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EDCTP Update

July 2021



Highlights

- **Biofabri and IAVI announce partnership to advance MTBVAC into efficacy trials**
- **Tenth EDCTP Forum - sponsorship opportunities**

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Biofabri and IAVI announce partnership to advance MTBVAC into efficacy trials

Biofabri and IAVI have announced their intention to partner on efficacy trials of the tuberculosis (TB) vaccine candidate [MTBVAC](#). This highly promising vaccine candidate has the potential to be used as an alternative to BCG vaccination in infants and for prevention of TB disease in adolescents and adults. EDCTP supports the development of MTBVAC through two projects, [MTBVAC-Newborns](#) and [MTBVACN3](#). The former project is testing the MTBVAC candidate in a Phase IIa trial in newborns, with enrollment having completed in March 2021. The latter project will conduct a Phase III trial of MTBVAC in newborns, scheduled to begin in several African countries in 2021. IAVI will support the development and further resource mobilisation for MTBVAC, including for an adolescent/adult trial. TBVI will also support the ongoing trial preparations.

"It is very encouraging to see TB vaccines research and development gaining momentum with a long-term commitment of partners and with an end-to-end product development approach. COVID-19 has once again demonstrated the fundamental importance of global collaboration to accelerate new medical product development. We welcome this new partnership and are committed to support the further development of this promising TB vaccine candidate". EDCTP Executive Director, Dr Michael Makanga.

[More information](#)

Tenth EDCTP Forum-sponsorship opportunities

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](#).

The Tenth EDCTP Forum will gather representatives from different regions and research fields, in a virtual conference venue providing an excellent opportunity for networking and to highlight and promote key activities to a targeted audience while contributing to EDCTP's mission and conference goals. This Forum presents a unique opportunity to establish and reinforce cooperation and synergy among EDCTP stakeholders, share experiences and gather ideas that will contribute to and inform future research and development. There are many ways EDCTP partners can be involved at this year's virtual Forum. One of them is through our **sponsorship opportunities**, which profile and raise the visibility of partner organisations working in the same field as EDCTP.

Visit the forum website for more information on the different [sponsorship opportunities](#).



