



**EDCTP**

*The power of sharing science*

## **EDCTP2 Prizes 2023 – rules of contest**

The EDCTP Association intends to award four prestigious international prizes to recognise the achievements of outstanding researchers and research teams, especially from sub-Saharan Africa and Europe. The four prizes are Scientific Leadership Prize, Dr Pascoal Mocumbi Prize, The Outstanding Research Team Prize and Outstanding Female Scientist prize.

The prizes will be awarded at a prize-giving ceremony at the Eleventh EDCTP Forum in Paris, France, from 7-10 November 2023.

Deadline for nominations is **Friday 16 June 2023** at 17:00 CEST/17:00 SAST/18:00 EAT/16:00 WAT



## Rules of Contest

### Type of action

The EDCTP prizes are recognition prizes funded under Horizon 2020.

Prizes are financial contributions given as rewards following the publication of a contest. A 'recognition prize' is used to recognise past achievements and outstanding work after it has been performed, whereas an 'inducement prize' is used to spur investment in a given direction, by specifying a target prior to the performance of the work.

The Rules of Contest lay down the conditions for participation, the award criteria, the amount of the prize and the arrangements for the payment of the prize to the winners after their award. Model Rules of Contest are set out in [section 6.6 of the EDCTP Annual work plan 2020](#).

Applications will have to clearly state the involvement of the contestants (nominees) in the research and innovation activities within the remit of the EDCTP2 programme. The natural person nominating will have to provide proof of eligibility and a written presentation of the achievements of the contestant, which will be presented to an independent panel of experts for evaluation.

The amount of the prize is specified in the contest. It is not linked to the costs incurred by the winner.

### Application

- The Prize contests will remain open until **Friday 16 June 2023 at 17:00 CEST**.
- Applications must be submitted by the (lead) participant via [prizes@edctp.org](mailto:prizes@edctp.org) unless otherwise specified
- Applications must be readable, accessible and printable. Incomplete applications may be considered inadmissible if essential elements are missing ([see section 6.2 of the Annual work plan 2020](#)).
- Prize winners will be notified in advance of the Eleventh EDCTP Forum (see General Annexes 6.6 for Model Rules of Contest (RoC) for EDCTP2 Prizes).
- Joint applications by a group of participants are admitted. In this case, the participants must appoint a 'lead participant' to represent them. The participants will be jointly responsible and must all fulfil and respect the conditions set out in these Rules of Contest.

### Eligibility criteria

The contest for the first three prizes (Scientific Leadership Prize, Outstanding Female Scientist Prize, and Outstanding Research Team Prize) is open to residents from a sub-Saharan African country, an EU Member State, or a country associated to the Horizon 2020 programme.

The contest for the Dr Pascoal Mocumbi Prize is open to contestants from all parts of the world. Please note; however, that special rules may apply for entities from certain countries (see [EDCTP Annual work plan 2020 section 6.3](#)).

The nomination of contestants who are currently employees of the EDCTP Association or serving on one of the EDCTP Association advisory (Scientific Advisory Committee and Audit Committee) or governing (General Assembly and Board) bodies will not be permitted for any of the prizes.

Finally, contestants that have already received an EDCTP2 prize cannot receive a second prize for the same activities.

### Exclusion criteria

Participants will be excluded if they (or one of them):

- Are subject to an administrative sanction (i.e. exclusion)<sup>[1]</sup>
- Are in one of the following situations<sup>[2]</sup>:
  - a) bankrupt, being wound up, having their affairs administered by the courts, entered into an arrangement with creditors, suspended business activities or subject to any other similar

- proceedings or procedures under national law (including persons with unlimited liability for the participant's debts);
- b) declared in breach of social security or tax obligations by a final judgment or decision (including persons with unlimited liability for the participant's debts);
  - c) found guilty of grave professional misconduct<sup>(3)</sup> by a final judgment or decision (including persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control);
  - d) convicted of fraud, corruption, involvement in a criminal organisation, money laundering, terrorism-related crimes (including terrorism financing), child labour or human trafficking (including persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control);
  - e) shown significant deficiencies in complying with main obligations under a procurement contract, grant agreement or grant decision financed by the EU or Euratom budget (including persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control);
  - f) found guilty of irregularities within the meaning of Article 1(2) of Regulation No 2988/95 (including persons having powers of representation, decision-making or control);
- have misrepresented information required for participating in the contest or fail to submit such information;
  - were involved in the preparation of the prize documents and this entails a distortion of competition.

