

GET AFRICA

**AFRICAN NEWSLETTER ON EMERGING
INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND BIOSECURITY**

Volume 5 | June, 2021



AFRICAN

COVID 19

INNOVATIONS



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Welcome Address - GET COO.



Welcome to the 5th edition of the GET Newsletter on Emerging Infectious Diseases and Biosecurity. This edition is focused on COVID-19 innovations in Africa.

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic across the world, especially in Africa with its numerous developmental, environmental, and financial challenges is multifaceted and yet to be fully understood. However, the pandemic could also be a blessing in disguise for Africa's future growth because innovations for addressing it could chart a path for future innovation-based economies, especially in the health sector in Africa. The pandemic creates an opportunity to develop innovations in life-saving health technologies.

African youths are maximizing the opportunities that COVID-19 offers by developing technologies and innovations to address the multiple challenges posed by the pandemic. The World Health Organization (WHO) reported that the COVID-19 pandemic galvanized the development of more than 120 health technology innovations that have been piloted or adopted in Africa. The study stated that Africa accounts for 12.8% of the 1,000 new or modified technologies developed worldwide to target different areas of the pandemic. This statistic is very encouraging considering the very little investment in technology and innovation by African governments.

This newsletter highlights some of the COVID-19 based innovations developed in Africa. The innovations highlighted in this edition include the Flying doctor's healthcare investment mobile testing booth innovation, Kisomo app innovation, Primebotics innovation, Shule direct innovation, and Donifab- HW innovation. I hope that the pandemic will spore more innovations in the continent and encourage African governments to invest more in technologies and innovations.

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

“I hope that the pandemic will spore more innovations in the continent and encourage African governments to invest more in technologies and innovations.”



Flying Doctors Healthcare Investment Company - Mobile Testing Booth Innovation

The COVID-19 pandemic exposed the critical gaps in health services. One of such is the healthcare infrastructure gap. There was a need to support the ongoing national and local efforts aimed at strengthening public health infrastructure during the pandemic.

Understanding the important need for us as a nation to ramp up our testing capacities, we designed, developed, and launched the first mobile testing booth in Nigeria. The mobile testing booth was developed using a design attribute that eliminates physical contact with patients when collecting samples and drastically reduces the risk of health workers contracting the virus. The mobile booths are made of steel and are about 2metres high and 1.2 meters wide. Each booth has a door and window which is made of aluminum & glass.

The minimal processes characterized with getting tested for the virus using our booths systematically fosters an increase in the number of tests being conducted per time as they are often not only open to all and easily accessible but also feature a rapid approach of effectively and efficiently collecting samples within minutes.

This initiative which was executed as Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) Project with different states in Nigeria was developed bearing in mind the need to protect our medical personnel and healthcare workers at the frontline of the COVID-19 battle.

Equally, the concern of the cost and unavailability of the personal protective equipment (PPE) was an underlining factor that spurred us to manufacture this sample collection/testing booth after the

success of the increased testing abilities it presented was recorded in South Korea.

In collaboration with Ogun state, we also launched the first COVID-19 walk-in and drive-through centre in Nigeria and have developed a massive testing capacity (over 6000 sample kits- One of the largest of any private sector organization in Nigeria) for the virus.

As of today, our mobile testing booths are operational within 12 states in Nigeria (Ogun, Oyo, Lagos, Abuja, Kwara, Rivers, Kano, Imo, Abia, Enugu, Kaduna, and largest COVID-19 testing booth point in Zamfara state).

ABOUT US

The Flying Doctors Healthcare Investment Company (FDHIC) is a tech-enabled healthcare PPP company. We are Africa's leading healthcare and wellness company that aims at solving the critical problems of affordability, accessibility, and acceptability. Our portfolio includes Helium Healthcare (a digital health company), Life stores (a technology-enabled pharmacy chain), Sygen (a manufacturer of low-cost generic medicines), Mdass (a chain of low-cost diagnostic centres), and Koniku (a biotechnology company). Learn more about our activities on www.fdinvestmentcompany.com



