



Partnership in research for Human African Trypanosomiasis

Onchocerciasis research network meeting, 3-4 October 2018

DNDi

Drugs for Neglected Diseases *initiative*

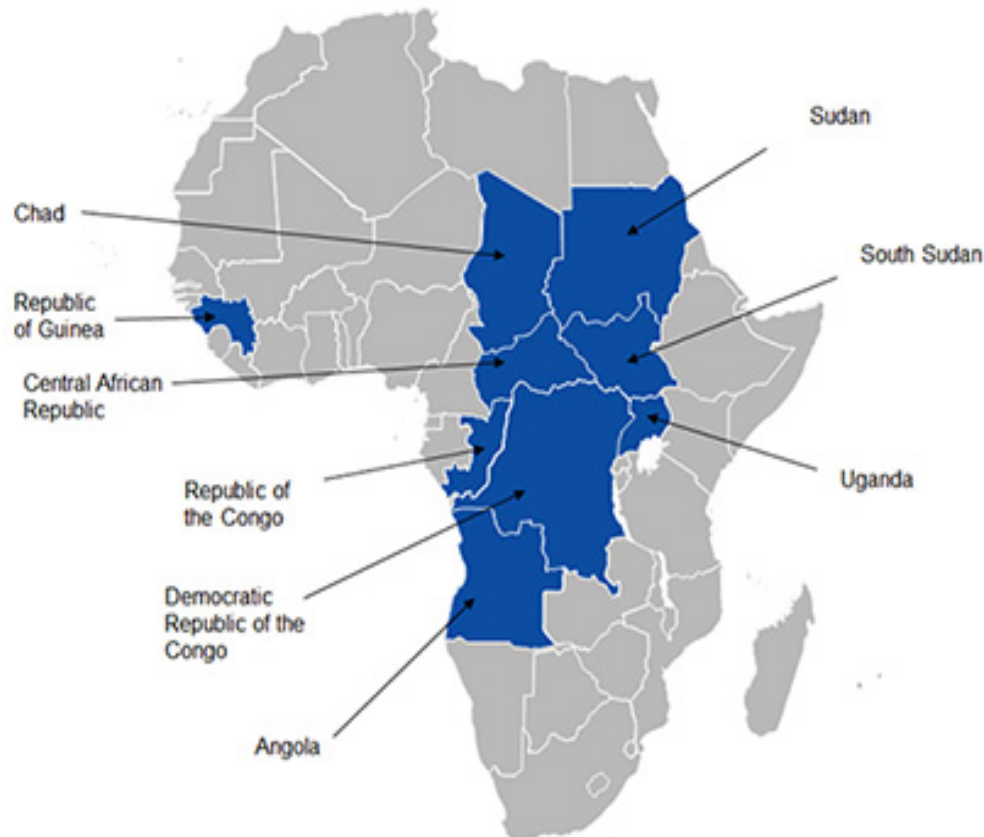
Florent MBO, HAT Platform Coordinator



HAT Platform members

Founded: 2005 in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo

HAT National Control Programs (MoH) and Research Institutions /Universities of the most affected endemic countries



- ❑ International Research Groups in non endemic countries:
- ❑ DNDi
- ❑ FIND
- ❑ Swiss TPH
- ❑ ITM Antwerpen
- ❑ IRD (France)
- ❑ Edinburgh University
- International NGO: (MSF)
- Observer: WHO / OMS
- Networks: EANETT

Challenges to overcome

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- Low sensitivity and specificity of screening and diagnostic tests
- Toxicity of medicines (Melarsoprol: 5-10% among stage 2 HAT patients with serious adverse effects(Arsenical encephalopathy +++) for which 50-100% of death

What are challenges to overcome in onchocerciasis control?

