



**FESTMIH
NOTM**



NEWS OF THE MONTH - SEPTEMBER 2025

FESTMIH Webinar

NTDs around the World: Pakistan

 Date: 17 September 2025

 Time: 11:30 AM ET | 5:30 PM CET | 6:30 PM EAT | 8:30 PM PKT

Join us for the next session of the NTDs around the World series, focusing on Pakistan.

Esteemed speakers will share insights on the current situation, challenges, and progress in combating neglected tropical diseases in the region:

- Christine Schmotzer (WHO)
- Arif Hussain (COAVS)
- Bushra Nadeem (ALP / RLH)
- Razia Fatima (UNOPS)

[Register here](#)



TOPICS

FESTMIH Webinar

NTDs around the World:
Pakistan

Editors Choice

Burden of Chikungunya
Fever and Its Economic
and Social Impacts
Worldwide: A
Systematic Review

Global Career and Funding Opportunities

Wide range of
international grants,
fellowships, awards, and
career calls

Upcoming Events

Stay informed about
conferences, workshops,
and global health
meetings

ECTMIH 2025

ECTMIH 2025 -
September News

Digital

Podcast Series: EYE on
Yellow Fever



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Burden of Chikungunya Fever and Its Economic and Social Impacts Worldwide

Vaneide Daciane Pedí et al., TMIH, July 2025

KEY POINTS

- **Global reach:** More than 10 million cases between 2010–2023, with outbreaks across Africa, Asia, the Americas, and Europe.
- **Economic toll:** Direct costs ranged from US\$ 3.5 million (US Virgin Islands) to US\$ 83.6 billion (Americas, 2013–2015). Indirect costs from productivity loss often exceeded 50% of the total burden.
- **Long-term impact:** Up to 50% of patients develop chronic disabilities, leading to marked declines in quality of life.
- **Comparison:** The burden of chikungunya now surpasses dengue and yellow fever in several regions.
- **Policy gap:** Despite its scale, chikungunya remains under-researched and underfunded.

This Review synthesised 43 studies (2009–2023) covering cost-of-illness (direct, indirect, out-of-pocket), program costs (vector control), burden-of-disease, cost-effectiveness/utility, and 15 QoL studies.

Notable figures

- **Program costs:** Vector control from US\$ 0.9–1.5 M/year (Greece) to US\$ 466 M (Brazil, 2016).
- **Healthcare use:** Large shares of direct medical costs come from hospitalisation and diagnostics; family out-of-pocket spending is substantial, with catastrophic expenditures reported in Indian outbreaks.
- **Work loss:** Typical absenteeism ranges 1–35 days per case; several contexts attribute >80 % of total costs to productivity loss.

Why it matters

Chikungunya is no longer a “mild, self-limiting” tropical disease. Its chronic sequelae, economic drag on households and health systems, and climate-/globalisation-driven expansion make it a priority for preparedness.

Implications for practice & policy

- **Invest early:** Preventive larvicide/adulticide deployments can be cost-effective and outbreak-mitigating; integrate with community engagement.
- **Measure better:** Standardise economic evaluations, include CHIKF in GBD updates, and derive disease-specific disability weights (acute and chronic).
- **Protect households:** Track and reduce catastrophic health spending; plan social protection for long-term disability.

[Read this Paper](#)





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GLOBAL CAREER & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



TWAS Fellowships for Research and Advanced Training

The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) offers fellowships to young scientists from developing countries to strengthen research capacity and foster South-South collaboration. Fellows spend 3-12 months at a research institution in another developing country, gaining advanced training and building long-term links for cooperation.

Key Details:

- **Deadline:** 6 October 2025
- **Eligibility:** MSc or higher; citizens of a developing country; employed at a research institution in a developing country
- **Fields:** Natural sciences
- **Support:** International low-cost airfare + monthly subsistence (up to USD 300). Host institutions provide accommodation, food, and research facilities.
- **Preference:** Early-career scientists, especially from Least Developed Countries

Note: Fellowships are for South-South exchanges only (no placements in China under this programme). Applications must be submitted via the TWAS online portal.

[Apply here](#)



TWAS Visiting Expert Programme

This programme allows institutions in developing countries, especially Least Developed Countries, to host internationally renowned scientists for short visits. The goal is to build long-term collaborations, strengthen local research capacity, and support training activities.

