



**D4.3 Report (final) on
interactions of EU-Africa
PerMed with ICPerMed,
ERA PerMed and the
Africa-EU Partnership**

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Executive summary

This document describes the interactions of EU-Africa PerMed with ICPeMed, ERA PerMed and the Africa-EU Partnership as well as the European Partnership for Personalised Medicine, EP PerMed. The deliverable considers expected outcomes/KPIs of the project as well as the final results for this dedicated aspect and work package.





Report (final) on interactions of EU-Africa PerMed with ICPeMed, ERA PerMed and the Africa-EU Partnership

1. Introduction

In order to support the objective of encouraging the integration of non-EU countries in ICPeMed, and following the challenges and scopes defined in the topic “Actions in support of the International Consortium for Personalised Medicine” (H2020 Framework Programme), the EU-Africa PerMed project has the final objective of integrating African countries into ICPeMed activities and the ERA-NET Cofund for Personalised Medicine (ERA PerMed). Therewith, EU-Africa PerMed contributes to a successful implementation of personalised medicine (PM) in the global context, fosters joint PM projects and programmes between Europe and Africa, as well as strengthens bilateral EU-AU science, technology and innovation (STI) relations in the area of health, towards a common approach to PM research, innovation, development and implementation.

On the long run, incorporating African countries in the global PM research agenda can contribute to shortening the existing health disparities between developed and developing countries, as well as facilitating the access of African countries to new tools and technologies that have the potential to make healthcare more efficient and equitable. Since February 2021, the EU-Africa PerMed worked towards fostering a stronger global collaboration in PM through the umbrella of ICPeMed, and by this, to better tackle global health challenges such as infectious diseases and future pandemics.

This deliverable describes as final report the interactions of EU-Africa PerMed with ICPeMed, ERA PerMed and the Africa-EU Partnership and the different activities of the project to achieve its objectives and particularly objective 3:

OBJECTIVE 3: To foster and facilitate the integration of health research funding and policy organisations from African Union (AU) countries in the ICPeMed consortium, through the participation of representatives of these organisations in workshops, conferences and related events and in ongoing collaborative funding actions such as ERA PerMed.

Furthermore, it outlines the participation of EU-Africa PerMed in the development of the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda for Personalised Medicine (SRIA for PM, 2023) in support for the European Partnership for Personalised Medicine, EP PerMed, and the interactions with the latter.

2. Background information: ICPeMed, ERA PerMed, EP PerMed and the Africa-EU Partnership

Presentation of the initiatives: ICPeMed, ERA PerMed and EP PerMed

The International Consortium for Personalised Medicine – ICPeMed was initiated in 2016 during several workshops organised by the European Commission (EC). ICPeMed has become a valuable platform for the collaboration between EU Member States, associated countries to the Framework Programmes Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe as well as non-European countries, to implement priority actions in PM research in a coordinated way, as defined in the ICPeMed Action Plan (2017)¹ and the ICPeMed Vision for 2030 (2019)². It also serves as a platform to foster the development of further bilateral and multilateral initiatives in the area of PM. It promotes state-of-the art understanding and new advances in the PM domain by facilitating the

¹ <https://www.icpermed.eu/en/activities-action-plan.php>

² https://www.icpermed.eu/wp-content/uploads/Vision_Paper_2019-1.pdf



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exchange of experiences and ideas, and by discussing new potential solutions from ICPeMed members and global stakeholders.

ICPeMed welcomes international, non-European organisations that can join the consortium as members or observers. Currently, ICPeMed brings together 49 public and private 'not-for-profit' health research funding and policy organisations from 32 countries and seven (7) European National regions of four (4) continents. Since 2024, the ICPeMed has focussed its work on two major aspects, reflected by the two strategic working groups established to focus on: Internationalisation and strategies/policies in PM.

