

EDCTP Portfolio

Networking grants



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Summary table of small networking projects supported by EDCTP

Project Acronym (Coordinator)	Disease area	Project goal	Institutions involved	Status
Temmerman	HIV/AIDS	Strengthening laboratory capacity and nutrition skills in the context of an ICH GCP clinical trial for the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV	University of Ghent (Belgium), Laboratoire de bactériologie-virologie (France), IRD (France), ICRH (Kenya), Centre Muraz (Burkina Faso)	Completed
Colebunders	HIV/AIDS	Workshop on Tuberculosis Immune Reactivation Inflammatory Syndrome (TB IRIS)	Institute of Tropical Medicine (Belgium), AMC (Netherlands), Infectious Disease Institute (Uganda), Makerere University (Uganda), Chelsea and Westminster Healthcare NHS Trust (UK), IATEC (Netherlands), JCRC (Uganda), UCT (South Africa), Swedish Institute for Infectious Disease Control, Centre hospitalier de Fann (Senegal), WHO, IUATLD, MSF Belgium	Completed
Kyabayinze	HIV/AIDS	KIDS-ART-LINC: network of clinical centres treating HIV-infected children with antiretroviral therapy in Africa to inform public health care and treatment programs	Regional Center For Quality of Health Care (RCQHC-Uganda), Makerere University, CDC Global AIDS Program (Kenya), INSERM (France), Univ of Bern (Switzerland), USAID (Kenya)	Completed
McCormack	HIV/AIDS	Identifying the common learning needs of investigators working in poverty-related diseases in African settings, and the materials to address these, notably in the areas of project and data management	MRC (UK), EuroVacc Foundation (Switzerland), St Stephen's AIDS Trust International Development Group (UK), AMC-CPCD (Netherlands), PENTA Foundation (Italy), JCRC (Uganda), Makerere University (Uganda), Univ of WITS (South Africa), Univ of Zambia, KEMRI (Kenya), Quintiles Clindepharm (South Africa)	Completed
Jindani	TB	Establishing a network of sites, in sub-Saharan Africa, to conduct clinical trials in tuberculosis and to build their capacity to participate in multicentre trials	Jindani, St George's Medical College (UK), MRC (UK), MRC (South Africa), University Medical Centre St Radboud (Netherlands), WHO-TDR	Completed
Aseffa	TB	Strengthening the National Tuberculosis Research Network in Ethiopia	Abraham, Armauer Hansen Research Institute (AHRI), Addis Ababa University, Ministry of Health, Ethiopian Health and Nutrition Research Institute (EHNRI), Ethiopian Science and Technology Agency	Completed

Hill	Malaria	A North-South working group to support the design integrated of research proposals for malaria in pregnancy	Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (UK), University of Barcelona, NIMR (Tanzania), Centre of Innovation against malaria (Gambia)	Completed
Navia	Malaria	Ifakara-Lambarene-Manhiça Partnership	Fundació Clínic per a la Recerca Biomèdica (Spain), Ifakara (Tanzania), Lambarene (Gabon) and Manhica (Mozambique)	Completed
Merry	Pharmacology	Networking of European and sub-Saharan African research and capacity building in pharmacology	Trinity College (Ireland), LSTM (UK), MRC (UK), UCT (South Africa), Makerere University (Uganda) and University of Zambia	Completed
Elbourne	Training	EDCTP Grant to support at least 21 Studentships for distance learning Master-course in clinical trials offered by LSHTM	LSHTM (UK)	Ongoing
Hall	Training	Masters courses in clinical trials for sub-Saharan Africa	LSHTM (UK), Centre Muraz (Burkina Faso), University of Ghana and Montpellier University (France)	Completed

