

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**



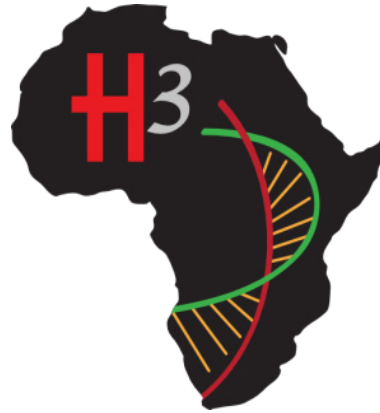
H3Africa

Human Heredity and Health in Africa



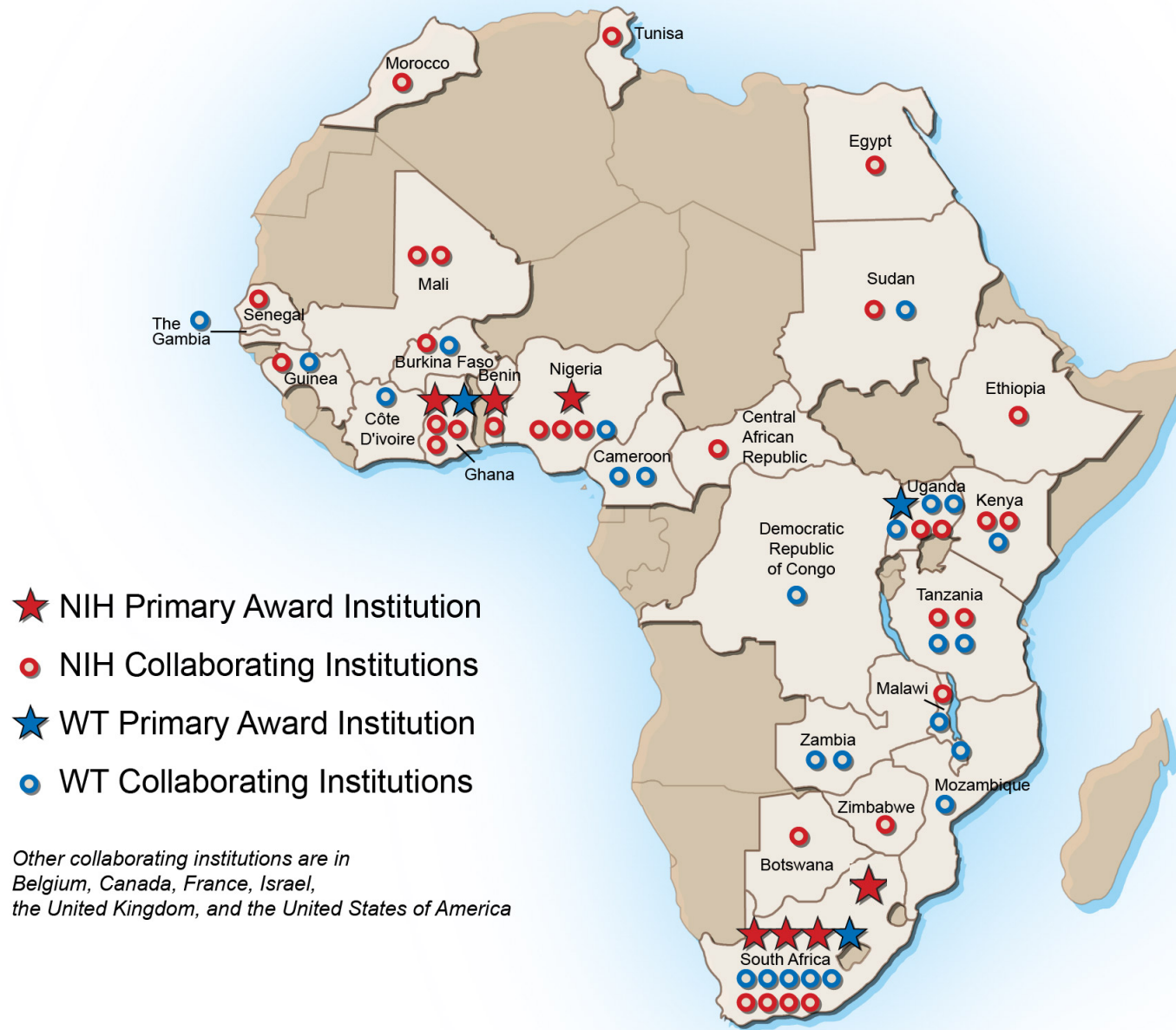
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NIH



**Genomics/Genetics
(AfSHG)**

National Institutes of Health - Wellcome Trust H3Africa Research Network



Progress: Inaugural Meeting



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)



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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



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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.



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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



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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



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Questions???

