

1st LEAP Scientific Conference

29-30 September, 2014, Bahir-Dar, Ethiopia



BRIDGING THE GAP:

Progress on the Current Research Innovation &
Access to Visceral Leishmaniasis Treatment in Africa



DNDi

Drugs for Neglected Diseases *initiative*

Drugs for Neglected Diseases *initiative* (DNDi) is a not-for-profit research and development organization, *DNDi* works to deliver new treatments for neglected diseases, in particular leishmaniasis, Human African Trypanosomiasis, Chagas disease, Malaria, specific Helminth infections and Paediatric HIV.
www.dndi.org



Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) is a state corporation established through the Science and Technology (Amendment) Act of 1979, which has since been amended to Science, Technology and Innovation Act, 2013.

www.kemri.org



Makerere University (UoM) was established in 1922 as a humble technical school, named Uganda Technical College. On July 1970, UoM became an independent national university of the Republic of Uganda offering Undergraduate and post graduate courses.

<http://mak.ac.ug/>



Addis Ababa University (AAU) was established in 1950 as the University College of Addis Ababa (UCAA). Addis Ababa University is the oldest and the largest higher learning and research institution in Ethiopia. Since its inception, AAU has been the leading centre in teaching-learning, research and community services.

www.aau.edu.et



Institute of Endemic Diseases (IEND) was established in 1993 as a research and training centre for endemic diseases. It acts as a platform for biomedical and clinical research within the University of Khartoum.

www.iend.edu.sd



Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) is an independent, medical, emergency relief organization that provides assistance to people worldwide, regardless of their background, religion, or political convictions. Above all, it aims to save lives and offer medical care to victims of disasters, wars and epidemics.



CONFERENCE MESSAGES



MESSAGE FROM DRUGS FOR NEGLECTED DISEASES *initiative*

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

On the occasion of the Leishmaniasis East African Platform (LEAP) Scientific Conference, in Bahir Dar, Ethiopia, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all of you engaged in R&D for neglected diseases in East Africa. The conference theme, ***Bridging the Gap: Progress in Current Research Innovation and Access to Visceral Leishmaniasis Treatment in Africa***, promises to examine a broad range of perspectives on kala-azar in Africa today, from geographical differences in treatment response, challenges in drug development, diagnostic issues, all the way to regional regulatory and ethics harmonization endeavours, and finally to the challenges in ensuring patient access to diagnosis and treatment.



Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi) has invested significantly in developing and delivering new treatments for kala-azar, be they new regimens and combinations of existing drugs, or the discovery and development of entirely new drugs – each strategy with its own challenges and opportunities. We have also engaged in leishmaniasis drug development more broadly, with studies on HIV-VL, post-kala-azar dermal leishmaniasis (PKDL), and cutaneous leishmaniasis (CL) on three continents. Our work in Africa is a key priority of the organization, which is why LEAP and DNDi Africa have worked diligently to ensure that research capacity in East Africa is built and maintained. From the initial tents that were used for clinical trials, LEAP has come a long way, in terms of the professionals that have been trained, the infrastructure that has been built, the clinical trials conducted, and the treatment with SSG&PM delivered.

Today, we invite you all to reflect with us on how to best address the challenges that remain today in bringing down the burden of kala-azar in Africa. As an organization that can only be as strong as its partners, we invite you to join us as researchers, clinicians, public health experts, and advocates, in bringing the best science to the most neglected patients in the region. Finally, I would also like to thank the generous donors that continue to support DNDi's activities in the field of leishmaniasis.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Pécoul', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Dr Bernard Pécoul

Executive Director, Drugs for Neglected Disease *initiative*

Geneva, Switzerland

MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR KENYA MEDICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

I am extremely delighted to welcome you to the 1st LEAP Scientific Conference, in Bahir Dar, Ethiopia, from the 29 to 30 September 2014. As one of DNDi founding partners and being a key LEAP partner in research and development (R&D) work in Eastern Africa, Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) is pleased to be associated with this conference. It is a great achievement for the platform and will greatly contribute towards promoting South-South networking for researchers and scientist in the area of Leishmaniasis, in the Eastern African region.



