

## EDCTP Update | April 2025



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**World Malaria Day 2025: reinvest, reimagine and reignite our commitment to end malaria**



## EDCTP2's investments in malaria research



**€157.24 M**

In 65 projects on malaria awarded to date.



**€139.20 M**

to support 17 projects with collaborative clinical trials and clinical studies conducted by European-African consortia.



**€7.70 M**

to support 5 projects that facilitate the translation of research results of medical interventions into policies and practices for national health programmes.



**€10.34 M**

to support 43 fellowships that focus on the career development of individual researchers.



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On this World Malaria Day, EDCTP reaffirmed its commitment to supporting the development of innovative medical interventions for the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of malaria. Furthermore, product-focused implementation research is crucial to ensure that these interventions reach those who need them most. Recent findings from EDCTP-supported studies offer new hope in the quest for malaria eradication.

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## Launch of the Global Health EDCTP3 networking platform



The Global Health EDCTP3 has launched a new networking platform designed to facilitate collaboration among researchers, organisations, and funders. This interactive space is now open, inviting participants to connect and form robust consortia in preparation for the second stage of ongoing [calls for proposals](#).

Participants can create comprehensive profiles to showcase their expertise, discover potential partners, and join existing consortia that align with their interests. Additionally,

the platform facilitates the identification of co-funding opportunities from both public and private entities, thus broadening the spectrum of financial support available.

The platform is accessible to a diverse range of stakeholders, including potential partners eager to join project consortia and funders seeking co-investment opportunities. Proposal coordinators and scientific leaders are particularly encouraged to engage with the platform, as they can publicise their project proposals once the first-stage evaluation results are released in July 2025.

Participation is free, and the platform is available in both English and French. With the aim of sustaining engagement and collaboration, organisations are urged to register early, complete their profiles, and explore opportunities that may arise.

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## Recent events

### Meeting of the EDCTP Association and Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking staff



On the 23 and 24 April 2025, EDCTP Association staff members (Executive Director, Mr. Abdoulie Barry, and Operations Manager, Dr Pauline Beattie) from The Hague Office joined colleagues at the EDCTP Africa Office in Cape Town for an in-person meeting with staff from the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking: Mr. Vincent Declerfayt, Dr Liesbet de Cock, and Dr Silvia Garcia. The primary objective of this visit was to foster a shared understanding of several crucial areas, including:

- The expanded functions of the EDCTP Africa Office within the context of the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking.
- The evolving roles and responsibilities of programme offices located in Brussels, The Hague, and Cape Town.
- The optimal models for fostering collaborative relationships among these three offices to ensure the effective delivery of the Global Health EDCTP3 programme in Africa until its conclusion in 2031.

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## Financial and Project Management Training Workshop for Global Health EDCTP3 grant holders, 25-26 April 2025, Johannesburg, South Africa



A two-day training workshop on financial and project management of Global Health EDCTP3 grants took place in Johannesburg. Thirty-five grant holders from Southern Africa (South Africa, Eswatini, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe) participated in person, and more than 100 people joined online. The training was conducted by the EDCTP Association in collaboration with the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking, as part of capacity strengthening activities under the Africa Office grant (Grant Agreement No. 101103640 supported by the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking and its members).

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## EDCTP2 project news

### ShigaPlexIM: Highlights from the project's annual meeting 2025



On 19 March 2025, the ShigaPlexIM consortium gathered at the Centre for Infectious Disease Research in Zambia (CIDRZ) for its 5th annual meeting. Partners from Zambia, the Netherlands, Burkina Faso, Germany, Sweden, and Switzerland came together to discuss progress in developing a vaccine against *Shigella*, a key cause of diarrhoeal disease in low-income countries.

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### PYRAPREG: Final project meeting and project achievements

The [PYRAPREG project](#) aimed to evaluate the safety and efficacy of Pyronaridine–



Artesunate (PA, Pyramax®), a new artemisinin-based combination therapy, in treating uncomplicated malaria during the second and third trimesters of pregnancy across five African countries. The final investigators' meeting of the PYRAPREG consortium took place from 26 to 28 March 2025 in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, gathering representatives from all consortium partners and key stakeholders, including National Malaria Control Programme representatives, Data Safety Monitoring Board members, ethics advisors, the manufacturer of Pyramax®, Shin Poong Pharmaceutical and EDCTP.

