



Overview of UVRI and EACCR3



Uganda Virus
Research Institute

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EDCTP projects



EACCR3 is part of the EDCTP2 programme supported by European Union under grant agreement *CSA2020NoE-3102*





Layout

- An understanding of **UVRI**
- Historical background of UVRI
- Research departments and programs

EACCR

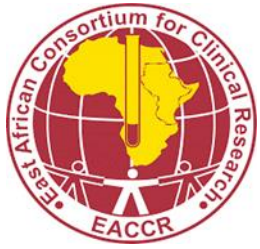
Management and Structure
work packages



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Back ground-1



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- The Uganda Virus Research Institute (UVRI) was established in **1936** by the International Division of the Rockefeller Foundation of the United States of America as a Yellow Fever Institute.
- 1950, UVRI become the East African Virus Research Institute (EAVRI) under the East Africa High Commission (EAHC).



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Background -2



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- In the 1990's HIV/AIDS activities continued to drive collaborative research projects with Medical Research Council (MRC-UK)- now **LSHTM/MRC/UVRI Research Unit**
- UVRI's scientific mission continued to be enriched through collaborations and partnerships with:-
 - Columbia University,
 - John Hopkins University,
 - Cambridge Biotech,
 - WHO/Global Performance on AIDs (GPA),
 - the World Laboratory and the National Cancer Institute-Naples, and
 - the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) laboratories, USA,
 - Wellcome Trust and,
 - International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI),
 - NIH-Rakai Health Sciences Programme (RHSP).



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MANDATE



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- UVRI is one of the constituent research institutes under the UNHRO Act of 2009 (Section 19).
- UVRI is mandated to conduct health research pertaining to human infections and disease processes associated with or linked to viral etiology and provides capacity building to target beneficiaries



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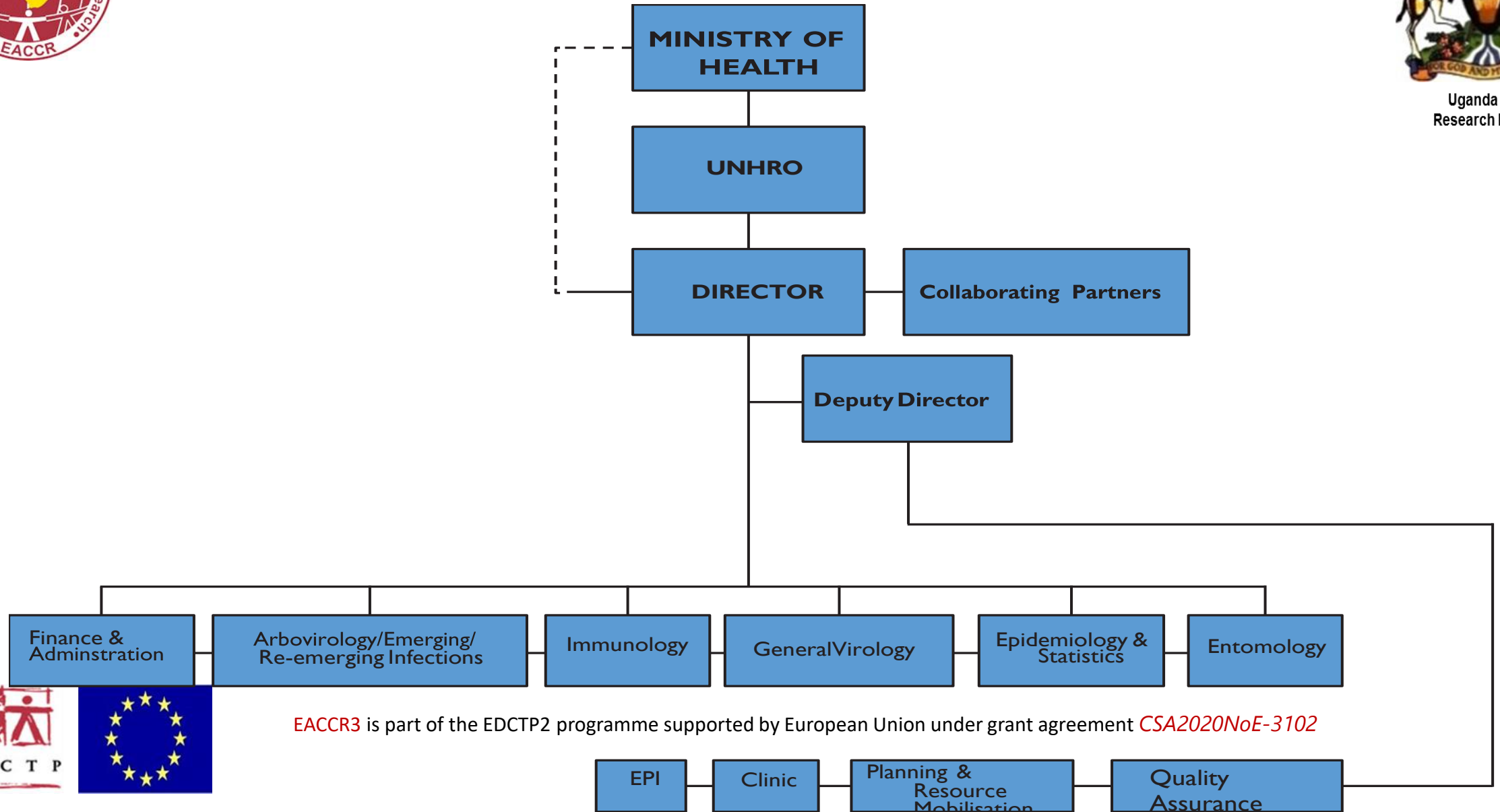




