

COUNTRY PROFILE

Ireland

EDCTP participation

Ireland in EDCTP

(2003-present)

Ireland in EDCTP: key figures

Since 2003, Ireland's EDCTP participation has combined a small institutional footprint with strong international collaboration.



7

projects involving Ireland-based institutions



4

Ireland-based **institutions involved** in EDCTP-funded projects



13

collaborating countries with Ireland-based institutions through EDCTP-funded projects



4

consortia-based **projects coordinated** by Ireland-based institutions



€1.5 M

EDCTP funding attributed to Ireland-based entities



31

international partner institutions collaborating with Ireland-based entities*

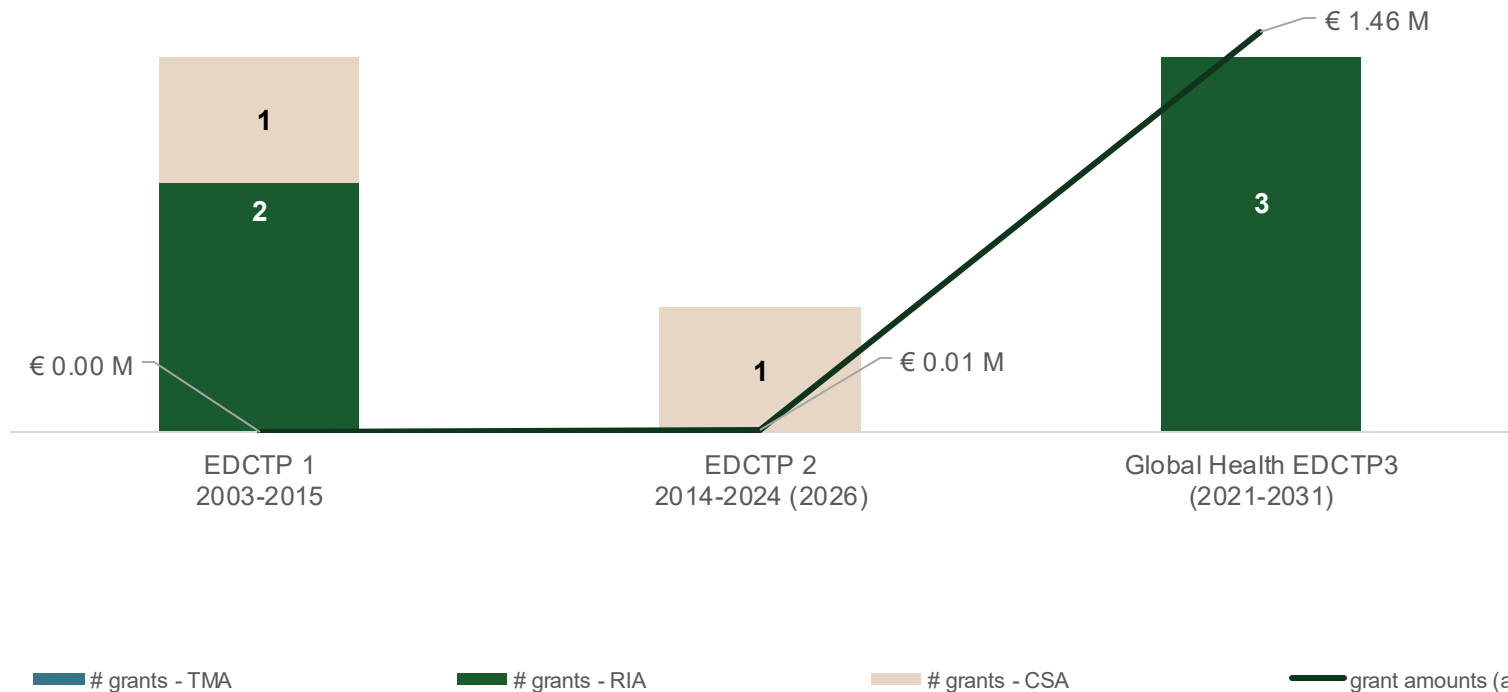
M = million

**Distinct non-Ireland institutions participating in EDCTP-funded projects that include at least one Ireland-based entity*

Ireland in EDCTP: participation over time

Ireland's participation has grown in the current EDCTP iteration, with engagement now more strongly centred on research and innovation collaborations.

