NIHR GLOBAL HEALTH RESEARCH UNIT TACKLING INFECTIONS TO BENEFIT AFRICA AT THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH
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4 April 2017

Professor Mark Woolhouse, OBE
Chair of Infectious Disease Epidemiology
The University of Edinburgh
Ashworth Laboratories
Kings Buildings
Charlotte Auerbach Road
Edinburgh
EH9 3FL
Scotland

Dear Professor Woolhouse

Project number 16/136/33 : NIHR Global Health Research Unit

Thank you for submitting a proposal for consideration by the NIHR Global Health Research Programme.

Following the NIHR Global Health Research Panel meeting on 6 and 7 March 2017 I am pleased to inform you that the NIHR Global Health Research Panel has recommended your proposal for funding, subject to confirmation that you will reflect the panel comments below in your planned programme of work, and to your responses to any points regarding clarification of your proposed budget below.

Please would you inform your co-applicants of this decision.

Please note this is an award in principle. The award cannot be confirmed until the contract has been agreed and signed by all parties. Therefore, please keep the outcome confidential until you have been notified that the Department of Health embargo period on public announcement has ended.
WITH THANKS TO:

Berhanu Abegaz  
Aggrey Ambali  
Gordon Awandare  
Janet Byaruhanga  
Moses Chimbari  
Sam Kinyanjui  
Mwele Malecela  
Olawale Maiyegun  
Maowia Mukhtar  
Paul Ndebele  
Faith Osier  
Nthabi Phaladze  
Nadine Rujeni  
Simba Rusakaniko  
Elopy Sibanda  
Nelson Torto  
Charles Waiswa  
Dave Arnot  
Till Bachmann  
Geoff Banda  
Mark Blaxter  
Harry Campbell  
Ross Fitzgerald  
Liz Fletcher  
Liz Grant  
Keith Matthews  
Francisca Mutapi  
Andrew Rambaut  
Susan Rosser  
Alex Rowe  
James Smith  
Devi Sridhar  
Joyce Tait  
Sue Welburn  
Paula Brydges  
Catherine Burns  
Fiona Edler  
Tammy Kelly-Wright  
Hamish Macandrew  
Andrew Millar  
Andy Mount  
Gareth Poxon  
Jonathan Seckl  
Hilary Snaith  
Kath Tracey  
Brian Walker  
Mark Woolhouse
TACKLING INFECTIONS TO BENEFIT AFRICA (TIBA)

A partnership between:

University of Edinburgh, UK
University of Botswana
University of Ghana
KEMRI-WT, Kenya
University of Rwanda
University of Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa
University of Khartoum, Sudan
NIMR, Tanzania
COCTU, Uganda
University of Zimbabwe

Sudan
Kenya
Tanzania
Zimbabwe
South Africa
TACKLING INFECTIONS TO BENEFIT AFRICA (TIBA)

Our vision:

To harness the expertise and technical capability in biomedical and social sciences at the University of Edinburgh and African partners to reduce the burden and threat of infectious diseases in Africa by informing and influencing health policy and strengthening health systems.

TIBA is an Africa-led, wide-ranging, multi-disciplinary research programme that explores and draws lessons from the ways that different African health systems tackle infectious diseases.
TACKLING INFECTIONS TO BENEFIT AFRICA (TIBA)

Our context:

Partner countries population total ≈ 300M

Population living in poverty ≈ 75M

Health care spend (public funds) ≈ US$20B

TIBA beneficiaries ≈ 50M people

Achieved by: improving health policy, health systems operation and health R&D environment in Africa partner countries and beyond
TACKLING INFECTIONS TO BENEFIT AFRICA (TIBA)

Our science:

*Disciplines* - infection biology, clinical medicine, primary health care, health systems, international development, governance and ethics, diagnostics, surveillance and epidemiology, molecular biology and drug development, immunology and vaccinology, genomics and bioinformatics, synthetic biology, innovation

*Diseases* - schistosomiasis, malaria, trypanosomiasis, lymphatic filariasis, co-morbidities, NCDs + emerging infectious diseases
TACKLING INFECTIONS TO BENEFIT AFRICA (TIBA)

Our 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
TACKLING INFECTIONS TO BENEFIT AFRICA (TIBA)

Our budget:

Just under £7M over 4 years

+ in kind contributions

>80% allocated to Africa partners
TACKLING INFECTIONS TO BENEFIT AFRICA (TIBA)

Ghana partner:

Dr Gordon Awandare

Head,
West Africa Centre of Excellence for Cell Biology and Infectious Pathogens

University of Ghana
TACKLING INFECTIONS TO BENEFIT AFRICA (TIBA)

South Africa partner:

Professor Moses Chimbari
Dean of Research,
College of Health Sciences,
University of Kwazulu-Natal,
South Africa
TACKLING INFECTIONS TO BENEFIT AFRICA (TIBA)

Kenya partners:

Dr Samuel Kinyanjui
Head of Training and Capacity Building, KEMRI-WT Programme, Kilifi

