ICGEB

The ICGEB provides a centre of excellence for research, training and technology transfer in the field of biotechnology to promote sustainable global development

International Control Control for Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology

80+ Signatory States, 60+ Member States 3 Components: Trieste (Italy) – New Delhi (India) - CapeTown (South Africa) a network of 40+ Affiliated Centres

Developing knowledge



Ver. NOV19

ICGEB RRC CHINA China Medical City Taizhou

3000 square meters for three research Subject virology: vaccine research and development, biological drugs and diagnostics.





ICGEB mandate

- Promote international cooperation in biotechnology and applying peaceful uses of genetic engineering and biotechnology for the benefit of its member states
- **Assist** member states in strengthening their scientific and technological capacities in the fields of genetic engineering and biotechnology

ICGEB action

- 1) **Cutting-edge scientific research** in its laboratories in Trieste, New Delhi and Cape Town;
- 2) Technology transfer to industry in Member Countries for the production of biotherapeutics and diagnostics;
 - 3) Advanced scientific education for scientists from Member Countries at the doctoral and post-doctoral level;
- 4) Organisation of Meetings, Courses and Workshops;
- 5) Competitive research grants for scientists in Member Countries, including Early Career Return Grants;
 - Provision of technical assistance and capacity enhancement in the regulation of biotechnology and its products.

1. Infectious Diseases (11 Groups)

2. Non-Communicable Diseases (16 Groups)

VIROLOGY

Alessandro Marcello (TS) Sujatha Sunil (ND) Anmole Chandele (ND) Oscar Burrone (TS)



PARASITIC DISEASES Frank Brombacher (CT) Pawan Malhotra (ND) Asif Mohmmed (ND) Renu Tuteja (ND) Dinkar Sahal (ND) Amit Sharma (ND) Neel Sarovar Bhavesh (ND)







CARDIOVASCULAR DISORDERS Mauro Giacca (TS)

Serena Zacchigna (TS) Francesco Loffredo (TS)





NEUROBIOLOGY Emanuele Buratti (TS) Fabian Feiguin (TS)



IMMUNOLOGY Dinakar Salunke (ND) Federica Benvenuti (TS) Dhiraj Kumar (ND)



CANCER

Lawrence Banks (TS)

Luiz Zerbini (CT) Dimitar Efremov (TS)

Mike Myers (TS)



Francisco Baralle (TS) Andrés Muro (TS) Franco Pagani (TS)









1. Infectious Diseases 2. Non-Communicable Diseases (11 Groups) (16 Groups) VIROLOGY CARDIOVASCULAR MOLECULAR **IMMUNOLOGY** Dinakar Salunke (ND) GENETICS HIV Regeneration Baralle (TS) Dendritic cells and cancer ro (TS) HPV, HCV Angiogenesis gani (TS) Antibody engineering Dengue, Zika Cardiac hypertrophy EASES **Tick-borne encephalitis** Ageing **Splicing variants in ALS** (CT) Chikungunya ND) Gene therapy of **Rotavirus Crigler-Najjar** Amit Sharma (ND) **Syndrome** Neel Sarovar Bhavesh (ND) AAV vectors NEUROBIOLOGY CANCER Malaria Emanuele Buratti (TS) Lawrence Banks (TS) **Trypanosomiasis** Luiz Zerbini (CT) TDP43 Cervical carcinoma, HPV Leishmaniosis **Neurodegeneration** Chronic lymphocytic leukemia Helminthic infections Prostate cancer



3. Medical Biotechnology (3)

BIOSIMILAR DRUGS Nataša Skoko (TS)

Biosimilars Recombinant antibodies





Dengue vaccine Diagnostics both serology and molecular 4. Industrial Biotechnology (7)

BIOFUELS AND INDUSTRIAL BIOTECHNOLOGY Syed Shams Yazdani (ND) Naseem Gaur (ND) Pavan Jutur (ND) Shireesh Srivastava (ND) Shashi Kumar Rhode (ND) Dinesh Gupta (ND) Giuliano Degrassi (Buenos Aires)



Biofuels Microalgae Cellulases, xylanases Bioremediation



5. Plant Biology & Biotechnology (8)

CROP IMPROVEMENT M.K. Reddy (ND) Tanushri Kaul (ND)

S. Leelavathi (ND)

Vittorio Venturi (T5)

ABICTIC STRESS Sumh Nair (ND) Neeti Sanan-Milawa (ND) Sneh Lata Singla-Pawek (ND) Demi-Obonyo Ndolo (CT)