Structures/departments



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Programmatic activities at UVRI-1

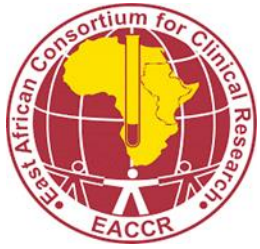


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- UVRI's programmatic activities include basic research, clinical, epidemiological, social behavioural and intervention studies.
- UVRI conducts research, surveillance, and diagnostics,
- provides expert advice, enables partnerships and serves as a centre of excellence for training and internship mentorship attachments.
- UVRI is a home to several national and international reference and specialised testing laboratories including:
 - The national and regional reference centre for vector borne viral diseases;
 - The national HIV reference and quality assurance laboratory;
 - The national and regional reference laboratory for HIV drug resistance, a WHO Measles and Rubella Regional Reference laboratory and WHO Inter-country Polio laboratory.



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Programmatic activities at UVRI-2



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1. UVRI is the national influenza centre, a WHO influenza collaborating laboratory;
2. The national diagnostic laboratory for highly infectious viral infections;
3. The Africa WHO yellow fever reference laboratory
4. Recently, UVRI was designated as the national, Africa CDC and WHO SARS CoV-2/COVID-19 reference laboratory.



EACCR3 is part of the EDCTP2 programme supported by the European Union and the African Union. Photo credit: [CSA2020/PE/3102](#)
 WHO Director General Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus third left, WHO Country Representative to Uganda, Dr Yonas Tegegn
 Woldemariam second from left and UVRI Director Professor Frank Kabasa third from left with UVRI's Principal Research Officer & Laboratory
 Team Lead, Stephen Balinandi in the VHF Diagnostics Laboratory, UVRI, June 2019



Programmatic activities-3



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- UVRI performs cutting edge research in immunology, virology and molecular biology to understand better disease processes and protective immune responses in order to contribute to vaccine development, diagnostics and treatment.
- Of recent, UVRI contributed to a lot of work in **HIV drug resistance** leading to changes in treatment regimens for the country.
- Innovations in **vaccine design** and **diagnostics**.



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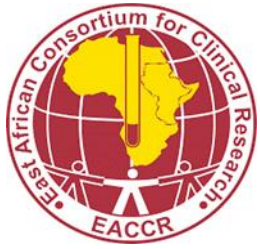
The EASTERN AFRICA CONSORTIUM for CLINICAL RESEARCH (EACCR)

SECRETARIT TEAM EACCR3



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History and Composition



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EUROPEAN PARTNERS

- A. Belgium
- B. Netherlands
- C. Switzerland
- D. Sweden
- E. United Kingdom.



EASTERN AFRICA COUNTRIES

- 1. Ethiopia
- 2. Kenya
- 3. Rwanda
- 4. Sudan
- 5. Tanzania
- 6. Uganda



EACCR1: 2009- 2015

EACCR2: 2017-2021

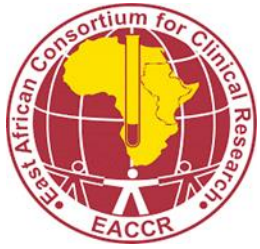
EACCR3: 2021-2024

AIM

To strengthen and sustain an existing long term- and highly successful collaboration aiming to continue to build capacity among junior SSA researchers

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Leadership



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Overall Project Coordinator
Prof Pontiano Kaleebu



