



News of the Month

December 2024

In this month you can expect



Editors Choice

Impact of Preventive
Chemotherapy on NTDs in
Indonesia: A 30-Year Review

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Free Training Opportunities

Secure and equal ownership
rights over agricultural land

Gender Equality

Migration, Health and Equity in
Europe

[Training Opportunities](#)



Global Career and Funding Opportunities

Numerous funding and career
opportunities available this
month for applicants

[Grant / Career
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Upcoming Events

FESTMIH Webinar

16th Malaria Meeting

International Conference on
Neglected Tropical Diseases

NTDs and how to control them

[Upcoming Events](#)



ECTMIH2025

ECTMIH 2025 - December News

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Digital

Global Health Matters - Podcast

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News from the Network



FESTMIH is happy to inform you that the Italian National Institute of Health (Istituto Superiore di Sanità; ISS) in Rome has been granted as Coordinator of the new **European Union Reference Laboratory for public health on food-, water- and vector-borne HELMINTHS and PROTOZOA** (EURL-HP). The Public Health Agency of Sweden (Folkhälsomyndigheten; Fohm) will be part of the Consortium. The director of the new EURL-HP for public health will be [Adriano Casulli](#) at ISS.

The 4 pillars of the new EURL-HP committed by the European Commission will be: *Echinococcus* spp., *Toxoplasma gondii*, *Trichinella* spp., *Plasmodium* spp. (*Cryptosporidium* spp., *Giardia lamblia*, *Leishmania* spp., *Strongyloides stercoralis*, *Taenia solium* will also be considered).

At this link you can find what the [EU Reference Laboratories for public health](#) are. Here is the official designation in the [Implementing Regulation - EU - 2024/2959](#) whose Annex II lists the specific tasks of the new EURL-HP for public health.



Migrants and Health

The [Dutch Society for Tropical Medicine and International Health](#) has published the current edition of MtB on the topic of **migration and health**. A topic that plays a major role in FESTMIH and is also dealt with by a separate 'Migration and Health' working group. If you are interested in reading the various articles, you will find the journal attached in the link.

[MtB Journal](#)

FESTMIH Webinar

Infectious Diseases in Visiting Friends and Relatives (VFRs) -

Where Migration, Public Health, and Travel Medicine Intersect



Francesca Norman



Francesco Castelli



Günter Fröschl

This session, chaired by Miriam Navarro (Spain) and Michele Spinicci (Italy), explores the intersection of infectious diseases and travel medicine among individuals visiting friends and relatives abroad (VFRs). The program includes:

- **Introduction (10 minutes)**
- **Lectures (20 minutes each):**
 - *People Visiting Friends and Relatives: Aspects in Pre-Travel Medicine* by Günter Fröschl (Germany)
 - *Travel-Related Infections Among VFRs* by Francesco Castelli (Italy)
 - *VFRs and Arbovirolosis: Challenges in Europe* by Francesca Norman (Spain)

The session concludes with a **20-minute discussion**, providing an opportunity for dialogue on key public health challenges and strategies to improve care and prevention for VFR populations. Please note that there is no charge for this course. CME credits have been applied for.

[Register here](#)

Editors Choice

Effect of preventive chemotherapy for neglected tropical diseases in Indonesia from 1992 to 2022: A systematic review and meta-analysis

A systematic review and meta-analysis published in *Tropical Medicine & International Health* (Volume 29, Issue 12) evaluated the impact of **preventive chemotherapy (PC)** programs on neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) in Indonesia between 1992 and 2022.

Key Findings:

- **Lymphatic Filariasis (LF):**
Pre-PC prevalence: **11.48%**
Post-PC prevalence: **7.12%**
While a decrease was observed, the difference was not statistically significant.
- **Soil-Transmitted Helminthiasis (STH):**
Pre-PC prevalence: **36.29%**
Post-PC prevalence: **31.93%**
Reduction was observed but not significant.
- **Schistosomiasis (SC):**
Limited data made it impossible to assess post-PC impact.

