

# Newsletter

**GET AFRICA NEWSLETTER ON EMERGING  
INFECTIOUS DISEASES & BIOSECURITY**



## An Overview Of GET Activities And Projects In 2021

### **PAGE 5**

**EFFECTIVE MEASURES  
FOR CONTROLLING THE  
SPREAD OF THE NEW  
COVID-19 VARIANT IN  
NIGERIA**

### **PAGE 8**

**COMMUNIQUÉ OF 7TH  
AFRICAN CONFERENCE  
ON ONE HEALTH AND  
BIOSECURITY**

### **PAGE 10**

**AN OVERVIEW OF  
GET ACTIVITIES AND  
PROJECTS IN 2021**

### **PAGE 5**

**PHOTO FEASTS FROM  
THE 7TH AFRICAN  
CONFERENCE ON  
ONE HEALTH AND  
BIOSECURITY**

# GET Africa, One Health, One Africa.



Chief Organizer  
Dr. Ayodotun Bobade  
Chief Operating Officer  
GET Consortium.

# Table of Contents

---

---

INTRODUCTION BY GET COO.	4
EFFECTIVE MEASURES FOR CONTROLLING THE SPREAD OF THE NEW COVID-19 VARIANT IN NIGERIA- (FEATURE ARTICLE)	5
7 <sup>TH</sup> AFRICAN CONFERENCE ON ONE HEALTH & BIOSECURITY.	6
COMMUNIQUÉ OF 7 <sup>TH</sup> AFRICAN CONFERENCE ON ONE HEALTH AND BIOSECURITY	8
AN OVERVIEW OF GET ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS IN 2021	10
GET UPCOMING PROJECTS	19
PHOTO FEASTS FROM THE 7 <sup>TH</sup> AFRICAN CONFERENCE ON ONE HEALTH AND BIOSECURITY	20
SCHOLARSHIPS/GRANT OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESEARCHERS	25

---



## INTRODUCTION BY GET COO.

---

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the final edition of the Global Emerging Pathogens Treatment Consortium (GET) newsletter for the year 2021. This edition of the newsletter is an overview of GET projects and activities in 2021 and GET upcoming projects in 2022. There is also a feature on the new COVID-19 Omicron variant.

Year 2021 was another year of significant achievement for GET. Each year, we push ourselves, breaking new grounds and weathering the storms no matter the challenges we face. This year, GET launched the GET Journal of Biosecurity and One Health; launched GET One Health School Club (GHSC). We organized the 7th African Conference on One Health and Biosecurity, organized various seminars and webinars; and conducted several capacity building and sensitization programs in different countries in Africa.

The devastating effect of COVID-19 on health, economy and general wellbeing of countries and their citizens continued in 2021. The emergence of the COVID-19 vaccines heralded hope of a pharmaceutical solution to the ravaging pandemic. GET conducted several researches on vaccine accessibility and acceptability in Africa. We are also actively involved in vaccine distribution logistics in Lagos state, Nigeria. The GET 7th Annual Conference on One Health and



Biosecurity served as a platform to engage a broad range of global experts on the huge importance of genomic research and vaccines in addressing public health issues and biosecurity threats.

I must express my appreciation to the entire staff and management of GET for their commitment and selfless service, which has enabled GET to deliver these results. To our esteemed sponsors and partners, we remain grateful for your timely contribution and support, even as we look forward to more collaboration in the future.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a prosperous new year in advance.

We hope you enjoy reading our newsletter. Please feel free to send your comments and share with your networks.

**Dr. Bobadoye Ayodotun,  
Chief Operating Officer,  
Global Emerging Pathogens Treatment  
Consortium (GET)**

# Effective Measures For Controlling The Spread Of The New Covid-19 Variant In Nigeria



As the world grapple with the emergence of the new COVID-19 variant, researchers have equally expressed serious concern about the impact of this new strain. Scientists working at the South African National Institute for Communicable Disease confirmed this new B.1.1.529 variant of SARS-CoV-2 to the World Health Organization, which WHO later named OMICRON and subsequently declared VARIANT OF CONCERN. Omicron presents unique features such as a longer incubation period, multiple mutations at spike proteins; this necessitates the need for urgent and critical action to bolster the existing non-pharmaceutical covid measures already in place. Scientists across the globe express worries regarding transmissibility, virulence, and evasion of vaccine-induced immunity. World Health Organization has further stressed the need for more research to unravel the needed information on the variant.

A growing number of countries have reported confirmed cases of the Omicron variant; as of 29/11/2022, 114 countries have confirmed cases. The United Kingdom, which has the largest genomic sequencing and contact tracing capacity, now have nine cases. Though one of the first three index cases in the United Kingdom had previously travelled to Southern African countries, the remaining two have no travel history. Quite a number of cases were reported in England from an individual with no travel history suggesting the strain is highly infectious. The emergence of the Omicron variant overseas reminds us why we need to maintain a careful approach and keep public health measures in place to protect ourselves.

