Call for Application: Post-doctoral Fellowships 2025-2027

African Leishmaniases Consortium (ALC)

Third Round

The African Leishmaniases Consortium (ALC) is seeking applications for training on the postdoctoral fellowship program as part of the initiative for enhancing the competencies of future research leaders on Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTD) in Africa. The initiative is supported with research grant funding from the DELTAS Africa II program managed by the Science for Africa Foundation (SFA) with financial support from the Wellcome Trust and the Foreign Commonwealth & Development Office, FCDO, United Kingdom. The third round call by the ALC will be used to award 5 postdoctoral fellowship training grants to PhD holders who are interested in benefiting from the training in Africa. The successful candidates will be mandated to participate on research activities designed to achieve the objectives and deliverables of the ALC being implemented through the seven (7) Research Priority Project Networks (RPPN) of ALC designed to contribute to efforts towards control and elimination of Leishmaniases in Africa.

Postdoctoral Fellows receiving the awards will have the unique opportunity to gain experience from a multidisciplinary team of collaborating experts from different institutions and a broad scope of disciplines leading each RPPN. This opportunity would be beneficial to the fellows to develop holistic strategies towards control and elimination of Leishmaniases in Africa.

Fellowship recipients will be required to actively participate in the activities on the objectives and deliverables of the RPPN including field surveys. Each fellow will benefit from supervision by at least two senior scientists selected among the RPPN research leaders and staff. The fellows will also be engaged in ALC mentorship program focusing on capacity building and career development. Each recipient will receive monthly stipend, financial contributions for: research expenses, publication, participation in an international conference and visit to RPPN institution(s). Fellowship recipients will participate to the ALC *Signature 8-week training* program for Public Health and Research Leaders

Research Project Priority Network (RPPN)

Postdoctoral Fellowship applications must focus on one of the Research Project Priority Network (RPPN) listed below during this round of the call. The activities of the RPPN are designed to address challenges for the control and elimination of Leishmaniases in Africa.

African Leishmaniases Consortium

RPPN / Host Institution	Post doc Position	Areas of work/ Aims	Partner Institutions
RPPN3- Diagnostics evaluation for Implementation / Any African institution listed here	1	Assays implementation in surveillance and control Assays implementation for patient management Economic evaluation for novel or enhanced diagnostics options in selected settings	-Institut Pasteur de Tunis - Institute for Global Health, Barcelona, Spain - Institut Pasteur d'Algérie, Alger, Algeria - Institut Pasteur Maroc, Casablanca, Morocco
RPPN4- Genomics for vector and reservoir investigations / University Clinical Research Center, USTTB	1	Validation of sensitive tests for on time cycle investigation (vectors, reservoirs, ..)	- University Clinical Research Center, USTT Bamako, Mali -Institut Pasteur de Tunis, Tunisia - Institut Pasteur d'Algérie, Alger, Algeria -Institut Pasteur de Maroc, Casablanca, Morocco - The University of Ibadan Research Foundation (UI-RF), Ibadan, Nigeria - Armauer Hansen Research Institute, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia - Sudan
RPPN5- Vector dynamics & control / Institut Pasteur d'Algérie	1	Establishment of salivary-gland biomarkers technique for vector control assessment.	- Institut Pasteur d'Algérie, Alger, Algeria - Institut Pasteur de Tunis, Tunisia - University of Sciences, Techniques and Technology of Bamako, Mali -Barcelona Institute for Global Healh, Spain -Institut Pasteur du Maroc, Casablanca, Morocco

RPPN6- Disease and risk factors distribution, socio-cultural determinants of dynamics, and persistence of transmission in the communities / Armauer Hansen Research Institute	1	Modeling and risk maps using health geography approaches	- Armauer Hansen Research Institute, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia - Institut Pasteur d'Algérie, Alger, Algeria -Barcelona Institute for Global Health, Spain - The University of Ibadan Research Foundation (UI-RF), Ibadan, Nigeria -Sudan
RPPN7- Strategic research and translation to options and impacts for policy imperatives / University of Ibadan Research Foundation	1	Translation of research outputs into policy options and policy briefs	- The University of Ibadan Research Foundation (UI-RF), Ibadan, Nigeria -Institute for Global Health, Barcelona, Spain -Institut Pasteur de Tunis, Tunisia -University of Sciences, Techniques and Technology of Bamako, Mali -Armauer Hansen Research Institute, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia - Institut Pasteur d'Algérie, Alger, Algeria - Sudan

List of Post doc supervisors of ALC

Each postdoctoral fellow will be supervised by at least 2 supervisors among ALC research leaders and staff.

