

UPDATE 175: DEC 1– DEC 31 2023

PDP FUNDERS GROUP

Items in green should be hyperlinked to the full text version; if I have made mistakes, many apologies. If you have any issues that you would like to include in the Update please send them to Alex Fullem (alexfullem@gmail.com).

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| PDP PRESS RELEASES |
| PATH |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 Dec: Commonwealth and PATH launch new accelerator to support climate and health innovations• 14 Dec: CEPI and PATH strengthen partnership to accelerate development of vaccines against diseases with epidemic or pandemic potential |
| FIND |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 18 Dec: Dr Sergio Carmona serving as FIND acting CEO |
| GARDP |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6 Dec: 2023: A Year in Review |
| EVI |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 18 Dec: DRAIGON: pioneering global initiative using AI to predict antimicrobial resistance from genomic data |
| IAVI |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 Dec: This World AIDS Day, celebrating community leadership• 18 Dec: IAVI and Zental announce funding for efficacy trial of promising TB vaccine candidate in Africa |
| DNDi |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 Dec: DNDi commits to cutting carbon emissions in half by 2030• 3 Dec: Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) through KfW grants funding to fast-track access to medicines for poverty-related and neglected diseases• 5 Dec: Cryptococcal meningitis: new report highlights slow uptake of guidelines shown to reduce deaths in Africa• 8 Dec: Nagasaki University, DNDi, and GHIT Fund sign agreement to collaborate on drug screening for Chagas disease |

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- 15 Dec: EMA gives positive opinion to Fexinidazole Winthrop as first oral treatment of acute form of sleeping sickness (rhodesiense) found in East and Southern Africa

MMV

- 14 Dec: A message from MMV's CEO, David Reddy: Standing united in the drive to eradicate malaria

FUNDER ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 8 Dec: Call for Proposals: Accelerate demand and adoption of tools and integrated delivery strategies for elimination of vertical transmission of HIV, syphilis, hepatitis B and Chagas in endemic areas. UNITAID
- 9 Dec: EDCTP receives Science Diplomacy Award at South African Science Forum. EDCTP
- 11 Dec: New child-friendly formulation of Rifapentine for short course tuberculosis prevention treatment now available as Unitaid and IMPAACT4TB launch an early market access vehicle. UNITAID
- 14 Dec: Investment of Approximately USD 8.8 Million for New Drug Development against Malaria in Partners including Marubeni and Eisai. GHIT

NEW PDP PUBLICATIONS

- 13 Dec: IVCC's Annual Report 2022-2023. IVCC

OTHER NEW PUBLICATIONS

- Dec 5: 2023 Report on TB Research Funding Trends. TAG
- Dec 12: The Lusaka Agenda: Conclusions of the Future of Global Health Initiatives Process. Future of GHIS
- Dec: Potential benefits and limitations of mRNA technology for vaccine research and development for infectious diseases and virus-induced cancers. WHO

RECENTLY RELEASED GENERAL R&D PDP RELATED ARTICLES AND BLOGS

- 1 Dec: Projected impact of climate change to inform which new vaccines receive Gavi support. GAVI
- 1 Dec: Africa CDC Conference Changes Public Health Narrative for the Continent. Health Policy Watch

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- 1 Dec: Evolution of a strategic, transformative Europe–Africa Global Health partnership—EDCTP3. The Lancet Infectious Diseases
- 4 Dec: Gavi expands portfolio, introduces new vaccine programmes to save more lives and support child health. GAVI
- 4 Dec: Gavi gives Africa’s vaccine project US\$1 bn pledge. The Independent
- 4 Dec: What is the pandemic treaty and what would it do?. Devex
- 4 Dec: Opinion: 3 key interventions for growth in African vaccine manufacturing. Devex
- 5 Dec: Bumper Week for Pandemic Negotiations. Health Policy Watch
- 5 Dec: J&J to emphasize cancer drugs and stop much of its vaccine research. STAT
- 5 Dec: Why are biosecurity and biosafety levels across Africa ‘scaring’ experts?. Devex
- 5 Dec: Aid donors failing to deliver on localization promises, study finds. Devex
- 6 Dec: Africa must take control of its vaccine manufacturing to protect against a new pandemic. The Telegraph
- 6 Dec: NIH’s new chief, Monica Bertagnolli, wants greater ‘equity’ in biomedical research. Science
- 6 Dec: A review and analysis of accountability in global health funding, research collaborations and training: towards conceptual clarity and better practice. BMJ
- 6 Dec: COVID-19 vaccination implementation in 52 African countries: trajectory and implications for future pandemic preparedness. BMJ
- 6 Dec: Report spotlights inequalities in COVID vaccine access in poorer nations. CIDRAP
- 6 Dec: Fear over safety of researchers and study participants in Uganda. Research Professional News
- 7 Dec: New \$1 billion plan for African vaccine manufacturing -GAVI Alliance. Reuters
- 7 Dec: Ghana's Revna Biosciences aims to bring personalized medicine to Africa. 360Dx

