



# Using emerging technologies for improving NTDs diagnostics

Open Science principles applied to AI and local manufacturing for medical labs in Africa

How to build a health commons approach to pandemic preparedness and response

16 January 2023 - Geneva

co-hosted by DNDi, UCL Institute for Innovation and Public Purpose, & Friends of the Independent Panel

#### **Thomas Mboa, PhD**

Co-founder Of the Mboalab Researcher in residence at CEIMIA

## **Plan**

- About the Mboalab and emerging technologies used;
- Our principles: Open science and responsible use of technologies;
- Our Open Science practices

Applications in Ntds diagnostics

About the Mboalab and emerging technologies used

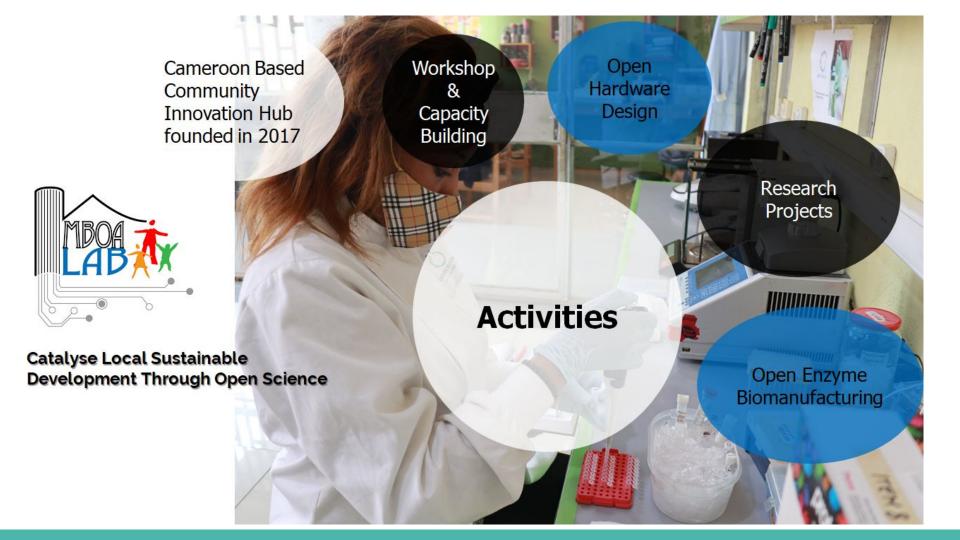
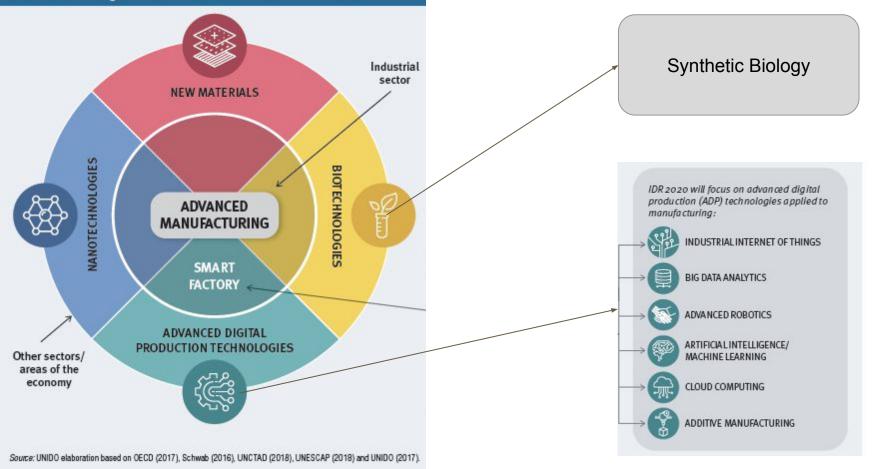


Figure 2

#### Broad technological domains of the fourth industrial revolution



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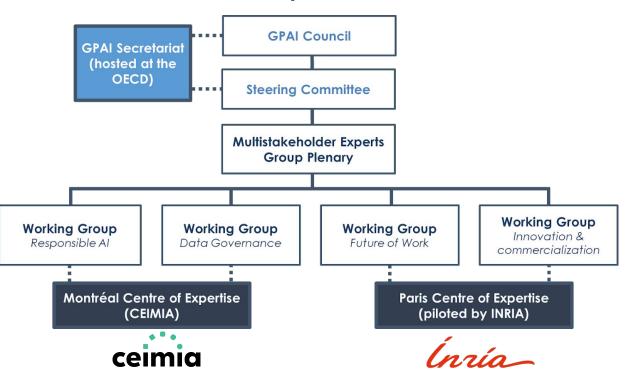
Applications in Ntds diagnostics

