

EDCTP Update | January 2025



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World NTD Day: EDCTP contributions to ending neglected tropical diseases



EDCTP's investments in neglected infectious diseases



€80 M

In 42 projects on neglected infectious diseases awarded to date.



€70.59 M

to support 19 projects with collaborative clinical trials and clinical studies conducted by European-African consortia.



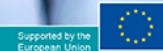
€4.50 M

to support 2 projects that facilitate the translation of research results of medical interventions into policies and practices for national health programmes.



€4.91 M

to support 21 fellowships that focus on the career development of individual researchers.



In line with the theme of World NTD Day 2025, "Unite. Act. Eliminate," EDCTP reaffirms its commitment to ending neglected tropical diseases (NTDs). Since their inclusion in the scope of the EDCTP2 in 2014, our research funding has achieved significant milestones in controlling and eliminating these diseases.

[Read more »](#)

Global Health EDCTP3: call for proposals open for submissions and Info Day 2025

2025 calls for proposals open for submission!

€214 million
4 calls for proposals
7 topics

Deadline: 20 March 2025

Global Health EDCTP3

The Global Health EDCTP3 [calls for proposals](#) are now open for applications. As part of the [Work Programme 2025](#), four calls for proposals have been published, encompassing seven topics with a total budget of €214 million.

Global Health EDCTP3 is also hosting an online [Info Day](#) on 11 February 2025, from 09:00-13:00 (CET). This event aims to inform potential applicants about the Global Health EDCTP3 calls for proposals under the Work Programme 2025, including eligibility criteria and other financial and legal aspects.

EDCTP Prizes 2025: submissions and timelines



The contest for EDCTP Prizes 2025 will open for submission on 11 March 2025. Unlike previous editions, applications for EDCTP Prizes 2025 are to be submitted by the individuals/teams applying for the Prizes, with supporting letter(s) of recommendation from at least one reputable scientist. The contest submission period will run from 11 March to 1 April 2025, with outcomes expected to be communicated in April 2025. The Prizes will be awarded at the Twelfth EDCTP Forum in Kigali, Rwanda.

Visit the [Global Health EDCTP3 website](#) for more information, including the Rules of Contest.

Twelfth EDCTP Forum: deadline for abstract and scientific symposia submissions on 23 February 2025

A promotional graphic for the EDCTP Forum. It features the Global Health EDCTP3 logo, the 12th EDCTP Forum logo, and the European Union logo. The text reads: "EDCTP Forum Better health through global research partnerships 15 - 20 JUNE 2025 | KIGALI, RWANDA". Below this, it says "CALL FOR ABSTRACTS & SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIA DEADLINE: 23 FEBRUARY 2025" and "www.edctpforum.eu". The background shows a person in a lab coat and mask working with a pipette and a multi-well plate.

Global Health
EDCTP3

12th

EDCTP Forum
Better health through
global research partnerships
15 - 20 JUNE 2025 | KIGALI, RWANDA

Co-funded by
the European Union

**CALL FOR ABSTRACTS &
SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIA**
DEADLINE: 23 FEBRUARY 2025

www.edctpforum.eu

The Twelfth EDCTP Forum will be held in Kigali, Rwanda, from 15 to 20 June 2025.

The EDCTP Forum Programme Committee invites submissions for [abstracts](#) for oral and poster presentations, as well as applications for [scientific symposia](#). The deadline for all submissions is **23 February 2025**.

The Twelfth EDCTP Forum offers sponsorship opportunities designed to enhance the visibility of organisations working in the field of Global Health EDCTP3. We invite you to explore the various [sponsorship items and packages](#) available on our Forum website.

For more information, please visit the [Twelfth EDCTP Forum website](#).

EDCTP Association members support mpox research



Global Health EDCTP3 is supporting four new research projects in response to the ongoing mpox outbreak thanks to contributions from the EDCTP Association, particularly from the UK (Department of Health and Social Care) and France (ANRS Maladies Infectieuses Émergentes), bringing the total EDCTP3 investment in mpox research to f €12.1 million.