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Therapeutic tools

- Ivermectin: safe and effective drug(Nobel prize 2015 for its creators)
- But only kills juvenile worms living adult worm alive in the body(for many years)
- MDA programmes need to be repeated for the entire lifespan of adult worms(may be more than 10 years)
- Would it be possible and necessary a compound with macrofilaricidal activity(that kills adult worm) to be used as a safe and adapted drug in individual patients and later as MDA if needed

Diagnostic tools ???

HAT platform : Objectives

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Specific Objectives

- Strengthen research capacity
- Improve research landscape
- Develop operational research
- Support ethics committees
- Mobilize internal and external resources
- Develop partnership with other research networks
- Ensure internal and external communication

Expected results

- Effective(stage 1&2) ,better, tolerated and preferably oral medicines usable at remote areas
- Sensitive, simple thermostable screening tests, easy to use at remote areas

Contribution to the development of and access to a new treatment combination and screening tests

History of treatment

13 years ago
Melarsoprol:
Toxic, resistance
Eflornithine:
Unavailable

Depuis 2009
NECT
traitement
amélioré

2018?
Fexinidazole
Traitement oral
(10 jours)

Future objective
Acoziborole
Single-dose, oral
treatment

Towards better-
tolerated, oral
and usable
medicines at the
village level

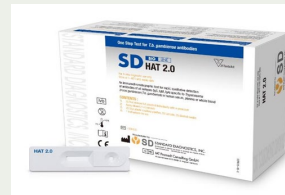
Towards the
elimination of HAT

Towards easy to
use, sensitive,
thermo-stable
screening tests
for use in remote
areas

History of screening & diagnostic tools

HAT RDT 1st generation

HAT RDT 2nd generation



Strategies alternatives, transboundary
project, DiTec HAT

Onchocerciasis research network meeting

1st Challenge: Strengthen research Capacity

OVER 400 PEOPLE TRAINED IN 22 TRAINING SESSIONS

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TRAININGS CONDUCTED AND NUMBER OF PEOPLE TRAINED	VENUE AND YEAR
Training in ethical review of research (142)	Kinshasa 2007, Khartoum 2007, Kampala 2007, Luanda 2008, Juba 2009, Bangui 2010,
Training of physicians in good clinical practices (96)	Nairobi 2006, Kinshasa 2011 & 2012, Juba 2012
Training of physicians on clinical examination of the patient (25)	Kinshasa 2012
Training of clinical research monitors (13)	Kampala 2008
Participation to ICAT (29)	Kinshasa 2014, Tunis 2005, Kampala 2017
HAT training in Dinamadji health district (30)	Dinamadji 2015
HAT Clinical training in South Sudan (41)	Juba 2015
Training of Guinean physician in DRC (1)	Kinshasa 2014
Training of laboratory technicians from South Sudan in DRC (3)	Kinshasa 2016
Training of Mobile team technicians on HAT diagnostic in DRC (36)	Kinshasa 2016
Waste management training in clinical trial sites in DRC(182)	Mushie, Vanga, Bagata and Masi 2016

Good clinical practices and Good laboratory practices



Kampala, 2013



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Other trainings



Monitors training, Kampala



Training of Dr Mubarak on health ethics
,Amsterdam, 2017



South Sudan lab technicians training, DRC 2016



HAT mobile team lab training, Jan 2016 DRC

Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative



□ ICAT 7,Kampala, August,2017



Training of Guinean laboratory technician ,Dubreka site,24th January 2018, Kinshasa

2nd challenge: Improve research landscape

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- ❑ Infrastructures(patients rooms, toilet, incinerators etc)
- ❑ Equipment of facilities involved in clinical trials

3rd challenge : support ethics committees

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Ethic committee workshop,
Kinshasa ,DRC , 2010



Bioethic guidelines Review, CNERS ,
Conakry ,Guinea , April 2018

4th challenge communication

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- Participation to international meeting
 - 4 scientific meetings jointly organized with EANETT
(Nairobi 2010, Nairobi 2013, Kinshasa in 2014, and Conakry in 2016)
Next 5th joint HAT platform –EANETT scientific meeting, October 2018, Kamapal, Uganda
 - Steering committee meetings are held annually
 - Participation to the International Scientific Council on Research and Control of Trypanosomiasis and others scientific meetings
- Contact with regulatory authorities and ethics committees
- 19 HAT platform newsletters published