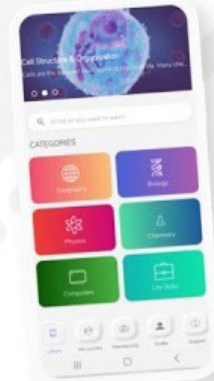
Dr. Ola Brown is the founder of the Flying Doctors Healthcare Investment Company (FDHIC). She studied medicine and surgery at the Hull York Medical School after which she worked in Acute Medicine in the UK. She then went on to be awarded the Japanese MEXT scholarship which allowed her to further her studies in Tokyo, Japan, the fellowship focused on lab-based research with induced pluripotent stem cells. She is currently completing her master's degree in Finance and Economic Policy at the University of London. In terms of executive education, her post-graduate areas of study also include Pre-hospital Emergency care, Healthcare leadership, Healthcare delivery, Finance (specifically infrastructure), and Economics/Economic Policy. She has a certificate in Public-Private Partnerships from Harvard University, Deal execution and strategy from Wharton, Economic policymaking from IE business school, Spain, a certificate in Accounting for decision making from the University of Michigan in the United States, and a certificate in Finance & Investing in Infrastructure (Project Finance) from Universita Bocconi in Milan.





Kisomo App

We make learning Fun & Engaging with Videos



Smartcore Enterprise Limited Kisomo App Innovation

WHY WE STARTED

Smartcore exists because of the 65 Million secondary school-aged children who are out of school in Sub-Saharan Africa, and even for those who got a chance to get into school, the quality of education is low, and the dropout rate is extremely high. According to UNESCO data out of 89% of students enrolled in primary education, only 9% make it to tertiary education and only 6% graduate. This shows how crucial quality secondary & vocational education is to youth in Africa.

COMPANY INTRO

Based in Arusha, Tanzania, and Hong Kong, China Smartcore is a digital learning company, making quality & relevant secondary and vocational education accessible to all by leveraging the power of Technology and Data. Our solutions use modern technologies such as AI, VR, Big Data Analytics & Machine Learning to provide the best learning experience to students in secondary schools in Sub-Saharan Africa, offering real-time digital education data to education stakeholders while lowering the cost and time spent in setting up e-learning infrastructure by offering off the shelf, tested and individually customized e-Learning solutions. At Smartcore we are making quality, relevant secondary and vocational education accessible to all by leveraging the power of Technology and Data.

OUR PRODUCT - KISOMO

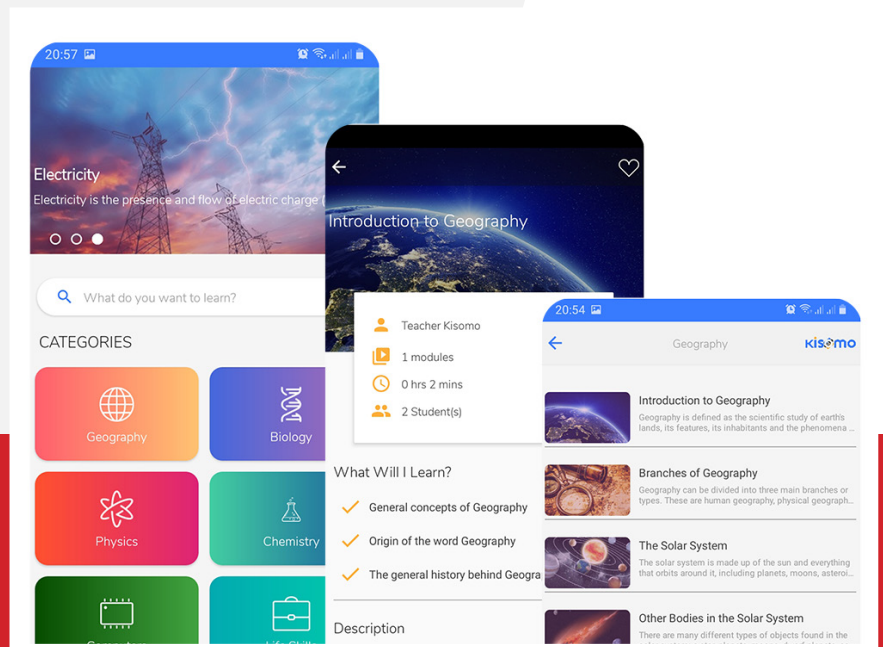
Kisomo is a data-driven platform available offline and online that makes relevant secondary school and vocational education accessible to all youth in Sub-Saharan Africa. Kisomo allows students to have Fun & Engaging learning experience using relevant and interactive content in form of Videos, Animations, and Interactive Quizzes, Teachers to Streamline and Monitor individual learning journeys of their students while earning extra income teaching online and Education stakeholders like The Government to make an informed decision on all matters related to Educational Technology using real-time and relevant data. We leverage modern technologies such as AI, VR, Big Data Analytics & Machine Learning to provide the best learning experience and real-time education data to education stakeholders while Lowering the cost and time spent in setting up e-Learning infrastructure by offering off the shelf, tested, and individually customized solutions.

