



Beyond Good Intentions -
the Research Fairness Initiative

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EDCTP and NOW meeting
The Hague, 15 January 2019



Grand Challenges

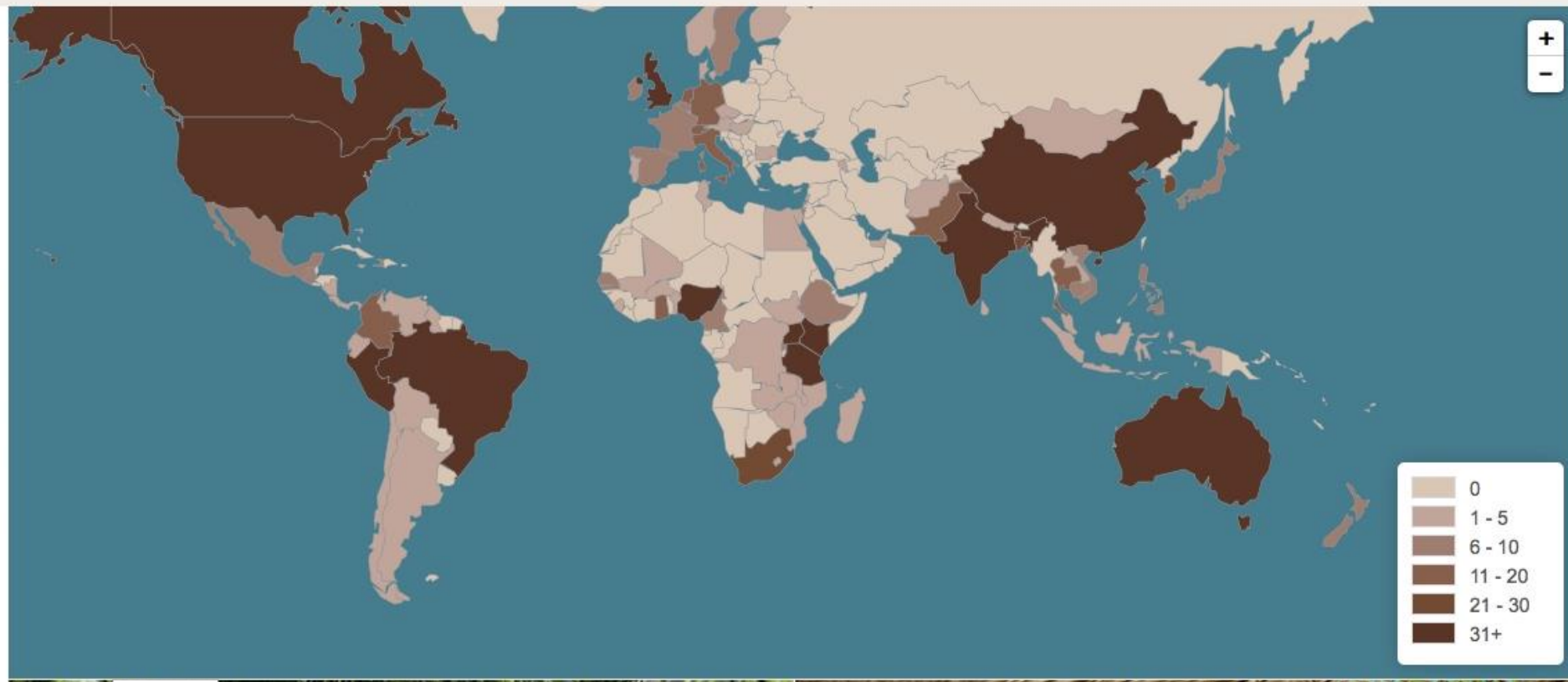
Grant Opportunities >

Solving global health and development problems for those most in need

▶ Explore Awarded Grants

2390 Awarded Grants • 91 Countries

Grants List ☰



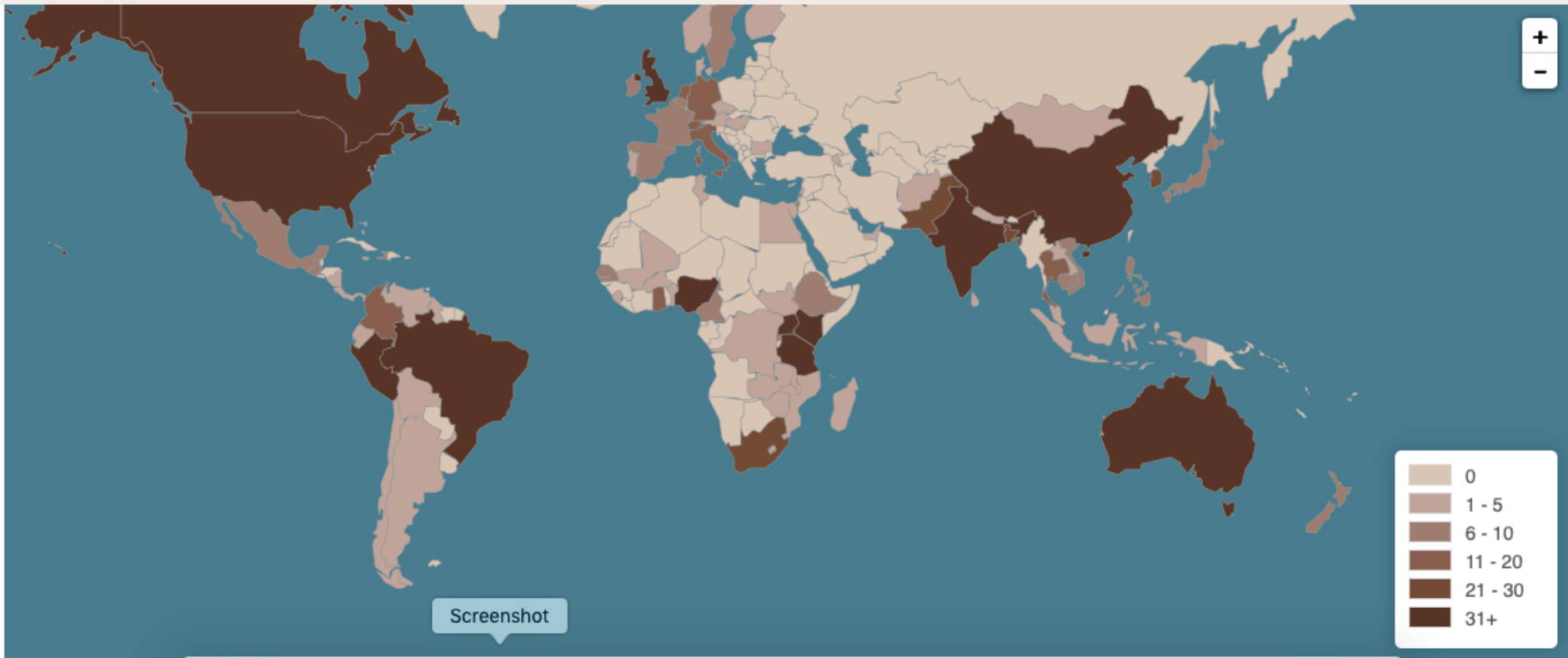
Grand Challenges

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Screenshot





EC – on collaboration with Africa

*“To speak of the future, one must speak of Africa – Europe's twin continent. Africa is the future: By 2050, Africa's population will number 2.5 billion. One in four people on earth will be African. We need to invest more in our relationship with the nations of this great and noble continent. And we have to stop seeing this relationship through the sole prism of development aid. Such an approach is beyond inadequate, humiliatingly so. **Africa does not need charity, it needs true and fair partnerships. And Europe needs this partnership just as much.**”*

Jean-Claude Juncker. EC President.
State of the Union 2018 (12 September 2018)