Ireland participation across EDCTP iterations

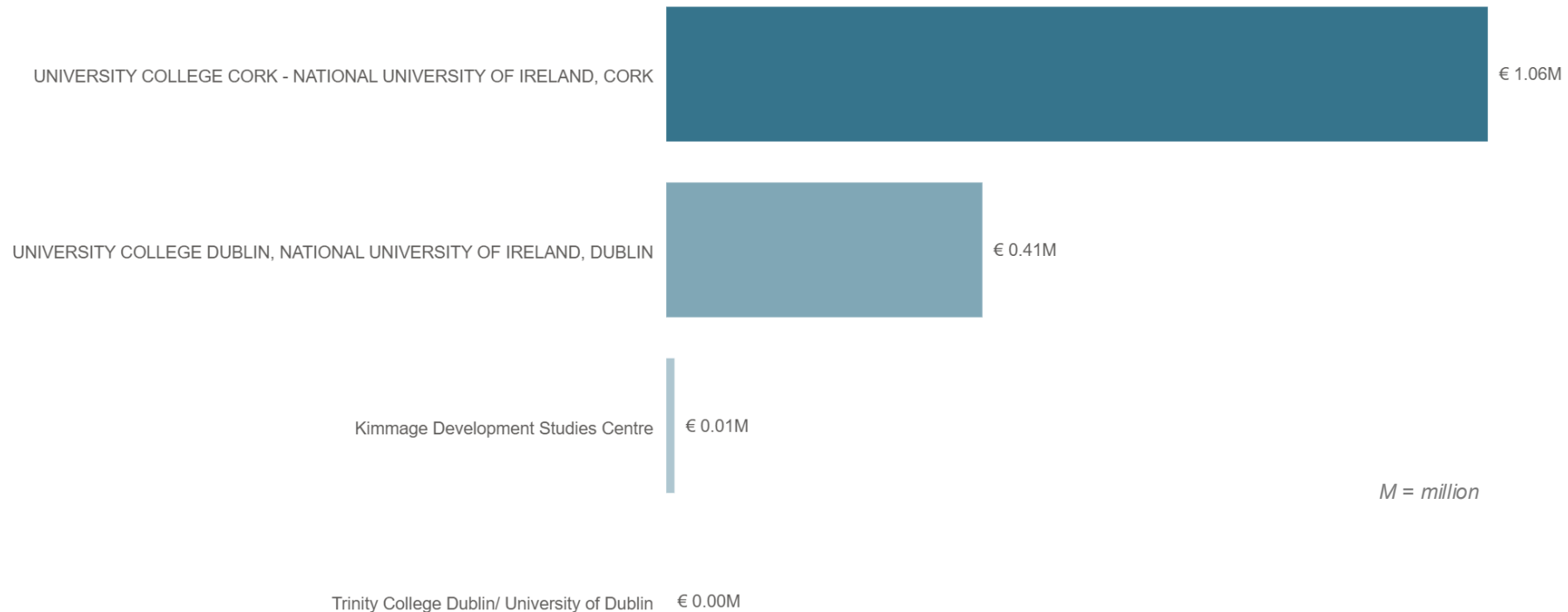


TMA = Training and Mobility Action; **RIA** = Research and Innovation Action; **CSA** = Coordination and Support Action. EDCTP1 used 10 original funding categories, which were regrouped here under TMA, RIA and CSA equivalents for over-time comparability. In Global Health EDCTP3, CSAs may include fellowship components, but not direct individual fellowship grants as under the TMA model in EDCTP 1 and 2.

Ireland in EDCTP: participating organisations

Ireland's growing EDCTP engagement is largely driven by its university sector, with academic institutions providing the main research base for its participation.

