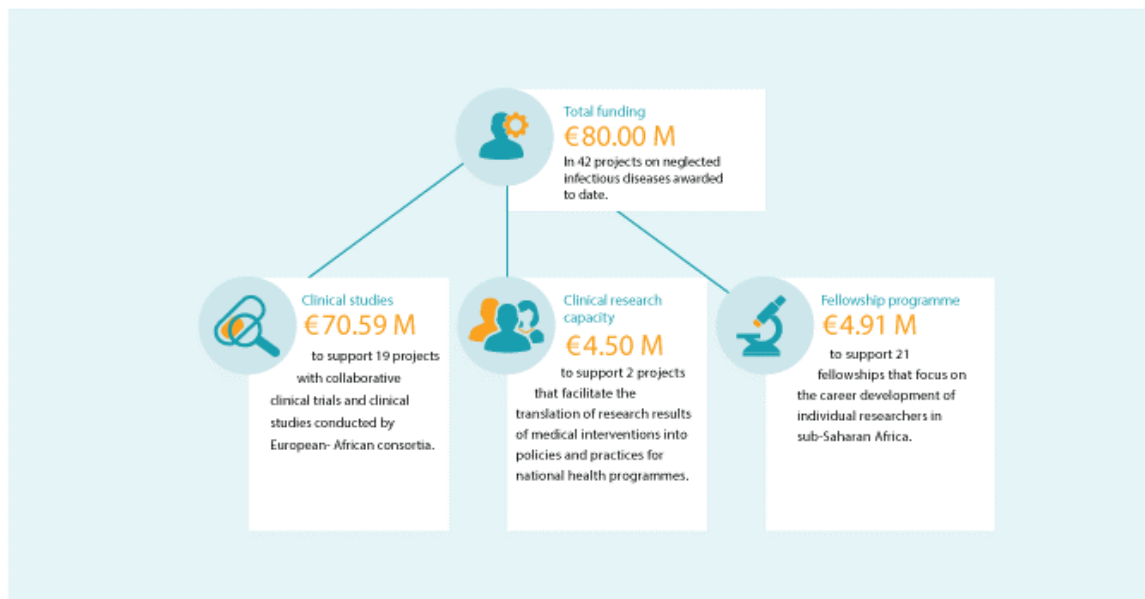
We extend our sincerest congratulations to EDCTP [General Assembly](#) member Dr Ilesh Jani on his appointment as the new deputy Minister of Health of Mozambique. Dr Jani has been entrusted with the mission of ensuring the provision of better health services, continuity of research and the search for solutions to the

various pandemics, as well as strengthening the management capacity of the Ministry of Health (MISAU). Before his appointment, Dr Jani was the Director-General of the [Instituto Nacional de Saúde](#) (INS) and has been a researcher at INS since 1998, where he also served as the Head of the Department of Immunology from 2004 to 2009. We thank Dr Jani for his commitment to EDCTP, which also contributed immensely to the success of the [Tenth EDCTP Forum](#) hosted by Mozambique in 2021.



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## World NTD Day 2023: Investing to end the neglect



In 2014, EDCTP added Neglected Infectious Diseases (NID's) to the scope of its second programme. In total, €80 M of EDCTP funding has been dedicated to reducing the burden of NID's in sub-Saharan Africa. To promote long-term perspective and strong country ownership in reducing the burden of NID's, EDCTP invests in developing local capacity to complement its support for clinical trials and product-focused implementation research. In this year's EDCTP message for World NTD Day, you can read about our investments, and about [how Professor Samuel Wanji from University of Buea, Cameroon, uses his EDCTP Senior Fellowship Plus](#) grant to advance his career in research into the neglected group of filarial diseases.

