

## EDCTP Update | April 2022



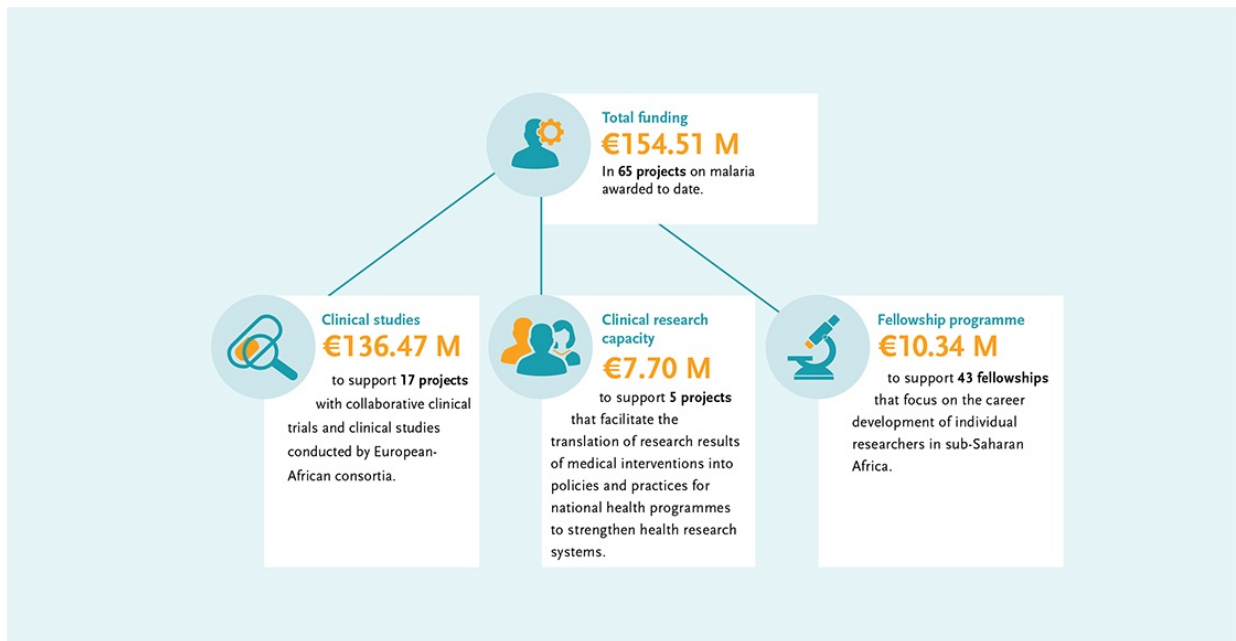
### Contents

- Belgium and Côte d'Ivoire join EDCTP Association
- World Malaria Day 2022: EDCTP supports innovative approaches to fight malaria
- Launch event of Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking
- Membership and eligibility for funding in the new Global Health EDCTP3 programme
- Public consultation: online survey on the joint AU-EU Innovation Agenda
- Recent events
- Project news
- Publications
- Recently signed grants
- Resources
- Training and funding opportunities
- Mark your calendar

### Belgium and Côte d'Ivoire join EDCTP Association

EDCTP is pleased to welcome Belgium and Côte d'Ivoire on board as the newest member countries of the EDCTP Association. Belgium will be represented in the EDCTP General Assembly by Dr Kathleen D'Hondt (Policy Analyst, Department Economy, Science and Innovation – Flemish Government) and Ms Jolien Roovers (Policy Analyst, Department Economy, Science and Innovation – Flemish Government). Côte d'Ivoire will be represented by Prof. Souleymane Konate (General Director of Research and Innovation, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research), and Dr Koumba Soumahoro (Head of the epidemiology and clinical research department, Pasteur Institute of Côte d'Ivoire).

## World Malaria Day 2022: EDCTP supports innovative approaches to fight malaria



On World Malaria Day, EDCTP joined its partners and stakeholders in harnessing innovation to reduce the malaria disease burden and save lives. EDCTP has dedicated over EUR 150 million of funding towards achieving the 2030 targets of the WHO global malaria strategy. We remain committed to reducing the burden of malaria among vulnerable populations that are often excluded from clinical studies but that have major unmet medical needs. We do so by supporting the development of innovative products – diagnostics, drugs and vaccines – and the implementation of interventions and activities to strengthen health systems.

[Read our full message »](#)

## Launch event of Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking



On 10 May 2022, the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking (GH EDCTP3 JU) will host its launch event. The GH EDCTP3 JU builds on the first and second EDCTP programmes and is a partnership between the EU and the EDCTP Association, whose members are several European and African countries.

During the event, GH EDCTP3 JU partners and other speakers will:

- Highlight the importance of the GH EDCTP3 JU for ensuring R&I collaboration, cooperation and funding in the area of infectious diseases and the commitment of the partners to such an endeavour
- Present the achievements of the previous programmes, including how the new partnership will build on these, and describe the new features of the GH EDCTP3 JU
- Discuss through a panel the objectives and ambitions for the new partnership

The meeting will take place as a hybrid event (both in-person and virtual setting) hosted in-person by ANRS | Emerging Infectious Diseases in Paris (France). Connection details to follow the discussion virtually will be published at the GH EDCTP3 JU website closer to the event date.