### **Award Criteria**

The prize will be awarded to the entry that in the opinion of the independent expert jury, the EDCTP2 Awards Panel, demonstrates to best address the cumulative criteria specified under the description of the EDCTP2 Prizes in the EDCTP annual work plan 2020, please [see section 3.7](#).

#### The Scientific Leadership Prize

This Prize is awarded to the entry that best addresses the following cumulative criteria:

- a) Contestants have made significant achievements in their field and will continue to become leaders in their research field.
- b) In addition to their scientific excellence, contestants should have made major contributions to the objectives of the EDCTP2 programme to strengthen research capacity in sub-Saharan Africa and to support South-South and North-South networking.
- c) Contestants nominated for this prize should not exceed 50 years of age, at the time of the launch of the contest.

#### The Outstanding Female Scientist Prize

- a) Contestant must have been involved in research and innovation activities in sub-Saharan Africa within the scope of the EDCTP2 programme.
- b) Contestants should have made a significant scientific contribution and built measurable impactful research capacity through training and mentorship for the future generation of researchers/scientists in Africa.
- c) This prize is restricted to female scientists in sub-Saharan Africa and has no age restriction.

#### The Outstanding Research Team Prize

- a) Contestants must be a consortium or group of partners who have achieved the goal of taking on EDCTP2 programme priority issues in poverty-related diseases.
- b) In collaboration, the team has built effective and equitable South-North partnerships to answer the priority research questions and produced health-policy relevant deliverables, such as research data implemented into policy and practice, high impact publications and significant capacity building outputs at local research sites.
- c) Contestants should be actively involved in research, capacity development and networking in sub-Saharan Africa and Europe with outstanding achievements and scientific and policy impact in their respective fields.

### Dr Pascoal Mocumbi Prize

1. The contestant should have made significant achievements in promoting Africa-Europe partnerships in global health research.
2. The contestant should have made a unique contribution to promoting and facilitating the clinical development of products for poverty-related diseases.
3. The contestant should have attained achievements in advancing capacity development for health research in sub-Saharan Africa.
4. The contestant should have attained achievements in promoting international networking of researchers, policy makers, funders and donors on poverty-related diseases.

### **Documents**

The mandatory supporting documents are set out in the application form. Participants may be asked at a later stage for further documents (for legal entity validation, bank account validation, ethics review, declaration of honour on exclusion grounds, etc.).

### **Evaluation procedure**

- Applications will be evaluated by an independent expert jury, the EDCTP2 Awards Panel, between June and July 2023 — first individually (by each panellist separately) and then as a group (by the Awards Panel together).
- The independent expert jury, the EDCTP2 Awards Panel, will evaluate each application against the prize-specific award criteria as specified above and score them out of a maximum of 5.
- On the basis of the evaluation by the jury, the EDCTP Association will decide on the award of the prize.
- The prize winner shall be notified through an official letter from the EDCTP Association Executive Director. This award letter shall clearly stipulate when the prize will be announced publicly, and the process and conditions for payment of the cash prize.
- All participants will be informed on the outcome of their application.

### **Other Conditions**

#### **Payment arrangements**

The prize money will be paid to the (lead) participant in one instalment after the award ceremony by bank transfer, provided all the requested documents have been submitted.

#### **Publicity, promotion of the prize and visibility of the EDCTP Association/EU funding**

##### Publicity by the winner(s)

The winner(s) must promote the prize and its results, by providing targeted information to multiple audiences (including the media and the public) in a strategic and effective manner.

Unless the EDCTP Association requests or agrees otherwise or unless it is impossible, any communication activity related to the action (including in electronic form, via social media, etc.) must:

1. Display the EDCTP Association logo and EU emblem;
2. Include the following text: “[name of prize winner] has been awarded the [name of the prize] which is part of the EDCTP2 programme supported by the European Union”; and
3. When displayed together with another logo, the EDCTP Association logo and EU emblem must have appropriate prominence.

