



## BVGH Newsletter Special Issue

May 2016

### In this Issue

[Exhibitor Spotlight](#)

[Convention Panel Session](#)

[Global Innovation Hubs](#)

[Media Corner](#)

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### Letter from Jennifer

Dear BVGH Friends and Colleagues,

It is almost June, which means BVGH will soon be heading to San Francisco to attend the 2016 Biotechnology Innovation Organization (BIO) International Convention and manage the Africa pavilion. This special edition of the BVGH Newsletter is dedicated to the pavilion, its exhibitors, and its associated events.

Each year BIO hosts the world's largest biopharmaceutical industry partnering meeting. To ensure Africa's representation and showcase the innovations and life science capabilities of African research organizations, BVGH organized the first Africa exhibition pavilion at the 2015 BIO International Convention.

Appropriate representation of Africa's leading research centers at key industry events, such as the BIO International Convention, is essential to catalyzing the development of these meaningful partnerships and inciting Africa-centric innovations.

This year's pavilion, located in the Moscone Center West Exhibition Hall, Booth #7409, will be even larger than last year's pavilion - welcoming both returning institutes and new organizations from 18 African countries. If you will be at the Convention, be sure to stop by the pavilion and learn about each of our exhibitor's research programs, capabilities, and business partnership opportunities.

Pavilion exhibitors will be active in other areas of the Convention as well. A number of our exhibitors will give short presentations during the Global Innovation Hubs Convention track on Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup> starting at 11:00am. Audiences will learn first-hand about the top five most important reasons to invest in the exhibitors' countries.

If you will not be able to attend the Global Innovation Hubs presentations, and you would like to learn about our exhibitors' research, we encourage you to visit the pavilion daily from 1-3pm. During this time our exhibitors will be giving presentations on the pavilion's stage.

BVGH will also be facilitating a panel session at the Convention. The Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> session will highlight the rise of, and response to, non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in sub-Saharan Africa. Additional activities include a media event with BIO President and CEO and BVGH Chairman of the Board, James Greenwood, and a bilateral meeting with biopharmaceutical companies and key African representatives.

All of us at BVGH welcome you to visit with our exhibitors and attend our events. For more information, please email [Amy Starr](mailto:amy.starr@bvgh.org).

Sincerely,  
Jennifer Dent  
President, BVGH

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BVGH, BIO, and the pavilion exhibitors wish to extend a special thank you to the following companies for their generous sponsorship of the Africa pavilion.



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## Exhibitor Spotlight

### Cameroon

#### University of Buea

Established in 1993, the University of Buea is one of Cameroon's leading public universities. The University's 500 staff and 12,000 students are partnered with more than 40 universities across Africa, Europe, and North America. The University of Buea is the home of the African Network for Drugs and Diagnostics Innovation (ANDI) Centre of Excellence in Onchocerciasis Drug Research. [More...](#)



### Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

### **Dikembe Mutombo Foundation & Biamba Marie Mutombo Hospital**

The Dikembe Mutombo Foundation is dedicated to improving the health, education and quality of life of the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Foundation strives to accomplish this goal through an emphasis on primary healthcare and disease prevention, the promotion of health policy, health research, and increased access to healthcare education for the people of the Congo.



With the support of the Dikembe Mutombo Foundation, the Biamba Marie Mutombo Hospital, a modern hospital facility supported by a state-of-the-art emergency room, intensive care unit, pharmacy, and modern radiology department, was opened in 2007. [More...](#)

## **Ghana**

### **Kumasi Centre for Collaborative Research in Tropical Medicine**

The Kumasi Centre for Collaborative Research in Tropical Medicine (KCCR) is an interdisciplinary research center that develops molecular tools to advance biomedical, agricultural, and ecological sciences for Ghana and the international community. KCCR has a vibrant research environment capable of attracting quality research projects and turning out the next generation of researchers. [More...](#)