EDCTP Fellowships – investing in tomorrow's research leaders

Capacity development is a core EDCTP activity, complementing its support for clinical trials and product-focused implementation research. [EDCTP2's competitive fellowship programme](#) supports researchers in sub-Saharan Africa in all stages of their careers. During EDCTP1 and EDCTP2 several researchers from West Africa successfully applied and completed an EDCTP fellowship grant, or received training as part of other EDCTP funded projects. Many of these researchers have gone on to become successful researchers with well-established research teams that are conducting world class research funded by EDCTP and other global research funders. Malaria continues to be a leading cause of death in many countries and remains endemic in several countries in West Africa. Several former and current fellows are contributing to finding a much needed vaccine against malaria with several of our alumni leading or collaborating in Malaria Vaccine research projects in West Africa. Professor Abdoulaye Djimdé from Mali, who was a senior fellow in EDCTP1 (2005-2009) and project coordinator of the WANECAM-I grant in the EDCTP1 programme. Currently, he is the Project Coordinator of the [WANECAM-II](#) grant and he participates in other large consortia in the area of malaria drugs research funded by EDCTP, such as [ASAAP](#) (where the Project Coordinator was a PhD student previously co-supervised by Prof. Djimdé and Prof. Doumbo), [PYRAPREG](#), and [PAMAFrica](#). He is also the Director of parasitology research at Malaria Research and Training Center (MRTC) in Bamako, Mali, and has led the center's research on the malaria parasite since the passing of Prof. Doumbo's in 2018. Prof. Doumbo is remembered for his immense contribution to [malaria research in West Africa](#). Professor Kassoum Kayentao, who is also from Mali, was a PhD student in the *IPTp-IST* grant in the EDCTP1 programme. He is currently the Project Coordinator of two large consortia: [PYRAPREG](#) and INTEGRATION, both of them focusing on prevention and treatment of malaria in pregnancy. [Dr Aissatou Toure](#) from Senegal was a fellow in EDCTP1 (2011 -2013). For several years she been based at the Institute Pasteur in Dakar where she heads the Unit of Immunology and conducts research in the area of malaria immunology studying the determinants of protection against malaria infection with special focus on potential malaria vaccine candidates and has led various projects on malaria. She has been a member of the scientific advisory group of the European Vaccine Initiative (EVI) and of the expert group of WHO on malaria vaccines (MALVAC). Dr. Toure is also an expert in bioethics and health research ethics and member of several national or international ethics groups. Dr Alfred Tiono from Burkina Faso, former EDCTP1 fellow (2010 -2013) went on to participate in several big malaria grants. He is also a partner of the [PAMAFrica grant](#), which is conducting three clinical trials, supporting efforts to build clinical capacity and train scientists across Africa. The projects will include development of the first new malaria treatment for babies under 5kg, a new fast-acting medicine for the treatment of severe malaria, and a new combination to treat drug-resistant uncomplicated malaria. The consortium consists of nine public and private sector research and development partners across Africa and Europe, led by Medicines for Malaria Venture (MMV) and receives €21.9million over five years from EDCTP. Furthermore, he participates in three larger grants: in the [MIMVsC-Africa](#) and [MMVC](#) grant he works alongside EDCTP GA member Dr Sodiomon Sirima and is participant of the [PFTBV](#) grant. Prof. Halidou Tinto is an EDCTP SAC member from Burkina Faso, and is a key partner in the EDCTP funded [MMVC](#), [PYRAPREG](#), [PAMAFrica](#), [DIAGMAL](#), [SINDOFO](#), INTEGRATION and COVADIS projects.

Recent events

REMODEL-TZ Annual conference | 17-18/06 2021

In 2018, EDCTP supported [Dr Stellah Mpagama](#) through a Senior Fellowship grant to the Kibong'oto Infectious Diseases Hospital (KIDH), Siha-Kilimanjaro, Tanzania. Her project, Research capacity strengthening programme for emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases control in Tanzania (REMODEL-TZ), aimed to strengthen research capacity to tackle public health emergencies in the country. Over the past three years, Dr Mpagama and her research team have worked with early career scientists and other EDCTP fellows in Tanzania to achieve the project goal. On 17-18 June 2021, the 3rd REMODEL conference held in Arusha, Tanzania provided a platform for mentees, mentors, and potential collaborators to meet, share, and discuss the ongoing research and capacity development activities. Professor Gibson Kibiki chaired the conference which was also used as medium to discuss and craft future plans in line with the vision and mission of the REMODEL-TZ

Programme. Additionally, the physical meeting presented networking opportunities to reinforce collaborations and synergy within and outside the country. Professor Moses Bockarie, EDCTP Head of Africa Office, gave opening remarks, presenting EDCTP's growing portfolio, current outputs, and future plans. Five project trainees and five EDCTP fellows made presentations about their studies.

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 hosted 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 2021. The event discussed 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. The session was dedicated to how the Europe-Africa partnership can strengthen health systems, accelerate health research and development, and promote universal access to health coverage. As a keynote speaker, EDCTP Executive Director, Dr Michael Makanga, highlighted the vital role of EDCTP in Africa-EU health cooperation and shared his views on the challenges and opportunities to strengthen this cooperation.

Read the [blog post](#) here and [watch the video recording](#) on the DSW YouTube channel.