Key Details:

- **Deadline:** 6 October 2025
- **Eligibility:** Host institutions in developing countries may invite experts (PhD, internationally recognised) in natural sciences other than physics and mathematics
- **Duration:** 2-4 weeks
- **Support:** TWAS covers international economy airfare; the host institution provides accommodation, food, and research facilities
- **Note:** Nominations of women experts are particularly encouraged

During the visit, experts are expected to deliver lectures, supervise students, collaborate in research, and support the development of new programmes.

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GLOBAL CAREER & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



Ellison Scholars Graduate Programme 2026 - University of Oxford (Fully Funded)

Applications are now open for the Ellison Institute of Technology (EIT) Graduate Programme 2026, offering fully funded doctoral (DPhil/PhD) study at the University of Oxford. The initiative provides outstanding students with the opportunity to contribute directly to EIT's ambitious global projects, which tackle humanity's most pressing challenges through cutting-edge science and technology.

Focus Areas of Research:

- Health, Medical Science & Generative Biology
- Food Security & Sustainable Agriculture
- Clean Energy Generation & Storage
- Artificial Intelligence & Robotics

Graduate Pathways:

1. EIT Graduate Scholars - doctoral candidates whose PhD projects directly contribute to EIT research and innovation programmes.
2. EIT CDT Funding - students admitted via the EIT-funded Centre for Doctoral Training (CDT) in Fundamentals of Artificial Intelligence.

Benefits:

- Full funding for DPhil/PhD studies at Oxford (tuition and living costs)
- Integration into international, multidisciplinary project teams at EIT
- Mentorship from world-leading researchers and innovators
- Opportunity to generate practical solutions for global challenges while pursuing doctoral research

Eligibility:

- Open to candidates worldwide with exceptional academic, research, and innovation records
- Applicants must meet the University of Oxford's entry requirements for their chosen doctoral course, including academic grades and English language standards
- Strong commitment to both academic study and contribution to EIT project work

Application Timeline:

- Applications open: 1 September 2025
- First deadline: 1 October 2025 → conditional scholarship decisions (Dec 2025)
- Second deadline: 1 December 2025 → conditional scholarship decisions (Jan 2026)
- Final deadline: 1 February 2026 → conditional scholarship decisions (Mar 2026)
- Scholars announced: April 2026
- Studies begin: October 2026

Note: Applicants must apply both to the Ellison Scholars Programme and independently through the University of Oxford's admissions process.



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GLOBAL CAREER & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



TDR Implementation Research Leadership Fellowship (2025/2026) – University of Ghana, School of Public Health

A competitive, in-person fellowship to train implementation research (IR) leaders who can translate evidence into policy and practice for diseases of poverty across the WHO Africa Region.

Key Details

- **Deadline:** 29 September 2025, 17:00 GMT
- **Who can apply:** Nationals/residents of LMICs in the WHO Africa Region, <40 years at application, employed by a university/research institute/ministry of health/public health institution/NGO in Africa (legal entity required)
- **Track & duration:** Up to 6 months (programme implementers) or 12 months (academics/researchers); start January 2026
- **Language:** English (Bachelor's degree completed in English required)
- **Focus areas (TDR Strategy 2024–2029):** Control/elimination of infectious diseases of poverty; resistance to treatment/control agents; epidemics & outbreaks; climate change & health (One Health)

Eligibility & Profile

- **Education:** TDR MPH/MSc in Public Health/IR (or equivalent MSc with IR focus)
- **Experience:** 3–5 years post-Master's in academia or health systems; ≥1 peer-reviewed, open-access article on an IR theme
- **Desirable:** PhD in health systems/IR or medical degree plus 5 years in IR/health systems/programmatic work; experience with scoping/systematic reviews; interdisciplinary projects; ability to work independently
- **Other:** Proof of study leave; willingness to meet host-country health requirements
- **Equity:** Applications encouraged regardless of gender identity, orientation, ethnicity, religion, background, or disability

What You'll Do

Lead or co-lead large-scale IR interventions, drive knowledge translation, teach on MPH/PhD courses, publish peer-reviewed IR work, and build collaborative networks that inform policy and practice locally and regionally.

Fellowship Package

- Return economy airfare to Accra
- Monthly living stipend (local cost of living)
- Basic medical & accident insurance
- Support for approved fieldwork/research, and funded training/conference/networking travel

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Mentioned in a previous issue of NOTM

- NNN Conference 2025 - Sustainable Innovations for Impact
 - 30 September - 2 October 2025, Kampala & Online
 - Annual meeting of the NTD NGO Network exploring AI & digital health, One Health approaches, climate change and sustainable financing.
- 200 Years Theodor Bilharz - Schistosomiasis Research in Germany and Beyond
 - 8 - 10 October 2025, University of Tübingen
 - Conference marking the bicentenary of Theodor Bilharz, bringing together the schistosomiasis research community to discuss progress, challenges and future directions.