### **Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research**

The Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research (NMIMR), a semi-autonomous institute of the University of Ghana, is the leading biomedical research facility in Ghana. NMIMR is committed to research on national health priorities and training of biomedical scientists and has been named the ANDI Centre of Excellence in Disease Surveillance and Prevention. [More...](#)



## **Liberia**

### **Liberian Institute for Biomedical Research**

The Liberian Institute for Biomedical Research (LIBR) is a key public health asset to Liberia. During the 2014-2015 Ebola virus disease outbreak in West Africa, LIBR played a key role in supporting surveillance of the disease and implementation of vaccine clinical trials. [More...](#)



## **Nigeria**

### **National Institute for Pharmaceutical Research and Development**

The National Institute for Pharmaceutical Research and Development (NIPRD) performs R&D of drugs, biological products, and pharmaceutical raw materials based on indigenous resources. NIPRD works in collaboration with national and international partners such as the NIH, WHO, UNDP, CDC, NAFDAC, NANTMPs, as well as local and foreign universities. [More...](#)



## Zimbabwe

### **African Institute of Biomedical Science & Technology**

The African Institute of Biomedical Science & Technology (AiBST) was founded to jump-start the biomedical sciences in Africa and focuses heavily on pharmaceutical sciences, the discovery of new drugs, and optimization of current medicines. It was named the ANDI Centre of Excellence in DMPK and Toxicology. AiBST is home to the African Biobank, which has DNA samples from populations across Africa. [More...](#)



## **European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership Networks of Excellence**

The European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) is a public-private partnership between European and sub-Saharan African countries to build clinical trials capacity in sub-Saharan Africa and accelerate the clinical development of products for HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria, and neglected infectious diseases. The EDCTP hosts four Networks of Excellence, representing West Africa, Central Africa, East Africa, and Southern Africa. Three of these Networks will be represented at the 2016 BIO International Convention Africa pavilion. Combined, these three Networks involve 16 countries and 32 research centers.

### **Central Africa Network on Tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS and Malaria (CANTAM)**

#### Cameroon:

1. Centre International de Reference Chantal Biya (CIRCB)
2. University of Yaounde I
3. University of Buea
4. Organisation de Coordination des Etats de l'Afrique Centrale (OCEAC)



#### Republic of the Congo:

1. University Marien Ngouabi
2. Centre d'Etudes des Ressources Vegetales (CERVE)

#### Gabon:

1. Medical Research Unit of the Albert Schweitzer Hospital

### **West African Network for TB, AIDS and Malaria (WANETAM)**

#### Burkina Faso:

1. Centre National de Recherche et de Formation sur le Paludisme
2. Centre Muraz



#### The Gambia:

1. National Public Health Laboratories
2. Medical Research Council

#### Ghana:

1. Korle-bu Teaching Hospital, University of Ghana Medical School
2. Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research

#### Guinea Bissau:

1. Project de Saude de Bandim

#### Nigeria:

1. College of Medicine, University of Ibadan
2. Nigerian Institute of Medical Research
3. Innovative Biotech

#### Mali:

1. Malaria Research and Training Center, Faculty of Medicine Bamako

#### Senegal:

1. Laboratory of Bacteriology and Virology, Cheikh Anta Diop University
2. Institut Pasteur, Dakar

#### **Trials of Excellence in Southern Africa (TESA)**

##### Botswana:

1. Botswana Harvard HIV/AIDS Partnership (BHP)

##### Malawi:

1. Blantyre Health Research and Training Trust (BHRTT)
2. Malawi College of Medicine

##### Mozambique:

1. Centro de Investigacao em Saude da Manhica (CISM)

##### South Africa:

1. LT Clinical Research (Pty) Ltd.
2. South African Medical Research Council: Tuberculosis Research Unit (TBRU)
3. Stellenbosch University Immunology Research Group (SUN-IRG)
4. University of Cape Town Lung Institute (UCT-LUNG)
5. University of Cape Town Division of Clinical Pharmacology (UCT-PHARM)

##### Zambia:

1. University of Zambia – University Teaching Hospital (UN-ZAM)

##### Zimbabwe:

1. University of Zimbabwe College of Health Sciences (UZ-CHS)



## **Convention Panel Session**

BVGH organized a panel session relevant to companies interested in learning more about non-communicable diseases in Africa. The panel is part of a four-hour session entitled, “Demystifying Africa”, which will also feature panels on South Africa and North Africa.

