

“Summer School” on Standards in personalised medicine research

22 & 23 February, 2023 – Cape Town, South Africa

The [EU Africa PerMed](#) project is funded by the European Commission’s Horizon Europe programme and aims to integrate African institution into the [International Consortium for Personalised Medicine](#) and enhance collaborations between African and European countries in the field of personalised medicine (PM).

In order to achieve its objectives, the project will organize and implement a series of activities to map the scientific and policy landscape for PM in Africa, identify key areas of interest and opportunity for bi-regional collaboration, and bring together stakeholders from both regions to foster joint efforts. Having defined capacity building as a key area for collaboration, a series of activities are planned within the EU Africa PerMed project to build bridges between the PM research communities in both regions. These include training and capacity building activities, such as webinars and in-person interactive training events or “Summer Schools”.

The “Summer Schools” are meant to allow young professionals to acquire new knowledge and skills in PM research. Lectures on key topics, illustrated by case studies and examples of current and past work of the lecturers, are followed by group work where participants analyze a case study, respond to a questionnaire or perform other interactive work with their peers. Prior to the training event, participants are provided with bibliography on the topics to be covered. At the end of the event, participants must pass a short exam on the content of the lectures to obtain their certificate of attendance.

These training events are a platform for sharing insight and experiences in PM research in both regions, and to share and discuss examples of EU – Africa PM collaborations. The Summer Schools also aim to foster collaboration in PM research between EU and African research teams, providing an opportunity for networking among participants and lecturers.

The first Summer School focusing on “Standards in personalised medicine research” will take place in Cape Town, South Africa on February 22 & 23, 2023 in person. It will cover key stages of PM research and will allow participants to understand the importance integrating standards for quality research at each stage and its relevance for international collaborations in PM. It will also have a session focused on research teams with ongoing Africa – EU collaborations to allow participants to exchange with research teams on opportunities and challenges for bi-regional collaboration.

It is open to 20 junior researchers, policy makers and health care workers from EU and African countries working on PM research, who will be evaluated and admitted on a competitive basis. Ten participants will be selected to receive a travel grant. Participation in this training event is free of cost.

Organized by the EU Africa PerMed consortium and hosted by the South African Medical Research Council, the Summer School will take place “back to back” with the 2nd EU-Africa PerMed Stakeholder Workshop.

