

**Regional Platform to reinforce capacity
for clinical trials in Human African
Trypanosomiasis (HAT Platform):
Five years contributing
to improve research.**

Dr Augustin Kadima EBEJA

HAT Platform Coordinator

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Presentation Outline

- Background
- Platform objectives
- Achievements
- Lessons learned



Background:

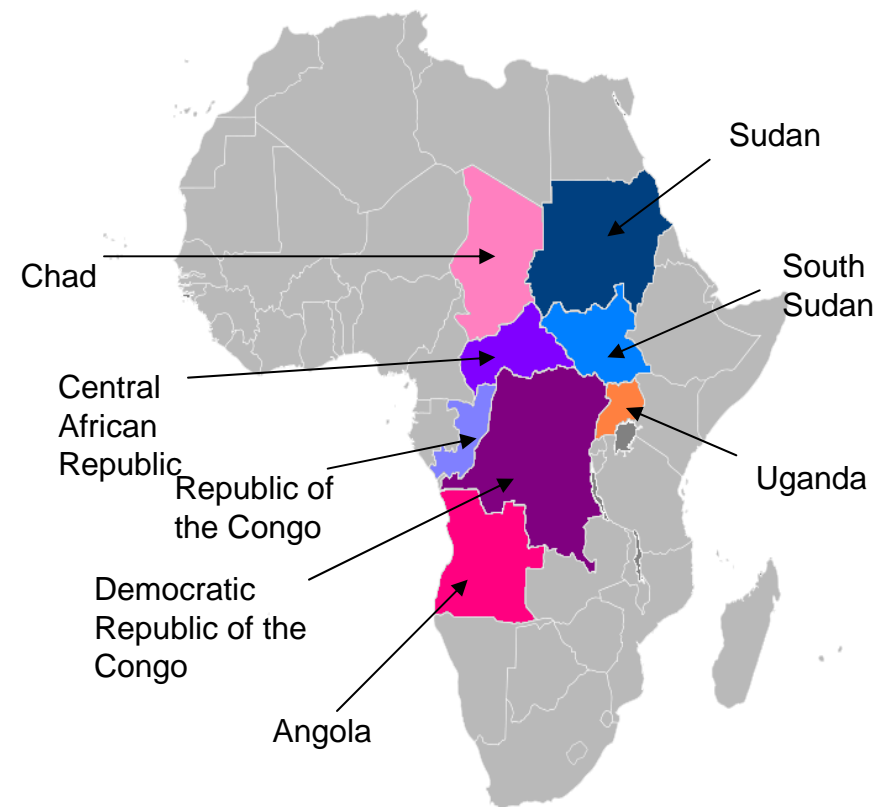
Human African trypanosomiasis (HAT) or sleeping sickness

- Treatment options largely inadequate
 - Toxic, old
 - Difficult to administer
- Point-of-care diagnostics needed
- Research infrastructure in HAT-endemic regions has either:
 - Not been sustained
 - Never existed



Who is the HAT Platform?

- National HAT control programs of most affected endemic countries
- DNDi, Swiss TPH
- ITMA, INRB, CDC, KARI-TRC, Epicentre
- NGOs like MSF
- FIND
- WHO
- regional networks
- eg. EANETT, PABIN, AMANET



Objectives

- To strengthen clinical trial capacity for sleeping sickness
- To overcome health system challenges for clinical research
- To share information on HAT research progress
- To improve HAT clinical trial methodologies



