



EDCTP



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PANDORA

**Pan-african network for rapid research,
response, relief and preparedness for
infectious diseases epidemics**

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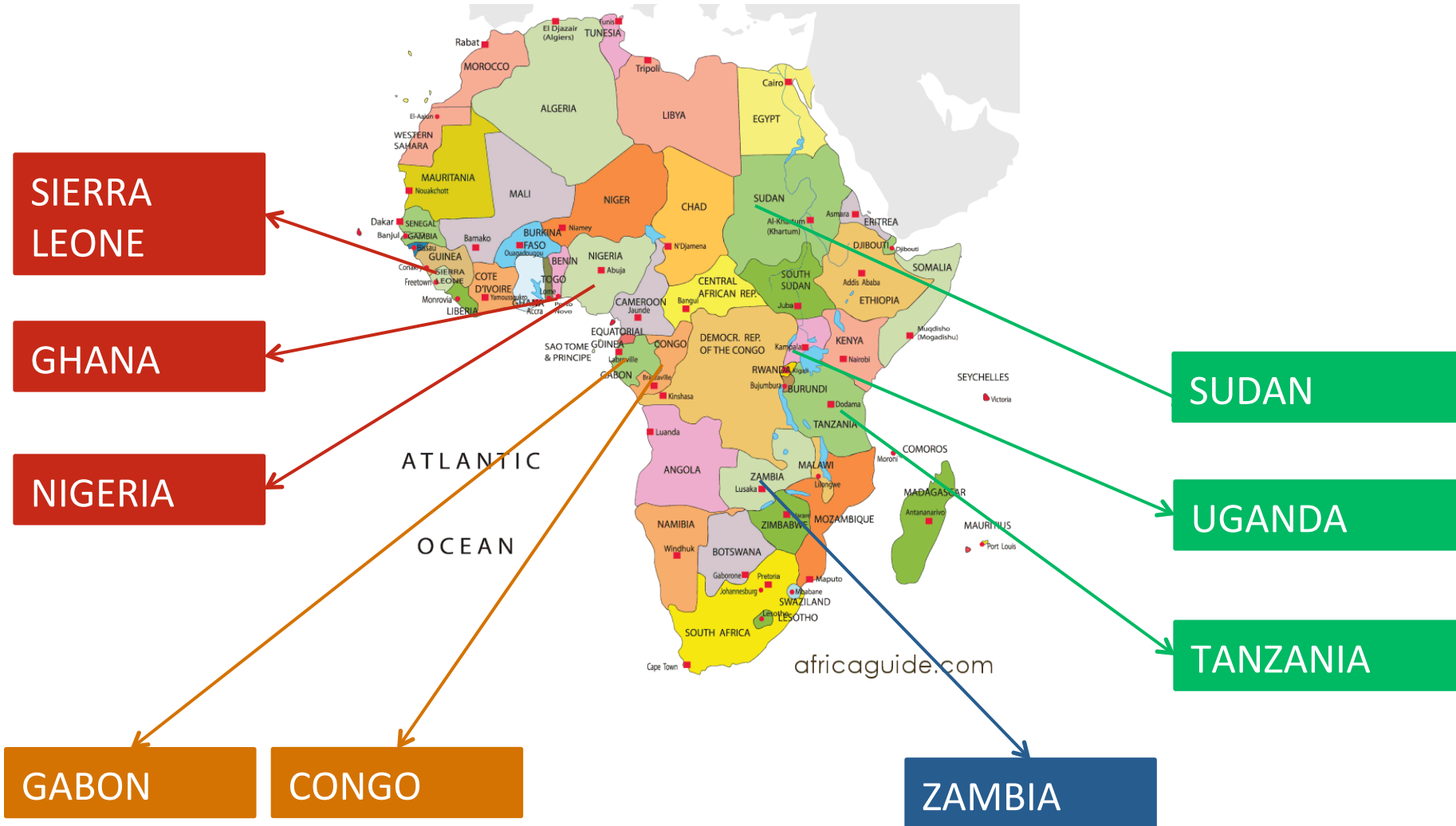


**Challenges in building capacities
for prompt response for infectious diseases
in Central Africa**

1. The Consortium

- Contract signed May 2018
- is a Human and Animal 'ONE HEALTH' multidisciplinary consortium.
- 27 partner institutions in Africa and Europe

1. PANDORA-ID NET AFRICA (18 Institutions)



PANDORA-ID-Net Europe (9 institutions)



UNITED KINGDOM



FRANCE



GERMANY



ITALY

2. Major Aim

To strengthen regional capacities and systems for enabling rapid and effective response to emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases threats arising from within Africa, or those imported from overseas.

2. Specific objectives

1. **To develop and setup robust ‘ready to go’ PANDORA-ID-NET outbreak rapid response teams,** at each of the four African regions (West, Central, East and Southern Africa)
2. To strengthen capacities for conduct of **research** (multidisciplinary operational, anthropological, social science) in human and animal
3. **To engage stakeholders** and global public health agencies during all stages of our program.

2. Strategy

Each African Region with a coordinating institution and lead clinical site, satellite clinical sites, an animal health institution and a reference laboratory.

- **West Africa** (Nigeria) - Irrua Teaching Hospital.
- **Central Africa** (Rep Congo) - Fondation Congolaise pour la Recherche Medicale
- **East Africa** (Tanzania) - National Institute for Medical Research
- **Southern Africa** (Zambia) - University of Zambia/ University Teaching Hospital .

3. Ebola Threat

- May 2018 , 8th EVD outbreak in Dem Rep of Congo
- August 2018, 9th EVD outbreak in Dem Rep of Congo (North Kivu)

Challenge. 1. Integration into the national response

1. Stakeholder meeting organized
 1. National response strategic plan
 2. Assessment of the lab capacity development and training needs
 3. Training workshop for Ethics committees members and regulatory authorities for evaluation of research protocol in emergency situation



Challenge2. Lab capacities and training



- Establishment of a community of research personnel to undertake surveillance studies.
- To develop and disseminate training materials and tools
- Lab diagnostics



Challenge3. Community engagement /Research activities

- Research protocol submitted to ERC
- Seroprevalence study begins in November 2018
- Training on diagnostics of Ebola virus (July, Sep, Nov)
- Animal surveillance studies
- Social science investigation



Conclusion

- To connect to all existing initiatives.
- To convince national authorities that local health research is needed between and during outbreaks
- Limited resources but many potential synergies exist.

Thank you for your attention

