



# CRID

Edition 3

First semester newsletter

December 2020-May 2021

Achievements at CRID between  
December 2020 and May 2021

A group of six people, including five men and one woman, are walking outdoors in front of a building with green and yellow walls. They are all wearing face masks. The group is dressed in professional attire, including suits and patterned shirts. The woman in the center is wearing a white patterned jacket over a black dress. The men are wearing suits or patterned shirts. They appear to be in a courtyard or walkway area.





**SYNERGIZING EFFORTS  
TO ACHIEVE HIGH  
QUALITY RESEARCH**



## Scientific Publications

The content of the competence of a scientist can be seen in his frequent scientific publications - researchers at CRID have demonstrated this competence with back-to-back scientific publications as the first semester registers 4 publications to provide evidence for vector control decisions.

### List of Publication for 1<sup>st</sup> Semester:

-  *Genome-Wide Transcriptional Analysis and Functional Validation Linked a Cluster of Epsilon Glutathione S-Transferases with Insecticide-Resistance in the Major Malaria Vector Anopheles funestus across Africa*; Mersimine F. M. Kouamo, Sulaiman S. Ibrahim, Jack Hearn, Jacob M. Riveron, Michael Kusimo, Magellan Tchouakui, Terence Ebai, Williams Tchappa, Murielle J. Wondji, Helen rving, Thaddée Boudjeko, Fabrice F. Boyom, Charles S. Wondji. *Genes (Basel)*. 2021. 12(4):561.
-  *Pyrethroid Resistance Aggravation in Ugandan Malaria Vectors Is Reducing Bednet Efficacy*; Magellan Tchouakui, Leon M. J. Mugenzi, Benjamin D. Menze, Jude N. T. Khaukha, Williams Tchappa, Micareme Tchoupo, Murielle J. Wondji, and Charles S. Wondji. *Pathogens*. 2021. 10(4), 415.
-  *Insights into factors sustaining persistence of high malaria transmission in forested areas of sub-Saharan Africa: the case of Mvoua, South Cameroon*; Dominique Miegoum Ngninpogni, Cyrille Ndo, Patrick Ntonga Akono, Anicet Nguemo, Amine Nguépi, Danale Rosine Metitsi, Jeannette Tombi, Parfait Awono-Ambene, and Charles Félix Bilong Bilong. *Parasites and Vectors*. 2021. 14, 2.
-  *Combined over-expression of two cytochrome P450 genes exacerbates the fitness cost of pyrethroid resistance in the major African malaria vector Anopheles funestus*; Magellan Tchouakui, Leon M.J. Mugenzi, Murielle J. Wondji, Micareme Tchoupo, Flobert Njiokou, Charles.S.Wondji. *Pesticide Biochemistry and Physiology*. 2021. 173(9):10477.

## Employee Milestone

### Additions were made to CRID's team

**Post-doc:** Pierre Fongho Suh

**Research Assistants:** Dr Michel Tchotet and Dr Nchoutpouen Elysée

**Lab Technicians:** Kombat Wilfried, Yomi Bygaelle, Nke Mendounga Marcelline, Grace Djufu, Agbor Jean Pierre, Nafissetou Monde

**PhD student:** Darus Tagne, Ngum Deh

**Accountant:** Yangkoulo Caleb

**Biomedical stock manager:** Tehna Felix

**Logistician:** Rodrigue Tseyep

**Finance Officers:** Suh Collins, Nyango Laetitia, Kafo Momo épse Mbee

**Personal Assistant:** Laryssa Kwimi

## Capacity Building at CRID

On May 13, 2021, CRID celebrated Amen Nakebang Fadel, a PhD student who became the 4th PhD holder or Doctor trained by CRID. This is indeed a milestone as this student has been inducted into the category of Doctor in cellular and molecular parasitology. Mr Amen Fadel is now a Doctor. This son of Chad defended his PhD at the University of Buea, Cameroon on the topic "Escalated insecticide resistance in the major malaria vector *Anopheles coluzzii* from central African Sahel and Guinea savannah regions is driven by common metabolic resistance genes"



## CRID provided 200 protective face shields To B.A District Hospital staff



On January 15, 2021, due to the global sanitary crisis, Prof André Omba Eballe, the Director of the Biyem-Assi (B.A) District hospital, Yaoundé and his staff received a delegation of 14 members from the Centre for Research in Infectious Diseases (CRID). Prof. Charles Wondji, the Executive Director of CRID, handed over 200 protective face shields to the Director of the Biyem-Assi District Hospital. In collaboration with the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM), CRID acquired 3D printers which were used to print the protective face shields in order to support staff of the Biyem-Assi District Hospital in the fight against Covid-19. With this action, CRID is contributing to efforts geared towards rolling back this pandemic.