The European Research Area Network for Personalised Medicine (ERA-Net), ERA PerMed, was launched in 2017 and has ended in 2023. It was a funding programme for collaborative and innovative research projects in the field of PM and received co-funding through the European Union (EU). ERA PerMed aligned regional and national research strategies, promoted excellence, reinforced the competitiveness of European players in PM, and enhanced the European collaboration with non-EU countries. New funding organisations, including those of non-EU countries, were able to join the programme at any time to participate in the annual Joint Transnational Calls (JTC). With, in total, 42 participating funding organisations, including regional, national and international funders of 32 countries and four (4) continents, ERA PerMed was the largest ERA-Net in the health sector.

ERA PerMed offered African organisations to participate in PM joint funding activities. The Academy of Scientific Research & Technology (ASRT), a non-profit organisation affiliated to the Ministry of Scientific Research of Egypt, already had joined successfully the ERA PerMed JTC2019, 2020 and 2021.

The European Partnership for Personalised Medicine, EP PerMed, was launched in November 2023 and brings together European as well as international, national and European National regional ministries and funding organisations, agencies and authorities, joining forces on several levels and sectors. EP PerMed aims to realise the full potential of PM by supporting the entire PM value continuum through a wide range of definite actions, such as joint research funding and supporting activities, partnering and tailored tools, to accelerate PM innovations and to support PM implementation. All activities are accompanied by supportive conditions regarding policy and regulatory frameworks, end-user engagement, education and knowledge exchange, aligned strategies and priority settings. The Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda for Personalised Medicine (SRIA for PM, 2023) is guiding the tasks and actions performed by EP PerMed.

ICPeMed has worked in close collaboration with ERA PerMed and the so called "ICPeMed Family"³, i.e. several Coordination and Support Actions (CSAs) funded by the EU in support of the ICPeMed. The ICPeMed Family has an important role in supporting the research and implementation of PM in Europe and beyond. EU-Africa PerMed is one of the last family projects running and the fourth CSA focussing on international collaboration, besides EULAC-PerMed, "Widening EU-LAC policy and research cooperation in Personalised Medicine", strengthening collaboration of Europe with Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) countries, and two CSAs fostering collaboration between Europe and China: SINO-EU PerMed, "Cooperation between China and Europe in Personalised Medicine" and IC2PerMed, "Integrating China in the International Consortium for Personalised Medicine".

Presentation of the Africa-EU Partnership

The **Africa-EU Partnership** is a multi-actor partnership guided by the EU and African Union (AU) Member States along with several non-state and civil society organisations, youth bodies, economic and social actors, and the private sector. The partnership focuses on actions at continental and regional level where the EU and Africa have a collective capacity to deliver. The Africa-EU Partnership was formally established in 2000 at the first Africa-EU Summit in Cairo. It is guided by the Joint Africa-EU strategy, adopted in 2007. To tackle the challenges of the times and set political priorities, the EU and African Union have been meeting over the years in different

³ <https://www.icpermed.eu/en/related-initiatives.php>



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formats. It is an instrument of political dialogue and cooperation, overarching and complementing existing development relationship frameworks between EU and African countries.

For the purpose of EU-Africa PerMed, the policy instrument that is more relevant is the so-called **AU-EU High Level Policy Dialogue (HLPD) on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI)**, that formulates long-term research and innovation policy priorities to strengthen Africa-Europe cooperation. It was adopted at the 3rd AU-EU Summit in Tripoli in 2010 as an important element of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy.

Based on the work of the HLPD, the thematic priorities for research and innovation were announced during the first ministerial meeting of the African Union and European Union research and innovation ministers in July 2020. One of these areas is Public Health.

The joint **AU-EU Innovation Agenda** aims to transform and increase the innovative capacities and achievements of European and African researchers and innovators into tangible outputs, such as products, services, businesses and jobs. Supported by the Global Gateway, this Innovation Agenda, which was adopted on 19 July 2023 by both the AU and EU Commissions, represents the mainstay of the cooperation on Science, Technology and Innovation between Africa and Europe until 2033. It builds on the work of the Africa-Europe Innovation Partnership under the HPLD.