[NNN](#)

[Theodor Bilharz](#)



XXXe Actualités du Pharo & Autumn Meeting of SFMTSI

8-10 October 2025, Hôpital d'Instruction des Armées Laveran, Marseille (hybrid)

- Main themes:
 - Vaccines and vaccination for tropical populations
 - Management of genetic diseases in tropical regions
- Programme highlights:
 - Keynote lectures and invited symposia
 - Free oral and poster communications
 - Annual symposium by the Collège des Universitaires en Maladies Infectieuses et Tropicales
 - Networking sessions and award ceremonies

Organised by GISPE and the Société Francophone de Médecine Tropicale et Santé Internationale (SFMTSI).

[More Information](#)

XXX^e ACTUALITÉS DU PHARO 2025

et JOURNÉES D'AUTOMNE DE LA SOCIÉTÉ FRANCOPHONE DE MÉDECINE TROPICALE ET SANTÉ INTERNATIONALE

VACCINS ET VACCINATIONS POUR LES POPULATIONS DES ZONES TROPICALES ET PRISE EN CHARGE DES MALADIES GÉNÉTIQUES TROPICALES

8-10 OCTOBRE MARSEILLE

Date limite des soumissions
des communications : 27 avril 2025



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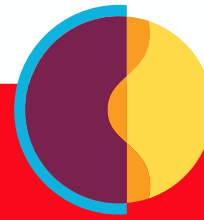
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UPCOMING EVENTS

Second World Summit for Social Development



**SECOND
WORLD SUMMIT
FOR SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT**
DOHA 2025

4-6 November 2025, Doha, Qatar

Thirty years after the landmark 1995 Copenhagen Summit, the global community will gather again to address persistent inequalities, demographic shifts, and rapid technological transformation.

Main Objectives:

- Reaffirm the 10 Commitments of the 1995 Copenhagen Declaration
- Accelerate progress on poverty eradication, full employment, and social inclusion
- Strengthen global partnerships and promote inclusive policies aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The Summit will convene heads of state, UN agencies, civil society, academia, private sector, and experts to develop joint solutions and reinforce international cooperation for equitable social development.

[More Information](#)



International Conference on Family Planning (ICFP 2025)

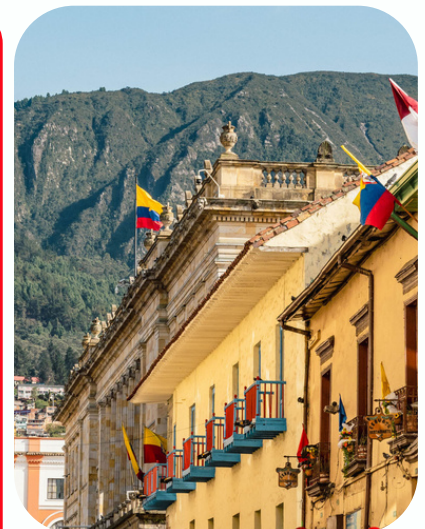
1-6 November 2025, Bogotá, Colombia

For the first time, the ICFP will take place in Latin America, hosted at the Ágora Bogotá Convention Center under the theme "Equity Through Action". The conference will gather SRHR leaders, advocates, and innovators from more than 120 countries to exchange ideas, strengthen partnerships, and accelerate progress in sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR).

Highlights:

- Pre-conferences, side events, and site visits from 1 November
- Main conference programme 3-6 November
- Strong focus on youth, equity, universal health coverage, and global collaboration

Organised by the William H. Gates Sr. Institute, the Government of Colombia, Profamilia, and Fundación Valle del Lili.



[More Information](#)



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UPCOMING EVENTS

IGHN^xEU

Empowering Women for a Healthier Europe

RDS Dublin | 14 November 2025



Co-funded by
the European Union



IGHNx EU: Empowering Women for a Healthier Europe

14 November 2025, 9:00-17:00 GMT, Royal Dublin Society (RDS), Dublin, Ireland
The Irish Global Health Network (IGHN), in partnership with Women in Global Health Ireland and the European Institute of Women's Health, is bringing back its TED-style event series IGHNx after highly successful editions in 2023 and 2024.

