

EDCTP Update

June 2021



Highlights

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- **IAVI led consortium receives EDCTP and CEPI funding for Lassa fever vaccine trial**
- **Tenth EDCTP Forum - call for sponsored symposia deadline: 8 July 2021**
- **EDCTP principal investigators receive Queen's Birthday Honours**

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EDCTP annual report 2020 published

EDCTP's Annual Report 2020 summarises the activities of the Partnership in 2020, shows the steady growth, scope and cohesion of the project portfolio, and highlights the progress made towards the objectives of the programme.

Read the full announcement [here](#).

Download the annual report 2020 [here](#).

IAVI - led consortium receives EDCTP and CEPI funding for a large-scale clinical trial of Lassa fever vaccine candidate

IAVI has received an award of €22.8 million from the European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) and the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) to conduct a Phase IIb clinical trial of a novel vaccine candidate to prevent Lassa fever disease. An acute viral illness endemic to many parts of West Africa, Lassa fever causes significant annual outbreaks of disease. There are an estimated 300,000 to 500,000 cases and 5,000 related deaths each [year](#). Despite this disease burden, which is believed to be significantly underestimated, no vaccine for Lassa fever is currently available. The joint award supports an international collaboration, called Lassa Fever Vaccine Efficacy and Prevention for West Africa (LEAP4WA), to conduct a Phase IIb clinical trial of IAVI's Lassa fever vaccine candidate among adults and children in Liberia, Nigeria, and Sierra Leone.

[Link](#) to full announcement.

Tenth EDCTP Forum - call for sponsored symposia deadline: 8 July 2021

The Tenth EDCTP Forum will take place from 17-21 October 2021 and is hosted from Maputo, Mozambique. **Registration for the virtual Forum is open and free.** For more information visit the [forum website](#).

Integrated in the conference programme, **sponsored symposia** enable organisations from different regions to present their latest work towards advancing the science, policy, and community response, providing unique opportunities to learn and engage with distinguished researchers and stakeholders working on infectious diseases.

Symposium applications must be submitted **by 8 July 2021**, more information can be found [here](#).



Condolences Dr Jane Wanyama

Dr Jane Wanyama, a senior public health specialist based at the Infectious Diseases Institute, College of Health Sciences at Makerere University, passed away on 18 June 2021. Her death was announced by United Christian Centre, a Pentecostal church based in Makerere-Kikoni in Kampala, where Dr Wanyama was a member of the congregation. Dr Wanyama attended Makerere University for her Bachelor's and Master's degree in Public Health, and thereafter attended the University of Antwerp in Belgium to obtain a doctorate in Medical Sciences in 2017. She had over 15 years of experience in designing, coordinating, supervising, and implementing research and evaluations on Adolescent and Youth Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH).

Wanyama was a current EDCTP Career Development Fellowship grantee conducting research in adolescent health. To learn more about her research visit her profile on the ['EDCTP Alumni platform'](#).

EDCTP extends sincere condolences to all her loved ones.



UKCDR-ESSENCE survey: Barriers and enablers of funder practices for equitable partnerships in international development research

The UK Collaborative on Development Research (UKCDR) and ESSENCE on Health Research have launched a survey to explore perspectives on barriers and enablers of funder practices to support equitable research partnerships throughout all stages of the research process. The survey is aimed at those involved in both funding or undertaking/supporting international development research and respondents from LMICs are particularly encouraged to participate. Responses will be used to develop funder guidance and identify practical, implementable recommendations to support funders to operationalise existing principles on equitable partnerships. The survey is part of a UKCDR and ESSENCE joint project on equitable partnerships, "From Principles to Practice", which aims to address a knowledge gap identified by a global group of funders at the 2019 International Development Research Funders Forum. EDCTP, which is represented in the Task Force for this project, encourages you to complete the [survey](#) by the deadline of 23:59 BST on **1 July 2021**.

EDCTP principal investigators receive Queen's Birthday Honours

On 11 June, the Queen's Birthday Honours List 2021 was announced, this year's list includes researchers that have played key roles in the response to the coronavirus pandemic, ranging from the development of new vaccines to the discovery of new drug treatments. The honorary list includes pioneering researchers **Adrian Hill** and **Peter Horby** from Oxford University in the United Kingdom (UK) who are involved in EDCTP-funded research activities.