Deputy overall Project Coordinator
Prof Blandina Mmbaga



Scientific Liaison Officer &
HIV WP Leader:
Dr Bernard Kikaire



Malaria WP Leader:
Dr Norbert Peshu



Training WP Leader:
Prof Reginald Kavishe



NID WP Leader:
Dr Erick Muok



TB WP Leader:
Prof Sayoki
Mfinanga



Project Manager:
Mrs. Emily Nyanzi
Kabuye



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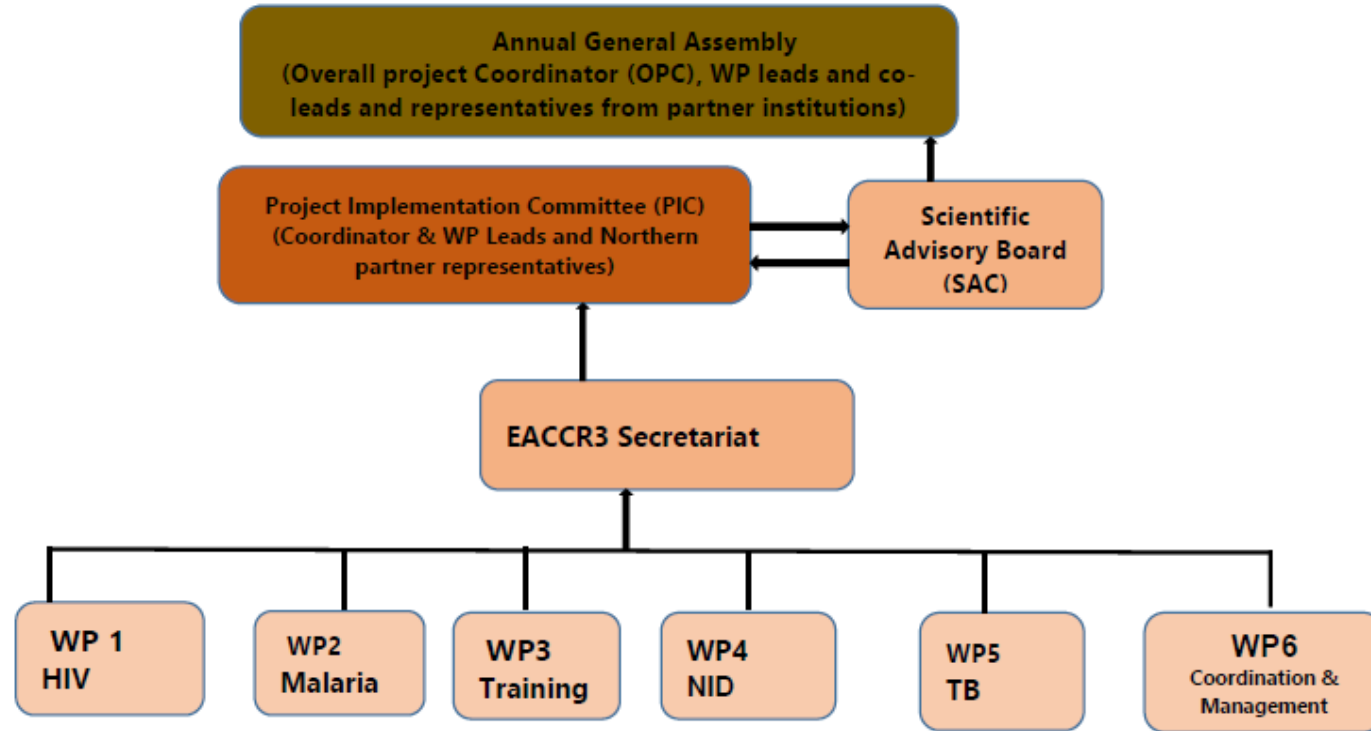




Organogram



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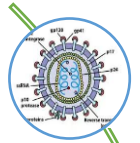




Work Packages



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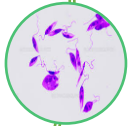
HIV –Uganda Virus Research Institute



Malaria - African Research Collaboration for Health Limited, Kenya -Kilifi



Training Node- Kilimanjaro Clinical Research Institute – Moshi



NID – Kenya Medical Research Institute-Kisumu



TB - National Institute for Medical Research Muhimbili



Coordination & Management- Uganda Virus Research Institute



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Clinical Research Monitoring

- Established the Reciprocal Monitoring Scheme (RMS) of 25 monitors
 - 11 trained in EACCR1
- 4 monitors Accredited
- > 30 clinical studies monitored in EACCR2

Partnerships and political linkages

- Support the East African Health Research Commission (EAHRC) to mentor the Young East African Scholars (YEARS)
- NoE scientists are part of technical working groups at MoH of respective countries
- Partner labs are regional reference labs for Africa CDC/ WHO-AFRO
- Partnerships with TGHN to establish the COVID 19 Africa Hub





Trainings & Mentorship



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Mentorships

- 6 PhDs mentored to write and win Post Doc fellowships

Long Term

- 19 Masters
- 5 PhDs
- 2 Post Docs

Short Courses

- 465 Individuals trained on 18 short courses

Online

- 11 online courses
(globalhealthtrials.tghn.org)



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Infrastructural Investments



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- Supported ISO certification for 5 laboratories, and ASLM accreditation for 2 laboratories.
- More than 15 laboratories upgraded
- Set up of data management centres including internet set up, data servers
- Clinical research site upgrades



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PARTNERS



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MRC/UVRI and LSHTM Uganda Research Unit



Radboud University



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Thank You



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