Two ways towards sustainable NHRS

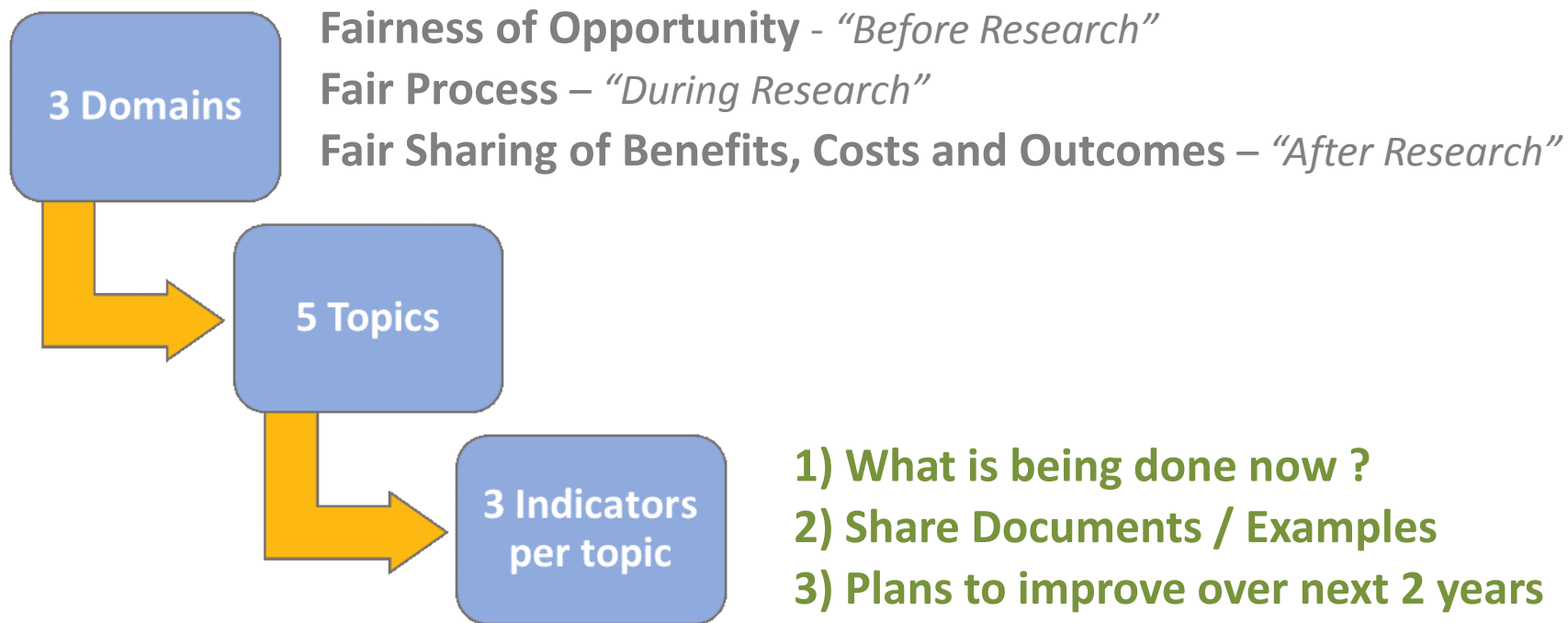
- Longterm national vision, support, funding



- Partnerships



RFI Reporting – *the essence*





DOMAIN 1: FAIRNESS OF OPPORTUNITY

Topic 1. Relevance to communities - in which research is done

- Indicator 1.1.1. Research priorities in communities where research is being conducted
- Indicator 1.1.2. Actions if there are no research priorities
- Indicator 1.1.3. Justification to research low priority topics

Topic 2. Early engagement of all partners - in deciding about aims, methods, implementation

- Indicator 1.2.1. Relationship between the ‚main/lead/sponsoring‘ and ‚other‘ partners
- Indicator 1.2.2. SOPs for partner inclusion in study design
- Indicator 1.2.3. SOPs for supportive actions to partners

Topic 3. Making contributions of all partners explicit -Fair Research Contracting

- Indicator 1.3.1. Role clarification in research partnerships
- Indicator 1.3.2. SOPs for conflict resolution
- Indicator 1.3.3 Making potential impact explicit before starting research

Topic 4. Ensuring that matching and other co-financing mechanisms do not undermine opportunities for fair participation of all partners

- Indicator 1.4.1. Equal co-financing
- Indicator 1.4.2. Alternatives to equal co-financing
- Indicator 1.4.3. Research outside national priorities and co-financing

Topic 5. Recognition of unequal research management capacities between partners and providing for appropriate corrective measures

- Indicator 1.5.1. Research Management Capacity
- Indicator 1.5.2. Financial Management Capacity
- Indicator 1.5.3. Contracting and Contract Negotiation capacity

3 Indicators
per topic

- 1) What is being done now ?
- 2) Share Documents / Examples
- 3) Plans to improve over next 2 years



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DOMAIN 2: FAIR PROCESS

Topic 6. Minimizing negative impact of research programmes on systems

- Indicator 2.6.1. Assessing potential harm of research
- Indicator 2.6.2. Reducing negative impact of research
- Indicator 2.6.3. Compensation for unintended (negative) consequences of research

Topic 7. Fair local hiring, training and sourcing

- Indicator 2.7.1. Local staffing
- Indicator 2.7.2. Local sourcing of consumables and services
- Indicator 2.7.3. Support for local capacity development

Topic 8. Respect for authority of local ethics review systems

- Indicator 2.8.1. Research Ethics Approval
- Indicator 2.8.2. Supporting local Research Ethics Review capacity
- Indicator 2.8.3. Enabling access to global expertise

Topic 9. Data ownership, storage, access and use

- Indicator 2.9.1. Data Ownership Agreements
- Indicator 2.9.2. Material Transfer Agreements
- Indicator 2.9.3. Rights of Use of Data for Publication

Topic 10. Encourage full cost recovery budgeting and compensation for all partners

- Indicator 2.10.1. Full Cost Recovery Budgeting
- Indicator 2.10.2. Improving/Standardising Budgeting
- Indicator 2.10.3. External Financial Audit



3 Indicators
per topic

- 1) What is being done now ?
- 2) Share Documents / Examples
- 3) Plans to improve over next 2 years

