

NEWSLETTER

GET AFRICA NEWSLETTER ON ONE HEALTH & BIOSECURITY



GET JOURNAL OF BIOSECURITY & ONE HEALTH



GET PARTICIPATION IN THE WORKSHOP ON STRENGTHENING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION (UNSCR) 1540



GET PARTICIPATION IN THE YOUTH FOR BIOSECURITY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

IN CELEBRATION OF
WORLD HEALTH DAY 2023

Join us as we discuss healthcare under the engaging theme:

THEME: Healthcare System in a Changing Climate

7th April, 2023
12 noon WAT
Online - Zoom

Register here: bit.ly/31whd9023

 Aisha Titilola Kazem-Arnold Program Manager Centre for 21st century Issues	 Dr. Ayodele Babalola Chief Operating Officer GET Consortium
 Dr. Adesolarin Opaowoje (MBS, FWACP) Infectious Disease Consultant Lagos University Teaching Hospital	 Oluwaseun Lawal Health Consultant and Researcher

The 9th African Conference on One Health and Biosecurity themed “Maximizing Benefits and Understanding Risks of Synthetic Biology and Other Emerging Biotechnologies in Africa”, held from 20 – 21 November 2023, at Radisson Blu Anchorage Hotel, Victoria Island, Lagos, Nigeria.



GET AFRICA NEWSLETTER ON ONE HEALTH & BIOSECURITY



OVERVIEW OF GET ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS IN 2023

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WELCOME ADDRESS BY GET COO



Welcome to the last edition of the Global Emerging Pathogens Treatment Consortium (GET) newsletter for the year 2023. As it is our tradition, this last edition is a review of our projects and activities in the year 2023. In the year 2023, GET staff participated in many international meetings which include, participation at the meeting of the Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction Working Group (GPWG) in Tokyo Japan; organized a side event at the United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change 28th edition of the Conference of Party (COP 28) in Dubai UAE; participated in the Youth for Biosecurity Fellowship Program organized by (UNODA) in Geneva, Switzerland and many other international meetings

We published an edition of the GET Journal of Biosecurity and One Health; we launched the GET One Health School Club (GHSC) in Ogun state Nigeria and distributed the GET book "One Health for Students" in several schools in Nigeria. We organized 11 webinars and published 4 newsletters. We organized several training programs on biosecurity in Nigeria. We also organized the 9th edition of the African Conference on One Health and Biosecurity in Lagos Nigeria.

I express my appreciation to our partners and sponsors, especially the Lagos State Ministry of Health who supported most of our programs in 2023. We look forward to bigger collaborations and support in the coming year. I also thank the hard working staffs of GET for their commitment to achieving the vision of the organization.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a prosperous new year in advance.

To download the previous volumes of get newsletter, visit>>

<https://www.getafrica.org/newsletter/>

Welcome !



Dr. Bobadoye Ayodotun,
Chief Operating Officer,
Global Emerging Pathogens
Treatment (GET) Consortium.



The 9th African Conference on One Health & Biosecurity, Lagos, Nigeria.

The 9th African Conference on One Health and Biosecurity themed “Maximizing Benefits and Understanding Risks of Synthetic Biology and Other Emerging Biotechnologies in Africa”, held from 20 - 21 November 2023, at Radisson Blu Anchorage Hotel, Victoria Island, Lagos, Nigeria. The Conference was organized by the Global Emerging Pathogens Treatment (GET) Consortium with the support of the Lagos State Ministry of Health, and it served as a platform to bring together participants from different parts of the world, including policymakers, Synthetic biologists, biomedical scientists, public health stakeholders, members from the public and private health sectors, and a variety of academics for intellectual discourse on Strengthening Health Security and Mitigating Biological Threats in Africa.

The Conference was graced by the Deputy Governor of Lagos State (Conference Deputy Chairman)- Dr Obafemi Hamzat to represent the Governor of Lagos State, Mrs Kemi Ogunyemi-Special Adviser to the Governor of Lagos State on Health, Dr. Olusegun Ogboye - Permanent Secretary of Lagos State Ministry of Health, Prof. Akin Abayomi - Hon. Commissioner for Health in Lagos State, Hon. Commissioner for Ministry of Science and Technology, Dr Yemisi Asagbra-National Biosafety Management Agency (NBMA), Prof. Mayowa Owolabi(Conference Lead Speaker)-Professor of Neurology at University of Ibadan, Dr Tunde Ajayi - Director Generals of Organizations, Health Institutions, Government Agencies, and laboratories, amidst other participants. Delegates represented various local and international organizations such as Concentric, the West African Institute of Public Health, Medical Guild of Nigeria, Primary, CAMBIN/UNIYAO1, Health Care Board, Nigeria Police Force (NPF), Lagos State Health Management Agency (LASHMA), LSHDI, Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency (LASEPA), OSDGs, Lagos State Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Physical Planning, etc.