[Read more »](#)

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## **Membership and eligibility for funding in the new Global Health EDCTP3 programme**



The [Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking](#) (GH EDCTP3 JU) is a partnership between the European Union and the EDCTP Association. The partnership builds on the first and second EDCTP programmes and will support international research partnerships accelerating the clinical evaluation of drugs, vaccines and diagnostics for key infectious diseases affecting sub-Saharan Africa, as well as novel approaches for surveillance and control of emerging and re-emerging infections. It will also strengthen clinical research capacity in the region.

One of the main differences between the second EDCTP programme and the GH EDCTP3 JU programme is that only legal entities from the African countries that are full [members of the EDCTP Association](#) and have committed to participate in the GH EDCTP3 JU programme (with duly completed formal commitment documentation) will be eligible to benefit financially from the GH EDCTP3 JU calls for proposals. [Learn more about membership of the EDCTP Association.](#)

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## **Public consultation: online survey on the joint AU-EU Innovation Agenda**



Strengthening Research and Innovation (R&I) cooperation between the African Union (AU) and the European Union (EU) is a joint key priority. The first R&I Ministerial Meeting of the AU-EU High-Level Policy Dialogue (HLPD) on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI), held in July 2020, agreed to focus R&I cooperation efforts in four thematic areas: Public Health, Green transition, Innovation & Technology, and Capacities for Science. It was agreed to start developing a joint AU-EU Innovation Agenda aiming to create tangible impact on the ground, moving joint research investments from theory to practice.

The aim of the online public consultation is to seek input and feedback from citizens on the objectives and proposed actions of the Innovation Agenda, being open to suggestions and ideas on additional work streams. The public consultation will remain open until 13 May 2022. Its outcome will be summarised and communicated in a dedicated report, foreseen to be published in the second half of 2022.

[More information and access to the public consultation »](#)

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## Recent events

### NIHR Academy Global Health Research Training Forum 2022 | 26-27 April 2022

The UK National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) organised this virtual NIHR Global Health Research Training Forum 2022 with the aim to bring together the Training Leads of the NIHR-funded global health research programmes for networking and to share good practice. The Forum was attended by Ms Lara Pandya, EDCTP Senior Strategic Partnerships Officer, who participated in 'A cross funder session on Research Capacity Strengthening Activities' on 26 April 2022 and presented on EDCTP's involvement in funding and supporting research capacity strengthening in the area of global health research.

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## Project news

### EDCTP-funded vaccine projects coordination meeting



To enhance the coordination and collaboration between the four EDCTP-funded TB vaccine research projects, all four TB vaccine research project teams meet annually to exchange knowledge and experiences on the conduct of their clinical studies. This year, the meeting took place on 7 April and was organised by the TuBerculosis Vaccine Initiative (TBVI) in the context of their EDCTP-supported TB vaccine coordination project.

[Read more »](#)

### BERC-Luso visits São Tomé and Príncipe

Between 28 February and 4 March 2022, the BERC-Luso coordination team visited



São Tomé and Príncipe to monitor the Work Package 4 – Networking. A key moment of the visit was the workshop on clinical trials and biomedical research in São Tomé and Príncipe held at the Portuguese Cultural Center, with the participation of over 50 professionals and students from various areas of health sciences, social sciences and others.

[Read more »](#)

## COAST-Nutrition completes recruitment



The COAST-Nutrition team is undertaking a phase II clinical trial in children aged 6 months to 12 years hospitalised with suspected severe pneumonia. The team aims to establish whether supplementary feeds with 'ready to use therapeutic feeds (RUTF)' given in addition to usual diet for 56-days (experimental) improves outcomes at 90-days compared to usual diet alone (control). The study is being conducted in four sites in two countries (Uganda and Kenya) and has completed enrolment of 807 children in April 2022. It is expected that the follow-up period of the last patient will be completed by October 2022.

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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 that they will satisfy the requirements for EDCTP-funded research projects: making publications openly accessible as soon as possible. [Submit your manuscript through Europe PMC Plus](#)

- *BMC medical ethics*: [Ethical considerations around volunteer payments in a malaria human infection study in Kenya: an embedded empirical ethics study](#). Chi PC *et al.* (22 April 2022)
- *BMC Infect Dis*: [Cascade Immune Mechanisms of Protection against Mycobacterium tuberculosis \(IMPAC-TB\): study protocol for the Household Contact Study in the Western Cape, South Africa](#). Hiemstra AM *et al.* (15 April 2022)
- *BMC Infect Dis*: [Molecular characterisation of second-line drug resistance among drug resistant tuberculosis patients tested in Uganda: a two and a half-year's review](#). Mujuni D *et al.* (11 April 2022)
- *Nature Communications*: [Emergence and phenotypic characterization of the global SARS-CoV-2 C.1.2 lineage](#). Scheepers C *et al.* (8 Apr 2022)
- PLoS ONE: [Barriers of West African women scientists in their research and academic careers: A qualitative research](#). Sougou NM *et al.* (30 March 2022)
- *BMJ Open*: [LAMP4yaws: Treponema pallidum, Haemophilus ducreyi loop mediated isothermal amplification - protocol for a cross-sectional, observational, diagnostic accuracy study](#). Becca Louise Handley *et al.* (29 March 2022)
- *Front. Microbiol.*: [Application of Next Generation Sequencing for Diagnosis and Clinical Management of Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis: Updates on Recent](#)