BIOTIC AND





Crop improvement by CRISPR/Cas9 Insect and virus resistance Plant-associated bacteria Salinity, drought resistance

Infectious disease publications' highlights 2019



RESEARCH ARTICLE

The HPV-18 E7 CKII phospho acceptor site is required for maintaining the transformed phenotype of cervical tumour-derived cells

Om Basukala[®], Suruchi Mittal, Paola Massimi[®], Marco Bestagno[®], Lawrence Banks[®]*

International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Trieste, Italy



Posttranscriptional Regulation of HIV-1 Gene Expression during Replication and Reactivation from Latency by Nuclear Matrix Protein MATR3

Ambra Sarracino,^a Lavina Gharu,^a* Anna Kula,^{b,c} Alexander O. Pasternak,^d Veronique Avettand-Fenoel,^e Christine Rouzioux,^e Maryana Bardina,^a Stéphane De Wit,^f Monsef Benkirane,^g Ben Berkhout,^d Carine Van Lint,^b ⁶

Impact of research in 2019: >200 publications

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Technology Transfer: Vaccines & Infectious Disease

Sun Pharma and ICGEB to develop novel dengue vaccine

Sun Pharma and ICGEB signed an agreement to develop a vaccine targeted against all four serotypes of dengue virus

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10					Subscribe to our newsletter.	
Arijit Paladhi				0	\sim	



Sun Pharma and ICGEB had, in May, announced another partnership for development of a

Patents

 Dengue subunit vaccine quadrivalent candidate DSV against all four DENV serotypes (PCT/IB2015/056352 – Khanna N. et al.)

- Anti dengue activity of *Cissampelos pariera* extracts (PCT/IB2010/050299 - Bhatnager, P.K. et al.)

Home BioTech Novavax, CPL Biologicals, ICGEB join hands for malaria research

India 20 July 2012 News By BioSpectrum Bureau

Novavax, CPL Biologicals, ICGEB join hands for malaria research

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World politics Business & finance Economics Science & technology Culture

Do you yield?

Growing anti-malaria drugs in tobacco plants

How to increase the supply of artemisinin

Oct 22nd 2016

💽 Timekeeper 🛛 🗸 Like

462

😏 Tweet



ONE of the most valuable weapons in the war on malaria is artemisinin, a drug of from the leaves of sweet wormwood. Its discovery, inspired by wormwood's use



ICGEB - Diagnostic kits





ICGEB - Diagnostic kits





POC testing for resource-limited settings

"Accurate diagnostics have the potential to affect health care decisions to a degree well out of proportion to their cost. It has been estimated that diagnostics account only 2% of the cost of health care, but affect 60-70% of treatment decisions. In resourcelimited settings, the impact of diagnostic tests that can be provided at the immediate point-of-care (a point-of-care test, or POCT) is potentially even greater, because the alternative to a POCT may be no diagnostic support at all".

Bringing the lab to the patient: developing POC diagnostics for resource-limited settings. A report from the American Academy of Microbiology (2011).



WHO criteria for the ideal diagnostic test ASSURED: Affordable, Sensitive, Specific, User-friendly, Rapid and Robust, Equipment-free (or minimal) and Deliverable to end users.

www.who.int and Mabey et al. Diagnostics in the developing world. Nature Reviews in Microbiology (2004)

FLAVIPOC: development of a label-free bio-CHIP for antigen and antibody detection



BURLO

A mobile smartphone-based prototype: Docking station with no active components. All operations are performed by the smartphone hardware (LED, CCD, Wi-Fi connection) and software (image acquisition ,data analysis, user interface).

FLAVIPOC Regional Project from the Regione Friuli FVG (PAR FSC 2007-2013) in collaboration with Euroclone SpA, ICGEB, University of Trieste, CBM and Burlo Garofolo Children Hospital.

Tagliabue et al. A label-free immunoassay for Flavivirus detection by the Reflective Phantom Interface technology. BBRC 2017.

ZIDECHIP: development of a miniaturized portable RT PCR device for the symultaneus detection of Zika, Dengue and Chikungunya



ZIDECHIP Regional Project from the Regione Friuli in collaboration with Alifax SpAI and Laboratori Riuniti Trieste Srl.

