

## Partner Organisations



Drugs for Neglected Diseases *initiative*

in association with:

- Davy Koech, Director, [Kenya Medical Research Institute](#), Kenya
- Paolo Buss, President, [Oswaldo Cruz Foundation](#), Brazil
- Philippe Kourilsky, Director General, [Institut Pasteur](#), France
- Ismail Merican, Director General, [Ministry of Health](#), Malaysia
- Nirmal K. Ganguly, Director General, [Indian Council of Medical Research](#), India
- Rowan Gillies, President [Médecins Sans Frontières International](#)
- Barbara Stocking, Director, [Oxfam International](#)
- Richard Jefferson, Director [BIOS Initiative](#), Australia

**Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative (DNDi)** is a not-for-profit initiative, driven by the public sector, that aims to research and develop new, improved, effective, affordable, and field-relevant drugs for neglected diseases, such as leishmaniasis, sleeping sickness and Chagas disease. In addition, it aims to raise awareness of the urgent need to research and develop drugs for these diseases, and strengthen existing capacity in disease-endemic countries via implementation of projects. DNDi is a collaboration of four publicly funded medical research institutes, a private research institute, a humanitarian medical aid organisation, and an international health organisation

[www.dndi.org](http://www.dndi.org)

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### Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), New Delhi, the apex body in India for the formulation, coordination and promotion of biomedical research, is one of the oldest medical research bodies in India. Set up in 1911 as the Indian Research Fund Association, it was re-designated in 1949 as the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) with considerably expanded scope of functions.

ICMR is funded by the Government of India through the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

The Council has a network of 21 [Permanent Research Institutes/Centres](#) located in different parts of India that conduct research on diverse areas, e.g., tuberculosis, leprosy, cholera and diarrhoeal diseases, viral diseases including AIDS, malaria, kala-azar, and vector control.

ICMR also promotes research through (i) [Centres for Advanced Research](#) set up around existing expertise and infrastructure in selected departments of Medical Colleges, Universities and other non-ICMR Research Institutes; (ii) [Task force](#) studies which emphasise a time-bound, goal-oriented approach and (iii) [Open-ended research](#) on the basis of applications for grants-in-aid received from scientists in non-ICMR academic and research institutes in India.

[www.icmr.nic.in](http://www.icmr.nic.in)

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### Institut Pasteur

Established by decree on June 4th, 1887, the Institut Pasteur is a private non-profit, state-approved foundation, which contributes to the prevention and treatment of disease, primarily infectious disease, through research, education, and public health activities.

The contributions of the Institut to life sciences apply notably to rabies, plague, diphtheria, tetanus, typhus, yellow fever, tuberculosis, poliomyelitis and also to hepatitis B and AIDS. Some researchers won fame by discovering antitoxins, BCG, sulfamides, and anti-histamines. Others are playing a fundamental role in the advent of molecular biology and genetic engineering.

Eight Nobel Prizes have been awarded to Pasteurians since 1900.

The Institut Pasteur now includes an independent international network of some 20 establishments spread over the five continents. It brings together three fields of activity: research, education, and public health on its Parisian campus with almost 2500 individuals, within an independent **international network** of Pasteur institutes, which constitutes an original and autonomous body, the only one of its kind in the world.

[www.pasteur.fr](http://www.pasteur.fr)

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### Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI)

Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) is a leading health research institution in Africa with a firm scientific foundation, physical

infrastructure, resources and a global network. The vision of the Institute is to continue to be a leading centre of excellence in health research nationally, regionally, and internationally.

KEMRI, a state corporation, was established through Kenya's Science and Technology (Amendment) Act of November 1979. Its mission is to conduct health sciences research and generate research findings to be applied towards the improvement of the health status of the nation.

KEMRI makes a significant contribution to regional scientific capacity. It hosts a number of important international health research initiatives, e.g., the African Forum for Health Sciences (AFHES).

KEMRI has developed very useful links with local, regional and international institutions and organizations that are involved in health research. Within Kenya, the Institute works closely with government ministries, national universities and local research institutions. Within Africa, it collaborates with health training and research institutions such as the South African Medical Research Council and the Noguchi Memorial Institute of Medical Research in Ghana.

[www.kemri.org](http://www.kemri.org)

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### Ministry of Health, Malaysia

The Ministry of Health of Malaysia is dedicated to building partnerships for health to facilitate and support the people in fully attaining their potential in health and motivate them to appreciate health as a valuable asset.

The development of hospitals in the Federated Malay States was driven by the tin industry. The Institute for Medical Research (IMR) was established in 1900. This was a major step in addressing the challenge to find the causes and ways to control infectious tropical diseases such as malaria, beriberi, cholera and dysentery, which were exacerbated by widespread malnutrition, smallpox, and rabies.

