

SELeCT

Strengthening Laboratory Capacities in the St. Joseph's Catholic Hospital, Monrovia, for Clinical Trials on infectious diseases

More information: www.selectproject.org





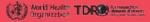


The EDCTP2 programme is supported under Horizon 2020, the European Union's Framework Programme for Research and Innovation.





With support from:



The SELeCT project started in February 2016, as an adventure led by the Barcelona Institute of Global Health (ISGlobal) in collaboration with the NGO Juan Ciudad Foundation (FJC) and the Saint Joseph's Catholic Hospital in Monrovia, Liberia.

Its overall aim was to strengthen institutional capacities at the St. Joseph's Catholic Hospital to conduct health research between and during future infectious disease outbreaks.

For this, we worked on three objectives:

- a) **Train hospital personnel** on health research conduct;
- b) **Upgrade laboratory infrastructure** and capacities to guarantee performance of basic analytical techniques, correct handling and shipping of samples in an emergency context; and
- c) Implement practices for building **community engagement** in clinical research and trials.

These are the main results of the 18-month project.

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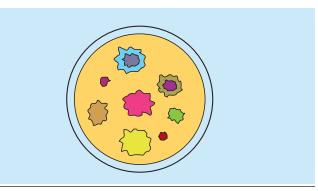
TRAINING-Through-RESEARCH

- Clinical, laboratory, pharmacy, social work and administrative staff trained
- 6-months Training Program on Good Laboratory and Clinical Practice (GCLP), including:
 - eLearning mentoring program
 - Hands-on Workshop on GCLP
- First ethics board-approved research performed at SJCH on malaria prevalence among pregnant women
- Workshop on Scientific Writing: SELeCT Project presented at peer-review international forums



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT and EDUCATION

- Key community representatives and traditional leaders identified
- Workshop on Good Clinical Practice, Research Ethics and Communication Skills conducted
- Community Advisory Board (C.A.B) constituted at the SICH
- First qualitative research at the SJCH with the participation of the leaders
- Communication materials (i.e. informed consent, football match) prepared with the C.A.B



LABORATORY INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADED

- Laboratory equipment (i.e. biochemistry analyzer, biosafety cabinet, temperature registers) purchased and installed
- Quality Assurance established
- Workshop on SOP Preparation conducted in cooperation with LMHRA
- Internal Quality Control started
- Ongoing hands-on mentoring on Good Laboratory Practices to laboratory staff



SELeCT is expected to have a major impact in Liberia by contributing to:

- 1. Strengthen laboratory, clinical and administrative capacities in health research conduct
- **2.** Build community trust and engagement in health research activities
- **3.** Expand collaborations with ISGlobal and network with other institutions in Liberia and Africa to sustain gained knowledge and capacities
- 4. Contribute to national research capacities to test efficiency of interventions against emerging diseases such as Ebola or Lassa fever and other highly prevalent diseases such as malaria and HIV