RPPN	Supervisors	Expertise

1- Novel biomarkers and assays for CL: development and evaluation	-Pr. Ikram Guizani, Tunisia - Dr Insaf Belhadj Ali, Tunisia - Dr. Endalamaw Gadisa, Ethiopia - Pr. Seydou Doumbia, Mali - Pr. Akila Fathallah, Tunisia	Molecular biology, diagnostics Molecular biology, diagnostics Epidemiology/molecular, spatial Epidemiology/molecular Clinical parasitology
2-Novel biomarkers and assays for VL diagnosis & patient management	Dr. Endalamaw Gadisa, Ethiopia Dr. Kamel Eddine Ben Allal, Algeria Pr. Khadija Benkhadir Essafi, Tunisia Dr Insaf Belhadj Ali, Tunisia	Epidemiology/molecular, spatial Epidemiology/molecular Mol Biology, Biotechnology Molecular biology, diagnostics
3- Diagnostics evaluation for Implementation	Pr. Ikram Guizani, Tunisia Pr. Akila Fathallah, Tunisia Dr. Elisa Sicuri, Spain Dr. Kamel Benallal	Genomics, molecular biology Clinical parasitology Health Economy Epidemiology/Entomology/control
4- Genomics for vector and reservoir investigations	Pr Seydou Doumbia, Mali Dr. Kamel Eddine Benallal, Algeria Pr. Souheila Guerbouj , Tunisia	Epidemiology, vector's genomics Entomology, Reservoirs, Control Molecular epidemiology
5- Vectors control and impact on dynamics	Dr. Kamel Eddine Benallal / Algeria Dr. Ismail Lafri / Algeria Pr. Youmna Mghirbi / Tunisia Pr. Souheila Guerbouj/ Tunisia Dr. Elisa Sicuri/ Spain	Entomology, vector control Vet microbiology Molecular entomology Genomics, Molecular epidemiol Socio-economic determinants of health
6- Disease and risk factors distribution, socio-cultural determinants of dynamics, and persistence of transmission in the communities	Dr. Endalamaw Gadisa, Ethiopia Pr. Angela Chukwu, Nigeria Dr. Elisa Sicuri, Spain Dr. Rafik Garni, Algeria Dr. Kamel Eddine Benallel, Algeria	Epidemiology inc. Spatial & Molecular epidemiology Mathematical modeling Health economy; Socio-economic determinants of health Epidemiology and ArcGIS mapping Entomology, Reservoirs, Control
7- Strategic research and translation to options and impacts for policy imperatives	Pr. Ayoade Oduola, Nigeria Pr. Angela Chukwu, Nigeria Dr. Elisa Sicuri, Spain Pr. Seydou Doumbia, Mali Dr. Endalamaw Gadisa, Ethiopia Dr. Kamel Eddine Benallal, Algeria Dr. Ikram Guizani, Tunisia	Global health/ Policy imperatives Mathematical Modeling Health Economy Epidemiology, vector genomics Spatial epidemiology Entomology, control Applied technologies, Leishmaniases

Africa

Duration of ALC Postdoctoral Fellowships

Each postdoctoral fellowship will be awarded for a total of two years of research residence at one of the partner institutions hosting one of the RPPNs of the ALC in Africa.

Eligibility Criteria for ALC Postdoctoral Fellowship

Each recipient of the Postdoctoral Fellowship must be an African citizen and make the commitment to work on the project in an ALC institution in Africa hosting one of the 7 RPPN of ALC during this post-doc training. In addition, each recipient must meet the following requirements:

- Hold a PhD degree in the area of his/ her research interest and discipline including (but not exclusively) biotechnology, molecular biology, bioinformatics / genomics, epidemiology, public health with focus on qualitative study or sociology/anthropology or spatial statistics/geospatial health, mathematical modeling, health economy.
- The PhD must have been completed not more than 7 years at the time of the application.
- Competitive selection framework will particularly welcome the participation of female applicants.
- Among expected outcomes: Publication of a minimum of 1 peer reviewed open access research article in addition to regular reports that are approved by the RPPN supervisors, to be evaluated for satisfactory progress by the scientific committee of ALC.

Fellowship Contract Agreement

Each recipient of the fellowship will be required to sign a fellowship agreement contract with the ALC predicated on the Grant agreement with the SFA guidelines on "Rules for Granting and Management of Grants". The contract can only be signed after receipt of all the documentation required according to the fellowship. Once all the documentation has been received, the contracting entity has a period of 60 working days to conclude the fellowship contract. Once received, the fellow must return the contract duly signed within 15 working days to the secretariat of the ALC. The activities under the fellowship can only begin after proper authorization by the RPPN hosting institution and the secretariat of ALC.

Application Procedure

Interested applicants must submit the following documents:

- **Completed application form**.
- **A motivation letter**
- A copy of most recent **curriculum vitae** (CV)
- Three (3) letters of support for the application also explaining the relationship between the applicant and the referee, with at least one (1) from the institution, familiar with the applicant's PhD training. **The letters should be directly sent by the referees to the ALC secretariat at the following email address (infoALC@pasteur.utm.tn)**
- Certified copies of diplomas, degree certificates and evidence of completion of the PhD within the past 7 years (**Transcripts in French or other language then English should be translated)**.
- **A signed engagement to certify the applicant engagement to travel from host research institution to other partner's institution for training.**

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- All application materials should be submitted via email to **infoALC@pasteur.utm.tn** by the application deadline.

Important Dates:

- **Call for Applications Release:** October 3, 2025
- **Application Deadline:** November 3, 2025
- **Grant Award Announcement:** November 30, 2025
- **Project Start Date:** asap in December 2025

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