By focusing on emerging priorities such as Personalized Medicine (included as a relevant area for the Public health thematic priority), the Innovation Agenda ensures that African and European countries work together to address shared challenges and leverage opportunities for mutual growth. This platform facilitates knowledge exchange, fosters partnerships, and aligns policy priorities to create a dynamic marketplace for development partners and researchers.

3. Integrating African Organisations in ICPerMed and ERA PerMed

To achieve the objective 3, EU-Africa PerMed was acting on three different levels:

- I. Presenting ICPerMed, ERA PerMed and the ICPerMed family to the African communities;
- II. Integrating the African perspective in activities on European and international level and particularly those of ICPerMed, ERA PerMed and the ICPerMed family;
- III. Developing common dissemination and communication activities between EU-Africa PerMed, ICPerMed, ERA PerMed and the ICPerMed family.

The activities performed over the running time of EU-Africa PerMed are described in more detail below. All three activities were also connected in support of and to the European Partnership for Personalised Medicine, EP PerMed.

Presenting ICPerMed, ERA PerMed (, the EP PerMed) and the ICPerMed family to the African communities

EU-Africa PerMed enabled a two-way dialogue: ICPerMed was presented to African countries as a platform allowing African stakeholders to learn from other countries about PM research and implementation, for gaining new perspectives, approaches and research opportunities for the African countries. The very same time, the ICPerMed platform was presented as opportunity for African countries: Participation of African countries in ICPerMed, ERA PerMed, EP PerMed or ICPerMed family activities was presented as beneficial, for example, to share information about activities and best practices of their countries and to bring their countries as well as the African PM perspective into the global agenda.

A starting point were the EU-Africa PerMed project partners. They were informed about ICPerMed and ERA PerMed through a toolkit developed by Work Package 6 (WP6) and through the presentation of the initiatives, including the newly developed EP PerMed, during EU-Africa PerMed internal meetings. The toolkit provided the necessary supporting material to EU-Africa PerMed consortium members about ICPerMed, ERA PerMed and the ICPerMed family for dissemination among their networks.



EU-Africa PerMed shared information about ICPeMed, ERA PerMed, the EP PerMed and the ICPeMed family with African stakeholder through different means:

1. Dedicated information events organised for African stakeholders for presenting ICPeMed, ERA PerMed and the ICPeMed family, e.g. webinar format or physical events;
2. Presentation of ICPeMed, ERA PerMed, the EP PerMed and the ICPeMed family through dedicated talks during EU-Africa PerMed meetings and events (e.g. stakeholder workshops, information days, webinars, training activities, summer schools, etc.);
3. Presentation of the different initiatives to dedicated stakeholders that were identified by EU-Africa PerMed, for example, through the WP2 and other mapping activities or through EU-Africa PerMed events. For this purpose, bilateral meetings between EU-Africa PerMed and African organisations were organised as well as speakers of ICPeMed, ERA PerMed or EP PerMed suggested for events organised by African initiatives.
4. Presentation of ICPeMed, ERA PerMed, the EP PerMed and the ICPeMed family in external meetings in Africa where relevant stakeholders meet.
5. Sharing of information regarding ICPeMed, ERA PerMed, the EP PerMed and the ICPeMed family (general information but also activities of the initiatives) through the different EU-Africa PerMed communication and dissemination means (e.g. website, social media, newsletters etc.).

Via EU-Africa PerMed, African institutions got introduced and regularly informed specifically about ICPeMed activities e.g.

- the ICPeMed communication/dissemination activities and collaboration tools like the ICPeMed partnering tool and the ICPeMed funding database,
- the ICPeMed Recognition,
- the collection of examples of good practice,
- ICPeMed and ICPeMed-related initiatives events.

