



Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi)

The Product Development Partnership III Fund

The global burden of Neglected tropical diseases (NTD) calls for new treatments

Poverty-related diseases, and within these, neglected tropical diseases (NTDs), kill millions of people each year and aggravate poverty. Examples of neglected tropical diseases are human African trypanosomiasis (HAT), mycetoma, leishmaniasis, and Chagas disease. Despite phenomenal changes in medicine over the past half-century, adequate therapies are not available for diseases affecting the poor in the developing world, as neglected poor populations constitute a less lucrative market.

The Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi) aims to deliver new treatments for NTDs

DNDi has established a Research & Development (R&D) pipeline aiming to dramatically address the way diseases of the poor are treated by establishing new therapeutic regimens with existing therapies (sometimes in combinations) as well as discovering and developing new drug candidates. DNDi has already delivered concrete results with six new treatments made available since 2003. Presently, DNDi's primary objective is to deliver 16 to 18 new treatments by 2023 for neglected diseases, and to establish a strong R&D portfolio that addresses patient needs. To achieve this goal, DNDi has secured the commitment of public and private partners in endemic and non-endemic countries willing to intensify

funding, coordination, and collaboration towards elimination goals as well as to facilitate sustainable use of new therapies. In doing this, DNDi will use and strengthen existing capacities in disease-endemic countries via project implementation and also raise awareness about the need to develop new drugs for neglected diseases and advocate for increased public responsibility.

Work in partnerships to amplify impact

A partnership-based model by nature, DNDi has endeavoured to continually build and explore innovative ways of working with public and private entities in all aspects of the organization's work. Covering several disease areas throughout the R&D pipeline – from screening for molecules to ensuring patients' needs are met – and with regional rooting across the globe, DNDi would simply not exist without the trust and engagement of a wide range of partners.

What differentiates DNDi from other organisations are the features:

1. Patient-needs driven
2. Collaborative model which strengthens existing capacities in endemic countries and leverages resources
3. Balanced short-term/long-term portfolio and experience on access and implementation of new products in the field
4. Decentralised organisation with regional offices and clinical research platforms

5. Advocacy efforts to ensure a favourable global R&D environment
 6. Progressive intellectual property (IP) policy
- Furthermore, DNDi cooperates with other PDPs through joint work on advocacy through the EU PDP coalition, and through joint projects.

Previous funding by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs

During the previous grant period clinical achievements included completion of studies for new treatments of HAT and Chagas disease. Results in implementation included successful registration of new treatments for leishmaniasis and Chagas to the WHO Essential Medicines list, and in four East African countries (for leishmaniasis) and six Latin American countries (Chagas).

Key partners:

DNDi has key, multi-year commitments with over 130 R&D partners, including: pharmaceutical companies, biotechnology companies, universities, research institutes, national research centres, NGOs and international organisations, other PDPs, hospitals, and ministries of health and governmental organisations. The founding partners of DNDi are:

- Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) (Doctors Without Borders)
- Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, Brazil
- Indian Council for Medical Research, India
- Kenya Medical Research Institute, Kenya
- Ministry of Health, Malaysia
- Institut Pasteur, France
- The Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (WHO-TDR)

Total budget lead applicant (5 years)	€108,000,000
Contribution by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs	€16,000,000

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The Product Development Partnerships III Fund of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The Product Development Partnerships III Fund (PDP III) contributes to innovation in the areas of healthcare products and technologies specifically aimed at diseases and conditions related to poverty and sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). The fund focuses on the development and availability of affordable, effective medicines, vaccines, diagnostics and innovative products for neglected diseases and conditions, with a view to combating poverty and inequality. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs therefore supports PDPs, which are public-private partnerships set up to accelerate the development and availability of products which are unlikely to attract private investment while in development