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

The International AIDS Society (IAS) organises its biennial scientific conference took place from 18-21 July 2021. The conference presents the basic, clinical and operational research that moves science into policy and practice. The Drugs for Neglected Diseases *initiative* (DNDi), coordinator of the [5FC HIV-Crypto](#) project, hosted two satellite sessions at [IAS 2021](#) on advanced HIV and cryptococcal meningitis. The first session focused on the supply and demand work for cryptococcal meningitis, and a collaborative initiative to end cryptococcal meningitis deaths was presented by CDC. The session ended with an implementer and donor roundtable, in which EDCTP was represented by Dr Johanna Roth, EDCTP Project Officer. The second session focused on the state of advanced HIV disease in resource limited settings, showcasing progress and gaps in R&D and in implementation of WHO guidance. Preliminary results of the [DREAMM](#) project were presented in this session, showing promising 2-week all-cause mortality data from HIV-related CNS infection following the implementation of DREAMM. The headline results of [AMBITION-cm](#) were also presented in a separate late-breaker session. This phase 3 trial evaluated a single high-dose liposomal amphotericin B based regimen for the treatment of HIV-associated cryptococcal meningitis. The positive efficacy and safety data could define a new treatment paradigm in resource-limited settings.

Recently signed grants

[Ethics and regulatory capacities - 2020](#)

- **The Gambia ERC Project** | Coordinator: Ms Elizabeth Stanley-Batchilly | Building a Robust Ethics and Regulatory Capacity in The Gambia
- **MPHEBDOER** | Coordinator: Professor Olufunmilayo Fawole | Masters' Programme in Epidemiology and Biostatistics with Specialization in Disease Outbreak and Epidemic Response in sub-Saharan Africa
- **CDAE** | Coordinator: Dr Hesborn Wao | Capacity Development of Applied Epidemiologists in Eastern Africa Region
- **ENTRANT** | Coordinator: Dr Emily Webb | East and Southern African Consortium for Outbreak Epidemiology Training

[Innovative approaches to enhance poverty-related diseases research – 2020](#)

- **SIMBLE** | Coordinator: Dr Liselotte Hardy | Clinical diagnostic trial in Western Africa of a simplified blood culture system to improve healthcare in low-resource settings

[Mobilisation of funding for COVID-19 research in sub-Saharan Africa – 2020](#)

- **MA-CoV** | Coordinator: Dr Raquel González Álvarez | Prevalence and impact of SARS-CoV-2 infection on maternal and infant health in African populations

EDCTP Regional Networks – 2020

- **EACCR3** | Coordinator: Professor Pontiano Kaleebu | Eastern Africa Consortium for Clinical Research 3

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

- **XACT-19** | Coordinator: Professor Keertan Dheda | Evaluating the impact of computer-assisted x-ray diagnosis and other triage tools to optimise Xpert orientated community-based active case finding for TB and COVID-19

Career Development Fellowships - 2020

- **MTM - MI** | Fellow: Dr Moleen Dziki | MTM-MI Mobile phone text messaging plus motivational interviewing: effects on breastfeeding, child health and survival outcomes, a group sequential randomised standard of care controlled trial
- **Childhood TB Sequel** | Fellow: Dr Esin Nkereuwem Evaluating the sequelae of pulmonary tuberculosis in Gambian children
- **SmCHI-Epitope** | Fellow: Dr Moses Egesa | Characterization of protein and glycan epitopes recognised following controlled human infection with *Schistosoma mansoni* in an endemic population
- **MTBC pathways** | Fellow: Dr Nontobeko Mvubu | Identification and characterization of the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* complex lineage-specific epigenomes, transcriptome patterns and regulatory networks and pathways
- **EMMATAC study** | Fellow: Dr Nyawira Gitahi | Enhanced m-health mental health screening for adolescents living with HIV transitioning into adult care.

