



**EDCTP**

*The power of sharing science*

7<sup>th</sup> MIM Pan African Malaria Conference  
15-20 April 2018 • Dakar, Senegal

**EDCTP session on**

## **Empowering African institutions and future malaria research leaders through capacity development and partnerships**

18 April 2018 | 11:15-13:00 | Tent A



Supported by the  
European Union





## About EDCTP

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EDCTP's mission is to contribute to the reduction of the individual, social and economic burden of poverty-related infectious diseases in sub-Saharan Africa.

We support collaborative clinical research to accelerate the development of accessible, suitable and affordable medical interventions to identify, prevent or treat these diseases. Our approach integrates conduct of research with development of African clinical research capacity and networking.

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

## **EDCTP session on**

### **Empowering African institutions and future malaria research leaders through capacity development and partnerships**

Globally, health is the foundation upon which the social and economic gains are built and health research and innovation are key drivers of sustainable development. In majority of the sub-Saharan African countries, there is a glaring mismatch between the high burden of disease and the limited research capacity to combat them in a sustainable manner. Health research has a key role in the development of sub-Saharan African countries. However, these countries face an enormous challenge in ensuring sustainable health research, strong research capacity and effective partnerships. Health research for interventions against diseases requires a conducive research environment, supported and empowered by local governments, researchers and institutions. Sub-Saharan African institutions require sustainable support and empowerment in many areas including adequate funding, promotion of networks, formation of new partnerships, infrastructural development, research management and strategic planning. Central to empowering institutions is the creation of a talented critical mass of researchers who can be recruited and retained by well-equipped local institutions. Established and empowered institutions will attract African senior scientists who would be future research leaders and role models for the next generation. Strong ethics and regulatory frameworks complement strengthened institutions and their scientists in facilitating sound and fast approvals of research.

In this symposium EDCTP aims to raise awareness of opportunities and challenges of capacity development and networking in key areas of clinical research in Africa. Apart from sharing experiences participants will discuss solutions that can be adopted to address issues arising in their respective fields.

# Agenda

## Chairs and Co-Chairs

Godfrey Tangwa, Cameroon Bioethics Initiative (CAMBIN), Cameroon

Christiane Druml, Medical University of Vienna, Austria

Thomas Nyirenda, EDCTP, South Africa

11:15-11:20	<b>Welcome and introduction by the Chairperson</b> Godfrey Tangwa, Cameroon Bioethics Initiative (CAMBIN), Cameroon
11:20-11:30	<b>Brief introduction to EDCTP and funding opportunities</b> Michelle Nderu, EDCTP, South Africa
11:30-11:45	<b>Developing and implementing African led Fellowship programmes</b> Abdoulaye Djimde, University of Science, Techniques and Technologies of Bamako, Mali
11:45-12:00	<b>Getting research into policy through the formulation of an Evidence Informed Decision-making Network (EvIDeNt) in Malawi</b> Kamija Phiri, College of Medicine, University of Malawi, Malawi
12:00-12:15	<b>Opportunities and challenges in linking policy makers and researchers</b> Margaret Gyapong, University of Health and Allied Sciences, Ghana
12:15-12:30	<b>Challenges in malaria surveillance activities in CANTAM2 Venture institutions</b> Francine Ntoumi, Fondation Congolaise de la recherche Medicale, Republic of Congo
12:30-12:45	<b>Ethics and clinical research – future challenges</b> Christiane Druml, Medical University of Vienna, Austria
12:45-13:00	<b>Discussion and Q&amp;A from participants</b> Godfrey Tangwa, Cameroon Bioethics Initiative (CAMBIN), Cameroon

# Biographies



## Abdoulaye Djimde

Abdoulaye Djimde received a PharmD degree from Ecole Nationale de Medecine et de Pharmacie of Bamako, Mali in 1988, a PhD in Microbiology and Immunology from University of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland, USA in 2001 and is Associate Professor of Parasitology-Myology since 2012. He is currently Head of the Molecular Epidemiology and Drug Resistance Unit of the Malaria Research and Training Center, University of Science, Techniques and Technologies of Bamako, Mali. The primary goal of his research is to understand how the malaria parasite becomes resistant to antimalarial drugs and how that resistance spreads over time and space. With his team and collaborators, he conducts field and laboratory-based analyses to explore how genetic events in the malaria parasite, the human host and the mosquito vector's genomes relate to treatment outcome and the spread of drug resistance. He has co-authored over 125 peer reviewed scientific publications. He is involved in various capacity development initiatives such as MIM, EDCTP, NIH-FIC, DELGEME-DELTAS.



