



Uganda Virus  
Research Institute

# The EASTERN AFRICA CONSORTIUM for CLINICAL RESEARCH (EACCR)

Dr. Bernard Kikaire

Scientific Liaison officer



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



# History and Composition



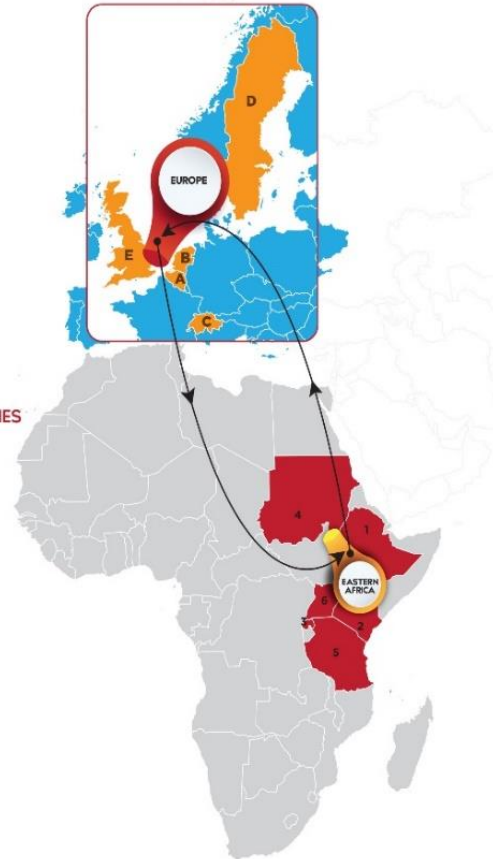
Uganda Virus  
Research Institute

## 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 build capacity for ICH-GCP Research in the  
Eastern Africa Region



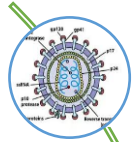
EACCR3 is part of the EDCTP2 programme supported by European Union under grant agreement *CSA2020NoE-3102*



# Work Packages



Uganda Virus  
Research Institute



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



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

# Leadership



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 Patience Kiyuka



Training WP Leader:  
Prof Reginald Kavishe



NID WP Leader:  
Dr Erick Muok



TB WP Leader:  
Prof Sayoki Mfinanga



Project Manager:  
Mrs. Emily Nyanzi  
Kabuye

# 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





Uganda Virus  
Research Institute

# Capacity for Clinical Research



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



## 9 Research Centres of Excellence across East Africa



>30 research sites across the region      5 ISO Certified Laboratories



anda Virus  
research Institute



EACCR3 is part of the EDCTP2 programme supported by European Union under grant agreement [CSA2020NoE-3102](#)





# Multi-Disciplinary Teams



Uganda Virus  
Research Institute

- Clinical Research Teams
- Network of Data Managers, and data sharing capacity
- Biomedical research in Genomics and Multi-Omics Teams
- Social Science Research Teams
- Research Support Teams



EACCR3 is part of the EDCTP2 programme supported by European Union under grant agreement [CSA2020NoE-3102](#)

# Clinical Research Monitoring

- Established the Reciprocal Monitoring Scheme (RMS) of 35 monitors
  - 11 trained in EACCR1
  - 14 trained in EACCR2
  - 10 Trained in EACCR3
- > 50 clinical studies monitored in EACCR partner institutions
- Monitored for Liverpool School
- Monitoring EAPOC-VL Study



## Research in Epidemics and Outbreaks

- Participating with ALERRT & PANDORA
- Coordinated the COVID 19-Africa Hub
- Covid 19 Research
- CCHF Research
- Fevers in SSA