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- 7 Dec: Gene editing, AI, an HIV vaccine and more: 11 clinical trials that will shape medicine in 2024. El Pais English
- 7 Dec: More than US\$ 1.8 billion in support for African vaccine manufacturing, catching up missed children and pandemic preparedness approved as Gavi Board steps up efforts to tackle backsliding and fight health emergencies. GAVI
- 7 Dec: Governments continue discussions on pandemic agreement negotiating text. WHO
- 7 Dec: The EU protects its companies from Big Pharma. South Africa needs to do the same. Ground Up
- 8 Dec: Act now to stop climate change from turbo-charging infectious disease, scientists warn. The Telegraph
- 11 Dec: How to get meds to Africa faster — and safer. BKEHSISIA
- 11 Dec: USAID announces 14 measures to track key localization target. Devex
- 11 Dec: Exclusive: Vaccine org CEPI under pressure to share pricing agreements. Devex
- 11 Dec: The quest for the best tests: Highlighting the role of diagnostics in global health. GHTC
- 12 Dec: 2023 End of Year Message from MPP Executive Director – Equitable Access, Universal Health Coverage and Pandemic Preparedness. Medicines Patent Pool
- 12 Dec: 'Vaccine apartheid' caused by gap in access between richer and poorer countries. News Medical
- 12 Dec: WHO Africa welcomes Gavi's commitment to Africa vaccine manufacture, immunization and pandemic preparedness. WHO AFRO
- 13 Dec: WHO's Science Council issues report on mRNA vaccine technology. WHO
- 13 Dec: Four global-south researchers making cross-border collaborations count. Nature
- 13 Dec: Is the EU–Africa innovation plan toothless?. Nature
- 13 Dec: Climate change risks triggering a spike in infectious disease outbreaks: three reasons why. The Conversation

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- 14 Dec: Senegal, WHO launch regional emergency hub to bolster Africa's response to health crises. WHO AFRO
- 14 Dec: "The transformative power of solidarity": A look back on the Vaccine Alliance's 2023. GAVI
- 14 Dec: African Vaccine Manufacturing Accelerator: breaking the cycle of disadvantage. GAVI
- 16 Dec: What will health care look like 20 years in the future?. Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- 16 Dec: CPHIA 2023: realising Africa's new public health order. The Lancet
- 18 Dec: The future of the global clinical trial ecosystem: a vision from the first WHO Global Clinical Trials Forum. The Lancet
- 18 Dec: Global Health Spending Reached Record Level During Height of COVID Pandemic. Health Policy Watch
- 18 Dec: Devex Newswire: Vaccines within 100 days — but who will get them?. Devex
- 18 Dec: EU countries destroy €4B worth of COVID vaccines. Politico
- 18 Dec: EIB, AfDB support launch of African Pharmaceutical Technology Foundation. AHRAM Online
- 18 Dec: Major new vaccines initiative aims to fight deadly airborne infections. Novo Nordisk Foundation
- 18 Dec: Africa eyes vaccine 'independence' as new pop-up factories make debut. The Telegraph
- 18 Dec: BioNTech Achieves Milestone at mRNA-based Vaccine Manufacturing Site in Rwanda. Globe Newswire
- 18 Dec: Historic shift in Swedish aid strategy. Development Today
- 18 Dec: Global Gateway: EU increases support to vaccine production in Rwanda as first mRNA facility opens. EU
- 18 Dec: Climate change risks triggering a spike in infectious disease outbreaks: three reasons why. GAVI