## Measure Adopted by Countries:

In a swift response, Countries have adopted various measures to control the Omicron strain from

causing healthcare and economic breakdown. Japan and Israel have placed an outright ban on foreign flights into the country until adequate information is available. The United Kingdom, United States, Germany, Netherland, Ireland, Hong Kong, Switzerland, Czech Republic, and Belgium have placed restrictions on flights from the Nine southern African countries on the red

## Recommended Control Measures

- Deployment of effective PCR kit capable of detecting new B.1.1.529 variant in all our Laboratories
- Deployment of a fast-testing kit at the entry point that can detect the new B.1.1529 variant for any suspected case.
- Continuous genomic sequencing of all positive samples across the country
- Efficient contact tracing (using technology) for all incoming passengers into the country
- Compulsory quarantine at designated hotel or accommodation facility for a minimum of 14 days as this strain has a longer incubation period.
- Enforce day 2 and day 8 testing, in addition, to fit to fly PCR testing
- Enforce Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions such as compulsory use of face masks in all public gatherings, ensuring adequate ventilation in closed spaces and maintenance of hygiene measures
- Collaborate with CSOs, and NGOs to create awareness, especially during the festive period.
- Increase access to COVID-19 vaccines and encourage Nigerians to be vaccinated as soon as possible.
- Conduct Virological Investigation and Vaccine Effective Studies to understand better its escape potential against both vaccination and infection-acquired immunity.

# 7<sup>th</sup> African Conference On One Health & Biosecurity

The 7th African Conference on One Health & Biosecurity was held at Civic Center, Victoria Island, Lagos State, Nigeria, from 27-29 October 2021. The conference was themed: **“Universal Approach to Addressing Biosecurity Threats: Genomic Intelligence and Vaccines”**.

The Conference was organized by the Global Emerging Pathogens Treatment Consortium (GET) with the support of the Lagos State Ministry of Health and it served as a great platform to bring together participants from different parts of the world, including policymakers, biomedical scientists, public health stakeholders, members from the public and private health sectors, and a variety of academia for intellectual discourse by various stakeholders on the Universal Approach to addressing Biosecurity Threats in Africa.

The United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) organized a special session at the conference to deliberate on; “The Global Non-Proliferation Framework and Biosecurity: Connecting Political Commitment and Effective Health Security”. The session emphasized the international biosecurity normative framework, including the Biological Weapons Convention, Security Council resolution 1540 (2004), and the UN Secretary-General Mechanism for Investigation of Alleged Use of Chemical and Biological Weapons.

The key objectives of the conference focused on understanding the huge potentials of genomic research and vaccine in helping African countries to address public health issues and biosecurity threats; and developing a well-planned vaccination program for African countries that will boost economic recovery on the continent and reconnect Africa to the rest of the world.

To accomplish these objectives, the forum highlighted the following 7 key themes mentioned below:

1. The need for vaccine strategy for emerging infectious diseases in Africa;
2. The importance of genomics research in addressing biosecurity threats in Africa;

3. Emerging infectious diseases as an accelerating phenomenon and the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic;
4. Biosecurity and Biosecurity Reduction in Africa;
5. Biobanking infrastructure;
6. The Cultural, Anthropological, Social and Economic impact of emerging infectious diseases (CASE); and
7. Other emerging issues.

The Conference was graced by His Excellency, Gov. Mr. Babajide Sanwoolu (Lagos State Governor), Prof. Akin Abayomi (Hon. Commissioner for Health in Lagos State), Comrade Juliana Bitrus (Hon. Commissioner for Health in Borno State), Dr. Olusegun O'Boyle (Permanent Secretary, Lagos State Ministry of Health), Director Generals of Organizations and Health Institutions, amidst other participants. Apart from various state governments and organizations in Nigeria, attendees came from member African countries with delegates representing international organizations including the West African Health Organization (WAHO), The United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS), The West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use, (WASCAL), The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), National Public Health Institute of Liberia (NPHI), Ministry of Health, Luxemburg.

The Conference also featured the GET Arts/ Awards night on the 28th of October 2021 at 5:00pm to; celebrate GET 7th anniversary, present special recognition awards to individuals who have contributed immensely to the growth of GET since its inception, present special awards to COVID-19 innovators and launch GET book alongside other fun-filled activities.