KISOMO IMPACT & COVID-19 MILESTONE

Kisomo App is the first video-based digital learning app with local content containing HD videos, 3D/2D animations, and audio. With the existing COVID-19 crisis Kisomo is providing an opportunity for the 12million secondary school learners across East Africa to stay safe from COVID-19 by accessing all their learning needs online. Kisomo smart learn is an easy-to-use mobile application

with more than 1,000 multimedia content that is easily accessible to secondary school learners in East Africa. The curriculum is curated, interactive and relevant to the local context in Eastern Africa. This includes noted impact on the overall improved learning experience for our users which in returns increases the academic performance of individual learners, students now generate interests in subjects such as Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics since they can easily connect what they learn in the classroom with their own daily life. Teachers who are using our product can now easily streamline their online teaching, monitor individual students, and understand where to improve. Kisomo App understands that during COVID-19, students

need immediate, reliable, and accessible learning solutions to support self-study while remaining safe in isolation.



George Akilimali is the CEO & Founder of Smartcore Enterprise Limited. A highly astute, impact driven, and tech enthusiast obsessed in transforming educational system in Sub-Saharan Africa through tech innovation.



Primebotics Innovation

As an archipelago of 10 islands, access to remote areas of Cape Verde to deliver goods and services can be difficult even at the best of times. During the COVID-19 pandemic, it has become increasingly worse, immensely affecting most outer islanders. This drone, designed by a 30-year-old university lecturer and computer scientist, Erico Fortes Pinheiro, is not only being used to deliver services to these isolated areas but also to disinfect and spot areas in urgent need.

Due to the geographic isolation of many areas, the Cape Verdean population's access to health services is inherently destabilized. Most health services are affected, including the delivery of medicines and medical samples for analysis at hospital labs. Erico set up his start-up Prime Robotics to provide his versatile drones for logistics and agricultural services purposes. With the emergence of COVID-19 Erico and his partners have now repurposed Prime Robotics to medical logistics, to help counter problems created by the COVID-19 onslaught in the islands. The drones have been redesigned and re-engineered so that during the pandemic, they can be used to disinfect streets, transport medicines, light medical equipment, samples, as well as other essential goods to cater for those isolated in remote islands areas. Prime Robotics is also currently producing face-shields and is looking for partners to upscale its production capacity.

OUR COVID-19 INTERVENTION-DRONE MECHANISMS

- Field Spray Disinfectant

The remote field spray disinfectant mechanism was initially designed for agriculture purposes such as pulverization of fertilizers and pesticides. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was adapted to sanitary purposes, such as street and open field disinfection. It incorporates a full pulverization system with both remote and autonomous options of operation to avoid unnecessary exposure. All the data collected by sensors is transmitted to the ground station and monitored using the software application as mentioned above. The control mechanism also uses micro-controllers to guarantee proper monitoring and the support structure is attached to UAVs which are designed and printed using 3D technology. This mechanism is useful to disinfect all surfaces using drones instead of manual work-limiting exposure to bacteria and viruses.

This system can provide a safer, faster, and efficient tool of response to those professionals on the front line of COVID-19. It allows the operator to perform a remote intervention on the field, without the necessity to be physically on-site, to avoid exposure to possible hazards such as chemicals and viruses, which can potentialize diseases.

- Transportation and Delivery

Due to the geographic structure of the country, many communities live in remote and difficult access locations that certain times are not even accessible using conventional transportation. This reality several times makes it very difficult to bring some essential goods to these populations,

such as medications, sample collection for analyzes, educational material. The drones that operate with this module are equipped with an autopilot system that allows the operator to set the mission trajectory (origin and destination, exact locations) for autonomous flight using telemetry and datalink communication with the ground station. During autonomous flights, the operator will have the possibility to take over at any time.