[Read more »](#)

Read the EDCTP eMagazine



We invite you to explore the eighth issue of the [EDCTP eMagazine](#). Featured articles include:

- **[Advancing equity in health research](#)**: This article shows how the EDCTP Association promotes equity in health research by addressing gender disparities in sub-Saharan Africa through the Networks of Excellence, with contributions from the UK Department of Health and Social Care.
- **[Fostering networking among EDCTP Fellows](#)**: This piece outlines EDCTP's efforts to foster networking and support the next generation of African scientific leaders through comprehensive fellowship programmes.
- **[Investing in strategies to better detect TB](#)**: This article focuses on EDCTP's portfolio of TB research and how EDCTP invests in innovative new diagnostic tools to detect TB faster and more affordably in sub-Saharan Africa.
- **[The EDCTP Association](#)**: This article highlights the EDCTP Association's model of European-African collaboration and its contributions to the EDCTP2 and Global Health EDCTP3 programmes.

Recent events

ADVAC Scientific Committee meeting



Dr Pauline Beattie, Operations Manager and Scientific Advisor, EDCTP Association, participated in the ADVAC [Scientific Committee](#) meeting in Paris, France, on 16-17 January 2025. The committee reviewed applications for participation in the [25th Advanced Course of Vaccinology](#) (ADVAC) to be held in Annecy, France this summer. EDCTP, with funding from the UK Department of Health and Social Care, is supporting 10 researchers from sub-Saharan Africa to participate in the two-week training course. Applications for the 2026 AVAC course will open in July 2026. We encourage EDCTP grant holders working in vaccinology to apply.

EDCTP2 project news

New tablet shows promise for the control and elimination of intestinal worms



The ALIVE trial, led by the EDCTP-funded STOP Consortium, showed that a tablet combining albendazole and ivermectin is safe and more effective than albendazole alone in treating soil-transmitted helminths. The results, published in [The Lancet Infectious Diseases](#) on 10 January 2025, offer opportunities to improve the control of these neglected tropical infections, which affect around 1.5 billion people worldwide.

[Read more »](#)

PREPARED project survey: Research ethics and integrity challenges in fragile settings

The [PREPARED Project](#), of which EDCTP is a partner, is developing ethics guidance for research during crisis, with a focus on research in fragile settings. To ensure that



the ethics guidance is informed as closely as possible by real-life experiences, the project is currently running an anonymous survey, which is based on a literature review. If you have undertaken research in a fragile setting, please consider taking part. The types of fragile settings we refer to include environments such as conflict or post-conflict zones, regions that recently experienced natural disasters, refugee camps under serious resource constraints, or high-crime settings such as high-crime informal settlements. We are not referring to pandemic settings. The primary objective of this survey is to inform the development of a new research ethics and integrity code that is applicable across a range of fragile settings. The survey closes at midnight (UK time) on 7 February 2025.

[Access the survey »](#)

PREVAC-UP training manual on community engagement methods for clinical trials



Community engagement (CE) is crucial for ethical biomedical research and enhancing clinical trial outcomes, but understanding its effectiveness remains limited. The PREVAC-UP Ebola vaccine trial, conducted in Guinea, Liberia, Mali, and Sierra Leone since 2015, has highlighted the importance of engaging communities in outbreak research.

The project developed a training manual that provides practical guidance on implementing CE in vaccine trials. The manual details the most effective timing and methods for various stakeholders and is a valuable resource for future research.