## Christiane Druml

Christiane Druml was born in Vienna and studied law at the University of Vienna. She holds the UNESCO Chair on Bioethics at the Medical University of Vienna and also serves as Director of the Collections and History of Medicine of the Medical University of Vienna (2016). In 2007, she was appointed President of the Austrian National Bioethics Commission and is a member of the Medical Council of the Republic of Austria and of the Scientific Council of the Agence nationale de sécurité du médicament et des produits de la santé (ANSM), France. From 2011 to 2015, Dr Druml was Vice-Rector for Clinical Affairs at the Vienna Medical University. Prior to that she was the Managing Director of the Ethics Committee at the Vienna Medical University (1992-2011). Christiane Druml was a Member of the International Bioethics Committee IBC of UNESCO from 2008 to 2015 and currently serves as the Representative for Austria in the General Assembly of the EDCTP Association.



### **Margaret Gyapong**

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Margaret Gyapong is the Director of the Centre for Health Policy and Implementation Research of the University of Health and Allied Sciences in Ghana. Prior to this, she was the Director of the Dodowa Health Research Centre and Deputy Director for Research and Development of the Ghana Health Service, Adjunct Professor of International Health at the Georgetown University in Washington and Adjunct Professor in Medical Anthropology at the Brunel University of West London. She is a Medical Anthropologist by training. Her areas of research are malaria, neglected tropical diseases, maternal and child health, demographic surveillance systems, health systems and implementation research. She has served as chair/member on a number of national and international committees including WHO, EDCTP, NIH, KEMRI Wellcome Trust. She has about 84 publications in peer-reviewed journals has written several technical reports, made several conference presentations, and has two book chapters on neglected tropical diseases.



### **Michelle Nderu**

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Michelle Nderu holds an MSc in Medicine from the University of Cape Town. She is a molecular biologist by training with experience in characterizing and profiling Hepatitis B genotypes in Cape Town South Africa and investigating proteins that can be used to alleviate the progression of Alzheimer's disease. She worked in the biotechnology industry for several years as a product development scientist, engineering enzymes to optimise them for use in different life science laboratory applications and currently has several real-time PCR products on the global market. She transitioned from product development and moved to the South African Medical Research Council and joined the Research Management Division. In 2013, Michelle joined EDCTP as a project officer based in the Africa Office in Cape Town. Her portfolio encompasses capacity building and she manages the EDCTP Regional Networks of Excellence (WANETAM, CANTAM, EACCR and TESA), EDCTP-WHO/TDR Clinical Research Fellowships and the EDCTP Strategic Action Supporting Health Systems Optimisation Research Capacities in Cooperation with Development Assistance Initiatives Program. Michelle is also the EDCTP focal person for monitoring and evaluation at the Africa Office.



## Francine Ntoumi

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Francine Ntoumi is Founder, Chair and Executive Director of the Congolese Foundation for Medical Research, Republic of Congo, lecturer in Immunology at the University Marien Ngouabi, Republic of Congo, and Research Group Leader at the University of Tübingen, Germany. She is a member of several scientific committees and international scientific networks in Africa and Europe and serves as a reviewer for a number of leading scientific journals. Her main area of research is malaria, and throughout her career she has trained African scientists of various nationalities in disciplines such as immunology and molecular epidemiology. Since January 2009, Prof. Ntoumi has been involved in developing health research capacities in Central Africa through the EDCTP-funded Central Africa Network on Tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS and Malaria, (CANTAM). Between 2007 and 2010, she served as the first African leader of the Multilateral Initiative on Malaria (MIM). In 2014, she was appointed to the board of the Global Health Scientific Advisory Board of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and in 2015 to the Board of Directors of the International Aids Vaccine Initiative. She received the African Union Kwame Nkrumah Regional Scientific Award for women in 2012 and was also laureate of the RICE prize (Reseau International des Congolais de l'Etranger). She received the Georg Forster Prize, Germany and the Christophe Mériex Prize, France in 2015 and 2016, respectively. In 2016, Prof. Ntoumi received a 10M EUR grant from EDCTP to form the Pan-African Network for Rapid Research, Response, Relief and Preparedness for Infectious Diseases Epidemics.



