

The EU's role in strengthening Partnerships between African and European research and academic institutions

Manhiça Foundation Global Health Symposium 17 July 2023



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The Joint AU-EU Innovation Agenda

*For building stronger value chains
for sustainable growth and decent jobs*

- **Mainstay of the AU-EU Cooperation in R&I** for the next decade, outcome of the **1st AU-EU R&I Ministerial** meeting of July 2020.
- Aiming to **translate R&I endeavours into tangible products, services, businesses, jobs & evidence-based policy guidance** and develop a long-term and sustainable operational **AU-EU R&I cooperation model**.
- Acknowledged in the final Declaration of the **6th EU-AU Summit – A Joint Vision for 2030**.
- Flagship initiative of **The Global Gateway Africa – Europe Investment Package**, with a *roadmap* under drafting.

EU Global Health Strategy:

better health for all in a changing world

Published on 30 November 2022

EU PRIORITIES:

1



Better health and well-being including by regaining lost ground on universal health targets in the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), through:

- Promoting drivers of good health, addressing root causes of ill health
- Particular attention to women, girls and people in vulnerable situations

2



Advancing universal health coverage:

- More equitable primary health care systems
- Better capacity to meet health emergency needs
- Leveraging digitalisation and research
- Addressing workforce imbalances

3



Combatting health threats, including pandemics:

- New international rules and global surveillance
- Permanent platform for development and vaccine access
- One Health approach
- Control anti-microbial resistance (AMR)

EU Global Health Strategy: better health for all in a changing world

KEY INITIATIVES AND SUPPORT:

	Integrated surveillance mechanism		Pandemic Fund for health security in vulnerable countries		Digital action for global health package
	Development and access to innovative medical countermeasures to address AMR		Training, recruiting and retaining healthcare workers		United Nations Population Fund's Supplies Partnership on female sexual and reproductive health and rights
	Support Gavi in vaccine uptake and supply chains		EU-Latin America and Caribbean Partnership to improve health security and supply chains		Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria to improve health systems
	Expanded roll out of COVID19 vaccines in under-vaccinated countries		Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking on clinical trials		WHO Universal Health Coverage Partnership and UHC2030
	Team Europe Initiative to boost manufacturing and access to vaccines, medicines and other health tools in Africa				
	Research and development of vaccines against emerging infectious diseases, (e.g. Coalition for Epidemics Preparedness Innovations (CEPI))				

Actions in EU Global Health Strategy are supported by:
EU4Health Programme
Horizon Europe (incl. GH EDCTP3 JU)
NDICI, Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance etc.

Team Europe initiative on Manufacturing and Access to Vaccines, Medicines and Health Technologies (MAV+) in Africa

Objectives: Boosting local manufacturing capacities in Africa and strengthening pharmaceutical systems, including regulatory strengthening.

Backed by **EUR 1 billion** from the EU budget:

- EU funding is mobilised for **regulatory strengthening** and the **African Medicines Agency (AMA)**, the **WHO technology transfer hub**, and the secretariat and programmes of the **Partnership for African Vaccine Manufacturing (PAVM)**, hosted by the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC).
- At national level, the focus is **on increasing production capacity and manufacturing plants** and on creating the right ecosystem for investment. The first support packages for **Senegal, Rwanda, South Africa and Ghana** have been mobilised. More will follow to help realising the African Union's objective to produce 60% of all its vaccines by 2040.



Optimizing Efficiency and Impact in the African Clinical Trial Ecosystem

16-18 May, 2023
Radisson RED Cape Town

- 60 participants from science, policy, private sector, communities, funders, WHO, supported by the EDCTP Africa office
- Collective vision for strengthening the African clinical trial ecosystem
- Co-design a roadmap to drive efficiency and sustainability
- Identify priorities, areas for harmonisation, and opportunities for strengthening the CT ecosystem
- Interlinkages with the initiatives on local production
- EDCTP partnership highlighted as strong enabler



Horizon Europe, the EU Research Framework Programme – Open to the world

- ✓ Horizon Europe is, in principle, open to participation by entities in almost all countries:
 - Almost any project consortium can include a third country partner (with or without funding)
 - Researchers and innovators of any nationality can apply for individual grants (Fellowships, ERC Grants)