This mechanism for deliveries involves is a steel



recipient that is temperature-controlled to preserve the integrity of any supplies. It possesses a control board that commands the packaging attachment and releases the parcel at the specified locations. These hybrids are fast-weight resistant with better battery autonomy.

With the limited resources available, Erico is doing some research and tests to increase and establish good and better telemetry between the drones and the ground station, as well for them to have better flight autonomy when performing their missions, especially on the long-range distance. Due to limited resources, the development of the transportation and delivery drone project is suspended temporarily.

ABOUT US

PrimeBotics is a robotics company focused on building customized drones, 3D printing product

designs, and small educational robots. PrimeBotic's current projects revolve around humanitarian and health goals due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Most recently, many laboratories are manufacturing SARS-CoV-2 vaccine which means there will be a high demand for delivery at different sites. Therefore, our main focus is to customize drones with specific mechanisms for field spray disinfection, health-related supply transportation, and delivery. For example, the Cabo Verde archipelago is composed of ten different islands with several limited accessed locations, and conventional means of transportation that only travel to the most affluent areas. In addition, there are communities with families unable to seek



immediate medical attention. Certain medical supplies need to be maintained at a certain temperature or condition; thus, a preserving drone mechanism will be paramount to this project. Therefore, PrimeBotics will work to ensure a safe and effective delivery mechanism by using steel and temperature-controlled transportation recipients to preserve blood samples or any supplies. It is also PrimeBotics intention to keep the general population safe from the current pandemic by preparing ground stations to perform regular drone maintenance. In addition, a software application will also be available to clients and health care facilities for tracking the entire process of transportation and delivery.



Erico Pinheiro Fortes is an ambitious and high-achieving IT professional with a bachelor's in computer engineering and a Master of Computer Science. Erico has outstanding technical and analytical skills, with experience in system information support, web and software development, website and database management, network, server support, robotics design, and programming. His preceding roles include installation, configuration, and maintenance of software, hardware, Windows Active Directory in Windows Server 2008. In addition, he has also worked with document development, IT Support in daily routines in exclusive lectures and conferences. Erico continuously attempts to help clients, co-workers, students, and friends both on-site and remotely, and has perpetually efficiently demonstrated a keen ability to problem-solve and troubleshoot in a very short time record. Erico is a very composed, positive, motivated, team worker and devoted person who astutely understands company demands and contributes to moving success.

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9 Subjects Form 1-4



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Shule Direct

Covid-19 Innovation

When the government announced that schools will be closed on the 17th of March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic from Nursery to University, over 13 Million students were left uncertain of their learning outcomes given that their prime learning spaces were not available. However, Shule Direct continued to provide access to learning content. The focus and emphasis of various education stakeholders including the government and private sectors shifted to education provision through technology where learners accessed education contents without being at risk of contracting the virus.

To cater to our user's demand in their time of need, Shule Direct had to improve its services by adding a new dashboard for parents/caregivers known as Parents Corner, through this dashboard a parent would be able to register themselves, enroll their children, monitor development through the platforms, access to secondary school learning content (e.g. notes, revision questions), discussions, extracurriculars content, syllabus, and also parenting tips to help them assist their children at home. During this period there was a general rise in the engagement levels

to Shule Direct platforms. Shule Direct mobile applications (Android and iOS) had more than 170,000 downloads. The number of new users (app downloads) from March to June 2020 increasing by more than three times (240.1%) as compared to the number of users from November 2019 to February 2020. Since the re-launch of MAKINI SMS in collaboration with UNICEF in March 2020, more than 4,000 users have subscribed to the service. The total number of attempts (questions attempt) from March to June was 79,174. Also, the number of users who accessed the web during the COVID 19 from March to June 2020 was 395,460 which was equivalent to a rise of 177% from the previous 4 months of November 2019 to February 2020 (before the COVID 19) where users were 142,752. Shule Direct has reached over 3 Million users up until now, we have 2,799,133 lifetime web users, 203,623 App users, 81,963 SMS subscribers, and 69 schools with LMS (average number of teachers and students in these schools/centers-33,928).

COVID-19 pandemic has brought about the realization that learning does not have to be

confined to a brick-and-mortar space, students can learn anywhere at any time.

Shule Direct as an organization has been recognized through several awards including Women in Tech - Apps Africa 2016; Hall of Fame - Website of the Year Tanzania Leadership Awards; and Segal Family Foundation - Systems Innovator Award, 2019 Builders of Africa's Future Awards.