[Read our full message »](#)

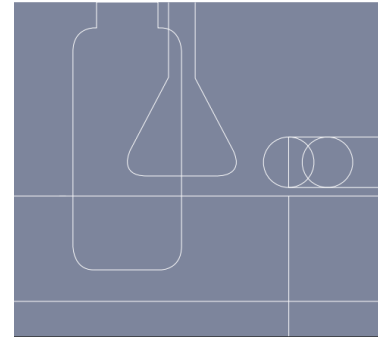
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## G-Finder 2022 Neglected Disease Research and Development

Today, the [G-Finder 2022 Neglected Disease Research and Development](#) was released: a comprehensive analysis of global investment into research and development of new products to prevent, diagnose, control or cure neglected diseases in developing countries. This year's report focuses on investments made in participants' 2021

financial year. Under the title “The status quo won’t get us there”, the report notes a stagnant funding trend and contains a strong call for an increase in funding to meet the unmet needs of populations burdened by NTDs.

NEGLECTED DISEASE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT:  
THE STATUS QUO WON'T GET US THERE



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[Read our full message »](#)



## Blog: Navigating COVID-19: the good, the bad and the resilient

EDCTP is part of the [PREPARED-EU](#) project, which develops an operational ethics and integrity framework, which safeguards key ethical values, supports a rapid and effective research response to crises and improves overall pandemic preparedness. The project interviewed EDCTP's Executive Director Dr Michael Makanga on lessons learnt during the COVID-19 pandemic from a funder's perspective. In this interview, Dr Makanga explains how EDCTP rapidly released funding for researchers across sub-Saharan Africa to fight the COVID-19 emergency, and how it sprouted landmark partnerships for clinical research. Read the [interview](#), and watch the [clip](#) of Dr Makanga explaining how EDCTP mitigated the disruptions to ongoing research during the [webinar Prepare for Research in Global Crisis](#).

#### Executive Summary

Following the 2014-2016 Ebola outbreak in West Africa, and the on-going global COVID-19 pandemic, the One Health approach (bridging the Animal-Environmental-Human Health interface) has rapidly gained political and financial support, particularly in regional and transcontinental initiatives to improve Global



## The Lancet series on One Health and Global Health Security

Following the 2014-2016 Ebola outbreak in West Africa, and the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic, the One Health approach (bridging the Animal-Environmental-Human Health interface) has rapidly gained political and financial support. In recognition of the need for unity of purpose for a cross-cutting global health issue, the [PANDORA-ID NET](#) consortium initiated a series of articles on One Health which were published in The Lancet on 19 January 2023. The articles present evidence generated by One Health approaches to improve global health security, a global analysis of One Health networks and of global and regional governance of One Health, and weaknesses in existing assessment frameworks for global health security. The series was published with an editorial and a commentary and launched in an online event organised by The Lancet, the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), Chatham House, and PANDORA-ID-NET on 26 January 2023. The series is available for free through a Lancet registration.

[To the series »](#)



## WHA resolution on clinical trials: tools and implementation

The WHO secretariat has developed a webpage that provides a single point of access for information and resources of relevance to the [World Health Assembly's resolution on Strengthening clinical trials to provide high-quality evidence on health interventions and to improve research quality and coordination](#) (WHA 75.8). The website includes initiatives and guidances highlighted to WHO as part of the public consultation held in October and November 2022, and will be updated as activities related to the resolution progress.

EDCTP fully supports the resolution, and we are grateful to be mentioned as “a successful initiative which has developed capacities and supported local leadership in many African countries” in the [Supplementary report](#) on implementing WHA resolution 75.8. The implementation of the resolution will be further discussed at the [152nd session of the Executive Board](#) of WHO which takes place and livestreamed on 30 January – 7 February 2023.





## Public consultation on European Research & Innovation Framework programmes 2014-2027

The European Commission is inviting feedback on the past, present and future of the EU's Horizon research and innovation programmes 2014-2027. The public consultation to collect this feedback aims to draw lessons from the Horizon 2020 programme (2014-2020), to take stock of stakeholder feedback to adapt current actions under Horizon Europe (2021 – 2027), and to shape the strategic orientations for the last three years (2025-2027) of the current research programme. The consultation is open until **23 February 2023**. Questions are accessible in English, German and French, and participants can reply in all EU languages.