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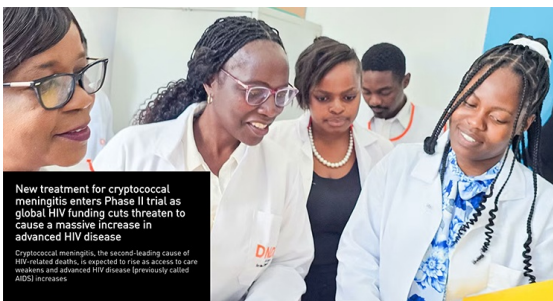
## PYRAPREG: Two PhD graduates achieve milestone in research



On 28 March 2025, a momentous occasion took place at the University of Amsterdam, where two dedicated Phd students, Dr Japhet Tshiongo from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Dr Moussa Djimdé from Mali, graduated after completing their research under the auspices of the EDCTP2-funded PYRAPREG project. Dr Montserrat Blázquez-Domingo, Senior Project Officer, represented EDCTP at the graduation.

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## 5FC HIV-Crypto: new treatment for cryptococcal meningitis enters phase II trial



A new, easier-to-administer and patient-friendly sustained-release formulation of flucytosine, a medicine used to treat cryptococcal meningitis, has entered phase II clinical trials in Malawi and Tanzania. The trial is part of the EDCTP2-funded 5FC HIV-Crypto project and is being conducted by the Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi) and its partners.

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## The SNECFA project: enhancing ethical oversight in health research

The SNECFA Project seeks to enhance the capacity of National Ethics Committees in Francophone West and Central Africa, focusing on Cameroon, Chad, Mali, and Niger. This initiative addresses the critical





need for robust ethical oversight in health research, providing tailored training and developing regulatory frameworks known as TRREE national supplements. So far, the national supplements for Cameroon, Mali, and Niger have been completed and are now available online, supporting researchers and ethics committee members in improving the quality of health research.

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## EDCTP Fellows

### Celebrating the achievements of Dr Anna-Ursula Happel



[Dr Anna-Ursula Happel](#), a researcher at the University of Cape Town, South Africa, has made important strides in the field of maternal and child health through her EDCTP Career Development Fellowship. Her work particularly addresses the pressing health challenges faced by women living with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa, where the intersection of viral and bacterial infections in the female genital tract has implications for preterm birth risks.

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### Prof. Abdoulaye Djimde receives the Fifth Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize



[Professor Abdoulaye Djimde](#), former EDCTP Senior Fellow and coordinator of the EDCTP2-funded project WANEAM, has recently won the [Fifth Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize](#) under the Medical Research Category. The Prize aims to honour individuals with outstanding achievements in medical research to combat infectious and other diseases in Africa.

Additionally, in a [recent Q&A session](#), Prof. Djimde provided invaluable insights into the ongoing fight against malaria, a disease affecting millions in Africa. Prof. Djimde's contributions highlight a pivotal shift in understanding the genetic diversity of the malaria parasite, challenging the longstanding notion that *Plasmodium falciparum* is uniform across the continent.

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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 compliance with EDCTP grant requirements to make publications openly accessible as soon as possible. [Submit your manuscript through Europe PMC Plus](#).

