



# AfricaCDC

Centres for Disease Control  
and Prevention

## The Africa Collaborative Initiative to Advance Diagnostics (AFCAD)

### TEST DEVELOPERS TO INFORM ABOUT COMMERCIALIZED AND IN-DEVELOPMENT DIAGNOSTIC TESTS FOR AFRICA CDC PRIORITY DISEASES

## CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

#### BACKGROUND

The Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) is the African Union's autonomous health agency with the mandate to promote the prevention and control of diseases in Africa. The agency's mission is to strengthen the capabilities of Africa's public health institutions to detect and respond quickly and effectively to disease outbreaks and other health burdens through an integrated network of continent-wide preparedness and response, surveillance, laboratory, and research programs.

To accelerate access to diagnostics in the continent, Africa CDC is working with partners to streamline regional and continental harmonization of the regulatory processes for medical devices including In-Vitro Diagnostics (IVDs). To do this, Africa CDC is working with the Africa Union Development Agency-NEPAD's AMRH programme through the continental technical committee responsible for supporting the regulatory framework for medical devices and In-Vitro Diagnostics, the Africa Medical Device Forum (AMDF), to close the gap between the laboratory and regulatory work streams for IVDs. A Diagnostics Advisory Committee (DAC) has been formed as a mechanism to provide this support.

An African mechanism has been devised to accelerate access to diagnostics for diseases of high importance to the African continent. Africa CDC has published its priority list of diseases. The DAC will work to facilitate the development, evaluation, and implementation of accessible, quality assured in-vitro diagnostics for these priority diseases through information sharing and advocacy. The DAC will support Africa CDC with this EOI to identify manufacturers commercializing or developing diagnostic assays for priority diseases. The evaluation of selected priority assays will generate high quality data that can be used by National Regulatory Authorities (NRAs) for product registration. This registration will be facilitated through the AMDF and the AMRH programme.

Africa CDC priority diseases can be accessed using this link: <https://africacdc.org/download/risk-ranking-and-prioritization-of-epidemic-prone-diseases/>

#### BENEFITS TO MANUFACTURERS

All manufacturers who submit their test information through this Africa CDC EOI will be contacted for further discussion on their product and development pipeline. Submitters will also automatically be informed when the Africa CDC issues requests for expressions of interest in the evaluations of test kits for specific diseases. These evaluations will cover test kits' performance and manufacturing quality assurance. These Africa CDC evaluations will be conducted through the Africa CDC Network of Bio Banking and Evaluation sites and supervised by the Diagnostic Advisory Committee (DAC) jointly established by Africa CDC and the AMRH programme of AUDA NEPAD.

**NB: Local manufacturers of diagnostics are strongly encouraged to apply and will be given priority.**

**This is also an opportunity for manufacturers and developers of diagnostics for Africa CDC priority diseases to submit more information about their diagnostic pipeline which will support Africa CDC's work towards publishing a priority list of diagnostics.**

#### CONFIDENTIALITY

Africa CDC acknowledges that the information received from Applicants under the EOI may be of a confidential nature. If required, Africa CDC can sign a Confidential Disclosure Agreement (CDA) with interested Applicants prior to proposal submission.

#### HOW TO APPLY

Submit your expression of interest by contacting:

Dr. Noah Fongwen

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Senior Technical Officer,

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**Deadline for submission: 30 April 2024**