



## The Product Development Partnership IV Fund - IAVI

### Advancing New Affordable and Accessible HIV Prevention Technologies for Women and Girls

#### HIV and gender inequality

HIV/AIDS has been an ongoing global health crisis for the past four decades. Even though progress has been made, there are still ongoing challenges and tasks ahead. One of the targets of SDG3 is to fight communicable diseases. Specifically, it aims “to end the epidemics of AIDS (...) by 2030.” HIV infected 1.3 million people in 2022, primarily in low-and-middle income countries (LMICs). According to UNAIDS, inequalities are a key barrier to why the field is lagging in its attempt to meeting 2030 global targets. HIV/AIDS is the leading cause of death among women of reproductive age in Sub-Saharan Africa. Adolescent girls and young women (AGYW) are twice as likely to be living with HIV than men, with 77% of new infections occurring among AGYW, meaning they are more likely to die of AIDS-related illnesses. Vulnerable populations such as AGYW need new prevention tools that provide durable protection and which they can access safely, including preventive vaccines.

#### IAVI

Established in 1996 as a non-profit organisation focused on global health research and development, IAVI’s mission today is: “To translate scientific discoveries into affordable, globally accessible public health solutions”. Operating as a public-private product development partnership (PDP), IAVI develops vaccines and

antibodies for HIV, tuberculosis (TB), emerging infectious diseases (EIDs), and neglected diseases (NDs). Through scientific and clinical research in Africa, India, Europe, and the United States (U.S.), IAVI is pioneering the development of biomedical innovations designed for broadly available, affordable, and equitable access in LMICs while seeking to also accelerate their future introduction and uptake.

#### IAVI is contributing to the development of HIV prevention and treatment options that meet the unique needs and preferences of AGYW.

For IAVI, understanding the needs and preferences of end-users, health care providers and policymakers is essential to developing and delivering products with the fewest barriers to access and the greatest potential for impact. As a key element of IAVI’s end-to-end product development vision, IAVI and its partners engage local communities to inform plans for product development and implementation in real-world settings. By engaging with key stakeholders and AGYW, IAVI has identified a priority need to develop products that address the HIV prevention needs of AGYW along their reproductive health life-course. In addition to clinical research of new treatment options, IAVI invests in socio-behavioral, epidemiological, and health economic research in Africa and India, focusing on health risks, needs, and acceptability of potential biomedical interventions.

The overall goal of the newly proposed programme is to develop *new, safe, effective, affordable, accessible, and acceptable HIV prevention technologies for women, girls, and other communities at high risk of HIV infection.*

Over the coming five years the programme aims to:

- Generate clinical evidence that HIV broadly neutralising antibodies (bnAbs) can be elicited through vaccination, greatly increasing the likelihood of achieving vaccines able to confer protection from HIV infection and paving the way for the initiation of efficacy trials.
- Advance a combination of best-in-class HIV bnAbs to efficacy trials that are aimed at reducing the risk of HIV infection in AGYW.
- Develop an integrated plan that will enable affordable production and broad availability of future bnAbs and vaccines for HIV prevention in women, girls, and other vulnerable populations.
- Expand capabilities and capacity of IAVI and partners in Africa and India to drive the end-to-end development of new HIV prevention tools, with the demonstration of enhanced country resilience to responding to enduring, emerging, and new health threats.

### Joining forces with public and private partners to combat the HIV epidemic and accelerate the development of biomedical innovations

IAVI collaborates with multi-fold partners to advance global health innovations in the fight against HIV and maintains partnerships with over 150 prominent global and national organisations. IAVI's network of collaborations encompasses other product development alliances, industry leaders, academic institutions, civil society organizations, government agencies, policymakers, and community members. IAVI's partnership model is centred on catalysing the HIV vaccine field by sharing materials, innovative technologies, and technical expertise to maximise scientific advances and be a reliable partner to the field.

In the Netherlands, IAVI is partnered with:

- The Academic Medical Centre in Amsterdam, a long-standing collaborator in the development and evaluation of novel HIV immunogens;
- Crucell/Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies, has been a collaborator for many years in designing novel viral vectors for HIV vaccines and in the conduct of early and late-stage efficacy trials of promising HIV vaccine candidates;
- Batavia Biosciences in Leiden, a key manufacturing partner of HIV-VSV immunogens, which through its expansion in recent years, is collaborating with IAVI to manufacture VSV-based products against EIDs, including Lassa fever, for use in outbreaks and low-income settings through its low-cost and flexible manufacturing platform.
- Erasmus University Medical Centre in Rotterdam, a partner in the Indo-Dutch Collaborative Programme on HIV/AIDS Research and HIV cohort-studies.
- IAVI's longstanding partners, Aidsfonds, AIGHD and KNCV, and additional partners through IAVI's membership of the Global Health Hub.

IAVI facilitates collaborations between Dutch institutions and partners globally, including in Africa, Europe and the U.S., bringing a positive return on investments, opening new doors for Dutch research institutions, and contributing to a healthy R&D ecosystem.

### Budget

Total programmatic budget lead applicant:	€ 95.678.240
Contribution by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs:	€ 21 million

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### Product Development Partnerships IV Fund - PDP IV

The Product Development Partnerships IV Fund (PDP IV) promotes the development and accessibility of healthcare products. Specifically, PDP IV targets diseases and conditions related to poverty and sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). The fund focuses on the development and availability of more effective, safe, affordable, and demand-driven medicines, vaccines, diagnostics, and other products. Women and girls between the reproductive ages of 15 to 49 in Low-Income Countries (LICs) and Middle-Income Countries (MICs) are the main target group.

### About RVO

The Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO) is part of the Dutch government and your partner in development cooperation.

We encourage Dutch companies and organisations to cooperate and share knowledge with companies, organisations and governments in developing countries. We focus on themes like food security, water security, renewable energy, private sector development and responsible and sustainable international value chains. In doing so, we always pay attention to gender equality, climate and responsible business conduct (RBC). To help solve social issues in developing countries, we identify the local context and needs. We support projects and partnerships that contribute to sustainable impact. We do so via grants and programmes, advice, knowledge sharing, and our community.

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