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## European and Development Countries Clinical Trials Partnership EDCTP 2

**The European and Development Countries Clinical Trials Partnership is preparing for their second phase from 2014 to 2023. The programme is set to start at the beginning of 2014 under the EU's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme. Finland will also take part in the programme as a full member.**

### **Programme's content and aims will broaden**

EDCTP does remarkable work in relation to developing countries and global health politics. The programme focuses on researching the effectiveness of new medicines, vaccines and other products and treatments in preventing infectious diseases in the developing countries, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa.

The second phase of the programme will be based on the results gathered during the first phase. The aims and contents will broaden in a way that is interesting for Finland. The programme will include:

- clinical interventions, which examine the treatment and prevention of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other neglected infectious diseases;
- all phases of clinical research (I-IV);
- multidisciplinary research related to improving healthcare, including social and behavioural sciences and ethics; and
- enhancing cooperation among the industry and with other partners interested in product development and development cooperation.

EDCTP2 will also continue to strengthen activities and partnerships with African countries as well as integrate European programmes in the field.

### **Funding**

According to the latest information, the EU will contribute **648 million euros** and all participating countries will commit to the initiation phase of the programme with at least the same amount. This means that the total volume of funding would be nearly **1.3 billion euros** for 2014-2023. Other funders and the private sector are also expected to make significant contributions. Possible cooperation has been discussed with e.g. the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the European Investment Bank and with Canada and the United States.

### **Finnish researches can apply for funding in:**

- 1) The Calls for Proposals administered by the EDCT Secretariat, funded mainly by the Commission;
- 2) The Calls for Proposals initiated by the participating funding parties, in which each country covers the costs of research for their own researchers.

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In both cases the EDCTP2's agreed upon work plan and scientific goals will be realized. The work plan, which will be updated yearly, describes which activities will be realized and how with the available resources.

Differing from the general rules of Horizon 2020, the research projects must have **participants from at least 2 European countries and 1 sub-Saharan African country**. African partners can receive funding from the common pool of funding (and from national programmes, when applicable).

### **Preparing for cooperation at the Academy of Finland**

Finland did not participate in the first phase of the EDCTP programme as a full member, even though Finland was actively involved in designing the content and implementation of the programme at the beginning. Due to administrative obstacles, Finland could not ultimately join the programme, since at the time the Academy of Finland did not have the necessary jurisdiction to join the organization implementing the programme. This was later solved.

The Academy of Finland is prepared to fund the EDCTP2 programme with the maximum amount of 2 million euros during 2014-2023 (approx. 0.2 million euros per year). The funding is designed to be included in the Academy's development research funding and is meant to be used for the costs of research for Finnish researchers taking part in activities according to the common work plan.

### **Become involved**

EDCTP is a global actor with cooperation with other remarkable networks and public, as well as private, funding parties. EDCTP offers a new opportunity for taking part in large international projects, where one can create long-lasting relationships in international research cooperation and make use of a significant amount of funding, networks and research results.

A significant amount of funding in Horizon 2020 is allocated through the EDCTP, which should also be exploited by Finnish actors. As a full member, it is now possible for Finland to affect the programme's content and for Finnish researchers to network in the designing phase of the activities.

If you are interested in the EDCTP programme and wish to affect its content, contact the Academy of Finland's Sirpa Nuotio (details below) as soon as possible.

### **Further information:**

[www.edctp.org](http://www.edctp.org)

[www.edctp.org/Towards\\_EDCTP2.799.0.html](http://www.edctp.org/Towards_EDCTP2.799.0.html)

[Strategic Business Plan for EDCTP2](#) (October 2013)

Commission's [proposal 10.7.2013](#)

Sirpa Nuotio  
Academy of Finland  
[sirpa.nuotio@aka.fi](mailto:sirpa.nuotio@aka.fi),  
p. 029 533 5082