The 9th African conference was a hybrid event that pulled over 300 participants. The speakers at the conference include Professor Akin Abayomi, Dr. Ayodotun Bobadoye, Prof. Mayowa Owolabi, Dr. Richard Munang, Prof. Solomon Rotimi, Dr. Eugene Itua, Mr. Femi Olapegba, Dr. Kirk Douglas, Dr. Olamide Okulaja, Dr. Agnes Yemisi Asagbra-Director, Mr. Oneil Hamilton, Dr. Karen Hogan, Prof. Jimmy Adegoke, Ms. Titi Akosa, Ms Emma Snapes and Ms Elné Conradie.

The key objectives of the conference focused on how synthetic biology is transforming Medicine, Agriculture, Environment and Biomedical Industry including the development of mRNA vaccines for COVID-19. It also focused on opportunities for the highly agro-based African economies to overcome challenges that threaten food security, environmental degradation, and health security. To accomplish these objectives, the forum highlighted the following key themes mentioned below:

- The Potential of Synthetic Biology in Revolutionizing Modern Medicine in Africa
- Addressing the Challenge of Dual Use Research in Africa
- Mitigating Biological Threats in Africa Using Emerging Biotechnology
- Maximizing Bioeconomy in Africa
- Emerging Infectious Diseases as an Accelerating Phenomenon
- Importance of Data in Enhancing Health Security
- Biobanking Infrastructure
- The Cultural, Anthropological, Social and Economic Impact of Emerging Infectious Diseases (CASE)
- Other Emerging Issues such as (a) Climate Change and Biosecurity Threats in Africa (b) Harnessing the Digital Revolution and Digital Platforms to Advance Biosecurity in Africa.

Watch Out for the 10th African Conference on One Health & Biosecurity In 2024. To Support or Partner with GET to organize the 9th African Conference, Kindly Call: +2348067699338 Or Send an Email To: bobadoye@getafrica.org





COMMUNIQUE OF THE 9TH AFRICAN CONFERENCE ON ONE HEALTH AND BIOSECURITY

Theme:

**Maximizing Benefits and Understanding Risks of Synthetic
Biology and Other Emerging Biotechnologies in Africa**

Date: 20th - 21st November, 2023

Venue: Radisson Blu Anchorage Hotel, Victoria Island, Lagos, Nigeria



9th African
Conference on One
Health and Biosecurity

www.getafrica.org

@getconsortium



The communique can be downloaded via
<https://bit.ly/9thConferenceCommunique>



PREAMBLE

The 9th African Conference on One Health and Biosecurity, themed Maximizing Benefits and Understanding Risks of Synthetic Biology and Other Emerging Biotechnologies in Africa, was held Monday 20th – Tuesday 21st November, 2023. The 9th edition of the annual conference was organized by the Global Emerging Pathogens Treatment Consortium (GET Africa) with the support of the Lagos State Government and in partnership with key non-state institutions across the world with a focus on biotechnology, particularly synthetic biology. The 2-day conference provided a unique forum for robust interactions to take stock of the potential benefits of synthetic biology and how to promote responsible application, circumvent the associated pitfalls of the technology in Africa, and create awareness of related developments at the cutting edge of science. The conference, attended by professionals, members of academia and stakeholders across the sectors of society, received presentations from resource persons cutting across the healthcare sector, agriculture, the environment, as well as from the development sector and civil society. The following observations and recommendations emerged following exhaustive deliberations:

OBSERVATIONS

1. Synthetic biology is but one of the modern technologies of concern, such as artificial intelligence (AI), robotics, and nanotechnology and can hardly be considered in isolation of other existential paradigms.
2. Synthetic biology holds a great future for biobased sustainable production and offers applications in diverse areas of human endeavours, including medicine, agriculture, food security, energy security, space systems and exploration, climate-resilient systems and so on.
3. Synthetic biology is still evolving and not yet fully understood by the operators, just as there are fundamental risks associated with it, including biosafety, biosecurity, environmental impact, conservation upsets, undermining of distinction between living things and machines, and the potential to aggravate injustices to existing systems of intellectual property rights.
4. Building appropriate research infrastructure and streamlining of research governance is a necessary foundation of innovative research.
5. There is the problem of synthetic biology funding in Africa, with foreign and global funds still at the centre of it, even though some of the research is being done in Africa. The government alone cannot provide the infrastructure and training, nor can Africa rely entirely on donor and foreign agency-driven financing of synthetic biology research.
6. African countries are poorly represented among countries involved in bioeconomy, unlike European countries, and some of the constraints of bioeconomy, such as lack of suitable technology, social acceptance, political instability, uncertainties and competition, are more serious in Africa.