"EDCTP warmly congratulates Oxford University scientists on this honour for their outstanding contributions to the research effort in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are delighted that such esteemed UK researchers are leading EDCTP-funded research activities on COVID-19 and other poverty-related and neglected infectious diseases."

[Read the full announcement.](#)

Recent events

EDCTP-ECRIN | Joint Session at the Africa-Europe Science and Innovation Summit | 17/06 2021

EDCTP and the [European Clinical Research Infrastructure Network](#) (ECRIN-ERIC) organised a joint session at the [Africa-Europe Science and Innovation Summit](#) on the importance of capacity building and development of a clinical research infrastructure in Africa. The objective of the session was to explore how development funds dedicated to the establishment of clinical research infrastructures and capacity building activities would have great impact on the health and wellbeing of African citizens and on the African economy. The session was co-chaired by Prof. Marcel Tanner (EDCTP High Representative for Europe) and Prof. Rhoda Wanyenze (Professor and Dean, School of Public Health, College of Health Sciences, Makerere University) and brought together key global health actors to collectively discuss practical steps for establishing a robust clinical research infrastructure in Africa and an action plan for building sustainable clinical research preparedness and response capacities. In addition to the joint session, EDCTP Executive Director Dr Michal Makanga spoke at the opening ceremony highlighting EDCTP's role in implementing sustainable clinical research in sub-Saharan Africa.

European Research and Innovation Days | 23-24/06 2021

The [European Research and Innovation Days](#) on 23 and 24 June, provided policymakers, researchers, innovators and citizens an opportunity to discuss Horizon Europe. [Horizon Europe Information Days](#) targeting potential applicants will take place between 28 June and 9 July. Two EDCTP Fellows, Dr Michael Frimpong and Dr Agnes Kiragga participated in the Africa Initiative workshop on 24 June. The Africa Initiative under Horizon Europe responds to four joint priorities: Public Health, Green Transition, Technology and Innovation, and Capacities for Science. The session promoted and provided information on the Africa Initiative to interested European and African R&I stakeholders.

AFREhealth | EDCTP's comprehensive Fellowship Programme Webinar | 25/06 2021

The African Forum for Research and Education in Health (AFREhealth) is a pan-African organization dedicated to the advancement of health professions education, research and service. AFREhealth works to achieve this by influencing a new inter-professional standard that will result in sustainable and continuous quality improvement for the African population. Membership is open to all stakeholders committed to an Africa with strong, self-sustaining and robust health systems For more information visit the [website](#). AFREhealth is hosting a series of webinars and on 25 June hosted a webinar on "EDCTP's comprehensive Fellowship Programme". EDCTP Project Officer Shingai Machingaidze presented EDCTP's fellowship programme, the alumni network and the upcoming Tenth Forum. The webinar recording is available [here](#).

Recently signed grants

[Vaccines against Lassa virus disease – Joint call with the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations \(CEPI\) - 2019](#)

- **LEAP4WA** | Coordinator: Dr Swati Gupta | Lassa Fever Vaccine Efficacy And Prevention for West Africa

[Paediatric drug formulations for poverty-related diseases - 2019](#)

- **PedMAb** | Coordinator: Dr Gabriella Scarlatti | Phase I/II study to determine Safety and Pharmacokinetics of subcutaneous administration of potent and broad anti HIV-1 neutralizing monoclonal antibodies, given to HIV-1 exposed neonates and infants
- **UNIVERSAL** | Coordinator: Prof. Carlo Giaquinto | Pharmacokinetic and safety studies of new antiretroviral formulations: expediting UNIVERSAL first and second line regimens for all children living with HIV in Africa

Career Development Fellowships – 2019

- **PHYLECOG** | Dr Noé Patrick M'Bondoukwé | Pre-treatment of hypermicrofilaremic loiasis for eligibility to Community Directed Ivermectin Intervention for Onchocerciasis control in co-endemic settings of Gabon

Ethics and regulatory capacities - 2020

- **AMELIORER** | Coordinator: Professor Flore Gangbo | Enhancing Research Ethics and Regulatory Capacities in Benin