Ireland-based entities by EDCTP funding

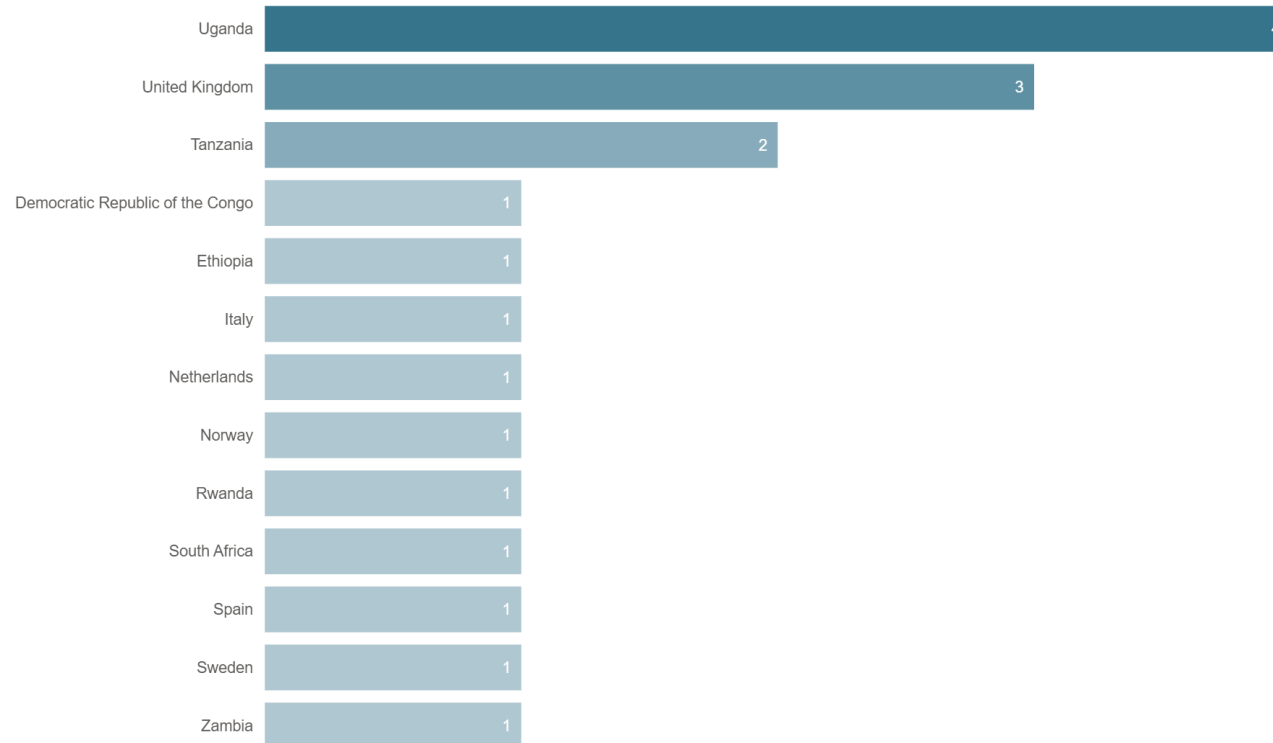


Ireland in EDCTP: international collaboration

Since 2003, EDCTP projects have connected Ireland-based institutions with partners across Africa and Europe, giving Ireland's focused portfolio a wider international reach.

13 collaborating countries: **7** in Africa | **6** in Europe

Partner countries by number of shared EDCTP-funded projects



Geographical spread of Ireland's EDCTP collaboration links



Ireland in EDCTP: project portfolio

Ireland-based participation spans a focused but diverse portfolio, from HIV and maternal-child health to mpox and Ebola preparedness.

Project	Focus	Number of project countries	Grant amount - total	Grant amount - Ireland
The META Trial (Global Health EDCTP3)	Diabetes prevention in HIV	5	€ 1.81 M	€ 0.103 M
LINDA-FAMILIA (Global Health EDCTP3)	Maternal-child digital health	7	€ 5 M	€ 1.06 M
MpoxVax AFRIVAC (Global Health EDCTP3)	Mpox vaccine immune response	5	€ 1.37 M	€ 0.303 M
ENDORSE (EDCTP2)	Ebola preparedness training	3	€ 0.2 M	€ 0.015 M
CHAPAS-3 (EDCTP1)	Paediatric HIV treatment regimens	6	€ 4.6 M	-
PPK.DDK (EDCTP1)	HIV/TB drug dosing and pharmacokinetics	2	€ 0.79 M	-
NW.2005.10501.004 (EDCTP1)	Pharmacology research networking and capacity building	2	€ 0.03 M	-
7 projects		14	€ 13.8 M	€ 1.5 M

Ireland's wider contribution to EDCTP

Beyond project participation, Ireland supported EDCTP through financial contributions and aligned in-kind activities with EDCTP objectives.