Professor Faith Osier
University of Heidelberg, Germany and KEMRI Centre for Geographic Medicine Research
TACKLING INFECTIONS TO BENEFIT AFRICA (TIBA)

Sudan partner:

Professor Maowia Mukhtar

Head,
Institute for Endemic Diseases,
University of Khartoum, Sudan
TACKLING INFECTIONS TO BENEFIT AFRICA (TIBA)

Tanzania partner:

Dr Upendo Mwingira

National Institute for Medical Research,

Tanzania
TACKLING INFECTIONS TO BENEFIT AFRICA (TIBA)

Botswana partners:

**Professor Nthabi Phaladze**
WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing and Midwifery Development, University of Botswana

**Dr Boitumelo Mudabuka**
Botswana Institute for Technical Research and Innovation

Dr. Nthabiseng Phaladze of Uni of Botswana discusses establishment of #ethics centre
@bermaninstitute @JohnsHopkinsIH
TACKLING INFECTIONS TO BENEFIT AFRICA (TIBA)

Rwanda partner:

Dr Nadine Rujeni

Lecturer,
College of Medicine and Health Sciences,
University of Rwanda
TACKLING INFECTIONS TO BENEFIT AFRICA (TIBA)

Zimbabwe partners:

Professor Simbarashe Rusakaniko  
Chairman, Dept. Community Medicine,  
University of Zimbabwe

Dr Paul Ndebele  
Director,  
Medical Research Council of Zimbabwe

Professor Elopy Sibanda  
Head,  
Asthma, Allergy and Immunology Clinic

Ministry of Health and Child Care

Prof. Simbarashe Rusakaniko, Principal Investigator for the Health Leadership, Management outlined that 1,012 health workers were trained surpassing the initial target which was 803. Acting Permanent Secretary for MinHCO, Dr. Mtonga noted that this achievement will see the health delivery system in Zimbabwe being enhanced.

Paul Ndebele, MSc, PhD  
Advisor-Coverty

Prof. Elopy Sibanda receiving Adjunct Professorship of the Medical University of Vienna award from Rector Müller, 2016

National Institute for Health Research
TACKLING INFECTIONS TO BENEFIT AFRICA (TIBA)

Uganda partner:

Professor Charles Waiswa

Director,
Coordinating Office for Control of Trypanosomiasis,

Uganda
TACKLING INFECTIONS TO BENEFIT AFRICA (TIBA)

University of Edinburgh partners:

Edinburgh Genomics

Professor Mark Blaxter
TACKLING INFECTIONS TO BENEFIT AFRICA (TIBA)

University of Edinburgh partners:

Edinburgh Infectious Diseases

Professor Ross Fitzgerald
TACKLING INFECTIONS TO BENEFIT AFRICA (TIBA)

University of Edinburgh partners:

Global Health Academy

Dr Liz Grant
TACKLING INFECTIONS TO BENEFIT AFRICA (TIBA)

University of Edinburgh partners:

Innogen Institute

Professor Joyce Tait,
Dr Geoffrey Banda
TACKLING INFECTIONS TO BENEFIT AFRICA (TIBA)

University of Edinburgh partners:

SynthSys

Prof. Susan Rosser
Dr Liz Fletcher
TACKLING INFECTIONS TO BENEFIT AFRICA (TIBA)

Our supporters:

African Academy of Sciences
African Union
New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD)

Industry - Avia-GIS, Immunovaccine, J&J, Kestrel Technology Group, Merck KgA, Omega, PEPperPRINT
TACKLING INFECTIONS TO BENEFIT AFRICA (TIBA)

Our activities:

47 research projects

9 Rapid Impact projects @ £100K

5 Making a Difference projects @ £500K

4 Toolkit projects @ £100K

9 NIHR-funded In-Africa PhD studentships
+ 8 PhD studentships [+13 Masters studentships] funded by African partners

9 NIHR-funded Out-of-Africa one-year Research Fellowships @ UoE
+ 3 In-Africa fellowships funded by African partners

In-Africa training programmes @£125K

Information exchange via web sites and annual meetings
WORK PACKAGES

- Work Package 1 – Rapid Impact
  Project PIs

- Work Package 2 – Making a Difference
  Project PIs

- Work Package 3 – Tool Kits
  Rusakaniko, Ndebele, Banda

- Work Package 4 – Technology Transfer & Training
  Kinyanjui, Awandare

- Work Package 5 – Dissemination for Action
  Chimbari, Mutapi

- Work Package 6 – Emergency Response
  Woolhouse, Rambaut
WP1: RAPID IMPACT PROJECTS

Years 1-2:

Nine Rapid Impact projects (£100K each)

TIBA will support 9 Rapid Impact (RI) projects, one proposed by each African partner. These are designed to capture the diverse challenges of health care systems in Africa and will both inform the development of our Making a Difference projects and provide data for our Toolkit projects. Each RI project will address a current knowledge gap which is resulting in either non-deployment of diagnostics or interventions or a lack of operational knowledge to improve the health of affected populations.
WP2: MAKING A DIFFERENCE PROJECTS