Our principles: Open science and responsible use of technologies

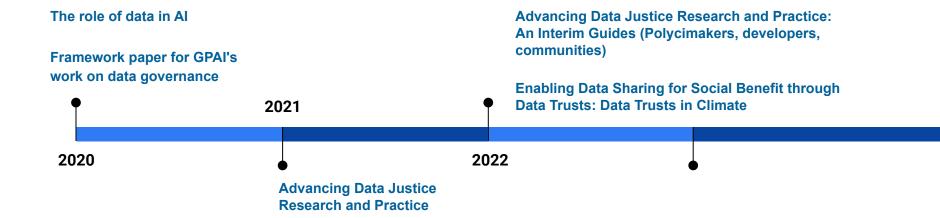


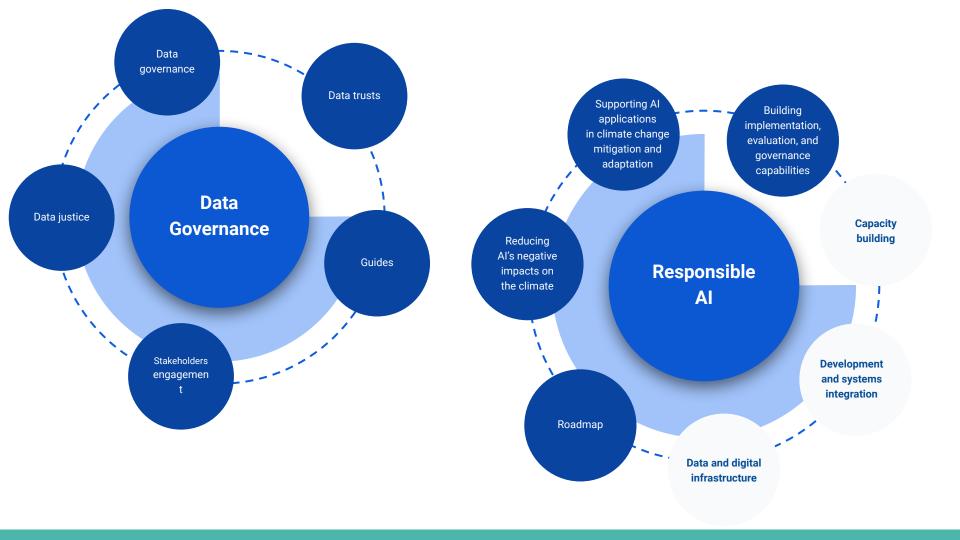
# Global, Multistakeholder, Expert-based

- Founded in 2020 with 15 Members today GPAI has 29 Members
- 189 Experts, 22 Observers
  - Multi stakeholder and multidisciplinary
  - Bridge the gap between theory and practice
  - Diversity

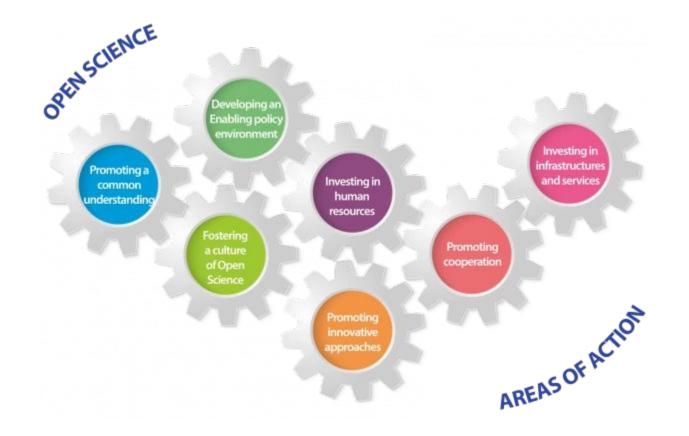


## From GPAI/CEIMIA





# **UNESCO** Recommendation on Open Science



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Applications in Ntds diagnostics