Challenges Identified:

- Uneven research distribution and lack of standardized methods limited the evaluation.
- Persistent prevalence suggests gaps in program implementation and coverage.
- Factors such as age, location, and diagnostic methods influenced the reported prevalence.

Implications:

This study underscores the need for **standardized prevalence surveys** and **improved program implementation** to enhance the effectiveness of PC in reducing the burden of NTDs. For further details, access the full paper here.

[Read full Paper](#)

Free Training Opportunities



Secure and equal ownership rights over agricultural land

The **FAO eLearning Academy** offers a free certified course on **SDG Indicator 5.a.1**, focusing on **secure and equal ownership rights over agricultural land**, particularly addressing women's ownership and control. This course provides participants with a robust understanding of the statistical concepts, data collection methods, and computation techniques necessary to measure this indicator effectively.

Who Should Attend?

This course is tailored for:

- **Directors and senior staff** of national statistical offices
- **Statisticians** and FAO regional statisticians
- **Policy makers** and advisors
- Representatives from **legal and human rights institutions**

Course Structure:

The course consists of **four lessons** (30–40 minutes each):

1. **Introduction** to secure and equal ownership rights for women on agricultural land
2. Key **definitions** and concepts for SDG Indicator 5.a.1
3. Guidelines for **data collection** and harmonization with other SDG indicators
4. Methods for **computing the 5.a.1 indicator**

Key Features:

- **Duration:** 2 hours 30 minutes
- **Languages:** Available in **English, Spanish, and French**
- **Certification:** Digital badge awarded upon passing the final exam (minimum grade: 75%).
- **Accessibility:**
 - Online version compatible with modern browsers (Chrome, Safari, Edge, Firefox).
 - Downloadable version available for **Windows PCs** (no additional software needed).

Why Take This Course?

Participants will gain:

- A deeper understanding of SDG Indicator 5.a.1 and its role in promoting **gender equality** in land ownership.
- Practical skills in **data collection and analysis** for monitoring this indicator.
- Insights into the integration of the indicator with broader **sustainable development goals**.

For more details and to enroll, visit the [FAO eLearning Academy](#).

FAO



Gender Equality Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Interactive Game

UNICEF offers a **one-hour interactive learning playlist** designed to enhance understanding of **gender equality in humanitarian programming**. This activity focuses on integrating gender into **UNICEF's Core Commitments for Children (CCCs)** to ensure inclusive and high-quality responses that address the needs of all children, especially the most vulnerable.

Key Features:

- **Interactive Two-Player Game:** Enhance your practical skills through collaborative activities.
- **Webinar and Simulation Exercises:** Learn to apply gender equality principles effectively.
- **Certification:** Receive a certificate upon completion.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand gender equality's role in UNICEF's CCCs and humanitarian action.
- Apply gender-specific and gender-mainstreamed commitments in program design.
- Engage with local NGOs and affected populations to create impactful responses.

Audience:

Ideal for **UNICEF staff, managers, and partners** involved in humanitarian programs at all levels.

How to Enroll:


- **Prerequisite:** Completion of the "Introduction to Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action" course (available in multiple languages).
- Self-enrollment is open via the [UNICEF Agora platform](#).

unicef



Migration, Health and Equity in Europe

 **Launch Date:** December 10, 2024

 **Offered by:** University of Geneva in collaboration with the University of Milan and Lancet Migration European Hub

The **Migration and Health MOOC** explores the intersection of migration and healthcare in Europe, offering insights into equitable health access for refugees and migrants. The course bridges **research and practice**, providing public health practitioners, researchers, and policymakers with essential knowledge and tools.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand migration typologies and their health impacts.
- Identify barriers to healthcare access for migrant populations.
- Explore good practices for promoting migrant health.
- Analyse ethical challenges in evidence generation for migrant health.

Key Features:

- **Language:** English with subtitles
- **Content:** Developed with contributions from policy, academic, clinical, and humanitarian actors.
- **Relevance:** Based on the *Lancet Migration and Health Inequity Series (2024)*.

Ideal for **healthcare providers, educators**, and anyone aiming to improve evidence-based and equitable health practices for displaced populations.

For more information and to enroll, visit the **MOOC website**.

