



## EDCTP Update | February 2025



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**EMA publishes positive opinion on a fixed-dose combination of albendazole and ivermectin to treat parasitic worm infections**



The Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use of the European Medicines Agency (EMA) has issued a [positive scientific opinion](#) on the fixed-dose combination of albendazole and ivermectin for the treatment of infections caused by soil-transmitted helminths and lymphatic filariasis in adults, adolescents, and children aged 5 years or older. The favourable assessment by the EMA, based on the results of the ALIVE trial led by the [STOP Consortium](#), represents a significant milestone for this pharmacological tool, advancing its potential for widespread adoption in endemic countries.

The journey toward this achievement began in 2017 when the [Mundo Sano Foundation](#) [partnered with EDCTP](#) to leverage research funding aimed at combating neglected infectious diseases. This partnership provided resources for the STOP 1 and 2 projects, highlighting the importance of collaborations to address these critical health challenges.

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## Global Health EDCTP3 call for proposals

**2025 calls for proposals  
open for submission!**

**€214 million**  
**4 calls for proposals**  
**7 topics**

**Deadline: 20 March 2025**



On 30 January 2025, Global Health EDCTP3 launched its [calls for proposals for 2025](#). The calls are part of the [2025 Work Programme](#), which is the largest and most ambitious since

the Joint Undertaking was established, featuring a total budget of €214 million. Four calls for proposals have been announced, addressing the following topics:

- [Accelerating the development of prophylactic vaccines against Neglected Tropical Diseases \(NTDs\) in sub-Saharan Africa](#)
- [Global collaboration action for research on existing Malaria therapeutics and clinical development of new antimalarial candidates](#)
- [Global collaboration action for the development of vaccines for reducing the disease burden of Tuberculosis in sub-Saharan Africa](#)
- [Global collaborative action for strengthening the Regional Networks of Excellence and Epidemic Preparedness Consortia](#)
- [Global collaborative action tackling Diarrhoeal Diseases in the context of Climate and Health](#)
- [Global Health EDCTP3 JU and contributing partners funded Strategic Training Hubs for Fellowships in Public Health covering Biostatistics, Epidemiology and Modelling](#)
- [Transformative Innovations in Global Health](#)

The deadline for the calls for proposals is **20 March 2025**.

Global Health EDCTP3 and the members of the EDCTP Association ([France](#), [Norway](#), [Portugal](#) and [Spain](#)) hosted a series of Info Days to support application preparation. You can [watch the recording](#) and access the [presentations](#) of the Info Day organised by Global Health EDCTP3.

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## EDCTP Association as Coordinator of Global Health EDCTP3 projects



The EDCTP Association will serve as the coordinator for projects funded under two EDCTP3 calls: [HORIZON-JU-GH-EDCTP3-2025-03-NETWORKS-01](#) (two-stage) and [HORIZON-JU-GH-EDCTP3-2025-02-FELLOWSHIP-01](#).

In this role, the EDCTP Association will facilitate communication between the consortium and Global Health EDCTP3, distribute payments to beneficiaries without delay, submit required reports, and ensure effective coordination of funded networks with the Scientific Project Leader. Please visit the [EDCTP website](#) for more information.

Additionally, an information session for applicants to these calls will be held on Monday 10 March 2025. In this session, applicants will receive further information from the calls and better understand the coordination process. They will also be able to ask questions regarding the proposal submission process. [Register now](#) to participate in the information



## EDCTP Prizes 2025: applications open on 11 March 2025



The EDCTP Prizes 2025 will be accepting nominations from 11 March 2025. Global Health EDCTP3 recognises outstanding individuals and research teams from Africa and Europe who have made a significant impact in their research fields. Moreover, the awardees will have contributed significantly to enhancing clinical research capacity in Africa and to promoting South-South and North-South networking. The Prizes will be awarded during the Twelfth EDCTP Forum in Kigali, Rwnada.

Visit the [Forum website](#) for more information on the application procedure.

## Twelfth EDCTP Forum updates

A promotional banner for the 12th EDCTP Forum. It features the Global Health EDCTP3 logo, the 12th EDCTP Forum logo with the tagline 'Better health through global research partnerships', and the European Union logo with the text 'Co-funded by the European Union'. The banner also includes the dates '15 - 20 JUNE 2025' and the slogan 'BETTER HEALTH THROUGH GLOBAL RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS' over an image of two researchers in lab coats and masks. The website 'www.edctpforum.eu' is at the bottom.

Global Health EDCTP3

12<sup>th</sup> EDCTP Forum  
Better health through global research partnerships

Co-funded by the European Union

15 - 20 JUNE 2025

BETTER HEALTH THROUGH GLOBAL RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS

www.edctpforum.eu

Preparations for the Twelfth EDCTP Forum are moving at full speed. The submission period for abstracts and scientific symposia closed on 23 February 2025, and the Programme Committee has now begun the evaluation process. Applicants can expect to receive the results by early April.