## Thomas Nyirenda

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Thomas Nyirenda is a physician with experience in planning and implementing community disease control programs, operational research and clinical trials in Africa. He worked with the Ministry of Health in Malawi from 1993 to 2000 where he gained experience in administration of district, national health delivery systems and in health research. From 2000 to 2004 he worked for the World Health Organisation as a national and international technical advisor in control and research of TB and TB/HIV co-infection in Africa. He has published and contributed to a number of publications in this field including malaria. He joined EDCTP in 2004.





### Kamija Phiri

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Kamija Phiri is a professor in Clinical Epidemiology, and was the founding Dean of the School of Public Health and Family Medicine at the University of Malawi. He has previously been the Dean of Postgraduate Studies and Research for a number of years and contributed in the formulation of the Malawi National Health Research Agenda. He is alumni of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and also the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine in the UK where he did his postgraduate studies. He is a recipient for several awards, with the most recent being the 2012 Merle A. Sandee Health Leadership award. Prof. Phiri directs the Training & Research Unit of Excellence (TRUE). His research interests are in the control of malaria in children and pregnant women. He is currently leading a multi-centre study on the efficacy of intermittent preventive antimalarial therapy in the post-discharge management of children with severe anaemia. He has conducted a number of malaria drug efficacy studies and has a keen interest malaria control at population level. He has published widely including in the *Lancet Infectious Diseases* and the *New England Journal of Medicine* in the area of malaria and anaemia. He is a member of the Malawi National Malaria Advisory Board which advises Ministry of Health on all matters related to malaria control. He is currently supported by a research team of 4 postdocs and 8 PhD students and is an honorary lecturer with University of Liverpool and a visiting lecturer at the University of Zambia.