Horizon Europe Work Programme 2023-2024

- ✓ Through the call topics in the work programme, **international cooperation** can be further stimulated through
 - ✓ flagging of call topics specifically relevant for international cooperation
 - ✓ adding specific International cooperation eligibility conditions
 - ✓ targeted international cooperation initiatives and flagships

“Adaptive platform trials for pandemic preparedness“ (HORIZON-HLTH-2024-DISEASE-03-11-two-stage)

Opening Date: 26 April 2023

Deadline: 19 September 2023

Expected EU contribution per project: 8 – 10 million

Total indicative budget: 30 Million

This topic aims to provide funding to **adaptive clinical platform trials** that may be implemented routinely outside of an epidemic or pandemic context, but that are designed to be ready for the timely **assessment of novel diagnostics, therapeutics or vaccines** in the face of an **infectious diseases outbreak of epidemic or pandemic potential**.

[Funding & tenders \(europa.eu\)](https://europea.eu)

(Sub-Saharan African countries are eligible for funding under Horizon Europe:
[wp-13-general-annexes_horizon-2023-2024_en.pdf \(europa.eu\)](#))

Global partnership for sustainable development

The EDCTP financing model combines funding from the European and African Participating States, the EU, as well as global public and private partners (third parties), for supporting clinical research and capacity development in sub-Saharan Africa.



EDCTP public-public partnership

General Assembly of the Association

15 European Countries

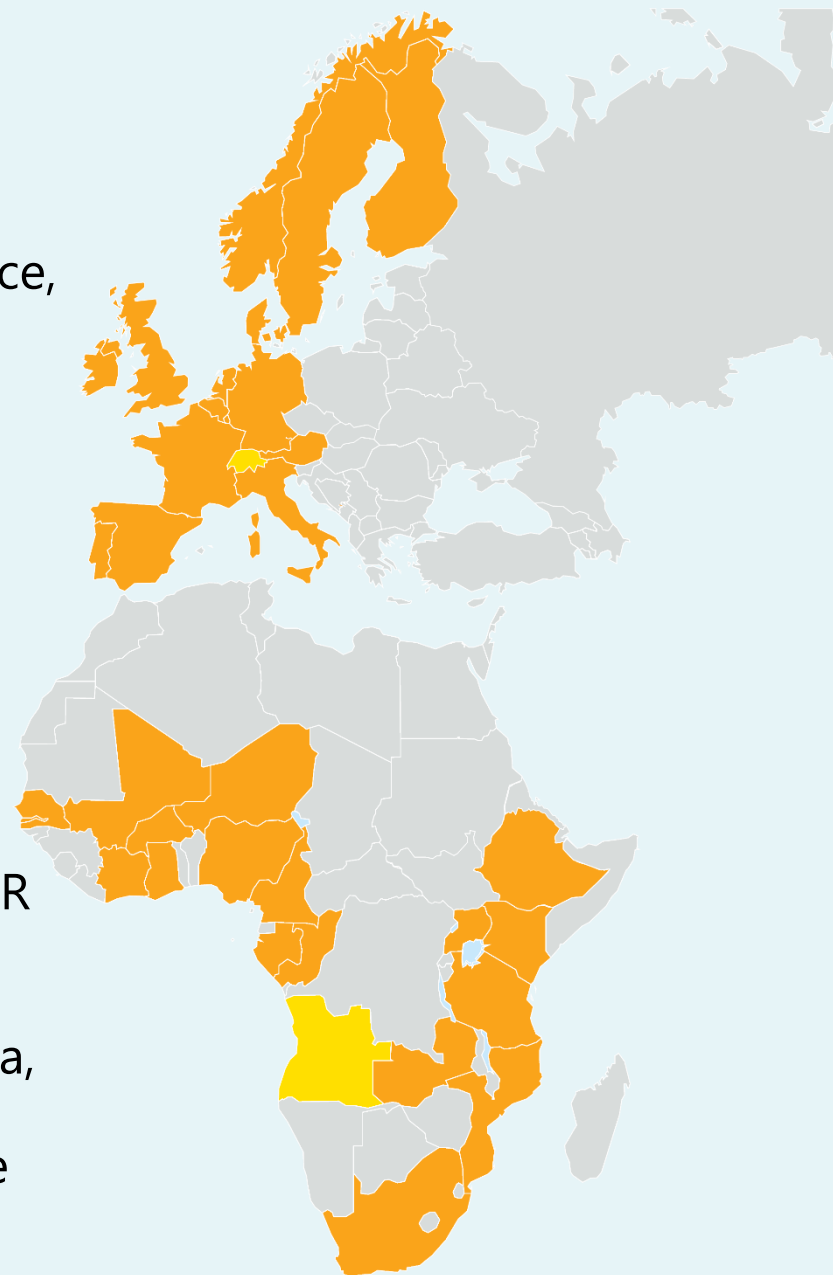
Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom

2 Aspirant Members

Angola, Switzerland

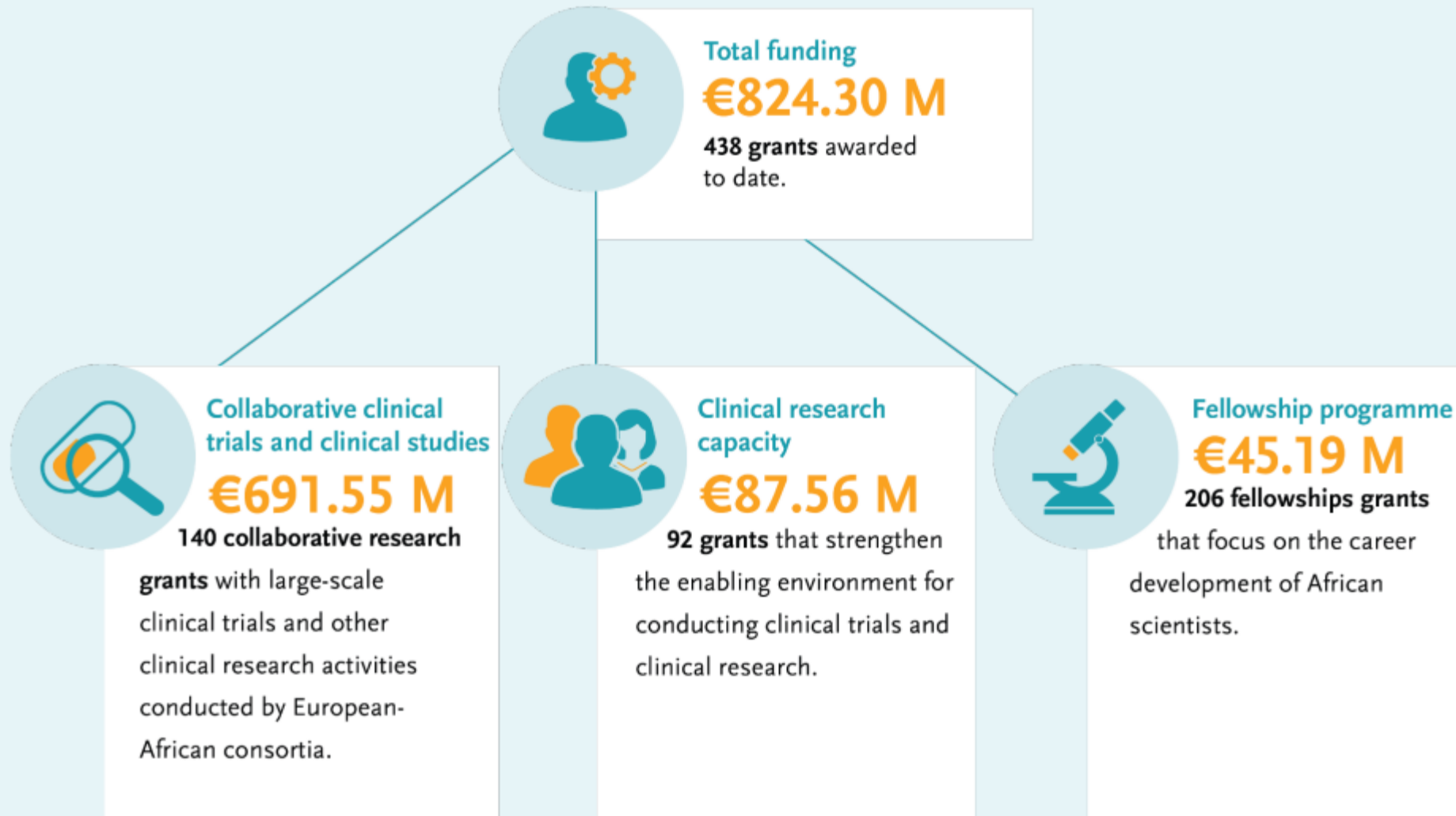
25 African Countries

Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, DR Congo, Rep of Congo, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea-Conakry, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, The Gambia, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe



EDCTP2's investment in R&D and related capacity

2014-2023



EDCTP: R&D outputs

2014-2022

New or improved medical interventions against poverty-related infectious diseases.



332

clinical studies supported by EDCTP2 since 2014. Of these, **64% (213) are interventional (clinical trials) and 36% (119) are non-interventional studies.**



16% (23)

clinical trials involve **post-licensing (phase IV)** studies with a view to influencing health policies and practice and optimising the delivery of medical interventions for the wide range of sub-Saharan African health systems and diverse populations.



63% (91)

clinical trials are **phase II and III studies of drugs and vaccines** which aim to deliver key evidence on safety and efficacy, as well as provide data to support product registration.



12% (37)

of all studies target **pregnant women and their children**. Other vulnerable populations are also involved in the studies, such as newborns and infants (77; 25%), children (103, 33%) and adolescents (102; 33%).

■ Simpler and safer treatment of cryptococcal meningitis

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ESTABLISHED IN 1812

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VOL. 386 NO. 12

DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa2111904

Single-Dose Liposomal Amphotericin B Treatment for Cryptococcal Meningitis