[Complete the survey »](#)

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## Project news

### STOP annual meeting



On 16-17 January 2023, members of the Stopping Transmission Of intestinal Parasites ([STOP](#)) consortium came together in Kwale, Kenya for the consortium's fifth annual meeting. Team members from Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, the Netherlands, Spain and the UK presented ongoing results and discussed actions ahead. In the words of Jose Muñoz, ISGlobal researcher and project leader "This was an important year for the project: we completed the phase II ALIVE clinical trial and kickstarted phase III. Phase II focused on assessing the safety of the trial drug and was conducted by the Kenyan Medical

Research Institute (KEMRI) in Kenya in April 2022 with 127 children included in the trial. After having observed no serious adverse reactions, the Data and Safety Monitoring Board (DSMB) confirmed the drug was safe, and authorised the start of recruitment activities for phase III."

[Read the full article »](#)

## MULTIPLY: blog on implementation of IPTi/PMC in Africa



Following in the footsteps of Sierra Leone, Mozambique has recently announced the adoption of intermittent preventive treatment in infants (IPTi) – now called perennial malaria chemoprevention (PMC) – as a nationwide policy. ISGlobal, which coordinates a multi-country implementation research study, is working with Ministries of Health in Mozambique, Sierra Leone and Togo, National Control Malaria Programmes, and other research partners in the framework of the [MULTIPLY](#) project, which aims to evaluate the impact of expanding IPTi/PMC during the second year of life of children under five years old as part of the strategy to prevent malaria while reducing anemia and overall mortality and morbidity. The project published a blog in the implementation of IPTi/PMC in Africa.

[Read the blog »](#)

## BCA-WA-ETHICS II: Call for abstracts 4th BCA-WA-ETHICS scientific congress



BCA-WA-ETHICS II has announced its 4th Scientific Congress themed "Governance of CNERs during health emergencies", to be held on 25-28 April 2023 in Cotonou, Benin and virtually. The objective of this event is to share lessons learned from governance issues during the COVID-19 pandemic and other past health emergencies, with national research ethics committees in the sub-region of West Africa. Travel grants are available for up to 10 international participants to attend the congress as speakers.

[More information »](#)

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## EDCTP Fellows

### An interview with Senior Fellow Plus Professor Samuel Wanji

We asked EDCTP Senior Fellow Plus Professor Samuel



Wanji from University of Buea, Cameroon, how EDCTP funding is helping advance his research into the neglected group of filarial diseases (a disabling worm infection), and how it's helping to build capacity in infectious diseases in Africa in general.

**Professor Wanji, how is this Senior Fellowship Plus embedded in the broader efforts to reduce the burden of filarial worms infections?**

"One of the major obstacles for the elimination of filarial diseases (Onchocerciasis, Lymphatic filariases, Loiasis and Mansonellosis) remains the lack of safe, effective and affordable drugs that can kill the adults worms in humans and permanently prevent the production of microfilariae. Capacity building in the field of clinical trials is the natural step to take if one wants to significantly reduce the burden of filarial infections and eventually eliminate some of them."

[Read the full interview »](#)

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## Publications

EDCTP is a member of [Europe PMC](#). This enables EDCTP-funded researchers to share their publications via one central location. Sharing publications by EuropePMC also ensures that they will satisfy the requirements for EDCTP-funded research projects: making publications openly accessible as soon as possible.