Project news

FreeBILy | Annual meeting | 28-29/06 2021

The [FreeBILy study](#) consists of two clinical trial arms in two different endemic settings. The trial in Madagascar aims at demonstrating the usefulness of controlling intestinal schistosomiasis in pregnant women and young children by integrating the POC-CCA Test-Based-Schistosomiasis-Treatment (TBST) in routine maternal-child primary health care. The clinical trial in Gabon is a cross-sectional, prospective study aimed at evaluating the accuracy of the UCP-LF-CAA test for the detection of urinary schistosomiasis in pregnant women and the evaluation of the efficacy of praziquantel treatment. On 28 and 29 June 2021, the fourth freeBILy annual meeting was held virtually, attended by representatives from all consortium partners as well as EDCTP Project Officer Michelle Helinski and Dr Amadou Garba from the External Advisory Board. The first day focused on the progress of the clinical trial in Madagascar, for which recruitment was finalised in February 2021, with a total of 5203 pregnant women included in the study. Follow-up of pregnant women and their newborn child is well underway, and last month the team in Madagascar started with the final 2-year follow up visit. The ultra-sensitive UCP-LF CAA test has been implemented successfully at the Centre d'Infectiologie Charles Mérieux in Antananarivo last year and currently large numbers of samples are being tested to evaluate the performance of the POC-CCA, with final results to follow at the end of the study. On the second day, an update on project coordination activities was given by the Project Management Team from Leiden University Medical Center (LUMC) and freeBILy partners were given the opportunity to provide updates with regard to their specific work packages. Time was also devoted to more detailed discussions on the progress of the clinical trials in both Gabon and Madagascar. For more information visit the [project website](#).

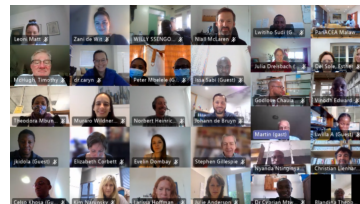




FreeBILy team Gabon

PanACEA/SimpliciTB | Joint annual meeting | 28-29/06 2021

The 2021 annual [PanACEA](#) & [SimpliciTB](#) joint meeting took place virtually (as seen on the group picture on the right) on 28-29 June 2021. Partners from all over the world joined the two day meeting, EDCTP Project Officer Debora Bade also attend the meeting. The annual meeting provided an opportunity to share perspectives on the scientific activities, clinical trials, community engagement and capacity development actions that the PanACEA II Consortium and SimpliciTB have delivered in the past year. On the first day, the PanACEA II consortium shared updates on the PHENORIF, the BTZ043, the DECODE, SUDOCU and the STEP2C clinical trials. These trials respectively investigate the novel compound BTZ043, sutezolid culminating in a late phase trial of an exciting new regimen. In the afternoon, Professor Stephen Gillespie (University of St Andrews, Scotland) opened the SimpliciTB annual meeting which was followed by several outstanding talks about the ongoing activities of SimpliciTB and concluded with a lively and interactive Q&A session. Despite the difficulties presented by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the primary efficacy endpoint visits of week 52 have been completed and the team is looking forward to moving forward with secondary endpoints to be completed in 2022. On the second day of the joint annual meeting, delegates and presenters heard about the scientific research that had been performed under the framework of the PanACEA II Consortium. Several researchers also had the opportunity to present their research: Dr Peter Mbelele (Kibong'oto Infectious Diseases Hospital, Tanzania) gave an exciting talk on how integration of TB-MBLA into TB testing algorithm would assist the interpretation of Xpert MTB/RIF results in people treated for rifampicin resistant MDR-TB infection. His results suggest that using TB-MBLA alongside Xpert MTB/RIF can rapidly differentiate active infection from post-TB lung disease. Dr Ahmed Abulfathi (Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences Stellenbosch University Cape Town, South Africa) who has recently successfully defended his PhD thesis, gave an overview of his PanACEA funded PhD research, focusing on improving TB treatment by accelerating the repurposing and optimisation of existing antituberculosis drugs.



