
Project Brief

Ministry of Health EDCTP-SAVING Consortium Project (Work package 3)

Project Overview

The **European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP)** is an EU-funded partnership between institutions; launched in 2003 and renewed in 2014; and mandated by the governments of 14 European and 16 African countries, with funding through to 2024.¹ The EDCTP is established to reduce the social and economic burden of poverty-related diseases in developing countries.

The EDCTP has approved a grant for the Ghana SAVING consortium² to work in the area of access and delivery of new vaccines in Ghana. The SAVING (Sustainable Access and Delivery of New Vaccines in Ghana) Consortium is made up of the University of Health and Allied Sciences (UHAS)³ as lead, as well as the Ministry of Health (MoH)⁴, the Food and Drugs Authority (FDA)⁵, the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (SwissTPH)⁶, collaborating with World Health Organization (WHO)/Tropical Disease Research (TDR)⁷ and PATH⁸/Access and Delivery Partnership (ADP)⁹.

The SAVING Consortium seeks to build capacity of multiple stakeholders FDA, MoH and the Ghana Health Service (GHS) to identify and address implementation challenges for the efficient and effective delivery and uptake of new vaccines. This would build on the framework of the ADP value chain, which stresses the importance of an efficient regulatory control system, an enabling policy and regulatory environment, a robust health technology assessment system, an efficient procurement and supply chain management, quality implementation and delivery research and responsive pharmacovigilance system, as key cornerstones for effective delivery of any new medical interventions including vaccines.

¹ <https://www.edctp.org/about-us/the-establishment-of-edctp/>

² <https://savingconsortium.org/dev/>

³ <https://www.uhas.edu.gh/en/>

⁴ <https://www.moh.gov.gh/>

⁵ <http://www.fdaghana.gov.gh/>

⁶ <https://www.swisstph.ch/en/>

⁷ <https://tdr.who.int/>

⁸ <https://www.path.org/>

⁹ <https://adphealth.org/>

Project Objectives

The EDCTP SAVING project through this work package will strengthen evidence-based priority setting mechanisms on new technologies including vaccines; improve on mechanisms for integration of recommendations into national guidelines; build capacity for supply chain response to new technologies as well as improve on mechanisms of equipping patients with information on new medical technologies.

Specific objectives are as follows:

1. Build institutional capacity in and enhance evidence-based decision-making through Health Technology Assessment (HTA), that will establish a system for adding new vaccines to Ghana's Standard Treatment Guidelines.
2. Strengthen human resource capacity in the procurement and supply chain mechanisms for vaccines and new medical interventions.
3. Identify challenges and improve on mechanisms for the dissemination of information on new medical technologies to patients

Project Work tracks

The work package will be delivered through three work tracks

1. Work track 1: Priority setting and Health Technology Assessment for vaccines, which would strengthen the conduct of HTA on vaccines through capacity building initiatives.
2. Work track 2: Policy, which would strengthen the process for selection of vaccines and their incorporation into Ghana Standard Treatment Guidelines (STG) and Essential Medicines Lists (EML)
3. Work track 3: Delivery, which would build capacity within the supply chain for the update of new technologies (on the supply side); as well as improve on the mechanisms for information sharing on new technologies, (on the demand side).

Selected Project Activities

The work package will carry out the following activities to achieve the project deliverables and milestones:

- Practical training workshops on vaccine-specific HTA
- Data collection analysis and synthesis, formulation of recommendations and report writing
- Stakeholder fora for dissemination, feedback and consensus building
- Technical workshop for finalisation of recommendations
- Assessment of learning and knowledge transfer using implementation research (IR) approach
- Evidence review and synthesis; technical workshops and peer-review workshops to incorporate new health technologies into Standard Treatment Guidelines (STG)
- Stakeholder meeting on updated STG and Essential Medicines List (EML)
- Incorporation of new STG into training of health professionals

- IR to understand implementation challenges with current Patient health information system to improved information dissemination on new technologies, among others.

Deliverables

1. Technical capacity gaps in HTA assessed and documented
2. Technical capacity for procurement and supply chain for Vaccines assessed

Milestones

1. Stakeholder consultation to assess HTA technical capacity
2. Stakeholder consultation for Procurement and Supply chain personnel
3. HTA for vaccines conducted

Project Focal Persons

Portfolio	Technical area	Lead responsibilities	Contacts
Director Technical Coordination (Team lead)	Policy, leadership and prioritization	Dr Martha Gyansa-Lutterodt	maglutt@hotmail.com
Director Pharmaceutical Services (Work track lead)	Overall Access and delivery	Mrs Joycelyn Azeez	joykazez@yahoo.com
Head, Drug Policy Unit (Work track lead)	STG updates	Ms Edith Gavor	eegavor@yahoo.com
Head, Drug Information and Research/HTA Coordinator (Work track lead)	HTA, Patient Information System	Brian Adu Asare	basare100@gmail.com

SAVING consortium

SAVING – consortium

**Ghana MOH
Ghana FDA
UHAS
SWISS TDH
Supported by WHO TDR, ADP/PATH**



Swiss TPH
Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute



WHO TDR, WHO special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases



ADP, Access and Delivery Partnership