I am equally pleased to note the LEAP Conference themed ***'BRIDGING THE GAP: Progress on the Current Research Innovation and Access to Visceral Leishmaniasis Treatment in Africa'***, is geared towards strengthening clinical research capacity, which is lacking in part due to the remoteness and geographical spread of the patients, most of whom live in the most impoverished regions of Africa. None-the-less, while we have made some strides in the development of treatments for kala-azar, gaps still remain. Greater investment needs to be targeted towards delivering effective, affordable and efficacious treatments to communities in kala-azar endemic disease regions. In addition, kala-azar patients need treatment and there is still room for more to be done by governments and their partners in controlling kala-azar in endemic disease regions.

I would like to thank the ministries of health of LEAP member countries for continued partnership and collaboration and all of you here today for working towards improved diagnosis and treatment for Leishmaniasis in the region, as well as raising awareness about this neglected tropical diseases (NTDs). Kala-azar is an NTD that affects the poorest of the poor and marginalized communities; hence our regional work has a role in advocating and eventually influencing policy and funding priorities.

Today, we take pride and congratulate DNDi and LEAP members for convening the First LEAP Scientific Conference. As we move forward, KEMRI and her partners will continue to stimulate efforts in R&D, prevention and the treatment of Kala azar; one of the most deadly neglected diseases in Kenya. I wish all participants a successful conference.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Solomon Mpoke', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Prof. Solomon Mpoke

Director, Kenya Medical Research Institute
Nairobi, Kenya.

MESSAGE FROM CHAIR, LEISHMANIASIS EAST AFRICA PLATFORM

It is my pleasure as the current chair of the Leishmaniasis East Africa Platform (LEAP) to formally welcome all the participants to the first LEAP Scientific Conference, in Bahir Dar, Ethiopia, from the 29 to 30 September 2014. This conference marks an achievement for the platform and will contribute towards promoting South-South networking for researchers and scientist in the area of leishmaniasis, in the Eastern African region.

We as LEAP understand the urgency of addressing the most challenging questions in research and development (R&D) for leishmaniasis, in Africa. Consequently, to date the LEAP countries continue to work as one through an innovative and inclusive process. Today's scientific conference is an example of this united effort.

Over the years, LEAP has worked towards time bound and quantifiable targets in order to address the R&D needs of patients suffering from visceral leishmaniasis (VL), also known as kala-azar. To date, LEAP has 9 clinical trial sites and over 80 members, most of whom are attending this scientific conference.

LEAP's R&D work would not be what it is today without the strong support of the communities on the ground, research institutes, ministries of health, regulatory bodies, DNDi and donors. Ten years on, we are still making positive strides towards a collective R&D goal. Through the LEAP0104 clinical trial we were able to show that Sodium Stibogluconate and Paromomycin (SSG&PM) combination therapy for 17days was a marked improvement from the previous 30 day regime of SSG alone. SSG&PM combination therapy is now recommended by the World Health Organization as a first-line treatment for kala-azar in the Eastern Africa region. Today, LEAP is prioritising improving access of SSG&PM in our Eastern African countries.

As we deliberate over the next few days, it is my hope that we will take the lessons learned and recommendations into consideration; and work towards building on what we have so far achieved as LEAP, DNDi and partners. Our choice to do so will make a difference to the populations in Eastern Africa, affected by NTDs, and the generation to come. Furthermore, it is my hope that through the conference discussions it will become clear that R&D goals are achievable, but we must also distinguish how countries can use this message to chart out long-term outcomes based on collaborative R&D approaches. As a scientific community we can achieve much more if we continue to work together for there is strength in numbers.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ahmed Musa'.

Prof. Ahmed Mudawi Musa

Chair, Leishmaniasis East Africa Platform

Director, Institute of Endemic Diseases (IEND), University of Khartoum, Sudan

MESSAGE FROM CHAIR, CONFERENCE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Karibu! It gives us great pleasure to welcome you to the 1st Leishmaniasis East Africa Platform (LEAP) Scientific Conference in Bahir Dar, Ethiopia; the city of palm trees and colourful flowers; the source of the Blue Nile.

The conference theme, **'Bridging the Gap: Progress on the Current Research Innovation and Access to Visceral Leishmaniasis Treatment in Africa'** highlights the positive developments in the treatment of Visceral Leishmaniasis (VL). We have come a long way, but we still have far to go.



They say time is a milestone to measure progress; this journey started eleven years ago, and day by day we are reminded of the important steps we have taken together as an engaged research community. This is the first time that LEAP hosts such a Scientific Conference and we believe it is an opportunity to celebrate the journey so far, to explore what good South-South, North-South, and multi-stakeholder cooperation looks like in practice.