The seasoned speakers at the conference include Professor Akin Abayomi, Dr. Ayodotun Bobadoye, Vice Admiral Gambo, Professor Alan Christoffels, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles, Professor Mayowa Owolabi, Professor Christian Happi, Professor Charles Shey Wiysonge, Professor Akin Osibogun, Professor William Ogara, Professor Abiodun Denloye, Dr. Dolapo



# 7<sup>TH</sup> AFRICAN CONFERENCE ON ONE HEALTH & BIOSECURITY

Registration Booth

Fasawe, Dr. Abdourahmane Sow, Dr. Michaela Mayrhofer, Dr. Olamide Okulaja, Dr. Valerie Oriol Mathieu, Dr. Tom Rausch, Engr. Pasquale, De Blasio, Dr. Sam Ujewe, Dr. Alexander Ochem, Niniola Williams, Dr. Bamidele Mutiu, Dr. Yewande Alimi, Dr. Nicholas Ozor, Ms. Titilope Gbemisola Akosa, Ms. Einas Mohammed, Mr. Talkmore Maruta, Mr. Trevor Smith, Professor David Harper, Ms. Christine Uhlenhaut.

The 7th African conference was a hybrid event that pulled over 400 delegates, keynote/abstract

speakers, and sponsors from different parts of the world.

Watch Out for the **8th African Conference on One Health & Biosecurity In 2022**. The Date Will Be Announced Soon. To Support or Partner with Us

For The 8th African Conference, Kindly Call: +2348067699338 Or Send an Email To: [bobadoyed@getafrica.org](mailto:bobadoyed@getafrica.org)

# Communiqué Of 7<sup>th</sup> African Conference On One Health And Biosecurity

## Preamble

The 7th African Conference on One Health and Biosecurity themed Universal Approach to Addressing Biosecurity Threats: Genomic Intelligence and Vaccines held Wednesday, 27th – Friday 29 October 2021. The 7th edition of the annual conference was organized by Global Emerging Pathogens Treatment Consortium (GET Africa) with the support of Lagos State Government and in partnership with key non-state institutions across the world with focus on emerging infectious diseases and concerns around biosecurity and biosafety in the African Continent.

The 3-day conference provided unique forum for robust interactions on biosecurity threats and the imperative for genomic intelligence and efficient healthcare responses in Africa. The conference, attended by professionals and stakeholders across the sectors of the society, received presentations from resource persons cutting across healthcare sector, agriculture, the environment as well as from the development sector and civil society. The following observations and recommendations emerged following exhaustive deliberations:

## Observations

- In the age of genomic intelligence, which offers huge prospect for efficient healthcare delivery, African countries should not be left behind considering that the world is at the stage where technology should be fully deployed to respond to hazards of infections. Therefore, genomic sequencing should be seen as part of the elaborate strategies to achieve the One Health objectives
- Improvement of infrastructure is key to achieving One Health policy, particularly as a way of integrating biosafety into efficient health delivery system
- Proper understanding of microbial landscape and dynamics of infections is critical in addressing to biosecurity and biosafety and in meeting the goal of one-health initiative
- Investment in biosecurity and biobank has become a compelling imperative for the health sector following the deployment of genomics in the wake of Ebola in 2014 and considering that genomic diagnosis has been deployed to unravel the pattern of mutation and infection of Lassa fever after over 5 decades
- Africa is on the verge of a major antimicrobial resistance crisis even though the developments at the level of Africa CDC regarding development of Africa Union AMR Framework, draft Policy for the legal framework for Antimicrobial Resistance Control in Africa and AMR Guidance point in the direction of great potential to reverse the trend
- Threat of bioterrorism is a reality with dire consequences for society and overriding challenge for governments and security agencies
- Illicit trafficking has the potential of aggravating biosecurity threats in the maritime sector with dire consequences since nations across the world have become increasingly susceptible to biosecurity threats as a consequence of cross border movements
- In spite of remarkable progress made at the regional level, under the auspices of Africa CDC, in development of Biosecurity Policy as instrument for effective biosecurity in Africa, low research opportunities and capacity building pose huge challenge
- Effective biosecurity in Africa requires establishment of framework for effective practice of biotechnology and biosafety with the necessary technological requirements, technical skills as well as seamless networking among laboratories in Africa
- Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) play crucial role in advancing biosecurity consciousness, pandemic management and genomic intelligence through advocacy and direct involvement of stakeholders' responses to emergencies such as the COVID-19 pandemic
- The COVID-19 pandemic has helped in highlighting the important role of accessibility to data in driving decision making in pandemic preparedness and response, particularly with regard to addressing

- issues within targeted groups in communities
- Lagos State was able to contain the COVID-19 outbreak by leveraging on the experience of Ebola outbreak of 2014 which spurred the creation of the Lagos Biosecurity Council. Policy, infrastructure, training, and collaboration were key to the success. The Lagos Biobank, which encompasses Biobank, BSL2 and BSL3, provides a model for participation of the private sector in testing that can be adopted nationally and across sub-Saharan Africa
- There is generally poor record of political will on the part of African leaders to transit from mere adoption and assent to domestication and implementation of international conventions, protocols, and policies
- Climate change adaptation and mitigation are major issues to consider in biosecurity and biosafety in meeting the goal of One Health initiative
- Environmental degradation, potentiated by untrammled abuse as well as unsustainable interaction with the environment, is a major driver of emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases crisis in Africa