1 Marleen Temmerman

EDCTP Project Coordinator:	Marleen Temmerman (University of Ghent, Belgium)
EDCTP Call Title:	Providing incentives for joint capacity building programmes in Africa with two or more European institutions
EDCTP Project Title:	Strengthening laboratory capacity and nutrition skills in the context of an ICH-GCP clinical trial for the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV
EDCTP Project Code:	NW.2005.10400.001
EDCTP Project Start Date:	17 May 2006
EDCTP Project End Date:	17 May 2007
Collaborators:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stanley Luchters (University of Ghent, Kenya) • Nicolas Meda (Centre Muraz, Burkina Faso) • Phillipe van de Perre (French Research Institute for International Development, France) • Kirsten Simondon (French Research Institute for International Development, France)
Objectives:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To strengthen the laboratories at Coast Provincial General Hospital (CPGH) in Mombasa and Centre Muraz in Bobo-Dioulasso 2. To monitor biological endpoints in clinical trials assessing antiretroviral drugs (ARVs) for the care of HIV-infected individuals and the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (MTCT) 3. To strengthen the capacity of team members to effectively and efficiently implement Good Clinical (Laboratory) Practices (GCP and GCLP) in the two African sites 4. To strengthen the capacity of the research teams in the two sites 5. To monitor anthropometric and nutritional status and develop context-specific nutritional support for infants born to HIV-infected mothers who are not breastfed or are weaned early.
Status:	Completed
Results and Outcomes:	<p>The activities in this project were part of a larger research project (the Kesho Bora project) which included a multicentre randomised clinical trial (RCT), the overall objective of which is to optimise the use of ARVs during pregnancy and breastfeeding to maximally reduce MTCT and to protect the health of the HIV-infected mother.</p> <p>The linked sites now participate in EDCTP funded microbicide trials.</p>

2 Bob Colebunders

EDCTP Project Coordinator:	Bob Colebunders (Prince Leopold Institute of Tropical Medicine (ITM), Belgium)
EDCTP Call Title:	Sponsorship of meetings or workshops of sustainable networks on an EDCTP relevant subject
EDCTP Project Title:	Workshop on Tuberculosis Immune Reactivation Inflammatory Syndrome (TB IRIS)
EDCTP Project Code:	NW.2005.10401.002
EDCTP Project Start Date:	2 February 2008
EDCTP Project End Date:	13 August 2008
Collaborators:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L. Arnould (Médecins Sans Frontières, Belgium) • J. Baalwa (Makerere University, Uganda) • P. Clevenberg (International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (The Union), France) • B. Gazzard (Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, UK) • L. John (Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, UK)
Objectives:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To review ongoing research on TB IRIS 2. To propose, with case definitions for different types of TB IRIS for use in resource limited settings 3. To identify research priorities concerning TB IRIS and develop protocols for multi-centre clinical trials to prevent and treat this condition.
Status:	Completed
Results and Outcomes:	<p>This project organised a 3-day workshop on TB IRIS at the Infectious Diseases Institute (IDI), Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda. During the workshop, a case definition of TB IRIS was proposed that could be used in future TB HIV clinical trials. Such a definition, if eventually universally adopted, could facilitate the comparison of TB IRIS data reported from cohort and clinical trial studies in different parts of the world. The outline for preventive and therapeutic clinical trial protocols developed during the workshop could be used by network participants or other interested scientist to write full clinical trial proposals. The group/network studying TB IRIS is now providing this expertise in other EDCTP funded TB projects, including the Senior fellowships to Jean Nachega and William Worodria of EACCR.</p>