But, even as we look back, this is a chance to look to the future, to foster the ongoing collaborations and develop new partnerships to cover an even greater path. The two-day conference will provide a platform for exchange of knowledge, experiences, practices, and we hope the discussions will propel us into the future. Our scientific programme is rich and varied with one keynote speech, invited talks around thematic areas, and over 40 technical papers, presented both orally and as posters.

We are honoured with the presence of researchers, health professionals, academicians and representatives from Drug Regulatory Authorities, National NTD Programmes, Ministries of Health, MSF and the World Health Organization, from 18 countries.

We believe that we have chosen a venue that will guarantee a successful conference amid the sights and sounds of scenic Bahir Dar.

The success of the conference depends on all of you who have contributed immensely to the comprehensive programme.

We would like to say thank you, to the authors for submitting abstracts and to the Scientific Committee for their thorough and timely review. The Organizing Committee worked extremely hard in ensuring that the programme came together. Your efforts are appreciated. To LEAP Platform members, asanteni sana for generating great ideas. To DNDi and its donors, we are forever grateful for sponsorship, support, and partnership. As a partnership model, we at DNDi know the value of solid collaboration with our many and diverse partners. To all of you here today, we say amesegenalehu!

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, it is my honour to welcome you to the 1st LEAP Scientific Conference.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "SB", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Simon Bolo

Regional Operations Manager,

Drugs for Neglected Disease Initiative Africa Regional Office, Nairobi

MESSAGE FROM CHAIR, CONFERENCE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Scientific Committee of the **1st Leishmaniasis East Africa Platform (LEAP) Scientific Conference**, I am delighted to welcome you to Bahir Dar!

Our conference theme '**BRIDGING THE GAP: Progress on the Current Research Innovation and Access to Visceral Leishmaniasis Treatment in Africa**', illustrates the growth we envisioned when the LEAP platform was established in 2003. During the last decade, we as LEAP partners have walked hand in hand to strengthen clinical research capacity in the most impoverished regions of Africa - where this capacity has lagged behind due to the remoteness and geographic spread of the patients we serve. It is with great pleasure that we now ***step together in the right direction*** to hold our first scientific conference.



The Scientific Conference objectives are to:

- Promote South-South and North-South networking for researchers in the region by creating a forum to discuss critical issues affecting research, innovation and access to visceral leishmaniasis (VL) treatment in Africa.
- Create an environment for stakeholders to assess evidence and deliberate on progress and challenges in the treatment of VL and other Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs).
- Nurture young researchers in the area of VL and other NTD research.

We have divided our conference into 10 sessions to run over two days covering four thematic areas: Visceral Leishmaniasis; Regulatory and Ethics Harmonization; Other Neglected Tropical Diseases; and a roundtable discussion on Access to SSG&PM in Eastern Africa. We hope that the presentations will lead to discussions in which there will be: knowledge exchange, sharing of experiences and practices, and issues affecting the treatment of VL not only in Africa but on other continents, and other NTDs will be highlighted.

Forty five abstracts were reviewed for this meeting which will comprise both oral and poster presentations. We anticipate that these presentations, combined with the special sessions from invited speakers, will facilitate the outcomes we expect from this meeting which include:

- Strengthened multi-stakeholder partnerships and sharing of knowledge, experience, and best practices.
- Commitment, by key stakeholders, to support, adopt, and implement recommended actions to enhance access to SSG&PM in Eastern Africa.
- Emphasis on progress made in research and development (R&D) for leishmaniasis in Eastern Africa (diagnosis, treatment, and access).
- Closer collaboration with partners as an essential part of achieving LEAP's objectives.
- Strengthened resolve and commitment to regulatory and ethics harmonization in Eastern Africa.

I have great expectations for this scientific conference and I am convinced that the collective wisdom of this group of experts will help to advance R&D endeavours for and in Africa!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Wasunna'.

