

## **Main Auditorium**

### **Workshop I: African Initiatives to Respond to Diagnostic Human Resource Capacity Needs**

**Description:** Addressing the critical shortage of skilled lab workers, estimated to be around 840 000 diagnostics staff, should be a crucial target for all high, medium, and low-income countries. Reasons for the shortage vary from little to the absence of recognition, career pathways and training, and more. The COVID-19 pandemic further exposed, even in developed economies, the limited laboratory diagnostic capacity at the levels required to respond to a pandemic and for routine situations. It generally takes 5-10 years to produce a fully competent laboratory professional. In LIMC, the challenge is producing enough and maintaining the skills in the ever-changing technological advances. As a result, various actors have poured resources into post-service training. Still, the outcomes of such investments are not easily measurable, mainly due to a lack of staffing norms and standard metrics to measure progress toward a sustainable technical workforce for the present and future.

Just like during the peak of the pandemic, many of the laboratory systems and workforce capacity-strengthening efforts continue to be ad-hoc emergency and online training to build up the human capacity required to increase testing rates for priority diseases. Consequently, the contribution of all these toward an immediate response to outbreaks, to the WHO International Health Regulations requirements, professional recognition, and career development remains bleak. This session highlights some African initiatives designed to close these gaps in a context where competency requirements and staffing norms for various laboratory functions and quality standards for educational materials are often missing. The session will show, using case studies, how diagnostic laboratory professionals' training can incorporate key proven concepts of adult and workforce capacity-building best practices to improve the effectiveness of diagnostic laboratory human capacity training in

routine and emergencies. The session will also raise awareness of the need to introduce formal professional certification, qualification, and registration to build a sustainable workforce.

**April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

8:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m

#### **Panelists:**

Dr. Nirmal Ravi, Director, EHealth Africa

Dr. Denis Zofou, Research Group Lead and AMR Program Coordinator, University of Buea, Cameroon

**Moderator:** Anafi Mataka, Portfolio Lead, African Society for Laboratory Medicine (ASLM)

#### **Bios:**

### **Atrium Gallery**

**Workshop II:** Building Professional Capacity in Clinical Research to Improve Response to Emerging Epidemics and Pandemics

**Description:**

**April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

8:45 a.m – 10:00 a.m

**Panelists:**

Dr. Dennis Adu-Gyasi, Deputy Chief Medical Laboratory Scientist/Research Fellow, Kintampo Health Research Centre (KHRC)

Dr. Stephen B. Kennedy, Senior Researcher and Principal Investigator (PI), UL-PIRE Africa Center, an Infectious Disease Research Center

Dr. Toyosi Raheem, Head, Molecular Biology Department, Nigerian Institute of Medical Research

**Moderator:** Gaeduo K. Stewart, Senior Project Manager, Africabio Enterprises, Inc.

**Bios:**

### **Main Auditorium**

**Workshop III:** Laboratory Profession Pathway- (Sustainable through National Approved Scheme of Service)

**Description:**

**April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

10:15 a.m – 11:30 a.m

**Panelists:**

Dr. Abdourahmane Sow, Senior Medical Epidemiologist/Head of Laboratories Services, Epidemic Control and Public Health Laboratories, West African Health Organization (WAHO)

Dr. Abu Abudul Rahamani, President, Ghana Association of Medical Laboratory Scientists (GAMLS)

Prof. James Damen, President, Association of Medical Laboratory Scientists Nigeria (AMLSN)

Nkechi A. Nwoke, Executive Director; Retired Director, SNT Consultancy Ltd.; Medical Laboratory Service, Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH)

**Moderator:** Dr. Haja. Isatta M. Wurie, Senior Lecturer and Coordinator Laboratory Medicine, College of Medicine and Allied Health Science, University of Sierra Leone

**Bios:**

**Atrium Gallery****Workshop IV:** Diagnostic and Vaccines for Africa**Description:****April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

10:15 a.m – 11:30 a.m

**Panelists:**

Dr. Anthony Laud Basing, Consultant Medical Laboratory Scientist, Lecturer at KNUST and CEO of Incas Diagnostics, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Incas Diagnostics  
McPaul Okoye, Branch Chief, U. S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (U. S. CDC)