"Data gaps undermine our ability to target resources, develop policies and track accountability. Without good data, we're flying blind. If you can't see it, you can't solve it" Kofi Annan, UN

AIM

Establishment of a reference laboratory for Arbovirus infection surveillance at the WHO National Polio Laboratory, University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital, Borno State, NIGERIA (Head: Professor Marycelin M. Baba)

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Collaboration (ICGEB CRP Grant) on the biotechnology transfer of virological assays for Arbovirus surveillance (IgM/IgG ELISA, RT-PCR, PRNT);

- Exchange of knowhow and researchers (ICGEB ST Fellowships);

- Survey of Arbovirus sero-prevalence in suspected febrile Malaria and Typhoid patients in Nigeria;









REFERENCES

Baba, M et al. Virological point-of-care testing for the developing world. Future Virology, 9(6), 595-603 (2014). Baba, M et al. Evidence of arbovirus co-infection in suspected febrile malaria and typhoid patients in Nigeria. J Infect Dev Ctries 7, 51-9 (2013).

Baba, M et al. A survey for neutralizing antibodies to the three types of poliovirus among children in Maiduguri, Nigeria. J Med Virol 84, 691-6 (2012).

Biotechnology transfer

The transfer of technologies is one of the most relevant activities of ICGEB. Over 70 agreements have been concluded with industrial partners located in Argentina, Brazil, China, Cuba, Egypt, India, Iran, Pakistan, Russia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Syria, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela.

The procedure to transfer ICGEB technologies foresees the finalization of a Technology Transfer Agreement, which usually provides for a period of training in the ICGEB laboratories by a number of industrial partners' employees, a supply of genetically modified strains and the protocols for the production, purification and quality control of a specific biotechnological product.

Products

Recombinant Human Erythropoietin Recombinant Human Interferon $\alpha 2a$ Recombinant Granulocyte Colony Stimulating Factor Recombinant Human Insulin Recombinant Human β Interferon 1B Recombinant Pegylated Human Interferon $\alpha 2a$ Recombinant Pegylated Granulocyte Colony Stimulating Factor Recombinant Hepatitis B Surface Antigen (R-HBsAg)

New development: monoclonal antibodies





Monoclonal antibodies

Monoclonal antibodies for cancer treatment such as trastuzumab (Herceptin)

Monoclonal antibodies for the treatment of acute viral infections:

ZMapp, an antibody tested during the Ebola outbreak in West Africa from 2014 to 2016.

M 102.4, developed by Australian researches, which can neutralize the effects of the Nipah and Hendra viruses. Obtained for emergency use during last outbreak in Kerala, India (2018).

REGN-EB3, is a cocktail of three monoclonal antibodies against Ebola developedby Regeneron Pharmaceuticals of Tarrytown, New York.

mAB114, is derived from a single antibody recovered from the blood of a person who survived Ebola in the DRC in 1995 developed by the US National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID).

REGN-EB3 and **mAB114** are currently being tested in the last Ebola outbreak with superior activity over **Zmapp or the antiviral** drug Remdesivir.



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ICGEB training

The Arturo Falaschi ICGEB Fellowship Program offers long and short-term fellowships for scientists who are nationals of ICGEB Member States to perform research in Trieste, New Delhi or Cape Town.

ICGEB PhD: aim at the *Doctor Philosophia*e (PhD) degree in the life sciences. The title is awarded through a number of academic institutions of international standing: The Open University (UK), the International School for Advanced Studies (SISSA) in Trieste, the Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi and the University of Cape Town in South Africa.

ICGEB postdoc: to highly motivated scientists wishing to pursue postdoctoral research in ICGEB laboratories.

Short-term fellowships: for Pre-doctoral and Postdoctoral studies in ICGEB laboratories to fund ongoing collaborative research between scientists from ICGEB Member States and research groups at ICGEB, with the aim of facilitating access to the latest research techniques and to strengthen capacity building.

Scientific Mobility for Advanced Research Training (SMART): to promote the mobility of researchers between ICGEB Member States (i.e. South-South collaborations).

ICGEB-DIC-MOST International Fellowship Program offers competitive short-term Fellowships Life Sciences to highly motivated scientists from ICGEB Member States wishing to pursue postgraduate research in China.







The Arturo Falaschi Fellowship Programme **Postdoctoral Fellowships**



ICGEB offers competitive Postdoctoral Fellowships in Life Sciences to highly motivated scientists wishing to pursue post-doctoral research in a world-class scientific environment.

The Fellowships comprise a very competitive package including stipend, travel provision, health insurance and additional benefits.

The most successful fellows will also be eligible to apply for ICGEB Early Career Research Grants to support their own research programmes as young Pls upon return to an ICGEB Member State.