Years 2-3:

Five Making a Difference projects (£500K each)

- Demonstrate relevance to national health needs
- Clear pathway to impact
- Indicators for measuring impact
- Involve 2 or more Africa partner countries
- Fit with TIBA aims and objectives
- Provide opportunities to progress Toolkit projects
WP3: TOOLKIT PROJECTS

Years 3-4:

1) Strengthening health systems
2) Innovation-to-application value chains
3) Information exchange and data sharing
4) Best practice for capacity building and training
WP4: CAPACITY BUILDING

PhD training (In country & UKZN)

MSc and MPH training

Postdoctoral fellowships

In-country training

Technology transfer

*Seven Principles for Strengthening Research Capacity in LMICs*
WP5: DISSEMINATION FOR ACTION

National Level
Botswana - Ms Shenaaz Al Halabi - Permanent Secretary for Health
Ghana - Dr Gloria Quanash Asare - Deputy Director, General of Health Services
Kenya - Dr. Nicholas Muraguri - Principal Secretary, Ministry of Health
South Africa - Ms M P Matsoso - Director General, National Department of Health
Sudan - Dr Tarig Abdelrahim - Director, Communicable and Non-Communicable Diseases Control Directorate, Federal Ministry of Health
Tanzania - Dr Neema Rusibamayila – Director, Preventive Services, Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children
Uganda - Dr Diana Atwine - Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health
Zimbabwe - Brigadier Dr Gerald Gwinji - Permanent Secretary for Health and Child Care

Continental Level
African Academy of Science (AAS) - Prof. Berhanu Abegaz, Executive Director
African Union (AU) - Dr Amb Olawale L. Malyegun, Director of Social Affairs
New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) - Prof Aggrey Ambali, Head, Industrialisation, Science, Technology and Innovation
Southern African Development Community (SADC) - Mr Joseph Mthethwa - Programme Director, Health and Pharmaceuticals
WHO-Afro - Dr Matshidiso Moeti - Regional Director
Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (ACDC) - Dr John Nkengasong - Director

Community Level
Phase 1 - Joint development of an engagement and dissemination plan (EDP) by researchers and communities. The EDP will be embedded with a monitoring and evaluation plan to ensure accountability.

Phase 2 - Regular evaluation of the EDP through monitoring and making necessary adjustments. This will involve regular meetings and open forums to allow community inputs into project activities.

Phase 3 - Dissemination and final evaluation of the EDP.

Knowledge uptake (KU) will be a continuous process done through knowledge mapping involving:
(a) identifying key results that need to be translated;
(b) identifying target groups for KU;
(c) specifying anticipated outputs of KU;
(d) identifying tools appropriate for the various target groups.

Global Level
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)
UK Dept. for International Development (DfID)
United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
European Commission Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DEVCO)
International Association of National Public Health Institutes (IANPHI)
Wellcome Trust (WT)
World Health Organisation (WHO)
World Bank
WP6: EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Field diagnostics (portable kits, bench top sequencing)

Data sharing

Real-time genomic analysis

+ staff salary recovery, travel and deployment costs
TACKLING INFECTIONS TO BENEFIT AFRICA (TIBA)

Our management:

**Directorate**
Mark Woolhouse (Director)
Deputy Directors: Francisca Mutapi, Moses Chimbari

**Steering Committee**
Directorate + Gordon Awandare, Samson Kinyanjui, Keith Matthews, Paul Ndebele, James Smith, Sue Welburn

**Governance**
External Advisory Group
Local EAGs in each partner country
Internal M&E for individual projects
External M&E for overall project by LTS International
TACKLING INFECTIONS TO BENEFIT AFRICA (TIBA)

Our staff:

- Research Coordinator (UoE)
- Project Manager (UoE)
- Communications & Engagement Officer (UKZN)
- ICT support officer (UoE)
- Admin support (UoE)

12 Research Fellows
30 postgraduate students

Infectious diseases and global health communities at UoE

Research staff at institutes in 9 Africa partner countries
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TACKLING INFECTIONS TO BENEFIT AFRICA (TIBA)

Next steps:

1) Contract awarded (June 1\textsuperscript{st} 2017)
2) Recruit key support staff (ongoing)
3) Finalise Rapid Impact project selection (ongoing)
4) Subcontracts with individual partner countries (by December 1\textsuperscript{st} 2017)
5) Recruit external advisory group (ongoing)
6) Appoint M&E specialists (ongoing)
7) Submit interim progress report to funders (December 1\textsuperscript{st} 2017)
8) Roll out TIBA in partner countries (December 2017)
9) First full project meeting (Harare, early 2018)
TIBA CONTACTS

Web site:  http://tiba-partnership.org

E-mail: info@tiba-partnership.org

Skype: Tiba Partnership

Twitter: @TibaPartnership

Secretariat: Kath Tracey, Edinburgh