The following activities were organised and performed by EU-Africa PerMed over the course of the project duration to increase the knowledge about ICPeMed, ERA PerMed and the ICPeMed Family:

Type of activity	Description of the activity performed
Dedicated information events organised for African stakeholders	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Presentation of ICPeMed during two virtual (online) information days on 1st and 13th December 2021 (public events, in French and English). 2. Presentation of ERA PerMed during a virtual (online) ERA PerMed information day on 23rd September 2021.
Presentation through dedicated talks during EU-Africa PerMed meetings and events	<p>ICPeMed, ERA PerMed, the ICPeMed Family as well as the EP PerMed were presented through dedicated talks at the following EU-Africa PerMed events/meetings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 1st EU-Africa PerMed Stakeholder Workshop, 9-10 February 2022 (online): “A dedicated European multi-stakeholder framework for Personalised Medicine: The ICPeMed”, by M. Frenzel, ANR, France



	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. 2nd EU-Africa PerMed Stakeholder Workshop, 20-21 February 2023, Cape Town, South Africa (hybrid): “Opportunities for collaboration between Africa and Europe in Personalised Medicine – Presentation of collaboration examples: ICPeMed, ERA PerMed and the European Partnership for Personalised Medicine”, M. Frenzel, ANR, France 3. EU-Africa PerMed “Summer School - Standards in personalised medicine research”, 22-23 February 2023, Cape Town, South Africa (hybrid): “Overview of research collaboration opportunities for Personalised Medicine”, M.J. Alvarez Ruiz, IT-MoH, Italy 4. EU-Africa PerMed 2nd Summer School “Implementation of Personalised Medicine”, 21-23 May 2024, Nairobi, Kenya (hybrid): “The personalised medicine journey”, M. Frenzel, ANR, France 5. 3rd EU-Africa PerMed Stakeholder Workshop, 26-27 June 2024, Dakar, Senegal (hybrid): “International Platform Perspective: The international Consortium for Personalised Medicine (ICPerMed) and European Partnership for Personalised Medicine (EP-PerMed)”, M. Frenzel, ANR, France
<p>Bilateral meetings with stakeholders that were identified by EU-Africa PerMed</p>	<p>ICPerMed, ERA PerMed, the EP PerMed, the ICPeMed family as a whole as well as Personalised Medicine as a concept were presented to the following initiatives in bilateral meetings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Science for Africa Foundation A delegation of the EU-Africa PerMed project (INNOVATEC, Nacosti, ECRIN, APHRC and ANR) has met the CEO and representatives of the Science for Africa Foundation in Nairobi, Kenya, on 20 May 2024. The EU-Africa PerMed Action Plan was presented as well as PM as suitable topic for cross-border collaboration in Africa. 2. European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) EU-Africa PerMed had during the running time of the project several bilateral exchanges (virtual and on-site) with Dr Thomas Nyirenda, Strategic Partnerships and Capacity Development Manager, Head of Africa Office. Representatives of EDCTP participated actively as speakers or experts in EU-Africa PerMed activities and EDCTP is seen as one major initiative to support the implementation of the EU-Africa PerMed Action Plan. 3. PerMediNA EU-Africa PerMed developed a close collaboration with the project PerMediNA which aims to develop a strategy for the implementation of PM in the Maghreb countries. For the final meeting of the PerMediNA Project “Towards a Precision Medicine Accessible to All” that took place on September 17-18, 2024, Tunis (hybrid), EU-Africa PerMed could propose a speaker of ICPeMed: A. Vicente, Instituto Nacional De Saúde Doutor Ricardo Jorge, Portugal, who is actinf as ICPeMed Working Group lead and presented ICPeMed as initiative during the final event. 4. GloPID-R⁴ EU-Africa PerMed has organised in the first quarter of 2024 a virtual meeting