[Submit your manuscript through Europe PMC Plus](#)

- *IJID Regions*: [The disproportionate case-fatality ratio of COVID-19 between top vaccinated countries and the rest of the world](#). Najmul Haider *et al.* (26 January 2023)
- *BMC Public Health*: [Assessment of the influence of ABO blood groups on oral cholera vaccine immunogenicity in a cholera endemic area in Zambia](#). Chisenga CC *et al.* (23 January 2023)
- *Nat Commun*: [Effects of tuberculosis and/or HIV-1 infection on COVID-19 presentation and immune response in Africa](#). du Bruyn *et al.* (12 Jan 2023).
- *BMC Infect Dis*: [Urogenital schistosomiasis in three different water access in the Senegal river basin: prevalence and monitoring praziquantel efficacy and re-infection levels](#). Bruno Senghor *et al.* (29 December 2022)
- *iScience*: [Host biomarker-based quantitative rapid tests for detection and treatment monitoring of tuberculosis and COVID-19](#). Pierneef L *et al.* (26 December 2022)
- *medRxiv (preprint)*: [Evaluation of Covid-19 Ag-RDTs self-testing in Lesotho and Zambia](#). Bresser M *et al.* (23 December 2022)
- *BMC Med*: [Mapping age- and sex-specific HIV prevalence in adults in sub-Saharan Africa, 2000-2018](#). Haeuser E *et al.* (19 December 2022)
- *EBioNedicine*: [SARS-CoV-2-specific nasal IgA wanes 9 months after hospitalisation with COVID-19 and is not induced by subsequent vaccination](#). Liew F *et al.* (19 December 2022)
- *JMIR Res Protoc*: [Case-Finding Strategies for Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis: Protocol for a Scoping Review](#). Van Wyk SS *et al.* (15 December 2022)
- *BMC Public Health*: [Risk factors and prevalence of human African trypanosomiasis in individuals living in remote areas of the republic of Congo](#). Elenga VA *et al.* (12 December 2022)
- *BMJ Open*: [Rationale and design of leveraging the HIV platform for hypertension control in Africa: protocol of a cluster-randomised controlled trial in Uganda](#). Atukunda M *et al.* (08 December 2022)
- *Acta Trop*: [Building sustainable clinical trial sites in Sub-Saharan Africa through networking, infrastructure improvement, training and conducting clinical studies: The PanACEA approach](#). Mekota AM *et al.* (8 December 2022)



- *Research Square (preprint):* [Needs and contents of a customized digital tool for retention in care among breast-feeding and pregnant women living with HIV in Kilimanjaro](#). Maro R *et al.* (8 December 2022)
- *Cardiovasc Endocrinol Metab:* [Cardiometabolic syndrome in HIV-positive and HIV-negative patients at Zewditu Memorial Hospital, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia: a comparative cohort study](#). Woldu M *et al.* (7 December 2022)
- *Parasit Vectors:* [Protocols for Plasmodium gametocyte production in vitro: an integrative review and analysis](#). Omorou R *et al.* (5 December 2022)
- *Immunol Lett:* [Differential expression of host protein biomarkers among symptomatic clinic attendees finally diagnosed with tuberculosis and other respiratory diseases with or without latent Mycobacterium tuberculosis infection](#). Namuganga AR *et al.* (1 December 2022)
- *PLoS One:* [Neutrophil degranulation, NETosis and platelet degranulation pathway genes are co-induced in whole blood up to six months before tuberculosis diagnosis](#). Meier S *et al.* (1 December 2022)
- *J Antimicrob Chemother:* [Population pharmacokinetics of liposomal amphotericin B in adults with HIV-associated cryptococcal meningoencephalitis](#). Stott KE *et al.* (1 December 2022)
- *J Antimicrob Chemother:* [High concordance in plasma and CSF HIV-1 drug resistance mutations despite high cases of CSF viral escape in individuals with HIV-associated cryptococcal meningitis in Botswana](#). Kelentse N *et al.* (1 December 2022)
- *Glob Health Action:* [Improving disease surveillance data analysis, interpretation, and use at the district level in Tanzania](#). Mremi IR *et al.* (1 December 2022)
- *Clin Infect Dis:* [Oral Swab Specimens Tested With Xpert MTB/RIF Ultra Assay for Diagnosis of Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Children: A Diagnostic Accuracy Study](#). Cox H *et al.* (1 December 2022)
- *JMIR Res Protoc:* [Characterization of the Viral Reservoirs Among HIV-1 Non-B Vertically Infected Adolescents Receiving Antiretroviral Therapy: Protocol for an Observational and Comparative Study in Cameroon](#). Nanfack AJ *et al.* (11 November 2022)
- *Contemp Clin Trials Commun:* [Impact of conditional economic incentives and motivational interviewing on health outcomes of adolescents living with HIV in Anambra State, Nigeria: A cluster-randomised trial](#). Ekwunife *et al.* (15 September 2022)

