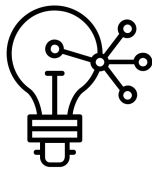




## News of the Month

May 2025

In this month you can expect



### FESTMIH Update

Read about the most recent  
FESTMIH Updates

[Jump to Section](#)



### Editors Choice

Mapping Malaria in  
Environmental Drivers Revealed

[Jump to Section](#)



### Global Career and Funding Opportunities

Numerous funding and career  
opportunities available this  
month for applicants

[Grant / Career  
Opportunities](#)



### Upcoming Events

Numerous events scheduled this  
month for health and research  
professionals

[See the full list of all  
upcoming Events](#)



### ECTMIH2025

ECTMIH 2025 - May News

[ECTMIH](#)



### Digital

Podcasts, free online learning  
opportunities & more

[Jump to Digital  
Content](#)



We would like to extend our sincere thanks to **Charlotte Adamczick** for her outstanding work and commitment as Vice President of FESTMIH. Charlotte has played a key role in connecting members across societies and has consistently advocated for equity and inclusion in global health—especially highlighting the often-overlooked efforts of local colleagues in partner countries. With the Vice Presidency now becoming available, FESTMIH invites motivated members to step forward or suggest candidates who share this vision of collaborative and inclusive leadership. Stay tuned for updates on the nomination process.

[Suggest Candidates](#)

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## Editors Choice

# Mapping Malaria in Environmental Drivers Revealed

Journal: *Tropical Medicine & International Health* | Vol. 30, Issue 5, pp. 404–416  
Authors: Khanittha Pratumchart et al.



### Study Summary

This landmark study applies **Bayesian spatio-temporal modelling** to national malaria surveillance data from Thailand, capturing both spatial clustering and seasonal patterns of *Plasmodium vivax* and *Plasmodium falciparum* transmission. The analysis includes high-resolution climatic and environmental data, providing an advanced framework for climate-adaptive malaria control.



### Core Findings

#### Climatic Sensitivity:

A **1°C increase in maximum temperature (TMAX)** (with 6-month lag) was associated with:

**+8% *P. vivax* incidence**

**+4% *P. falciparum* incidence**

A 0.1-unit rise in **NDVI** (vegetation index) resulted in:

**12-fold increase** in *P. vivax* risk

**11.6-fold increase** in *P. falciparum* risk

**Precipitation (PREC)** contributed to risk:

*P. vivax*: **+8% per 100 mm**

*P. falciparum*: **+15% per 100 mm**

#### Species Dynamics:

*P. vivax* has become the dominant species, making up **87% of cases by 2018**, up from 57% in 2012.

The ratio of *P. vivax* to *P. falciparum* increased from 1.35 to 6.67 over the study period.

*P. falciparum* has significantly declined, but remains a concern in cross-border regions.

#### Geographic Risk Zones:

Highest risk zones: **Thai-Myanmar** and **Thai-Cambodian** border areas

Lowest risk: Central Thailand

Seasonal peaks: **Mid- and late-year**, following climatic patterns



### Methodological Highlights

Zero-inflated Poisson (ZIP) regression models with spatial and temporal random effects

Data integration from **national malaria MIS** and multiple satellite sources

Use of **NDVI, precipitation, altitude, and temperature** with lag variables

Bayesian inference performed with **WinBUGS**, spatial mapping with **ArcGIS Pro**



### Implications for Policy & Practice

Supports the development of **climate-informed malaria early warning systems**

Urges for **species-specific interventions**, especially for resilient *P. vivax*

Recommends **targeted control in persistent hotspots**, particularly cross-border zones with high human mobility and forest ecology

Underscores the need for **regionally adapted vector control**, beyond indoor-based strategies



### Why This Matters

This study is a **model case for evidence-based malaria programming**. It bridges surveillance with environmental analytics to enable fine-tuned, responsive public health action. In an era of intensifying climate shifts and persistent border-zone transmission, such spatially resolved, ecologically grounded research is vital for national malaria elimination strategies.

**Editor's Note:**

A must-read for malaria researchers, national control programme leaders, GIS modellers, and climate-health analysts.