## Conference Declaration

*The conference agreed to deploy conscious engagement in demanding improved funding of research and development in the health sector in Africa with the view to prioritize capacity building and exchange of ideas on best practices amongst professionals, researchers, and stakeholders towards addressing the emerging realities around biosecurity and one-health initiative. The conference reaffirmed commitment to genomics and precision medicine to address challenges of emerging diseases as well as in pursuit of clear roadmap with strategic framework for vaccine accessibility, production, and distribution. Conference reiterated the importance of addressing antimicrobial resistance in healthcare pipeline in the African Continent. Realizing the need to sustain awareness on the international non-proliferation norms and biosecurity-related obligations, the conference resolved to demand improved commitment from government of countries across Africa, to existing obligations under the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) and Resolution 1540 of the United Nations. The conference resolved to work with relevant state and non-state stakeholders to address legal, ethical, and social issues to leverage on the opportunities of genomic intelligence and biosecurity.*

## Recommendations

As a follow-up to the conference declaration, the following recommendations are proposed:

- Africa should be the leaders in biosecurity development. Therefore, policy makers and governments should support scientists and the health professional to strengthen biosecurity. Medical and epidemiological services must be strengthened to guarantee biosecurity
- Consistent efforts towards building capacities to respond to emergencies and flattening the waves of infections should be at the core of the proactive strategies against adverse effects of emerging diseases
- African countries should strengthen their health system with establishment of biobanks and biosecurity councils for effective deployment of responses against emerging infectious diseases
- Local vaccine manufacture should be at the center of making vaccines available to Africans. Thus, African governments individually and collectively should invest in research and provide enabling environment for experts and investors to commit resources into research and production of vaccines in response to the attendant challenges of emerging infectious diseases. Assistance from international partners should be centered more around capacity building, research, and development as well as experience sharing
- At the governmental level, Antimicrobial Resistance Control Guidance should be integrated into healthcare delivery systems while non-governmental stakeholders including youth, faith-based organizations, CSOs need to ramp up their involvement within sociocultural peculiarities of communities to conscientize towards behavioral changes
- There should be deliberate, consistent, and policy-driven intervention of the armed forces and other security agencies and immigration departments in averting and containing access of unauthorized persons and non-state actors to biological agents
- There is need for the development of a framework for the establishment of Africa Center for Genomics, Data Management and Bioinformatics as custodian of repository for accessibility to molecular bioresource data in Africa
- African leaders should take practical steps towards reversing long-lasting dependency on foreign donors in addressing health challenges by focusing on education, research, and development, giving due recognition to indigenous innovations, and harnessing the capacity of citizens within the region and in the Diaspora, as a major step towards One Health initiative and wholesome prosperity
- African countries should work closely with international partners to ensure adherence to common standards and compliance with binding Conventions, Protocols, and international agreements



**An Overview  
Of GET  
Activities  
And Projects  
In 2021**

# GET Journal Of Biosecurity & One Health

GET Journal of Biosecurity & One Health is the first of its kind in Sub-Saharan Africa. The journal aims to cover the latest developments and articles in the field of Biosecurity, Biosafety, One Health, Antimicrobial Resistance, Bioterrorism, Biobanking and other related fields. The link to GET Journal Website is >>> [www.getafrica.org](http://www.getafrica.org)

## Call for Manuscripts

GET Journal of Biosecurity & One Health provides a common platform to all the scientists, researchers, academics, readers to share their valuable knowledge, information, innovative ideas and encourage their contribution to research in Biosecurity and One Health for the betterment of humanity. We welcome research papers, short communications, review articles for the first issue which will be freely accessible to researchers, students globally. Submission of articles must be original high-quality articles from various theoretical and methodological approaches prepared according to the aims and scope of the Journal.

**Manuscripts can be submitted online via>> <https://getjournal.org/submit-your-manuscript/> or Attach manuscript in an email and send to>> [bobadoyed@getafrica.org](mailto:bobadoyed@getafrica.org)**



## CALL FOR MANUSCRIPTS

GET Journal of Biosecurity and One Health is presently receiving submission of manuscript for the forthcoming issue. The GET Journal of Biosecurity and One Health is a peer-reviewed open access journal that will be published by Global Emerging Pathogens Treatment Consortium - Africa (GET).

GET Journal is dedicated to increasing the depth of the subject across disciplines with the aim of expanding knowledge of the subject. It provides a platform for researchers, academics, practitioners, professionals, and students to share knowledge and interrogate issues around the relatively new multidisciplinary areas of Biosecurity and One Health. Subject areas in focus span Biosecurity, One Health, Biosafety, Anti-Microbial Resistance (AMR), Biobanking, Bioinformatics and related fields. The journal aims to publish high quality varied article types such as Research, Reviews, Short Communications, Case Reports, Perspectives (Editorials), Clinical Images.