Dr Monique Wasunna

Assistant Director, Research, KEMRI

Director, Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative Africa Regional Office, Nairobi

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Chair

Simon Bolo

Secretary

Duncan Nyakaya

Members

Dr Monique Wasunna

Nicholas Bonyo

Prof Asrat Hailu

Joy Malongo

Dr Robert Kimutai

Renee Olende

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Prof Ahmed Mudawi Musa

Prof Joseph Olobo

Dr Juma Rashid

Dr Jorge Alvar

Dr Fabiana Alves

Dr Nekoye Otsyula

Mr Raymond Omollo

Dr Tansy Edwards

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ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

DNDi is a collaborative, patients' needs-driven, not-for-profit drug R&D organization. In 2003, seven organisations from around the world joined forces to establish DNDi: the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation from Brazil, the Indian Council for Medical Research, Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI), the Ministry of Health of Malaysia and Institut Pasteur, Médecins sans Frontières (MSF), WHO's Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR), which acts as a permanent observer to the initiative.

True to its vision and mission, DNDi works closely with a wide range of partners through clinical research platform mechanisms. The overall aim of such platforms is to strengthen clinical research capacity in neglected disease endemic countries; crucial to researching and developing treatments for neglected diseases where they actually occur i.e. in very remote areas.

DNDi has three disease specific platforms in Africa and Latin America, these include:

- **The Leishmaniasis East Africa Platform (LEAP)** for the diagnosis and treatment of visceral leishmaniasis also known as kala-azar, and cutaneous leishmaniasis
- **The HAT Platform** for sleeping sickness, or Human African Trypanosomiasis
- **The Chagas Clinical Research Platform (CCRP)** for Chagas disease

THE LEAP PLATFORM



LEAP serves as a base for on-going educational cooperation between the countries in the Eastern Africa region and facilitates standardization of clinical R&D procedures and practices within the region. LEAP evaluates, validates, and registers new treatments that address regional needs for leishmaniasis, both cutaneous and visceral forms.

Members of the platform include: Centre for Clinical Research, Kenya Medical Research Institute, Kenya; Ministry of Health, Kenya; Institute of Endemic Diseases, University of Khartoum, Sudan; Federal Ministry of Health, Sudan; Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia; University of Gondar, Ethiopia; Federal Bureau of Health, Ethiopia; Makerere University, Uganda; Ministry of Health, Uganda; Médecins Sans Frontières; i+ Solutions; Institute of One World Health (iOWH); AMC/KIT/University of Slotervaart, Amsterdam, The Netherlands; London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), UK.

LEAP objectives include:

- To evaluate, validate and register improved treatment options that address regional needs for leishmaniasis
- To facilitate clinical testing and registration of new treatments for VL in the region
- To bring together key regional actors in the health field, namely: representatives of ministries of health, national control programmes, regulatory authorities, academia, civil society groups, and pharmaceutical companies, as well as clinicians and health professionals
- To provide capacity strengthening for drug evaluation and clinical studies in the region (Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and Sudan) and strengthen clinical capacities in endemic regions, and address infrastructural requirements where necessary

LEAP ACHIEVEMENTS

Over the years MoH, KEMRI, DNDi, MSF and other partners have made significant achievements with regard to Kala Azar treatment, notably:

- Development of multi-centre clinical trial sites in Eastern Africa
- Strengthening of clinical trial capacity within LEAP countries through Good Clinical Practices, Good Clinical Laboratory Practices & Good Financial Practices training for: investigators, nursing staff, laboratory technicians and technologists
- Establishment and training for clinical trial monitors and the Data Safety Monitoring Board's (DSMBs)
- Set up an operational data center with collaborative support from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM).
- Developed a new combination treatment (SSG&PM) that reduces treatment time from 30 days to 17 days, recommended by WHO as a first-line treatment for kala-azar in the region
- Registered Paromomycin (PM) in Kenya and Uganda
- Conducted research for the introduction of an easy-to-use rapid diagnostic test (Opti Leish) to detect primary cases of Kala Azar.
- Contributed to the revision of the national treatment and diagnosis guidelines for Kala Azar in Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and Sudan
- Scientific publications



LEAP consists of a group of scientists and institutions working on developing clinical trial capacity to bring new treatments to patients

LEAP SITES

- **Sudan: 3 sites**
(Kassab, Dooka, and Um El Kher)
- **Ethiopia: 2 sites**
(Gondar, and Arba Minch)
- **Kenya: 2 sites**
(Nairobi, and Kimalel)
- **Uganda: 1 site**
(Amudat)



CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

BRIDGING THE GAP: Progress on the Current Research Innovation and Access to Visceral Leishmaniasis Treatment in Africa