[Full Article](#)

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# Global Career and Funding Opportunities

**500 HUMBOLDT  
RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS**

Alexander von Humboldt  
Stiftung/Foundation



**Post- Doctoral & Experience Researcher**

**Awards 2650 EUR per Month for  
PostDoc & 3150 EUR for Researcher**

## Humboldt Research Fellowships for Postdocs & Experienced Researchers

**Offered by:** Alexander von Humboldt Foundation

- Location: Germany
- Duration: 6–24 months (flexible)
- Rolling application (apply any time!)
- Open to international candidates in all disciplines

Up to **500 fellowships** are available annually for postdoctoral and experienced researchers worldwide to carry out long-term research stays in Germany. This programme supports high-level scientific collaboration and knowledge exchange with German host institutions.

### Monthly Stipend

**Postdoctoral researchers:** €2,650

**Experienced researchers:** €3,150

### Eligibility

Doctorate (or equivalent degree) obtained within the last 12 years  
Academic publication record  
Research background  
Strong command of English or German  
International (non-German) nationality

### Required Documents

CV (max. 2 pages)  
Research outline (max. 5 pages)  
Full publication list and key publications  
Doctoral certificate  
Two recommendation letters

### Fields of Study

All disciplines and majors are eligible.

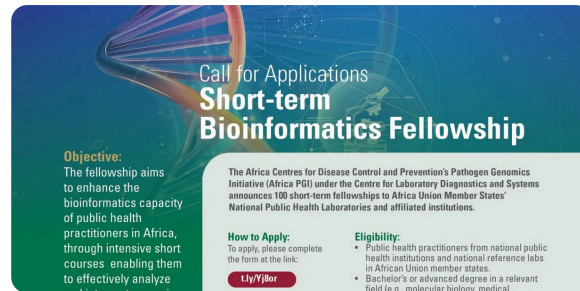
### How to Apply

Applications are submitted online via the Humboldt Foundation website.

This is one of the most prestigious research fellowships in Europe — supporting scientific freedom, collaboration, and innovation at the highest level.

→ **A powerful opportunity to build your academic profile while working with top institutions in Germany.**

[More Information](#)



## Open Call – Join the *CM* Scientific Committee as LMIC Researcher

**Journal:** *Clinical Microbiology and Infection (CMI)*

 Application Deadline: 1 October 2025

 Decision Notification: 1 December 2025

 Remote role | Honorary position

To increase global representation and equity in scientific publishing, *CM* is inviting researchers based in **low- and middle-income countries (LMICs)** to apply for membership in its **Scientific Committee**.

### Role & Responsibilities

Members of the Committee:

Help shape editorial policy and journal direction

Peer-review selected manuscripts in clinical microbiology and infectious disease

Act as guest editors for thematic issues

Facilitate submissions from LMIC-based research institutions

Contribute commentaries, reviews, and original content reflecting LMIC perspectives

Help build regional research engagement through academic networks

### Who Should Apply?

Clinicians or researchers with experience in infectious diseases, microbiology, immunology, virology, parasitology, or epidemiology

Based in an LMIC as per World Bank definition

Actively engaged in research and/or clinical practice

Strong interest in contributing to global scientific equity

### Application Requirements

CV

List of publications

Recommendation letter

Brief statement outlining research interests and regional engagement strategy

[Call to action](#)



# Michelson Prizes: Next Generation Grants

**\$150,000 for Disruptive Immunology Research**

**Grant Amount:** \$150,000 USD



Application Portal Open for 2025/2026 Cycle



Focus: Global Health, Immunology, Vaccine Innovation



Target Group: Early-career researchers with bold ideas

The **Michelson Prizes: Next Generation Grants** support innovative, high-risk research in human immunology, vaccine development, and immunotherapy for major global diseases. The grants aim to empower a new generation of scientists to challenge conventional paradigms and deliver breakthrough science.



## Research Areas

Human immune response

Novel vaccine platforms or targets

Immunotherapeutic strategies for infectious diseases

Cross-disciplinary, technology-driven approaches



## Who Should Apply?

Early-career researchers (PhD, MD, or equivalent degree)

Scientists proposing unconventional ideas or novel methodologies

Applicants with the potential to impact global health



## Application Details

Submission platform: **SurveyMonkey Apply**

Log in or create an account to access the program page

Required documents: project proposal, CV, budget outline, letters of support (details on portal)



For full details and eligibility criteria, visit the **Michelson Medical Research Foundation** website.