€16.5 K in-cash contribution

Ireland's contribution to the EDCTP Association (2015)

€12 M aligned in-kind investments

Value of Ireland's in-kind activities aligned with EDCTP Programme objectives (2014-2022)

Aligned in-kind activities

Supporting ecosystem development

- The NOURISH initiative supported a research cluster of academics, clinicians and policy contributors addressing **nutrition, food security and HIV**, building research capacity in Irish and Ugandan institutions. This initiative aligns with EDCTP's mission to address health inequalities through research interventions focused on vulnerable communities, particularly women and children affected by HIV.

Scaling up technologies

- Irish Aid has significantly supported Product Development Partnerships (PDPs), investing over €10 million to advance vaccines, diagnostics and medicines for neglected diseases, particularly **HIV and associated infections, malaria and tuberculosis**.

Impact example: enabling the development of next-generation tools against malaria

Ireland has made direct and indirect contributions to the development of critical new antimalarial medicines, vaccines, and diagnostic tools.

Story

Ireland's funding and scientific expertise underpin a significant share of today's pipeline of antimalarial medicines, vaccines, and diagnostics.

What changed

Irish sustained funding to MMV indirectly contributed to the development of major antimalarial medicines such as Pyramax, Coartem Baby, and Eurartesim/DHAPQ. Irish researchers contributed to the first clinical trials on malaria vaccines, with the University College of Cork currently involved in optimising malaria vaccines and the University of Galway developing an innovative mobile test and treat approach to prevent malaria relapse.

Why this matters

These contributions have helped expand the global toolkit against one of the deadliest diseases for children at every stage - treatment, prevention, and detection - while strengthening the research pipeline for future innovations.

EDCTP's contribution included:

- ✓ support to the clinical development of new medicines, vaccines and diagnostics against malaria
- ✓ support to capacity development and networks supporting these trials and enabling future interventions

[More info here](#)



EDCTP project highlight

An Irish partner contributed to the ENDORSE project, strengthening the capacity of health workers and institutions to manage emerging infections, including Ebola.

ENDORSE was an EDCTP-funded capacity-building project (2016–2018) that strengthened Ebola preparedness in northern Uganda, a region at continued risk of Ebola outbreaks and other emerging infectious diseases.

The project developed a **train-the-trainer** programme on infection prevention and control, biosafety and personal protective measures, equipping **19 trainers from nine hospitals**, who subsequently trained **144 healthcare workers** across the region.

By reinforcing the capacity of hospitals and laboratories to safely manage highly infectious diseases, **ENDORSE improved outbreak preparedness** while creating a sustainable model for cascading expertise to additional health facilities.

Ebola outbreak preparedness



EDCTP project highlight

An Irish partner contributed to the CHAPAS trials, ensuring that many more children with HIV have benefited from life-saving antiretrovirals.

CHAPAS was an EDCTP-funded clinical trial programme (2005–2011) established to improve HIV treatment for African children by evaluating child-friendly fixed-dose combination antiretroviral therapies. The consortium, led by the University Teaching Hospital in Zambia, brought together partners from Uganda, Zambia, Ireland, the Netherlands, the UK, and the USA.

The studies generated the evidence that supported US FDA approval of Triomune Baby and Triomune Junior and confirmed the safety and effectiveness of paediatric fixed-dose combinations. These were provided through the US President's Emergency Plan for HIV/AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the Clinton HIV/AIDS Initiative.