⁴ <https://www.glopid-r.org/>



	<p>with the “Global Research Collaboration for Infectious Disease Preparedness”, GloPID-R. During the meeting, ICPeMed, the EU-Africa PerMed and PM as a concept were presented. Furthermore, the concept of the EU-Africa PerMed Action Plan was presented and valuable input for African-European research and funders collaboration collected. A representative of GloPID-R participated in-person at the 3rd Stakeholder Workshop in Dakar, Senegal.</p> <p>5. PRIMA⁵ EU-Africa PerMed has organised in the first quarter of 2024 several virtual meetings with PRIMA, an EU “Programme for Research and Innovation solutions in the Mediterranean region”. During the meeting, ICPeMed, the EU-Africa PerMed and PM as a concept were presented. Furthermore, the concept of the EU-Africa PerMed Action Plan was presented and valuable input for African-European research and funders collaboration collected.</p>
<p>Presentations in external meetings in Africa where relevant stakeholders meet.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AERAP (Africa-Europe Science Collaboration Platform) summit, session “Genomics for Shared Research and Better Health Outcomes”, June 16, 2021 (online): Presentation of ICPeMed and EU-Africa PerMed, M. Frenzel, ANR, France 2. World Science Forum, side event on 06 December 2022, Cape Town, South Africa (on-site), “EU-Africa PerMed - Building Links Between Europe and Africa in Personalised Medicine”, presentation title: “The vision from ICPeMed, the future outlook for international collaboration in PM”, M. Frenzel, ANR, France
<p>Sharing of information through the different EU-Africa PerMed communication and dissemination means</p>	<p>General information but also those advertising specific activities of ICPeMed, ERA PerMed, the EP PerMed and the ICPeMed family were shared regularly via the EU-Africa PerMed website, social media as well as the newsletters.</p>

Integrating the African perspective in activities on European and international level and particularly those of ICPeMed and ERA PerMed as well as the ICPeMed family

The EU-Africa PerMed partners, specifically those located in Europe, already had at the project start a good knowledge and understanding of the different European PM initiatives. Collaborations and engagements with ICPeMed, ERA PerMed were already established and for the EP PerMed naturally developed during the project running time.

A direct and straightforward linkage had already existed, as three partners of the EU-Africa PerMed consortium (ANR, ISCIII and It-MoH) are full members of the ICPeMed consortium and were also part of the CSA ICPeMed Secretariat as well as highly involved in the preparation of the EP PerMed. The coordination of ERA PerMed was located at ISCIII while the funders consortium (Network Steering Committee) was chaired by ANR.

⁵ <https://prima-med.org/>



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EU-Africa PerMed as a project is part of the ICPeMed family. Several EU-Africa PerMed partners, i.e. INNOVATEC, ECRIN, but also IT-MoH and ISCIII were also involved in other coordination and support actions that were part of the ICPeMed family:

- The CSA PERMIT⁶, “PERsonalised Medicine Trials”, addressed questions related to personalised medicine clinical studies and trial design;
- The CSA EULAC PerMed⁷, “Widening EU-LAC policy and research cooperation in Personalised Medicine”, focussed on international collaboration with Caribbean and Latin American countries.

By broadening the geographical scope of ICPeMed, ERA PerMed and the EP PerMed, the EU-Africa PerMed project aimed to contribute to a better and fairer implementation of PM approaches into healthcare for the benefit of patients, citizens and society as a whole.

In detail, EU-Africa PerMed fostered and facilitated:

1. The integration of African organisations in the ICPeMed consortium.

Activities to achieve this aim:

- identification and engagement with African ministries, health research funding agencies, foundations or private organisations, at both, the regional and national level to present the ICPeMed consortium.
- bilateral face to face or web-meetings were organised with interested African organisations to advance in the understanding of what ICPeMed offers and how to participate as member or observer or as part of the ICPeMed Stakeholder Forum. EU-Africa PerMed provided the necessary information to understand the ICPeMed requirements for participation and supported interested organisations in the administrative steps to be taken, e.g. preparation of documents as the “letter of interest”, etc.