[Website](#)

Global Career and Funding Opportunities



EMBL Sabbatical Visitor Fellowships

The EMBL Sabbatical Visitor Fellowship program offers a unique opportunity for principal investigators, independent scientists, research team leaders, and technical experts to spend **3 to 6 months** at one of EMBL's six sites. This fellowship encourages collaboration, knowledge transfer, and networking with EMBL's vibrant scientific community.

Key Details:

- **Funding Amount:** Up to **€15,000**, awarded as a reimbursement for eligible costs (e.g., travel, accommodation, childcare).
- **Duration:** Minimum **3 months**, maximum **6 months**.
- **Eligibility:**
 - Open to **independent scientists and team leaders** worldwide.
 - The applicant must remain employed by their home institute during the sabbatical.
 - Fellowship funding can complement other external funding sources.

Application Process:

1. **Collaborate with an EMBL host group/team leader** to plan the visit.
2. Submit the application form, including:
 - CV
 - Letter of support from the home institution (confirming salary payment during sabbatical).
 - Proposed sabbatical plan (completed in collaboration with the EMBL host).
3. Application submission by the EMBL host via Talentlink.

Timeline:

- **Applications Open:** October 1, 2024
- **Application Deadline:** December 31, 2024
- **Decisions Announced:** January 2025
- **Sabbatical Start Date:** Any time in 2025

Expectations for Fellows:

- Present **an introductory seminar** and **an exit seminar** reflecting on the sabbatical.
- Submit a **2-page report** summarizing outcomes and experiences.
- Complete a feedback survey to help improve the fellowship program.

Additional Benefits:

- Access to EMBL's state-of-the-art core facilities, scientific events, and social activities.
- Support for logistics, including visa arrangements and childcare options (if requested in advance).

For further details and application guidance, visit the EMBL Sabbatical Fellowship page or [contact](#) the **Scientific Visitor Programme team**

Apply Now!



EMBL Corporate Partnership Programme Fellowships

The EMBL Corporate Partnership Programme Fellowships provide an exceptional opportunity for **PhD students and postdoctoral researchers** to collaborate with EMBL research groups across its six sites. This program offers **flexible co-funding**, enabling junior researchers to advance their projects, build new networks, and access EMBL's state-of-the-art technologies.

Key Details:

- **Funding Amount:** Up to **€4,000**, reimbursed for travel and accommodation costs (with receipts).
- **Duration:** Minimum **1 month**, maximum **6 months**.
- **Eligible Locations:** EMBL sites in **Barcelona, Grenoble, Hamburg, Heidelberg, Hinxton, and Rome**.
- **Eligibility:**
 - Open to PhD students and postdocs employed at their home institution.
 - First visit to EMBL.
 - Applications must be submitted **prior to the visit**.
- **Deadlines:** Applications are open year-round, with quarterly deadlines:
 - **March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31.**

Application Process:

1. Submit a **completed application form** (via Talentlink).
2. Attach an **updated CV** (indexed in ORCID).
3. Include a **confirmation and recommendation letter** from the EMBL host group leader.
4. Provide a **support letter** from the home institute supervisor.

Benefits for Awardees:

- Gain **invaluable training** and exposure to EMBL's international research environment.
- Foster **new collaborations** and build lasting professional networks.
- Note: A **short activity report** is required post-visit.

For more information and to apply, visit the Scientific Visitor Programme website or contact the **EMBL team**.

Apply Now!

Institut Pasteur Junior Research Group Call 2025



The Institut Pasteur invites **outstanding junior scientists** to establish **new research groups** in Paris, focusing on cutting-edge, transdisciplinary approaches in the following areas:

- **Vaccinology and immunotherapies**
- **Infectious diseases** (antimicrobial resistance, medicinal chemistry, and chemical biology)
- **Neuro-immunology and neurodevelopment**
- **Maternal and child health** (immunology, infection, pregnancy, development)
- **Artificial Intelligence methodologies** to advance biology and health sciences

Why Join Institut Pasteur?

