

Theme of the Month

Training and Development

This month we have collated a number of resources in training and development, and laboratory capacity to support DELTAS researchers, support staff, and managers. We hope you find the collection useful and if you have any additional resources we are unaware of, please do get in touch.



The [African Science Initiative](#) is an African-led project seeking to facilitate and promote networking between young African scientists from all around the world. The platform aims to enhance the visibility of African contributions to science and catalyse the establishment of productive collaborations between African scientists to develop science and technology in Africa.



[Author AID](#) is a free global network that provides support for researchers in low- and middle-income countries. The online platform offers free online mentoring and collaboration, online courses and resources.



The [Global Health Network](#) features a directory of knowledge sharing hubs, online research skills training and a career development and impact assessment site.



The [Organisation of Women in Science for the Developing World](#) is the first international forum to unite eminent women scientists from the developing and developed worlds, with the objective of strengthening their role in the development process, and promoting their representation in scientific and technological leadership.



[Coursera](#) provide free online courses covering a range of topics including Global Health; Information Technology, Life Sciences; Social Sciences; and English Language.



[Labequip.com](#) specialise in laboratory equipment – whether buying old or new, repairing, refurbishing, inspection, renting or selling.



[Vitae](#) is the global leader in supporting the professional development of researchers in how to conduct research and research training.

DELTAS: Learning Research Programme

The Learning Research Programme (LRP), led by the Centre for Capacity Research, works alongside the DELTAS Africa consortia to produce research-based learning about how to train and develop world-class researchers, foster their careers and collaborations, and promote research uptake. For more information about the LRP research activities and to access the LRP resources (annual reports, in-depth newsletters and all our publications), please visit our DELTAS research page at: www.lstmed.ac.uk/projects/deltas---learning-research-programme

For more information about the LRP please contact justin.pulford@lstmed.ac.uk



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Some of the LRP team at the DELTAS Africa AGM 2019

The four LRP themes include:

Equitable Career Pathways - This theme is framed within the context of a PhD project, led by Millicent Liani, titled: “Examining barriers and enablers to gender equitable scientific career pathways in African research institutions”. Millicent has employed a qualitative case study design, focusing on three DELTAS consortia, including: **IDeAL** (Initiative to Develop African Research Leaders); **MARCAD** (Malaria Research Capacity Development in West and Central Africa); and **SANTHE** (Sub-Saharan African Network for TB/HIV Research Excellence).

Research Training - Currently led by Abiola Aiyenigba, this theme explores the range and quality of professional development opportunities available to African-based researchers as well as the individual and institutional benefits – in terms of professional development – associated with DELTAS Africa membership. Research activities have included a mapping of health-related postgraduate training courses available in sub-Saharan Africa, an online survey of African researchers’ professional development needs, opportunities and barriers, and a qualitative case study exploring the extent, and process by which, researcher training in sub-Saharan Africa may be enhanced through consortia membership. Participating DELTAS Africa consortia include: **CARTA+** (Consortium for Advanced Research Training in Africa+); **MARCAD**; and **Afrique One-ASPIRE** (African Science Partnership for Intervention Research Excellence).

Knowledge Translation - Also framed within the context of a PhD project, led by Violet Murunga and titled: “Exploring the research uptake strategies being used by African researchers to promote evidence-informed decision making”. Phase one of Violet’s research is a qualitative case study of selected DELTAS Africa consortia: **AMARI** (African Mental Health Research Initiative); **THRIVE-2** (Training Health Researchers into Vocational Excellence in East Africa-2); and **WACCBIP** (West African Centre for Cell Biology of Infectious Pathogens).

Consortia Management - Framed within the context of a PhD project, led by Nadia Tagoe and titled: “Examining the process of establishing and managing health research capacity strengthening consortia”. Nadia is based at KEMRI-Wellcome Trust, Kilifi, Kenya, under the **IDeAL** programme and has employed a mixed methods research design. To date, Nadia has completed key informant interviews with almost all DELTAS Africa consortia Directors and Programme Managers as well as a focused case study in three selected DELTAS Africa consortia including: **CARTA+**; **THRIVE-2**; and **DELGEME** (Developing Excellence in Leadership and Genetic Training for Malaria Elimination in Sub-Saharan Africa).



Millicent Liani



Abiola Aiyenigba



Violet Murunga



Nadia Tagoe