Sudan



Angola



Uganda



Building the network

South Sudan



Central African Republic

Chad



Congo Brazza



D.R. Cong

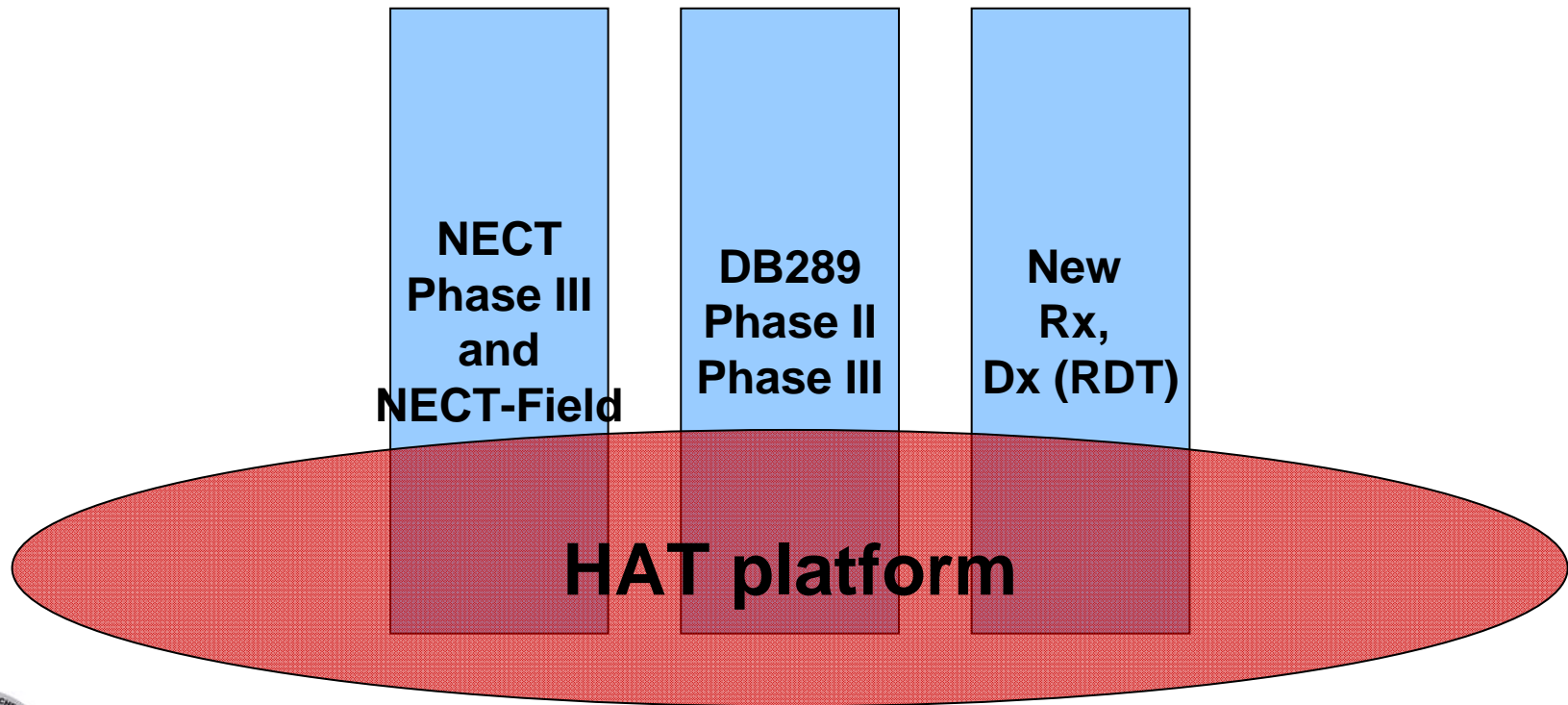


Achievements

- **Trainings**
 - Good Clinical Practice (GCP)
 - Ethics committees training
 - Clinical trial monitors
 - MD training on standardization of patient examination
 - Clinical trial methodology workshops (efficacy assessment, protocol elements)
- **Meetings and sharing information**
 - 9 newsletters
 - 10 steering committee meetings
 - 5 scientific annual meetings



Linking to ongoing clinical trials to support building a sustainable and critical mass of investigators, monitors, trial sites



Lessons learned

- Provide a forum by which to bridge:
 - HAT Research and disease control activities
 - Regional barriers (differences in laws, guidelines, methods, languages, concepts etc.)
- A needs-driven approach, adapted per region:
 - Training of trial staff (needs, level, methods)
 - Ethics concepts (GCP, informed consent etc)
 - Standard operating procedures (SOPs)
- Opportunities
 - Facilitate multi-country, multi-centre studies
 - Regional pool of clinical trial expertise



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