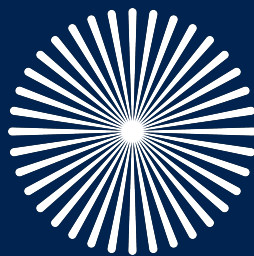
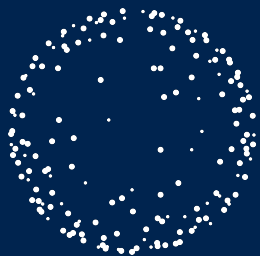
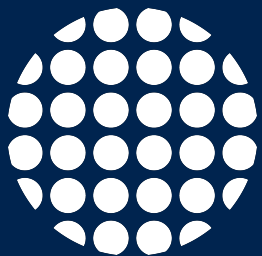


Lassa Fever Epidemiology Programme – Engagement experience

CEPI

Mesh Workshop

Gabrielle Breugelmans

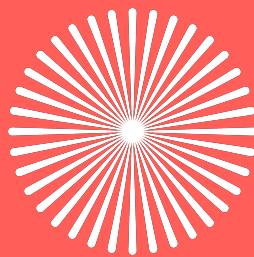
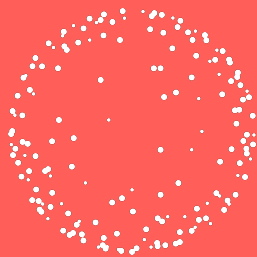




Our mission

CEPI accelerates development of vaccines against emerging infectious diseases and enables equitable access to these vaccines for affected populations during outbreaks

CEPI Lassa fever epidemiology studies



Why fund epidemiology studies?

Filling the gaps

- Lassa vaccine candidates in clinical development (6 CEPI funded partnerships - 2 in phase I)
- Significant gaps in epidemiological knowledge / understanding of transmission will make evaluation of vaccine efficacy challenging

Preparing for trials

- In addition to measuring a baseline for measuring vaccine efficacy, data from these studies will facilitate the design and inform location of future Lassa vaccine trials

Strengthening capacity

- These studies will build on existing national surveillance and ongoing research, providing a framework for capacity strengthening for:
 - Laboratory testing/diagnostics
 - GCP for future vaccine trials

Step 1: Open request for Eols

Eligibility: PI from Lassa fever affected country, partners with extensive Lassa research and field research experience

Step 2: Collaborative approach to defining study aims & objectives

Workshop - Accra Nov 2018

Objectives

- Identify local data needs, objectives, study designs and key harmonized elements to facilitate vaccine development for Lassa Fever
- Discuss options for enhanced collaboration and set up of governance of LF epidemiology studies funded by CEPI

Outcomes

- Synopsis for common “core” protocol to be used across all study sites
- Improved insight in and options to establish collaborative consortia to address epi gaps

CEPI



Workshop - Abuja Jan 2019

Objectives

- To engage field investigators and in progressing protocol development for incidence /prevalence studies
- To inform and obtain feedback from field investigators and stakeholders on proposed next steps, enabling study commencement in Q 4-19

Side-meeting to the Lassa International Conference hosted by NCDC.