CHAPAS directly informed WHO recommendations on optimal drug ratios and weight-based dosing for paediatric fixed-dose combinations, and later provided the evidence underpinning WHO's recommendation of abacavir-containing regimens as first-line HIV therapy for children.

Pediatric HIV treatment

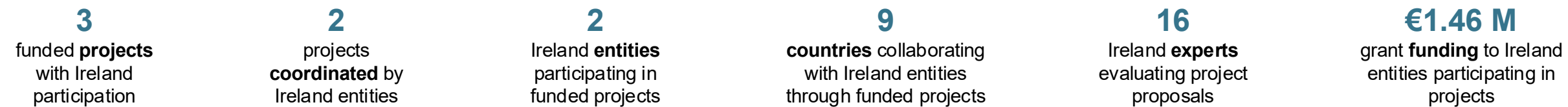


Ireland in Global Health EDCTP3

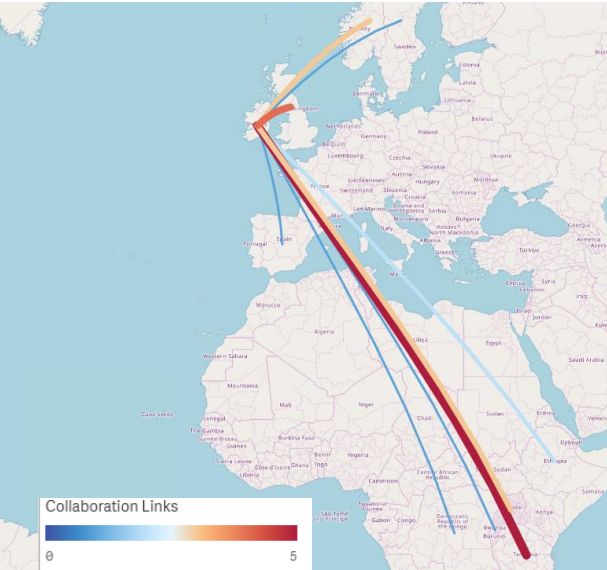
(2021-present)

Ireland in Global Health EDCTP3: key figures

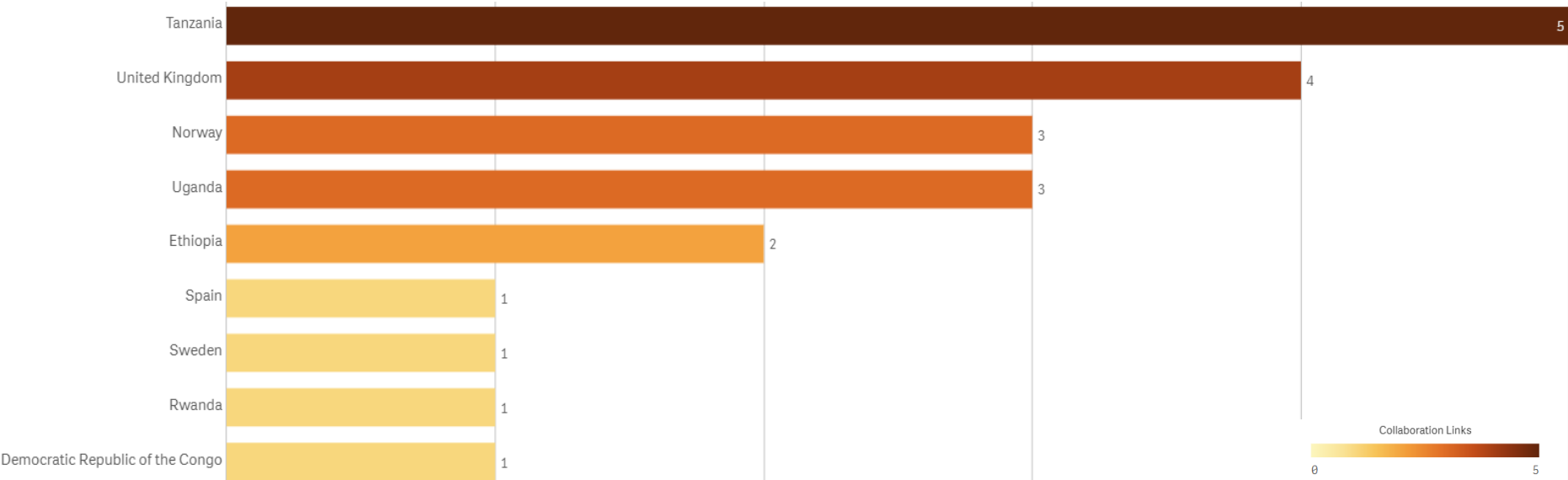
Since 2021, Ireland's participation has strengthened through expanding collaboration networks, connecting Ireland-based entities with partners across Africa and Europe.