9th African
Conference on One
Health and Biosecurity

7. Emerging proclivities, dimensions and impacts of climate change have gone beyond increased temperature, biodiversity loss, environmental degradation, conflict and emerging infectious diseases to include the disruption of transportation of consumer goods and medical supplies, with potential to aggravate responses to emergencies.
8. Brain health is an important driver of human health and determines outcome in all aspects of life including economy, politics, and psychosocial wellbeing. Genomics, synthetic biology and precision medicine offer limitless opportunities to maximize brain capital.
9. Even where there are vaccine programmes in place, poor state of health infrastructure, poor vaccine access, inadequate communication and public awareness are serious impediments to response to disease outbreaks in Africa.
10. Healthcare delivery in Africa is largely fraught with inefficiencies arising from inadequate and fragmented data, as well as poorly leveraged opportunities offered by robotics, artificial intelligence, machine learning, deep learning.
11. Biobanking and genomic information independency are important for Africa's sovereignty and security; beyond addressing medical research needs, there are also economic benefits and social capitals inherent therein.
12. Poor financing strategy is a major impediment to development of Africa's health infrastructure and manpower, with healthcare financing strategy mostly founded on donations and loans which is not sustainable.
13. Some of the facilities put in place across Africa during the COVID-19 pandemic biobanks, sequencers and isolations centers have been abandoned and in state of degradation.

CONFERENCE DECLARATION

*Motivated by the realisation that synthetic biology, bioeconomy and biotechnology in the broader sense constitute an inexorable tripod on which rests the future of sustainable material production and wholesome human development, Conscious of the fact that knowledge of bioeconomy is low in Africa even though Africans have great potentials in bioresources and indigenous knowledge and boast of cultures abhorrent of unsustainable resource appropriation and supportive of biodiversity conservation; Aware of the abysmally low investment in bioeconomy and synthetic biology by institutions and the limited capacity of African governments at various levels to respond to this challenge in the face of competing demands; Determined to promote bioeconomy, responsible and equitable use of synthetic biology and all other biotechnologies, **Conference Resolves and Declares** as follows:*

To bestow unalloyed commitment to the promotion of synthetic biology and allied technologies in addressing challenges in diverse areas of life including medicine, agriculture, waste management and climate resilience, and in pursuit of sustainable resource exploration, exploitation, production and innovations; to pursue constructive engagement in harnessing and harmonising government commitment, national and continental venture capital and global resources for the development of bioeconomy and synthetic biology infrastructure, training and skill acquisition, and in support of the best practices in biotechnologies; to work with relevant state and non-state stakeholders at national, regional and global levels to address ethical, legal, and social issues bordering leveraging the opportunities of synthetic biology; and to conscientiously drive, in collaboration with other stakeholders, the development of framework for synthetic biology research policies and guidelines in Africa.



9th African
Conference on One
Health and Biosecurity



RECOMMENDATIONS

As a follow-up to the Conference Declaration, the following recommendations are proposed:

1. In appropriating emerging technologies, African governments and development leaders should focus on training the African mind to be able to pioneer indigenous solutions guided by a philosophy that drives positive change, preserves nature, protects human health and fosters unity of purpose.
2. Africa should assume her rightful position in the development and application of synthetic biology. Thus, African countries should sign relevant treaties at all levels to be alive to their responsibilities in funding, regulation, and development of guidelines while encouraging collaborations among research and development scientists across the continent.
3. African countries need to develop strong, inclusive, regional strategies to promote sustainable development around bioeconomy, embark on deliberate and aggressive promotion of bio-entrepreneurship, incentivize innovations, and systematically and equitably phase out inefficient and outmoded models of development.
4. Non-governmental organisations (NGOs), women and youth organisations and the civil society as a whole should be at the forefront of advocacy, networking, development monitoring and accountability towards advancing synthetic biology, bioeconomy and responsible applications of biotechnologies in Africa.
5. At the regional level, the establishment of the Africa Center for Genomics, Data Management and Bioinformatics has become imperative, while at national levels, countries should gradually adopt a



Smart Health Information Platform (SHIP) model approach to aggregating all healthcare information to address inefficiency in healthcare delivery.

6. African countries should streamline their healthcare financing policies to eliminate the contradictions between free healthcare and health insurance, promote domestic resource raising, leverage foreign supports and funding that do not foster dependency, and eliminate jurisdictional confusion among various tiers of healthcare delivery.
7. To be able to respond efficiently to outbreaks, African countries should, as a matter of urgency, strengthen their health policies by investing in infrastructure, manpower development, smart surveillance systems and vaccine equity, and in the medium term, promote multi-tier collaborations.
8. Health authorities should adopt technologically efficient approaches such as artificial intelligence (AI) to predict demand and enhance logistics and distribution systems for timely healthcare delivery, especially in hard-to-reach areas and climate change-disrupted ecosystems.
9. There is a need to develop a collective framework to ensure that critical assets put in place during the COVID-19 pandemic are protected, maintained and ready for operation in response to future outbreaks.