Located in **central Paris**, the Institut Pasteur offers:

- A **vibrant research environment** with state-of-the-art laboratories.
- Access to **core facilities** and global collaborations through the international Pasteur Network.

Offer Includes:

- **Institutional salaries** for principal investigators, technicians, and postdocs.
- **Substantial funding** for equipment and running costs.
- Access to **advanced core facilities**.
- **Relocation and administrative support**.

Eligibility:

- **2–12 years of post-PhD experience** (extended to 14–16 years for primary caretakers).
- Candidates with questions about eligibility can **contact Institut Pasteur via email**.

Timeline:

- **Application Deadline: February 28, 2025, 4:00 pm CET.**
- **Shortlist Notification: March 10, 2025.**
- **Interviews: March 31–April 4, 2025.**
- **Final Decision: June 3–4, 2025.**
- **Offers Extended: Late June 2025.**

Role Details:

Selected candidates will lead a team of six members for an initial **five-year term**, with the opportunity to compete for full group status. For further details and to apply, visit the Institut Pasteur website.

Institut Pasteur
Website



The Sanger Prize Competition 2025

The **Sanger Prize** offers an exceptional opportunity for undergraduate students from **low- and middle-income countries** to participate in a **three-month fully funded internship** at the Wellcome Sanger Institute. The prize covers all essential expenses, including **travel, accommodation, and research costs**, enabling the winner to work in a genomics lab and gain hands-on experience.

Eligibility

Applicants must:

- Be from a **low- or middle-income country** ([eligible countries](#)).
- Be **undergraduate students** currently enrolled in a course with a **genomics element**.
- Demonstrate **active interest** in genomics research.
- Have a **good command of English** (no certificate required).
- Be **over 18 years old** at the time of applying.
- Submit **two academic references** by the deadline.

Key Dates

- **Application deadline: 5 pm** (UK time), **Friday 10th January 2025** (submit early to avoid technical issues).
- **Reference submission deadline: 5 pm** (UK time), **Friday 17th January 2025.**
- Shortlisted candidates notified: **March 2025.**
- Second stage: **Essay submission** for shortlisted candidates in **March–April 2025.**
- Winner announced: **May 2025.**

Application Process

Complete the **application form** (in English) via the Sanger Prize portal.

It includes:

- **Personal details**
- **Expression of interest** (400–500 words, addressing interest and knowledge in genomics)
- **Details of referees** (ensure they are available to submit references on time)
- **Curriculum vitae** (CV) (max. 2 pages, in PDF format preferred)

Ensure all information is correct before submission; **submitted forms cannot be amended.**

Save a copy of your **Expression of Interest** and all details in case of issues during submission.

About the Internship

- Winner selects a **faculty host and lab** (subject to availability).
- Internship must be completed within one year of award (exceptions made for travel restrictions).
- Visa, travel, and accommodation assistance provided by the Wellcome Sanger Institute.

For full details, visit the Sanger Prize webpage or contact [via Mail](#).

[More Information](#)



ESCMID CAREer Grant

The ESCMID CAREer Grant provides financial support to researchers in **Clinical Microbiology (CM)** and **Infectious Diseases (ID)**, enabling them to balance family care responsibilities with their professional work. Instead of directly funding the applicant, the grant covers the salary of a **scientific/technical staff member or assistant**, helping to alleviate workload.

Key Details:

- **Funding Amount:** Covers 20% of the recipient's gross salary, up to **€20,000 per year** for a maximum of **two consecutive years**.
- **Eligibility:**
 - Applicants must be an **ESCMID member** (Full, LMIC, or Young Scientist Member).
 - Applicants must work in **academia, public/private hospitals, or primary healthcare units**.
 - Eligible fields: **Clinical Microbiology, Infectious Diseases, or Infection Control**.
 - Must have at least one child under **5 years old** or other family care responsibilities.
 - Must plan to **reduce workload by 20%** or already work **part-time (≤ 80%)** due to caregiving duties.
- **Application Deadline:** 15 January, Applications reviewed and **notifications sent by mid-March**.

