BVGH Partnership Hub

MID-YEAR REPORT

2017
Agreements

BVGH's 2017 partnering objective is to establish eight new targeted agreements and to provide alliance management support to ongoing collaborations. By the end of June 2017, BVGH had established seven new agreements. These agreements span six diseases, and involve ten Members from six different countries. BVGH has established 115 collaborations to date.

BVGH continued to track ongoing WIPO Re:Search collaborations by routinely engaging the projects’ participants. The BVGH team is devoted to ensuring collaborations are carried out to a satisfactory completion, and where appropriate, new collaborators are introduced or new agreements are established to advance the partnerships. In the first half of 2017, BVGH coordinated an additional agreement between Members to support their existing collaboration.

Development Stages of Active Collaborations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basic research/discovery</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Screening for repurposing</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hit identification</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hit to lead optimization</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preclinical</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Three collaborations advanced from “screening for repurposing” to “hit identification,” and one collaboration progressed through two milestones to “hit to lead optimization.”

**WIPO Re:Search Collaborations to date:**

- **115** Agreements Established
- **31** Active Agreements
- **4** Advancing Agreements
Recruitment

BVGH’s 2017 objective is to recruit six new “targeted” User Members. Institutes from select countries and regions — Australia, East Africa, and the Indo-Pacific — and organizations with the capacity to fill critical pipeline gaps are considered “targeted” Members.

During the first half of 2017, BVGH recruited 19 new User and Provider Members. Nine of these new Members were “targeted” recruitments. Thirteen new Members are based in a low- to middle-income country (LMIC).

**New Members**
- Brazilian Biosciences National Laboratory (LNBio)*
- Institut de Recherche en Sciences de la Santé (IRSS)*
- Makerere University*
- Seattle Children’s Research Institute
- Social Medicine Institute, Rio de Janeiro State University*
- Structural Genomics Consortium (SGC)
- University of Campinas (UNICAMP)*
- University of Dschang*
- University of São Paulo*
- University of Toronto

**New Members - Targeted**
- Eijkman Institute for Molecular Biology (EIMB)*
- Institut Teknologi Bandung (ITB)*
- Institut Pasteur de Madagascar (IP Madagascar)*
- International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (icddr,b)*
- James Cook University (JCU)
- Monash University
- National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR)*
- Papua New Guinea Institute of Medical Research (PNGIMR)*
- University of Melbourne

**WIPO Re:Search Members to date:**

- 126 Members from 38 countries
Communication

1. Increase awareness of WIPO Re:Search activities and accomplishments

Continued publication of Partnership Hub Snapshot newsletter
The monthly Partnership Hub Snapshot highlights new collaborations, relevant funding awards, Members’ partnering interests, and new IP assets available for use by Members.

Increased social media presence

Twitter
BVGH increased its Twitter audience and tweet recognition. On average, BVGH’s tweets over the course of June 2017 had 45% more impressions than in June 2016. Between June 2016 and June 2017, BVGH gained 175 new followers, a 28% increase in total followers. BVGH’s Twitter content included WIPO Re:Search collaboration announcements, press releases and publications, new Member spotlights, funding awarded to Members, and WIPO Re:Search-related events including the Biennial Meeting.

LinkedIn
BVGH maintains an active presence and following on LinkedIn, and uses this platform to keep its 1,100+ followers informed with regular WIPO Re:Search activity updates. Content posted to LinkedIn included WIPO Re:Search meeting and event announcements and monthly Snapshots. By July 2017 BVGH’s WIPO Re:Search-related posts had received 4,000+ impressions.

2. Present WIPO Re:Search at two key conferences

- 70th World Health Assembly, Geneva, Switzerland
- Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) Annual Partners Meeting, Bonn, Germany

3. Raise awareness of WIPO Re:Search at three key events

- 2017 Uniting to Combat NTDs Summit, Geneva, Switzerland
- 2017 BIO International Convention, San Diego, USA
Other

**WIPO Re:Search Strategic Plan, 2017-2021**

BVGH, in partnership with WIPO and with guidance from the WIPO Re:Search Advisory Committee, prepared the *WIPO Re:Search Strategic Plan, 2017-2021*. The Strategic Plan will serve as a roadmap to ensure that WIPO Re:Search continues to contribute to the changing global health research and development landscape, debate on IP and health, and the achievement of the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). WIPO and BVGH officially launched the Strategic Plan during the WIPO Re:Search 2016-2017 Biennial Meeting.

**Funds in Trust Training Sabbaticals**

In 2016 the Government of Australia contributed funding (Funds in Trust 2 [FIT2]) to support training sabbaticals for East African and Indo-Pacific researchers at Australian research institutes. BVGH has matched trainees to host organizations and framed plans for the research to be performed and training to be received. Eight scientists from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Kenya, Papua New Guinea, and Tanzania have been selected and matched to their Australian hosts. The first sabbatical is expected to start in September 2017. Additional sabbaticals will initiate shortly thereafter.

**Trainee Institutes**

- **EIMB**: Eijkman Institute for Molecular Biology
- **icddr,b**: International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh
- **ITB**: Institute Teknologi Bandung
- **KEMRI**: Kenya Medical Research Institute
- **NIMR**: National Institute for Medical Research

**Host Institutes**

- **GRIDD**: Griffith Institute for Drug Discovery
- **MU**: Monash University
- **UM**: University of Melbourne
- **WEHI**: Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research