



## The International Aids Vaccine Initiative (IAVI)

### The Product Development Partnership III Fund

#### Spurring innovation to bring an AIDS vaccine to the world

Last year, almost 37 million people were living with HIV, and 2 million people became infected with HIV. Vaccines have been shown to be highly cost-effective public health interventions with the ability to reach even the most remote communities. Adding an effective, preventive vaccine to a comprehensive AIDS response of existing HIV treatment and prevention options remains essential to conclusively ending the epidemic, significantly reducing the number of new HIV infections. However, HIV/AIDS is a poverty-related disease and AIDS vaccine research is complex. AIDS vaccine research is largely dependent on government and philanthropic funding as the private sector lacks incentives for increased investment at this stage given uncertainty on the potential for a return on investment.

#### The International Aids Vaccine Initiative (IAVI) strives for the development of safe, effective, accessible, preventive AIDS vaccines for use throughout the world

Founded in 1996, IAVI is a global not-for-profit organization that works with partners in 25 countries to research, design and develop AIDS vaccine candidates. The organization also conducts policy analysis and serves as an advocate for the AIDS vaccine field. With funding from the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, IAVI's programmes will focus on research for vaccines that can be used

across the world, in countries most affected by HIV and AIDS and especially the most vulnerable communities in Africa, regardless of HIV types, and that generate long-lasting protection against HIV infection and AIDS. The programme will be delivered through two core strategies, supported by advocacy efforts to ensure that AIDS vaccine R&D remains a global health priority:

1. Accelerate the development of AIDS vaccine candidates
2. Strengthen the environment for AIDS vaccine R&D and future access

#### Working in Product Development Partnerships (PDP) to amplify results

The PDP model is a recognized efficient and viable non-profit model, to leverage government commitment to public health and public goods, with technical expertise and resources available in industry for R&D and product development. IAVI's partnership model is centered on catalyzing the AIDS vaccine field by sharing materials, promising technologies and technical expertise, to maximize scientific advances and be a reliable partner to the field. This is done through partnerships with researchers in academia, including increased levels of leadership and ownership by African scientists, with biotechnology companies, and industry. IAVI's collaborating partners include other PDPs as scientific and as advocacy partners. IAVI's product development expertise and infrastructure has been leveraged in the development of other vaccines by other PDPs. IAVI is also an active

member of the European PDP Coalition, an international advocacy coalition of 10 non-profit PDPs, with a common purpose of advocating for the development of appropriate and affordable preventive, diagnostic, and therapeutic health solutions for poverty-related and neglected diseases.

### Previous funding by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs

This Dutch funding so far has contributed to 15 AIDS vaccine early clinical trials, effectuated with multiple products in preclinical development. Allowing IAVI to build a better capability to test novel vaccine candidate approaches that can be advanced to clinical trials. IAVI and its partners have expanded and strengthened over 10 years' research capacity in Africa by transferring knowledge and technologies for conducting trials to international standards and building research infrastructure. The capacity building programme has also allowed IAVI to invest in local communities in Africa, providing around 500.000 participants in clinical research voluntary testing and counselling, with referral to treatment & care and helping to reduce stigma around marginalized communities. IAVI's PDP-III programme will build on previous achievements with Dutch funding and offers a timely opportunity to move promising new and highly innovative approaches from discoveries and vaccine design into evaluation in the clinic.

Total budget lead applicant (5 years)	€ 87,000,000
Contribution by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs	€ 16,000,000

**Key Partners:** The programme is delivered within a broad network of researchers, health workers and advocates from renowned academic institutions, biopharmaceutical companies, and not-for-profit organisations in Europe, USA, India and Africa, including IAVI's network of Collaborating Research Centres (CRCs) partners in Africa and India, amongst which: Kenya AIDS Vaccine Initiative-KAVI (Kenya); Uganda Virus Research Institute-UVRI (Uganda); Zambia Emory HIV Research Project-ZEHRP (Zambia); Projet San Francisco-PSF (Rwanda); and Aurum Institute (South Africa).

**IAVI's Dutch partners include Amsterdam Medical Centre (AMC);** Erasmus University Rotterdam; Crucell Holland B.V./Janssen; and civil society partner, Aidsfonds.

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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.