[Developments in the Field](#). Navisha Dookie *et al.* (24 March 2022)

- *Int J Mol Sci*: [Immunometabolism of Myeloid-Derived Suppressor Cells: Implications for Mycobacterium tuberculosis Infection and Insights from Tumor Biology](#). Munansangu BSM *et al.* (23 March 2022)
- *African Journal of AIDS Research*: [“I prefer to take pills when I plan to have sex”: Perceptions of on-demand versus daily oral pre-exposure prophylaxis among adolescents in Kampala, Uganda](#). Kawuma R *et al.* (2022)

## Recently signed grants

### [Clinical Research and Product Development Fellowships \(CRDF\) – Joint call with WHO/TDR, the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases 2019](#)

- **Fellow:** Professor Sultan Suleman Wega (Ethiopia) | **Host organisation:** KEMRI-Wellcome Trust Research Programme
- **Fellow:** Dr Amadou Hamidou TOGO (Mali) | **Host organisation:** CAPRISA, South Africa

## Resources



[Collaborative clinical R&D](#)  
online



[Clinical research capacity](#)  
PDF



[Fellowships](#)  
online

- EDCTP | [Knowledge Hub: Tools and guidance for conducting clinical research](#)
- EDCTP | [Guidelines for grantees - Progress report](#)
- EDCTP | [Template for Grant Agreement Annex 5](#)
- 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](#)

## Training and funding opportunities

## **Call for Proposals for Grant Funding of Product Development Partnerships (PDP) to fight Poverty-related and Neglected Diseases (PRND) | Deadline: 30 June 2022**

The German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) has been funding R&D of products and technologies for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of PRNDs through PDPs since 2011. Due to the promising results of the PDPs to date and the continued high funding needs in this area, the BMBF will continue the funding in a third phase. This new funding phase is part of the BMBF's "Global Health" funding priority and contributes to the Federal Government's Global Health Strategy.

BMBF has mandated KfW to support it in preparing and implementing this third funding phase, including this Call for Proposals (CfP) process, and KfW now invites sealed proposals from eligible institutions for the funding of R&D products.

[More information »](#)

## **Bioethics MSc and PhD/postdoctoral training programmes (Fogarty International Center)**

The Fogarty International Center has re-issued the funding announcements for international bioethics training programmes at the masters or PhD/postdoctoral level aimed at research intensive institutions and scholars in low and middle-income countries (LMIC):

[International Research Ethics Education and Curriculum Development Award \(masters level training\) »](#)

[International Bioethics Research Training Program \(PhD/postdoctoral level\) »](#)

## **Mark your calendar**

### **EDCTP2 Financial and project management training | 22 June 2022**

One-day training on financial and project management of EDCTP2 grants. The training is targeted at Europe-based financial and/or project managers of recent EDCTP2 projects from work plans (WP) 2019 and 2020. Other EDCTP2 projects may apply to attend. The workshop will be held in The Hague, the Netherlands, on 22 June 2022.

[Read more »](#)

### **TREK: Regional conference on strengthening research ethics | 24-26 May 2022**

The goal of this conference is to share experiences and lessons learnt with Regional Ethics Committees to encourage best practices in research ethics oversight and to enhance networking. There will be keynote addresses, abstract driven sessions and panel discussions. The conference is hosted by the University of Nairobi (UoN), The National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI), Kenyatta National Hospital (KNH) and EDCTP. It will be conducted in English and is open to ethics committee members and researchers. Conference registration is free and required.

[Register for the event »](#)

### **How to protect healthy volunteers from exploitation in biomedical research | 24 May 2022**

In February 2022, an international initiative was launched which aims to identify the various types of research involving Healthy Volunteers (HVs) and to identify good practices to better protect these participants. The initiative was launched during an [event](#) organised by the ethics committee of the French National Institute for Health and Medical Research (INSERM) held at UNESCO.

On 24 May 2022, the first virtual regional seminar will take place focusing on solutions to avoid exploitation of HVs in Africa. The seminar is hosted by the University of Cape Town (South Africa) and Universidade Eduardo Mondlane (Mozambique). The seminar is open to all stakeholders interested in research involving HVs (researchers, ethics committee members, representatives of regulatory agencies, communities, media).

Date and time: 24 May 2022, 11:00 – 13:00 Central Africa Time (online)

[Contact and registration](#)



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

