



COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

University of Liberia

Monrovia, Liberia

Cell Phones: 0770000333 / 0777524513 / 0886 524513

Email: ulchs@ul.edu.lr

Office of the Vice President

UL/CHS/BTD-VP/61/2025

September 25, 2025

Dr. Henning Gädeke,
Chair of the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking Governing Board
c/o Dr. Michael Makanga,
Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking Executive Director
Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking
56 – 60 Avenue de la Toison d'Or
1060 Brussels
Belgium

Letter of Endorsement

RE: Participation in the project β IOSTATISTICS AND EPIDEMIOLOGY TRAINING HUBS IN WEST AFRICA – (β ETA-HUBS) submitted under the HORIZON-JU-GH-EDCTP3-2025-02-two-stage (HORIZON-JU-GH-EDCTP3-2025-02-two-stage call)

Dear Dr Gädeke and Dr. Makanga,

On behalf of the University of Liberia College of Health Sciences (ULCHS) located in Congo Town, Liberia and in accordance with Council Regulation (EU) No 2085/2021 of 19th November 2021 establishing the joint undertakings under Horizon Europe and specifically Article 9 therein, I hereby submit an application to become a contributing partner to the Global Health EDCTP3 Joint Undertaking (Global Health EDCTP3 JU).

The University of Liberia College of Health Sciences (ULCHS) is the premier institution for health education and workforce development in Liberia. While its constituent schools have decades of history, ULCHS was formally consolidated as a unified academic division on January 1, 2020, harnessing this legacy under a modern, strategic framework. The mission focuses on training skilled health professionals (doctors, nurses, midwives, pharmacists, and public health specialists) while generating research to strengthen Liberia's health system. ULCHS includes the A.M. Dogliotti College of Medicine, the School of Pharmacy, the School of Midwifery, and the School of Public Health (ULSOPH), which collectively prepare the majority of Liberia's health workforce. To enhance its research culture, the Office of Fiduciary Services was established in 2021, overseeing approximately \$16 million in international funding and maintaining rigorous compliance with donor agency standards.

The ULSOPH offers a two-year graduate program designed to fill workforce gaps in Liberia's public health sector. The curriculum emphasizes workforce-ready skills and allows students to

specialize in Applied Epidemiology, Environmental Health, Health Systems Management, or Public Health Lab. Each semester includes supervised practical experiences that provide exposure to various health sector environments, culminating in a research-based thesis. In addition, ULSOPH leads in implementation research and has conducted significant evaluations, including a longitudinal program evaluation for UNICEF and a comprehensive monitoring cycle for the "Managing Malnutrition Integrated Program." Current projects also include the GAVI-commissioned "Malaria Vaccine Program Learning Study," highlighting ULSOPH's capacity to manage complex data.

The Lead applicant Dr. Wahdae-mai Harmon-Gray is an experienced medical doctor and public health practitioner with over 12 years in clinical and public health settings. Currently, the Director of the ULSOPH, she has led multiple significant research projects as a Principal Investigator, focusing on malaria vaccine uptake, COVID-19 vaccination behaviour, and barriers to maternal health services.

UoL will lead a total of 8 work packages on stakeholder mapping (WP 7) and recruitment and selection of the students and trainees (WP 10), coursework, supervision and dissertation project (WP 12), fellow mentorship during the MSc and post-graduation (WP 13) and communication and dissemination (WPs 17-20). The specific activities to be undertaken as part of these work packages include stakeholder market mapping and engagement, create fellowship awareness and lead recruitment process, deliver coursework and supervise student placement and dissertation, and lead mentorship programme and communication and dissemination activities. UoL will also support activities in other work packages.

We remain fully committed to the project and are providing a substantial in-kind contribution to ensure the success of the project. We are committing at least 5% in-kind FTE across 5 costed ULCHS staffs on the call. This is estimated to be at least 3 weeks per costed staffs per year over the duration of 4 years. We estimate the total value of this contribution to be EUR 87,495 Euros, amounting to 15 person-months of in-kind contribution. Additional in-kind contributions which we haven't estimated include: providing educational infrastructure such as teaching room and library space, text-books, and library computers for the proposed new streams of MSc. **The overall in-kind contribution is estimated to be at least 20% of the requested budget for ULCHS.**

We confirm the following:

1. We will comply with the Horizon Europe Regulation (EU) No 2021/695; Council Regulation (EU) No 2085/2021 establishing the joint undertakings under Horizon Europe; the Model Grant Agreement for Horizon Europe and applicable Global Health EDCTP3 JU rules, including the relevant work programmes and in particular the call conditions therein.
2. We will keep all information received in the context of our involvement as contributing partner to the Global Health EDCTP3 JU confidential. This confidentiality obligation applies in particular but is not limited to the areas of Global Health EDCTP3 JU call topic preparation and publication, proposal submission and evaluation, and consortium formation. We further understand that this obligation strictly prohibits the release of confidential information to any legal entities save where specifically authorised by Global Health EDCTP3 JU. Internal dissemination of information within our organisation will be done on the basis of the "need-to-know" principle.
3. We are confident of our ability to fulfil the above commitments and further confirm our understanding that the Global Health EDCTP3 JU will allocate resources to the above topic based on these commitments.
4. The value of our contribution will be based on costs calculated in accordance with Article 6 of

the Horizon Europe Model Grant Agreement.

5. We accept that additional modalities regarding the provision of our contribution may be defined in subsequent agreements or documents, such as a funding agreement and topic text.

***β*ETA-Hubs** is a vital initiative which is led-by African academic institutions. The initiative will develop core quantitative skillsets and scientific training in the region to develop next generation African statisticians/epidemiologists and scientists in the region.

ULCHS and ULSOPH are wholeheartedly dedicated to advancing this mission by facilitating activities and providing logistical and Human resource support. Our department is focused on collaborating with the EDCTP Association and other contributing partners to develop specialized and advanced curricula in epidemiology and statistics within our existing MPH program. We also aim to support fellows in conducting meaningful research that informs relevant policies. We eagerly anticipate partnering with organizations across various countries and institutions to effectively achieve the objectives of this project.

Yours faithfully,



Dr Bernice Dahn
Vice President
College of Health Science
University of Liberia