**29-30 September 2014 – Avanti Blue Nile Hotel,
Bahir Dar, Ethiopia**

Monday, 29 September 2014 - Programme			
Session 1: Opening Session			
8:00-9:10	7:30-08:00	Registration	
		Master of Ceremony	Prof. Yalemtehay Mekonnen, Addis Ababa University, <i>Ethiopia</i>
		Welcome and Introduction	Prof. Asrat Hailu Mekuria, Addis Ababa University, <i>Ethiopia</i>
			Prof. Ahmed Mudawi Musa, Institute of Endemic Diseases, University of Khartoum, <i>Sudan</i>
			Dr Nathalie Strub-Wourgaft, DNDi, <i>Switzerland</i>
			Mr Ayeligne Mulualem, Chief Head of the Health Bureau, Amhara Regional State, Federal Democratic Republic of <i>Ethiopia</i>
			Dr Daniel Argaw Dagne, Leishmaniasis Control Program, World Health Organization, <i>Switzerland</i>
			Dr John H. Amuasi, Kumasi Centre for Collaborative Research in Tropical Medicine, School of Medical Sciences, <i>Ghana</i>
Session 2: DNDi R&D Portfolio: What is new			
09:10-10:10	9:10 -9:40	DNDi R&D Portfolio	Dr Nathalie Strub-Wourgaft, DNDi, <i>Switzerland</i>
	9:40-10:10	Discussion	
Break			
Session 3: Visceral Leishmaniasis in Three Continents: What is different?			
		Chair:	Prof. Kirana Bhatt, University of Nairobi, <i>Kenya</i>
		Co-Chair:	Dr Fabiana Alves, DNDi, <i>Switzerland</i>
	10:40-11:00	Global Overview of Visceral Leishmaniasis	Dr Daniel Argaw Dagne, Leishmaniasis Control Program, World Health Organization, <i>Switzerland</i>

10:40-1:30	11:00-11:15	African Visceral Leishmaniasis	Prof. Eltahir Khalil Gasim, Institute of Endemic Diseases, University of Khartoum, <i>Sudan</i>
	11:15-11:30	The Leishmaniasis East Africa Platform (LEAP)	Prof. Asrat Hailu Mekuria, Addis Ababa University, <i>Ethiopia</i>
	11:30-11:45	Visceral Leishmaniasis in Asia	Dr Bhawna Sharma, DNDi, <i>India</i>
	11:45-12:00	Visceral Leishmaniasis in Latin America	Prof. Carlos Costa, University of Brasilia, <i>Brazil</i>
	12:00-12:30	Discussion	
	12:30-12:40	The Challenges of managing Patients with Kala-Azar in Sudan	Prof. Ahmed Mudawi Musa, Institute of Endemic Diseases, University of Khartoum, <i>Sudan</i>
	12:40-12:50	Paromomycin/Sodium Stibogluconate Combinations, Safety and possible Efficacy for Treatment of Post Kala-Azar Dermal Leishmaniasis Case series	Dr. Brima Musa Younis, Institute of Endemic Diseases, University of Khartoum, <i>Sudan</i>
	12:50-1:00	Secondary Prophylaxis of Visceral Leishmaniasis Relapses in HIV co-infected Patients using Pentamidine as a Prophylactic Agent: A Prospective Cohort Study (NCT01360762)	Dr Ermias Diro, University of Gondar, <i>Ethiopia</i>
	1:00-1:10	A Screen and Treat Strategy targetting Visceral Leishmaniasis in HIV infected individuals in endemic East-African countries: The way forward ?	Johan van Griensven, Institute of Tropical Medicine, <i>Belgium</i>
1:10-1:30	Discussion		
Lunch			
Session 4: Visceral Leishmaniasis: Diagnosis and Immunology			
		Chair	Prof. Joseph Olobo, Makerere University, <i>Uganda</i>
		Co-Chair:	Prof. Ed Zijlstra, DNDi, <i>Switzerland</i>
	2:30-2:40	Impact of the use of a rapid diagnostic test for visceral leishmaniasis on clinical practice in Ethiopia: a retrospective study	Dr Ermias Diro, University of Gondar, <i>Ethiopia</i>
	2:40-2:50	Simplified molecular detection of Leishmania parasites in various clinical samples from patients with leishmaniasis	Dr Claire Mugasa, Makerere University, <i>Uganda</i>