[Read more »](#)

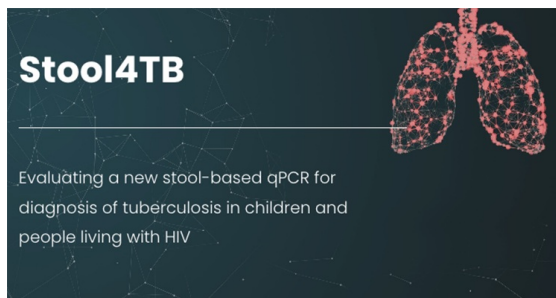
SimpliciTB: OptiRiMoxTB trial completes recruitment



The Optimised Dose of Rifampicin and Moxifloxacin for the Treatment of Drug-Susceptible Pulmonary Tuberculosis (OptiRiMoxTB) is a phase III clinical trial that aims to simplify tuberculosis treatment. The trial has officially completed participant recruitment across multiple sites in Gabon, Malawi, Mozambique, and Tanzania. Funded by EDCTP and part of the SImpliciTB consortium, this study seeks to explore innovative treatment strategies that could transform the management of TB.

[Read more »](#)

Stool4TB completes recruitment



The Stool4TB study is testing a stool-based qPCR diagnostic platform as a point-of-care tool for identifying TB infections in patients with HIV/AIDS in Eswatini, Mozambique, and Uganda.

By early 2024, recruitment for the adult cohort was completed, and by 15 January 2025, the final participant in the pediatric cohort was recruited, totalling 677 adults and 1,290 infants.

[Read more »](#)

EDCTP Fellows

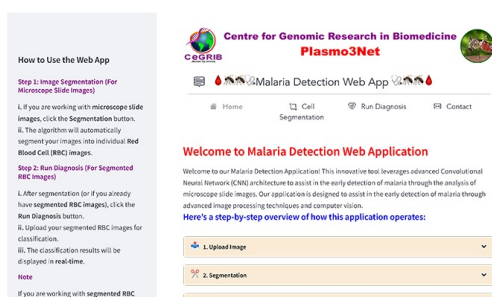
CDAE project: dissemination and closing workshop



The Capacity Development of Applied Epidemiologists (CDAE) project, part of the EDCTP-Africa CDC Epi-Biostat Fellowships, has graduated 15 Fellows from Malawi, Kenya, Somalia, Tanzania, and Zambia. The CDAE project aims to develop epidemiologists who will enhance health transformation in Africa.

[Read more »](#)

EDCTP Fellow develops malaria detection app



[Dr Kolapo Oyebola](#), an EDCTP Career Development Fellow at the Nigerian Institute of Medical Research, has created a malaria detection app - [Plasmo3Net](#). This web application uses a cutting-edge neural network algorithm to identify falciparum malaria in images of thin blood smears. By harnessing the power of artificial intelligence, Plasmo3Net contributes to the global effort to combat malaria, offering a promising solution for real-time malaria diagnosis to support control and elimination initiatives. The app was created by Dr Oyebola and his team, including PhD student [Afolabi Owoloye](#), who is supported by the EDCTP Career Development Fellowship.

Advancing diagnostics for non-malarial febrile illnesses in HIV-infected children



In Uganda, non-malarial febrile illnesses (NMFI) present serious health risks, especially for children living with HIV. A study led by EDCTP Career Development Fellow [Dr Gerald Mboowa](#) (Uganda), used shotgun metagenomic sequencing on stool samples to enhance diagnostic accuracy for NMFI.

[Read more »](#)

Prof. Keertan Dheda receives Alan Pifer Award



EDCTP extends its congratulations to [Professor Keertan Dheda](#) (South Africa), former EDCTP Senior Fellow, who has been honoured with the prestigious Alan Pifer Award at UCT's 2024 Staff Awards.

This award recognises socially responsive research that addresses critical challenges in South Africa and highlights Professor Dheda's significant contributions to tuberculosis research. His work has advanced diagnostics, treatment, and healthcare policy, impacting millions globally, particularly in the communities most affected by tuberculosis.