Innovative approaches to enhance poverty-related diseases research – 2020

- **IMPALA** | Coordinator: Dr Job Calis | An Innovative Monitoring system for PAediatrics in Low-resource settings: an Aid to save lives
- **CAGE-TB** | Coordinator: Prof. Grant Theron | Automated smartphone-based cough audio classification for rapid tuberculosis triage testing (Cough Audio triaGE for TB)
- **GIFT** | Coordinator: Dr Jo-Ann Passmore | Genital InFLammation Test (GIFT) for HIV prevention and reproductive health: point-of-care cytokine biomarker lateral flow test for asymptomatic inflammatory sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and bacterial vaginosis (BV)

Strategic actions to maximise the impact of research on reducing disease burden, in collaboration with development cooperation initiatives - 2020

- **INTEGRATION** | Coordinator: Dr Kassoum Kayentao | Increasing the uptake of IPTp-SP through Seasonal Malaria Chemoprevention channel delivery
- **MVPE-CC** | Coordinator: Dr Kwaku Poku Asante | Strengthening the evidence for policy on the RTS,S/AS01 malaria vaccine: assessment of safety and effectiveness using case-control studies embedded in the Malaria Vaccine Pilot Evaluation
- **MULTIPY** | Coordinator: Dr Clara Menéndez | MULTIPLE doses of IPTi Proposal: a Lifesaving high Yield intervention

Career Development Fellowships - 2020

- **bNABs on HIV-1** | Fellow: Dr Bongwiwe Ndlovu | Neutralization of HIV-1 subtype C transmitted or founder viruses by broadly neutralizing monoclonal antibodies
- **VIBRANT** | Fellow: Dr Innocent Ali | Plasmodium vivax burden, range and transmission among Duffy-negative inhabitants in Cameroon
- **CBS Study** | Fellow: Mr Samuel Kirimunda | Childhood Burkitt Lymphoma survival rates in Uganda: A retrospective cohort study of histologically confirmed BL cases diagnosed between 2011 and 2015 in Northern Uganda
- **LIIT** | Fellow: Dr Rose Nabatanzi | Characterisation of the latent reservoir among HIV infected individuals on long term antiretroviral therapy
- **Campylobacteriosis** | Fellow: Dr Chika Felicitas Nnadozie | Investigating the multiple risk dimensions associated with Campylobacteriosis - a key poverty-related disease of South African urban source water environments
- **PUSH-RCT** | Fellow: Dr Amanuel Abajobir | Examining the impact of maternal perinatal depression on child health outcomes and the role of Innovative Partnership for Universal and Sustainable Healthcare (i-PUSH) intervention: a cluster randomised controlled trial study Secondary title: Examining the effect of COVID-19 on maternal mental health: the roles of pregnancy and i-PUSH intervention
- **CUUA** | Fellow: Dr Zivai Nenguke | Can Undetectable (viral load) = Untransmissible (virus) change the life course of adolescents living the HIV in Africa?
- **VaViBa** | Fellow: Dr Anna-Ursula Happel | Interaction of vaginal virome and bacteriome in pregnant women living with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa and risk of preterm birth
- **GAMETO** | Fellow: Dr Hamtandi Magloire Natama | Role of host immune responses in Plasmodium falciparum gametocytes carriage

Project news

MULTIPLY | Kick-off Meeting | 5-6/05 2021

The MULTIPLE doses of IPTi Proposal: a Lifesaving high Yield intervention (MULTIPLY) project is funded under the EDCTP call launched in 2020 on strategic actions

to maximise the impact of research on reducing disease burden, in collaboration with development cooperation initiatives, such as the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), and Medicines for Malaria Venture (MMV). The virtual kick-off meeting opened with a welcome note from Prof. Pedro Alonso (WHO Global Malaria Programme), followed by presentations from the different participating institutions. The kick-off meeting was attended by 40 investigators, including representatives from World Health Organization (WHO), the Ministry of Health (MoH) and the National Control Malaria Programmes (NCMP). Dr Montserrat Blázquez-Domingo, EDCTP Senior Project Officer, took part in the meeting.



