

Building sustainable capacity for research for health in Africa

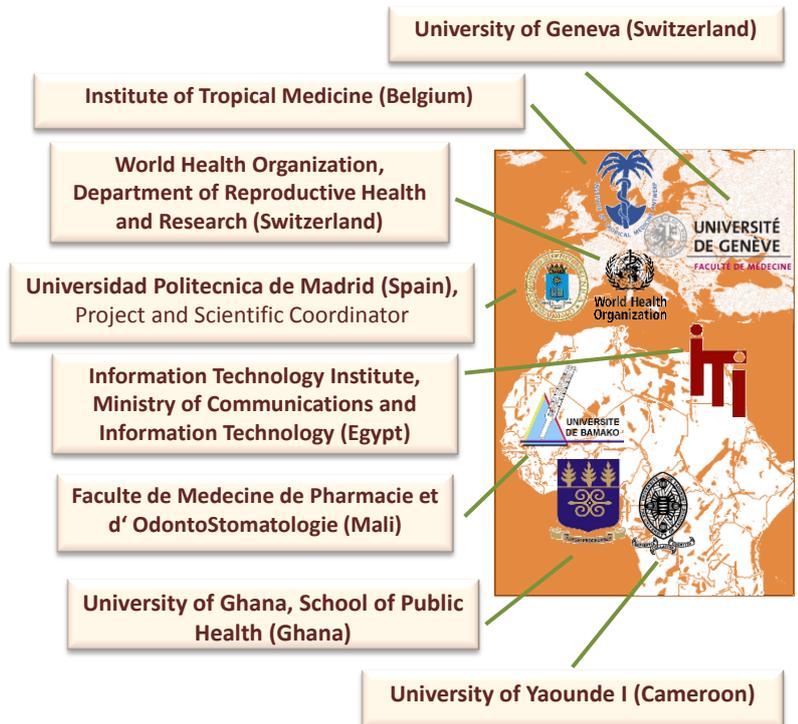
Scenario

During the last years, the European Commission and other international initiatives have produced interesting and valuable learning resources and research tools that can be used in developing environments. AFRICA BUILD plans to use, adapt and disseminate these health resources among biomedical researchers to enhance South-South collaboration in healthcare and research.

Project description and objectives

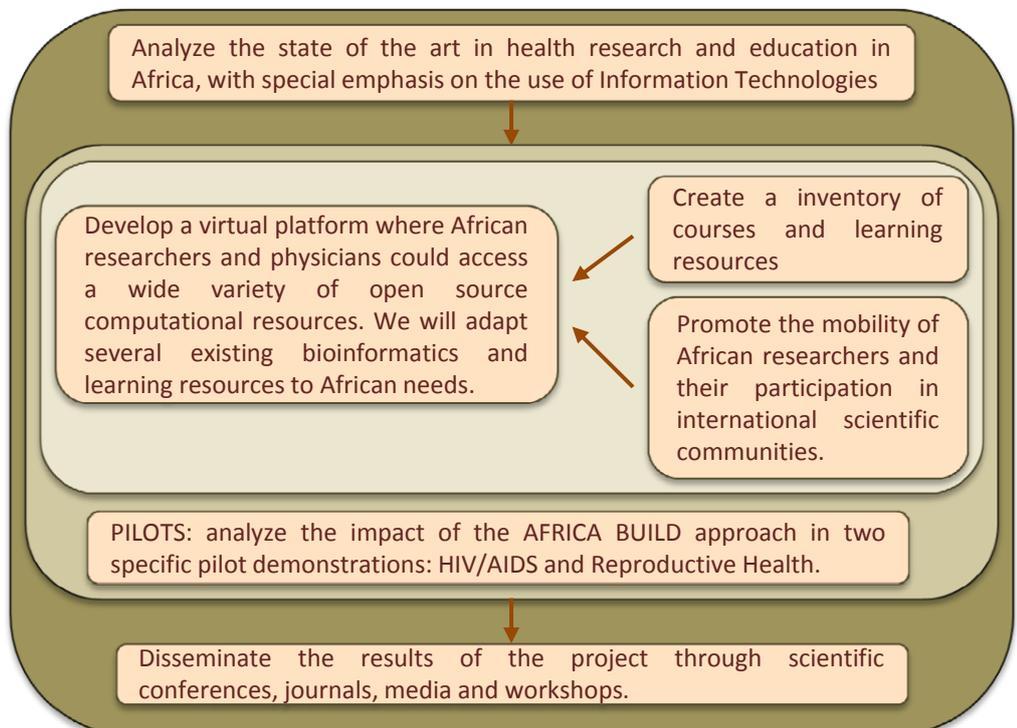
The **AFRICA BUILD** project is a Coordination and Support Action aiming to improve capacity for health research and education in Africa through Information Technologies.