[More Information](#)



Leprosy Research Initiative (LRI) Calls for Proposals

The Leprosy Research Initiative (LRI) has announced two exciting new calls for research proposals, presenting valuable funding opportunities for researchers and institutions within the FESTMIH network

and beyond. These calls aim to support impactful research projects addressing critical areas in the fight against leprosy and other neglected tropical diseases (NTDs).

Call 1: RESILIENTD – Social Determinants of Health in Skin NTDs

- **Focus:** Investigating the social determinants of health in the context of skin-related NTDs, with a specific emphasis on Sub-Saharan Africa.
- **Collaboration:** Supported by the Anesvad Foundation.
- **Goal:** To promote resilience and health equity by addressing key social challenges linked to skin NTDs.

Call 2: Research Capacity Strengthening

- **Target Audience:** Early-career researchers affiliated with institutions involved in leprosy research.
- **Objective:** To build research capacity and foster the next generation of leprosy researchers.

Key Details

- **Submission Deadline for Letters of Intent:** January 24, 2025.
- **Application Process:** Detailed information and application guidelines can be found [here](#).

Why Apply?

These funding opportunities aim to advance research that directly contributes to improving the lives of those affected by leprosy and related NTDs. Whether you're an established researcher or in the early stages of your career, these grants provide a unique chance to address pressing challenges in global health.

LRI



NTDs and how to control them

The Global NTD Programme at WHO is coordinating the creation of a **Research & Development (R&D) Blueprint for Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs)**. This initiative aims to identify and prioritize R&D needs across all WHO-listed NTDs to guide health ministries, researchers, funders, and partner organizations.

We are seeking **contributors** from the following categories:

- **National NTD programme staff**
- **NGO staff**
- **NTD researchers** of all kinds
- **Clinicians**
- **NTD funders**
- **People affected by NTDs**

If you have relevant experience or expertise, we invite you to contribute. Your insights will help shape the global NTD R&D agenda.

Key Information:

- The **Blueprint** will address diseases such as schistosomiasis, leishmaniasis, dengue, and many more.
- It will include **basic, clinical, social science, and epidemiological research**, as well as **health product development** and **operational research**.
- Contributions will be gathered through **online forms** between late 2024 and early 2025.

Timeline:

- **Activity 1:** Recruit contributors (September 18 – December 2, 2024)
- **Activity 2:** Collect research ideas (December 2 – December 30, 2024)
- **Activity 3:** Consolidate/curate ideas (December 2, 2024 – January 31, 2025)

- **Activity 4:** Score research questions (February 3 – February 24, 2025)
- **Activity 5:** Analyze and write-up (February 3 – March 28, 2025)

Get Involved:

Visit the multilingual website [here](#) (available in English, French, and Chinese; additional languages coming soon). Contributors can choose to be recognized as **co-authors** in resulting publications. Join us in driving meaningful change and improving the lives of those affected by NTDs. **Your voice matters!**

[More Information](#)



grow-Platform

The grow platform is a comprehensive resource for professionals in global health, offering centralized access to funding opportunities tailored to the field. Whether you're a researcher, practitioner, or advocate, **grow** connects you to grants, fellowships, and financial resources that can support your projects and initiatives.

What does grow offer?

- A **searchable database** of funding opportunities, including research grants, fellowships, travel awards, and more.
- A focus on programs that support **global health initiatives** across various disciplines, from infectious disease research to capacity building in low-resource settings.
- Resources and insights to help organizations post their funding opportunities, reaching a global audience of professionals.

Who is it for?

grow is designed for individuals and institutions working in global health, including:

- Researchers seeking funding for studies in global health and public health.
- Healthcare professionals looking for educational grants or fellowships.
- Organizations aiming to fundraise or promote their initiatives in underserved regions.

[More Information](#)

Upcoming Events



16th Malaria Meeting

 **Date:** April 3–4, 2025

 **Location:** Institute of Tropical Medicine, Tübingen, Germany

Join the **16th Malaria Meeting**, supported by the **DTG**, **DZIF**, and **PEG**, to present and discuss the **full spectrum of malaria research**. This event provides a unique platform for researchers to share their

work with an **international audience** and receive feedback from **malaria experts**.