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CALL FOR PAPERS

Volume 2, Issue II, 2023 E-ISSN: 2971-5628

GET Journal of Biosecurity and One Health is an international scholarly peer-reviewed Open Access journal aimed at promoting research and publishing high-quality articles in all the related fields of Biosecurity and One Health.

RESEARCH TOPICS

- Biosecurity
- One Health
- Biosafety
- Biobanking
- Bioterrorism
- Invasive Species
- Bioinformatics
- Biological Agents
- Emerging Infectious Diseases
- Anti-Microbial Resistance (AMR)
- Information Security
- Biological Weapons
- Global Health
- Bioterrorism and Pandemic Planning
- Biorisk
- Bioterror Agents
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- Infectious Disease
- Nuclear Terrorism
- Probabilistic Risk Analysis
- Biodefense
- Biological Warfare
- Animal Biosecurity



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GET published another edition (Vol. 2, Issue 1) of its journal of Biosecurity and One Health. The publication can be accessed at <https://getjournal.org/volume-2-issue-1/>

GET Journal of Biosecurity and One Health is an international scholarly peer-reviewed Open Access journal that aims to promote research in all the related fields of Biosecurity and One Health. The GET Journal of Biosecurity and One Health is devoted exclusively to the publication of high-quality research papers that covers multidisciplinary fields of Biosecurity and One Health. The journal aims to publish high quality varied article types such as Research, Reviews, Short Communications, Case Reports, Perspectives (Editorials), and Clinical Images.

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GET One Health School Project (GHSP)-Ogun State Chapter Inauguration

GET One Health School Project (GHSP) team visited Abeokuta, Ogun State, on the 7th of July 2023, to inaugurate GHSP in five (5) Public Senior Secondary Schools (Abeokuta Grammar School, Lisabi Grammar School, African Church Grammar School, Government Science and Technical College and St. Peter's College) in Abeokuta, Ogun State, Nigeria. Student representatives from each pilot school were inaugurated to serve as ambassadors, while teacher representatives from each school were also inaugurated to serve as their mentors. A total of Fifty (50) GET One Health student ambassadors, and Ten (10) GET One Health school mentors were inaugurated at the programme.

In addition, GET team visited one of GET's adopted schools (Loyola College, Ibadan, Oyo State) under GHSP to plant some tree seedlings in the school environment with the involvement of GET one health ambassadors and mentors in the school.

Lastly, GET team distributed GET book titled **"Understanding One Health for Students"** through its One Health School Project to students at Loyola College, Ibadan. Student ambassadors and project mentors were officially inaugurated at the event.

For sponsorship or enquiry, kindly contact Ifeoluwa Alabi (Project Officer) via +2348130854379 or send an email to bobadoyed@getafrica.org; cc ife@getafrica.org

Pictures from the inauguration of the GET One Health School Project in Abeokuta, Ogun State







GET Webinar Series

GET organized eleven (11) editions of its monthly webinar series in 2023 which served as avenue for various people to learn from and connect with global experts in the field of One Health and Biosecurity. GET webinar gives the opportunity to broaden your skills, as well as the understanding of your field of interest relating to One Health & Biosecurity.

For more information on the webinar series, kindly contact us via secretariat@getafrica.org

FREE REGISTRATION + E-CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE TO ALL PARTICIPANTS!

GET WEBINAR SERIES: JANUARY EDITION 2023
Topic: Impact of BWC Review Conference on Biosecurity in Africa
Wednesday, 25th January, 2023 | 12:00 pm (WAT) | Zoom

SPEAKERS: Mr. O'Neil Hamilton, Ms. Melanie Reddiar, Dr. Jaurès Arnaud Noumedem, Dr. Bobadoye Ayodotun
MODERATOR: Dr. Bobadoye Ayodotun

GET WEBINAR SERIES: FEBRUARY EDITION
 Organized in conjunction with African Center for Science and International Security
Topic: The Role of NGOs in Implementation of International Biosecurity Treaties in Africa
Tuesday, 28 Feb, 2023 | 12 PM (WAT)

SPEAKERS: Ms. Suzanna KHOSHABI, Mr. Hubert Foy, Dr. Erin Sorell, Dr. Babtunde Taiwo
MODERATOR: Dr. Babtunde Taiwo

Register Now <https://bit.ly/GETWebinarFebruary2023>

GET WEBINAR SERIES: MARCH EDITION
Topic: Understanding the Benefits and Potential Risks of Synthetic Biology
Wednesday 29 March 2023 | 12 pm (WAT)

Speakers: Mr. Geoffrey Otim, Dr. Nathan Hillson, Mr. Herbert Oloka, Ms. Ifeoluwa Alabi
Moderator: Ms. Ifeoluwa Alabi

GET WEBINAR SERIES: APRIL EDITION
Topic: Understanding the Impacts of Biodiversity Loss on the Emergence and Transmission of Infectious Diseases
Speakers: Dr. Richard Munang, Dr. Kirk Douglas, Dr. Dotun Bobadoye
Moderator: Dr. Dotun Bobadoye
Wednesday 26 April 2023 | 12:00 PM (WAT)