We welcome the submission of manuscripts that meet the general criteria of significance and scientific excellence. Manuscripts submitted may cover areas related to the following:

- Biosecurity
- One Health
- Biosafety
- Anti-Microbial Resistance (AMR)
- Biobanking
- Bioinformatics
- Bioterrorism
- Animal Biosecurity
- Global Health
- Invasive Species
- Infectious Diseases
- Nuclear Terrorism
- Emerging Infectious Diseases
- Bioterrorism and Pandemic Planning

Submission of Manuscripts  
Full manuscripts can be submitted to:  
[submit@getjournal.org](mailto:submit@getjournal.org)  
or Visit [https:// getjournal.org](https://getjournal.org)

CONTACTS  
[admin@getafrica.org](mailto:admin@getafrica.org),  
[submit@getjournal.org](mailto:submit@getjournal.org)

# Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Awareness Week (Nov. 18-24, 2021)

Antimicrobial resistance occurs when bacteria, viruses, fungi, and parasites change and no longer respond to medicines used to treat the infections they cause. It makes common infections harder to treat and increases the risk of disease transmission, severe illness, and death.

Each year, approximately 700,000 people die as a result of antimicrobial resistance. The issue of Anti-Microbial Resistance (AMR) is a global issue that demands concerted actions across all sectors and for each of us to take responsibility for our personal use/misuse of antimicrobials.

In this regard, GET joined the world from the 18th-24th of November 2021 to mark the Anti-Microbial Resistance (AMR) Awareness week through the sensitization of students on the proper use of antimicrobials (antibacterial, antiviral, antifungal, anti-parasites) and to create more awareness on Anti-Microbial Resistance. The World AMR week was themed: "Spread Awareness, Stop Resistance".

GET had the awareness programme done through the GET One Health School Club (GHSC) Project.



*Sensitization of students by GET Staff during the World AMR Awareness Week*

# GET-UNODA Joint Virtual Meeting On The Margins Of The Annual Meeting Of States Parties To The Biological Weapons Convention


Global Emerging Pathogens Treatment Consortium (GET) and United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) organized a joint virtual event on the margins of the annual meeting of States Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention on the 24th of November 2021 at 1:15 pm -2:45 pm WAT. The topic of discussion at the virtual event was: "The Global Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Framework and Biosecurity: Connecting Political Commitment and Effective Health Security in Africa".

The speakers at the webinar include Dr. Ayodotun Bobadoye, Dr. Talkmore Maruta, Ms. Melanie Redder and Mr. Ismailia Bella. A total of 94 participants joined the webinar from Africa, Europe, and Latin America.



## Joint virtual event on the margins of the annual meeting of States Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention

**Topic: The Global Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Framework and Biosecurity: Connecting Political Commitment and Effective Health Security In Africa**

 **Wednesday, 24 November 2021**  
 **1:15PM - 2:45PM WAT**

### SPEAKERS



**Mr. Akin Abayomi**  
Honourable Commissioner for Health, Lagos State, Nigeria  
Biosecurity in Outbreak Prevention & Response: Lessons Learned



**Mr. Talkmore Maruta**  
Senior Biosecurity and Biosecurity Officer, Africa Centres for Disease Control/Consolidating Regional Action on Health Security & Biological Nonproliferation



**Ms. Melanie Reddiar**  
Chief Director, Secretariat of the South African Council for the Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction and Co-Chair of the Signature Initiative Sub-working Group on Non-proliferation Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction Approaches in international Support for Sustainable Biosecurity in Africa



**Mr. Ayodotun Bobadoye**  
Chief Operating Officer, GET  
Building a Regional Community of Practice on Biosecurity



**Mr. Ismail Balla (Moderator)**  
Head, 1540 Support Unit  
United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs

Registration link

<https://forms.gle/Wb6iKYdTtYHNF3eW7>

**For inquiries, please contact:**

**Ms. Christine Uhlenhaut**  
Senior Programme Officer Team Lead - UNSGM, UNODA  
[christine.uhlenhaut@un.org](mailto:christine.uhlenhaut@un.org)

**Ms. Einas Mohammed**  
Political Affairs Officer/1540 Support Unit, UNODA  
[einas.mohammed@un.org](mailto:einas.mohammed@un.org)

# GET One Health School Club (GHSC) Inauguration Programme

Global Emerging Pathogens Treatment Consortium (GET) launched its One Health School Club on the 24th of September 2021 at Premier Hotel, Ibadan, with four (4) different Senior Secondary Schools within Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria. GET One Health School Club is a student-focused club initiated by GET to implement the club and introduce the concept of One Health to students in various schools across the globe.

Relevant stakeholders in Oyo State, including State Ministries - Health, Education, Agriculture, Environment, State Universal Education Boards, Local Inspection Officers and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) attended the inauguration programme with a total of 99 participants in attendance.