DOMAIN 3: FAIR SHARING OF BENEFITS, COSTS AND OUTCOMES

Topic 11. Research system capacities

- Indicator 3.11.1. Training
- Indicator 3.11.2. Research Management
- Indicator 3.11.3. Increase (Predictable) Funding

Topic 12. Intellectual property rights and technology transfer

- Indicator 3.12.1. Technology Transfer
- Indicator 3.12.2. Sharing Intellectual Property Rights
- Indicator 3.12.3. Contracting Support for IPR

Topic 13. Innovation system capacities

- Indicator 3.13.1. Localising innovation
- Indicator 3.13.2. Financing to link Research with Innovation
- Indicator 3.13.3. Support Innovation Culture

Topic 14. Due diligence

- Indicator 3.14.1. Promoting participation of women in science and innovation
- Indicator 3.14.2. Reducing negative environmental impact
- Indicator 3.14.3. Achieving SDGs

Topic 15. Expectation of all partners to adhere to a best practice standard in research collaborations

- Indicator 3.15.1. Partner Requirements for Fair Research Partnerships
- Indicator 3.15.2. Sponsor Requirements for Fair Research Partnerships
- Indicator 3.15.3. Fair Research Contracting



RFI - *who is using it already?*

(Nov 2018)

1. RFI reports published

- WHO / TDR
- Univ Alioune Diop de Bambey - Senegal
- Institute of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Nova Univ, Portugal

2. RFI reports nearing completion

- IRESSEF, Senegal
- CEA-SAMEF, Senegal

3. RFI reports started / starting

- Univ of Cape Town, South Africa
- Medical Research Council, South Africa
- Institute for Development Research (IRD), France
- Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (Swiss TPH), Switzerland
- CAPRISA, South Africa

4. Expressions of Interest

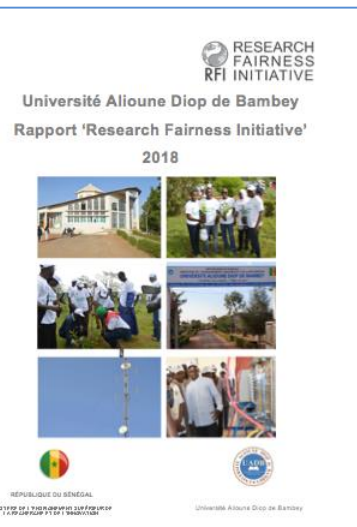
- INSERM, France
- AVIESAN Sud, France
- Tropical Diseases Research Centre, Zambia
- UK Research and Innovation / UKCDR / GCRF / SCOR
- Fudan University, Shanghai, China
- Emory University, School of Public Health, USA
- Johns Hopkins, Bloomberg School of Public Health, USA
- Amsterdam Institute for Global Health and Development, Netherlands
- University of Brasilia, Brazil
- Ministry of Health, Directorate Science & Technology, Brazil

5. Other Users : CPLP & Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, Senegal



RFI – 2. Global Learning

- *Sharing Policies, Practices, Examples*



Editorial

BMJ Global Health Towards equity in global health partnerships: adoption of the Research Fairness Initiative (RFI) by Portuguese-speaking countries

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To cite: Carvalho A, IJsselmuiden C, Kaiser K, *et al.* Towards equity in global health partnerships: adoption of the Research Fairness Initiative (RFI) by Portuguese-speaking countries. *BMJ Glob Health* 2018;3:e000978. doi:10.1136/bmjgh-2018-000978

Handling editor Seye Abimbola

Research partnerships between high-income countries (HICs) and low- and medium-income countries (LMICs) often display a set of asymmetries that hinder the development of science, technology and health systems in the LMICs. In practice, this means that research partnerships, instead of addressing local priorities, often result in the appropriation of local data, the relegation of southern scientists to the category of 'field experts' the Research Centre (Canada) and the Norwegian Programme for Development, Research and Education (NUFU).⁸ The Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 17 is focused on partnerships as means to achieve the other SDGs, recognising that joint research in health and other fields is essential.

Funders of research partnerships are struggling with equalising the balance between countries and institutions. The United King-

BMJ Glob Health: first published as 10.1136/bmjgh-2018-000978 on 10 September



The “RFI System” – *early results*

- Topic 5 : research management, financial management, contracting and contract management
 - *Material Transfer Agreements*
 - *IP and legal capacity*
 - *“Fair Research Contracting” (FRC)*
- Topic 9 : Data ownership, storage, access, use
 - *FAIR principles*
 - *“Findable, Accessible, Inter-operable, Reusable”*
 - *Potential to bring African science in mainstream – by local access control and access to global data*



The “RFI System” – *2019 plans*

- Accelerate Uptake
- Digitize the Platform
- Target business and research funders
- Initiate ‘Governance Board’



RFI

because it is the right thing to do