## Resources



[Collaborative clinical R&D](#)  
online



[Clinical research capacity](#)  
PDF



[Fellowships](#)  
online



- EDCTP | [Guidelines for grantees - Progress report](#)
- EDCTP | [Template for Grant Agreement Annex 5](#)
- ERUDIT | [Planning for Financial Sustainability manual](#)
- Europe PMC webinar | [Watch the recording](#) and [download the slides](#)
- TRUST project | [Video introducing the Global Code of Conduct](#)

## Training and funding opportunities

### Information sessions for online Postgraduate Diploma in Global Health Research

On **2 and 9 February 2023**, University of Oxford and The Global Health Network are organising information webinars for the 14-month, fully online [Postgraduate Diploma in Global Health Research](#). The course is designed to support the careers of dedicated and ambitious health professionals and researchers across the globe, and it will teach students how to design, operate and report a high-quality health research study anywhere in the world and learn how to put findings into practice.

[More information and registration »](#)

### New module TGHN Data Sharing eLearning course: Costing for data management

To conduct research, you need more than just good ideas - you also need funds. How do you then quantify costs associated with data management and governance? The Global Health Training Centre (TGHN) has launched a new free eLearning module on the Data Sharing course: Costing for data management. This course has been developed in collaboration with TGHN, the Infectious Disease Data Observatory, the Ethox Centre, Oxford University Clinical Research Unit (Vietnam), the Committee on Data of the International Science Council and the COVID-19 Coalition Data Sharing Working Group. The course consists of 10 self-study modules. Each module may require 1-2 hours' study, depending on prior knowledge and experience.

[More information »](#)

### New TGHN eLearning course: Clinical Research Operations for Study Coordinators

This course is designed for anyone currently working in clinical research as a study coordinator. It is also suitable for those wishing to work in this field, including investigators, nurses, scientists and clinicians, clinical research associates and clinical monitors, as well as those without formal qualifications. This course was designed and developed by FCD College in collaboration with the Global Health Clinical Consortium (GHCC), Strathmore University, Kenya, and the Institute for Global Health at the University of Siena, Italy.

[More information »](#)

### Wellcome Trust (UK) Funding Opportunities for Applicants from LMICs [Wellcome Early-Career Awards](#)

This scheme provides funding for early-career researchers from any discipline who are ready to develop their research identity. Through innovative projects, they will deliver shifts in understanding that could improve human life, health and wellbeing. By the end of the award, they will be ready to lead their own independent research programme.

Application deadline: **21 February 2023** (next application deadline: 18 May 2023)

#### [Wellcome Career Development Awards](#)

This scheme provides funding for mid-career researchers from any discipline who have the potential to be international research leaders. They will develop their research capabilities, drive innovative programmes of work and deliver significant shifts in understanding that could improve human life, health and wellbeing.

Application deadline: **4 April 2023** (next application deadline: 27 July 2023)

#### [Wellcome Discovery Awards](#)

This scheme provides funding for established researchers and teams from any discipline who want to pursue bold and creative research ideas to deliver significant shifts in

understanding that could improve human life, health and wellbeing.

