

BVGH Partnership Hub Snapshot



December 2020

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

As 2020 draws to a close, we look back with great pride at WIPO Re:Search's accomplishments during a year unlike any other—including [identification of novel antimalarial drug leads](#) by Consortium investigators and multiple peer-reviewed publications reporting [progress on WIPO Re:Search collaborations](#). We also welcomed organizations from around the world to the Consortium and facilitated new intercontinental collaborations, such as WIPO Re:Search's first [leprosy](#) and [snakebite](#) projects and the **Institut Pasteur Korea-University of Zambia** tuberculosis drug discovery partnership described below. As COVID-19 [threatens](#) to derail hard-won progress against NTDs, malaria, and tuberculosis, WIPO Re:Search, and the work of our investigators, is more important than ever.

Looking ahead, we are excited to be continuing our partnership with **WIPO**—including the [newly appointed senior management team](#)—and our growing network of Members during WIPO Re:Search's 10th anniversary year and beyond. (Stay tuned for information about our plans to commemorate this important milestone in 2021!) As new Director General Daren Tang shapes his strategy for WIPO in the coming years, WIPO Re:Search will continue to play a key role in advancing the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the broader global health agenda.

As always, please share this Snapshot with your colleagues and reach out to us with any partnering requests or ideas.

Everyone at BVGH wishes you a safe and happy holiday season.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Dent, President & CEO
BIO Ventures for Global Health



WIPO Re:Search Statistics



Click [here](#) for a list of WIPO Re:Search Members.
Click [here](#) for a list of WIPO Re:Search collaborations.
Click [here](#) to view the WIPO Re:Search Collaboration Pipeline.

Cornerstones of Collaboration

Novel Therapies for Multidrug-Resistant Tuberculosis



Tuberculosis is among the top 10 causes of death worldwide, and the leading cause from a single infectious agent. Multidrug-resistant tuberculosis increased 10% between 2018 and 2019, highlighting the need for novel therapies. To continue the fight against this deadly disease, Dr. Vincent Delorme, Head of the Tuberculosis Research Laboratory at **Institut Pasteur Korea**, will be screening compounds synthesized and derived from natural sources by Dr. Peter Cheuka, Lecturer and Researcher in Medicinal Chemistry and Drug Discovery at **University of Zambia**. The goals of the screening are to assess the compounds' antitubercular activity, and to identify interesting scaffolds for further development.

IP in Focus

WIPO Offers IP Diagnostic Tool for Businesses

WIPO's free [IP Diagnostic Tool](#) helps users undertake a basic diagnostic of their business's IP situation. Developed by experienced IP experts, the tool provides key IP information tailored to each user and offers hints and advice on issues that could be interesting for the user's business.

BVGH FundFinder Featured Awards

NTD Support Center: Optimizing NTD Diagnostics and Sampling Strategies for Low-Prevalence Settings

The NTD Support Center, with support from USAID through the COR-NTD grant, is soliciting proposals in two areas: 1) Research targeting the near-term development of highly specific diagnostic markers, tools, and technologies to monitor and evaluate programs aimed at lymphatic filariasis (LF) and onchocerciasis (oncho) in low-prevalence settings; and 2) Research on application of epidemiological and statistical methods that maximize the programmatic effectiveness of survey sampling strategies to detect specific LF and oncho signals in low-prevalence settings. Application deadline: January 31, 2021. For more information, click [here](#).

Additional Funding Opportunities

- [Atomwise Artificial Intelligence Molecular Screen \(AIMS\) Award Program](#) – Deadline: December 14, 2020.
- [African Academy of Sciences \(AAS\) Olusegun Obasanjo Prize for Scientific Discovery and/or Technological Innovation](#) – Deadline: December 22, 2020.
- [NIH Multidisciplinary Approach to Study Vaccine-Elicited Immunity and Efficacy against Malaria](#) – Letter of Intent Deadline: January 9, 2021.

For more information about BVGH FundFinder, please email [Cathy Manner](#).



Member News

WIPO Re:Search Investigators Receive African Researchers' Small Grants Program Awards

Congratulations to Dr. Chiaka Anumudu and Dr. Cabirou Shintouo, who have both received [awards](#) through the African Researchers' Small Grants Program (SGP IV) to support their ongoing WIPO Re:Search [collaborations](#). Dr. Chiaka Anumudu of **University of Ibadan** in Nigeria will use the award to advance development of a rapid diagnostic test (RDT) for schistosomiasis using *Schistosoma* antigens present in the urine. Dr. Anumudu previously identified 54 human proteins as potential biomarkers of schistosomiasis, and, through WIPO Re:Search, will use [Ampli Blocks](#) to develop a device to detect those proteins in blood samples. Dr. Shintouo of **University of Buea** in Cameroon plans to use the award to develop a dipstick test for assessment of elimination of human onchocerciasis – the second-leading cause of infection-related blindness worldwide.

Upcoming Virtual Global Health Events

Dates	Event Name
December 11, 2020	PAHO Webinar: Universal Health Day 2020 Health for All: Protect Everyone
December 16, 2020	WHO Webinar: The Leadership Needed to Stimulate the Battle Against NTDs
January 30, 2021	World NTD Day
February 25, 2021	Global Health Day on Capitol Hill



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