

CAGED OTN Symposium synopsis

Name:

Email address:

Title: Symposium-Cross-AAPs Acceleration of Genomics for Escalating infectious Diseases

Proposed date: 13th and 15th September 2025

Duration of training: 12 hours

Proposed time: 13th (1400- 2000) , 14th (0900-2100) and 15th (0900-1000)

Description:

The Wellcome-funded SARS-CoV-2 genomic surveillance grant (2021-2024), allowed the Wellcome Major International Programs (MIPs), CIDRI-Africa (South Africa), KWTRP (Kenya), **MLW (Malawi)**, **MORU (Thailand)** and **OUCRU (Vietnam)**, to play a critical role in supporting Ministries of Health with COVID-19 diagnostic and genomic surveillance data. Importantly, it emphasized the utility of integrating global collaboration in genomics and laboratory science to rapidly track emerging infections. The combination of strengthened research and genomic surveillance capacities in the AAPs can now be leveraged to endemic and escalating infections. All 5 AAPs/Centres, including AHRI (South Africa), will apply a genomics-based approach to study the transmission of pathogens causing escalating infections of public health concern across Africa and Southeast Asia. We have selected pathogens based on recent evidence of escalation, driven by climate change or the emergence of drug resistance; its global public health importance in Africa and Asia; and the unavailability of sufficient genomics data. The focus pathogens are therefore: 1) vector-borne dengue virus (DENV) and chikungunya virus (CHIKV); 2) multidrug-resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae* (*Kpn*); and 3) drug resistant *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (Mtb). The project brings together a multidisciplinary team in the eight countries (Cambodia, Indonesia, Kenya, Laos, Malawi, South Africa, Thailand and Vietnam) where the AAPs are located with an extensive local and international collaborative network and active policy stakeholder engagement, ensuring that our findings will be rapidly translated into practice

Outcome of the training: Foster collaboration between the partners, serve as a kick off meeting for the consortium, share progress of CAGED project by site.

Schedule:

Projected number of attendees: 60

Is the training open to others not within OTN:

Yes, some of the partners in the consortium are not part of OTN, that is, AHRI, CIDRI-A and MLW.