

PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES INFORMATION SHEET

Name of the Partnership/Initiative: Novartis Institute for Tropical Diseases (NITD)

Expected date of initiation: August 2002

Expected date of completion: Fully operational in mid 2003, 10 year perspective

Partners Involved:

Governments: Singapore Economic Development Board

Intergovernmental organizations: Consultations with WHO

Major groups: Industry (Novartis AG, Basel, Switzerland)

Other: Consultations with NGO (Medecins sans Frontieres) and scientists

Leading Partner: Novartis

Name of the contact person/focal point: Paul Herrling, Head Corporate Research

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Main objectives of the Partnership/Initiative

Please provide a brief description:

State-of-the-art biomedical research institute for tropical diseases. Objective is to develop novel compounds and find partners for clinical development, manufacturing, marketing and distribution. No profit from poor people in developing countries, but potential for profitable operations in developed markets (re-financing the research costs). Initial focus on Dengue-fever and treatment-resistant tuberculosis.

Please also provide a brief description of the relationship of the Partnership/Initiative with the objectives of Agenda 21 as well as relevant goals and objectives of the United Nation Millennium Declaration:

Focus on the health aspect: Better health as a basic precondition for economic and social development. Lack of market incentives for development of drugs against diseases of the poor requires start-up financing and new partnerships.

Expected results:

Please provide a brief description:

Effective and safe treatments in the named disease areas, affordable for health care systems in developing countries. Potential marketing of these treatments in developed countries will help to re-finance the institute's research programs.

<p>Specific targets of the Partnership/Initiative and timeframe for their achievement: 3-5 year timeframe until the first promising compounds can be identified. Closer to ten years until such a new treatment reaches the market (usual timeframe for pharmaceutical research)</p>
<p>Coordination and Implementation mechanism Please provide a brief description of expected coordination/implementation mechanism of the Partnership/Initiative. The institute will be managed like any other pharmaceutical research institute. There is some headcount for scientists working in partnering institutions, to ensure broad collaboration and cross-fertilization. Supervision by a Board in which the partners are represented.</p>
<p>Arrangements for funding Please describe available and/or expected sources of funding for the implementation of the Partnership/Initiative (e.g. donor government(s); international organization(s)/financial institution(s); foundation(s); private sector; other major groups, etc.) Contractual agreement on a co-funding between Novartis and the Singapore Economic Development Board</p>
<p>Arrangements for capacity building and technology transfer Please include information if the Partnership/Initiative provides for training, informational support, institutional strengthening and/or other capacity building measures: Most of the hired researchers will be local scientists from Singapore. Headcount for additional positions in other institutes for tropical diseases. Please also provide here a brief description of expected arrangements for technology transfer (if applicable). NITD will get a full battery of modern bio-medical research tools including genomics.</p>
<p>Links of Partnership/Initiative with on-going sustainable development activities at the international and/or regional level (if any) Please provide a brief description: Not yet established, but for the future we foresee the need to involve additional partners</p>
<p>Monitoring Arrangements Please describe expected arrangements for monitoring of progress in the implementation of Partnerships/Initiative after it will be launched at the WSSD: (e.g. frequency/modalities of preparation of progress reports; electronic updates, news-letters, etc) Regular supervisory process according to industry standards (Board, defined operational reporting, regular external briefings for scientific peers and media).</p>
<p>Other relevant information: 50 Full time equivalents in house, 20 in partnering institutions. Total investment over ten years approx. 120 million USD</p>

Web-site (if available):

Name and contact information of the person filling in this table:

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