2:30-4:00	2:50-3:00	Testing of VL Urine Samples from Kenya by quantitative ELISA	Severine Monnerat, FIND, <i>Switzerland</i>
	3:00-3:10	The Pharmacokinetics of Single Intramuscular Dose of Paromomycin Sulfate, Sodium Stibogluconate and their Combination in Healthy Volunteers	M.M.E. Mudawi, Northern Border University, <i>Saudi Arabia</i>
	3:10-3:20	Evaluation of Complement Activation Related Pseudo Allergy (CARPA) among Sudanese visceral leishmaniasis patients treated with high single dose liposomal Amphotericin B (Ambisome®)	A.J.S. Mohammed, Institute of Endemic Diseases, University of Khartoum, <i>Sudan</i>
	3:20-3:30	Alternative Approaches for Anti-Leishmania Vaccine Development: In Silico Prediction of Immunogenic T cell epitopes of Leishmania donovani GP63 protein as Vaccine Candidates	Dr Mona Elfaki, Institute of Endemic Diseases, University of Khartoum, <i>Sudan</i>
	3:30-3:40	Immunochemotherapy of Post Kala Azar Dermal Leishmaniasis: Sudanese Experience	Prof. Ahmed Mudawi Musa, Institute of Endemic Diseases, University of Khartoum, <i>Sudan</i>
	3:40-4:00	Discussion	
Break			
Session 5: Visceral Leishmaniasis: Some Pertinet Issues			
4:30-5:45		Chair	Prof. Eltahir Awad Gasim Khalil, Institute of Endemic Diseases, University of Khartoum, <i>Sudan</i>
		Co-Chair	Dr Nekoye Otsyula, DNDi, <i>Kenya</i>
	4:30-4:40	Leishmaniasis in Uganda: Historical Account and a Review of the Literature	Dr Patrick Sagaki, Amudat Hospital, <i>Uganda</i>
	4:40-4:50	Nutrition and Leishmaniasis Control in Sudan, Current Challenges and Future Strategies : A guide for the Formulation of Regional Policy	Dr Faiza Osman, Institute of Endemic Diseases, University of Khartoum, <i>Sudan</i>
	4:50-5:00	Economic Impact of Visceral Leishmaniasis in Baringo, Kenya	Simon Bolo, DNDi, <i>Kenya</i>
	5:00-5:10	Innovative approaches to Clinical Data Management in Resource Limited Settings using Open Source Technologies	Raymond Omollo, DNDi, <i>Kenya</i>
	5:10-5:20	Lessons Learned from Collaborative Research and Development Program on Leishmania in University of Gondar	Dr Ermias Diro, University of Gondar, <i>Ethiopia</i>
	5:20-5:45	Discussion & Close of Session	
7:00 Networking Cocktail			

BRIDGING THE GAP: Progress on the Current Research Innovation and Access to Visceral Leishmaniasis Treatment in Africa

**29-30 September 2014 – Avanti Blue Nile Hotel,
Bahir Dar, Ethiopia**

Tuesday, 30 September 2014 - Programme			
Session 6: Regulatory and Ethics Harmonization: A Possibility or a Mirage?			
8:00-11:00	8:00-8:10	Chair: Co-Chair:	Dr Nathalie Strub-Wourgaft, DNDi, <i>Switzerland</i> Prof. Eyasu Makonnen, Addis Ababa University, <i>Ethiopia</i>
	8:10-8:30	An Overview on Drug Regulation and Harmonization in Africa	Ms Gugu Nolwandle Mahlangu, Medicines Control Authority of Zimbabwe, <i>Zimbabwe</i>
	8:30-8:45	An Overview on Drug Regulation in Uganda: Approaches towards harmonization	Dr Helen Byomire Ndagije, National Drug Authority, <i>Uganda</i>
	8:45-9:00	Promoting access to quality, safe and efficacious pharmaceutical products, PPB's Perspective.	Dr Edward Abwao, Pharmacy & Poisons Board, <i>Kenya</i>
	9:00-9:15	An Overview on Drug Regulation in Sudan: Approaches towards harmonization	Alia Bakri Mergany Ahmed, Drug Importation Department, FMPH, <i>Sudan</i>
	9:15-9:30	Prospects on Regulatory Harmonization: The Ethiopian perspective	Ms Heran Gerba, FMHACA, <i>Ethiopia</i>
	9:30-9:40	Challenges in Ethical Review in Kenya	Prof. Kirana Bhatt, University of Nairobi, <i>Kenya</i>
	9:40-9:50	Integration, Collaboration or Joint Review: Which way to Speed up Research Ethics Review in Eastern Africa	Dr Simon Langat, National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation, <i>Kenya</i>
	9:50-10:00	Institutional Review Boards and Clinical Research in East Africa: Challenges, Opportunities and Proposed Solutions	Dr Faiza Osman, Institute of Endemic Diseases, University of Khartoum, <i>Sudan</i>
	10:30-11:00	Discussion Conclusion	Ms Chimwemwe Chamdimba, NEPAD, <i>South Africa</i>
Break			

