

Report for SATREPS PROJECT in 2015

1. Project Title:

Surveillance and Laboratory Support for Emerging Pathogens of Public Health Importance in Ghana

2. Project Leader:

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3. Project Partner:

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4. Progress of the Project:

This project is aiming at contribution to the control of infectious diseases in West Africa including the Republic of Ghana by reinforcement of the infectious disease surveillance system in Ghana and characterization of the mucosal defense system for the control of pathogens such as cholera and HIV.

In 2015, our efforts were aimed for the further enforcement of scientific collaboration with the partners in NMIMR to prepare the protocols for this project based on the past scientific interaction. We visited Ghana and made direct contact with our partners, NMIMR, Ministry of Health (Department of Public Health, Ghana Health Service and National AIDS Control Program) and the WHO office in Ghana. We obtained necessary information on current surveillance system in Ghana and had constructive discussion with above partners, mutual understanding of the whole project scheme and signing of the contract for this collaboration project.

Our discussion was focused on how to evaluate the surveillance system on prevalent infectious diseases such as diarrhea, hemolytic fever and AIDS according to the WHO/AFRO guideline for Integrated Diseases Surveillance and Response (IDSR). Our planning session was also extended to discussion on the selection of candidate model areas for evaluation of the surveillance system that will be designed in this project. For our genome analyses of pathogens, commensal microbiomes and hosts, our efforts were initiated for discussion of establishment of protocols for sampling and transfer of the samples to NMIMR from the selected model fields. Finally, we completed the Record of Discussions and the Collaborative Research Agreement between NMIMR and IMSUT for this project.