J.N. Jarvis, D.S. Lawrence, D.B. Meya, E. Kagimu, J. Kasibante, E. Mpoza, M.K. Rutakingirwa, K. Ssebambulidde, L. Tugume, J. Rhein, D.R. Boulware, H.C. Mwandumba, M. Moyo, H. Mzinganjira, C. Kanyama, M.C. Hosseinipour, C. Chawinga, G. Meintjes, C. Schutz, K. Comins, A. Singh, C. Muzoora, S. Jjunju, E. Nuwagira, M. Mosepele, T. Leeme, K. Siamisang, C.E. Ndhlovu, A. Hlupeni, C. Mutata, E. van Widenfelt, T. Chen, D. Wang, W. Hope, T. Boyer-Chamard, A. Loyse, S.F. Molloy, N. Youssouf, O. Lortholary, D.G. Lalloo, S. Jaffar, and T.S. Harrison,
for the Ambition Study Group

- Phase III trial of the EDCTP-funded AMBITION-cm project is the **largest HIV-associated cryptococcal meningitis treatment trial undertaken so far.**
- Results showed that a simplified treatment for cryptococcal meningitis was **as good as the WHO-recommended treatment at that time, less harmful to patients and would be more suitable for resource-poor settings.**

Rapid WHO advice:

New WHO guidelines strongly recommend a single high dose of liposomal amphotericin B as part of the preferred induction regimen for the treatment of cryptococcal meningitis in people living with HIV.

| Malaria vaccine

THE LANCET

Efficacy and immunogenicity of R21/Matrix-M vaccine against clinical malaria after 2 years' follow-up in children in Burkina Faso: a phase 1/2b randomised controlled trial

Mehreen S Datto*, Hamtandi Magloire Natama*, Athanase Somét†, Duncan Bellamy†, Ousmane Traoré, Toussaint Rouamba, Marc Christian Tahita, N Félix André Ido, Prisca Yameogo, Daniel Valia, Aida Millogo, Florence Ouedraogo, Rachidatou Soma, Seydou Sawadogo, Faizatou Sorgho, Karim Derra, Eli Rouamba, Fernando Ramos-Lopez, Matthew Cairns, Samuel Provstgaard-Morys, Jeremy Aboagye, Alison Lawrie, Rachel Roberts, Innocent Valéa, Hermans Sorgho, Nicola Williams, Gregory Glenn, Louis Fries, Jenny Reimer, Katie J Ewer,