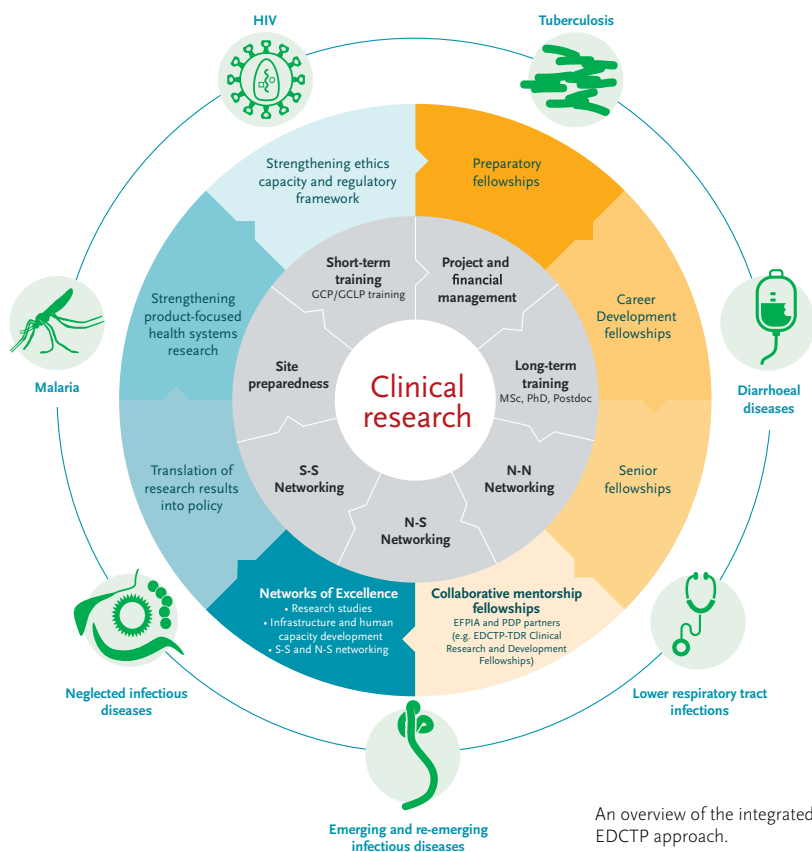
### Godfrey Tangwa

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Godfrey Tangwa is Professor of Philosophy at the University of Yaoundé 1 in Yaoundé, Cameroon. He holds a Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral degree in Philosophy from Universities in Nigeria. He has been actively involved in international bioethics associations including as Vice President of the International Association of Bioethics (1999-2001), Chair of the Cameroon Bioethics Initiative (2005-date), Advisor for the BioMed Central, Visiting Scholar at the Hastings Center and Member of the Editorial Board of Developing World Bioethics. He teaches courses in Epistemology, Metaphysics, Ethics, African Philosophy, History of Philosophy, Philosophy of Religion and Introductory Logic. He has written books, as well as journal articles including, "Traditional African Perception of a Person: Some Implications for Bioethics" in the Hastings Center Report and "Globalisation or Westernisation? Ethical Concerns in the whole Bio-Business," in the journal Bioethics. For his practicum while on a fellowship at Johns Hopkins University, USA, Dr. Tangwa had written a conceptual paper that describes the role of context in the development and implementation of international research ethics guidelines.

# Integrated approach of the EDCTP programme

The EDCTP programme is supporting clinical research, research capacity development and international networking to address the key infectious diseases affecting Africa.



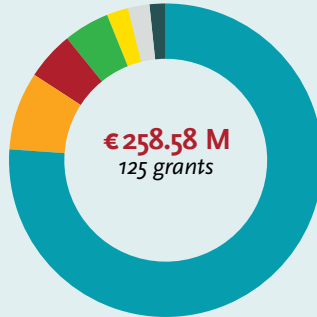
An overview of the integrated EDCTP approach.

# Overview of EDCTP portfolio 2014-2017

## By activity

### Note:

These figures include both estimated and actual value of grants.

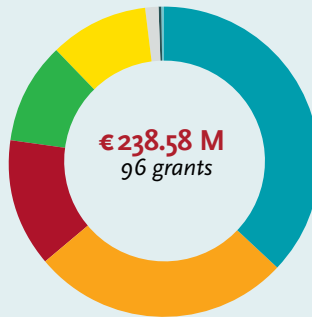


- Clinical studies, 33 grants  
€197.85 M
- Health system preparedness, 8 grants  
€20.94 M
- Fellowships, 58 grants  
€12.26 M
- Networks of Excellence, 4 grants  
€11.98 M
- Pharmacovigilance, 3 grants  
€6.30 M
- Evidence-informed policy, 6 grants  
€5.42 M
- Ethics and regulatory framework, 13 grants  
€3.83 M

## By disease

### Note:

A further €20M for 29 grants was awarded to projects on non-disease specific topics such as ethics and regulatory support, networking and fellowship grants. All figures include both estimated and actual value of grants.

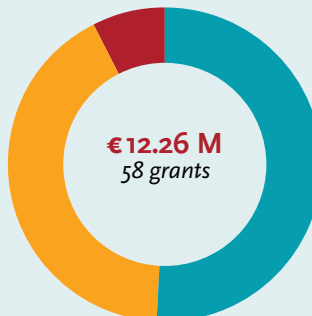


- Tuberculosis, 27 grants  
€88.38 M
- HIV & HIV-associated infections, 26 grants  
€64.12 M
- Malaria, 14 grants  
€32.05 M
- Neglected infectious diseases, 13 grants  
€25.18 M
- Emerging diseases, 10 grants  
€24.33 M
- Lower respiratory tract infections, 2 grants  
€3.57 M
- Diarrhoeal diseases, 2 grants  
€0.65 M
- Multiple infections, 2 grants  
€0.30 M

## Fellowship programme

### Note:

These figures include both estimated and actual value of grants.



- Senior Fellowships, 13 grants  
€6.25 M
- Career Development Fellowships, 35 grants  
€5.10 M
- EDCTP-TDR Clinical Research and Development Fellowships, 10 grants  
€0.91 M

# Networks of Excellence

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The EDCTP Networks of Excellence provide a mechanism to share resources, knowledge and expertise, and enable less experienced institutions in sub-Saharan Africa to participate in multicentre clinical trials. They also support the mentoring and training of early-career researchers, and the conduct of epidemiological and demographic studies in order to facilitate the preparation of future trials in Africa. By collaborating, they learn and develop, and thereby raise the quality of clinical research and practice in sub-Saharan Africa.