In detail, EU-Africa PerMed exchanged with the following entities and achieved the described results:

Organisation and country	Description of activity and results
SAMRC, South Africa	<p>The South African Medical Research Council is a partner organisation of the EU-Africa PerMed project. In 2022, the South African Medical Research Council joined the ICPeMed as member organisation.</p> <p>Since 2024, R. Mia, representing the SAMRC in the ICPeMed, is elected vice-chair of the international consortium.</p>
ASRT, Egypt	<p>The Egyptian Center for Innovation & Technology Development, ECITD, is a partner organisation of the EU-Africa PerMed project. Amr Radwan represents ECITD in the project and has facilitated the application of the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology (ASRT) from Egypt to become a full member of the ICPeMed. The application was successfully accepted in 2023 by the international consortium.</p>

⁶ <https://ecrin.org/activities/permit-project>

⁷ <https://www.eulac-permed.eu/>



<p>MHESR and Ministry of Health, Tunisia</p>	<p>Thanks to the close collaboration with the project PerMediNA, EU-Africa PerMed was able to reach out to representatives of the Ministry of Health (contact: Pr. Myriam Razgallah Khrouf, Director of Medical research), and the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (contact: Dr. Helmi Mardassi, Director General, Unit for the Management of the European framework programmes for Research and Innovation) of Tunisia. Both ministries have raised interest in the ICPeMed membership.</p> <p>After several virtual exchanges and an informal in-person meeting between representatives of the two Tunisian Ministries, ICPeMed, the EP PerMed and the EC during the ICPeMed Workshop in Siena, 14-15 November, 2023, the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MHESR) joined ICPeMed in 2024 as member organisation. While officially only one Ministry has joined the ICPeMed as member, the Ministry of Health is following closely the activities of ICPeMed and a representative of the Ministry Health is also representing the MHESR during ICPeMed activities (e.g. the Working Groups).</p>
<p>Ministry of Higher Education and Research, Morocco</p>	<p>Thanks to the close collaboration with the EP PerMed, EU-Africa PerMed was able to reach out to representatives of organisations in Morocco. The Ministry of Higher Education and Research is interested in the ICPeMed membership but has not yet taken a final decision (contact person: Nouredine El Aouad, NCP cluster Health Horizon Europe Programme, Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacy, University Abdelmalek Esaanadi).</p> <p>Dr El Aouad has taken part of the ICPeMed Family meeting on 28 November 2024 as participant.</p>
<p>Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health, Kenya</p>	<p>The National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation, NACOSTI, is a partner organisation of the EU-Africa PerMed project and has supported the exchange with two ministries of Kenya, i.e. Ministry of Education (contact person: Dr. Roselida Owuor, the Director, Department of Research Science and Technology, DRST) and the Ministry of Health (contact person: Dr. Rachel Githiomi, Directorate of Digital Health). Since April 2023, several bilateral virtual and face-to-face meetings have taken place. An EU-Africa PerMed delegation (NACOSTI, INNOVATEC, ECRIN and ANR) met the representative of the Ministry of Education at Nairobi, Kenya on 20 May 2024. Representatives of both ministries participated in-person at the 3rd Stakeholder Workshop in Dakar, Senegal. No final decision was taken by the organisations so far, but interest was raised.</p>
<p>COSTECH, Tanzania</p>	<p>At the 2nd SAMRC Sub-Saharan Africa Funders Forum, 20-22 November 2022, Cape Town, South Africa (on-site), EU-Africa PerMed has started to engage the Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH; contact person: Dr. Prosper Massawe (PhD), Senior Research Coordinating Officer) for the ICPeMed membership. No final decision was taken by the organisation so far, but interest was raised.</p>
<p>AHRI, Ethiopia</p>	<p>After the East African Regional Workshop in 2022, the Armauer Hansen Research Institute (AHRI, contact person: Alemseged Abdissa, Deputy Director General, Armauer Hansen Research Institute) of Ethiopia has sent a letter of interest to participate in the ICPeMed as member. The application was unfortunately not accepted by the international consortium as the AHRI did not correspond to the eligibility criteria of ICPeMed, i.e. no research performing organisation are allowed. Membership is</p>