DOI: 10.1016/S1473-3099(22)00442-X

- Published in *The Lancet Infectious Diseases* in September 2022
- Profiled as BBC News article: '[New malaria vaccine is world-changing, say scientists](#)'
- Approved for use by two African NRAs: Ghana and Nigeria in April 2023, before approval by other regional stringent regulatory authorities.

EDCTP strategy for capacity development

Strengthening product-focused health systems research

Phase IV studies

- Pragmatic studies
- Implementation research with a product focus
- Pharmacovigilance

Regional Networks of Excellence



Site preparation for
conducting clinical research

Comprehensive **fellowship programmes**

- Preparatory fellowships
- Industry Fellowship (EDCTP-WHO/TDR Fellowship)
- Career Development Fellowship
- Senior Fellowship
- Senior Fellowship Plus

Strengthening **ethics capacity and regulatory framework**



EDCTP2 Regional Networks of Excellence

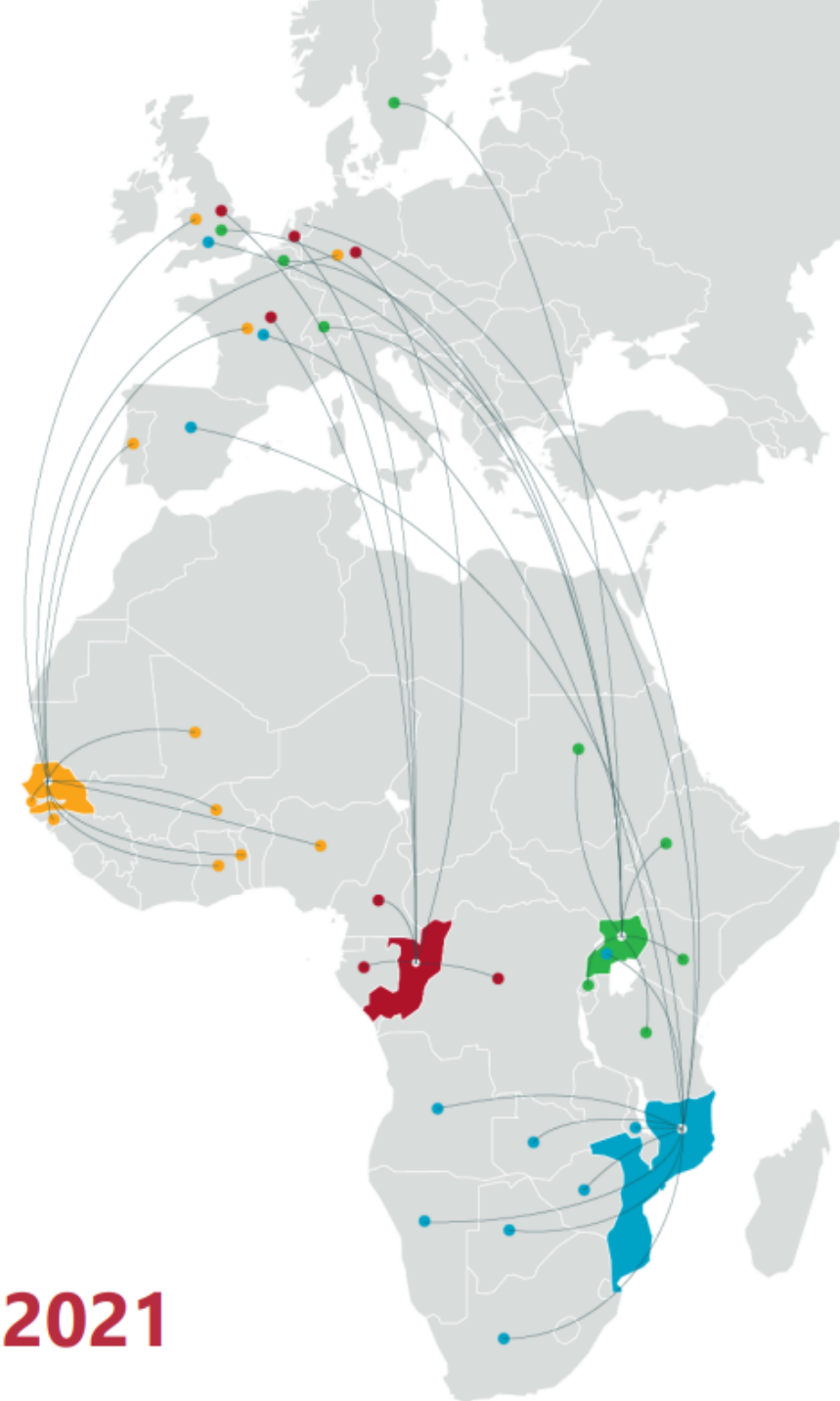
African countries

1. Angola
2. Botswana
3. Burkina Faso
4. Cameroon
5. Congo
6. Democratic Republic of the Congo
7. Ethiopia
8. Gabon
9. Gambia
10. Ghana
11. Guinea-Bissau
12. Kenya
13. Malawi
14. Mali
15. Mozambique
16. Namibia
17. Nigeria
18. Rwanda
19. Senegal
20. South Africa
21. Sudan
22. Tanzania
23. Togo
24. Uganda
25. Zambia
26. Zimbabwe

European countries

1. Belgium
2. France
3. Germany
4. Netherlands
5. Portugal
6. Spain
7. Sweden