Session 7: Neglected Tropical Diseases 1			
11:15-12:45		Chair:	Dr Mércé Herrero , DFID Consortium, Ethiopia
		Co-Chair:	Dr Juma Rashid , Kenya Medical Research Institute, <i>Kenya</i>
	11:15-11:35	Neglected Tropical Diseases 2020 Elimination Targets –Is Africa on Course?	Dr Pauline Mwinzi , Kenya Medical Research Institute, <i>Kenya</i>
	11:35-11:45	Monitoring Implementation of a Pharmacovigilance Plan for a Neglected Tropical Disease in East Africa	Peninah Soipei Menza , DNDi, <i>Kenya</i>
12:45-1:00	11:45-11:55	Factors Influencing Compliance with Mass Drug Administration for Lymphatic Filariasis Elimination in Kenya	Dr Doris Njomo , Kenya Medical Research Institute, <i>Kenya</i>
	11:55-12:05	Evaluating Drug Delivery Strategies to Pre-primary School Age Children for Treatment of Soil-Transmitted Helminthiasis and Schistosomiasis Infections in Malindi District, Coastal Kenya	Gladys Odhiambo , Kenya Medical Research Institute, <i>Kenya</i>
	12:05-12:15	Behaviour Change is required for Elimination of Active Trachoma in Narok County, Kenya	Dr Doris Njomo , Kenya Medical Research Institute, <i>Kenya</i>
	12:15-12:25	Predictors of non-compliance with Mass Drug Administration for Schistosomiasis Control in Western Kenya - The SCORE Project	Omedo Martin Owino , Kenya Medical Research Institute, <i>Kenya</i>
	12:25-12:35	A Qualitative Description of Community Participation in Water and Sanitation Activities in the Control of Bilharzia in Nyalenda B, an Informal Settlement in Kisumu City, Western Kenya	Rosemary Musuva , Kenya Medical Research Institute, <i>Kenya</i>
	12:35-1:00	Discussion	
Lunch			
Session 8: Neglected Tropical Diseases 2			
		Chair:	Prof. Asrat Hailu , Addis Ababa University, <i>Ethiopia</i>
2:00-3:00	2:00-2:10	Burden of Cystic Echinococcus in Selected Pastoral and Agropastoral Districts of Uganda	Emmanuel Othieno , Makerere University, <i>Uganda</i>
	2:10-2:20	Cystic Echinococcosis in Eastern Africa – A Public Health Problem	Dr Eberhard Zehyle , AMREF, <i>Kenya</i>
	2:20-2:30	Host Preference Analysis of Phlebotomus (Larrousius) Orientalis (Diptera: Psychodidae) using Cytochrome b PCR and Reverse Line Blotting in the Visceral Leishmaniasis Endemic Area of Tahtay Adiyabo District, Northern Ethiopia	Araya Gebresilasie , Addis Ababa University, <i>Ethiopia</i>
	2:30-3:00	Discussion	

Session 9: Access to SSG&PM in Eastern Africa Roundtable Discussion

3:00-4:30		Facilitators	Prof. Paul Lalvani , Empower Manpower Solutions Pvt. Ltd, <i>India</i> Dr Nathalie Strub-Wourgaft , DNDi, <i>Switzerland</i>
		Keynote Speaker	Dr Daniel Argaw Dagne , Leishmaniasis Control Program, World Health Organization, <i>Switzerland</i>
		Panelists	Dr Daniel Argaw Dagne , Leishmaniasis Control Program, World Health Organization, <i>Switzerland</i> Dr Margriet den Boer , DFID Consortium, <i>United Kingdom</i> John Kabuchi , Kenya Medical Supplies Agency, MOH, <i>Kenya</i> Dr Abate Mulungeta Beshah , World Health Organization, <i>Ethiopia</i> Osama Babiker Hassan Malik , Ministry of Health, <i>Sudan</i> Mayanja Martin Nsubuga , Ministry of Health, <i>Uganda</i> MSF Access Campaign

