



SURVIN-STP

Molecular SURveillance of INFECTIOUS diseases in São Tomé and Príncipe

Context

The COVID-19 pandemic revealed the need to increase laboratory capacities in many countries, including the Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe. Since 2020, the BNITM has been supporting the country's Ministry of Health in implementing laboratory diagnostics for SARS-CoV-2 under the SToP-CoV project. Nevertheless, there is still room for further improvement in laboratory diagnostics as molecular surveillance is only provided for SARS-CoV-2. It is necessary to address other pathogens that can cause life-threatening infections and have epidemic or pandemic potential. This became especially clear in April 2022 when the first suspected cases of dengue fever were reported on the island of São Tomé. It highlighted the need to upgrade laboratory infrastructure and staff to help São Tomé and Príncipe be better prepared for and respond to future outbreaks and epidemics. SURVIN-STP builds on the previous project and expands existing cooperation, working with laboratory staff, management staff and laboratory technicians.

Objective

Strengthening local laboratory capacities in the areas of molecular diagnostics and genome sequencing for pathogens with epidemic or pandemic potential, including wastewater surveillance for the detection of antibiotic resistance.

Key facts

Duration

1 May 2023 to 30 April 2026

Budget

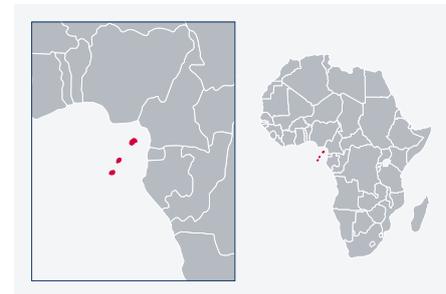
~ EUR 565,000

Partner countries

Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe

Region

Central Africa

**Implemented by**

Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine (BNITM)

Commissioning party

German Federal Ministry of Health (BMG)

Thematic focus

Strengthening of public health systems

Surveillance and reporting

Laboratory diagnostics

One Health

Marketing authorisation and safety of medicinal products

Activities



STAFF DEPLOYMENT AND EXCHANGE

Conducting training for laboratory staff in the fields of molecular diagnostics, genome sequencing and the surveillance of pathogens in wastewater



CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

Supporting capacity and infrastructure building in the field of drug quality assurance in Ghana, Liberia, Sierra Leone and The Gambia and in other sub-Saharan African countries; enhancing laboratory management structures

In cooperation with

- Ministry of Health, São Tomé and Príncipe
- Laboratório Nacional de Referência da Tuberculose (LNR-TB), São Tomé and Príncipe

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GHPP, the Global Health Protection Programme of the German Federal Ministry of Health, promotes networking, exchange and cooperation between specialized German and international public health actors. By reducing health risks and strengthening health systems at the national, regional and international level, in particular relating to pandemic and epidemic preparedness and response, the GHPP fosters public health protection – worldwide.



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