MTBVAC | Annual project meeting | 31/05 2021

The consortium of [MTBVAC](#) in newborns Phase IIa held its third annual project meeting virtually on 31 May to discuss project progress. The meeting, led by the coordinator Biofabri, was attended by all partners including the Scientific and Clinical Advisory Team (SCAT). The SCAT and Biofabri presented the clinical development plan and next Phase III trial, and the newest insights of pre-clinical assays of MTBVAC and exploratory immunogenicity endpoints. This Phase IIa study aims to evaluate safety, reactogenicity and immunogenicity of MTBVAC at three escalating dose levels, compared to BCG vaccine, in healthy, BCG naïve, HIV unexposed, South African newborns. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic effects, two years after the first vaccination, the last vaccination was given in March 2021. In total, 99 healthy newborns are enrolled and followed for 12 months, therefore, a final analysis can be made in April 2022. The meeting was attended by EDCTP Senior Project Officer Michelle Helinski.

TB-CAPT | Clinical trial launched | June 2021

The [TB-CAPT project](#) has reached a major milestone. One of three trials included in the project, the TB-CAPT XDR Trial, was successfully launched in South Africa in late May. At the same time, the teams behind the TB-CAPT CORE Trial and the TB-CAPT HIV Trial work hard to prepare the start of patient enrolment for these two studies. TB-CAPT will evaluate the impact of novel TB diagnostic interventions on patient outcomes in two clinical trials and the accuracy of a new TB diagnostic for drug-resistant TB in a feasibility study. The three trials will be conducted in Tanzania, Mozambique, and South Africa. Read the full article [here](#).

SINDOFO | Kick-off Meeting | 7/06 2021

The SINDOFO project is funded under the EDCTP call on treatment innovations for poverty-related diseases launched in 2017. The project is lead by the Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen (EKUT, Germany). The online kick-off meeting opened with a welcome note from the Project Coordinator, Dr Jana Held, and Prof. Peter Kremsner, followed by presentations from the different participating institutions. It was attended by 37 investigators, including the investigational product developer and manufacturer MMV253, Zydus Cadila, India. Dr Montserrat Blázquez-Domingo, EDCTP Senior Project Officer, and Mrs Sayma Siddiqui, EDCTP Grants Financial Officer, took part in the meeting.

MIMVaC-Africa | GRAS receives accreditation | 25/06 2021

One of the key objectives of EDCTP is to contribute to the research capacity building in Africa, support researchers' careers and strengthen national health research systems. The funding from MIMVaC-Africa grant has enabled the Groupe de Recherche Action en Santé (GRAS, Burkina Faso) to secure competent staff who have provided critical support to the Burkina Faso COVID-19 country response team during the first wave of the pandemic in 2020. These contributions have, among other factors, catalysed the GRAS application to be recognised as a highly established private health research institution by the [Burkina Faso Minister Higher Education, Science and Innovation](#). Following this accreditation, effective from 25 June 2020, the officials of the Minister have paid a [visit to GRAS](#).

"The accreditation has opened a new era for GRAS and its scientists in terms of attractiveness and career promotion. Indeed, scientists will now be able to compete for academic grades at the Conseil africain et malgache pour l'enseignement supérieur (CAMES) (<http://www.lecomes.org>), a prestigious 19 African francophone countries organization promoting sciences and high Education." said Dr Sodiomon B. Sirima coordinator of the MIMVaC-Africa project and Chief Executive Officer of the GRAS.

PAMAFRICA | Consortium meeting | 13-14/10 2021

On behalf of the [PAMAFRICA](#) Portfolio and Strategy Management Committee (PSMC), MMV and CISM will co-host the first annual PAMAFRICA consortium meeting. This virtual meeting is scheduled, to take place on 13 and 14 October 2021. The objective of the meeting is to build a collective sense of awareness and ownership of the PAMAFRICA project, including its contributions to the global malaria elimination agenda, to share the status of Work Packages and outline upcoming priorities for 2022.

Message from EDCTP Executive Director Dr Michael Makanga: *"EDCTP is committed to supporting high-quality research and development on urgently needed tools to close the chemoprevention and treatment gaps, and to provide new impetus to achieving the ambitious malaria control and elimination goals. "The PAMAFRICA annual consortium meetings play a very important role towards strengthening the North-South collaboration and fostering bi-directional exchange of information on the ongoing and planned studies on the portfolio of antimalarial products in development."*

PUBLICATIONS

CHAPS | Publications | 5/05 2021

Archives of Sexual Behavior: Muhumuza, R., Ssemata, A.S., Kakande, A. et al. [Exploring Perceived Barriers and Facilitators of PrEP Uptake among Young People in Uganda, Zimbabwe and South Africa](#)