Registration Link: <https://bit.ly/GETWebinarApril2023>



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GET WEBINAR SERIES: MAY EDITION

Topic: Building Innovative Healthcare Financing for Resilient Health Systems in Africa

Speakers:



DR. OLAMIDE OKULAJA
Health Economist, Lagos State Ministry of Health



DR. RISPAH WALUMBE
Senior Health Policy Advisor Amref Health Africa



DR. BABATUNDE TAIWO
Senior Project Officer, GET Africa Moderator

REGISTRATION LINK:

<https://bit.ly/GETWebinarMay2023>



31 MAY 2023
12 PM (WAT)



ZOOM



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GET WEBINAR SERIES: JULY EDITION

Topic: Addressing Bottlenecks to Bioeconomy Development in Africa



MR. FORTUNATE MUYAMBI
Deputy Executive Secretary East Africa Science and Technology Commission (EASTECO)



PROF. JUSTUS WESSELER
Professor Wageningen University



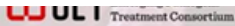
DR. NICHOLAS OZOR
Executive Director African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS)



Moderator
MS IFEOLUWA ALABI
Project Officer GET Consortium

26th July, 2023 AT 12:00pm (WAT)

Registration Link: <https://bit.ly/GETWebinarJuly2023>



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GET WEBINAR SERIES: AUGUST EDITION

Topic: Anthrax in West Africa: A Lurking Threat of Outbreaks and Bioterrorism



Prof Folorunso Fasina
Country Team Leader, ECTAD-FAO, Nairobi, KENYA



Dr Sati Ngulukun
Director Diagnostic Services, National Veterinary Research Institute, Nigeria



Dr Kayode Femi
Founder & CEO, Farm Alert



Dr Babatunde Taiwo
Senior Project Officer, GET Consortium Moderator

30 AUGUST 2023
12:00 PM (WAT)



GET WEBINAR SERIES: SEPTEMBER EDITION

Topic: Climate Change and Health Preparedness in Africa: Reflection on the Outcomes of the Africa Climate Week



MR OLUMIDE IDOWU
Co-founder, International Climate Change Development Initiative



MS TITI AKOSA
Executive Director, Centre for 21st Century Issues



MR GBOYEGA OLORUNFEMI
Project Lead, Society for Planet & Prosperity



MS IFEOLUWA ALABI
Project Officer, GET Consortium Moderator

REGISTRATION LINK:

<https://bit.ly/GETWebinarSeptember2023>



27 SEPTEMBER 2023
12 PM (WAT)

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GET WEBINAR SERIES: OCTOBER EDITION

Topic: The Role of Youths in Strengthening the Advancement of Biosecurity in Africa

WEDNESDAY, 25TH OCTOBER, 2023

12 PM (WAT)

Speakers:



MR RÉMI BACOUILLARD
Associate Political Affairs Officer, BWC, UN Office for Disarmament Affairs, Geneva



MS DOOFAN ABAA
Public Health Laboratory Professional, George Washington University



MR PETER BABIGUMIRA
Technical Advisor, Uganda Ministry of Health Public Health Emergency Operations Centre (PHIOC)



MS FAITH ADEBAYO
Assistant Project Officer, GET Consortium Moderator

Registration Link: <https://bit.ly/GETWebinarOctober2023>



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GET WEBINAR SERIES: DECEMBER EDITION

Topic: Review of Health Policies in Africa: Implementations and Advancement

Speakers:



DR DONALD OFILI
Director & Deputy Registrar, Medical Laboratory Science Council of Nigeria



DR FRANCIS OHANYIDO
Public Health and Sustainable Development Leader



Moderator:
MRS IFEOLUWA ALABI
Project Officer, GET Consortium

TUESDAY
19TH DECEMBER, 2023

12PM (WAT)

Registration Link: <https://bit.ly/GETWebinarDecember2023>

GET Participation in the United Nations (UN) Climate Change Conference-28th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 28)

GET COO, Dr Ayodotun Bobadoye attended the 2023 United Nations (UN) Climate Change Conference which held from 30 November to 12 December 2023 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE). It comprised: the 28th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 28); the fifth meeting of the COP serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA 5); the 18th meeting of the COP serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP 18); the 59th meeting of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI 59); and the 59th meeting of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA 59).

Dr Bobadoye gave a presentation at the meeting on the topic **“Building Resilience of Health Systems to Climate Induced Emerging Infectious Diseases”**.