Key Details:

- **Abstract Submission Deadline:** January 15, 2025
- **Registration:** Open now, with **reduced fees** for DTG/PEG members and students.
- **Capacity:** Only **200 spots available** – register early to secure your place!

For more information and to register, visit the **event webpage**.

Webpage



International Conference on Neglected Tropical Diseases (InCORNTD)

 **Date:** January 20–22, 2025

 **Location:** Kigali, Rwanda

The **2nd International Conference on Neglected Tropical Diseases (InCORNTD)**, hosted by the **Coalition for Operational Research on NTDs (COR-NTD)** and the **African Research Network for NTDs (ARNTD)**, will bring together key stakeholders to address NTD elimination through operational and targeted research. Topics include diagnostics, elimination strategies, and innovative tools for combating diseases like schistosomiasis, onchocerciasis, trachoma, and lymphatic filariasis.

Key Highlights:

Innovation Lab: Showcase your new tools, technologies, or strategies for NTD programs.

Kyelem Prize: Celebrate excellence in NTD research.

Registration:

Registration is open for African colleagues. Invitations will be issued in two waves, prioritizing African NTD stakeholders and subsequently global participants. Apply for an invitation via the [InCORNTD event page](#). Don't miss this opportunity to contribute to the global effort in NTD elimination.

More Information

ECTMIH 2025
ECTMIH-News December



Dear All,

As we wrap up the year, we're excited to bring you the latest updates on **ECTMIH 2025**!

Deadline Extended: Call for Organized Sessions

Great news! The deadline for submitting proposals for **Organized Sessions** has been extended to **15th January 2025**. This is your opportunity to contribute to shaping the **ECTMIH 2025 program** by sharing your innovative ideas and themes. Don't miss this chance to be part of our dynamic agenda! Submit your proposals [here](#).

Call for Abstracts is Open

We're delighted to announce that the **Call for Abstracts** is officially open and will remain so until **15th February 2025**. Researchers, practitioners, and students are encouraged to share their work with the global **tropical medicine and international health community**. Find detailed instructions and submit your abstracts [here](#).

Stay Updated

To keep up with all the latest news, resources, and announcements, make sure to subscribe to our [newsletter](#).

Thank you for your continued support in making **ECTMIH 2025** a success. We look forward to your submissions and to welcoming you to this exciting global event!

Warm regards,

Prof. Jürgen May,

Prof. Marylyn Addo, Prof.

Cornelia Betsch,

Prof. Michael Ramharter



Call for Organized Sessions: Deadline Extended

The submission deadline for **Organized Sessions** has been extended to **January 15, 2025**. Sessions should align with the **overall conference theme** and fit within one of the seven scientific tracks:

1. **Interfaces:** Immunology and Interaction
2. **Emerging Infections:** Pandemics and Control
3. **Tropical Medicine:** Diseases and Care
4. **One Health:** Approaches and Solutions
5. **International Health:** Travel and Migration
6. **Vulnerable Populations:** Poverty and Neglect
7. **Non-Communicable Diseases:** Challenges and Society

Cross-Cutting Themes:

- Climate and Environmental Changes
- Equality / Equity
- Behavioral Research and Implementation
- Digital Innovations

Session Guidelines:

- Sessions must not exceed **90 minutes**, including presentations and discussions.
- All proposals will undergo **scientific peer review**, with results announced by the end of January 2025.
- Speakers and organizers are required to pay the registration fee and cover session costs.

For more details and to submit your proposal, visit the **ECTMIH 2025 website**.

Contact:

Conventus Congressmanagement & Marketing GmbH

Email

ECTMIH 2025: Meeting Space Reservations

Planning to hold a meeting during **ECTMIH 2025**? Secure your space at the **Congress Center Hamburg (CCH)** from **Monday, September 29 to Thursday, October 2, 2025**, between **8:00 AM and 8:00 PM (CET)**.