**Registration** to attend the EDCTP Forum is now open. Please note that attendance is limited to in-person participation and is free of charge. However, all attendees are responsible for organising their own travel, accommodation, visa, and insurance arrangements, as well as covering the associated costs, except for invited delegates sponsored by Global Health EDCTP3 and scholarship recipients.

Abstract authors (including scholarship candidates) and chairs or speakers of scientific symposia should **wait until after the abstract and symposium review is complete before registering for the Forum**. Once this evaluation process concludes, those selected for abstracts and scientific symposia will receive additional registration instructions.

Moreover, there are various ways to get involved at the Forum. Our **sponsorship opportunities** provide options to enhance the visibility of partner organisations working in the same field as Global Health EDCTP3.

For more information about the Twelfth EDCTP Forum, please visit <https://edctpforum.eu>.

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## Africa CDC and Global Health EDCTP3 sign Memorandum of Understanding



The Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) and Global Health EDCTP3 have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to support their shared objective of promoting public health in Africa and enhancing their collaboration in strengthening health research, clinical trials, and pandemic preparedness across the African continent.

This MoU builds on a well-established partnership formed through previous EDCTP programmes and follows a [previous MoU concluded between the EDCTP Association and Africa CDC in 2021](#). It comes at a time of increasing global health challenges, including climate change, ongoing conflicts, and constrained financial resources for public health. Through the MoU, the Africa CDC and Global Health EDCTP3 express their commitment to joining efforts and maintaining a close and continuous relationship to achieve their common objectives.

## Recent events

### Launch of the 100 Days Mission Fourth Implementation report



On 31 January 2025, Cape Town, South Africa, served as the backdrop for a significant hybrid event marking the launch of the [100 Days Mission Fourth Implementation report](#). This initiative, led by the International Pandemic Preparedness Secretariat (IPPS) in collaboration with the South African Government and the South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC), underscores key advancements in pandemic preparedness and response efforts.

The event marked the official launch of the 4th Implementation Report alongside the 2nd 100 Days Mission Scorecard, emphasising key findings and priorities for the year ahead. Significant discussions focused on the role of African leadership in enhancing pandemic preparedness and strengthening global health security.

Notably, the event also included two interactive workshops focused on pressing issues such as research and development (R&D) ecosystems vital for pandemic preparedness and the integration of artificial intelligence (AI) into biosecurity strategies.

Dr Thomas Nyirenda, Strategic Partnerships and Capacity Development Manager and Head of Africa Office of the EDCTP Association, represented the organisation at this pivotal event. The focus on epidemic and pandemic preparedness is essential, forming a core aspect of the [Global Health EDCTP3 Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda](#).

Key content from the report includes progress on the 100 Days Mission, upcoming challenges and opportunities for medical countermeasure development, priority action areas for 2025, an assessment of readiness and funding through the 100 Days Mission Scorecard 2.0, and a case study analysing the current response to mpox within this framework.



### SAVING Consortium event on introducing new healthcare tools in Ghana



Capacity building through South-South and North-South collaboration  
SAVING, a five-year project, aims to identify and address implementation challenges for the efficient and effective delivery and uptake of new medical interventions using an implementation research approach, with a focus on new malaria vaccines.

The [SAVING Consortium](#) held a hybrid event on 27 February 2025 under the theme “The Challenge of Introducing New Health Care Tools.” The event focused on the project’s experience in building institutional and individual capacity in implementation research through South-South and North-South collaboration. It also presented experiences in enhancing evidence-based decision-making for the effective uptake and delivery of new medical interventions and examined the role of North-South collaboration in the uptake of new medical interventions through implementation research and the facilitation of mutual learning and knowledge management.

Invited speakers included experts from Ghana’s Ministry of Health, the Ghana Food and Drugs Authority, Swiss TPH, and other key partner institutions.

### New clinical trial investigates safety and immune response of Invaplex AR-Detox Shigella vaccine



A newly published article outlines the protocol for new phase Ia/b clinical trial for the Invaplex<sub>AR-Detox</sub> Shigella vaccine co-administered with the dmLT adjuvant in The Netherlands and Zambia, marking an important step in Shigella vaccine development.

[Read more »](#)

### UNIVERSAL 1 trial enrolls first patients



An important milestone has been reached in the fight against paediatric HIV with the enrolment of the first participants in the [UNIVERSAL 1](#) trial. UNIVERSAL 1 will investigate whether a fixed-dose combination of dolutegravir, emtricitabine, and tenofovir alafenamide, a highly effective and well-tolerated regimen for adults, is as safe and effective for children aged between 28 days and 10 years of age.