This is a rare opportunity to receive major funding for groundbreaking research at an early career stage – ideal for scientists unafraid to take risks for transformative health innovation.

[More Information](#)

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## Upcoming Events



# Be-cause health General Assembly – “Beyond the Chaos, a New World is Emerging”



Brussels & Online |  10 June 2025, 09:30–18:00 CEST



Thematic Session livestreamed (14:00–16:30)



Online registration open (no deadline for online attendance)

The Belgian platform **Be-cause health** invites FESTMIH members and the broader international health community to its **Annual General Assembly 2025**, held in Brussels and accessible online. While the morning focuses on the platform's statutory work, the **afternoon thematic session** promises critical reflections and visionary input under the theme:  
**"Beyond the Chaos, a New World is Emerging"**

## Thematic Session Highlights (14:00–16:30)

The session explores global shifts in health governance, gender equity, and rights-based development cooperation—with perspectives from institutional and grassroots leaders.

### Keynotes include:

**Neil Datta** (EPF) – impact of the Trump era on reproductive rights (*pre-recorded*)

**Heidy Rombouts** (Director-General, DGD Belgium)

**Jean Van Wetter** (CEO, Enabel)

**Özge Tunçalp** (Director, ITM) (*pre-recorded*)

**Fogue Foguito** (Positive-Generation, Cameroon) (*pre-recorded*)

### Interactive panel:

Joren Vallaeys (Ugani Prosthetics),

Patricia St Louis (ULB),

Kristof Decoster (ITM)

Moderated by Elisabeth Paul (ULB) & Karel Gyselinck (Enabel)

## Why attend?

This is a **unique opportunity** to reflect on power shifts in global health, share critical perspectives on post-crisis reconstruction, and connect with Belgian and international experts dedicated to equitable health systems.

### More information & online access:

[www.be-causehealth.be](http://www.be-causehealth.be)

We warmly encourage all FESTMIH members and partners to attend and share the event—especially the online afternoon session—with colleagues and collaborators.

Let's amplify key conversations on resilience, equity, and transformative leadership in global health.

[Website](#)

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*summerschool*  
**UTRECHT**



## Short Notice: Global Surgery Summer School 2025

 Utrecht, Netherlands |  7–11 July 2025

 Fee: €695 (€545 for LMICs) |  Deadline: 31 May 2025

This one-week intensive course focuses on global surgery, maternal care, and reproductive health, bringing together international professionals and students. Interactive teaching formats include case studies, hands-on workshops, and expert-led lectures.

**Still a few LMIC spots available – apply now!**

[More Information](#)






The Global Society on  
Migration, Ethnicity, Race and Health  
**World Congress on Migration, Ethnicity, Race & Health**  
02 – 05 September 2025 • NOVA University, Lisbon

# Short Notice: World Congress on Migration, Ethnicity, Race & Health (GSMERH 2025)

 Lisbon, Portugal |  Date TBA

 Hosted by: Global Society on Migration, Ethnicity, Race and Health (GSMERH)

 **Abstract Submission Deadline: 16 May 2025**

 [conference.gsmerh.org](https://conference.gsmerh.org)

The upcoming **GSMERH 2025 World Congress** will convene researchers, practitioners, policy-makers, and civil society actors committed to addressing inequalities in health systems linked to **migration, race, ethnicity, and social determinants of health**.

This landmark conference aims to foster actionable dialogue and interdisciplinary collaboration to improve health outcomes for migrant and ethnic minority populations worldwide.

## Conference Themes:

Equity in health systems and service delivery  
Migration and public health  
Structural racism and health disparities  
Inclusive health policy and governance  
Participatory approaches and lived experiences  
Mental health, trauma, and displacement  
Intersectional research methods and practice

## Call for Abstracts

Submit your work and join the conversation shaping inclusive global health policy and research.