GET COO-Dr. Bobadoye Ayodotun with one of the Pilot School's Students and their Teachers at the GHSC inauguration programme

## ABOUT GHSC

GET One Health School Club (GHSC) is a student-focused club initiated by Global Emerging Pathogens Treatment Consortium to introduce the concept of One Health to students in various secondary schools in Africa through communication, coordination, and collaboration actions.

## MISSION

The club's vision is to sensitize the young generation on creating a nation of healthy people and animals living in a balanced ecosystem.

## VISION

The mission is to build a strategic, dynamic, and functional platform that advances human, animal, and environmental Health through sensitization and inter-sectoral collaboration.

## GHSC Objectives

The objectives of GHSC are to;

- Introduce the concept of One Health to secondary school students within Africa.
- Organize capacity building programs for students on One Health and related fields.
- Create various interactive sessions to train students and their teachers on the different areas of One Health such as AMR, Biodiversity conservation, Zoonotic diseases etc.
- Connect students with experts in the field of One Health for mentorship.
- Develop One Health Program Library for Schools
- Educate students on career opportunities in One Health and other related fields
- Provide students with financial supports to pursue careers in the field of One Health
- Expose students through conferences and workshops that are focused on One Health.
- Involve young people on different community advocacy projects relating to human, animal, and plant health.
- Produce and share educational materials such as handbooks, magazines etc. focused on One Health topics to students.

GET Recently Developed a Complete Concept Note for The GHSC Project With the Aim of Sourcing Funds from Different Organizations to Expand the Project and Curriculum of Activities Across Africa.

This GHSC Project Is Open for Sponsorship and Partnership.

**For further inquiries, kindly contact:**

**Dr. Bobadoye Ayodotun**

*Chief Operating Officer*

*Tel: +2348120651552*

*Email: bobadoyed@getafrica.org*



# World Environment Day Celebration By GET

World Environment Day will keep reminding us of the wrong we did to our environment and the right we need to correct it all.

GET contributed to World Environment Day 2021 by visiting various schools within Oyo State to organize a tree-planting drive and create environmental awareness for the students. The students were taught how to reduce wastes generated in their schools and simple eco-friendly practices, including planting of trees, proper disposals, and domestic practices.

World Environment Day 2021 was themed; "Ecosystem Restoration".

***Plant a Tree Today, Save our Earth for our Future Generation!***



*GET Staff with Some Students on World Environment Day 2021*

## GET Biosecurity Virtual Summit

Biosecurity refers to measures that are taken to prevent or stop the introduction and spread of harmful organisms to humans, animal, and plant life.

Nigeria is faced with many biosecurity threats affecting humans, animals, and our shared environment, which calls for a transdisciplinary approach and integration of various sources of knowledge to address these emerging threats.

Given this, GET held a virtual summit on Biosecurity themed: “Trans-disciplinary approach to addressing biosecurity threats in Nigeria” on the 24th of June 2021 at 10:00 am Nigerian time. The Biosecurity Summit addressed the enormous biosecurity threats in Nigeria by integrating various sources of knowledge and leveraging on the expertise of leaders and stakeholders in the public and private sectors. Prof. Akin Abayomi, Prof. Chuks Okereke, Prof. Alan Christoffels and Dr. Bobadoye Ayodotun presented at the Biosecurity virtual summit.

## GET Covid-19 Vaccine Summit

World Health Organization (WHO) announced that Nigeria received 3.92million COVID-19 vaccines (AstraZeneca) on the 2nd of March 2021. The government at the State, National and Regional levels in the country commenced the vaccine distribution across the 36 States as soon as the vaccines were received.

In this context, GET organized a one-day summit on the 30th of March 2021 at Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Ikeja, Lagos State themed: “COVID-19 Vaccine Administration in Nigeria: Strategies to Manage Perception and Overcome Hesitancy”. The COVID-19 vaccine summit was held by GET for stakeholders and policymakers to understand that there is a bridge to be mended between people’s perception of the vaccine and the willingness to receive the vaccine.

**The COVID-19 Vaccine Summit Communique can be downloaded via:**  
<https://www.getafrica.org/resources/getcommuniques/>



*Group picture of participants with the Hon. Comm. For Health in Lagos State during COVID-19 Vaccine Summit*





# UPCOMING PROJECTS IN GET

Global Emerging Pathogens Treatment Consortium (GET) has established itself as a leading biosecurity think tank in Africa.

In 2021, GET carried out State, National and Regional projects, organized and attended conferences and seminars, published newsletters, communiqués, and blogs, and has been involved in many policies advocacy dialogues within and outside the continent.

In this issue, we are introducing you to the UPCOMING PROJECTS in GET. The central aim of these projects is to develop effective and innovative policy initiatives to support Africa's institutional strengthening and preparedness to tackle infectious disease outbreaks, public health emergencies and pandemics as it has been from the inception of GET and in line with GET vision.