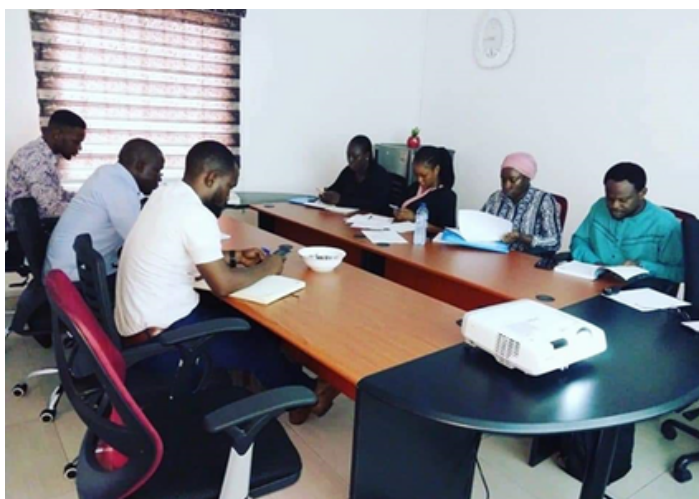
GET Capacity Building Training

GET organized a capacity building training in Lagos State from the 21st to 23rd of June 2023. GET invited Five (5) different facilitators to train the participants on various aspects relating to the topic which is '**Introduction to Biosecurity and Biosafety Training**'.

Certificate of participation was awarded by GET Consortium to the trainees at the end of the 3-day training.



Participants receiving lectures at the training



Presentation of Certificate to one of the Participants by GET COO



Group photograph with GET COO

World Environment Day Celebration

In commemoration of World Environment Day 2023, themed 'Solutions to Plastic Pollution', GET joined the world to celebrate world environment day by hosting a twitter space on the 6th of June 2023 where Dr Babatunde Taiwo (GET Senior Project Officer) and Ifeoluwa Alabi (GET Project Officer) had discussions with the audience on the topics 'Exploring the Landscape of Plastic Pollution in Africa' and 'Inventing Solutions and Alternatives to Plastic Pollution in Africa' respectively.

The programme was attended by people from different parts of the world.



GET Global Emerging Pathogens Treatment Consortium

TWITTER SPACE

Solutions to Plastic Pollution

Recycle Recycle Recycle



Dr. Babatunde Taiwo
Senior Project Officer
GET Consortium



Ms. Ifeoluwa Alabi
Project Officer
GET Consortium



Ms. Omowunmi Okunniyi
Administrative Officer
GET Consortium

MODERATOR

 **Tuesday**
6th June, 2023 |  **12 pm (WAT)** |  **Twitter Space**
@GETConsortium

Set a reminder & join with this link: <https://bit.ly/GETTwitterSpace>

World Health Day 2023

Centre for 21st Century Issues
Responding to the challenges of the 21st century

#worldhealthday

IN CELEBRATION OF
WORLD HEALTH DAY
2023

Join us as we discuss healthcare under the engaging theme;

THEME:
Healthcare System in a Changing Climate

7th April, 2023
12 noon WAT
Online - Zoom

Register here: bit.ly/c21whd2023

Moderator
Aisha Titilola Kazeem-Arnold
Program Manager
Centre for 21st century Issues

speaker
Dr Ayodotun Bobadoye
Chief Operating Officer,
GET Consortium.

speaker
Dr. Adefolarin Opawoye (MBBS, FWACP)
Infectious Diseases Consultant
Lagos University Teaching Hospital,
PRO Nigerian Infectious Diseases Society.

speaker
Oluwaseun Lawal
Health Consultant and
Researcher

@c21storg www.c21st.org @c21stnigeria

Dr. Ayodotun Bobadoye (GET COO) spoke at a virtual event organized by the Centre for 21st Century Issues to celebrate World Health Day 2023 themed “Healthcare System in a Changing Climate” on the 7th of April 2023.

World Health day is celebrated annually to the foundation of the World Health Organization (WHO) on the 7th of April 1948.

This year was themed “Health for All” and coincidentally, WHO celebrated its 75th foundation anniversary as an opportunity to look back at public health’s achievements that have improved quality of lives in the last decades.

GET Participation in the Workshop on Strengthening the Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1540, Nairobi, Kenya.