For the purposes of their obligations, the winner(s) of the prize may use the EDCTP Association logo and EU emblem without first obtaining approval from the EDCTP Association and the European Commission. This does not, however, give the right to exclusive use. Moreover, the winner(s) of the prize may not appropriate the EDCTP Association logo, the EU emblem or any similar trademark or logo, either by registration or by any other means.

##### Publicity by the EDCTP Association and the European Commission

The EDCTP Association and the European Commission may use, for its communication and publicising activities, information relating to the action, documents notably summaries for publication and deliverables

as well as any other material, such as pictures or audio-visual material that it receives from the winner(s) of the prize (including in electronic form).

The EDCTP Association will publish the name of the winner(s), their origin, the amount of the prize and its nature and purpose, unless the winner(s) have requested the EDCTP Association to waive such publication (because disclosure risks threatening its security and safety or harms its commercial interest). Photographs and videos taken by the EDCTP Association either in preparation of the award ceremony or during the award ceremony are the sole property of the EDCTP Association.

#### Dissemination and exploitation of results

The winner(s) must comply with the obligations set out in Title III of the Horizon 2020 Rules for Participation Regulation No 1290/2013.<sup>[4]</sup>

#### **Ethics**

- The activities must be carried out in compliance with:
  - a) ethical principles (including the highest standards of research integrity); and
  - b) applicable international, EU and national law.
- No prize will be awarded for activities carried out outside the EU, if they are prohibited in all Member States.
- The participants must ensure that the activities have an exclusive focus on civil applications.
- The participants must ensure that the activities do not:
  - a) aim at human cloning for reproductive purposes;
  - b) intend to modify the genetic heritage of human beings which could make such changes heritable (except for research relating to cancer treatment of the gonads); or
  - c) intend to create human embryos solely for the purpose of research or for the purpose of stem cell procurement, including by means of somatic cell nuclear transfer.
- Research activities involving human embryonic stem cells (HESC) are moreover subject to the conditions set out in the Statement of the Commission related to research activities involving human embryonic stem cells.<sup>[5]</sup>
- The participants must respect the highest standards of research integrity – as set out, for instance, in the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity.<sup>[6]</sup>

#### **Security**

The activities must be carried out in compliance with Commission Decision 2015/444, i.e. security-sensitive information must be EU-classified, if its unauthorised disclosure could adversely impact the interests of the EU or of one (or more) of its Member States. Applications that are too security-sensitive cannot be awarded a prize.

For more information and best practice, see the Guidance — Guidelines for the classification of information in research projects, the Guidance — Guidelines for the handling of classified information in EU research projects, the Guidance note — Potential misuse of research results and the Guidance note — Research involving dual use items.

#### **Conflict of interests**

The participants must take all measures to prevent any situation where the impartial and objective award of the prize is compromised for reasons involving economic interest, political or national affinity, family or emotional ties or any other shared interest (**'conflict of interests'**).

They must inform the EDCTP Association without delay of any situation constituting or likely to lead to a conflict of interests and immediately take all the necessary steps to rectify this situation.

The EDCTP Association may verify that the measures taken are appropriate and may require additional measures to be taken by a specified deadline.

#### **Liability for damages**

The EDCTP Association cannot be held liable for any damage caused to the participants or to third parties as a consequence of the prize, including for gross negligence.

The EDCTP Association cannot be held liable for any damage caused by any of the participants in the context of the prize.

### **Checks, audits and investigations**

The EDCTP Association, the European Commission, the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and the Court of Auditors may carry out checks, audits and investigations in relation to the prize.

### **Withdrawal of the prize and recovery of undue amounts**

The EDCTP Association may withdraw the prize after its award and recover all payments made, if it finds out that:

- a) False information or fraud or corruption was used to obtain the prize;
- b) A winner was not eligible or should have been excluded;
- c) A winner is in serious breach of its obligations under these Rules of Contest.

