

# Call to EU leadership

## On Global Health R&D

Noting the urgent need for action, where the **current incentive systems fail to generate sufficient R&D** to develop suitable and affordable tools in either the public or private sectors to address the needs of developing countries, resulting in the death of close to 5 million people every year.

Reminding EU leaders of existing policy commitments on global health, in particular the **2010 Commission Communication and Council Conclusions on the EU role in Global Health**: “The EU should coordinate more effectively research on global health in order to address the highly fragmented landscape and identify shared global priorities for health research. It should **promote effective and fair financing of research that benefits the health of all.**”

Recalling that at the last World Health Assembly, WHO Member States have agreed to analyze thoroughly the report of the **Consultative Expert Working Group (CEWG) on R&D financing and coordination** and the feasibility of its recommendations. Particular consideration should be paid to the pivotal CEWG proposition that all countries commit, through an international agreement, to set up a range of new financing mechanisms aiming to raise at least 0.01% of GDP on government-funded R&D that addresses the health needs of developing countries.



Photo courtesy of Anita Khemka-DNDI



**We urge the European Union to take a leadership role in global health R&D within the EU and worldwide by:**

Supporting the WHO CEWG recommendation to develop a clear and effective roadmap towards a **binding international R&D convention for global health R&D, in particular for poverty-related and neglected diseases (PRND) that should include dedicated funding** and address the current market failure of the incentive system for global health R&D at the WHO Regional Committee for Europe Meeting in Malta on 10-13 September 2012 and throughout national consultation processes.

Ensuring the implementation of the recommendations of the 2010 Council Conclusions on the EU Role in global health, by urgently developing a **Global Health Programme for Action** in consultation with civil society with clear and time-bound guidelines aimed at strengthening global health R&D

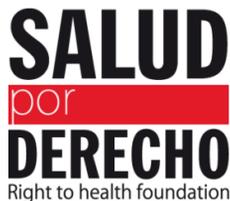
Guaranteeing that the next Research Framework Programme for 2014-2020 **Horizon 2020** highlights global health R&D as a priority. This includes ensuring full funding of phase II of the **European Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnerships (EDCTP II)** by committing EUR 500 million to continue and extend its successful work in Sub-Saharan Africa beyond its current focus on HIV & AIDS, Malaria, and Tuberculosis to also cover other Neglected Infectious Diseases and all clinical trial phases. Moreover, an additional EUR 500 million under the Horizon 2020 Health budget is needed to support the research necessary to develop affordable, accessible and need-responsive products for poverty-related and neglected diseases outside the scope of EDCTP.

Guaranteeing that Horizon 2020 allows for allocation of R&D funding in the form of prizes and other mechanisms which **delink the costs of PRND R&D from the price of the end product** and allocates funding to start feasibility studies and pilot programmes of various new models of innovation recommended by the CEWG. In addition to requiring **Open Access publishing**, Horizon 2020 should include further incentives to stimulate **sharing and publication of EU funded research data**.



We believe that the EU could become a major player by joining forces with existing national and international initiatives, coordinating and complementing these regional and national efforts in order to ensure that global health products are delivered to patients in a fast and efficient manner.

Position paper endorsed by:



A joint initiative by STOP AIDS NOW!  
and the International HIV/AIDS Alliance.