Check out the [video](#) showcasing Professor Dheda's work

EDCTP mourns the passing of Dr Karim Traore



EDCTP joins the research community in mourning the passing of [Dr Karim Traoré](#). Dr Traoré was a distinguished medical doctor who held a PhD in biology. In 2020, he was awarded a Senior Fellowship grant from the EDCTP association. During this fellowship, he led the project "Research Capacity Building by DHA-PQ SMC Clinical Trial in School-Aged Children in Mali" (TMA2018SF-2471). It focused on comparing the safety and efficacy of two malaria chemoprevention treatments: dihydroartemisinin plus piperazine versus sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine in children in Mali. Under his guidance, three Masters candidates and one PhD candidate were trained. To date, the project has produced [one publication](#) in the Journal of Infectious Diseases. Our heartfelt condolences go out to the family of Dr Traoré during this difficult time.

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 compliance with EDCTP grant requirements to make publications openly accessible as soon as possible. [Submit your manuscript through Europe PMC Plus](#).

- Archives of Public Health = Archives Belges de Sante Publique: [Feasibility, acceptability and preliminary effects of a social network-based, peer-led HIV self-testing intervention among men in two Ugandan fishing communities, 2022](#). Matovu, JKB Matovu, et al. 24 January 2025
- BMC Infectious Diseases: [Beyond the fever: shotgun metagenomic sequencing of stool unveils pathogenic players in HIV-infected children with non-malarial febrile illness](#). Nabisubi, P, et al. 21 January 2025.
- International Breastfeeding Journal: [A randomized controlled, trial on effects of mobile phone text messaging in combination with motivational interviewing versus standard infant feeding counselling on breastfeeding and child health outcomes, among women living with HIV](#). Zunza, M, et al. 20 January 2025
- PloS One: [Association between maternal mental health and early childhood development, nutrition, and common childhood illnesses in Khwisero subcounty, Kenya](#). Abajobir, A, et al. 17 January 2025
- Vaccines: [Safety, Tolerability, and Immunogenicity of the InvaplexAR-Detox Shigella Vaccine Co-Administered with the dmLT Adjuvant in Dutch and Zambian Adults: Study Protocol for a Multi-Center, Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled, Dose-Escalation Phase Ia/b Clinical Trial](#). Roozen, G V T, et al. 8 January 2025
- International Journal of Molecular Sciences: [Comparative Transcriptomics Reveal Differential Expression of Coding and Non-Coding RNAs in Clinical Strains of Mycobacterium tuberculosis](#). Mvubu, NE, et al. 30 December 2024
- PloS One: [Associations between dietary patterns and intestinal inflammation among HIV-infected and uninfected adults: A cross-sectional study in Tanzania](#). Malindisa, EK, et al. 30 December 2024
- Scientific Reports: [Epidemiology and diversity of Plasmodium species in Franceville and their implications for malaria control](#). Boundenga, L, et al. 30 December 2024
- Tropical Medicine and Infectious Disease: [Assessing the Acceptability and Feasibility of Five Cycles of Seasonal Malaria Chemoprevention in Côte d'Ivoire](#). Kangah, O, et al. 30 December 2024
- Scientific Reports: [Parasitic infections during pregnancy in Gabon affect glycosylation patterns of maternal and child antibodies](#). Honkpehedji, Y J, et al. 30 December 2024
- Reproductive Health: [Contraceptive use, prevalence and incidence of pregnancy and associated factors among women participating in a vaccine preparedness cohort study in Masaka, Uganda, a retrospective secondary analysis](#). Kusemererwa, S, et al. 27 December 2024
- Journal of Parasitology Research: [Microscopic Malaria Infection and Its Determinants in Urban and Rural Populations Living in South-East Gabon](#). Biteghe-Bi-Essone, J C, et al. 26 December 2024
- BMC Health Services Research: [Pre-diagnosis and pre-treatment loss to follow-up and associated factors among patients with presumed tuberculosis and those diagnosed in Uganda](#). Nuwematsiko, R, et al. 23 December 2024
- Placenta: [Genetic profiling of Plasmodium falciparum antigenic biomarkers among asymptomatic pregnant women on intermittent preventive treatment with sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine from southwest Nigeria](#). Funwei, RI, et al. 22 December 2024
- AIDS Research and Therapy: [Brief Communication: Factors associated with willingness to use long-acting injectable Cabotegravir for HIV pre-exposure prophylaxis \(PrEP\) among female undergraduate students at a Ugandan university](#). Atuhaire, B, et al. 20 December 2024
- PLOS Global Public Health: [Methods for measuring body composition in Zambian adolescents living with HIV](#). Filteau, S, et al. 19 December 2024