### **Exchange of information with the Commission**

If a participant has misrepresented the information required as a condition for participating in the contest or has failed to supply that information or in any other case required by the Financial Regulation, the EDCTP Association will inform the Commission in accordance with the procedures set out in that regulation in view of the participant's potential inclusion in the database for the early detection and exclusion system (EDES). The EDCTP Association will also inform the Commission on the measures taken by the EDCTP Association.

### **Cancellation of the contest**

The EDCTP Association may cancel the contest or decide not to award the prize – without any obligation to compensate participants -, if:

- a) No applications are received;
- b) The jury does not find a winner;
- c) A winner is not eligible or must be excluded
- d) Or, the objective of the contest has already been achieved.

### **Complaints**

Complaints concerning the procedural aspects of the contest can be brought by participants negatively affected by the alleged shortcoming in the procedure. Such a complaint must be brought in the form of a letter addressed to the EDCTP Association Executive Director, clearly indicating the contest, the name of the nominee and reference number, and the alleged shortcoming in the procedure. This letter must be submitted via [prizes@edctp.org](mailto:prizes@edctp.org). The deadline for such complaints is 30 days from the date of dispatch of the outcome letters for the contest. The procedure used with regard to appeals against the evaluation of proposals (see section 10.3 of the EDCTP2 Grants Manual) will be followed to handle complaints brought against procedural aspects of the contest.

### **Processing of personal data**

#### Processing of personal data by the EDCTP Association

The EDCTP Association complies with the provisions of the "General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 ('GDPR') and collects data in accordance with the [EDCTP Association privacy policy](#) and the [Privacy Statement on Grants Management](#). Registration with EDCTP2 grants and submission will involve the recording and processing of personal data. These data will be held securely, processed lawfully and retained for no longer than necessary by the EDCTP Association. The EDCTP Association may publish the following information on the winner(s): name; state of origin (address or NUTS 2 region); their activities in relation to the award of the prize (via the provided summary for publication); and the prize amount. This information may be published in whatever form and medium. By accepting the prize, the winner(s) consent that this information may be used in this way.

#### Processing of personal data by the European Commission

Any personal data will be processed by the European Commission under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725<sup>[7]</sup> and according to the 'notifications of the processing operations' to the Data Protection Officer (DPO) of the Information on the EDCTP 2023 Prizes and contest rules

Commission (publicly accessible in the DPO register).

Such data will be processed by the 'data controller' of the EDCTP Association and of the European Commission for the purposes of the award, implementation and follow-up of the prize or protecting the financial interests of the EU (including checks, audits and investigations; see below).

The persons whose personal data are processed have the right to access and correct their own personal data. For this purpose, they must send any queries about the processing of their personal data to the data controller, via the contact point indicated in the privacy statement(s) that are published on the website(s) of the EDCTP Association and the European Commission.

They also have the right to have recourse at any time to the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS). The winner(s) consent that the EDCTP Association and the European Commission publish[es] (in whatever form and medium) the following information:

- Name;
- State of origin (address or NUTS 2 region);
- Their activities in relation to the award of the prize (via the summary for publication they provided);
- Prize amount in whatever form and medium.

#### Processing of personal data by the participants

The participants must process personal data in compliance with applicable EU and national law on data protection (including authorisations or notification requirements, if any).

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1. See Articles 131(4) and 106(1) Financial Regulation.
  2. See Articles 138(2) and 106(1), 107 of the Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 (OJ L 218, 26.10.2012, p.1).
  3. Professional misconduct includes: violation of ethical standards of the profession, wrongful conduct with impact on professional credibility, false declarations/ misrepresentation of information, participation in a cartel or other agreement distorting competition, violation of IPR, attempting to influence decision-making processes or obtain confidential information from public authorities to gain an advantage.
  4. Regulation (EU) No 1290/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 laying down the rules for participation and dissemination in "Horizon 2020 - the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020)" (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013 p.81).
  5. Declarations of the Commission (Framework Programme), OJ C373, 20.12.2013, p. 2
  6. European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity of ALLEA (All European Academies) and ESF (European Science Foundation) of March 2017 [http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/hi/h2020-ethics\\_code-of-conduct\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/hi/h2020-ethics_code-of-conduct_en.pdf)
  7. Regulation (EU) No 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC (OJ L 295, 21.11.2018, p. 39)