Closing dates for applications:

31 March and 30 September 2019

Nationals from ICGEB Member States are encouraged to apply Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi,

www.icgeb.org/fellowships.html

Information and Applications: ICGEB CRP & Fellowships Unit 17 Loc. Padriciano, 99 - 34149 Trieste, ITALY Tel.: +39-040-3757382/7347 Q Email: Fellowships@icgeb.org | www.icgeb.org





ICGEB offers competitive PhD Fellowships in Life Sciences to highly motivated scientists wishing to pursue PhD research studies in a world-class scientific environment.

Fellowships include:

- Participation in a competitive research programme
- Access to state-of-the-art-facilities
- Participation in ICGEB Meetings, Seminars and Journal Clubs
- A competitive stipend, travel provision plus full coverage of tuition fees and health insurance

Closing date for application: 31 March 2019

Nationals from ICGEB Member States are encouraged to apply Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cate Divoire, Croatia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, PYR Macedonia, Hungary, India, Iran, Inag, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kynyzstan, Liberia, Libya, Malaysia, Mauritus, Mexico, Montenegoro, Morocco, Namilia, Nigeria, Pakitan, Pannam, Peru, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia lovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Na

www.icgeb.org/fellowships.html

 Information and Applications: ICGEB CRP & Fellowships Unit ш 5 Loc. Padriciano, 99 - 34149 Trieste, ITALY Tel: +39-040-3757382/7347 Email: Fellowships@icgeb.org | www.icgeb.org



International Centre for Genetic **Engineering and Biotechnology**



International Fellowship Programme in Life Sciences

The ICGEB-DIC-MOST International Fellowship Programme (IFP) offers competitive Short-term Fellowships in Life Sciences to highly motivated scientists from eligible ICGEB Member States* wishing to pursue postgraduate research in China. The Programme supports the mobility of researchers to prestigious Chinese laboratories for a period of 6 or 12 months, to benefit from the expertise and technologies available in the receiving laboratories. The IFP Call is managed by the China National Center for Biotechnology Development (CNCBD), with the support of the ICGEB.

Closing date for application: 30 September 2019

Nationals from eligible ICGEB Member States are encouraged to apply Algena, Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Hungary, India, Iran, Jordan, Kyrgystan, Júbya, Malaysia, Mexico, Montenergro, Morocco, Migeria, North Macedonia, Raman, Pakstan, Peur, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senka, Sovaka, Slovenia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay Venezuela, Viet Nam Nationals from China are not eligible to apply

https://www.icgeb.org/activities/fellowship/

Information and applications:

ICGEB CRP & Fellowships Unit Loc. Padriciano, 99 - 34149 Trieste, ITALY

Tel: +39-040-3757382/7347 Email: china.IFP@icgeb.org | www.icgeb.org





ICGEB International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology

Developing Knowledge

ICGEB Meetings and Courses 20

Call for Proposals

ICGEB provides support for the organisation of scientific events in the Life Sciences in ICGEB Member States.* Funding is available for Meetings, to be held in the three ICGEB Components (Trieste, Italy; New Delhi, India; Cape Town, South Africa); Workshops, co-sponsored by local organising institutes; Courses, providing theoretical and/or practical training. The "Future of Science" programme supports scientific events on currently hot scientific topics, with open communication to media and public. Sponsorship is also provided to scientific events relevant to the ICGEB mandate in the ICGEB Member States.

Closing date for applications: 28 February 2019

Scientific institutions located in **ICGEB Member States** are encouraged to apply

*Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte D'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Hungary, India, Iraq, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Libya, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovania, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

Information: ന



ICGEB Meetings and Courses Unit Loc. Padriciano, 99 - 34149 Trieste, ITALY Tel:+39-040-3757332/7333 Email: MeetingOrganisers@icgeb.org