8. Switzerland
9. United Kingdom

-  **CANTAM2 Venture**
Central Africa clinical research Network
-  **EACCR2**
Eastern Africa Consortium for Clinical Research
-  **WANETAM**
West African Network for TB Aids and malaria
-  **TESA II**
Trials of Excellence in Southern Africa



20 Female PhD grants in 2021

EDCTP's contribution towards strengthening ethics and regulatory capacity in Africa

2014-2021



46 EDCTP-supported ethics and regulatory projects are being conducted in **37 sub-Saharan African countries**.

Grant value = **15 Million Eur.**

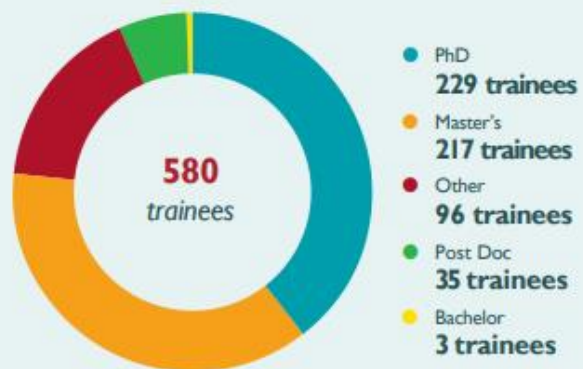


205 fellows from 24 African countries are supported with the potential to become research leaders. Furthermore, EDCTP has supported **580 trainees** on EDCTP projects from 33 sub-Saharan African countries (including 217 Master's and 229 PhD students).

Fellows by type of fellowship



Trainees on EDCTP grants by type



Of the **academic trainings** (Bachelor's, Master's and PhD) of African researchers, **78%** are pursued at academic institutions in Africa.

150 epidemiologists and **biostatisticians** across Africa funded through an EDCTP-Africa CDC joint initiative.

Gender equality in science

37% of the projects in the EDCTP2 portfolio are led by a female:



46% of the 580 African academic trainees are female.

39% of the members of expert review committees for EDCTP calls evaluations are female.