# Clinical Researches conducted



## 6 BIG STUDIES

>2 YEARS DURATION, >1000 PARTICIPANTS

## 10 SHORT STUDIES

200 PARTICIPANTS, 1 YEAR DURATION

## 30 STUDENT LED RESEARCH PROJECTS

MSC AND PHD

## Disease profile:

- Malaria
- HIV
- TB
- NID/ Emerging and Re-Emerging
- NCDs

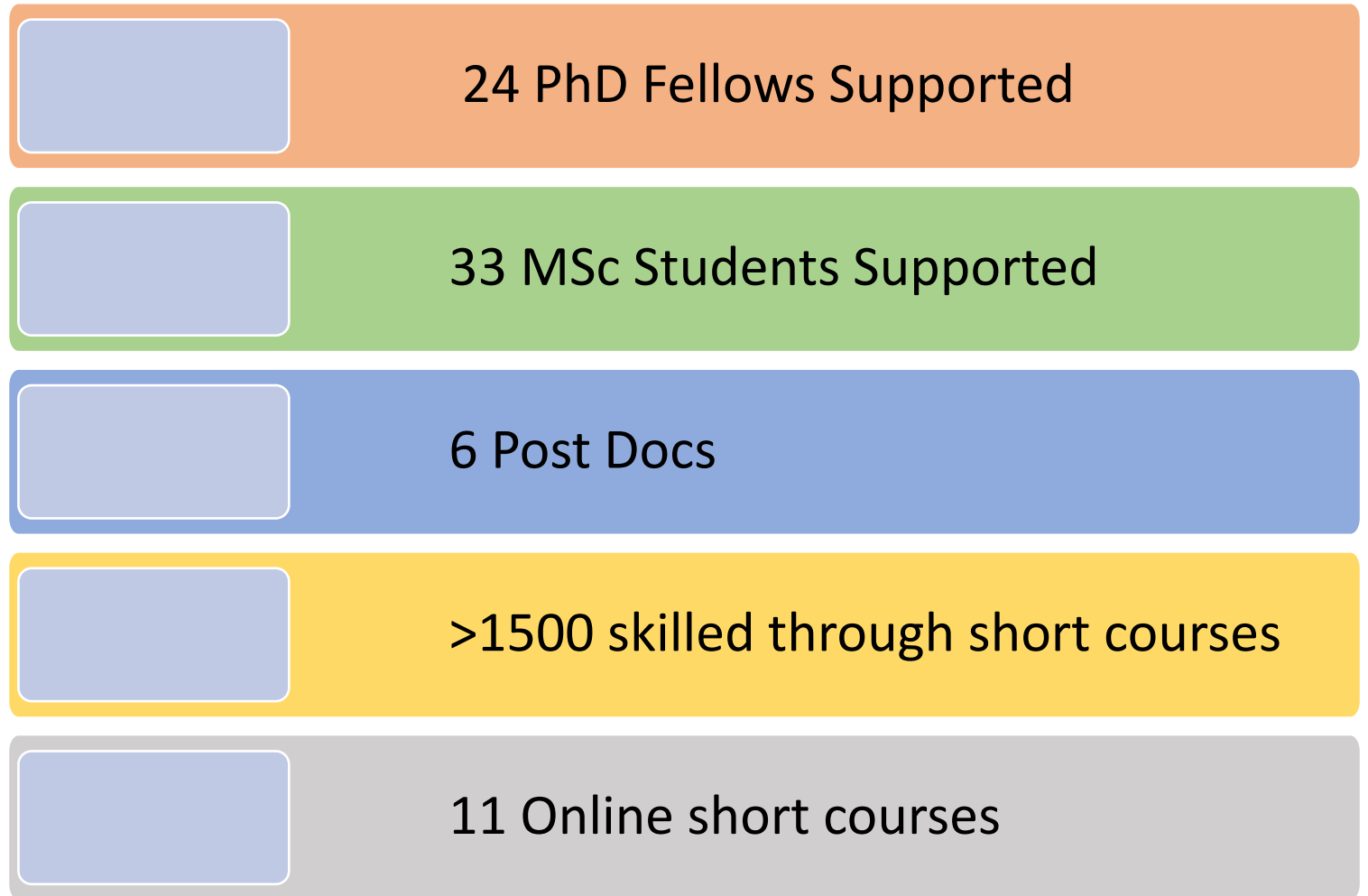
**>50 Publications and conference presentations**



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



# Capacity Building for Research





# **THE** **CAFÉ-SEA PhD** **PROGRAM**

A three year junior female scientists  
PhD program.