3 Daniel Kyabayinze

EDCTP Project Coordinator:	Daniel Kyabayinze (Makerere University, Uganda)
EDCTP Call Title:	Coordination and Networking of research activities in Africa
EDCTP Project Title:	KIDS-ART-LINC: network of clinical centres treating HIV-infected children with antiretroviral therapy in Africa to inform public health care and treatment programmes
EDCTP Project Code:	NW.2005.10501.003
EDCTP Project Start Date:	30 Oct 2006
EDCTP Project End Date:	25 May 2007
Collaborators:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elise Arrive (Victor Segalen Bordeaux 2 University, France) • Francois Dabuis (Victor Segalen Bordeaux 2 University, France) • Matthias Egger (University of Bern, Switzerland) • Mary Kieffer (U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), USA) • Benoit Marquis (Makerere University, Uganda)
Objectives:	To create a network of clinical centres that are involved in HIV/AIDS care for children in sub-Saharan Africa and to form a collaboration that will pool routinely collected clinical data into a common regional database upon which evaluation of paediatric HAART treatment outcomes will be based.
Status:	Completed
Results and Outcomes:	This networking grant contributed to the Development of Anti-Retroviral Therapy in Africa (DART) which gave landmark policy on priorities for ART programmes especially monitoring of treatment in resource constrained settings.

4 Sheena McCormack

EDCTP Project Coordinator:	Sheena McCormack (Medical Research Council, UK)
EDCTP Call Title:	Coordination and Networking of research activities in Africa
EDCTP Project Title:	Identifying the common learning needs of investigators working in poverty-related diseases in African settings, and the materials to address these, notably in the areas of project and data management
EDCTP Project Code:	NW.2005.10501.002
EDCTP Project Start Date:	10 Oct 2006
EDCTP Project End Date:	24 January 2008
Collaborators:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Julie Bakobaki (MRC, UK) • Chifumbe Chintu (University Teaching Hospital, Zambia) • Sinead Delany Moretlwe (University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa) • Mary Edwards (University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa) • Brian Gazzard (Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, UK) • Carlo Giaquinto (University of Padova, Italy) • Diana Gibb (MRC, UK) • Linda Harper (MRC, UK) • Nicola Kaganson (MRC, UK) • Eeva Kaarina Koskelo (Quintiles Transnational Corp., South Africa) • Jean-Pierre Kraehenbuhl (EuroVacc Foundation, Switzerland) • Hermione Lyall (University of Padova, Italy) • Kathryn Maitland (Imperial College London, Kenya) • Sarah Meredith (MRC, UK) • Jocelyn Moyes (University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa) • Peter Mugenyi (Joint Clinical Research Center, Uganda) • Veronica Mulenga University Teaching Hospital, Zambia) • Phillipa Musoke (Makerere University, Uganda) • Mark Nelson (Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, UK) • Andrew Nunn (MRC, UK) • Nneka Nwokolo (Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, UK) • Gita Ramjee (MRC, South Africa) • Mary Rauchenberger (MRC, UK) • Helen Rees (University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa) • Janneke van de Wiggert (ICRH-International Centre of Reproductive Health, Netherlands)
Objectives:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To identify common learning needs of investigators, scientific administrators and monitors that are conducting, or about to conduct, clinical trial research on poverty-related diseases, notably in the areas of project management, data management and monitoring 2. To identify and develop the materials and tools to meet these learning needs in African settings 3. To strengthen the collaboration between European/African clinical trial networks on poverty-related diseases
Status:	Completed
Results and Outcomes:	The final result was a training programme appropriate for African settings and the development of the necessary learning objectives and materials. The programme also facilitated networking opportunities with North-South and South-South collaborations. In addition, the grantee is a recipient of an EDCTP grant for the strengthening of a microbicide trials site.