**Deadline: 16 May 2025**

## Why attend?

Engage with global experts on migration and equity  
Present your research and influence real-world policy  
Network across academia, NGOs, and public health sectors  
Be part of a movement toward health justice and inclusion  
More information on registration, agenda, and logistics is available at:


[More Information](#)




## 200 Years Theodor Bilharz – Schistosomiasis Research in Germany and Beyond

 Tübingen, Germany |  08–10 October 2025

 Venue: Institute for Tropical Medicine, University of Tübingen

 Students: €125–€150 | Regular: €195–€245

 Abstract submission deadline extended to **31 May 2025**

This international scientific conference commemorates the 200th birthday of Theodor Bilharz, the physician who first described *Schistosoma haematobium*, the causative agent of urogenital schistosomiasis. The event aims to bring together experts and early-career researchers in parasitology, tropical medicine, and public health from Germany and around the world.

### **Conference Focus:**

Latest developments in schistosomiasis research  
Diagnostic and treatment strategies  
Fieldwork insights and translational challenges  
Cross-institutional and international collaboration

### **Organised by:**

Institute for Tropical Medicine, Travel Medicine and Human Parasitology, University of Tübingen  
Institute of Medical Microbiology, Immunology and Hygiene, Technical University of Munich  
Institute of Parasitology, Justus Liebig University Giessen  
Centre de Recherches Médicales de Lambaréné, Gabon

### **In partnership with:**

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Tropenmedizin (DTG), the Center for Global Health, and additional academic institutions across Germany and Africa.

### **What's included:**

- ✓ Full access to all scientific sessions
- ✓ All meals during the conference
- ✓ Scientific networking dinner

### **Conference venue:**

Hörsaal – Institute for Tropical Medicine, Wilhelmstraße 27, 72074 Tübingen  
Public parking available nearby

### **Contact and registration:**

Dr. Dr. Carsten Köhler, Director

[More Information](#)






## Short Notice: Beat the Heat Conference 2025 – Urban Heat, Health & Adaptation

 Swiss TPH, Allschwil, Switzerland

 Thursday, 28 August 2025 |  09:15–17:00 CEST

 Participation: Free (registration required)

 Abstract Deadline: 16 May 2025 | Registration closes: 14 August 2025

The “Beat the Heat” Conference returns in 2025 with a timely focus on the challenges of urban heat in the context of climate change and human health. Hosted at the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, the event brings together researchers, practitioners, and policymakers for a full day of knowledge exchange and networking.

### Conference Themes:

 Heat mitigation, climate resilience & health system responses

 Urban heat measurements and long-term monitoring strategies

 Modeling, simulation, and predictive analytics in urban environments

The conference explicitly invites interdisciplinary contributions, including applied urban planning approaches, health policy implications, and social dimensions of vulnerability. Early-career researchers are especially encouraged to present.

### What to Expect:

Plenary talks from leading experts in urban climatology and health


Presentation of new research findings and implementation case studies


Ample opportunity for discussion and cross-sector exchange

A growing Swiss urban health community spanning science and practice

### Good to Know:

 Participation and lunch are free

 No livestream or visa support

 On-site only (Swiss TPH, Kreuzstrasse 2, 4123 Allschwil)

Organized by experts from Swiss TPH and the University of Basel, including Martina Ragettli, Mirko Winkler, Markus Kalberer, and Stavros Stagakis.

**Submit your abstract by 16 May and secure your spot for one of Switzerland's leading urban climate and health events!**

[More Information](#)

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## ECTMIH 2025



## Spring Update



Dear All,

Spring is in full bloom – and so is our excitement for **ECTMIH 2025**! As we head into May, we're picking up even more speed in our preparations and would love to bring you along for the journey.

### **Registration – Early Bird Until May 31st**

Make sure to take advantage of our early bird rates, available until **May 31st**, and secure your spot today. All registration details can be found on our website.

### **ECTMIH Academy – Program Now Online**

The Academy offers a rich variety of **hands-on, capacity-building workshops** tailored for early-career professionals, researchers, and students working in global health. Participation is limited – we therefore encourage early registration to ensure your place.

### **Support Us & Create Space for Your Work**

We also offer the possibility to **book meeting rooms** during the conference days – ideal for side events, working group gatherings, partner exchanges or networking sessions.

By booking a space, you not only gain visibility and room to connect, but also help support the success of ECTMIH 2025.

If you are interested, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us early – availability is limited!

We are encouraged by the energy and interest already shown by the community and look forward to welcoming you in **Hamburg** for a week of exchange, inspiration, and collaboration.