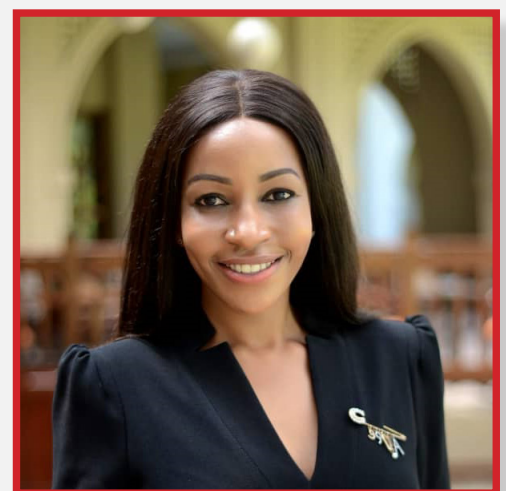
ABOUT US

Shule Direct is a non-government organization that provides local, relevant, digital study platforms for learners in Tanzania. We are working with the best teachers in the country to create digitized learning notes, tutorials, quizzes, and multimedia content and developing technological solutions to

deliver a multi-subject comprehensive primary and secondary school curriculum to students across the country. The organization is targeting young people of basic education age (primary and secondary) as the main downstream beneficiaries of any project, programming, and products, it is also engaging educators, schools, caregivers, and other education stakeholders to create, develop and deploy impactful solutions. The organization currently has a web-based platform, offline learning management system (LMS), SMS service, and mobile applications for Android and IOS, our content covers 13 national curriculum subjects and has some features covering leadership and life skills.



Faraja Nyalandu is a resourceful social entrepreneur passionate about developing cutting-edge social and educational programs that empower youth and children. What inspires her most is working collaboratively in social development and educational industry to develop and deliver innovative resources and solutions that prepare children and youth for a sustainable future. With over 15 years of experience in engaging young people, she has dedicated her professional career and personal life to empowering them to achieve their full potential. In 2013, she established Shule Direct, a thriving organization providing comprehensive web and mobile educational platforms offering learning content across multiple subjects to over a million in and out of school youth. She is a member of the World Economic Forum's Expert Network after serving on the Global Future Council for Education, Gender, and Work. Faraja is a Teaching and Learning Thematic Lead for the Regional Educational Learning Initiative (RELI). As an education enthusiast, she has also served on the Board of Ubongo Learning, READ and a technical adviser for Institutions for Inclusive Development that



helps Tanzanian institutions innovate and scale systemic solutions to big development problems. The World Economic Forum has appointed her as a Young Global Leader Class of 2020. Before that, she has been recognized as a Leading Woman in Technology in Africa award for her work with Shule Direct, Tanzania Leadership Awards' Hall of Fame Woman of the Year Award, and a System Innovator award by Segal Family Foundation for systemic change in digital learning in Secondary School education in Tanzania. Africa Youth Awards has named Faraja among 100 Most Influential Young Africans. Faraja is a qualified Lawyer with an LLB and LLM (Master of Laws) in Human Rights and Migration.



DoniFab-HW Innovation

HW stands for Hand-Wash, an automated hand sanitizer station that came about as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

DoniFab members have used traditional hand sanitizer stations for a while before bringing some innovations that made such stations even more efficient. For that matter, we coupled traditional techniques with modern technologies.

A highlight on our innovations:

- Replacing faucet (bath Tab) with a distance sensor
- Automating the whole process

On traditional handwash stations, one would open the water pipes to clean hands but then it requires closing the pipes and this is where the issue kicks in.

Assume we had viruses on our hands when opening water pipes because closing it requires

you to touch the same spot then you would have recollected the same viruses.

To prevent mass contamination our team came up with a contact-free approach. HW is equipped with a distance sensor used to detect users' hands. Once a hand is detected, the process kicks in, first the system offers liquid soap and waits for 7 seconds to give enough time to the user to have maximum friction of hands with soap. Then normal water is provided to rinse hands.

WHAT HAS BEEN ITS IMPACT?