**CANTAM2 venture**  
**Central Africa Clinical Research Network**  
**Congo**



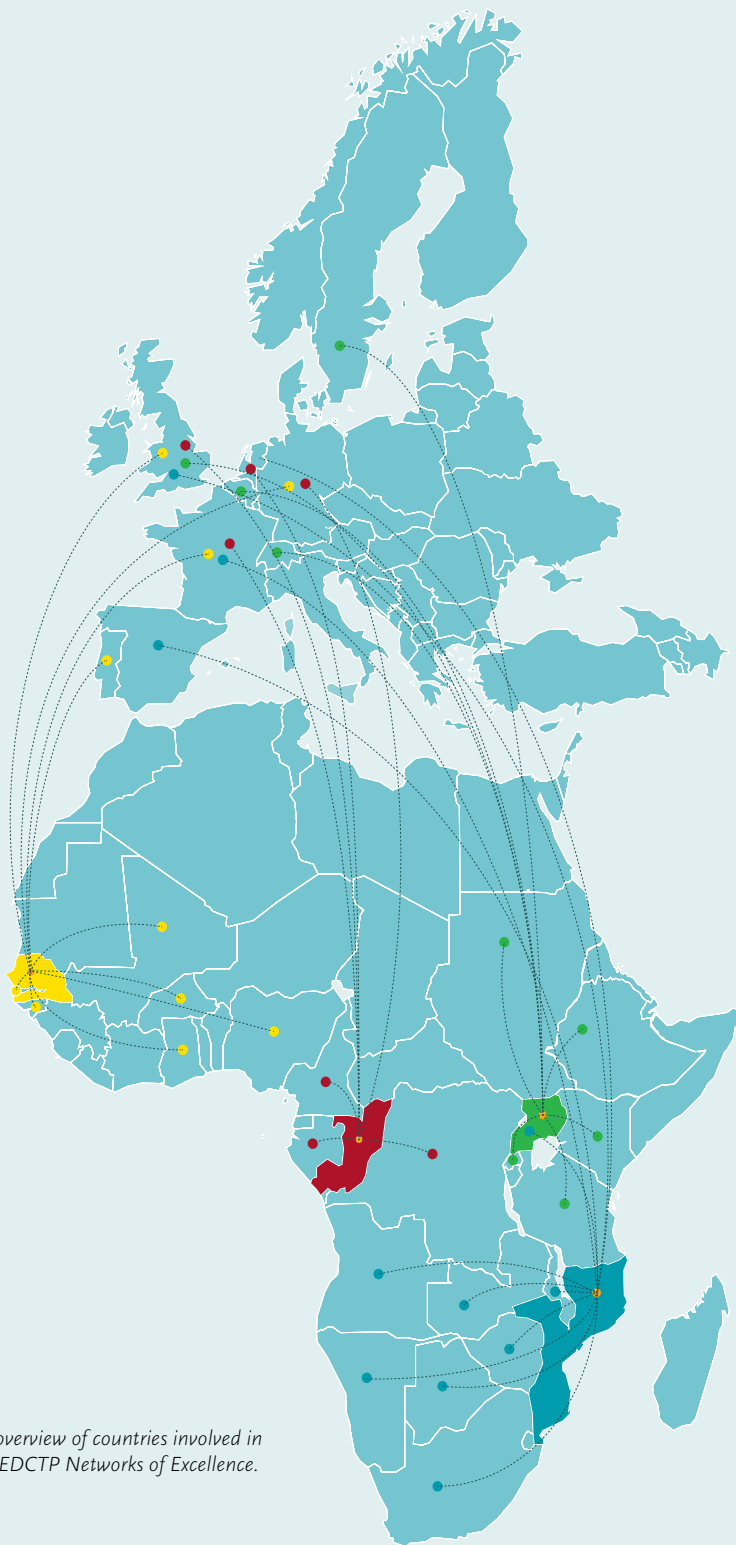
**EACCR 2**  
**Eastern Africa Consortium for Clinical Research II**  
**Uganda**



**WANETAM**  
**West African Network for TB AIDS and Malaria**  
**Senegal**



**TESA II**  
**Trials of Excellence in Southern Africa II**  
**Mozambique**



*An overview of countries involved in the EDCTP Networks of Excellence.*

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