Meeting Space Options & Fees:

- **Small (< 10 persons)** - Half Day: **€300**, Full Day: **€500**
- **Medium (< 20 persons)** - Half Day: **€600**, Full Day: **€800**
- **Large (< 100 persons)** - Half Day: **€1000**, Full Day: **€1500**

Key Guidelines:

- Space is allocated **on a first-come, first-served basis** and confirmed after payment.
- Rental covers **room costs only**; additional arrangements (e.g., catering, audio-visual equipment) must be coordinated directly with CCH and vendors. Orders must be placed by **August 11, 2025**.
- **Cancellation Policy:** €150 fee for cancellations made by **August 15, 2025**. No refunds for cancellations after this date.
- Space will be held for 30 days without payment. If payment is not received, the reservation will be released.

How to Reserve:

- Download the **Meeting Space Reservation Form** (PDF, 2 MB).
- Complete the form and send it to this **email**

Contact Information:

For any questions, please reach out to the **Meeting Space Team**

Digital



Global Health Matters - Podcast

Can we eliminate malaria? Perspectives from two women leaders

Malaria remains one of the most formidable global health challenges, especially in Africa, which accounts for **94% of global malaria cases and deaths**. Despite significant progress—43 countries have successfully eliminated malaria, with Cabo Verde joining the ranks of malaria-free nations in 2024—Africa continues to bear the brunt of this disease. To explore the path toward malaria elimination, the **Global Health Matters** podcast hosted by **Garry Aslanyan** brings together two visionary African women leaders: **Francine Ntoumi** and **Corine Karema**.

The Guests: Pioneers in Malaria Elimination

Francine Ntoumi

- Founder, President, and Executive Director of the Congolese Foundation for Medical Research in the Republic of the Congo.
- Former leader of the Multilateral Initiative on Malaria, breaking ground as its first African leader.

Corine Karema

- Director of Malaria, NTDs, and Global Health at Quality & Equity HealthCare in Rwanda.
- Former Director of the Rwanda National Malaria Control Programme and Interim CEO of the Roll Back Malaria Partnership.

Together, they share their insights on tackling malaria through innovative strategies, local solutions, and global collaboration.

Key Highlights from the Episode

Challenges in Africa:

Both leaders emphasize that structural inequities, limited access to healthcare, and evolving malaria resistance make elimination efforts particularly challenging in Africa.

Opportunities and Innovations:

- Strengthening health systems to address malaria alongside other diseases.
- Scaling up new tools, such as vaccines and insecticide-treated bed nets.
- Leveraging community engagement to promote sustainable interventions.

The Role of Women in Malaria Elimination:

Francine and Corine stress the importance of empowering women in leadership roles to drive impactful change in malaria control and broader global health initiatives.

A Glimpse into the Future

When asked whether malaria can ever be eliminated, the leaders remain cautiously optimistic. They highlight the need for continued investment in research, data-driven approaches, and partnerships that prioritize equity and innovation. While progress is evident, the road ahead requires persistence and a commitment to long-term solutions.

Listen to the Episode

This compelling discussion is available on **Apple Podcasts**, **Spotify**, and **YouTube**. [Click here to listen now.](#)

Stay Updated

Subscribe to the **Global Health Matters** podcast newsletter to stay informed about the latest discussions on pressing global health challenges.

Podcast

We hope you've enjoyed the recent editions of our newsletter and found them valuable. As we step into December 2024, we send our warmest holiday wishes to all our readers and contributors at FESTMIH. May this festive season bring you cherished moments with your loved ones, good health, happiness, and renewed inspiration for the year ahead.

The "News of the Month" remains your trusted source for updates and opportunities in our field, published on the 15th of each month. Please submit your contributions by the 10th as we continue to

foster collaboration in global research.

Wishing you a joyful holiday season and a successful start to the New Year!

Would you like to contribute to the **News of the Month** or contact us? Please feel free to send us an **email**.



With the 'News of the Month' we try to communicate relevant information in the field of FESTMIH and also cover interdisciplinary topics. We would like to know how the News of the Month has been received and if there is **anything we can improve**.

Feedback is **anonymous**, so no personal details will be included.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the FESTMIH secretariat.

Give us Feedback



FESTMIH

<https://www.festmih.eu/>

[E-Mail](#)