5 Amina Jindani

EDCTP Project Coordinator:	Amina Jindani (St. George's University of London, UK)
EDCTP Call Title:	Coordination and Networking of research activities in Africa
EDCTP Project Title:	A proposal to establish a network of sites, in sub-Saharan Africa, to conduct clinical trials in tuberculosis and to build their capacity to participate in multicentre trials
EDCTP Project Code:	NW.2005.10501.001
EDCTP Project Start Date:	10 October 2006
EDCTP Project End Date:	13 November 2007
Collaborators:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Martin Boeree (Netherlands) • Thomas Kenyok (WHO, Switzerland) • Thomas Harrison (St. George's University of London, UK) • Andrew Nunn (Medical Research Council (MRC), UK) • Roxana Rustomjee (MRC, South Africa)
Objectives:	To strengthen the capacity of the participants to participate in the design and conduct phase IIb and phase III trials of chemotherapeutic agents for the treatment of tuberculosis.
Status:	Completed
Results and Outcomes:	<p>This project conducted a series of workshops with the objective of strengthening the capacity of the participants to take part in the design and conduct phase IIb and phase III trials of chemotherapeutic agents for the treatment of tuberculosis. The workshops provided training in clinical trial design and conduct, including data management and analyses, GCP and GLP procedures. The meeting was designed so that the participants learned, from experts, how to establish a network to prepare for multicentre trials through the conduct of trials of tuberculosis.</p> <p>In addition, members of this network are involved in conducting clinical trials of Rifapentine in simplification of TB drug regimen (Rifaquin trial) and in the EDCTP-funded PanACEA consortium.</p>

6 Abraham Aseffa

EDCTP Project Coordinator:	Abraham Aseffa (Armauer Hansen Research Institute (AHRI), Ethiopia)
EDCTP Call Title:	Support to national networking of African scientist working on HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis in Africa
EDCTP Project Title:	Strengthening the national Tuberculosis Research Network in Ethiopia
EDCTP Project Code:	NW.2005.20103.001
EDCTP Project Start Date:	30 Oct 2006
EDCTP Project End Date:	4 March 2008
Collaborators:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Getachew Aderaye (University of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia) • Tsehainesh Messele (Ethiopian Health and Nutrition Research Institute (EHNRI), Ethiopia) • Zerihun Tadesse (Ministry of Health, Ethiopia) • Yemane Teklai (Ethiopian Science and Technology Agency (ESTA), Ethiopia)
Objectives:	The project aimed to strengthen TB research capacity in Ethiopia through training on epidemiological techniques (Field Research Methods in Epidemiology), the establishment of a National Information Centre on TB control and TB research and organising a National forum for TB researchers (National TRAC TB Workshops) and TB control teams to facilitate implementation of research outputs in the efforts to control TB. Participants included TB researchers, particularly those working in the Ministry of Health TB control programme (or planning to join, collaborate or network with the programme), policy makers, academicians and community workers.
Status:	Completed
Results and Outcomes:	<p>This project succeed to improved capability to address operational challenges in TB control, better coordination of national TB research activities with improved design and collaboration, better dissemination of research output and implementation of improved, validated new tools.</p> <p>Dr Aseffa has ledd an EDCTP funded TB vaccine trial to successful completion. In addition, he coordinates the activities of PABIN and has collaborated with Professor Petros Beyene in training ethics committees in Ethiopia</p>

7 Jenny Hill

EDCTP Project Coordinator:	Jenny Hill (University of Liverpool, UK)
EDCTP Call Title:	Coordination and Networking of research activities in Africa
EDCTP Project Title:	A North-South working group to support the design integrated of research proposals for malaria in pregnancy
EDCTP Project Code:	NW.2005.10401.001
EDCTP Project Start Date:	3 April 2006
EDCTP Project End Date:	14 January 2008
Collaborators:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clara Menendez (University of Barcelona, Spain) • Theonest Mutabingwa (National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR), Tanzania) • Ayo Palmer (Medical Research Council Laboratories, The Gambia)
Objectives:	<p>To conduct a last in a series of three meetings convened by the group which aims to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a global MiP research strategy 2. To develop and initiate studies that contribute to the evidence base for best practices to prevent and control malaria in pregnancy
Status:	Completed
Results and Outcomes:	<p>The working group organised a workshop meeting designed to coordinate and guide the development of Malaria in Pregnancy (MiP) joint research protocols based on priorities identified earlier in the technical reviews and the research strategy. It aimed to develop research protocols for multi-centre trials of interventions for the treatment and prevention of malaria in pregnancy using common methodologies packaged into research clusters, each of which addresses a common theme or research question to ensure a coordinated approach to future research on MiP; and to develop draft protocols through electronic communications, which will then be reviewed at a meeting and submitted to funding agencies.</p> <p>As a result of this protocol development meeting, the African and EU-based partners of the MiP Consortium were able to meet face-to-face to develop three distinct but complementary proposals to EDCTP which will be implemented within the context of the wider MiP Consortium activities. These three proposals request support to implement a comprehensive clinical trials research agenda on MiP in Africa that focuses on areas of research likely to lead in the near future or longer term to improved interventions for malaria control in pregnancy and improved maternal and child health outcomes in malaria endemic areas. In addition, the network has received a malaria treatment grant from EDCTP through Professor Feiko ter Kuile.</p> <p>The network is highly active in malaria in pregnancy research and has received grant support from EDCTP and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for specific clinical trials projects.</p>

