

EU support for Global Health R&I

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE FP9



IMPROVED HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF THE PEOPLE IS THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF RESEARCH

the European Commission's Scientific Panel for Health¹



Today one billion people worldwide are affected by poverty-related and neglected diseases (PRNDs), including major diseases like HIV&AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, and a range of neglected infectious diseases. PRNDs impose an unacceptable moral and health burden on individuals and societies, costing lives and hampering human and economic development.

Major product- and research-gaps persist, as there are limited market incentives for the private sector to invest in new or improved tools to fight PRNDs. Where treatments exist, many are losing their effectiveness as PRNDs are developing drug resistance, making infections harder and more costly to treat. Already today, globally, around one third of deaths caused by antimicrobial infections are due to drug-resistant tuberculosis.



1.

A DEDICATED PARTNERSHIP INSTRUMENT FOR PRND R&I

➤ **Impactfully addressing PRNDs through FP9 will require a dedicated R&I partnership instrument** building on the success of the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP). EDCTP, as a mission-driven public-public partnership, is responding to societal challenges with a clearly needs-driven research agenda. The new instrument should have:

An ambitious budget not depending on matched funding from Participating States

An inclusive and transparent governance, safeguarding the equal partnership nature with sub-Saharan African states while enhancing public accountability and transparency in decision-making

Coordination mechanisms to improve alignment with Participating States activities and ensure coherence and institutionalised dialogue with other EU programmes

A flexible funding approach including portfolio funding, and the possibility to invest strategically (without Call for Proposals) in exceptional cases

A flexible and simple mechanism to partner with third parties (public and private) to facilitate co-funding and co-designing PRND R&I activities

Relaxed restrictions on the geographic locations of applicants to facilitate the participation of the most relevant actors and attract international expertise

¹ Cf. A vision for health and biomedical research from the Scientific Panel for Health, available at: http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/sites/horizon2020/files/SPH_Vision_Paper_27052016.pdf

2.

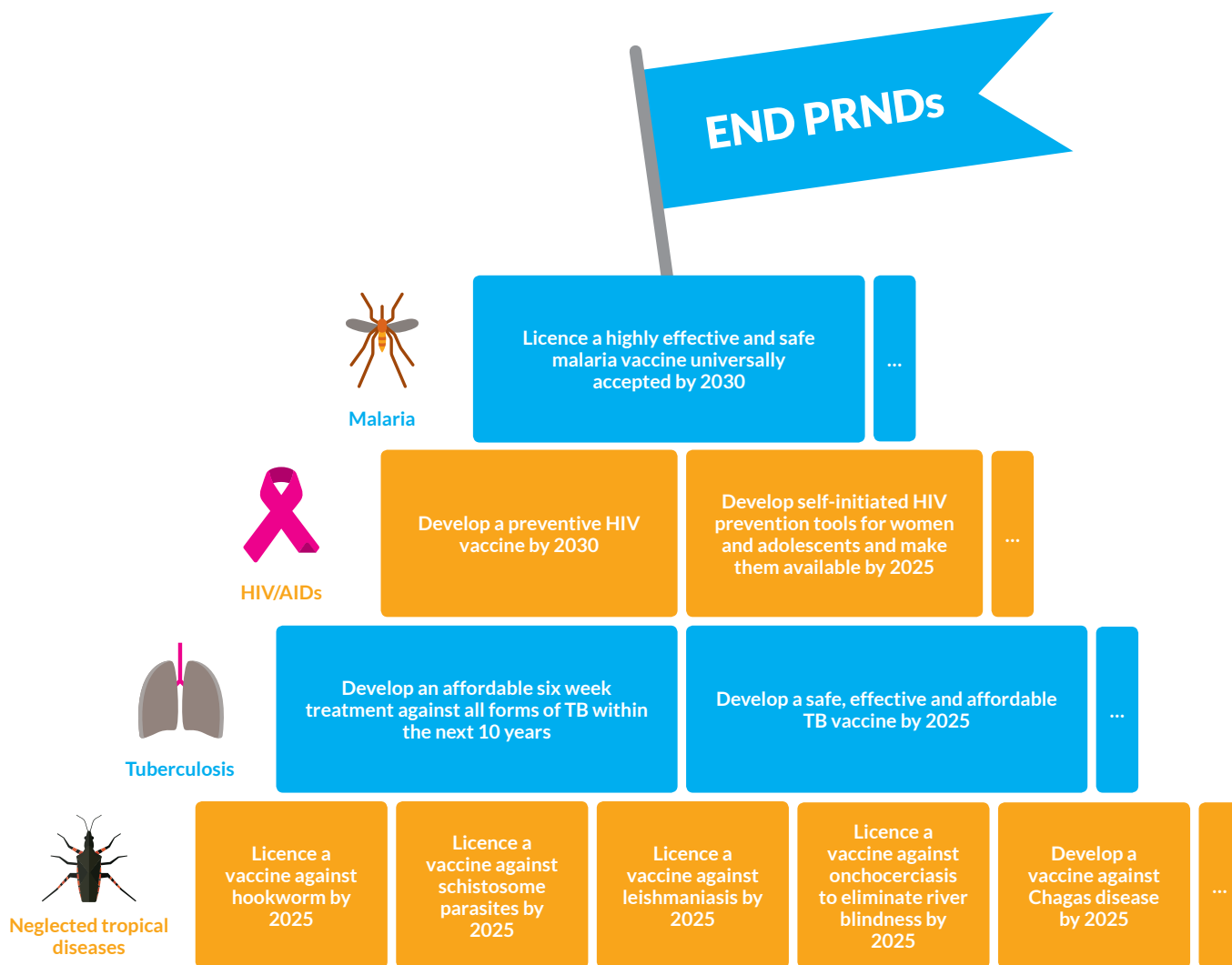
A GLOBAL MISSION FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION: END POVERTY-RELATED AND NEGLECTED DISEASES



