

PRESS RELEASE

Selected implementation sites for first round of BRIDGES 2 programme on translational research in diabetes with focus on secondary prevention announced

(September 14, 2017, Lisbon, Portugal) - Novena University (Delta State, Nigeria), the College of Medicine of University of Nigeria (Nigeria) and the Universitas Syiah Kuala (Banda Aceh, Indonesia), in collaboration with Georg-August Universität Göttingen in Germany, have been selected as implementation sites for the first round of the IDF BRIDGES 2 (Bringing Research in Diabetes to Global Environments and Systems) programme. BRIDGES 2 is a joint programme of the International Diabetes Federation (IDF) and Eli Lilly and Company (Lilly).

Each of the three institutions will receive funding and the adequate mentorship to implement a tailor-made diabetes secondary prevention programme. This will enable the implementation of established evidenced-based interventions and community oriented approaches to diabetes care in different settings, with the ultimate aim of improving health outcomes for people living with diabetes.

Robert Gabbay, Chair of the BRIDGES 2 Steering Group, said: "Following a detailed peer review process by a group of cross disciplinary international experts in diabetes and global health, we have selected these three projects to disseminate the successful approaches from our previously funded BRIDGES 1 projects".

The selected projects are varied and include a randomized trial on the suitability of peer education to improve diabetes management and outcomes in a low-income setting (Banda Aceh, Indonesia); a randomized trial on an intensive education intervention using a mobile application and network of people living with diabetes to implement glycaemic control (Delta State, Nigeria); and a community-based randomized trial and lifestyle intervention using a targeted shared care approach on pregnancy outcomes in Nigerian women with gestational diabetes but without diabetes (Nsukka, Nigeria).

Commenting on the partnership, Robert Heine, Distinguished Lilly Scholar, said "BRIDGES 2 will build upon the work undertaken and the lessons learned during the initial phase of the programme which operated from 2007 to 2015. The programme will fund and replicate a selection of projects from the initial phase, placing an emphasis on the secondary prevention of diabetes and a strong involvement of local public health authorities."

The principal investigators of the projects from the first round of BRIDGES will supervise and provide mentorship to the implementation of the selected projects throughout their duration. Field visits will be organized and onsite workshops will take place in each site. The workshops will be supervised by the BRIDGES 2 Steering group, comprised of international experts, and intensive monitoring of each project will be carried out throughout the implementation phase.

IDF President Shaukat Sadikot said: "By providing access to international expertise and funding to low and middle income countries contributes, BRIDGES 2 contributes to IDF's mission to promote diabetes care, prevention and a cure worldwide".

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For more information about BRIDGES 2, please contact belma.malanda@idf.org or visit www.idf.org/bridges.

More information on the selected grantees at the following links:

1. Novena University, Delta State, Nigeria (www.novenauniversity.edu.ng)
2. University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria (www.unn.edu.org)
3. Universitas Syiah Kuala (Darussalam, Banda Aceh, Indonesia, <http://www.unsyiah.ac.id/>) and Georg-August Universität Göttingen, Germany (<http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/1.html>)

Note to editors:

The International Diabetes Federation (IDF, www.idf.org) is an umbrella organisation of over 230 national diabetes associations in 165 countries and territories. It represents the interests of the growing number of people with diabetes and those at risk. The Federation has been leading the global diabetes community since 1950. The Federation's activities aim to influence policy, increase public awareness and encourage health improvement, promote the exchange of high-quality information about diabetes, and provide education for people with diabetes and their healthcare providers. IDF is associated with the Department of Public Information of the United Nations and is in official relations with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). www.idf.org.