HypnoBio| Publications | 22/5 2021

Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy: Laurent Dembele,, Yaw Aniweh, Nouhoum Diallo, Fanta Sogore, Cheick Papa Oumar Sangare, Aboubecrin Sedhigh Haidara, Aliou Traore, Seidina A. S. Diakite, Mahamadou Diakite, Brice Campo, Gordon A. Awandare and Abdoulaye A. Djimde [Plasmodium malariae and Plasmodium falciparum comparative susceptibility to antimalarial drugs in Mali](#)

Oghenebrume Wariri | Publications | 17/06 2021

PLOS One: Oghenebrume Wariri, Uduak Okomo, Yakubu Kevin Kwarshak, Kris A. Murray, Chris Grundy , Beate Kampmann [Timeliness of routine childhood vaccination in low- and middle-income countries, 1978–2021: Protocol for a scoping review to map methodologic gaps and determinants](#)

BCA-WA-ETHICS | Publications | June 2021

The BCA-WA-ETHICS Road map on gender mainstreaming harmonization, the latest project output has been published in the digital library of the University of Zaragoza, and is available in [English](#), [French](#) and [Portuguese](#).

EDCTP Fellows in times of COVID-19

Follow the Fellow in times of COVID- 19: Dr Michael Frimpong

The second video from our video series "Follow the Fellow in times of COVID-19 features EDCTP Career Development Fellow, Dr Michael Frimpong from Ghana. His [fellowship](#) explores the potential of recombinase polymerase amplification (RPA) as a tool for the rapid diagnosis of Mycobacterium ulcerans infections. With the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, he and his research team repurposed their mobile lab to support the testing and diagnostics of COVID-19 in remote areas.

Watch the video [here](#).

Dr Georgia Schäfer

Dr Georgia Schäfer is holding an EDCTP senior fellowship, entitled "[Characterisation of Kaposi's sarcoma-associated herpes virus \(KSHV\)-driven pathologies and disease outcome in Human immunodeficiency virus \(HIV\)-infected patients](#)", since late 2019.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and in collaboration with the South African Tuberculosis Initiative (SATVI) and the Wellcome Centre for Infectious Diseases Research in Africa (CIDRI-Africa), Georgia has supported surge diagnostic testing capacities in South Africa, setting up a diagnostic COVID-19 testing platform in the Institute for Infectious Diseases and Molecular Medicine (IDM) at the University of Cape Town (UCT). She provided diagnostic support based on the "TaqMan 2019-nCoV Assay Kit v2" (Applied Biosystems) during the first COVID-19 wave in South Africa (May – August 2020) and still uses the once established diagnostic pipeline for various research purposes.

In collaboration with Penny Moore (National Institute for Communicable Diseases, NICD) and Wendy Burgers (IDM, UCT), Georgia established SARS-CoV2 pseudovirus based neutralisation assays and SARS-CoV2 ELISA assays, respectively, that allow her to assess COVID-19 serology in the plasma of patients recruited as part of her EDCTP-funded research. This will eventually elucidate whether COVID-19 has long-term impacts on KSHV-associated diseases in the South African population which is additionally burdened by a high prevalence of HIV and tuberculosis.

Prof. Takafira Mduluz

Prof. T. Mduluz is a member of COVID-19 Rapid Response Team (CRRT) in Zimbabwe and leading a study on "Risk mitigation for SARS-CoV-2 transmission, preparedness and prevention in rural settings in Zimbabwe". This involves behaviour change and health education; with proper wearing of face masks and observing appropriate social distances. The team lead early investigation in Zimbabwe on Frontline Health workers and have published results of their [study](#). He is also responsible for rapid case and contact tracing, while mitigating risk at border entry points in the country. Currently his team is tracing the early exposure to SARS-CoV-2 using peptide microarrays multiplex serological diagnosis on samples collected across Tanzania. In addition, they are working on distributing face masks and sanitisers, which are scarce in rural areas. He is an EDCTP1 senior fellow.



Prof T. Mduluzi and team distributing face masks and sanitisers.

Resources



[Collaborative clinical R&D](#)
online



[Clinical research capacity](#)
PDF



[Fellowships](#)
online

EDCTP | Knowledge Hub: Tools and guidance for conducting clinical research

The EDCTP Knowledge Hub is an online platform with resources for researchers conducting clinical research in low-resource settings. The platform's tools are designed to help researchers develop research questions into a protocol, adopt gold-standard clinical data management practices, and support awareness and capacity development around data sharing. The platform is suited to all health research groups and aims to facilitate high-quality clinical research in poverty-related diseases.