## Here are the upcoming projects in GET;

- Publications - Newsletters, Journals, Technical Papers, And Policy Briefs
- Webinars And Seminars Relating to One Health and Biosecurity
- The 8th African Conference on One Health and Biosecurity
- Lagos State Project
- Get One Health School Club (GHSC) Project
- Fellowship Programs
- Genomic Project
- Contract and Consultancy
- Institute for One Health & Biosecurity
- Afe Farm Project

To Keep You Updated on Our Activities,  
Follow Us On Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram Using; **@GETConsortium**  
**WEBSITE: WWW.GETAFRICA.ORG**

To download the previous volumes of GET newsletters,  
click on this link>> <https://www.getafrica.org/newsletter/>

# Photo Feasts From The 7th African Conference On One Health And Biosecurity



The Executive Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Babajide Sanwoolu giving a welcome speech at the 7th African Conference



The Honorable Commissioner for Health, Lagos State, Prof. Akin Abayomi giving a presentation at the 7th African Conference.



The Chief Operating Officer of GET Consortium, Dr. Ayodotun Bobadaye giving a presentation at the 7th African Conference



Vice Admiral I.B. Yusuf, representing Vice Admiral A.Z. Gambo during his presentation at the 7th African Conference



The Permanent Secretary, Lagos State Ministry of Health- Dr. Olusegun Ogboye



Dr. Tom Rausch, Personal Attaché of the Minister at the Ministry of Health, Luxembourg giving a presentation at the 7th African Conference



The 8th Vice-Chancellor of the University of West Indies (The UWI), Prof. Sir Hilary Beckles during his virtual presentation at the 7th African Conference



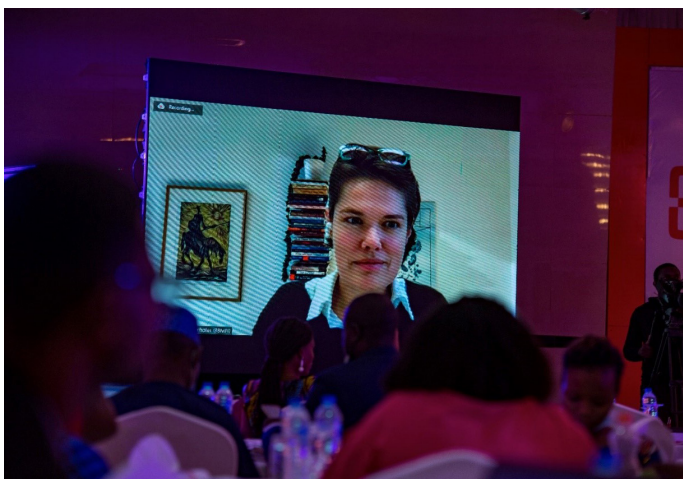
The M.D of DRASA Health Trust, Niniola Williams during her presentation at the 7th African Conference



The Executive Director for the African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS), Nairobi- Dr. Nicholas Ozor during his presentation at the 7th African Conference



The General Manager of Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency (LASEPA), Dr. Dolapo Fasawe during her presentation at the 7th African Conference



BBMRI-ERIC's Chief Coordinator/Policy Officer, Dr. Michaela Mayrhofer, during her virtual presentation at the 7th African Conference



Independent Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Consultant, Dr. Alexander Ochem giving a presentation at the 7th African Conference



Group picture of important dignitaries with the Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Babajide Sanwoolu and Lagos State Commissioner for Health, Prof. Akin Abayomi



Aerial view of participants seated at the conference



L-R: Dr. Babatunde Saka- The Technical Consultant on One Health and Biosecurity, Lagos State Ministry of Health, Prof. Akin Abayomi- Hon. Comm. For Health in Lagos State and the Technical Assistant to the Hon. Comm. For Health, Lagos State Ministry of Health



Group Photograph of Participants with the Hon. Comm. For Health, Prof. Akin Abayomi



Prof. Akin Abayomi presented an award to Prof. Gevao for his outstanding support to GET since its inception at GET Awards Night



Dr. Dotun Bobadoye presenting an award to Mahamadou KONE from Mali (Donifab Organization) for his innovation during COVID-19 Pandemic at GET Awards Night



Prof. Oyewale Tomori presenting an award to Prof. Akin Abayomi for his continuous and outstanding support to GET since its inception at GET Awards Night



Dr. Bobadoye presenting an award to Dr. Sina Fagbenro for his outstanding support to GET since its inception at GET Awards Night



Dr. Saka Babatunde presented an award to Prof. Oyewale Tomori for his outstanding support to GET since its inception at GET Awards Night



L-R: Alabi Ifeoluwa- Project Officer for GET, Ojo Tomilayo- Communications Assistant for GET and Okunniyi Omowunmi- Administrative Officer for GET



Group Photograph of Selected Speakers, Experts, and Policy Makers with Prof. Akin Abayomi during a tour visit to the Lagos State Infectious Diseases Hospital and the Lagos State Biobank



Display of GET Journal Banner, GET One Health School Club (GHSC) Project materials, and GET Book titled 'Socio-Cultural Dimensions of Emerging Infectious Diseases in Africa'



L-R: Dr. Dotun Bobadaye-Chief Operating Officer for GET, Ms Einas Mohammed-Africa Regional Coordinator on UNSCR 1540, UNODA and Dr. Christine Uhlenhaut -Senior Programme Officer and Team Lead for strengthening the UNSGM, UNODA during the special session organized by UNODA.