- Clinical Infectious Diseases: an Official Publication of the Infectious Diseases Society of America: [Performance of 2 Finger-Stick Blood Tests to Triage Adults With Symptoms of Pulmonary Tuberculosis: A Prospective Multisite Diagnostic Accuracy Study](#). Sutherland, JS, et al. 16 April 2025
- BMC Infectious Diseases: [The burden and diagnostic challenges of subclinical Plasmodium falciparum infections in Southern Ghana](#). Mutala, AH, et al. 16 April 2025
- The Lancet. Global Health: [Reconsidering Ebola virus nomenclature: a call for a stigma-free and precise terminology](#). Olupot-Olupot P, et al. 14 April 2025
- Archives of Women's Mental Health: [The epidemiology of maternal mental health in Africa: a systematic review](#). Abajobir, A, et al. 12 April 2025
- Human Vaccines & Immunotherapeutics: [Magnitude and durability of ProC6C-AIOH/Matrix-Mtm vaccine-induced malaria transmission-blocking antibodies in Burkinabe adults from a Phase 1 randomized trial](#). Naghizadeh, M, et al. 10 April 2025
- AIDS Research and Therapy: [Clinical trials of broadly neutralizing monoclonal antibodies in people living with HIV - a review](#). Mahomed, S, et al. 6 April 2025
- The Lancet. Global health: [A roadmap for fostering timely regulatory and ethics approvals of international clinical trials in support of global health research systems](#). Cavaleri, M, et al. 1 April 2025
- The Lancet. Global health: [Better engagement, better evidence: working in partnership with patients, the public, and communities in clinical trials with involvement and good participatory practice](#). Gobat, N, et al. 1 April 2025
- PLOS Global Public Health: [Barriers and facilitators of care among visceral leishmaniasis patients following the implementation of a decentralized model in Turkana County, Kenya](#). Macharia, M, et al. 31 March 2025
- PLOS Global Public Health: [Prediction models for Mtb infection among adolescent and adult household contacts in high tuberculosis incidence settings](#). Marambire, E T, et al. 31 March 2025
- Plos Neglected Tropical Diseases: [Evaluation of a rapid lateral flow assay for the detection of taeniosis and cysticercosis at district hospital level in Tanzania: A prospective multicentre diagnostic accuracy study](#). Van Damme, I, et al. 28 March 2025
- Parasites & Vectors: [Cytokine pattern during asymptomatic Anaplasma spp. infections and effect of co-infections by malaria and helminths in schoolchildren of Franceville, southeastern Gabon](#). Mbani MN, et al. 27 March 2025
- NPJ Vaccines: [Helminth driven gut inflammation and microbial translocation associate with altered vaccine responses in rural Uganda](#). Nassuuna, J, et al. 26 March 2025
- BMJ Open: [Tuberculosis-associated respiratory impairment and disability in children, adolescents and adults: protocol for a systematic review and individual participant data meta-analysis](#). Chiang, S S, et al. 24 March 2025
- Frontiers in Immunology: [Mutations in ace2 gene modulate cytokine levels and alter immune responses in Mycobacterium tuberculosis and SARS-CoV-2 co-infection: a Cameroonian cohort](#). Kameni, M N, et al. 24 March 2025
- IJID Regions: [Undiagnosed burden of latent tuberculosis, active tuberculosis and tuberculosis-HIV co-infections in Africa-status quo, needs, priorities, and opportunities](#). Kapata, N, et al. 19 March 2025
- IJID Regions: [Inequities underlie the alarming resurgence of Tuberculosis as the world's top cause of death from an Infectious Disease - Breaking the silence and addressing the underlying root causes](#). Zumla, A, et al. 19 March 2025
- IJID Regions: [Addressing key risk factors hindering tuberculosis control activities in West Africa - progress in meeting the UN sustainable development goals](#). Osei-Wusu, S, et al. 19 March 2025
- Frontiers in Public Health: [Factors affecting viral suppression or rebound in people](#)

[living with HIV and receiving antiretroviral therapy in Ghana](#). Boateng, AT, et al. 19 March 2025