Application deadline: **11 April 2023** (next application deadline: 25 July 2023)

### **GSK Africa Open Lab funding | Deadline: 17 February 2023**

Having previously funded 20 projects through the Africa NCD Open Lab, GSK is calling for research proposals focused on funding high-quality infectious disease research that has the potential to deliver significant health impact and develop future research leaders, with up to £75,000 available per award. Along with the award, mentoring, and scientific and technical support will be offered. The principal investigator must be an African scientist in the early stages of their research and academic career, a national of a sub-Saharan African (SSA) country, and based in an institution in SSA. The deadline for applications is **17 February 2023**.

[More information »](#)

### **2023 Bernard Lo, MD Award in Bioethics | Deadline for nomination 20 March 2023**

The Greenwall Foundation is seeking nominations for the 2023 Bernard Lo, MD Award in Bioethics (Lo Award), a \$25,000 prize given annually to recognise significant contributions to bioethics. The Lo Award recognises one area of accomplishment in bioethics each year. The 2023 Award will be presented for forging connections across division through bioethics. Such division may derive from, for instance, differences in perspective, politics, power, community, identity, or discipline. Deadline for nominations: **20 March 2023**.

[More information »](#)

### **ADVAC (Advanced Course for Vaccinology) | 8-19 May 2023**

ADVAC is an annual two-week training programme for decision-makers, including academia, industry, governmental and non-governmental agencies. ADVAC has opened a Call for applications with a deadline of **15 November 2022**. Participants (maximum 75) will be selected by the ADVAC Scientific Committee according to their educational background, involvement in vaccinology, decision-making responsibilities in vaccinology, and expected impact of the course at personal, institutional and national levels. With support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), EDCTP will provide fellowships for selected candidates from Sub-Saharan African countries.

[More information »](#)

## **Mark your calendar**

### **EDCTP events**

#### **Eleventh EDCTP Forum | 7-10 November 2023**

From 7-10 November 2023, EDCTP will hold its Eleventh EDCTP Forum, hosted in Paris, France, at the [Palais des Congrès de Paris](#). The Forum theme is "Partnering for Global Health Research Innovation and Impact in Africa - Celebrating EDCTP: two decades and beyond". A call for nominations for [EDCTP prizes](#) will be published soon, and more information on registration and abstract submission will follow.

### **Other events**

#### **VolREthics global meeting | 24 & 25 April 2023, Brussels (Belgium)**

The [VolREthics](#) Initiative on Healthy Research Volunteers and Ethics is organising an on-site plenary global meeting at the European Commission premises in Brussels (Belgium) on 24-25 April 2023. The main objective of the event will be to take stock of what has been learned so far through the five regional VolREthics seminars, and to pave the way for international guidelines development for the protection of healthy volunteers in biomedical research.

Some grants will be awarded supporting travel, accommodation, and single-entry visa expenses. If you wish to apply for a grant, please send an email by **15 February 2023** to [hvworkshop.disc\(at\)inserm.fr](mailto:hvworkshop.disc(at)inserm.fr) including a detailed half-page resume and a short letter of motivation clearly indicating your interest in the theme and the contribution of your

participation to the initiative (500 words maximum), as well as an indication of the costs that would need to be covered.

Registration for this event is free, but mandatory through e-mail to [hvworkshop.disc\(at\)inserm.fr](mailto:hvworkshop.disc(at)inserm.fr)

## **INTEREST 2023 | Maputo, Mozambique, 9-12 May 2023**

The 17<sup>th</sup> International Conference on HIV Treatment, Pathogenesis, and Prevention Research in Resource-Limited Settings (INTEREST) conference will take place in Maputo, Mozambique from 9-12 May 2023. INTEREST brings together scientists involved in HIV treatment, pathogenesis, and prevention research in Africa to share pivotal findings, promote collaboration, and transfer experiences across several fields and countries. Abstract submission is open until **3 February 2023**.

[More information »](#)

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*EDCTP Communications thanks everyone who provided information for this Update.*



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