DoniFab teams have been working tirelessly to find local solutions and fight the COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, we came up with a Smart Hand-Washing station. With traditional hand-washing stations, there is a high risk of



Dr. Tidiane Thierno Ball is a medical doctor and medical IT professional. In 2009, he founded Malisanté (www.malisante.net), Mali's medical information website and health professional's directory. Tidiane Thierno Ball is also the co-founder of DoniLab, a co-working space and social innovation center in Mali. At DoniLab he helps young people to innovate and undertake daring projects. Upon completion of the Mandela Washington Fellowship (Africa), Tidiane plans to continue working to inspire young people because he believes that the employment challenge will only be solved through self-employment.

infection because many people touch the taps, and that way, it is easy to spread the virus. So, we designed these handwashing stations, which are also environmentally friendly because we use solar power.

The design is a 3-in-1 basin, which in auto sequence, dispenses soap, water and blows out hot air to dry the hands. The automated gadget not only reduces cross-contamination it also saves on water, soap, and paper.

Specifications:

- Water container: 16L
- Soap container: 4L
- Battery: 12V - 2.40A Max

In a pandemic such as COVID-19, this device becomes handy as it can easily be adapted for use in homes, schools, markets, mosques, and offices. The station can also be resized to adapt to the frequency of use.

WHAT INSPIRED THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS PRODUCT?

Coronavirus is very contagious, has a brutal impact on all healthcare systems and represents an unprecedented danger to our economies. Mali has not been spared. The pandemic joins the long list of challenges we need to overcome in our already vulnerable country. It is urgent to act and find accessible local solutions to limit the spread of this virus.

ABOUT DONIFAB

DoniFab is a manufacturing laboratory based in Bamako, which acts as a cradle for learning and experimenting with new technologies. It is also a space equipped with robotics and digital tools, which allow and enable young people to follow their design and technology dreams.





7TH AFRICAN CONFERENCE ON ONE HEALTH & BIOSECURITY

The Global Emerging Pathogens Treatment Consortium will hold its annual conference from the **27th-29th of October 2021 in Lagos State, Nigeria.**

The conference is organized by professionals from the Global Emerging Pathogens Treatment Consortium (GET) and in partnership with the Ministry of Health, Lagos State, Nigeria.

The theme for the conference is: **“Universal Approach to Addressing Biosecurity Threats: Genomics Intelligence and Vaccine”.**

Background:

The COVID-19 pandemic has shown the importance of genomics in the management of infectious diseases. Scientific advances in genomics can elucidate infectious disease pathology, immunology, and vaccinology, which will enhance the efficiency of public health interventions and policies. It is now possible to develop, test, and review multiple safe and effective vaccines against a new disease in less than a year. To have ended up with such encouraging efficacy results from more than one vaccine candidate puts the world in an extraordinarily promising position, both in terms of ending the COVID-19 pandemic and

developing vaccines against other diseases, including future pathogens that could be a source of another pandemic in the future. Therefore, Africa needs to join the chariot in terms of involvement in genomics research and vaccine technology and production on the continent. This is important in addressing the ongoing pandemic and preparing for future biosecurity threats. The conference will focus on discussion on the various efforts at containing the pandemic in Africa; the huge potentials of genomic research in helping African countries address public health issues and biosecurity threats and develop a well-planned vaccination program for African countries that will boost economic recovery on the continent and reconnect Africa to the rest of the world. The conference is a platform to raise National, Regional, and Continental awareness, thereby creating opportunities to strengthen capacity development and empower indigenous response mechanisms.

The annual conference is usually one of the biggest and most attended biosecurity and One Health-based conference in Africa with an average attendance of 300 researchers, policy makers and industry experts from different countries in the world.



27th-29th October, 2021

Civic Centre, Victoria Island Lagos, Nigeria.

**Theme:
“Universal Approach to
Addressing Biosecurity
Threats: Genomics
Intelligence and Vaccine”.**



Save the Date



7th African Conference on One Health and Biosecurity

Theme:

**Universal Approach to Addressing Biosecurity
Threats: Genomics Intelligence and Vaccine.**



27th - 29th October, 2021.