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- 19 Dec: [EU Hoarding Then Dumping COVID Vaccines Highlights Pandemic Accord Equity Challenge](#). Health Policy Watch
- 19 Dec: [COVAX winds down with COVID vaccine shift to regular programs](#). CIDRAP
- 19 Dec: [COVID-19 vaccinations shift to regular immunization as COVAX draws to a close](#). WHO
- 19 Dec: [Africa’s agenda for vaccine development, self-sufficiency on course – Akufo-Addo](#). Ghana Business News
- 19 Dec: [Wrapping up 2023 with some noteworthy medicines, law and policy developments](#). Medicines Law & Medicines
- 19 Dec: [A year in review: The global health innovation stories that shaped 2023](#). GHTC
- 19 Dec: [CEPI partners with Rwandan-US Akagera Medicines to improve the delivery and accessibility of mRNA vaccines](#). CEPI
- 20 Dec: [Keep up momentum for Africa’s vaccine manufacturing — Akufo-Addo urges other African leaders](#). Modern Ghana
- 20 Dec: [Developing a diversity, equity and inclusion compass to guide scientific capacity strengthening efforts in Africa](#). PLOS GPH
- 20 Dec: [WHO DG's Marked Shift on Intellectual Property: Cautions Against Undermining IP on Access to COVID-19 Tests & Treatments at WTO. Implications for "Equity" in Current Negotiations](#). Geneva Health Files
- 21 Dec: [Will shrinking aid force changes to the global health landscape?](#). Devex
- 22 Dec: [Major vaccine developments put new shots on market in 2023](#). Healio
- 28 Dec: [From new vaccines to improved diagnostic tests: Here are some key health innovations in 2023](#). EuroNews

PDP DISEASE AREA RELATED NEWS/ ARTICLES

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| HIV/AIDS | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6 Dec: Last Large HIV Vaccine Trial Halted. POZ Magazine• 6 Dec: ‘Last roll of the dice’ for a near-term HIV vaccine fails. STAT• 7 Dec: New early phase study evaluates “on-demand” HIV prevention method for women. News Medical |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 Dec: HIV vaccine trial in Africa halted after disappointing initial results. The Guardian • 8 Dec: A vaginal ring that discreetly delivers anti-HIV drugs will reach more women. NPR • 11 Dec: WATCH Why these women use the anti-HIV pill and vaginal ring. News 24 • 13 Dec: Sen. Van Hollen, Rep. Fitzpatrick, and Cabotegravir Long Acting for HIV Prevention honored with GHTC Innovating for Impact Awards. GHTC • 14 Dec: New research identifies opportunities to improve future HIV vaccine candidates. MedicalXpress • 15 Dec: Back to drawing board as HIV vaccine trial stopped. Nation • 20 Dec: Prophylactic HIV-1 vaccine trials: past, present, and future. The Lancet HIV • 20 Dec: The HIV vaccine quest: ethical and implementation challenges. The Lancet HIV |
| TB | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 Dec: Tuberculosis Research Funding Trends 2005 — 2022. TAG • 6 Dec: Startup NanoPin Launches Blood-Based TB Test, Lays Groundwork for Multiplex HIV/TB Testing. 360Dx • 6 Dec: Analysis: SA close to meeting TB research funding targets, but most countries falling short. Spotlight • 7 Dec: Improved drug regimens for TB to cut treatment time. The Hindu • 7 Dec: NIH clinical trial of tuberculous meningitis drug regimen begins. US NIH • 13 Dec: Tuberculosis kills more people than malaria or HIV. Why haven't we found a vaccine?. Vox • 16 Dec: Tuberculosis and Inequality: How Race, Caste, and Class Impact Access to Medicines. Health Policy Watch |
| Malaria | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Dec: Climate change drives deadly malaria surge as elimination efforts reach 'crunch point'. The Telegraph • 2 Dec: WHO: Global malaria cases surpass pre-COVID levels. Healio |

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- 4 Dec: [New technique developed to rapidly detect genetic changes in malaria parasites.](#) News Medical
- 6 Dec: [The Oxford R21 malaria vaccine and the imperative of continued malaria testing.](#) Pharmaphorum
- 7 Dec: [New approaches in fight against drug-resistant malaria.](#) The Guardian Nigeria
- 8 Dec: [A Breakthrough for the African Vaccine Manufacturing.](#) Africa CDC
- 8 Dec: [Opinion: New lifesaving malaria vaccines need to be available now.](#) Foreign Policy
- 11 Dec: [New clinical application prospects of artemisinin and its derivatives: a scoping review.](#) Infectious Diseases of Poverty
- 11 Dec: [A Bargain in Saving Lives.](#) Project Syndicate
- 12 Dec: [Pfs230 Domain 7 is targeted by a potent malaria transmission-blocking monoclonal antibody.](#) Nature
- 12 Dec: [A new malaria vaccine presents a bargain for saving lives.](#) The Globe & Mail
- 13 Dec: [Arrival of lethal mosquito puts Kenya under WHO spotlight.](#) The Nation
- 13 Dec: [Malaria fighter: this researcher paved the way for a game-changing vaccine.](#) Nature
- 14 Dec: [GHIT Fund puts forward new money for Phase III malaria candidate.](#) The Pharma Letter
- 14 Dec: [Dual-antigen malaria vaccine targeting Pb22 and Pbg37 was able to induce robust transmission-blocking activity.](#) Parasites & Vectors
- 15 Dec: [Funding for research towards a malaria vaccine.](#) Monash University
- 20 Dec: [Could new malaria drug give babies a better chance of survival?.](#) The Guardian