8 Jane Navia

EDCTP Project Coordinator:	Enric Jane (Fundació Clínic per a la Recerca Biomèdica, Spain)
EDCTP Call Title:	Coordination and Networking of research activities in Africa
EDCTP Project Title:	Ifakara-Lambarene-Manhiça Partnership
EDCTP Project Code:	NW.2005.10400.002
EDCTP Project Start Date:	30 November 2006
EDCTP Project End Date:	12 August 2008
Collaborators:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salim Abdulla (Ifakara Health Research and Development Centre, Tanzania) • John Aponte (Hospital Clinic of Barcelona, Spain) • Saadou Issoufou (Albert Schweitzer Hospital, Gabon) • Bertrand Lell (University of Tübingen, Germany) • Hassan Mshinda (Ifakara Health Research and Development Centre, Tanzania) • Jahit Sacarlal (Manhiça Health Research Center, Mozambique) • Marcel Tanner (Swiss Tropical Institute, Switzerland)
Objectives:	To develop guidelines and to standardize procedures for malaria vaccine trials at the three sites. Fulfilling this objective would enable the network to set up trials quickly and efficiently. Issues such as laboratory protocols, ethical issues, study design, data management and analysis would be addressed
Status:	Completed
Results and Outcomes:	The aim of this project was to establish a joint capacity building programme between three African sites: Medical Research Unit (Albert Schweitzer Hospital, Lambaréné, Gabon), the Ifakara Health Research and Development Centre (IHRDC), Ifakara, Tanzania, and the Centro de Investigação em Saude de Manhiça (CISM), Manhiça, Mozambique and their three European partners: the Department of Parasitology, University of Tübingen (Tübingen, Germany), the Swiss Tropical Institute (Basel, Switzerland) and the Centre for International Health, (Hospital Clinic/University of Barcelona, Spain). The main objective contemplated by the joint collaboration was to develop guidelines and to standardise procedures and other matters concerning malaria vaccine trials among the three sites. Issues such as laboratory protocols, ethical issues, study design, data management and analysis were addressed. The fulfilment of this objective made it possible to set up trials quickly and efficiently. Currently, the three sites are involved in many EDCTP-funded projects.