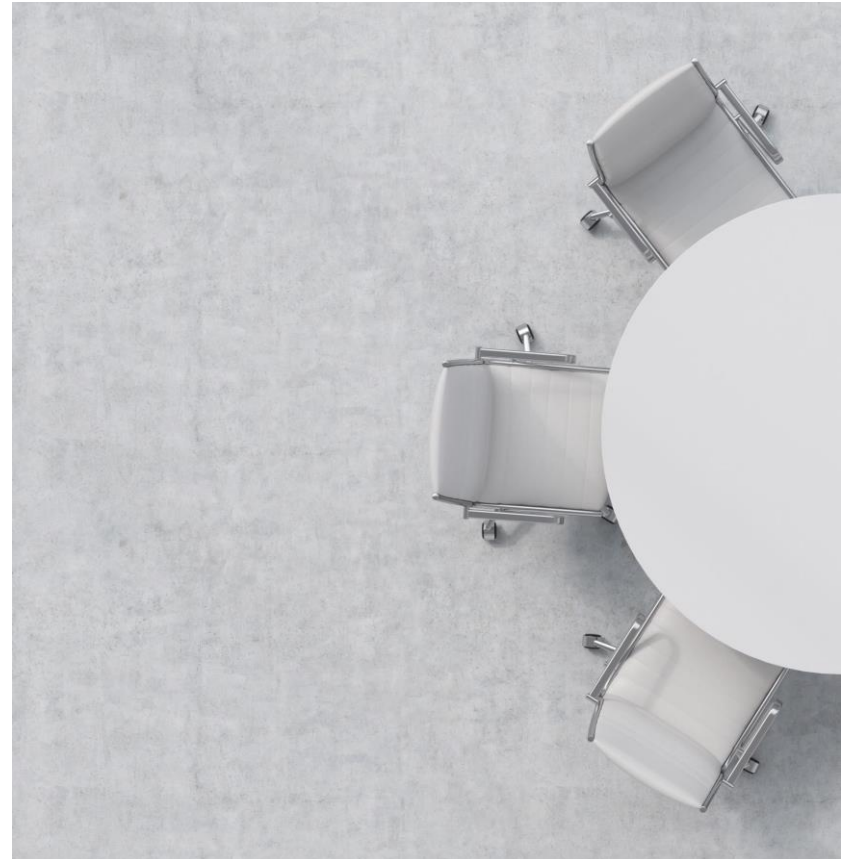
Log on: [www.eaccr.org](http://www.eaccr.org)

#CafeSeaPhD

# Mentorship Scheme

---

- Set up a digital Mentorship scheme to support mentorships
- Some Mentees have now progressed to senior research positions
- ❖ 3 EACCR/EDCTP Fellows were at the 'MEET the EXPERT' sessions at the EDCTP Forum in France





# Mid-Career Researchers in EACCR Leadership



Uganda Virus  
Research Institute



Dr Bernard Kikaire- Scientific Liaison  
Officer- EACCR/ HIV WP leader



Dr Patience Kiyuka.  
Incoming Malaria WP Leader



Dr Erick Muok- Deputy  
Director KEMRI-KISUMU  
NID WP Leader



Dr Mbazi Ssenkoro- Director at  
NIMR Muhimbili.  
TB WP Deputy Leader



Dr Esther Ngadaya- Senior  
Scientist NIMR-TANGA  
Deputy Leader NID Node



Dr Vesla Kulaya-  
Deputy Leader of Training WP  
EACCR



EACCR3 is part of the EDCTP2 programme supported by European Union under grant agreement [CSA2020NoE-3102](#)





# EACCR Mentorship Platform



Uganda Virus  
Research Institute

app.rems.ac.tz

ReMS  
EACCR Research Mentorship and Supervision Information System

Login to your account

User Name  
Email Address

Password [I forgot password](#)  
Password

☐ Remember me on this device

Login

[I am a Student, & I Dont Have an Account](#)

app.rems.ac.tz/supervision/assigned-students

Blondine Mmbaga  
supervisor

Assigned Students

ASSIGNED STUDENTS [dashboard](#) > ASSIGNED STUDENTS

Assigned Students

Search:

Export

ID	Student Name	Registration No	Programme	Start Date	End Date	Date Assigned	Assigned By	Actions
1	NEEMA KALANA BEN	TUMAKNACU/PHD...	PHD0102	05/01/2023	03/03/2027	04/11/2023 14:00	admin Admin (admin...	<a href="#">Edit</a>
2	Sarah Njere Hasi	PHDPA/00047021	PHD0102	05/01/2023	03/03/2027	04/11/2023 14:01	admin Admin (admin...	<a href="#">Edit</a>
3	MIZA VUAI SILMA	TUMAKNACU/PHD...	BS01	05/01/2023	03/03/2027	04/11/2023 14:01	admin Admin (admin...	<a href="#">Edit</a>