GET COO at the Workshop



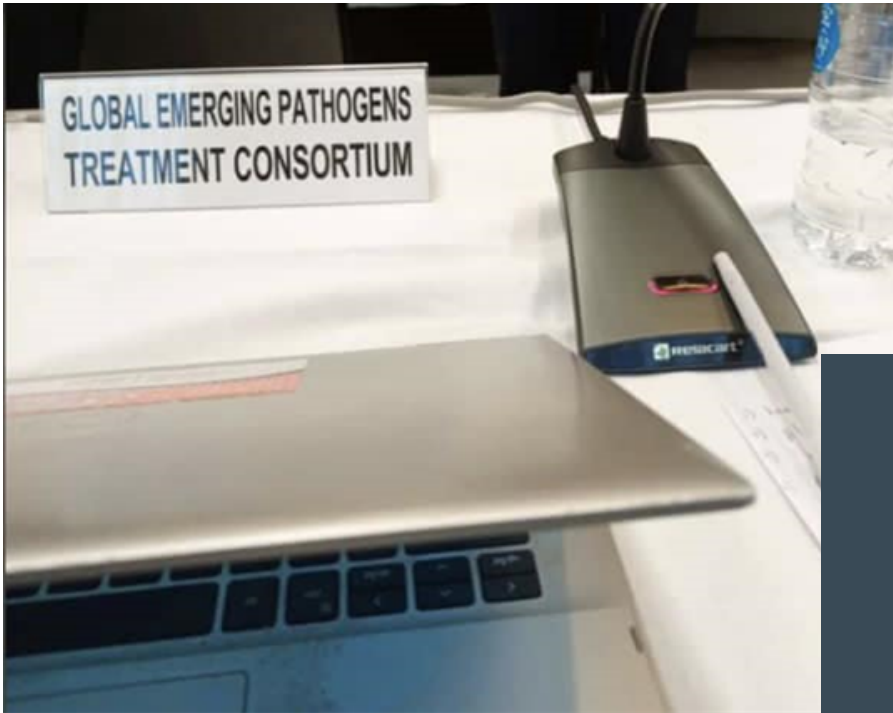
GET COO, Dr. [Bobadoye Ayodotun](#) participated in the workshop on Strengthening the Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1540 among the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Member States.

The workshop was held in Nairobi, Kenya from 14-15 March 2023.



GET COO with Mr. Hubert Foy and another Participant at the Workshop

GET Participation in the 1st Meeting of the Global Partnership Working Group (Summary) Held in Tokyo, Japan.



GET COO represented GET to participate in the first Global Partnership Working Group (GPWG) meeting recently held in Tokyo (Mita Conference Hall), Japan from March 9 to 10, 2023.



The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan hosted the first meeting of the Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction Working Group (GPWG).

GET Participation in the One Health Workshop organized by the Academy of Medical Sciences in collaboration with the African Academy of Sciences Held in Kenya, Nairobi



GET COO was represented by GET in Kenya to participate in the One Health Workshop organized by the Academy of Medical Sciences (@acmedsci) in collaboration with the African Academy of Sciences (@aasciences).



The 2-day workshop was to convene researchers, policy makers and stakeholders to identify research opportunities to enable and strengthen One Health implementation in Africa.

GET participation in the Youth for Biosecurity fellowship Program, Geneva, Switzerland



GET Assistant Project Officer (Faith Adebayo) was selected by the United Nations Office of Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) to participate in the Youth for Biosecurity Fellowship Program organized by (UNODA) in Geneva, Switzerland.

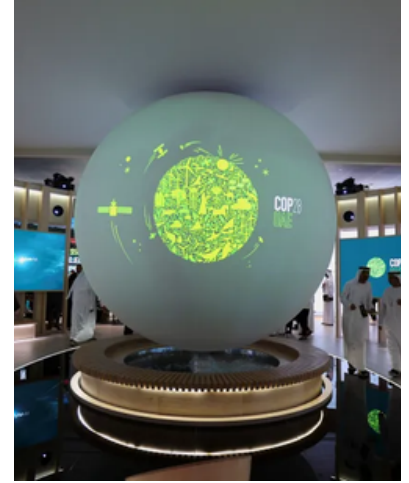


Review of COP 28

COP28 may have come and gone, but it has left us with the discussion of the aftermath of a highly engaging conference in the United Arab Emirates. The conference began with a sharp departure from the Bonn Climate Conference in June was the historic approval of the Loss and Damage fund operationalisation by adopting the recommendations of the Transitional Committee. This has been regarded as the first time ever such decision will be taken on the opening of a COP with first pledges into the fund coming from the UAE, UK, USA, Japan, EU and other EU member states with a total of \$403 million of initial capitalisation.

Operationalization of Loss and Damage Fund

The Loss and Damage Fund became fully operationalized on the first day of COP28. The initial pledge of \$403 million of initial capitalisation has been considered a paltry compared to approximately over \$500 billion climate related impacts that climate vulnerable countries may be battling with by 2030



Global Goal on Adaptation

Further to the establishment of the Global Goal on Adaptation in the Paris Agreement, negotiators have now agreed at COP28 to establish the framework for GGA for a global time-bound targets for specific themes and sectors - water and health including the adaptation policy process but with non-sufficient and complete lack of finance

From Fossil Fuels to Clean Energy

The UAE Consensus had bluntly called for the world to “transition away from fossil fuels in energy systems, in a just, orderly and equitable manner, accelerating action in this critical decade, so as to achieve net zero by 2050. In another historic twist, it has been adjudged as the first time ever that the term "Fossil Fuels" will appear in a formal outcome of any COP in the 30 years history of United Nations climate negotiations.