1515

https://www.icgeb.org/activities/meeting-and-courses/



CGEB International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology

Developing Knowledge

Meetings and Courses 201

CGEB

Course "US imaging in cardiac and vascular medicine: from pre-clinical to clinical studies" in collaboration with Fujifilm VisualSonics (21-22 Feb) Course "Mouse genetics: models for human diseases" (25-28 Mar) Course "Flow cytometry: from basic principles to advanced Workshop "Trends in medicinal and applications - CytoFluo@ICGEB" pharma biotechnologies in Europe: (8-10 May) towards strengthening regional Course "Bioinformatics: computer methods in molecular and cooperation including CEE countries" systems biology" (3-4 Jun) (24-28 Jun) The Arturo Falaschi Conference Series 2019 "ICGEB DNA Tumour Virus Meeting - 50th Anniversary" (9-14 Jul) Workshop "Genome editing applications and beyond" Workshop "Modern Biotechnological (22-25 Oct) Advances for Human Health - BAHH" ICGEB Sponsored **ICGEB** Sponsored session **Event** "Power of (28-31 May) "Management of oral microbes in industry mucositis in oncological Workshop "Use of genome editing and other new breeding and environment ICGEB Sponsored Event patients " technologies for global food security" "Animal Models and **ICGEB-TRAIN** 2019" (29-30 Nov) (8-10 Apr) Workshop on "High preclinical research (15-18 May) ICGEB Sponsored Event "South-East Asia Region, ICGEBcontent imaging and (AniMod 2019)" IMBT Workshop on plant endophytes and their roles in data science for virtual (5-9 May) controlling plant health" screening **ICGEB** Sponsored Event (5-6 Nov) and drug discovery' 0 'Nuclear and (13-17 May) cytoplasmic Course "Cancer molecular machines bioinformatics: at work" **Course "Second Soil Microbial Ecology** genomics and Course"Development of enzymes and (8-10 Apr) International Course, an integrated microbial technologies for clean energy" transcriptomics (18-22 Feb) and functional view for its application in approach" Workshop "Plant stress biology and agriculture" (5-7 Mar) food security" (16-20 Sep) Course "Redox chemistry < ICGEB Sponsored Event (18-20 Apr) Course "Fluorescence Microscopy -**Course** "Bioinformatics applications and biology of thiols" Course"Hybridoma ANKA "Workshop on Drosophila to support the analysis of plant technology for FluoMicro@ICGEB" (18-28 Feb) melanogaster in African biotechnological research" monoclonal (2-4 Oct) biomedical research" (4-15 Mar) antibody (15-20 Sep) **ICGEB Sponsored Event "First** production: Course "Basic laboratory training 8 **Annual Meeting of the Peruvian** applications in Society of Biochemistry and on GMO analysis" immunodiagnostics" Molecular Biology - SPBBM 2019" (15-21 Sep) (7-14 Aug) (16-17 Jul) Workshop "Epigenetics of Course "Optics, forces & infectious and development" Course"Control mechanisms of gene non-communicable (25 Mar-5 Apr) expression in eukaryotic model diseases" **ICGEB Sponsored Event** organisms" "Molecular biosystems (22-26 Oct) (16-19 Sep) conference on eukaryotic gene ICGEB Sponsored Event "10th Meeting regulation and functional of the Latin American Society for genomics" **Developmental Biology - LASDB"** g (30 Sep-4 Oct) (28-31 Oct) http://www.icgeb.org/meetings-2019.html Santia



International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology

Developing Knowledge



ICGEB-JRC Workshop on

"Genome editing applications and beyond"

19-22 November 2019 | Trieste, ITALY

Meetings and Courses 2020

9-13 **November** Workshop "Emerging infectious diseases: biology, prevention and treatment" São Paulo, BRAZIL

In collaboration with:



Organisers: Sandra Coccuzzo (Instituto Butantan, São Paulo, Brazil) Rodrigo Calado (Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil)

International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology

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ICGEB Research Grants 2019

CRP - Collaborative Research Programme

ICGEB offers a dedicated source of **funding for outstanding projects** in ICGEB Member States, with the goal of promoting collaboration, training of young scientists and the development of research facilities.

The programme provides support for research activities in **basic life sciences**, **human healthcare**, **industrial** and **agricultural biotechnology** and **bioenergy**.

Applicants should hold positions at Universities or Research Institutes in any of the ICGEB Member States*

A new special category, Early Career **Return Grants**, funds young researchers, who have spent a minimum of 2 years abroad and who have recently returned to an ICGEB Member State to establish an independent laboratory.

Closing date for submission:

30 April 2019

ICGEB Member States

CGEA

Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte D'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Hungary, India, Iran, Iraq, Italy*, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Libya, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Moldova, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, North Macedonia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovania, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Vietnam, Zimbabwe.

