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The partnerships of Southern Africa countries and European Union to ensure the quality, safety and efficacy in the development of new treatments, vaccines and diagnostics.

The growing amount, complexity and response timeliness of clinical trials in Africa is a challenge in which the National Drugs Regulatory Authorities are at the forefront.

Within this context, a consortium composed by five Southern African and European institutes and organizations put together their excellences to submit a proposal to the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) for a research project to be implemented in Mozambique, Botswana, Eswatini and Lesotho.

The project is entitled “**SouthErn Africa Regulatory for Clinical researchH**” (**SEARCH**), and it is aimed at increasing the regulatory capacities for review of clinical trials in Southern Africa by establishing European-African collaborations that facilitates implementation of efficient processes, harmonized procedures, standardized guidelines and effective training programs.

Following the EDCTP approval of the grant no. CSA2019ERC-2688, rewarding the SEARCH project among the remarkably high numbers of projects proposals submitted from different parts of Africa and Europe, the SEARCH Consortium will have their project kick-off meeting on 18th February 2021.

“This is an extraordinary demonstration on how the Trials of Excellence in Southern Africa (TESA, a network funded by EDCTP itself) catalyses the regulatory science collaborations between African and European countries and promote the highest standard for clinical research in the Region”, said, Dr. Eusebio Macete, the SEARCH Project Coordinator, TESA Coordinator and Director of Fundação Manhica - Manhiça Health Research Centre (FM-CISM, Mozambique).

The SEARCH project aims to increase and strength the National Regulatory Authorities’ institutional capacities, better qualified personnel and more efficient, effective and harmonised regulatory pathway for clinical trials review, evaluation, approval and oversight in Mozambique, Botswana, Eswatini and Lesotho.

“By strengthening the national regulatory capacities, the Consortium will ensure the quality, safety and efficacy of the development of new treatments, vaccines and diagnostics against poverty related diseases”, said, Rodrigues Matcheve, SEARCH Project Manager based at FM-CISM, Mozambique.



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For more information please [click here for the Project Website](#)

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