**Our Open science practices** 

# Open Source Technologies for faster and more equitable innovation

Building a globally inclusive biomanufacturing value chain



### universal access

e.g. availability of specific molecular tools unencumbered by intellectual property;



## universal participation

e.g. greater involvement of stakeholders in shaping projects using those tools;



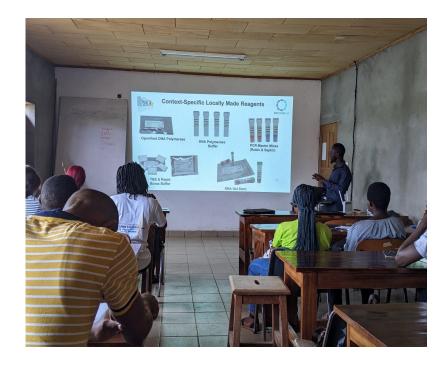
## collaborative production

e.g. multiple partners working together for a common goal

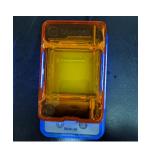
#### **Capacity building**

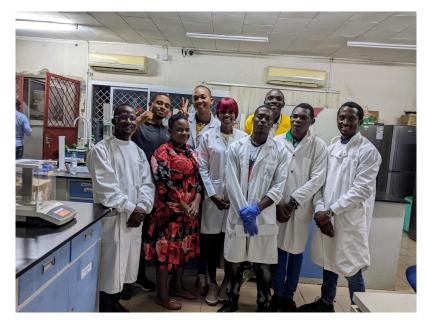
Advanced Molecular Diagnostics Workshop: 28/10/2022

>40 Postgraduates students (20 during practical sessions)









#### **Promoting New modes of Institutional collaboration**

- States Universities (Buea, Yaoundé I…);
- Catholic University of Central Africa (ESS-UCAC);
- Scientific Center for Health (SCH).
- Government



IFYAR Dec, 2020



MboaLab-SCH, June 2020

 About the Mboalab and emerging technologies used;

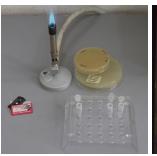
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Applications in Ntds diagnostics

# Applications in Ntds diagnostics

### **Developing Products using Low-cost Production Methods**

#### 1. Plate protein Expression







#### **Lactose instead of IPTG**

- Commercial Lactose
- Boiled Milk
- Fresh Milk
- Whey (Home Made)



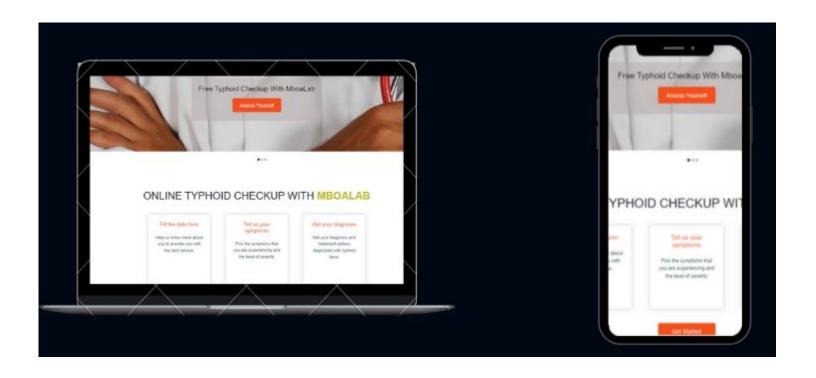


# 3. Locally Made Instruments



# **Typhoid Screener**

Accelerating typhoid diagnostics Augmented AI-powered solution



### **Open and Inclusive Projects**

- Research funding from the Shuttleworth Foundation and Beneficial Bio Ltd.
  Open Enzyme Biomanufacturing Project.
- □ The UK Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF): CRISPR-TyphoidDx Project: to develop a low-cost and highly sensitive and specific molecular test for typhoid fever, with the goal of making this locally manufacturable in Cameroon.
- ☐ Open Society Foundations: Local manufacturing of open-source devices for medical labs in Africa: prototyping stage in Cameroon.
- and the Volkswagen Stiftung: COVID TESTS FOR ALL project (Open RT- LAMP Testing for Africa)

# Team



**MBOA** 

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