Visit the [EDCTP Knowledge Hub](#).

EDCTP | Global Roadmap for TB Vaccines R&D

See [the published roadmap](#) (PDF).

For background, read [the EDCTP news item](#).

EDCTP | Guidelines for grantees - Progress report

EDCTP Guidelines for grantees on how to best use the online progress reporting facility in EDCTPgrants, EDCTP's grant management system. Go to the publication [Online Progress Report in EDCTPgrants – Guidelines for beneficiaries](#).

EDCTP | Template for Grant Agreement Annex 5

Earlier this year, EDCTP published a [Model for the certificate on the financial statements](#) to support grantees in their reporting.

ERUDIT | Planning for Financial Sustainability manual

The "[Planning for Financial Sustainability](#)" manual – is a Guide for Research Ethics Committees (RECs) in Africa, that was developed by [COHRED](#) in consultation with [EthiXPERT](#) and the Committee of Bioethics for Health Research (CBRS), Togo. The guide is designed as a part of the implementation of the EDCTP grant [ERUDIT](#). The guide serves as a resource for anyone responsible for the organisation, implementation and management RECs.

Funding opportunities

Africa Oxford initiative | AfOx Travel Grants, 2019+ | Ongoing call

AfOx Travel Grants support the establishment of new collaborations between researchers in African countries and their collaborators at the University of Oxford. Travel Grants are open to all disciplines and open all year round. So far, 100 travel grants have been rewarded to researchers from the African continent and the University of Oxford.

[More information](#)

AREF | Women in Research Essential Grant Writing Skills Workshop | Deadline: 8/07 2021

The Africa Research Excellence Fund (AREF) works to strengthen the health research capacity of scientists in sub-Saharan Africa who are engaged in tackling the sub-region's significant health challenges. We recognise the need to support a diverse community of scientists across Africa, therefore, this call is specifically open for women biomedical/health researchers. AREF is calling for applications from women who are emerging biomedical/health researchers in Sub-Saharan Africa to participate in its Essential Grant Writing Skills Workshop. To fully benefit from this workshop series, you will be at a stage in your research career where you are actively seeking independent funding but have yet to secure that big grant necessary to support your research independence. This fully on-line programme will be held over eight 3-hour sessions during the weeks of 13 September 2021 and 18 October 2021.

[More information](#)

SARETI | Research ethics training | Deadline 30/07 2021

The South African Research Ethics Training Initiative (SARETI) at the University of KwaZulu-Natal has been awarded competitive funding from the Fogarty International Center (FIC) of the US National Institutes of Health (NIH), to offer doctoral training in research ethics through the SARETI Leadership Programme, beginning 2021. The main goal is to train high-level African research ethicists who will produce local and internationally relevant scholarship and leadership in research ethics in Africa.

[More information](#)

TRANSVAC | Open Call | Deadline: 10/08 2021

TRANSVAC seeks to support vaccine-related projects currently in the preclinical phase of development. TRANSVAC's goal is to further support and accelerate vaccine-related projects by providing access to the services and expertise contained within the TRANSVAC Infrastructure. Most technologies and experience are thereby free of charge. All Intellectual Property generated by the project will remain the ownership of the User, unless indicated otherwise prior to starting work within TRANSVAC. Under the EC rules, the User must be able to make the work performed within TRANSVAC public.

[More information](#)

PRIZE

Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize | Infectious diseases - Africa | Deadline 20/08 2021

"The prize carries the ideals and aspirations of a Japanese microbiologist Dr Hideyo NOGUCHI (1876-1928) who fell victim to yellow fever in Africa during his research of the disease. It aims to honour individuals with outstanding achievements in the fields of

medical research and medical services to combat infectious and other diseases in Africa, thus contributing to the health and welfare of the Africans and of all humankind. As the challenges caused by Covid-19 is testing for humanity and it reaffirms the special importance of the Noguchi Hideyo Africa Prize. We look forward to receiving your nominations."

[More information](#)

AREF | Underserved Communities Grant Writing Workshop | Deadline: 20/08 2021

AREF is calling for applications from scientists who are emerging biomedical/health researchers in specific sub-Saharan African countries to participate in its Essential Grant Writing Skills Workshop. For this call we are specifically targeting countries from which we have had less engagement in terms of applications and participation in the past.