Global Stocktake (GST):

The GST outcome has mandated countries to update their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) ahead of 2025 and update their 2030 targets for 2035. It is important that plans and priorities for just transition efforts, adaptation and loss and damage to reflect transformations across multilateral sectors
Finance

Finance

With the emergence of a new climate finance goal, the New Collective Qualitative Goal (NCQG) which is set to replace the developed countries' current commitment of providing \$100 billion annually in climate finance to developing nations, first agreed to in 2009, it seems that most finance issues will be settled in COP29 in Azerbaijan

Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food Systems, and Climate Action

Another historical entrance into COP items is food with 159 nations signing the declaration to integrate food and food systems into their NDCs by 2025. The nations include global players in the food systems and also major emitters

Methane Emissions

Over \$1 billion in new grants companies, philanthropies and governments were announced to address methane pollution

AFOLU:

In a follow up to the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use, COP28 saw the release of Joint Statement on Climate, Nature, and People with further commitment to improve on finance and ensure participation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in tackling the climate and nature crises.

Time for ACTION

COP28 may have provided the global stage for the negotiations, it is now time for nations to domesticate and translate the UAE Consensus to improve their NDCs, climate change acts and policies to present transformative agenda to galvanise investment into portfolios of action that will help them in addressing the wicked problems of climate crisis

Conclusion:

COP28 started with pumped momentum and great ambition and yet it ended capturing participants with mixed feelings. While COP28 may have delivered some package of agreements tagged the UAE Consensus, it is imperative to state that clear communications over all the streams of negotiations and inclusive participations of Civil Society Organisations is imperative to build and ensure trust in the upcoming COPs



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Project Lead,
Society for Planet
& Prosperity



Pictures from the 9th African Conference on One Health and Biosecurity



Dr. Obafemi Hamzat (Deputy Governor of Lagos State) represented the Governor of Lagos state to give an opening speech at the conference



Prof. Akin Abayomi giving his presentation at the conference



Dr Dotun Bobadoye (GET COO) giving his presentation at the Conference



Prof. Mayowa Owolabi giving his presentation at the Conference as a lead speaker



Mrs Kemi Ogunyemi (Special Adviser to Lagos State Governor on Health) giving her remarks at the Conference



Prof. Godfrey Tangwa, one of GET founding members giving a speech at the conference



Deborah Ayando presenting her abstract at the conference



Dr Agnes Yemisi Asagbra, CEO of NBMA giving her presentation at the conference



Participants Seating at the Conference



Participants Seating at the Conference



Group Picture taken at the Conference



Group Picture taken at the Conference



Group Picture taken at the Conference



Press interviews during the conference

Special Thanks To All Our Sponsors for the 9th African Conference

 **GET** Global Emerging Pathogens Treatment Consortium

In Collaboration With



Lagos State Ministry of Health



9th African Conference on One Health and Biosecurity

Theme: Maximizing Benefits and Understanding Risks of Synthetic Biology and Other Emerging Biotechnologies in Africa

 20th - 21st November, 2023

 Radisson Blu Anchorage Hotel, Victoria Island, Lagos, Nigeria

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Your generous support and commitment made this event possible. We deeply appreciate your contribution to advancing the discussions on biotechnologies in Africa

Scholarships/Grants Opportunities

Les Margaret 2024 Awards for Women in Tech entrepreneurs and intrapreneurs

<https://www.opportunitiesforafricans.com/les-margaret-2024-awards-for-women-in-tech-entrepreneurs-and-intrapreneurs/>

Application Deadline: January 8, 2024

Ashinaga Africa Initiative Leadership Program 2024 for young African orphans
(Fully Funded to study abroad)

<https://www.opportunitiesforafricans.com/ashinaga-africa-initiative-leadership-program-2024/>

Application Deadline: 19th of January 2024

GSK Africa Open Lab 2024 for Early-stage Scientists

<https://www.opportunitiesforafricans.com/gsk-africa-open-lab-2024-for-early-stage-scientists/>

Application Deadline: January 29, 2024

§The Gered Gereedschap Call for Proposals: (AFRICA) Strengthen Vocational Education and
Entrepreneurship

<https://www.opportunitiesforafricans.com/the-gered-gereedschap-call-for-proposals-africa-strengthen-vocational-education-and-entrepreneurship/>

Application Deadline: March 1, 2024

Singapore International Graduate Award 2025 Scholarships for PhD study in Singapore (Fully Funded)

<https://www.opportunitiesforafricans.com/singapore-international-graduate-award-2025-scholarships/>

Application Deadline: June 1, 2024

The Internet Society Pulse Research Fellowship 2024 for Researchers Worldwide (Stipend Available)

<https://www.opportunitiesforafricans.com/the-internet-society-pulse-research-fellowship-2024-for-researchers/>

Application Deadline: December 15, 2024

World Bank Group Junior Professional Associates (JPA) Program 2024 for young graduates

<https://www.opportunitiesforafricans.com/world-bank-group-junior-professional-associates-jpa-program-2024-for-young-graduates/>

Application Deadline: Unspecified

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