- BMC Public Health: [“Ich-Mupong”, a swollen stomach: an ethnographic study of the daily lived experiences of schoolchildren in schistosomiasis high transmission areas along Lake Albert, Hoima District.](#) Odoi, P, et al. 18 December 2024
- Infection and Drug Resistance: [Antimicrobial Resistance Levels of Non-Tuberculous Bacteria Isolates from Sputum of TB Patients in Ghana.](#) Morgan, P A, et al. 18 December 2024
- Malaria Journal: [Asymptomatic Plasmodium falciparum infections and determinants of carriage in a seasonal malaria chemoprevention setting in Northern Cameroon and south Senegal \(Kedougou\).](#) Ali, I M, et al. 18 December 2024
- BMC Public Health: [Descriptive epidemiology of Lassa fever, its trend, seasonality, and mortality predictors in Ebonyi State, South-East, Nigeria, 2018-2022.](#) Ezenwa-Ahanene, A, et al. 18 December 2024
- BMC Health Services Research: [Evaluating maternal death surveillance and response system in Sunyani Municipality of Bono region in Ghana from 2017-2021.](#) Ngegbai, A S, et al. 18 December 2024
- Plos Neglected Tropical Diseases: [Barriers and facilitators to programmatic mass drug administration in persistent schistosomiasis hotspot communities: An ethnographic study along Lake Albert, midwestern Uganda.](#) Odoi, P, et al. 13 December 2024
- BMC Global and Public Health: [Cautiously optimistic: paediatric critical care nurses' perspectives on data-driven algorithms in low-resource settings-a human-centred design study in Malawi.](#) Rakers, M, et al. 2 December 2024
- Frontiers in Tropical Diseases: [Large-scale production of Mansonella perstans infective larvae from engorged Culicoides milnei.](#) Kien, C A, et al. 1 December 2024
- IJID Regions: [Clinical epidemiology, genetic diversity, and drug susceptibility patterns by whole genome sequencing of Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex isolates in Gabon from 2012 to 2022.](#) Adegbite, B R, et al. 28 November 2024
- Viruses: [HIV-1 Antiretroviral Drug Resistance in Mozambique: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.](#) Gonçalves, P, et al. 21 November 2024
- Epidemiology and Infection: [Identifying risk factors for clinical Lassa fever in Sierra Leone, 2019-2021.](#) Sama, D J, et al. 20 November 2024
- The British Journal of Nutrition: [Associations of linear growth with body composition of perinatally HIV-infected African adolescents.](#) Filteau, S, et al. 11 November 2024.
- Frontiers in Parasitology: [Detecting two Schistosoma circulating antigens – CCA and CAA – in urine and serum to improve diagnosis of human schistosomiasis.](#) Hoekstra, P T, et al. 4 October 2024
- Frontiers in Parasitology: [Next step towards point-of-care molecular diagnosis of female genital schistosomiasis \(FGS\): evaluation of an instrument-free LAMP procedure.](#) van Bergen, K J M, et al. 13 May 2024
- Frontiers in Parasitology: [Genetic variation of the Plasmodium falciparum circumsporozoite protein in parasite isolates from Homabay County in Kenya.](#) Maina, M, et al. 8 April 2024
- Frontiers in Parasitology: [Molecular detection and quantification of Plasmodium vivax DNA in blood pellet and plasma samples from patients in Senegal.](#) Sambe, B S, et al. 24 April 2023