At the beginning, the support will come from the established research centres located at EU countries (in Belgium, Spain and Switzerland). At the end of the project, we aim to create sustainable South-South communities of African health researchers



Main-Objective. Promote health research, education and care in Africa by creating virtual communities of researchers supported by know-how, e-learning and knowledge sharing tools

Sub-objectives



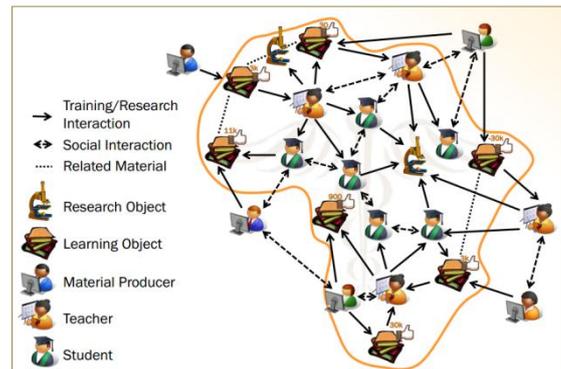
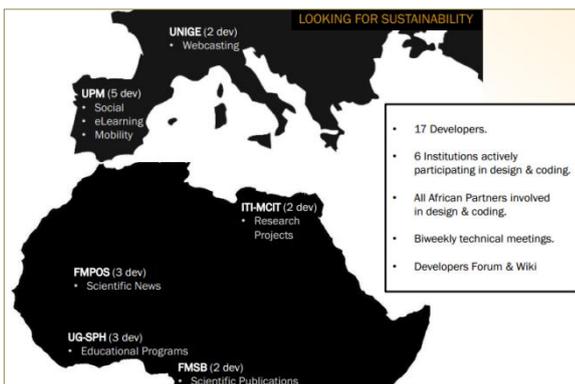
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First results & expected impact

The main results of our first year are:

- We analyzed the existing literature in Health Informatics in Africa (over 250 publications). We have also analyzed the training needs in health research in African institutions, facing several challenges such as creating online surveys in developing countries.
- Several tools have been adapted to a virtual platform (the AFRICA BUILD Portal) designed to be a benchmark for African researchers. The greatest challenges are: (i) the integration of heterogeneous resources in a virtual environment; (ii) access to new technologies; (iii) the creation of a community of developers within the African partners.

- First courses and learning objects are being designed, focusing on their content (depending on training needs for health research), structure, comparability and technical features.
- Early mobility initiatives have been undertaken. We have taught on-site courses at the University of Ghana, and some African researchers are conducting stays in European centers.
- We have designed two research courses in HIV/AIDS and Reproductive Health, which will be conducted in Mali, Ghana and Cameroon in the coming months through the AFRICA BUILD Portal.
- AFRICA BUILD has participated in several conferences and we will organize our first International Conference in 2013.



Expected Impact. To promote African health researchers along with their institutions and networks to create a self-sustained research landscape for health research in Africa.

AFRICA BUILD

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Project Website: <http://africabuild.eu>

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Partners:

- Ministry of Communications & Information Technology (Egypt)
- Universite de Bamako (Mali)
- Universite de Geneve (Switzerland)
- Institute of Tropical Medicine (Belgium)
- World Health Organization, Department of Reproductive Health and Research (Switzerland)
- Universite de Yaounde I (Cameroon)
- University of Ghana (Ghana)

Timetable: from 08/11 to 07/14

Instrument: CSA (Coordination Action)

Project Identifier: FP7 - 266474

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