

BVGH Partnership Hub Snapshot



May 2021

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

We are excited to announce the release of our [2020 WIPO Re:Search Partnership Hub Annual Report](#). In this report we feature the Consortium's accomplishments during a year unlike any other—from new international collaborations and significant advances in ongoing collaborations, to expansion of our global Member network and high-profile awards for our Fellowship Program alumni.

[World IP Day](#), celebrated every year on April 26, highlights the critical role that IP plays in encouraging innovation in areas including global health. We are proud of our WIPO Re:Search company Members for deploying their valuable IP assets—on World IP Day and every day—through global partnerships to fight neglected diseases. The work of many of our companies was recently spotlighted in international media, including:

- **Eisai:** An [animation](#) showcasing the company's lymphatic filariasis elimination activities—encompassing medicines delivery to endemic countries and disease awareness programs—won an award at the International Society for Neglected Tropical Diseases (ISNTD) Festival 2021.
- **Novartis:** The company is partnering with **Medicines for Malaria Venture** to develop two new antimalarial drugs that are in late-stage clinical trials, and is also investigating the repurposing of one of its heart failure drugs for chronic Chagas cardiomyopathy. Additionally, Novartis has [renewed](#) an agreement with the World Health Organization to provide access to its leprosy and fascioliasis medicines through the end of 2025.
- **Pfizer:** The [elimination of trachoma](#) as a public health problem in The Gambia was made possible through strong partnerships, including broad access to the company's antibiotic azithromycin.
- **Takeda:** In a new [interview](#) with WIPO, Dr. Chris Reddick, Head of Takeda's R&D Center for Health Equity, highlighted the myriad ways that the company is driving neglected disease R&D innovation through IP-sharing collaborations—including compounds for [tuberculosis drug discovery](#), microneedle patch technology for [malaria vaccine development](#), and knowledge exchange and capacity building.

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

Sincerely,

Jennifer Dent, President & CEO
BIO Ventures for Global Health



Special Announcements

[Input Requested: WIPO Re:Search Performance, 2022-2026 Strategy](#)

As WIPO Re:Search enters its second decade, the consulting firm everis (NTT Data) is conducting an independent review of the Consortium's performance (per the [2017-2021 Strategic Plan](#)) and coordinating the development of the 2022-2026

Strategic Plan. Input from WIPO Re:Search stakeholders—across sectors and geographic regions—is critical for this process. If you have not been contacted by everis to provide your insights and opinions, please click [here](#) to access the online survey. Responses are requested no later than **May 21, 2021**. Please contact Júlia Turon i Lorén at wipo.ReSearch.review@nttdata.com with any questions.

RSTMH Calls for Abstracts for Annual Meeting Due June 7

The Royal Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene (RSTMH) is accepting abstracts focused on drug-resistant infections. Poster presentations and five-minute “turbo talks” will be selected from abstracts submitted by early-career researchers. Learn more [here](#).

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

SSGCID and IP Montevideo Collaborate to Discover New Treatments for Chagas Disease, HAT, and Leishmaniasis

Chagas disease, human African trypanosomiasis (HAT), and leishmaniasis are among the infectious diseases that disproportionately exact a heavy toll on people living in low- and middle-income countries. Dr. Marcelo Comini, Head of the Redox Biology of Trypanosomes Laboratory at the **Institut Pasteur de Montevideo (IP Montevideo)**, works on the discovery of novel drugs targeting the pathogens responsible for these diseases. The **Seattle Structural Genomics Center for Infectious Disease (SSGCID)**, which is contracted through the United States National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (contract HHSN272201700059C), will investigate the crystal structure of three proteins identified by Dr. Comini to inform rational design of new treatments for Chagas disease, HAT, and leishmaniasis.

IP in Focus

Non-Patent Literature Now Available in PATENTSCOPE

[WIPO's PATENTSCOPE](#) now includes non-patent literature, specifically open access content from some of the world's leading multidisciplinary science journals on [Nature.com](#). Over 54,000 documents are now searchable in PATENTSCOPE. Access and search PATENTSCOPE [here](#).

BVGH FundFinder Featured Awards

Global Institute for Disease Elimination (GLIDE): Falcon Awards

The Falcon Awards for Disease Elimination were created to help advance the elimination of malaria, polio, lymphatic filariasis, and onchocerciasis. Up to five grants of up to \$200,000 each will be awarded to organizations based in endemic countries. Proposals should demonstrate a high potential to expand and amplify effective solutions in disease elimination and create lasting impacts. GLIDE recommends that projects align with national priorities to advance disease elimination strategies, along with international objectives of WHO's NTD road map. Deadline for abstract submissions is June 13, 2021. For more information, click [here](#).

Additional Funding Opportunities

- [NIH/NIAID Tropical Medicine Research Centers \(U01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed\)](#) for NTDs in endemic areas – Letter of Intent Deadline: May 19, 2021; Application Deadline: June 18, 2021.
- [NIH/NIAID Innovation for Tuberculosis Vaccine Discovery \(ITVD\)](#) – Letter of Intent Deadline: May 31, 2021; Application Deadline: June 30, 2021.
- [NIH R21 Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program, Notice of Special Interest](#) for Secondary Analysis of Existing Datasets for Advancing Immune-mediated and Infectious Disease Research – Next Application Deadline: June 16, 2021.
- [Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany: 2021 Research Grants](#) – Application Deadline: August 31, 2021.

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



Upcoming Virtual Global Health Events

Dates	Event
May 25-27, 2021	BioMalPar XVII: Biology and Pathology of the Malaria Parasite
June 10, 2021	Neglected Tropical Disease Network for NGOs (NNN) Rising to the Challenge: Learning and Adapting NTD Programming in a Changing Landscape
May 31-June 18, 2021	6th McGill Summer Institute in Infectious Diseases and Global Health
June 18, 2021	RSTMH Topics in Infection 2021
July 12-14, 2021	Future Insight Days



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