Rows per page: 20 1-3 of 3

Copyright © 2023 ReMS Info. EACCR - All rights reserved. - v1.0.0-beta10

Documentation

<https://app.rems.ac.tz/dashboard/>



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



# Infrastructural Investments



Uganda Virus  
Research Institute

- ISO certification for 5 laboratories, ASLM accreditation for 2 laboratories.
- More than 15 laboratories upgraded
- Data management centers & data servers
- Clinical research site upgrades:
  - 28 sites now participating in EAPOC-VL study



EACCR3 is part of the EDCTP2 programme supported by European Union under grant agreement [CSA2020NoE-3102](#)



# Successful Grants



Uganda Virus  
Research Institute

**EDCTP Fellowships (TMA) :**  
€3,000,000

**EXIT TB:** Improving early  
identification and  
management of TB in region  
(RIA): €3,000,000

**EAPoC-VL:** Improving VL  
monitoring among children  
and adolescents (RIA):  
€5,000,000

Regulatory Strengthening  
Grants: €3,200,000

**PAVIA:** Pharmacovigilance in  
Clinical trials in East Africa  
(CSA): €3,000,000

**CAFÉ-SEA:** Female capacity  
building project (PhD & MSc):  
€1300,000

**EACCR3:** Continuation of  
EACCR : €4,500,000

Optimizing implementation of  
WHO TB regimens in children  
€4,200,000



EACCR3 is part of the EDCTP2 programme supported by European Union under grant agreement [CSA2020NoE-3102](#)

# GH- EDCTP3JU Grants Applied for

SAHR (Training WP):  
€3,000,000  
Invited for second  
stage

THRIVE HIV (WP)  
Duo-Therapy for HIV  
adults with Co-  
Morbidity conditions  
€5,000,000  
Invited for second  
stage

ONT-4-DR (HIV WP):  
Using ONT and  
Bioinformatics  
pipelines for HIV DR  
Testing €5,000,000  
Not Successful

ASCEND-PD (NID  
WP):  
Repurposing  
Medications  
€5,000,000  
Not Successful





# Other Grants Applied for

- BGMF: Dolutegravir Drug Resistance



Uganda Virus  
Research Institute



EACCR3 is part of the EDCTP2 programme supported by European Union under grant agreement [CSA2020NoE-3102](#)



Uganda Virus  
Research Institute

## Challenges Regional Level:

- Political instability in Sudan
  - Transfer of funds challenging
  - Implementation of activities affected
- Restrictions in Ethiopia
  - Restrictions on foreign exchange
  - Internet restrictions



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



# Challenges: Funding Level

- Short funding cycle
  - Affects continuity of activities especially PhD fellowships
- Lack of support for Tuition limits number of beneficiaries
- Restricting funding to non-research activities
- Limited participation of more EA countries due to limited funds



Uganda Virus  
Research Institute



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



# Perspectives into the Future

- Strengthen Laboratory networking
- Inclusion of other aspects of the clinical trials ecosystem in the funding
  - Stakeholder and community engagement
  - Grants management and research support
  - Social Science research
- Increased collaboration with regional bodies like Africa CDC/ WHO Afro/ ASLM/ EALN



EACCR3 is part of the EDCTP2 programme supported







# Summary



Uganda Virus  
Research Institute

- Good infrastructure for research
- Multi disciplinary Teams to conduct research
- Experience in epidemics and outbreak research
- Strength in capacity building for science leadership through training and mentorship
- Deep reach in the region



EACCR3 is part of the EDCTP2 programme supported by European Union under grant agreement [CSA2020NoE-3102](#)



# Potential areas of Research



Uganda Virus  
Research Institute

- Capacity building for science leadership
- Support clinical research in diseases of public health importance including NCDs
- Epidemic response and research
- Support to involve more countries in the region



EACCR3 is part of the EDCTP2 programme supported by European Union under grant agreement [CSA2020NoE-3102](#)



Uganda Virus  
Research Institute

# Thank You



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