Our goal is to expand AREF's impact across sub-Saharan Africa; therefore, we are inviting applications from researchers in these underserved countries: Angola, Burundi, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, Zambia.

[More information](#)

EU Horizon Europe | Call for proposals | Deadline

On 16 June 2021, The European Commission published its work programme 2021-2022 under the EU framework Horizon Europe. The first calls for proposals opened on the Commission's [Funding and Tenders Portal](#) on 22 June. A topic on [Innovative approaches to enhance poverty-related diseases research in sub-Saharan Africa](#) will be launched to continue cooperation investments in clinical research on infectious disease between the EU and sub-Saharan Africa. This call provides funding opportunities in the transition period after the last calls of the EDCTP2 programme until the launch of a future [Global Health EDCTP3 programme](#). Please direct all enquiries about new funding opportunities to the Horizon Europe programme. EDCTP is unable to respond to questions about Horizon Europe calls for proposals.

Upcoming events

DSW, WaterAid and the Slovenian Presidency of the Council of the EU | Webinar | 9/07 2021

Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevölkerung (DSW), WaterAid and the Slovenian Presidency of the Council of the EU are co-organising a high-level event [A roadmap to a healthy and sustainable future. Health and water at the core of the EU-Africa Partnership](#) on 9 July at 2pm CET. The event discusses health for all as a priority of the new EU-Africa partnership, outlining the importance for the European Union and African Union to strengthen their cooperation in the area of health. EDCTP Executive Director, Dr Michael Makanga, will attend the meeting and present on the vital role of EDCTP in Africa-EU health cooperation. [Register here](#) for the webinar.

IAS | 11th Conference on HIV Science | 18-21/07 2021

The International AIDS Society (IAS) organises its biennial scientific conference on 18-21 July 2021. The conference presents the basic, clinical and operational research that moves science into policy and practice.

From the website: "Through its open and inclusive programme development, the meeting sets the gold standard of HIV research featuring highly diverse and cutting-edge studies. IAS 2021 participants can expect a full conference experience via an easy-to-use digital platform that connects researchers, health care providers, advocates and policymakers. Additionally, a local partner hub will convene locally-based experts in the original host city of Berlin, in accordance with local health advice and regulations."

- [Sign up for updates](#)
- [Registration now open](#)

ECTMIH | 12th European Congress on Tropical Medicine and International Health |

28/09-1/10 2021

The 12th European Congress on Tropical Medicine and International Health (ECTMIH) is being held in Bergen, Norway in 2021. The aim of ECTMIH is to provide a platform for experts, scientists and researchers to present state of the arts updates, scientific developments and breakthroughs in tropical medicine and global health. The theme of the conference, which strengthens networks and creates new partnerships, is "**Global challenges: Health, migration and equity**". EDCTP is proud to join the congress as **silver sponsor**, more information on our involvement and planned activities will follow. [More information](#)

EDCTP | Tenth Forum | 17-21/10/2021

The Tenth EDCTP Forum will be held as a virtual meeting hosted from the Joaquin Chissano International Conference Centre in Maputo, Mozambique from 17–20 October 2021. The Forum theme – *Equity in research for health* – is at the core of the EDCTP mission.

EDCTP welcomes your engagement and your input in discussions at the Forum about successes and challenges in achieving equity in research, and how best to ensure that research processes and outputs address health inequities.

Our host partners, the Ministry of Health of Mozambique, through the National Institute of Health, and the Manhica Health Research Centre promise an exciting and interactive meeting experience. We look forward to your participation.

More information on [the Tenth EDCTP Forum website](#), including [sponsorship packages](#). Symposium applications must be submitted **by 8 July 2021** - more information can be found [here](#).

2nd LEAP Scientific Conference | Call for Abstracts | 2-4/11 2021

Drugs for Neglected Diseases *initiative* (DNDi) and the Leishmaniasis East African Platform (LEAP) invites individuals and institutions from the African continent and other parts of the world to submit abstracts to the [2nd LEAP Scientific Conference](#).

Abstracts submission deadline is:
30/06/2021 11:30 EAT via leap@dndi.org

EDCTP Communications thanks the colleagues who provided information for this Update.