Participation to international meetings



ISCTRC, Zambia, Sept 2017



CIPIP, Kinshasa, Dec 2016



HAT platform steering committee meeting, Conakry, Sept 2016



4th joint international meeting HAT platform-EANETT, Conakry, 20-22 sept 2017

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Other activities

Support other operational research project on the field



Luanda ,May 2018,Angola

Transboundary project of HAT elimination
between DRC,Congo,Angola(FIND)



Kinshasa ,July 2017 DRC

Support strategic review of HAT program (DRC, Guinea, Congo, Chad)



Conakry, Guinea ,Dec 2017

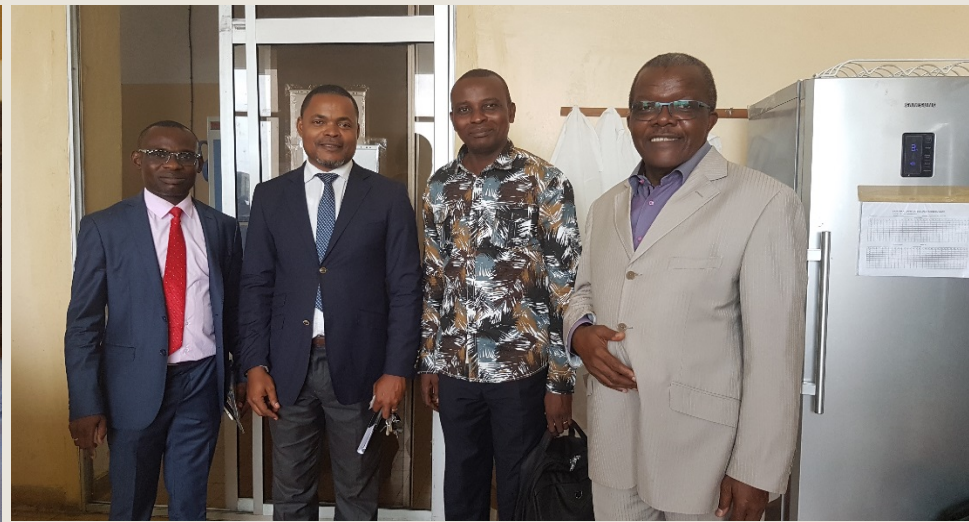


Brazzaville, Congo ,May 2013

Experience exchange between member countries



Visit of Dr Camara ,PNLTHA Guinea in DRC,june 2018 Masimanimba &Kikwit



Clinical trial site , Dubreca, 2018 Guinea

Public health laboratory,Brazzaville 2017

Field visits to sensitize or encourage health workers ongoing research



HAT centre , Bodo, 2018,Chad



Mobile team ,2018 ,Chad



HAT centre , umugo, 2017 Uganda



Uige province ,Angola 2016

Revitalize national HAT platform meetings



Brazzaville, Congo , Sept 2017



Kampala, Uganda , August 2017



Luanda, Angola , Jan 2017



Kinshasa, DRC , Sept 2017

National HAT platform meetings



Conakry, Guinea , Dec 2017



Luanda, Angola , May 2018



Moundou, CHAD , May 2018



Onchocerciasis research network meeting

HAT platform experience can contribute to other NTD studies as filariasis clinical trials

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- Implementation of clinical trial sites
- development of networking

Phase 1b pre-study visit in Ghana ,May 2017



Workshop Onchocerciasis in Ghana 21-22 sept 2017,



Conclusion

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- HAT Platform works in countries needing to upgrade research capacities and international networking on NTDs
- It remains much to do to promote clinical research in Central and West Africa



Merçi
Thank you