🌐 Conference 2021: <https://www.getafrica.org/events/conference2021/>

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+234 806 769 9338

Abstract Submission For The 7th African Conference

Submit your abstract for the conference

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Or

Visit: <https://getjournal.org/conference-2021-abstract-submission/>

Abstract submission deadline date: July 30, 2021



Call for Abstracts



7th African
Conference on One
Health and Biosecurity

Theme: Post COVID-19 in Africa: Building
Block Better To Tackle Emerging
Biosecurity Threats

 27th -29th October, 2021

 Civic Centre, Lagos, Nigeria

🌐 Conference 2021: <https://getjournal.org/conference-2021-abstract-submission/>

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World Environment Day 2021 & Launching Of GET One Health School Club (GHSC)

Educational systems are easy tools to pass health education to prepare the next generation. Children are also known to be more receptive to new ideas and practices and therefore provide a suitable opportunity to introduce knowledge and habits at a young age. Having adopted the good practices from an early age, they are likely to continue so as adults, become catalysts for positive change in their communities.

GET launched a One Health School Club on the 5th of June 2021 to celebrate the World Environment Day themed 'Ecosystem Restoration'. The programme will serve as a platform to enlighten science pupils and teachers from different senior

secondary schools on the concept of One Health and establish sustainable systems for student-to-student and student-to-parent education & knowledge transfer on healthy living in their context.

GET One Health School Club is a voluntary club to enlighten pupils and teachers on the concept of One Health- An approach that describes the relationship between human health, animal health and plant health in a shared ecosystem/ environment. The range of areas of intervention provided under the GHSC include antimicrobial resistance, climate change, emerging infectious diseases, education, biosecurity issues,



environmental issues and more. The main goal of the one health school club is to establish sustainable systems for student-to-student and student-to-parent education and knowledge transfer on healthy living in their context.

The objectives of the GHSC are;

- To stimulate and increase children’s awareness on one health case studies addressing food security, emerging vector-borne diseases, and food safety.
- To educate them on solutions for reducing the impacts of human activities on the environment and biodiversity.
- To educate students on the scope of micro-

organisms, the spread, and prevention of infection.

- To make pupils aware that the health of a person is the health and wealth of the family and society.
- To enlighten pupils on career opportunities in science.





**Ibadan Schools’ Sensitization Program
& Launching of GET One Health School Club**
In Commemoration of
World Environment Day 2021
📅 3rd-11th June, 2021
Theme
Ecosystem Restoration





Reimagine

Recreate

Restore

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GET Biosecurity Summit



Biosecurity is defined by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) as a strategic and integrated approach that encompasses the policy and regulatory frameworks (including instruments and activities) for analyzing and managing relevant risks to human, animal and plant life and health, and associated risk to the environment. Nigeria is faced with many biosecurity threats affecting human, animals, and our shared environment. There is need for transdisciplinary approach and integration of various sources of knowledge to address these emerging threats.

The COVID-19 pandemic has taught us that untimely action, lack of cooperation across sectors and insufficient funding can lead to many catastrophic consequences globally. Estimates show that preventive measures to avoid another pandemic of the same caliber

as COVID-19 would cost a relatively low amount of \$22 to \$31 billion annually. In comparison, the COVID-19 pandemic has been estimated to cost between \$8.1 and \$15.8 trillion globally. Therefore, GET Consortium is organizing the GET Biosecurity Summit to address the enormous biosecurity threats in Nigeria by integrating various sources of knowledge and leveraging on expertise of leaders and stakeholders in public and private sectors.

GET will hold a virtual Biosecurity Summit themed: "Trans-disciplinary approach to addressing biosecurity threats in Nigeria" on the 24th of June 2021 at 12:00pm WAT. The Biosecurity Summit will address the enormous biosecurity threats in Nigeria by integrating various sources of

knowledge and leveraging on expertise of leaders and stakeholders in public and private sectors.

The Honorable Commissioner for health in Lagos state-Prof Akin Abayomi, Prof. Chukwumerije Okereke-Director for Centre for climate change at the Federal University of Ebonyi State, Prof. Alan Christoffels-Director of the South African National Bioinformatics Institute (SANBI) and Dr. Bobadoye Ayodotun- Chief Operating Officer of GET Consortium will be speaking at the online summit.