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20 Dec: Sierra Leone Receives Landmark Shipment of WHO-Approved Malaria Vaccine. WHO • 20 Dec: The PfPRC complex bridges malaria parasite and erythrocyte during invasion. Nature • 20 Dec: How a malaria drug may hold the key to ending malnutrition's cycle of devastation. News Medical • 21 Dec: A bargain in saving lives from malaria. The Bangkok Post • 21 Dec: WHO prequalifies a second malaria vaccine, a significant milestone in prevention of the disease. WHO • 27 Dec: In Africa, high infection rates drive deaths from antimicrobial resistance. CIDRAP • 28 Dec: Kenya-tested malaria vaccine gets WHO approval. The East African |
| NTDs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 Dec: Global donors pledge over US\$777 million to defeat neglected tropical diseases and improve the lives of 1.6 billion people at the Reaching the Last Mile Forum at COP28. Business Wire • 4 Dec: Global partners pledge US\$ 777 million to combat neglected tropical diseases. WHO • 5 Dec: Vaccine profiles: chikungunya. GAVI • 15 Dec: WHO officially recognizes noma as a neglected tropical disease. WHO • 15 Dec: Survivors of disfiguring condition hail addition to WHO neglected diseases list. The Guardian • 15 Dec: Sanofi gets positive EMA opinion for sleeping sickness treatment. Reuters • 19 Dec: New Hope — and an Old Hurdle — for a Terrible Disease With Terrible Treatments. The New York Times • 26 Dec: WHO recognition of noma as a neglected tropical disease bolsters control efforts. WHO • 27 Dec: Recap 2023: From chikungunya to RSV, a look back at major vaccines launched this year. Financial Express |

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| Emerging Infectious Diseases/Pandemics | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4 Dec: World's first 'dengue dashboard' could predict outbreaks months before they happen. The Telegraph• 5 Dec: Challenges in international health financing and implications for the new pandemic fund. Globalization and Health• 5 Dec: CEPI partners with biotech Jurata Thin Film to create needle-free mRNA vaccines and improve access. CEPI• 6 Dec: Pathogen Access & Benefit Sharing System: A Key to Operationalize Equity in Pandemic Preparedness & Response [GUEST ESSAY]. Geneva Health Files• 7 Dec: Charles River Laboratories joins CEPI's global vaccine assessment network. CEPI• 7 Dec: WHO Pandemic Negotiators Are Discussing Single Oversight and Compliance Body. Health Policy Watch• 12 Dec: CEPI supports novel mRNA vaccine development in Korea to protect against future Disease X. CEPI• 13 Dec: Facing the escalating burden of dengue: Challenges and perspectives. PLOS GPH• 13 Dec: Millions infected with dengue this year in new record as hotter temperatures cause virus to flare. AP• 14 Dec: CEPI and PATH strengthen partnership to accelerate development of vaccines against diseases with epidemic or pandemic potential. CEPI• 15 Dec: Mpox vaccine triggers equally strong immune response in smaller doses. GAVI• 18 Dec: Working together against deadly Marburg virus. Eureka Alert• 19 Dec: Mystery Amid an Anthrax Outbreak in Africa. The New York Times• 21 Dec: New partnership aims to advance vaccine against MERS coronavirus. CEPI• 22 Dec: Dengue Cases Approach Historic Highs Worldwide; Local Transmission Seen In Europe. Health Policy Watch |
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| AMR | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4 Dec: Some hope for new antibiotics. The Lancet Infectious Diseases• 6 Dec: Op-ed: Active manufacturing responsibility and the other AMR. Access to Medicines Foundation• 11 Dec: Opinion: Antimicrobial resistance now hits lower-income countries the hardest, but superbugs are a global threat we must all fight. The Conversation• 18 Dec: ‘Inequality is fueling drug resistance across the African continent. Devex• 18 Dec: Expert guidance on target product profile development for AMR diagnostic tests. BMJ• 18 Dec: A digital health algorithm to guide antibiotic prescription in pediatric outpatient care: a cluster randomized controlled trial. Nature Medicine• 19 Dec: The burden of bacterial antimicrobial resistance in the WHO African region in 2019: a cross-country systematic analysis. The Lancet |
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Upcoming Meetings/ Webinars

January 31 [Neglected Disease G-FINDER Report launch](#)

Virtual