Investing in PRND R&I saves lives, combats ongoing epidemics, can prevent future catastrophic outbreaks, delivers on the SDGs, and has a great economic return on investment for Europe, while creating quality jobs and driving scientific excellence.

R&I missions under FP9 should address societal challenges, be needs-driven, and include indicators to monitor societal impact. The required technological development should attract research and innovation activities that otherwise would likely not be undertaken by private actors, providing the justification and legitimacy for public intervention²

➤ A major PRND R&I mission with substantial funding of at least €1 billion should support all parts of the research and development chain, creating a new generation of candidates through basic research, supporting preclinical testing, clinical development, and other important elements of making new tools accessible to those in need.



² Cf. Mariana Mazzucato, 2018. Mission-Oriented Research & Innovation in the European Union, available at: https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/mazzucato_report_2018.pdf

3.

INCREASED AND IMPROVED SUPPORT TO GLOBAL HEALTH R&I UNDER FP9



➤ **Increase annual funding for PRND R&I** and establish a track and monitoring system to report the share of funding dedicated to PRND R&I



➤ **Develop a comprehensive vision and action plan for global health research and product development**

- To coordinate European programmes with national priorities
- To ensure that EU health research priority-setting is driven by global health needs
- To ensure a greater focus on disease areas where industry interest is limited and R&I relies on public funding



➤ **Ensure accessibility and affordability**

- **Include clear and sustainable access, suitability and affordability conditions** for health research projects
- **Support alternative biomedical innovation and financing models** that de-link the costs of R&I from product prices where possible, e.g. innovation prizes, not-for-profit product development partnerships, patent pools, etc.
- **Guarantee open access to research results**, and promote open access to research data, with strict criteria for derogations of open data requirements, to accelerate R&I and avoid duplication



➤ **Support promising products throughout the entire pipeline**, and ensure necessary mechanisms are in place to capitalise on successful previous R&I investments



➤ **Adopt a multi-stakeholders participatory approach**, by actively and meaningfully engaging civil society organisations at all levels to maximise societal impact

RECOMMENDATIONS SUPPORTED BY:



Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevölkerung (DSW) is a global development organisation that focuses on the needs and potential of the largest youth generation in history. We are committed to creating demand for and access to health information, services, supplies, and economic empowerment for youth. We achieve this by engaging in advocacy, capacity development, and reproductive health initiatives, so that young people are empowered to lead healthy and self-determined lives. With our headquarters in Hannover, Germany, DSW operates two liaison offices in Berlin and Brussels, as well as maintaining a strong presence in Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda.

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