The Project Manager for Connected Development (CODE), Pearl Utuk during her abstract presentation at the 7th African Conference



Side view of important dignitaries seated at the conference

# Scholarships/Grants Opportunities

- The Obama Foundation Scholars Program 2022/2023 at Columbia University (Fully Funded Leadership Development Program in New York City, USA).  
<https://www.opportunitiesforafricans.com/the-obama-foundation-scholars-program-2022-2023-at-columbia-university/>  
Application Deadline: December 22, 2021, at 5:00pm ET
- The Startupper of the year challenge by TotalEnergies for young African Entrepreneurs.  
<https://www.opportunitiesforafricans.com/the-startupper-of-the-year-challenge-by-totalenergies-for-young-african-entrepreneurs/>  
Application Deadline: December 23, 2021
- Dierenpark Amersfoort Wildlife Fund Supporting Projects Around the World  
<https://www2.fundsforngos.org/latest-funds-for-ngos/dierenpark-amersfoort-wildlife-fund-supporting-projects-around-the-world/>  
Application Deadline: December 31, 2021
- The Africa-CDC/Koffi Annan Fellowship in Global Health Leadership Programme 2022 for Emerging Public Health Leaders (Fully Funded).  
<https://www.opportunitiesforafricans.com/africa-cdc-kofi-annan-global-health-leadership-programme-2022/>  
Application Deadline: December 31, 2021
- Grow Impact Accelerator Programme  
<https://www2.fundsforngos.org/agriculture-food-nutrition/grow-impact-accelerator-programme/>  
Application Deadline: January 3, 2022
- Tech Women Fall 2022 Emerging Leaders Program for Women in STEM to study in the United States of America (Fully Funded).  
<https://www.opportunitiesforafricans.com/fall-2022-techwomen-emerging-leaders-program/>  
Application Deadline: January 5, 2022
- Applications Now Open for Climate Story Fund  
<https://www2.fundsforngos.org/latest-funds-for-ngos/applications-now-open-for-climate-story-fund/>  
Application Deadline: January 7, 2022
- United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOSA) / Japan Long-Term Fellowship Programme 2022 on Nano-Satellite Technologies for Nationals of developing Countries (Fully Funded).  
<https://www.opportunitiesforafricans.com/unosa-japan-long-term-fellowship-programme-2022-on-nano-satellite-technologies/>  
Application Deadline: January 10th, 2022
- Community Resilience Fund in Canada  
<https://www2.fundsforngos.org/latest-funds-for-ngos/community-resilience-fund-in-canada/>  
Application Deadline: January 11, 2022
- Hungarian Government Stipendium Hungaricum Scholarship Programme 2022/2023 fo study in Hungary (Fully Funded).  
<https://www.opportunitiesforafricans.com/hungarian-government-stipendium-hungaricum-scholarship-programme-2022-2023/>  
Application Deadline: January 15th, 2022
- 2022 TechGirls International Summer Exchange Program.  
<https://www2.fundsforngos.org/tag/nigeria/>  
Application Deadline: January 15, 2022
- Up to \$40,000 available under Discovery Expeditions Grants Program  
<https://www2.fundsforngos.org/latest-funds-for-ngos/up-to-40000-available-under-discovery-expeditions-grants-program/>  
Deadline: Ongoing

# Editorial Team

Prof. Akin Abayomi  
Prof. Morenike Folayan  
Ms. Jennyfer Amber  
Prof. Oyewale Tomori  
Dr. Samuel Uweje  
Dr. Tom Rausch  
Mr. Pasquale de Blasio  
Dr. Bobadoye Ayodotun  
Ms. Omowunmi Okunniyi  
Ms. Ifeoluwa Alabi

---

## FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

Copyright © December 2021 by the Global Pathogens Treatment Consortium. All rights reserved. Citation, reproduction and or translation of this publication, in whole or in part, for educational or other non-commercial purposes is authorised provided the source is fully acknowledged.

Phone: +234 806 769 9338    Email: [secretariat@getafrica.org](mailto:secretariat@getafrica.org)

 [www.getafrica.org](http://www.getafrica.org)

   [@getafrica](https://www.instagram.com/getafrica)