## Covid-19 screening at EEC Biyem-Assi



On Sunday, April 18, 2021, a team made up of 12 researchers from the Centre for Research in Infectious Diseases (CRID) carried out Covid-19 screening at the Evangelical Church of Cameroon (ECC), Biyem-Assi Parish located at “Montée Jouvence”, Yaoundé, Cameroon. Dr Huguette Simo was head of the screening unit. Laboratory analyses were carried out using Real Time Reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR). The University of Tübingen in Germany was a key partner in this screening campaign, which is part of the Covid-19 research project carried out by CRID



## Open day

A powerhouse of scientific leadership and avid Professor of Molecular Biology and Genomics, Prof. Christian Happi who is the Director of the African Centre of Excellence for Genomics of Infectious Diseases (ACEGID) at Redeemer’s University of Nigeria, visited the Centre for Research in Infectious Diseases (CRID), February 18, 2021. He was accompanied by seasoned collaborators from the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) notably Dr Judith Shang, Dr Clement Ndongmo and Dr Adama. More details of the visit on our website: [crid-cam.net](http://crid-cam.net).



## PIIVeC Activities

### Operational research projects granted

PIIVeC made some strides during the first half of 2021. The second phase of its Operational Research Project was launched early this year. During a meeting of the Technical Vector Control Advisory group consultative committee (TVCAG-CC) which brought together members of its partner countries and heads of vector borne disease control programmes, six (6) early career researchers were selected and granted the amount of £10,000- £12,000 to conduct research on topics covering Malaria, Arbovirus, Schistosomiasis, Filariasis, Leishmaniasis, and Trypanosomiasis. At the end, these projects will generate evidences that will help national disease control programmes to put in place evidence-based control strategies to curb the burden of these diseases. Moreover, in February 2021, members of the TVCAG attended a strategic meeting organized by the National Malaria Control Programme to draft the national strategic plan for insecticide resistance management in malaria vectors.



## Labour Day Awards 2021

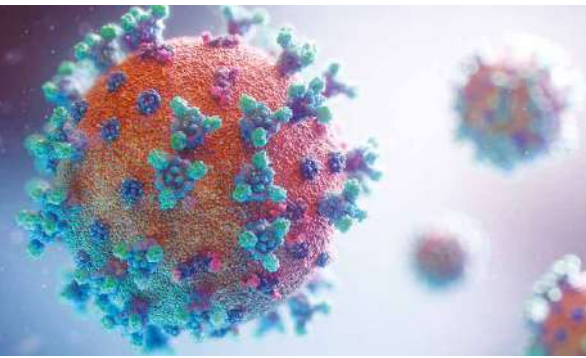
### Celebration of Excellence

On the occasion of the 135th edition of the International Labour Day, celebrated on 1st May, 2021, the Centre for Research in Infectious Diseases (CRID) went one step forward during a ceremony organized at its premises to reward some outstanding staff based on five categories who have positively influenced the growth, performance and achievements of the organisation. Falenne Yinike Kwalar was honoured as the best staff of the year; Dr Menze Benjamin, Dr Tchouakui Magellan, and Dr Nguete Daniel were acknowledged as new “Doctors or PhD holders”. Dr Ndo Cyrille was recognised as the researcher with the most impressive project. The most outstanding student of the year was awarded to Leon Mugenzi (1st), Aurelie Yougang (2nd) and Francis Nkemngo (3rd). The Best Technician of the Year was awarded to Bertrand Mbakam while Dr Basile Kamgang was recognised as the best researcher at CRID.





## COVID-19 UPDATES



### The latest news

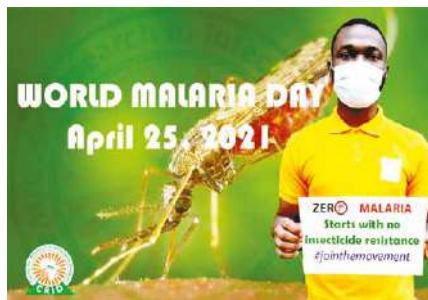
The Centre for Research in Infectious Diseases (CRID) has been putting in every effort to keep the novel Coronavirus disease out of its workplace and off its staff. In September 2020, February and March 2021 general screening sessions were conducted at its premises at the virology laboratory on every staff. As routine safety measures, CRID continues to respect barrier measures by washing of hands regularly, wearing of face masks, recording of staff temperature and observing social distancing even in shared offices. So far, no incident of COVID-19 has been reported at CRID. Additionally, CRID has been authorised by the Regional Delegation of Public Health to conduct an epidemiological study on the transmission of COVID-19 in the Centre region.



## World Malaria Day

### « Zero malaria »: we can do something

On April 25, the Centre for Research in Infectious Disease (CRID) joined the rest of the world to celebrate the 14th International Malaria day. The theme of the 2021 edition was « Zero Malaria-Draw the line against malaria». Yes we can...



## Our Brand Story

### Who we are?

Existing in Cameroon since 2018 upon due registration, the Centre for Research in Infectious Diseases (CRID) is a not-for-profit scientific research organisation made up of a young, passionate, motivated team with various statuses: researchers, postdocs, administrators, technicians, Master student and PhD students. Its ultimate mission is to contribute to the fight against infectious diseases in Cameroon and Africa through knowledge development, the design of appropriate diagnosis and control tools as well as support the Ministry of Public Health, National Control Programmes and contributing to capacity building in scientific research. CRID provides comfortable, safe and well-equipped laboratories to conduct research in the domains of Medical Entomology, Parasitology and Virology. CRID collaborates with a wide range of partners locally and internationally including the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine in the UK.

## Partners and funders

