



E D C T P

Seventh EDCTP Forum

Concept Note

Building Bridges Opportunities and Challenges for Greater Involvement of Private Sector in Health Research Cooperation

**A Joint EDCTP and CAAST-Net Plus Session
2 July 2014**



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Building Bi-regional Partnerships for Global Challenges



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Building Bridges: Opportunities and Challenges for Greater Involvement of Private Sector in Health Research Cooperation

Chairs

Dr Ole Olesen, EDCTP and Mr Daan du Toit, DST South Africa

Rapporteurs

Ana Lúcia Cardoso, Lara Pandya and Katharina Kuss

The Chairpersons will be expected to introduce the objectives of the session and requesting the panelists to share their experiences and views regarding specific topics.

The Chairperson will be expected to actively moderate the session, posing specific key questions to each of the panelists, as identified below. After each panelist has responded, with any necessary interventions from the Chairperson, the following panelist should continue and the discussion should then be opened up to the floor for comments.

The Chairperson will also be expected to draw the session to a close with a brief wrap up and summary of the key conclusions and recommendations from the session.

Background

To ensure sustainable health research cooperation on poverty related and neglected infectious diseases (PRNIDs) in Europe and sub-Saharan Africa during the second EDCTP programme and beyond, collaboration between the main health research actors, including both the private and public sector, should be strengthened.

Objectives

- Identify concrete possibilities of closer collaboration between pharmaceutical companies, small and medium enterprises (SMEs), product development partnerships (PDPs), EDCTP and other funders
- Understand the opportunities and barriers for greater involvement of the private sector, in particular pharmaceutical companies and SMEs, in European and African health research cooperation
- Discuss the role of the private sector in the fight against PRNIDs
- Discuss future collaboration with and participation of SMEs in collaborative research projects Highlight opportunities for public entities in Europe and sub-Saharan Africa to partner with pharmaceutical companies and SMEs.

The conclusions and key recommendations from the session will be summarised in a meeting report.

Session format

The objectives of the session will be achieved through a panel discussion.

All panelists will be requested to:

- Briefly state their organisation's core function

Building Bridges: Opportunities and Challenges for Greater Involvement of Private Sector in Health Research Cooperation

- Respond to specific questions asked by the Chairpersons (questions focus on the barriers and opportunities of private sector involvement in health research cooperation in Europe and sub-Saharan Africa)

The session will be mediated by two Chairpersons, who will pose specific questions outlined below to each of the panel members in turn. A total of **5 minutes** will be allotted per panel members, whenever possible case studies and evidence/experience should be provided to support views. An open discussion with the audience will follow after the interventions from panel members. Slides will not be required.

The following question will be asked to all speakers:

What are the key challenges for involvement of pharmaceutical companies or SMEs in transnational health research cooperation, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa? How could these challenges be overcome?

More specific questions per speaker are outlined below.

Panelists (in proposed order of discussion)

Dr François Bompert	European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA) Representation: European pharmaceutical companies
<p>François Bompert, MD is Vice-President, Deputy Head and Medical Director of Sanofi's Access to Medicines department. He chairs, since 2012, the Global Health Initiative (GHI) of the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA). The GHI gathers the research-based European pharmaceutical companies which are actively engaged in global health. It aims to encourage collaboration among all European stakeholders to improve understanding and identify new opportunities for collaboration in this complex area.</p>	
<p><i>Q: How can EFPIA facilitate the involvement of the European pharmaceutical industry in research cooperation in sub-Saharan Africa?</i></p>	

Dr Lluís Ballell-Pages	GSK Tres Cantos Representation: European multinational perspective
<p>Lluís Ballell is Director of External Opportunities for the Tres Cantos Medicines Development Campus at GSK. Since 2005, Lluís has been involved in a number of international collaborative initiatives within the EU FP7 programme, NIH, Wellcome Trust, Gates Foundation, Medical Research Council, from submission to implementation in TB, Malaria and Kinetoplastid diseases, in addition to making a key contribution to the inception, funding, and development of the Tres Cantos Open Lab concept. As a scientist he has been actively involved in various preclinical and clinical TB drug discovery</p>	

Building Bridges: Opportunities and Challenges for Greater Involvement of Private Sector in Health Research Cooperation

projects such as InhA, Mycobacterial Gyrase, new anti-tubercular whole cell inhibitors and the progression of a new betalactam antibiotic against TB into PoC in humans.

Q: What are the long-term benefits for a company like GSK Tres Cantos to engage in research with sub-Saharan African scientists?

Dr Claudia Schacht	Fit for Health 2.0 Representation: Capacity development; SMEs
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Claudia Schacht has been working in EU research projects for more than 15 years and is currently heading the Life Sciences Unit of Eurice, one of Germany’s largest professional project management offices which has been offering comprehensive support for the planning, initiation, and implementation of large collaborative projects since the year 2000. In addition to classical project management, Eurice supports consortia through dissemination, networking, training & capacity building activities as full partner in 48 ongoing projects across several funding programmes. Claudia's project portfolio is focused on infectious diseases research and includes the EDCTP-funded African European Tuberculosis Consortium (AETBC), in which Eurice was centrally involved in grant writing and contract negotiations, provided project coordination and grant admin throughout the project, and actively participated in capacity building by giving on-site financial and management trainings to all African partners.

Fit for Health 2.0 is an FP7 support action, starting in November 2013, which aims to promote and support successful participation in the Health-related areas of Horizon 2020 (H2020), including EDCTP 2. Researchers from academia and industry will be supported during all phases of research projects, including first orientation, consortium building, proposal writing, project management and efficient valorisation of project results. Target group-specific on-site and virtual trainings for H2020 starters, applicants and participants of running FP7 Health-, IMI- and EDCTP projects will be a hallmark of the project. A condensed project negotiation & management workshop for EDCTP participants will be held at the 8th EDCTP Forum, covering issues such as contract negotiations, contractual issues, capacity building and networking, financial provisions and the process of budget revision, documentation and reporting, or communication and meetings.