Thank you for being part of this journey!

**Warm regards,**

*Prof. Jürgen May, Prof. Marylyn Addo,*

*Prof. Cornelia Betsch, Prof. Michael Ramharter*

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## Digital





# Decolonising Global Health

## New Podcast Series by IGHN

**Format:** Podcast |  Available on SoundCloud, Spotify, and YouTube

**Produced by:** Irish Global Health Network (IGHN)

**Host:** Caragh Munn | **Editor:** Maisie Jones

This compelling podcast series invites global health professionals to reflect on the legacy of colonialism and its impact on present-day structures, partnerships, and knowledge systems. Hosted by the Irish Global Health Network, it opens space for critical dialogue on what it means to truly "decolonise" global health.

### Why Listen?

Each episode features conversations with researchers, activists, and community leaders who challenge dominant narratives and push for a more inclusive, equitable global health landscape. The series explores how to:

Confront and unlearn Western superiority in health systems

Elevate Indigenous and local knowledge systems

Rethink equity in global health partnerships

Foster reflexive, anti-oppressive research and teaching

### Episodes so far:

*Ep. 1:* Introduction to Decolonising Global Health with Brittney Mengistu and Moné Vasquez

*Ep. 2:* Decolonising Global Health Partnerships with Christian Acemah (Uganda National Academy of Sciences)

This series is especially valuable for researchers, students, and professionals committed to equity, social justice, and participatory practice in international health.

**Tune in and join the conversation – health equity begins with critical self-reflection.**

[Listen to Podcast](#)



## Global Health Matters

### Climate Change & Health

**Podcast Series:** Global Health Matters (TDR/WHO)

**Episode Theme:** Climate Change's Impact on Health

### Guests:

– Prof. Paul Gwakisa, Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania

– Pierre Quiblier, UN Environment Programme

This episode of *Global Health Matters* takes listeners to the frontline of climate vulnerability: the Maasai steppe in northern Tanzania. Here, rising temperatures and persistent droughts have led to increased outbreaks of sleeping sickness, transmitted by the tsetse fly. Prof. Paul Gwakisa shares insights from his work with Maasai communities to raise awareness and develop early detection strategies.

Meanwhile, Pierre Quiblier highlights global efforts to combat climate-related health threats through a **One Health** approach—integrating health, agriculture, and environmental sectors for sustainable

solutions.

### Why Listen?

Explore how climate change intensifies health inequities in rural settings

Learn from local and global strategies to prevent vector-borne disease outbreaks

Understand the operational potential of One Health in climate-affected regions

Gain insights from East Africa that resonate with global climate-health debates

**Note:** All episodes are available on major podcast platforms. Related documents and transcripts can be accessed via the GHM website.

### Your Voice Matters:

Listeners are invited to share thoughts anonymously and for free via text message.

**Now in Season 4 – with nearly 40 episodes to explore on demand.**

[More Information](#)



## Welcome to the May Edition of the News of the Month,

As we step into May, a month of transition and momentum, we hope this edition finds you with renewed purpose and connection. With summer on the horizon and many global health activities in full swing, it's an ideal time to deepen our collaborative efforts and share progress across the FESTMIH network.

The **News of the Month (NOTM)** continues to serve as your monthly hub—published on the 15th—for updates, funding calls, training opportunities, and upcoming events in the field of tropical medicine and international health. Your ongoing contributions are the heart of this platform, and we thank you for keeping the exchange active and inspiring.

 *In case you missed it:* The most recent **FESTMIH quarterly newsletter** remains available for download via the FESTMIH website.

### Would you like to contribute to the News of the Month or get in touch?

We'd love to hear from you! Please send us an **email** with your submissions or inquiries.

Here's to a successful and inspiring year ahead!

Warm regards,  
The FESTMIH Team.



With the 'News of the Month' we try to communicate relevant information in the field of FESTMIH and also cover interdisciplinary topics. We would like to know how the News of the Month has been received and if there is **anything we can improve**.

**Feedback** is **anonymous**, so no personal details will be included.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the FESTMIH secretariat.

[Give us Feedback](#)



FESTMIH

<https://www.festmih.eu/>

[E-Mail](#)