Human Heredity and Health in Africa (H3Africa)

2nd H3Africa Consortium Meeting
May 17, 2013
Accra, Ghana

Jane Peterson on behalf of Eric Green, MD, PhD
Director, National Human Genome Research Institute
National Institutes of Health
Wellcome Trust

Genomics/Genetics (AfSHG)

NIH
National Institutes of Health - Wellcome Trust H3Africa Research Network

- **尼克里 Primary Award Institution**
- **NIH Collaborating Institutions**
- **WT Primary Award Institution**
- **WT Collaborating Institutions**

*Other collaborating institutions are in Belgium, Canada, France, Israel, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America*
Progress: Inaugural Meeting

1st Consortium meeting: Ethiopia, October 8-10, 2012

Agenda:

– Grantee presentations
– Discussions on sharing protocols, data, & biospecimens; ELSI topics; and strategic issues (e.g., developing research capacity)

Outcomes:

– Established a Steering Committee of PIs & staff members
– Established 10 working groups (WGs) two of which have since been merged to reduce overlap
– Prioritized drafting a marker paper and developing policies (e.g., informed consent & data/sample sharing)
– NIH and WT agreed to consider funding a Coordination Center at the H3ABioNet site (University of Cape Town)
Progress: Organization

- NIH and WT will fund the H3ABioNet Coordinating Center
- Steering Committee meets every two weeks
- NIH and WT staff members meet every two weeks
- 6 of the 9 WGs are active:
  - Biorepository Users WG
  - Publications and Marker Paper WG
  - Data Sharing, Access, and Release WG
  - Ethics and Regulatory Issues WG
  - Genome Analysis WG
  - Phenotype Harmonization WG
- WGs met face-to-face yesterday to finalize the policy recommendations that they will present today and tomorrow
Highlights from the first 10 months

• H3A Pilot Biorepository Project PIs meet monthly amongst themselves and biweekly with the Biorepository Users WG to discuss protocols

• H3A Pilot Biorepository Project PIs have also surveyed the Consortium about the anticipated biobanking needs

• H3ABioNet continues to setup its nodes and has surveyed the Consortium about the types of data that will be generated

• The primary sites for most of the research projects have received IRB approval and are now adapting the ethics documentation with secondary sites in order for them to receive approval.
NIH H3Africa Program

- NIH will fund a new set of awards in August 2013
- The H3Africa ELSI Program will make additional awards in 2013 and 2014
- NIH H3Africa program budget is $10M/year from the Common Fund with additional ad hoc contributions from several NIH institutes
- The reduction in the U.S.A. federal budget will cause an anticipated NIH wide 3% reduction in funding including NIH H3Africa funding
- H3Africa productivity is even more important because the NIH Common Fund will review the program in 2015-2016 and decided whether to extend funding for an additional 5 years
Thanks to...

**H3ABioNet:** Dr. Nicola Mulder and Cahifa Karriem

**University of Ghana:** Dr. Dwomoa Adu, Isabella Rocksoon, Portia Antwi, Issac Mensah and Chris Andrew Yebuah

**H3Africa Steering Committee** and its chair Dr. Alash’le Abimiku
Questions???