Q: How can Fit for Health 2.0 support European and sub-Saharan African SMEs in engaging in research activities in sub-Saharan Africa?

Dr Jude Aidam	West African Health Organisation Representation: multilateral/ policy making perspective
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Q: How can policymakers create a stable and predictable environment to do business in?

Building Bridges: Opportunities and Challenges for Greater Involvement of Private Sector in Health Research Cooperation

Q: Is there enough support (policy, political engagement, funding) for R&D in sub-Saharan Africa and is more active engagement with the private sector needed to catalyse it? (if possible, link to the post-2015 UN agenda for Sustainable development).

Prof. John Mugabe

University of Pretoria

Representation: Research community perspective; sub-Saharan African public research organisation; policy making

John Mugabe is Professor at the Graduate School of Technology Management and Research Associate at the Institute for Technological Innovation (ITI), University of Pretoria. He is also a science and innovation policy consultant for the World Bank Institute and an associate of the Next Einstein Initiative (NEI) of the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS) in Cape Town. Between 2002 and 2008 he was Science and Technology Advisor to the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). He was Executive Director of the African Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS), Nairobi between 1995 and 2002. Mugabe was a member of the Kenya National Council for Science and Technology (NCST), and member of the boards of the African Conservation Centre (ACC) and member of Board of Trustees of Sustainable Agriculture Centre for Research and Development in Africa (SACRED). He has published on science and technology policy in Africa, biotechnology and environmental policy, and institutional arrangements for environmental sustainability. His current research focuses on the political economy of science, technology and innovation policy-making in Africa.

Q: What can the public sector in sub-Saharan Africa do to encourage more private sector involvement in health research?

Ms Jennifer Dent

BIO Ventures for Global Health

Representation: WIPO Re:Search; legal barriers for collaboration

Jennifer Dent is President of BIO Ventures for Global Health (BVGH), a nonprofit organization whose mission is to engage the biopharmaceutical industry in global health initiatives and programs. She defines the organization's strategic priorities, develops its programmatic portfolio, and manages operations. Prior to her appointment as president, she was BVGH's Vice President of Alliance Management and Commercialization. She has over 20 years of broad-based pharmaceutical and biotechnology experience, including negotiation and structuring of deals and management of global, multi-partner, discovery and commercial alliances. She has been involved in all phases of drug discovery, development and commercialization. Jennifer began her career as a sales representative working for Parke Davis, now Pfizer, in Canada and later joined Genentech. She held a number of senior management positions in marketing, global product strategy, business development and alliance management at Genentech and Roche in Canada, Switzerland, New Jersey and South San Francisco. Jennifer served as Vice President, Business Development, Marketing and Sales at CombiMatrix, a biotechnology company in Washington State. She received her executive M.B.A. at

Building Bridges: Opportunities and Challenges for Greater Involvement of Private Sector in Health Research Cooperation

the University of Western Ontario in Canada.

Q: What are the main legal barriers (e.g., IPR, contracts) for private sector collaboration with public sector initiatives and how can these barriers be overcome?

Dr Philippe Leissner

bioMérieux

Representation: European private sector perspective with a focus on diagnostics

Philippe Leissner obtained his Ph.D in Molecular and Cellular Biology in 1995 at the University Louis Pasteur, Strasbourg, France. At TRANSGENE (1995-2000), he led research in the field of gene therapy using retro/lentiviruses and adenoviruses as transduction vectors. In 2001, he moved to BIOMERIEUX, a world leader In Vitro Diagnostics company, where his work focused on biomarker discovery in Oncology and Infectious Diseases. Since 2012, he has been leading a R&D program dedicated to “personalized medicine”. In addition, he currently directs an active research program on biomarkers in the field of Global and Neglected Infectious Diseases. His research interest focus on biomarkers discovery/evaluation and on diagnostics assay development in the area of infectious diseases.

Q: As a representative from a diagnostics company, in your perspective what are the opportunities of collaborating with sub-Saharan African companies and academic institutions?

Mr Gift Mphedu

Med-TechEngineers

Representation: Perspective from a SME based in sub-Saharan Africa

Gift is the Managing Director of a multidisciplinary engineering consulting firm, Med-TechEngineers. He serves on the Board of Ericsson South Africa as Non Executive Director. He has over 14 years’ experience as a Telecommunications and Health Technology Professional. He previously worked for Vodacom SA, Ericsson Sub-Saharan Africa, Telkom SA, and also practiced as an independent technology consultant. Gift is a Registered Professional Engineer with the Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA), a Council Member of the South African Institute of Electrical Engineers (SAIEE), a Member of International Council on Systems Engineering (INCOSE) SA Chapter, a Member of Clinical Engineering Association of South Africa (CEASA), a Member of the Expert Panel for the CSIR’s Infrastructure Unit Support Systems (IUSS) Project, and a Member of the Advisory Committee for The Innovation Hub Solution Exchange Project. He holds a BSc in Electrical/Electronics Engineering from the University of Durban-Westville (now UKZN), Certificate Course in Wireless Telephony from Continuing Education at University of Pretoria, Masters in Engineering from the Graduate School of Technology Management at the University of Pretoria, and a Post Graduate Diploma in Healthcare Technology Management at the University Cape Town.

Q: As a representative from a SME operating in sub-Saharan Africa what are the main challenges for

Building Bridges: Opportunities and Challenges for Greater Involvement of Private Sector in Health Research Cooperation

research collaboration with SMEs and pharmaceutical companies in both sub-Saharan Africa and Europe?