Ellen Munemo, Country Team Lead, Infectious Disease Detection and Surveillance (IDDS)

Pr Mounerou Salou, Full Professor/Head of AMR, University of Lome/National Reference Lab, Lome Togo

**Moderator:** Dr. Akhona Tshangela, Senior Technical Officer & Programme Coordinator, Partnerships for African Vaccine Manufacturing (PAVM) Africa CDC

**Bios:****Main Auditorium****Workshop V:** Assurance of Patient Safety through the Clinical Laboratory Value Chain**Description:****April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m

**Panelists:**

Dr. Aliu Israel, National Laboratory Manager, Clina-Lancet Laboratories

Dr. Emmanuel Akhaumere, Deputy Director, Department of Clinical Chemistry, National Hospital, Abuja

Mrs. Uzoamaka R. Anoke, Deputy Director, Department of Hematology, National Hospital, Abuja

**Moderator:** Mr. Oko Eze, Manager, Quality Affairs, DCL Laboratory Products, Ltd.

**Bios:**

### **Atrium Gallery**

**Workshop VI:** Applied Biosafety/Biosecurity Issues in Medical Laboratories in an Era of Emerging & Re-Emerging Infectious Diseases

**Description:**

**April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m

**Panelists:**

Dr. Donald Ofili, Director & Deputy Registrar, MLSCN Accreditation Service, Medical Laboratory Science Council of Nigeria

Dr. Olivier Manigart, Senior Team Leader, GFA, Project to Support West African Health Organization (WAHO)

Pr Djibril Sangare, Professor at the Faculty of Medicine and Odontostomatology (FMOS), University of Science, Techniques and Technologies of Bamako (USTTB)

**Moderator:** Dr. Toyosi Y. Raheem, Molecular Biology Department, Nigerian Institute of Medical Research

**Bios:**

### **Main Auditorium**

**Workshop VII:** Medical Laboratory Science Regulation in West Africa: The Medical Laboratory Science Council of Nigeria experience

**Description:**

**April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

4:30 p.m – 5:45 p.m

**Panelists:**

Dr. Ignatius A. N. Awinibuno, Chief Programme Officer, Allied Health - Ministry of Health Ghana

Dr. Haja. Isatta M. Wurie, Senior Lecturer and Coordinator Laboratory Medicine, College of Medicine and Allied Health Science, University of Sierra Leone

Dr. Prince Sodoke Amuzu, Former District Chief Executive/ Board Member, Akatsi North District Assembly Allied Professions Council, and HO Teaching Hospital

**Moderator:** Dr. Donald Ofili, Director & Deputy Registrar, MLSCN Accreditation Service, Medical Laboratory Science Council of Nigeria

**Bios:**

### **Atrium Gallery**

**Workshop VIII:** Developing the Capacity and Expertise of Professionals in Clinical Trials: Addressing Challenges of Processes and Regulations in Relation to Emerging and Re-emerging Diseases

**Description:**

**April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

4:30 p.m – 5:4 p.m

**Panelists:**

Dr. Mosoka P. Fallah, Country Engagement/Technical Assistance Team Lead, Saving Lives and Livelihoods Programme, Africa Center for Disease Control (Africa CDC), African Union

Dr. Momoh Gbetuwa, Coordinator, College of Medicine and Allied Health Sciences (COMAHS), Ministry of Health and Sanitation (MOHS) Freetown, Sierra Leone

Candace B. Eastman, Founder/CEO, Africabio Enterprises, Inc.

Dr. James Duworko, Director, PREVAIL

**Moderator:** Dr. Dennis Adu-Gyasi, Deputy Chief Medical Laboratory Scientist/Research Fellow, Kintampo Health Research Centre (KHRC)

**Bios:**

### **Main Auditorium**

**Workshop IX:** Blood Banking – Apheresis

**Description:**

**April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

8:45 a.m – 10:00 a.m

**Panelists:**

Mr. Idris Saliu, Former Country Director, Safe Blood for Africa

**Bios:**

### **Atrium Gallery**

**Workshop X:** Exploring the Intersection of Tech Transfer, Innovation, and Biobanking in West Africa and Beyond

**Description:**

**April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

8:45 a.m – 10:00 a.m

**Panelists:**

Dr. Dougbeh Chris Nyan, Chief Medical & Scientific Officer, Shufflex Biomed, LLC

Prof. Alexander Yaw Debrah, Dean, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Incas Diagnostics