Information and Submission:

ICGEB Research Grants - CRP & Fellowships Unit Loc. Padriciano, 99 - 34149 Trieste, ITALY Tel.: +39-040-3757382 Email: crp@icgeb.org

http://www.icgeb.org/research-grants.html



CRP – ICGEB Research Grants Ongoing Projects (73)



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ICGEB Capacity Building Project for sub-Saharan Africa

Assisting the development of effective safety and regulatory systems for the products of modern biotechnology in selected countries of sub-Saharan Africa (SSA)

A 4-year project focussing on enhancing the ability of regulatory authorities in SSA to regulate the development &/or commercialisation of the products of modern agro-biotechnology, by the formation of a solid bedrock of African expertise through which regulatory systems can be manned effectively and sustainably.

Project dedicated URL:

www.icgeb.org/biosafety/projectforSSA/abouttheproject.html



www.facebook.com/pages/ICGEB-Biosafety-Capacity-Building/166333846846436

BILL& MELINDA GATES foundation

eLearning portfolio





Currently – 7 modules https://showcase-icgeb.elearning.it/



- •Developed with funds from Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
 - •Adopted by 6 African Regulatory Offices
- •Transferring administration in SSA to AUDA-NEPAD
- •Can be offered in other projects

The purpose of this **Biosafety & Biosecurity Module** is to:

- Provide an introduction to features and approaches similar to both biosafety and biosecurity;

- Provide a fundamental understanding of biosecurity and why it is important;
- Help identify risks depending on the commodities and activities of a facility to help allocate resources for securing them;
- Provide an overview of the components of a biosecurity program;
- Provide an overview of the dual-use risks associated with modern microbiology;

Upon completing this **Biosafety & Biosecurity Module**, you will:

- Be able to identify biological hazards and judge how important they are;
- Understand the complementarity between biosafety and biosecurity in biorisk management;

- Have an insight on biosecurity requirements that certain commodities demand in today's society;

- Be aware of risks and sources of risks related to biosecurity;
- Be provided with the fundamental tools for assessing such risk;
- Be aware of biosecurity measures, and where to apply them, based on identified risks;
- Know how to integrate biosecurity into biosafety and recognize potential conflicts.

ICGEB – BWC Challenges & Opportunities

Surveillance & Response to bio-threats either natural, accidental or criminal. Implementation of a multidisciplinary and multilateral approach for the development of cost-effective tools for surveillance and treatment:

- POC-T multiparametric diagnostic tools;
- Drugs and monoclonal antibodies;
- Collection and analysis of samples, integration with environmental, geographical and socio-economical data, forecasting tools.

Ongoing multilateral actions:

- EEA and Norway Grants Fund for Regional Cooperation – *TBFVnet: surveillance and research on tick-borne flaviviruses* – Norway, Sweden, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Russia and ICGEB. 2020-2004 2nd stage evaluation;

- BRICS-ICGEB draft agreement approved at the 3rd BRICS STI Working Group Meeting on Biotechnology and Biomedicine – Brazil 2019– *The ICGEB will support BRICS countries in establishing multilateral collaborations* [...] *special emphasis will be on infectious diseases, particularly on the development of new drugs,* [...] *in the investigation of drug resistance* [...] *and in the establishment of new tools based on big data collection and analysis of pathogen profiling and stratification for early diagnosis* [...]. Brazil, China, India, Russia, South Africa and ICGEB.

ICGEB – BWC Challenges & Opportunities

- **Training:** training schemes for ICGEB fellows from Member States for infectious disease surveillance and treatment, including concepts of biosecurity and dual use to improve the capillary dissemination of good practice also through E-learning modules for Biosecurity.
- Advocacy and Outreach: promote multilateral agreements for infectious disease surveillance and treatment. Promote safe use of biotechnology and dual use notion spread at national, regional, and international level by specific initiatives targeting different audience (practitioners, researchers but also ministries officials) within ICGEB Meetings and Courses;
- Monitoring: taking advantage of the existing network of the national, sub-regional and regional research and development centers affiliated to the ICGEB in its Member States to monitor progress towards infectious disease surveillance and treatment, and biorisk management;

Thank you

Alessandro Marcello Head, Molecular Virology <u>marcello@icgeb.org</u> +39 040 3757384 http://www.icgeb.org

Our impacts in 2019

- >200 publications in highly acclaimed scientific journals, including Nature, Science, Cell, Nature Reviews Cancer, Nature Medicine
- >330 fellows trained
- 31 meetings and courses held in 20 countries
- >1200 participants in meetings and courses
- 19 grants awarded to laboratories in developing countries (for a total of 914,000 Euro)
- >70 active patents
- 4 agreements with industry (Technology Transfer and R&D)
- 66 Member States
- 20,000 followers on social media





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