- Open Forum Infectious Diseases: [Epidemiology of Group B Streptococcus: Maternal Colonization and Infant Disease in Kampala, Uganda](#). Kyohere, M, et al. 18 March 2025
- Frontiers in Pharmacology: [Substandard antibiotics and their clinical outcomes among hospitalized patients in southern Malawi: a pilot study](#). Chiumia, FK, et al. 18 March 2025
- Tuberculosis (Edinburgh, Scotland): [High centrifugation speed improves recovery of M. tuberculosis and yield of culture](#). Chaula, G T, et al. 15 March 2025
- Journal of Clinical Tuberculosis and Other Mycobacterial Diseases: [Adverse drug reactions and contributing factors in patients with drug-resistant tuberculosis: A 7-year retrospective cohort study in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia](#). Solomon, B, et al. 5 March 2025
- Vaccines: [Robust COVID-19 Vaccine Responses Despite Filarial Co-Infection: Insights from a Lymphatic Filariasis Cohort in Ghana](#). Meyer, J, et al. 1 March 2025
- IID Regions: [The prevalence of rotavirus infection among Congolese children younger than 5 years hospitalized for gastroenteritis 10 years after introduction of rotavirus vaccination](#). Mbougou, C L D, et al. 13 February 2025
- Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics: [Intracellular Penetration of Atazanavir, Ritonavir and Dolutegravir With Concomitant Rifampicin: A Dose Escalation Study](#). De Nicolò, A, et al. 31 January 2025

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## Resources

- EDCTP | [Knowledge Hub: Tools and guidance for conducting clinical research](#)
- EDCTP | [Alumni Network](#)
- 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](#)
- PACTR | [Open access clinical trial registry](#)
- PAVIA project | [PV strengthening blue-print](#)

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## Training and funding opportunities

### GFBR 2025 Call for applications | Deadline for applications: 25 May 2025

The Global Forum on Bioethics in Research (GFBR) will hold a two-day meeting in Accra, Ghana, in November 2025 on the topic: “Reimagining research partnerships: equity, power and resilience”. The GFBR will provide support to successful applicants from low- and middle-income countries to cover the costs of their travel, accommodation and single-entry visa. The deadline for applications is 25 May 2025.

[More information »](#)

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## Mark your calendar

### EDCTP events

#### Twelfth EDCTP Forum | 15-20 June 2025

The Twelfth EDCTP Forum will be held at the Kigali Convention Centre in Kigali, Rwanda, from 15-20 June 2025. The event will be hosted by the [Ministry of Health of Rwanda](#) and the [Rwanda Biomedical Centre](#), and jointly organised by [Global Health EDCTP3](#) and the



[EDCTP Association](#). The theme for the 2025 Forum is “Better health through global research partnerships”.  
[More information »](#)

## Other events

### Scientific Research in Health in PALOP Webinar | 9 April 2025

#### TCIS AFRICA 2025 | 7-8 May 2025

TCIS AFRICA 2025 will be held in Cairo, Egypt, on 7 and 8 May 2025. The conference serves as a convergence point for clinical researchers, medical professionals, clinical research organisations (CROs), pharmaceutical companies, regulatory agencies, and academia to network, share achievements, milestones, and challenges, and establish strategic directions for clinical trial management in Africa.

[More information »](#)

#### 2nd Conference on Innovations in Tuberculosis | 12 May 2025

The 2nd Conference on Innovations in Tuberculosis will occur on 12 May 2025 in Windhoek, Namibia, as a pre-event to the [INTEREST 2025 Conference](#). The conference is currently accepting abstract submissions, with a deadline of 14 February 2025.

[More information »](#)

#### HERA Industry Days | 2-3 June 2025

Dr Pauline Beattie, EDCTP Association Operations Manager and Scientific Advisor, is a panellist at the [Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Authority \(HERA\) Industry Days](#) to be held in Brussels on 2-3 June 2025. Dr Beattie is presenting in the session ‘Driving innovation and collaboration for global health preparedness’.

#### PREPARED project conference | 3 June 2025

The PREPARED project is organising its final conference, ‘Promoting Equitable Science During Crisis,’ on 3 June 2025 at the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France. This conference tackles the critical need for equitable international collaboration in science, especially in times of crisis. Registration and attendance are free, but space is limited.

[More information »](#)

#### Oxford Global Health & Bioethics International Conference | 8-9 July 2025

The Oxford Global Health & Bioethics International Conference will take place on 8 and 9 July 2025, at the Mathematics Institute, University of Oxford, with selected sessions available online. The conference brings together the global health bioethics community, and provides a platform for sharing research, exchanging ideas, and building collaborations. The Call for Abstracts is now open. The deadline for submissions is Wednesday 5 February 2025.

[More information »](#)

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



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