What is TIBA?

Tackling Infections to Benefit Africa (TIBA), which means ‘to cure an infection’ in Swahili, is an Africa-led, wide-ranging, multi-disciplinary research programme that explores and devises solutions that different African health systems tackle infectious diseases. Through TIBA, the University of Edinburgh will be working in partnerships with researchers from Botswana, Ghana, Kenya, Rwanda, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe to generate new knowledge and inform comparative analyses of health systems.

Our Vision

To harness the expertise and technical capability in biomedical and social sciences at the University of Edinburgh (UoE) and African partners to reduce the threat and burden of infectious diseases in Africa by informing and influencing health policy and strengthening health systems. TIBA will bring together African scientists to effectively and sustainably tackle neglected tropical diseases (such as schistosomiasis, malaria, trypanosomiasis and lymphatic filariasis), and improve preparedness for epidemics (such as Ebola).

TIBA’s Aims

1. Improve the diagnosis and surveillance of infectious diseases in resource-poor settings
2. Improve the deployment of existing drug treatments and enhance local capacity to develop new ones
3. Improve the deployment of existing vaccines and enhance local capacity to develop new ones
4. Improve the management of endemic and epidemic infectious diseases by: i. Strengthening health systems, governance and ethics ii. Improving policy development and implementation iii. Enhancing capacity to respond to infectious disease emergencies

These aims will be delivered by collaborative and coordinated activities organised as 6 work packages:
- WP1: Rapid Impact projects
- WP2: Making a Difference projects
- WP3: Toolkit projects
- WP4: Capacity Building
- WP5: Dissemination for Action
- WP6: Emergency Response

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Our science, budget and impact

Diseases - infection biology, clinical medicine, primary health care, health systems, health economics, bioinformatics, epidemiology, molecular biology and drug development, immunology and vaccinology, genomics and bioinformatics, synthetic biology, innovation

Diseases - schistosomiasis, malaria, tuberculosis, lymphatic filariasis, co-infections; NCDs - emerging infectious diseases.

Budget: We have a budget of just under £7M over a 4 year period plus in kind: 443: We have a budget of just under £7M over a 4 year period plus in kind

Our team

Professor Gordon Awandare
University of Strathclyde

Professor Takafira Mduluza
University of Zimbabwe

Professor Keith Matthews
University of Edinburgh

Professor Francisca Mutapi
University of Zimbabwe

Professor James Smith
University of Edinburgh

Professor Moises Chimbati
TIBA Co-Deputy Director

Professor Chuma Wilcox
EDCT-P Uganda

Professor Sue Welburn
University of Edinburgh

Professor Nthabi Phaladze
Ministry of Health, Botswana

Professor Ignatius Matsheka
BITRI, Botswana

Dr Upendo Mwingira
KEMRI-WT, Kenya

Dr Nadine Rujeni
CBS, Uganda

Professor Simbarashe Rusakaniko
University of Zimbabwe

Professor Maowia Mukhtar
University of Khartoum

Professor Ntobeko Khumalo
University of KwaZulu-Natal

Professor Tafadzwa Mawasha
University of Zimbabwe

Professor Muneer Mubarak
Nelson Mandela PAI

Professor Emmanuel Rutai
University of Newcastle

Professor Dorothy Luka
University of Zimbabwe

Professor Simonetta Zatko
University of Zimbabwe

Professor Miguel Araújo
University of Edinburgh

Professor Moses Chimbari
University of Zimbabwe

Professor Fathers Oser
HHILF/57 Kenya

Professor Sarah Sikanda
University of Zambia

Professor Richard Mupfumo
University of Zimbabwe

Professor Ntobeko Khumalo
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