Geographical distribution of Ireland's collaboration links



Collaborating countries with Ireland's in funded projects (number of links)



Governance and advisory input

Ireland has contributed through governance and scientific advice, linking national expertise to EDCTP's programme-level work.

ADVISORY

1

Ireland-affiliated representative in the
Global Health EDCTP3 Scientific Committee

Ceppie Merry

Scientific Committee

Trinity College Dublin

GOVERNANCE

3

Ireland-affiliated representatives in the
EDCTP Association General Assembly

Prof. David Weakliam

General Assembly
Irish Health Service Executive

Mr Vincent Maher, Mr Patrick Empey
(past representatives)

General Assembly
Irish Aid / Department of Foreign Affairs



In 2014



Ireland became member
of the EDCTP Association

Project highlight: MpoxVax AFRIVAC

Ireland-based coordination helps generate evidence to guide mpox vaccination strategies and strengthen clinical trial capacity in affected African settings.

The challenge:

- Limited evidence on MVA-BN vaccine immune response strength, durability, and protection duration.
- Existing clinical data is largely based on European MSM populations.

Expected impact:

- Extend MpoxVax trial to DRC, Tanzania and Uganda to assess MVA-BN vaccine immune responses.
- Evaluate immune biomarkers and validated assays to distinguish infection- vs vaccine-induced immunity and strengthen regional clinical trial capacity.



Coordinator:
University College Dublin, Ireland

Countries: **Ireland, Tanzania, UK, Uganda, DRC**

Funding: **€1,371,783.75**

Project length: **2024 – 2027**

<https://www.mpoxvaxafrivac.eu/>
https://www.global-health-edctp3.europa.eu/projects/mpoxvax-afrivac_en



Project highlight: LINDA FAMILIA

Ireland-based coordination helps advance digital health tools to improve maternal, neonatal, and child health outcomes across East Africa.

The challenge:

- Health systems in East Africa are fragmented and still largely paper-based.
- High maternal and neonatal mortality persists, where better digital tools could improve outcomes.

Expected impact:

- Introduce a dozen evidence-based digital health technologies for maternal, neonatal, and child health.
- Improve patient-related information capture and storage, patient referrals, clinical decisions, workforce planning and patient communication.



Coordinator:
University College Cork, Ireland

Scientific leader:
The Good Samaritan Foundation, Tanzania

Countries: **Ireland, Tanzania, Norway, Ethiopia, UK, Uganda, Rwanda**

Funding: **€4,998,562.50**

Project length: **2025 – 2029**

https://www.global-health-edctp3.europa.eu/projects/linda-familia_en

Project highlight: The META Trial

Ireland's participation supports research evidence on diabetes prevention among people living with HIV, contributing to improved long-term care strategies.

The challenge:

- High prevalence of undiagnosed type 2 diabetes and pre-diabetes among people living with HIV in SSA.
- Limited feasibility of delivering interventions to prevent progression to diabetes.

Expected impact:

- Complete recruitment and three-year follow-up of over 2,000 people living with HIV in Tanzania.
- Provide policymakers with evidence on the efficacy of *metformin* for diabetes prevention in this critical group.



Coordinator:
Instituto de Salud Global de Barcelona,
Spain

Scientific leader:
National Institute for Medical Research,
Tanzania

Countries: **Spain, Tanzania, Sweden,**
Ireland, UK

Funding: **€1,811,067.50**

Project length: **2025 – 2026**

https://www.global-health-edctp3.europa.eu/projects/meta-trial_en



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Thank you!

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