[Read more »](#)

## Strengthening epidemiology training in French-speaking Africa: insights from the PREP-EPID project



The [PREP-EPID project](#) aims to develop a consortium of institutions that bring together diverse experiences and expertise to bolster the training of professionals in epidemiology and biostatistics across French-speaking African countries. The project is part of the [EDCTP and the Africa CDC initiative](#) to support consortia providing Master's-level training in these critical fields. To date, numerous activities have been executed to disseminate the project's achievements among key stakeholders.

[Read more »](#)

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## EDCTP Fellows

### Prof. Catherine Orrell appointed new Director for HIV Research Unit at South African MRC



EDCTP congratulates [Professor Catherine Orrell](#) on her appointment as the new Unit Director of the HIV and Other Infectious Diseases Research Unit (HIDRU) at the South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC).

Professor Orrell is an EDCTP Fellow and a distinguished HIV Clinician and Clinical Pharmacologist. Since 2002, she has been conducting innovative HIV research at the Desmond Tutu HIV Centre and the University of Cape Town, serving as the Lead and Principal Investigator on various studies focusing on efficacy, toxicity, interactions, and dosing.

[Read more »](#)

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



- BMC Medical Research Methodology: [A systematic review of mediation analysis frameworks in studies examining the determinants of cardiometabolic outcomes in people living with HIV](#). Ebasone, P V, et al. 20 February 2025
- BMC Infectious Diseases: [Prevalence, perception of risk and mycobacterium tuberculosis control practices among healthcare workers in HIV care and treatment centres in North Central Nigeria](#). Okpokoro, E, et al. 14 February 2025
- PLOS Global Public Health: [Determinants of SARS-CoV-2 infection across three sentinel sites in Benin during 2021: A multicentric surveillance study](#). Atchade, A, et al. 13 February 2025
- Frontiers in Immunology: [Placental malaria infection is associated with downregulation of STAT-6 and ANG-1 in decidual macrophages](#). Owino, F, et al. 11 February 2025
- Clinical and Public Health Guidelines: [Dissemination strategies of clinical practice guidelines—mixed methods evidence synthesis protocol](#). Kumbargere Nagraj, S, et al. 8 February 2025
- Malaria Journal: [Epidemiology, clinical spectrum, and outcomes of severe malaria in Eastern Uganda: a prospective study](#). Namayanja, C, et al. 7 February 2025
- PloS one: [Postnatal cytomegalovirus infection and its effect on hearing and neurodevelopmental outcomes among infants aged 3-10 months: A cohort study in Eastern Uganda](#). Okalany, N R, et al. 6 February 2025
- Malaria Journal: [Controlled human malaria infection: overview and potential application in the evaluation of transmission-blocking interventions in malaria-endemic areas](#). Kessy, E J, et al. 1 February 2025
- Journal of Tropical Pediatrics: [Effect of nutritional supplementation with lipid-based therapeutic food on body composition of non-severely malnourished African children aged 6-59 months hospitalized with severe pneumonia](#). Nalwanga, D, et al. 1 February 2025
- The New England Journal of Medicine: [Low-Dose Yellow Fever Vaccine in Adults in Africa](#). Kimathi, D, et al. 1 February 2025
- Scientific Reports: [Factors contributing to helminth prevalence after repeated mass administration of medicines in Anambra State, Nigeria](#). Aribodor, O B, et al. 29 January 2025
- BMC Pediatrics: [Incidence and risk factors for clinical omphalitis among neonates in Eastern Uganda using chlorhexidine gel for cord care: a community-cohort study](#). Wogabaga, J, et al. 24 January 2025
- 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, J, et al. 24 January 2025
- BMJ Open: [Effect of tropical climates on the quality of commonly used antibiotics: the protocol for a systematic review and meta-analysis](#). Suleman, S, et al. 6 January 2025
- IJID Regions: [Increasing postgraduate medical mycology research dissertations at Uganda's higher institution of learning](#). Achan, B, et al. 2 January 2025
- Tropical medicine and infectious disease: [Asymptomatic Malaria Infection and Hidden Parasitic Burden in Gabonese Schoolchildren: Unveiling Silent Co-Infections in Rural and Urban Settings](#). Makouloutou-Nzassi, P, et al. 31 December 2024
- IJID Regions: [Plasma zinc and selenium levels in adult inpatients with Lassa fever in Nigeria: A case-controlled study](#). Dic-Ijiewere, E O, et al. 20 December 2024
- IJID Regions: [C-reactive protein and association with disease severity in hospitalized adult patients with Lassa fever in Nigeria](#). Dic-Ijiewere, E O, et al. 5 December 2024

## 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](#)

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## 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 its 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 »](#)

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## 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*".

[More information »](#)

### **Other events**

#### **Developing Funding Applications webinar | 21 March 2025**

The MRC Clinical Trials Unit at UCL is hosting a webinar on developing international funding applications. An international panel, which includes Dr Pauline Beattie, Operations Manager of the EDCTP Association, will share their experiences, challenges, and top tips, with opportunities for audience participation in the discussion.

[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 »](#)

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



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