9 Concepta Merry

EDCTP Project Coordinator:	Concepta Merry (University of Dublin, Ireland)
EDCTP Call Title:	Coordination and Networking of research activities in Africa
EDCTP Project Title:	Networking of European and sub-Saharan African research and capacity building in pharmacology
EDCTP Project Code:	NW.2005.10501.004
EDCTP Project Start Date:	13 June 2007
EDCTP Project End Date:	23 September 2008
Site Principal Investigator(s):	Not applicable
Collaborators:	David Back (UK), Saye Khoo (UK), Mairin Ryan (Ireland), Diana Gibb (UK), Gary Maartens (South Africa), Peter Smith (UK), Helen McIlleron (South Africa), Karen Barnes (UK), Paul Waako (Uganda), Pauline Byakika (Uganda), Mohammed Lamorde (Uganda), Peter Coakley (Uganda), Robinah Ngnawa (Uganda), Francis Kamlemeera (Uganda), Chifumbe Chintu (Zambia)
Objectives:	To conduct a meeting to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review the questions surrounding research in the African continent, with a particular focus on the pharmacology of antiretroviral drugs 2. Shape and discuss initiatives in the area of pharmacology research capacity strengthening 3. Develop a strategy for future research applications.
Status:	Completed
Results and Outcomes:	<p>The aim of this proposal was to host a four day workshop at the University of Makerere, Kampala, Uganda in order to consolidate, co-ordinate and expand the research, training and capacity building activities of clinical pharmacologists who are already working together on a number of projects in Zambia, Uganda, South Africa, England and Ireland in the areas of drug information, clinical pharmacy, clinical pharmacology, pharmacoconomics and pharmacokinetics, but who have not had an opportunity to meet together. The investigators had an opportunity to present their current research portfolio, outline key priority areas for research, identify opportunities for synergy and outline a strategy for future research applications.</p> <p>Dr Merry coordinates a network of pharmacologists in Africa and is active as a collaborator on several EDCTP grants in Uganda. Other participants in the network are collaborators on several EDCTP grants</p>

10 Diana Elbourne

EDCTP Project Coordinator:	Diana Elbourne (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), UK)
EDCTP Call Title:	Development of an MSc course in clinical trials methodology
EDCTP Project Title:	EDCTP Grant to support a minimum of 21 Studentships for a distance learning Masters-course in clinical trials offered by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM).
EDCTP Project Code:	NW.2005.10403.005
EDCTP Project Start Date:	9 August 2007
EDCTP Project End Date:	20 September 2014
Objectives:	To support postgraduate trainees to undertake a distance learning Masters in Clinical Trials at the through this grant, EDCTP has funded 21 students to follow the distance learning MSc in Clinical Trials course of the LSHTM.
Status:	Ongoing
Results and Outcomes:	<p>Twenty one students are being trained through the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine distant MSc in Clinical trials course. Students benefiting from this course from Ethiopia (1), Ghana (2), Kenya (7), Nigeria (3), South Africa (1), Tanzania (1), Uganda (4), Zambia (1) and Zimbabwe (1). By end of 2011 the academic status of the students was as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 have already completed their MSc • 13 have been awarded their postgraduate diploma and have started working on their advanced modules • 1 is still working on core modules • 1 student has withdrawn due to failure to pass the core modules, in line with the policy of LSHTM. • In 2012 an additional three students were recruited as part of a no-cost extension of the grant.

11 Andy Hall

EDCTP Project Coordinator:	Andy Hall (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), UK)
EDCTP Call Title:	Development of an MSc course in clinical trials methodology
EDCTP Project Title:	Masters courses in clinical trials for sub-Saharan Africa
EDCTP Project Code:	NW.2005.10403.001 / NW.2005.10403.006
EDCTP Project Start Date:	10 Oct 2006
EDCTP Project End Date:	27 January 2010
Collaborators:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fred Binka (University of Ghana) • Shabar Jaffar (LSHTM, UK) • Nicolas Meda (Centre Muraz, Burkina Faso) • Paul Milligan (LSHTM, UK)
Objectives:	<p>To adapt a Masters course developed at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) using funds from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to an African setting through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Translation of the course into French • Provision by African partners in Ghana and Burkina Faso of practical field training in clinical trials
Status:	Completed
Results and Outcomes:	<p>This project aims to strengthen clinical trials capacity in Africa through a mechanism that maximises the likelihood of graduates from the programme remaining to work in Africa. It allowed graduates to obtain degrees from European institutions and ensure the transfer of European teaching quality assurance to Africa. By involving experienced trialists in Ghana and Burkina Faso it ensured the relevance of the content and provided practical field experience in well-established African sites.</p> <p>The grant has resulted in establishment of MSc clinical trials courses in English at University of Ghana and University of Witwatersrand and in French at Bobo-Dioulasso in Burkina Faso</p>