INTENSE-TBM | Second annual meeting | 5/07 2021

The second annual meeting of the [INTENSE-TBM](#) project took place on 5 July 2021. INTENSE-TBM is a five-year international project, sponsored by Inserm-ANRS and coordinated by the University of Bordeaux, aiming at improving the overall care of people affected by Tuberculous meningitis (TBM). It includes a clinical trial to evaluate the efficacy of an intensified treatment of Tuberculosis and the addition of aspirin, in patients co-infected or not with HIV (NCT04145258). The second annual meeting was held virtually, led by the project coordinator Professor Fabrice Bonnet (University of Bordeaux, France). It brought together 34 participants, including four international external experts and EDCTP Project Officer Ms Shingai Machingaidze for a fruitful discussion about protocol, SOPs, sub-studies and administrative issues. It also presented the opportunity to discuss a major milestone of the project; the start of the recruitment in the trial in Madagascar (February 2021), Côte d'Ivoire (February 2021) and South Africa (April 2021), soon to be joined by Uganda. More information on the project: <https://intense-tbm.org/>

AFREENET | Newsletter | June 2021

The [AFREENET project](#) is enabling three French-speaking countries to work together and with European partners to build national ethics review capabilities. The recently published [newsletter](#), available in English and French, highlights the challenges the consortium faced during the COVID-19 pandemic, recent training sessions and supporting documents. The AFREENET project came to an end in February 2021 and this newsletter includes farewell messages from coordinators and participants.

BERC-Luso | Webinar & newsletter | 8/07/2021

The [BERC-Luso project](#) is building ethical review and clinical research regulatory capacity in five Portuguese-speaking countries – Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Mozambique and São Tomé and Príncipe. The project is hosting a series of webinars on "case analysis", the latest of which took place on 8 July 2021 and was given by Prof. Helder. More information can be found in the project [newsletter](#) (available in Portuguese).

PUBLICATIONS

Dr Dawit Wolday | Publications | 14/06 2021

Plos One: Dawit Gebreegzabher Hagos, Yazezew Kebede, Mahmud Abdulkader, Etsay Nigus, Zekarias Gessesse Arefaine, et al., [Effect of rK39 testing in guiding treatment initiation and outcome in patients with visceral leishmaniasis in Ethiopia: A prospective cohort study](#).

MTBVAC | Publications | 6/07 2021

Elsevier: CarlosMartín, Dessislava Marinova, NachoAguiló, JesúsGonzalo-Asensio, [MTBVAC, a live TB vaccine poised to initiate efficacy trials 100 years after BCG](#)

Dr Obinna Ekwunife | Publications | 11/07 2021

BMC Health Services Research: Obinna Ikechukwu Ekwunife, Chinelo Janefrances Ofomata, Charles Ebuka Okafor, Maureen Ugonwa Anetoh, Stephen Okorafor Kalu, Prince Udegbumam Ele & George Uchenna Eleje, [Cost-effectiveness and feasibility of conditional economic incentives and motivational interviewing to improve HIV health outcomes of adolescents living with HIV in Anambra State, Nigeria](#)

EDCTP | Publications | 16/07 2021

Nature Medicine: Shingai Machingaidze & Charles Shey Wiysonge, [Understanding COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy](#).

EDCTP Fellows in times of COVID-19

Follow the Fellow in times of COVID- 19: Dr Moses Masika

The [third video](#) from our video series "Follow the Fellow in times of COVID-19" features EDCTP Career Development Fellow [Dr Moses Masika](#). In his fellowship research he aims to determine the prevalence and genetic diversity of arboviral infections with a view to contributing to outbreak and epidemic preparedness. He now contributes to identifying clinical presentation of COVID-19 as well as viral shedding in different body fluids.