Programme Highlights:

- A series of short TED-format talks on global health challenges with a special focus on equity, humanity, and inclusivity
- Creative performances interspersed throughout, including music, poetry, comedy, and storytelling
- The Global Health Village, a lively marketplace with NGO, academic, and institutional stalls designed for knowledge sharing and exchange
- Networking opportunities with professionals, advocates, and students from across Europe and beyond

Tickets:

- General Admission: €50
- Early Bird: €45 (code EARLYBIRD, until 15 September 2025)
- Student Offer: €20 (code STUDENT20, student ID required)
- Refunds possible up to 14 days before the event

Why attend?

This unique event blends science, creativity, and community to foster discussion around women's empowerment in global health and to advance inclusive approaches for a healthier Europe.

[More Information](#)



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ECTMIH 2025



Opening Session - ECTMIH: Past, Present, Future

We are thrilled to open ECTMIH with a session that not only marks 125 years of BNITM and 30 years of FESTMIH, but also sets the stage for exploring the legacy, current challenges, and future directions of tropical medicine and international health.

- Past – Yazdan Yazdanpanah: Toward a New Global Health Framework
- Present – Trudie Lang: Global health research faces the dual challenge of preparing for future pandemics while tackling the persistent burden of diseases of poverty.
- Future – Chikwe Ihekweazu: Executive Director of the WHO Health Emergencies Programme, leading the WHO on preparedness, response, and recovery to health emergencies worldwide.

This opening session connects history, present realities, and future ambitions – a true starting point for inspiring discussions at ECTMIH 2025.

Create Space for Your Ideas – Meeting Rooms Available

Whether you're planning a side event, a working group meeting, or a networking session, we invite you to book one of our meeting spaces during the conference. These rooms provide a perfect platform to connect with peers, showcase your work, and contribute to the vibrant ECTMIH 2025 atmosphere. Availability is limited, so be sure to book early.



BETTER HEALTH FOR ALL IN A CHANGING WORLD

29 September–2 October 2025



[Register](#)



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Podcast Series: EYE on Yellow Fever

SUMMARY

The Eliminate Yellow Fever Epidemics (EYE) Strategy, launched in 2017, aims to end yellow fever epidemics by 2026. Despite the availability of a highly effective single-dose vaccine, yellow fever remains one of the most deadly diseases, with outbreaks resurging in Africa and beyond. To highlight these challenges and responses, WHO and partners have created the podcast series EYE on Yellow Fever.

About the series

- Produced by the EYE Partnership, which unites more than 50 global organisations, including WHO, UNICEF, Gavi, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and the US CDC.
- Covers the latest scientific, public health, and community-level efforts across 40 high-risk countries.
- Explains how climate change, urbanisation, population movement, and post-COVID vaccination gaps drive yellow fever risk.



Selected episodes include:

- Yellow Fever in Africa: A Real-Time Emergency - outbreak coordination from Burkina Faso.
- Monkeys and Yellow Fever - the role of non-human primates in transmission in Argentina.
- Inside a Yellow Fever Laboratory - diagnostics at Institut Pasteur Dakar.
- The Amazon, Climate Change, and Yellow Fever Risk - environmental pressures and public health.
- The Road to 2026 - reflections from UNICEF, Gavi, and WHO on progress toward the elimination goal.
- Spotlight on Nigeria - lessons from vaccinating nearly 100 million people.



The series demonstrates both the complexity and urgency of preventing yellow fever epidemics, while offering insights into science, preparedness, and success stories such as Ghana's effective immunisation campaigns.



[Listen to Podcast](#)



As summer draws to a close, this September edition marks the final News of the Month before we gather for ECTMIH 2025. It is a moment to look back on months of preparation, exchange, and collaboration; and to look forward to meeting many of you in person soon.

We are also delighted to introduce the new FESTMIH Secretariat & Coordination Team, now hosted by the Young DTC. With their fresh perspectives and energy, they will play a vital role in supporting and coordinating FESTMIH's activities in the months and years to come. On our updated team page, you can meet the members, learn more about their roles, and see how they will accompany our work going forward.

We warmly welcome the new team and thank everyone in our network for their continuous engagement and contributions.

Let's carry this momentum into ECTMIH 2025 and beyond!

Warm regards,
The FESTMIH Team



SHARE YOUR EVENTS & FEEDBACK

Do you have an upcoming event from within your institution, society, or network that you would like to see featured in the News of the Month?

We invite our cooperation partners to share relevant announcements with the FESTMIH Secretariat. Submissions received before the 10th of each month will be considered for inclusion in the following edition.

We also value your thoughts on the NOTM. You can provide feedback anytime by simply scanning the QR code included in this newsletter.

Your contributions and ideas help us keep the NOTM a vibrant and useful resource for the FESTMIH community.