EDCTP Grants Received by Mozambique's Institutions, by Type of Grant, 2014-2019

Type	Grant	Value (M Euro)
Clinical Trials and Studies	13 (1)*	11.3
Clinical Research Capacity	3 (2)*	0.73
Fellowships	1*	0.15
TOTAL	17	12.18

Type	Grant	Value (M Euro)
HIV and associated	4	4.63
Malaria	3	3.06
TB	4	2.06
Neglected infections	2	0.97
Lower respiratory infections	1	0.73
Networks of Excellence	1	0.70
Ethics and regulatory capacity	2	0.03
TOTAL	17	12.18

*** Coordinated by Mozambique's institution/researcher**

EDCTP Grants Received by Mozambique's Institutions, by Institution, 2014-2019

Institution	Grant (M Euro)
Instituto Nacional de Saúde (INS)	5.94
Fundação Manhiça	5.56
Universidade Eduardo Mondlane	0.43
Ministério da Saúde/DF	0.18
Universidade Lúrio	0.06

Call topics and budgets under 2022 WP

Topic ID	Topic short name	Types of action	Budget(EUR)
HORIZON-JU-GH-EDCTP3-2022-CALL1-01-01	Promoting implementation of research results into policy and practice	Research and Innovation Action (RIA)	38.030.000
HORIZON-JU-GH-EDCTP3-2022-CALL1-01-02	Implementing adaptive platform trials	Research and Innovation Action (RIA)	30.850.000
HORIZON-JU-GH-EDCTP3-2022-CALL1-01-03	Genomic epidemiology	Research and Innovation Action (RIA)	22.000.000
HORIZON-JU-GH-EDCTP3-2022-CALL1-01-04	Creating a sustainable clinical trial network	Coordination and Support Actions (CSA)	1.000.000
HORIZON-JU-GH-EDCTP3-2022-CALL1-01-05	Strengthening regulatory capacity for supporting conduct of clinical trials	Coordination and Support Actions (CSA)	5.000.000

Calls for proposals 2023

Call topics	Budget (Eur)	Single or Two-stage
Global Health EDCTP3 Training Networks - Clinical Research Fellowships (RIA)	15 300 000	Single stage
Funding to successfully finalise EDCTP2-funded clinical trials that were negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic (RIA)	14 000 000	Single stage
Implementation research/real life assessment of existing interventions in women and children's health (RIA)	26 000 000	Single stage
Research to rapidly evaluate interventions on Ebola outbreaks in sub-Saharan Africa (RIA)	11 000 000	Single stage
Strengthening ethics and regulatory capacity (CSA)	8 000 000	Single stage
Improving modes of delivery, deployment, and uptake of vaccines through phase IV/implementation research (RIA)	30 000 000	Two-stage
Advancing point-of-care diagnostics to the market (RIA)	26 000 000	Two-stage
Other Actions: Raising research funds in the event of a public health emergency: EUR 1 000 000		

CTCAN: Clinical Trials Community Africa Network

RESPONSE

1

Umbrella sub-Saharan African (SSA) **network** of relevant subnetworks of clinical trial sites and laboratories

2

Epidemiological data associated with the sites and laboratories

3

Clear and operationalized **regulatory information** required for clinical trial start-up and conduct

4

Framework to **develop capacity** and **increase clinical trial preparedness**

5

Make all this information available through a single electronic platform: the **Clinical Trials Community (CTC) platform**

From siloes...



...to an integrated, African-driven network





Eleventh EDCTP Forum

Partnering for Global Health Research Innovation
and Impact in Africa

7—10 November 2023 | Paris, France

Celebrating EDCTP: two decades and beyond



EDCTP Prizes 2023

- **Scientific Leadership Prize:** awarded to world-class scientists in sub-Saharan Africa up to 50 years of age. The prize consists of a recognition trophy and a cash prize of €10,000.
- **Outstanding Female Scientist Prize:** awarded to world-class female scientists residing in sub-Saharan Africa. The prize consists of a recognition trophy and a cash prize of €20,000.
- **Outstanding Research Teams Prize:** awarded to outstanding research teams in sub-Saharan Africa and Europe. The prize consists of a recognition trophy and a cash prize of €50,000.
- **Dr Pascoal Mocumbi Prize:** named in honour of EDCTP's first High Representative, and awarded to a scientist, policy-maker or advocate for health and research from anywhere in the world. The prize consists of a recognition trophy and a cash prize of €50,000.