



EDCTP
The power of sharing science

Work plan 2020 for the EDCTP Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC)



1 Introduction

The Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) is the principal advisory group to the EDCTP Association, providing scientific and strategic advice to the General Assembly (GA) and the Secretariat (SEC). The SAC provides oversight of the scientific integrity of the EDCTP programme.

The 2020 work plan was drafted ahead of the SAC meeting held on 18-19 September 2019 and finalised post-meeting.

2 Work plan

The following outlines the proposed primary activities of the SAC for 2020, with the understanding that the SAC shall also carry out any other *ad hoc* responsibilities and duties delegated by the GA and SEC.

2.1 SAC Meetings

The SAC agreed to hold at least two face-to-face meetings in 2020:

- 23-24 April 2020
- 16 October 2020

Participation in additional meetings or teleconferences, called by mutual consent of the Executive Director (ED), the SAC Chairperson, and the GA Chairperson, may be required.

The SAC Chair will attend the GA meetings held in 2020.

Deliverables:

- SAC to meet in two face-to-face meetings in 2020 that will be minuted with clear scientific and strategic recommendations
- The SAC Chair to report the outcomes of the SAC meetings to the GA
- The SAC Chair to report the outcomes of each GA meeting to the subsequent SAC meeting

2.2 Strategic planning

Specific responsibilities of the SAC shall include:

- Assist in the designing of the scientific and strategic framework of the EDCTP programme
- Advise on the development of the EDCTP operational plan and annual workplans for approval by the GA
- Advise on strategies to foster synergies and partnerships with stakeholders in the North and South
- Contribute to the preparation of scientific and strategic documents relevant to EDCTP, as required
- Provide scientific and strategic advice to the GA and the SEC to ensure the successful completion of on-going projects
- Identify strategic research needs and priorities for accelerating the development of new or improved clinical interventions, including the required training, networking, and capacity building to be undertaken to achieve these objectives
- Review the landscape of Poverty-Related and Neglected Diseases (PRNDs) to identify the role that EDCTP should play in partnership with other stakeholders to accelerate the development or improvement of interventions against these diseases
- Assess the state of global product development pathways and the critical path opportunities for future product development
- Provide advice on the launch and review of any calls for proposals and other programmes.

Deliverables:

- Advise on implementation of the 2020 EDCTP work plan
- Update the Strategic Research Agenda for 2021

- Make recommendations on strategic activities that will require involvement of the EDCTP High-Representatives.

2.3 Monitoring & Evaluation

As part of monitoring and evaluation, SAC members without conflict of interest may be called upon to advise EDCTP on the scientific outcome and strategic impact of EDCTP-funded grants. Advice on grant progress may be specifically sought on an *ad hoc* basis to ensure that grant outputs and outcomes are fulfilled. SAC members may also be called upon to participate in committees that oversee specific grants, particularly grants at high-risk with substantial EDCTP investments and/or high levels of complexity. EDCTP reserves the right to accept or reject any SAC advice relating to the monitoring and evaluation of its grants.

SAC members are also expected to provide any input requested by the Panel of Experts appointed by the European Commission that conducted the independent evaluation of the EDCTP2 Programme, including input to the monitoring and evaluation framework of the EDCTP2 programme. SAC is also expected to provide input to the monitoring of scientific outcomes and strategic impacts of EDCTP-funded grants and programs.

Deliverables:

- Submit advice and recommendations to the EDCTP Secretariat on an *ad hoc* basis
- Contribute to the Monitoring and Evaluation of key EDCTP projects involving large consortia with significant investments
- Provide input on EDCTP programme indicators
- Report from site visits to major EDCTP trial sites (if applicable).

2.4 Advocacy and representation at meetings and events

The SAC will participate in EDCTP working groups, stakeholder meetings, and other events as required. In addition, the SAC may be called upon to assist the SEC in the planning of any high-level advocacy meetings to increase awareness of and commitment to the EDCTP2 programme. Overall, the SAC will promote and increase awareness of EDCTP activities and Calls for Proposals, as appropriate.

Deliverables:

- Assist in planning any high-level EDCTP events, including the Tenth EDCTP Forum scheduled to take place in Q4 of 2020 (for example, input to the scientific programme, including speaker and topic suggestions, and peer review of submitted abstracts)
- Actively advocate on behalf of EDCTP
- Attend meetings as required

2.5 SAC Annual Report and Workplan

The SAC prepares an annual report on the previous year's SAC activities for submission to the GA by 31 January. The report, which is compiled by the SAC Chairperson, shall include a summary detailing the scientific and strategic advice provided to the GA and SEC throughout the year. The SAC shall draft a proposed annual workplan with key activities and deliverables for approval by the GA at their final meeting of 2020 or via written procedure.

Deliverables:

- Annual report 2020 and annual work plan 2021 to be approved by the GA.