Dr. Nkereuwem Sunday O. Etukudoh, Provost/Chief Executive Officer, Federal School of Medical Laboratory Technologies Science, Jos Nigeria

Dr. Moses Massaquoi, Country Director, Clinton Health Access Initiative -Liberia Office

Dr. Kassaye Tekie Desta, Team Lead, USAID Infectious Disease Detection, and Surveillance (IDDS)

**Moderator:** Dr. Anthony Laud Basing, Consultant Medical Laboratory Scientist, Lecturer at KNUST, and CEO of Incas Diagnostics, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Incas Diagnostics

**Bios:**

### **Main Auditorium**

**Workshop XI:** Combating Antimicrobial Resistance in Africa: Strategies, Challenges, and Suggestions for Success

**Description:** Antimicrobial resistance is a complex public health menace driven by several interconnected factors. In Africa, despite the high burden of infectious diseases, the overall burden of antimicrobial resistance is not fully understood due to inadequate data. Notwithstanding, reports from the Africa Region continue to highlight alarmingly persistent cases of antimicrobial resistance, underscoring the urgent need for intensification of efforts in the fight against antimicrobial resistance, whose impact is no longer a crisis for the health sector, but presents a developmental challenge. Workshop # 11 entitled 'Combating Antimicrobial Resistance in Africa: Strategies, Challenges, and Suggestions for Success' will take the format of a panel discussion, during which there will be exciting and thought-provoking discussions on the implementation of various actions in the fight against antimicrobial resistance (surveillance stewardship, diagnostics, infection prevention and control (IPC), and regulation) in Africa, challenges in the implementation of these actions, and make proposals for success in the fight against antimicrobial resistance in Africa. You are welcome to be part of this panel discussion.

**April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

10:15 a.m – 11:30 a.m

**Panelists:**

Edwin Shumba, Portfolio Lead, African Society for Laboratory Medicine (ASLM)

Dr. Francis Kakooza, Deputy Head, Global Health Security Department, Infectious Diseases Institute-Makerere University  
Calvin N. OyongAkorn, Programs Analyst, Global Health Systems Solutions (GHSS)

Pr Mounerou Salou, Full Professor/Head of AMR, University of Lome/National Reference Lab, Lome Togo

**Moderator:** Prof. Jane-Francis Akoachere, Professor of Microbiology/Vice Dean of Faculty of Science

**Bios:**

### **Atrium Gallery**

**Workshop XII:** Synergizing Competency and Quality in the Laboratory for Early Detection of Emerging and Re-emerging Infectious Diseases

**Description:** This session aims to examine the technical and managerial challenges impeding early laboratory detection of emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases in the West Africa sub-region, especially in the aspect of laboratory competency and quality practice, with a view to proffering solutions. Additionally, panelists will brainstorm on the roadmap for a smooth transition from ISO15189: 2012 to ISO 15189: 2022.

**April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

10:15 a.m – 11:30 a.m

#### **Panelists:**

Funmilola Mapayi, Director of Total Laboratory Services, AFCC  
Dr. Chinelo Ebruke, Project Manager, PROLAB Project (WAHO), GFA Consulting Group GmbH

Dr. Lawrena Okoro, Director of Accreditation/Deputy Registrar/Director, Nigeria National Accreditation System/Medical Laboratory Science Council of Nigeria

Emmanuel Adewale Ojo, Senior Technical Advisor, Laboratory Services (QMS), APIN Public Health Initiatives

Tegomo Alain A., Project Coordinator, Global Health Systems Solutions (GHSS)

**Moderator:** Air Cdre. Edward A. Akinwale (Rdt), Air Cdre. Edward A. Akinwale (Rdt), Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine (HJF), Nigeria

**Bios:**

### **Main Auditorium**

**Workshop XIII:** Understanding the Rise of Cardiometabolic Diseases in the Era of Emerging and Re-emerging Infectious Diseases/Hematology

**Description:** This session aims to highlight people with cardiometabolic disease, including those with obesity, diabetes, atherosclerosis, cardiovascular disease, hypertension, and heart failure, are all at increased risk of COVID-19-related morbidity and mortality. Also, understanding the rise in Cardiometabolic diseases entails early diagnosis, monitoring of response to therapy, and prevention of complications. There is a need to strengthen and support the capacity and performance of the health systems.