Break

Session 10: Closing Session

4:45-5:30			Dr Robert Kimutai , Chief Rapporteur, DNDi, <i>Kenya</i> Prof Ahmed Mudawi Musa , LEAP Chair, Sudan Dr Nathalie Strub-Wourgaft , DNDi, <i>Switzerland</i> Mr. Yehulu Deneke , Director General, FMHACA, <i>Ethiopia</i> Dr Monique Wasunna , KEMRI/DNDi, <i>Kenya</i>
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Poster Presentations

Monday, September 29-Tuesday, September 30, 2014

Bacterial Sepsis in Patients with Visceral Leishmaniasis in NorthWest Ethiopia	Mengistu Endris , University of Gondar, <i>Ethiopia</i>
Method for Quantification of Helminthes Eggs in Human in Field Research, Modification of Kato/Katz Method	Emmanuel Igwarro Odongo-Aginya , Gulu University, <i>Uganda</i>
Managing Clinical Data Queries Using and In-House Built Query Management System QMSPlus	Seth Okeyo , DNDi, <i>Kenya</i>
The Current Status of Cutaneous Leishmaniasis in Ocholla, Southern Ethiopia	Gessesew Bugssa Hailu , Institute of Biomedical Sciences, Mekelle University, <i>Ethiopia</i>
The Origin of the Leishmania Parasite: An African Prospectus	Sarah H. Elgawi , Institute of Endemic Diseases, University of Khartoum, <i>Sudan</i>
Study on Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices (KAP) of Communities towards Kala-azar in Kafta-Humera, Northwestern Ethiopia	Shewaye Belay , Institute of Biomedical Sciences, Mekelle University, <i>Ethiopia</i>
Comparison of Safety and Efficacy of Sodium Stibogluconate and Liposomal Amphotericin B for Treatment of Visceral Leishmaniasis in Patients with and without HIV co-infection in Gondar, North west Ethiopia, Gondar.	Aschalew Tamiru , University of Gondar, <i>Ethiopia</i>
Bionomics of phlebotomine sandflies (Diptera: Psychodidae) in a highland kala-azar focus in Libo-Kemkem district, Northwestern Ethiopia	Esayas Aklilu , Addis Ababa University, <i>Ethiopia</i>
Species composition, abundance and seasonal dynamics of Phlebotomus species in a visceral leishmaniasis endemic area of Northwest Ethiopia	Solomon Yared , Aklilu Lemma Institute of Pathology, <i>Ethiopia</i>
Antileishmanial Activity Xanthium brasiliicum Vell. Leaves and Isomeric Mixture of Xanthumin & Xanthinin isolated from Petroleum ether & n-hexane Extracts	E.E. Hassan A , Institute of Endemic Diseases, University of Khartoum, <i>Sudan</i>
An Epidemiological Study of Visceral Leishmaniasis in Selected Villages of Raya Azebo Woreda (North East Ethiopia) using Serological Leishmanin Skin Tests	Desalew Tadesse , Mekelle University, <i>Ethiopia</i>
Prevalence of kala-azar infection in Pokot county, Amudat District, Northeastern Uganda	Walter Odoch , East, Central and Southern Africa, Health Community, Arusha, <i>Tanzania</i>
The role of the enzyme arginase in human leishmaniasis	Tamrat Abebe , Addis Ababa University, <i>Ethiopia</i>
Test of cure for Visceral Leishmaniasis	Hashim Ghalib , University of Lausanne, <i>Switzerland</i>
Residual Prevalence of Trachoma after Six years of MDA in Two Endemic Segments of Narok County, Kenya	Dr Ernest Barasa , Ministry of Health, <i>Kenya</i>
Identification of Environmental Parameters and Risk Mapping of Visceral Leishmaniasis in Ethiopia by using Geographical Information Systems and Statistical Approach	Teshome Tsegaw , Armauer Hansen Research Institute, All-Africa Leprosy and TB Rehabilitation and Training Center, <i>Ethiopia</i>
Visceral Leishmaniasis (Kala-Azar) Risk Mapping Using Geo-Spatial Tools: A Case Study in Kafta Humera District, North Western Ethiopia	Negussie Solomon , GIS & Remote Sensing Specialist, <i>Ethiopia</i>