

Genomics for Health in Africa

Priority Area	
Public Health	
Abstract	
The CoRE for Genomics for Health in Africa (CoRE-GHA) is a dynamic network of scientists from African and European institutions working together to harness the power of genomics to transform healthcare in Africa through capacity building. Despite its enormous potential, genomics remains underutilized in Africa due to insufficient infrastructure, limited resources, and a lack of scientific capacity. CoRE-GHA addresses these challenges by fostering sustainable, world-class research collaborations between African and European universities. The initiative advances integrated genomics research on rare diseases, familial cancers, and infectious diseases - areas with significant and unmet clinical needs across both continents - through collaborative projects, equitable partnerships, and participating in targeted funding opportunities. The network brings together members with complementary expertise in genomics, bioinformatics, and structural biology to promote an integrative and multidisciplinary research approach. It also provides a vibrant platform for researchers and students from Africa and Europe to connect, collaborate, learn, and grow. Through education or training programmes, mobility schemes, and infrastructure development, CoRE-GHA is committed to training the next generation of researchers skilled in functional genomics, structural biology, and bioinformatics. Ultimately, the initiative seeks to build a critical mass of scientific leadership in Africa that will accelerate progress toward precision medicine, drug development, and personalised healthcare on rare diseases, familial cancers, and infections.	
Co-Leads (Academic, University)	
ARUA	The Guild
Prof. Dr med Shahida Moosa, Head Medical Genetics, Tygerberg Hospital; Prof. Dr Tulio de Oliveira, Director, Centre for Epidemic Response and Innovation (CERI); - Stellenbosch University, South Africa	Prof. Dr med Olaf Riess, Director, Institute of Medical Genetics and Applied Genomics, Center for Rare Diseases, Center for Personalized Medicine; Dr med Tobias Haack, Deputy director & lead physician, Institute of Medical Genetics and Applied Genomics, Center for Rare Diseases; - University of Tübingen, Germany Prof. Dr Carmen Faso, MCID Co-Chair and Interfaculty Lecturer; Prof. Dr Volker Thiel, MCID Co-Chair and Professor for Virology - University of Bern, Switzerland
Core Partners (Academic, University)	
Dr med Pedro Rodríguez, Neurologist and Clinical genomics specialist - Bioinformatics Unit – National Centre for Genomic Analysis (CNAG) , Spain	
Dr Assad Bio Sya, Research Assistant in Pharmacology and Toxicology - University of Abomey-Calavi , Republic of Benin	
Prof. Dr med Hugues Abriel, Vice-Rector for Research and Innovation, Group Leader, Institute of Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine - University of Bern , Switzerland	
Prof. Dr Carlo Largiadèr, Vice Director of the Dept. of Clinical Chemistry - Inselspital Bern - University of Bern , Switzerland	
Prof. Dr Kelly Chibale, Professor of Organic Chemistry at UCT and a Nevil Isdell Chair in African-centric Drug Discovery and Development - University of Cape Town , South Africa	
Prof. Dr Rokhaya Ndiaye, Professor of Human Genetics - University Cheikh Anta Diop , Senegal	
Dr Giancarlo Tria, Technologist Director at CNR-IC and Research Infrastructure Manager of ITACA.SB - CNR Institute of Crystallography , Italy	
Prof. Dr Anita Ghansah, Associate Professor, Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research (NMIMR) - University of Ghana , Ghana	
Prof. Dr Matthew Groves, Associate Professor in Structural Biology, Department of Drug Design - University of Groningen , The Netherlands	
Prof. Aimé Lumaka, PhD, Associate Professor of Genetics - University of Kinshasa , Democratic Republic of Congo	
Prof. Dr med Gerrye Mubungu, MD, PhD, Associate Professor in Pediatrics and Genetics - University of Kinshasa , Democratic Republic of Congo	
Dr Maryam Fish, Postdoctoral Research Fellow - University of KwaZulu-Natal , South Africa	
Dr Jennifer Giandhari, Senior Lecturer and KwaZulu-Natal Research and Innovation Sequencing Platform (KRISP) - University of KwaZulu-Natal , South Africa	
Dr Hassan Ainani, Assistant Professor - Mohammed VI Polytechnic University , Morocco	

Dr Nasser Louali, Assistant Professor - Mohammed VI Polytechnic University , Morocco
Dr Moses Masika, MD, PhD, lecturer at School of Medicine - University of Nairobi , Kenya
Dr Victor Atunga Mobegi, Senior lecturer at the Department of Biochemistry - University of Nairobi , Kenya
Dr Loice Ombajo, PhD, Infectious Disease Specialist and Senior Lecturer, Department of Medicine; Co-director of the Center for Epidemiological Modelling and Analysis (CEMA) - University of Nairobi , Kenya
Prof. Dr David Comas, Full Professor, Department of Medicine and Life Sciences - Universitat Pompeu Fabra , Spain
Prof. Dr med Annette Uwizeza, MD, PhD, Associate Professor in Human Genetics - University of Rwanda , Rwanda
Prof. Dr Alexander Hoischen, Associate Professor of Genomic Technologies for Immune-mediated and infectious diseases - Radboud University Medical Center , The Netherlands
Prof. Dr Adrienne Edkins, Associate Professor in Biochemistry at the Biomedical Biotechnology Research Unit, Dept. of Biochemistry and Microbiology - Rhodes University , South Africa
Prof. Dr Özlem Tastan Bishop, Full Professor in Structural bioinformatics in the Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology and Director of Research Unit in Bioinformatics, SarChi chair in Intelligent Systems and Structural Bioinformatics for Afrocentric Health - Rhodes University , South Africa
Dr Cheryl Baxter, Head of Scientific Research Support at CERI - Stellenbosch University , South Africa
Prof. Dr Lenine Liebenberg, Head of the Immunology Research Programme at CERI - Stellenbosch University , South Africa
Prof. Dr Thulani Makhalanyane, Professor at the Department of Microbiology - Stellenbosch University , South Africa
Prof. Dr Marlo Möller, Full Professor at the DSI-NRF Centre of Excellence for Biomedical Tuberculosis Research, South African Medical Research Council Centre for Tuberculosis Research - Stellenbosch University , South Africa
Prof. Dr Desiree Peterson, Associate Professor Dept. of Biomedical Sciences - Stellenbosch University , South Africa
Dr Caitlin Uren, Lecturer in Molecular Biology and Human Genetics at the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences - Stellenbosch University , South Africa
Dr Eduan Wilkinson, Senior Scientist – Head of Bioinformatics at CERI - Stellenbosch University , South Africa