**April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

1:30 p.m – 2:45 p.m

#### **Panelists:**

Prof. Sahr Gevao, Hematologist - Pathologist Consultant, Ministry of Health, Sierra Leone

**Moderator:** Prof. Adeola Olanrewaju Oluboyo, Professor of Chemical Pathology, Department of Medical Laboratory Science, Afe Babalola University

**Bios:**

### **Atrium Gallery**

**Workshop XIV:** The Role of Emergency Care Services in Surveillance and Pandemic Preparedness

**Description:** Emergency care systems play a vital role in detecting and responding to pandemics, as evidenced by past case studies that demonstrate their effectiveness. To improve surveillance and pandemic preparedness, better communication and collaboration between emergency and public health systems are key. This panel will focus on highlighting this interconnectedness and discussing strategies for strengthening emergency care systems and enhancing pandemic preparedness.

**Date:** April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023; **Time:** 1:30 p.m – 2:45 p.m

#### **Panelists:**

Dr. Kehinde Ojifinni, Consultant Emergency Physician and Head of Emergency Department, University College Hospital

Dr. Foster Ansong-Bridjan, Director for Operations, National Ambulance Service

Dr. Joseph Bonney, Specialist Emergency Medicine, Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital

Dr. James Duworko, Director, PREVAIL

McPaul Okoye, Branch Chief, U. S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (U. S. CDC)

**Moderator:** Dr. Abiola Fasina Ayoola, Medical Director/CEO, Emergency Healthcare Consultants (EHCON)

#### **Bios:**

### **Main Auditorium**

**Workshop XV:** Biogenetic Implications of Lassa Fever Virus Transmission, recent Epidemics in West Africa, and Public Health Challenges

**Description:** Lassa fever virus infection has been endemic to West Africa since the 1950s when it was first diagnosed. Since then, this zoonotic viral infection has posed a public health challenge to Nigeria, Benin, Ghana, Liberia, Mali, Guinea, Sierra Leone, and other countries. To date, the dynamics of Lassa virus infections in the rodent primary host and humans remain poorly understood amidst the multiple recurrent epidemics in the region during the last two decades. Thus, this session will discuss issues of biogenetic implications, understanding of the transmission risk, public health policies and research, as well as mitigation and ultimate eradication of Lassa fever in humans.

**April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

3:00 p.m – 4:15 p.m

#### **Panelists:**

Edwin Shumba, Portfolio Lead, African Society for Laboratory Medicine (ASLM)

Ekanem Blessing Udoh, National Professional Officer – Laboratory, World Health Organization (WHO), Nigeria

Dr. James Duworko, Director, PREVAIL

McPaul Okoye, Branch Chief, U. S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (U. S. CDC)

Emmanuel Kerkula, Laboratory Technician, UNC Liberia

**Moderator:** Dr. Dougbah Chris Nyan, Chief Medical & Scientific Officer, Shufflex Biomed, LLC

#### **Bios:**



**Atrium Gallery**

**Workshop XVI:** The Role of National Public Health Institutes in Epidemics and Pandemic: from Ebola to Covid-19

**Description:**

**April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

3:00 p.m – 4:15 p.m

**Panelists:**

Raji Tajudeen, Head, Division of Public Health Institutes and Research – Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) African Union Commission

Dr. Akinpelu Afolabi, Deputy Director/Lab Manager, Nigeria Center for Disease Control (NCDC)

Dr. Mohamed A. Vandi, Director General, National Public Health Institute, Sierra Leone

**Moderator:** Dr. Mosoka P. Fallah, Country Engagement/Technical Assistance Team Lead, Saving Lives and Livelihoods Programme, Africa Center for Disease Control (Africa CDC), African Union

**Bios:**