### **Demystifying Africa | June 7, 2016 | 1:00pm – 5:00pm | Room North 124**

With some of the fastest growing economies in the world, now is the time for companies to spread their business to Africa. However, the problem is that most of us are still unfamiliar with this region. These three sessions will help break those commonly held stereotypes about three distinct regions: South Africa, sub-Saharan Africa, and North Africa. The first session, South Africa: Not Just an Attractive Clinical Trial Destination, will focus on the advantages of operating in the South African market. The subsequent session on North Africa, will provide insight into the changing landscape of the region from a place of manufacturing into a center of localization based on knowledge, training, clinical trials and more. Lastly, the session on sub-Saharan Africa will break pre-conceived notions regarding the types of diseases in sub-Saharan Africa. The final session will bring together experts from across the continent to discuss ways countries in Africa are collaborating to elevate their ability to innovate and promote biotech.

### **Sub-Saharan Africa: Non-Communicable Diseases in Africa | June 7, 2016 | 3:30pm – 4:30pm | Room North 124**

Twenty-five years ago, infectious diseases were overwhelmingly the primary cause of morbidity and mortality in Africa. Yet during the intervening decades, a multitude of factors has resulted in non-communicable diseases (NCDs) steadily increasing in prevalence. This session will engage panelists representing biopharmaceutical companies that have incorporated Africa into their NCD strategies and global leaders with expertise and firsthand experience with Africa’s new, growing health challenge. Panelists will compare NCD epidemiology in Africa to that of traditional markets. The programs that are addressing the continent’s changing healthcare landscape and the NCD research and product development opportunities in Africa will also be described. The goal of this session is to profile NCDs in African and present opportunities for the biopharmaceutical industry to participate in efforts to curtail this rising health burden.

#### **Panelists:**

**Prof. Ellis Owusu-Dabo**, Scientific Director, Kumasi Centre for Collaborative Research in Tropical Medicine (KCCR)

**Dr. Louis Kanda**, Vice Chairman of the Board, Dikembe Mutombo Foundation (DMF)

**Jennifer Dent**, President, BIO Ventures for Global Health (BVGH) (Moderator)

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## **Global Innovation Hubs**

Africa pavilion exhibitors from Cameroon, Ghana, Nigeria, and Zimbabwe will be highlighting their countries and research centers during the Convention’s Global Innovation Hubs session track. This session will occur on Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup> in Room West 3010.

**Cameroon** | 11:00am – 11:15am | Dr. Fidelis Cho-Ngwa, Associate Professor, University of Buea

[Ghana](#) |11:15am – 11:30am | Dr. Augustina Annan, Postdoctoral research scientist, KCCR, & Dr. Michael Wilson, Professor, NMIMR

[Nigeria](#) |11:30am – 11:45am | Dr. Karniyus Gamaniel, Director General, NIPRD

[Zimbabwe](#) |11:45am – 12:00pm | Dr. Collen Masimirembwa, President and CSO, AiBST

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## [Media Corner](#)

BVGH will host a media event at the Africa pavilion (Moscone West, Booth #7409) on **Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am – 12:30pm**. BIO President and CEO, and Chairman of the BVGH Board of Directors, James Greenwood, will welcome the African delegates and officially open the pavilion.

Check out BVGH's upcoming blog in BIO's online newsletter, [BIOtechNow](#).

Please look for BVGH's article, "It's a Big World After All: How to Tap into Emerging African Markets through Local Partnerships," in the *BIO Buzz Show Daily*, the Convention's daily magazine.

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# We look forward to seeing you at the Convention!

 <p><b>BIO</b> International Convention</p>	<p>June 6-9, 2016 Moscone Center San Francisco, CA</p>
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