

# Boosting pharmaceutical and vaccine R&D capacities in Ghana.

Partnership opportunities for international academic and research institutions

## Ghana.

### Emerging pharmaceutical manufacturing and R&D hub in West Africa.

- Over 40 local pharmaceutical manufacturing companies with increasing capabilities, a robust regulatory environment, favourable investment conditions, and a growing local and regional market
- Regionally leading institutions for pharmaceutical and clinical research and training
- Emerging biotechnology start-ups, biomanufacturing firms and West Africa's first bioequivalence centre
- Strong innovation capabilities in the area of plant-based medicine



## Key activities and partnership opportunities.

Through the PharmaVax Ghana programme, GIZ strengthens the pharmaceutical R&D ecosystem in Ghana. Our focus is on creating linkages between academia and industry and supporting R&D-related collaborations with international institutions, particularly from Europe.



### International R&D and skills development collaboration projects

We fund Ghanaian and international research institutes to jointly implement R&D projects on vaccines and other pharmaceutical products, with a focus on building local scientific capacities and collaboration with industry.

For example, the Kumasi Center for Collaborative Research in Tropical Medicine and the Charité University Medical Centre in Berlin work together on pre-clinical vaccine development with a focus on training Ghanaian junior scientists.



### International scientific exchanges and trainings

We support Ghanaian researchers to participate in international scientific conferences, exchanges, trainings and summer schools. We also support Ghanaian research institutions to organise and host international scientific conferences on drug and vaccine R&D in Ghana.

For example, a cohort of Ghanaian junior scientists participated in the Lower Saxony International Summer Academy in Infection and Immunology in Germany.

Implemented by:

## PharmaVax Ghana programme

- Strengthening the ecosystem for Ghana's pharmaceutical manufacturing industry (including vaccine production) in terms of governance and regulation, skills development, research and development, and private sector development
- Co-financed by the European Union and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
- Part of the Team Europe Initiative Manufacturing and Access to Vaccines, Medicines and Health Technologies in Africa (MAV+)
- Implemented by GIZ until mid-2028 in partnership with the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Trade, Agribusiness and Industry, the National Vaccine Institute, the Food and Drugs Authority, the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association of Ghana, research and training institutions, and other stakeholders



### **Networking and career development for women in academia and industry**

We promote networking and career development for women working at research institutions, manufacturers and regulatory agencies through, for example, peer exchange and networking, leadership training, coaching and mentoring, as well as conference and training stipends. Creating linkages to international networks adds value to this approach.



### **R&D equipment support**

We support Ghanaian research institutions with laboratory upgrades for R&D through the procurement of highly specialized instruments as well as trainings on their use and maintenance. This also offers tender opportunities for international technology providers.



### **Partnerships for bioequivalence studies**

We support partnerships between the local bioequivalence centre, local manufacturers, regulators and other stakeholders to pilot locally run bioequivalence studies in Ghana. We further support the sharing of results and experiences from the studies and promote Ghana as a hub for bioequivalence testing in the region.



### **Strengthening research institutions' capacities on IP and technical services**

We support research institutions in creating and using research-based intellectual property rights and spinning off commercially viable projects. We also assist them in business development through the provision of laboratory testing services for pharmaceutical manufacturers (e.g. for potency, toxicity and stability), thereby strengthening the links between academia and industry.



### **Local R&D collaboration projects**

Through a call for proposal we identify and fund innovative and commercially sustainable R&D projects implemented jointly by Ghanaian research institutions and local manufacturers (e.g. on drug and vaccine discovery, product development or clinical trials). These projects may also include further international consortium partners.

## Let's discuss

We are excited to explore potential collaborations and hear any innovative ideas you may have.

Together, we can identify the best ways to work together.

**Contact: Viktor Siebert, [viktor.siebert@giz.de](mailto:viktor.siebert@giz.de)**

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Registered offices Bonn and Eschborn, Germany  
Programme GIZ – PharmaVax Ghana  
Capital Place (Block A), 11 Patrice Lumumba Road  
Airport residential area - Accra - Ghana  
[www.giz.de](http://www.giz.de)  
Contact Dr. Holger Till, [PharmaVax@giz.de](mailto:PharmaVax@giz.de)  
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