The IMR provides advisory and consultative services to the Ministry of Health, other government departments, agencies and institutions in the country, as well as international organisations. IMR has a pool of expertise in various fields of medical research that contributes to the formulation, implementation and evaluation of various health-related programmes and activities.

The mission of IMR is to be recognized internationally by the scientific community as the leading centre for biomedical research.

[www.imr.gov.my](http://www.imr.gov.my)  
[www.moh.gov.my](http://www.moh.gov.my)

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### Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)

Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) is an independent, private, medical aid organisation that has been setting up emergency medical aid missions around the world since 1971. The movement started with a collection of French medical doctors and has developed to its current international position. It now has offices in 18 countries and ongoing activities in over 80 countries.

MSF has over 2,500 volunteers worldwide and emphasises the need for independent humanitarian action in all its activities. As a medical humanitarian organization, it is fundamentally unacceptable to MSF that access to essential medicines is increasingly impossible, particularly for the most common global infectious diseases. Since 1999, MSF has been campaigning internationally to find long-term, sustainable solutions to this crisis via their Campaign for Access to Essential Medicines.

MSF is committed to two objectives: Providing medical aid wherever needed, regardless of race, religion, politics or sex, and raising awareness of the plight of the people they help.

In carrying out humanitarian assistance, it seeks also to raise awareness of crisis situations; MSF acts as a witness and will speak out, either in private or in public about the plight of populations in danger for whom it works. In doing so, MSF sets out to alleviate human suffering, to protect life and health and to restore and ensure respect for the human beings and their fundamental human rights. Since 1991 MSF has received 15 international awards for its activities, culminating in the Nobel Peace Prize in 1999. MSF dedicated the Prize money to the study of lack of drugs for neglected diseases.

[www.msf.org](http://www.msf.org)  
[www.accessmed-msf.org](http://www.accessmed-msf.org)

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### Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (Fiocruz)

The Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (Fiocruz) is the biggest biomedical research institution in Latin America. It was created on May 25, 1900 on the lines of the Pasteur Institute from where Oswaldo Cruz drew inspiration. It has actively participated in the design of Brazilian health policies, which resulted in the creation of the Unified Health System (SUS) and the conception of health as an inalienable right of citizenship, granted by the new Brazilian constitution.

Today, Fiocruz is one of the most important manufacturers of health products in Brazil. Besides being the major national producer of immunobiological agents with a production capacity of 200 million doses of vaccines per year, it also became an important supplier of essential drugs for the SUS, producing yearly 300 million pills, ointment and capsules. In its quality control laboratories, it performs yearly approximately 5,700 analyses of products such as vaccines, drugs, cosmetics and food. Its health care units carry out more than 60 thousand

clinical analyses. In addition, Fiocruz is the main teaching centre for health professionals in the country on an extra-university basis. More than 15,000 public health professionals have graduated from Fiocruz and 700 students are registered in its masters and PhD programmes.

Fiocruz has played a major role in the much-lauded AIDS programme of the Brazilian government that provides ARV treatment to all AIDS sufferers in the country.

[www.fiocruz.br](http://www.fiocruz.br)

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### **Oxfam International**

Oxfam is a confederation of 12 organizations working together with over 3,000 partners in more than 100 countries to find lasting solutions to poverty, suffering and injustice. Oxfam International seeks increased worldwide public understanding that economic and social justice are crucial to sustainable development. It strives to be a global campaigning force promoting the awareness and motivation that comes with global citizenship whilst seeking to shift public opinion in order to make equity the same priority as economic growth.

#### **Oxfam works with poor people**

Oxfam seek to help people organize so that they might gain better access to the opportunities they need to improve their livelihoods and govern their own lives. They also work with people affected by humanitarian disasters, with preventive measures, preparedness, as well as emergency relief.

#### **Oxfam influences powerful people**

Experience of the real issues confronting poor people is linked to high-level research and lobbying aiming to change international policies and practices in ways which would ensure that poor people have the rights, opportunities and resources they need to improve and control their lives.

#### **Oxfam joins hands with all people**

Popular campaigning, alliance building and media work designed to raise awareness among the public of the real solutions to global poverty, to enable and motivate people to play an active part in the movement for change, and to foster a sense of global citizenship.

[www.oxfam.org](http://www.oxfam.org)

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### **BIOS Initiative**

**BIOS - Biological Innovation for Open Society** - is a new initiative of [CAMBIA](#), an autonomous, not-for-profit international research organization, to extend the metaphor and concepts of open source and distributive innovation to biotechnology and other forms of innovation in biology.

BIOS develops and validates new means for cooperative invention, improvement and delivery of life sciences technologies. [The BIOS license](#) draws inspiration from the open source software movement but is adapted for patented technologies. It creates a "protected commons" in which an invention can be improved without exclusive capture by any one entity.

[www.bios.net](http://www.bios.net)

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