Resources

- EDCTP | [Knowledge Hub: Tools and guidance for conducting clinical research](#)
 - EDCTP | [Alumni Network](#)
 - 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](#)
 - PACTR | [Open access clinical trial registry](#)
 - PAVIA project | [PV strengthening blue-print](#)
-

Training and funding opportunities

eLearning Course Relaunch: The Data Life Cycle: Practices and Policies

The Global Health Network is pleased to announce the update and relaunch of the previous Data Sharing course, now called 'The Data Life Cycle: Practices and Policies.' This course provides practical, up-to-date guidance on data management and sharing, addressing the challenges faced in this area. Each module, written by subject-matter experts and peer-reviewed, incorporates the latest references and best practices. All modules were reviewed and updated by the EDCTP Networks of Excellence Data Sharing Working Group.

[More information »](#)

Brocher Foundation 2026 Call for Proposals | Residencies & Workshops

The Brocher Foundation offers Researchers the opportunity to take part in a 1 to 3-month Residency or to organise a 2 to 3-day multidisciplinary Workshop on the Ethical, Legal and Social Implications of new medical developments. This is the perfect opportunity to make the most of the uniquely located Foundation on the shores of Lake Geneva and to meet experts from various Geneva-based international and non-governmental organisations (WHO, UNAIDS, WIPO, WTO, ILO, WMA, ICRC, MSF, etc.). Applications must be submitted by 6 March 2025 at 13:00 (Geneva time).

[More information »](#)

Mark your calendar

EDCTP events

Twelfth EDCTP Forum | 15-20 June 2025

The Twelfth EDCTP Forum will be held at the Kigali Convention Centre in Kigali, Rwanda, from 15-20 June 2025. The event will be hosted by the [Ministry of Health of Rwanda](#) and the [Rwanda Biomedical Centre](#), and jointly organised by [Global Health EDCTP3](#) and the [EDCTP Association](#). The theme for the 2025 Forum is "*Better health through global research partnerships*". Calls for submission of abstracts and scientific symposia are open, with a deadline of 23 February 2025.

[More information »](#)

Other events

Webinar Series: Understanding Africa's Research Landscape and Open Communication Strategies | 5 February 2025

The Africa Bioethics Network (ABN) is launching its new Webinar Series: Promoting Science and Research Collaboration in Africa — a year-long program designed to foster impactful scientific partnerships across the continent. The first session of this series is on 'Understanding Africa's Research Landscape and Open Communication Strategies' and will take place on 5 February 2025 (virtually).

[More information »](#)

TCIS AFRICA 2025 | 7-8 May 2025

TCIS AFRICA 2025 will be held in Cairo, Egypt, on 7 and 8 May 2025. The conference serves as a convergence point for clinical researchers, medical professionals, clinical research organisations (CROs), pharmaceutical companies, regulatory agencies, and academia to network, share achievements, milestones, and challenges, and establish strategic directions for clinical trial management in Africa.

[More information »](#)

2nd Conference on Innovations in Tuberculosis | 12 May 2025

The 2nd Conference on Innovations in Tuberculosis will occur on 12 May 2025 in Windhoek, Namibia, as a pre-event to the [INTEREST 2025 Conference](#). The conference is currently accepting abstract submissions, with a deadline of 14 February 2025.

[More information »](#)

Oxford Global Health & Bioethics International Conference | 8-9 July 2025

The Oxford Global Health & Bioethics International Conference will take place on 8 and 9 July 2025, at the Mathematics Institute, University of Oxford, with selected sessions available online. The conference brings together the global health bioethics community, and provides a platform for sharing research, exchanging ideas, and building collaborations. The Call for Abstracts is now open. The deadline for submissions is Wednesday 5 February 2025.

[More information »](#)

EDCTP Communications thanks everyone who provided information for this Update.



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