Dr Joseph Fokam

EDCTP Career Development fellow [Dr Joseph Fokam](#) participated in a [study](#) that was testing LAMP technology for diagnosing COVID-19. The project is coordinated by the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB) and implemented in partnership with reference testing laboratories in Africa. ICGEB Member States Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Nigeria, have taken part in a pilot study to assess the efficacy of a novel diagnostic tool in diverse settings. This pilot study, performed during the period September 2020-May 2021, contributed to the accuracy in detecting [SARS-CoV-2](#) in resource-limited settings. It evaluated the diagnostic performance of RT-LAMP in terms of intrinsic (sensitivity, specificity) and extrinsic (positive and negative predictive values) characteristics according to SARS-CoV-2 viral load estimates provided by the conventional RT-qPCR in four LMICs of Sub-Saharan Africa. Results from the study show

that RT-LAMP represents a formidable alternative to RT-qPCR. The project team is thankful to New England BioLabs (NEB) for freely contributing its LAMP technology to the study, and to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for funding the project (INV – 022816). Based on the findings of the study, NEB has started to pursue WHO Emergency Use Listing. Watch the LAMP technology video [here](#) featuring Dr Joseph Fokam.

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 | Annual report 2020

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

EDCTP | eMagazine, Issue 3

Download [here](#) the EDCTP eMagazine, Issue 3

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 of RECs. The guide is now also available in [French](#).

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](#)

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 AREF is specifically targeting countries from which it has had less engagement in terms of applications and participation in the past.

The goal is to expand AREF's impact across sub-Saharan Africa; therefore, applications are invited 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](#)

AVAREF | Training for Ethics Review of Clinical Research: A Virtual Training Course for Africa | September 2021

The African Vaccines Regulatory Forum (AVAREF) of the World Health Organization and the Multi-Regional Clinical Trials Center of Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard (MRCT Center) are hosting a comprehensive training course on research ethics. The course will be held on 6 days over the course of a 3-week period. This "train-the-trainer" course is intended to build capacity of individuals who are currently serving as members and chairs in research ethic committees (RECs), ethicists involved in research ethics review, and ethics

educators. Applicants will be selected based on prior ethics experience and desired qualifications. Individuals with experience or interest in AVAREF activities are encouraged to apply.

[More information](#)

Women for Africa Foundation | 7th Call for Postdoctoral Fellowships Science by Women | Deadline 30/09 2021

Women for Africa Foundation is launching the 7th call for fellowships of the program Science by Women, aimed at selecting 22 senior African women scientists to be integrated in 22 top research Spanish centers in the following areas: health and biomedicine, agriculture and food security, water, energy and climatic change. Considering the exceptional challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic, some of the fellowships are focused on the research and innovation carried out by African women scientists from the diverse and interdisciplinary approaches. So far, more than 80 fellows have enjoyed six-month research stays which have contributed to enhance their leadership in scientific research and technology transfer.

[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 2021. 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.

Erasmus + Master Live | Joint Master Degree programme in International Vaccinology | Applications open 1/11 2021

Master LIVE is a two-year programme for talented and motivated students interested in multidisciplinary studies in Vaccinology. It is a joint project between five European universities, each one awarding a Master degree of excellent quality. Academic internationality is enriched by a worldwide network of 13 academic universities from Brazil, China, Europe and USA. The LIVE Master is now recognised by the European Commission as an Erasmus+ Joint Master Degree Programme of "outstanding academic quality". This label allows the LIVE programme to annually grant a substantial number of scholarships for EU and non-EU students.

[More information](#)

Fondation Mérieux & Université de Genève | ADVAC Advanced Course of Vaccinology | Deadline: 15/11 2021

ADVAC Advanced Course of Vaccinology is a two-week training programme for decision-makers, including academia, industry, governmental and non-governmental agencies. The Course aims to facilitate critical decision-making in vaccinology by providing participants with a comprehensive overview of the various aspects of vaccinology (immunology, vaccine development, clinical trials, regulatory processes, vaccine-specific issues including new vaccines, vaccination strategies and policies, programme implementation, humanitarian emergencies, social, economic, political and ethical issues, financing, and communications). EDCTP is delighted to be a co-sponsor of the course.

[More information](#)

Upcoming events

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 17–21 October 2021. The Forum theme – *Equity in research for health* – is at the core of the EDCTP mission. [Registration](#) is **free** of charge to make the Forum as accessible as possible.

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](#).

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

