



Preliminary program

14th GABRIEL International Meeting

June 3-5, 2026, Antananarivo, Madagascar

An event organised by the Mérieux Foundation and the CICM of Antananarivo, Madagascar

Symposium Day — June 3, 2026 – EAT

Innovations in the Fight Against Tropical Neglected Diseases: From Diagnosis to Patient Care

9:00 – 9:30 – **Welcome address & opening session**

9:30 – 10:50 - **SESSION I - Diagnostic innovations**

This session will explore recent advances in the diagnosis of neglected tropical diseases, ranging from early leprosy detection and innovative screening tools to emerging approaches for managing infection latency and post-exposure interventions. The speakers will also address the role of cutting-edge technologies in identifying invasive fungal infections, including AI-based diagnostics. Current challenges related to the differential diagnosis of dengue, other arboviral diseases, and clinically similar febrile illnesses will also be presented.

10:50 – 11:10 - **COFFEE BREAK**

11:10 – 12:30 - **SESSION II – Therapeutic innovations**

This session will highlight recent progress in leprosy care, focusing on innovations that improve both treatment and prevention. It will also present findings aimed at strengthening the diagnostic and therapeutic management of schistosomiasis in mothers and young children, while addressing the specific challenges associated with treating female genital schistosomiasis. The session will also cover recent advances in dengue prevention, including current vaccines and the challenges related to their deployment.

12:30 – 14:00 - GROUPE PICTURE & LUNCH

14:00 – 15:00 - SESSION III – Public Health Strategies

This session will explore innovative approaches to strengthen the surveillance and control of neglected tropical diseases. It will present lessons learned from the integration of leishmaniasis and leprosy control programs in Madagascar. The session will also highlight the role of digital tools in improving rapid decision-making and response coordination, particularly for leishmaniasis and other skin NTDs. Finally, it will introduce an early-warning platform that combines clinical, environmental, and socio-economic data to anticipate epidemic outbreaks, such as dengue.

15:00 – 16:00 - SESSION IV – Climate Change and Neglected Tropical Diseases

This session will examine how climate change is transforming the ecology and transmission of neglected infectious diseases. Presentations will explore the influence of climate-related changes on the global spread of arboviruses and their implications for disease control. The session will also address the impact of environmental and ecological changes on animal reservoirs, highlighting how altered habitats affect zoonotic diseases and the resulting challenges for surveillance and prevention.

16:00 – 17:00 - POSTER SESSION & COFFEE BREAK

17:00 – 18:00 - 5-Minute Oral Poster Presentations

19:30 - DINNER



GABRIEL International Meeting

June 4, 2026 – Local time: EAT

9:00 – 9:15 – **Welcome address**

9:15 – 9:50 – **The GABRIEL Network: main achievements**

10:10 – 12:00 – **SESSION I – Antimicrobial Resistance**

This session will focus on antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and innovative strategies for its surveillance, detection, and control. Presentations will cover the “One Health” approach, examining the role of humans and household pets in AMR transmission. The impact of climate change on bacterial resistance will also be explored. Finally, the session will present the evaluation of a rapid diagnostic test for detecting antibiotic resistance in bacteria responsible for community-acquired urinary tract infections, emphasizing the importance of timely detection to guide effective treatment and proper antimicrobial stewardship.

10:50 – 11:20 – **COFFEE BREAK**

12:00 – 13:30 – **LUNCH**

13:30 – 16:00 – **SESSION II – Respiratory infections**

This session will explore recent advances in the understanding, diagnosis, and management of respiratory infections, with a particular focus on respiratory microbiome diversity in upper acute respiratory tract infections and the use of host biomarkers to assess RSV severity and diagnosis. The session will also highlight innovations in the diagnosis and management of childhood pneumonia in resource-limited settings, as well as strategies to improve the differential diagnosis of tuberculosis and pneumonia in children. Finally, it will address approaches aimed at implementing efficient strategies for tuberculosis screening and management.

15:15 – 15:45 – **COFFEE BREAK**



16:00 – 18:00 – **Workshop on AMR & Infectious Diseases with One Health approach: Advancing Access to Innovation**

The objective of this session is to organise working groups to brainstorm and identify topics and objectives for a future GABRIEL collaborative project. Participants will take part in breakout group discussions followed by a plenary report-back.

19:30 – **DINNER**

June 5, 2026 – Local time: EAT

8:30 – 9:45 – **“YOUNG SCIENTISTS AWARD” session**

This initiative was created to support the career development of promising young scientists within the network. Five early-career researchers will present their work, and the two most outstanding for the quality of their research will receive the GABRIEL Award, a prize of 5000 €.

9:45 – 10:15 – **COFFEE BREAK**

10:15 – 12:15 – **SESSION III – Early career scientists supported by GABRIEL and FMx**

This session is dedicated to doctoral students who have received a PhD scholarship from Fondation Mérieux, giving them the opportunity to present their thesis project.

12:15 – 12:45 – **GABRIEL Young Scientists Award ceremony**

12:45 – 13:00 – **Closing of the GABRIEL Meeting**

13:00 – 14:00 – **LUNCH & DEPARTURE**