To register for GET Biosecurity Summit, Kindly visit: <http://bit.ly/GETBiosecuritySummit>

BIOSECURITY VIRTUAL SUMMIT

SPEAKERS



**PROF AKIN
ABAYOMI**
Honourable Commissioner
for Health, Lagos State

Topic: Enhancing public private partnership
in addressing the biosecurity threats



**DR. AYODOTUN
BOBADOYE**
Chief Operating Officer, GET Consortium

Topic: Understanding emerging biosecurity
threats in Nigeria



**PROF. CHUKWUMERIJE
OKEREKE**
Director for Centre for Climate Change
and Development in Alex Ekwueme
Federal University Ebonyi State

Topic: Climate Crisis Our Crisis: Finding solutions
to impacts of climate change in Nigeria



**PROF. ALAN
CHRISTOFFELS**
Director of the South African
National Bioinformatics Institute (SANBI)

Topic: Understanding use of big data and
genomics in solving emerging biosecurity threats

Theme:
**Trans-disciplinary
approach to addressing
biosecurity threats
in Nigeria**

 **Thursday, 24th June, 2021**

 **12:00pm WAT**

 **Zoom**

Registration Link:
<http://bit.ly/GETBiosecuritySummit>

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www.getafrica.org

Scholarships/Grant Opportunities For Researchers

- RNTC Media and Journalism Scholarships 2022/2023 for Media Professionals-The Netherlands (Fully Funded)
<https://www.opportunitiesforafricans.com/rntc-media-and-journalism-scholarships-2022-2023-2/>
Application Deadline: 22 June 2021
- AGriDI Grants for Digital Innovations in West Africa
<https://www.rsif-paset.org/funding-opportunity/grants-for-digital-innovations-africa/>
Deadline : June 30 2021
- WASCAL Phd Programme in Climate Change and Land Use 2021 for West African graduates.
<https://www.opportunitiesforafricans.com/wascal-phd-programme-in-climate-change-and-land-use-2021/>
Application Deadline: June 30th, 2021
- 2022 Bertha Foundation Challenge Fellowships for Activists & Investigative Journalists
<https://www.opportunitiesforafricans.com/2022-bertha-foundation-challenge-fellowships/>
Application Deadline: July 3rd, 2021
- African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) Masters Fellowship 2021/2022.
<https://opportunitydesk.org/2021/05/20/african-economic-research-consortium-masters-fellowship-2021-2022/>
Application Deadline: July 16, 2021
- hAAS Affiliates Programme 2021 for early and mid-career scientists.
<https://www.opportunitiesforafricans.com/aas-affiliates-programme-2021/>
Application Deadline: 23rd July 2021
- TWAS Seed Grant for New African Principal Investigators 2021 (Up to \$67,700)
<https://opportunitydesk.org/2021/04/26/twas-seed-grant-for-new-african-principal-investigators-2021/>
Application Deadline: July 27, 2021
- Merck Research Grants Programme 2021 for early-career Scientists (Up to EUR 450,000)
<https://opportunitydesk.org/2021/04/20/merck-research-grant-program-2021/>
Application Deadline: August 31, 2021
- AfDB Japan Africa Dream Scholarships (JADS) Program 2021 for young Africans to study in Japan (Fully Funded)
<https://www.opportunitiesforafricans.com/afdb-japan-africa-dream-scholarship-jads-program-2021/>
Application Deadline: 31 August 2021
- DAAD Postdoctoral Researchers International Mobility Experience-P.R.I.M.E. 2021 /2022 for Research Study in Germany (Funded)



<https://www.opportunitiesforafricans.com/daad-postdoctoral-researchers-international-mobility-experience/>

Application Deadline: 31 August 2021

- CEPI: Broadly Protective Beta coronavirus (BPBC) vaccine.
<https://www.catalyze-group.com/covid-19/cepi-broadly-protective-betacoronavirus-bpbc-vaccine/>

Application Deadline: 1st Oct 2021

- France DIM Elicit: special call for proposals development of innovative technologies and methods to fight SARS-COV-2
<https://dim-elicite.fr/call/appele-a-projets-special-developpement-de-technologies-et-methodes-innovantes-pour-combattre-le-sars-cov2/>

Application Deadline: Open until further notice (the end of crisis)

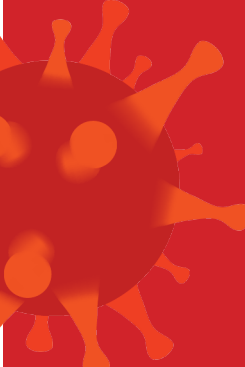
- Fund for Innovation in Development Grant Programme
<https://www2.fundsforngos.org/latest-funds-for-ngos/fund-for-innovation-in-development-grant-program/>

Application Deadline: Ongoing

- National Institutes of Health
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=326889>

Deadline : May 2023

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