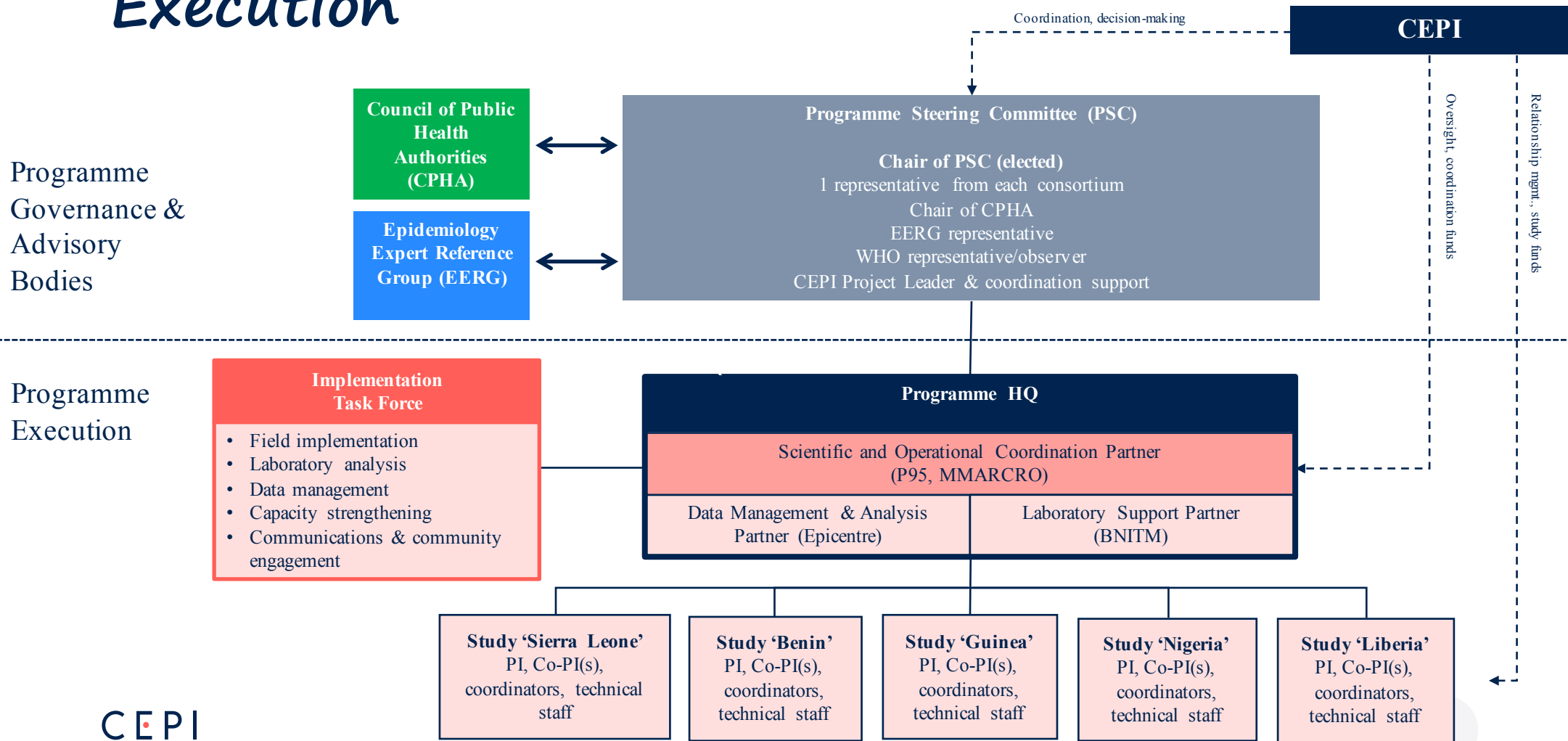


LASSA
FEVER



FIRST
INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE

Lassa Epi Programme: Governance & Execution



Study Preparation phase: Communication and Community Engagement Technical Working Group

- Objectives
 - To develop an expectation and guidance document to inform the development of community engagement plans tailored to study sites
 - To develop a communication plan to be used consistently across the study sites,
 - To provide recommendations on communication and community engagement to the 'Field Implementation' working group to inform protocol revision

The CEPI Community Engagement Network – CEPINET

Background

- *CEPINET – network of clinical investigators, social scientists and institutes committed to develop effective culturally appropriate community engagement models to support vaccine development of CEPI's priority diseases*
- *Community engagement is an integral part of the CEPI Enabling Science strategy in supporting vaccine development of EIDs and key to future use of CEPI-funded vaccines*
- *Collaborating with community stakeholders builds trust and lays the foundation for meaningful engagement*

Goals

- *Strengthen communities and research institutions to expand and deepen existing partnerships, and forge new ones, with the goal of facilitating effective community engagement in epi studies towards vaccine development against EIDs*
- *Provide a platform that enables shared learning and knowledge to build trust and understanding among community stakeholders*
- *Lead development of new research opportunities that could be supported by external partners outside the scope of CEPI's projects*

CEPI

Study aims

The overall aim of this programme is to conduct a multi-site prospective cohort study to:

- 1. Inform the design of Phase IIb or III randomized, placebo-controlled LF vaccine trials.*
- 2. Identify sites in which clinical trials might be optimally conducted.*
- 3. Enable evaluation and strengthening of the site and investigator capability and capacity to conduct and manage the logistics of future clinical field trials.*
- 4. Facilitate local policy decisions regarding vaccination strategies, should a safe and effective vaccine be developed.*