	reserved to public and private `not-for-profit` health research funding and policy organisations.
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For representatives of African country organisations, interested to join ICPeMed as a member, a special “Meet ICPeMed session” was organised during the 3rd Stakeholder Workshop at the end of day 1 (26 June, from 18-19h, at the same location as the workshop). Newly interested African organisations received the possibility to meet representatives of ICPeMed from Africa and Europe as well as other organisations of Africa interested in joining ICPeMed to ask questions they (or their organisation) might have concerning the consortium, the membership, activities and exchange on experiences and expectations. The participant list was as followed:

African organisations/participants:

- SAMRC, South Africa, ICPeMed member organisation
- Ministry of Health, Tunisia, ICPeMed member organisation
- Ministry of Education, Kenya, exchanges (virtual and on-site) took already place
- Ministry of Health, Kenya, first meeting
- Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH), Tanzania, not present
- East African Health Research Commission, first meeting
- NACOSTI, Kenya, EU-Africa PerMed partner organisation
- Ministry of Health Development (MoHD), Somaliland, first meeting
- The Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), first meeting

European organisation:

- INNOVATEC, Spain, EU-Africa PerMed partner organisation and coordination
- ANR, France, EU-Africa PerMed partner organisation, ICPeMed member
- National Institute of Health Dr. Ricardo Jorge, Portugal, ICPeMed member

2. The participation of African organisations in ERA PerMed and EP PerMed joint funding activities.

Activities performed to achieve this aim:

- identifying, contacting and exchanging with African ministries and funding organisations and introducing ERA PerMed to those stakeholders.
- The project facilitated the participation of African funding agencies in calls of ERA PerMed, explaining the concept of the ERA-Net as funding programme, how it is organised and how African countries can participate and benefit from joining international research consortia. EU-Africa PerMed supported the exchange of ERA PerMed with African organisations that were interested in participating in joint funding activities.
- After the ERA PerMed programme has ended in 2023, EU-Africa PerMed continued the efforts in the frame of the new PM funding programme: the EP PerMed.

In detail, EU-Africa PerMed has achieved the following results:

Initiative	Description of activity and results
ERA PerMed	<p>The SAMRC, South Africa, has joined the ERA PerMed Joint Transnational Call (JTC) 2022 as a funder. One of the 22 funded research projects has as a partner and coordinator a team of South Africa supported by the SAMRC.</p> <p>The ERA PerMed JTC2022 was the last call. No more joint research calls were started as the ERA-Net finished in 2023.</p>



EP PerMed	<p>The new partnership dedicated to PM has been presented to the EU-Africa PerMed consortium during the regular project meetings. The SAMRC, South Africa, has joint the JTC2025 of the EP PerMed as a funder.</p> <p>The SAMRC has raised interest and started the process to become an EP PerMed partner organisation.</p>
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3. The participation of African organisations, stakeholders and experts in ICPeMed and ERA PerMed activities.

Activities to achieve this aim:

- encouraging and supporting African representatives to participate in and propose African experts and speakers for workshops, conferences and other types of events.
- Propose African stakeholders for working groups, expert or evaluation panels and other activities.
- EU-Africa PerMed will inform the African stakeholders about opportunities for sharing of knowledge and leveraging of activities (e.g. in form of good practices as “Best Practice Examples” presented through ICPeMed and through the “ICPeMed Recognition”).
- encourage the participation of African stakeholders in training events or webinars organised by ICPeMed, ERA PerMed or the ICPeMed family.
- administrative and financial support for the attendance of African representatives in ICPeMed related events (e.g. participation in Executive Committee meetings, workshops and/or conferences) (WP1).

Activity	Description of activity and results
ICPeMed conference 2021	2 nd ICPeMed Conference “Personalised Medicine – From Vision to Practice”, 25-26 February 2021: R. Mia, SAMRC, South Africa, participated as panellist in the “SESSION: Enabling healthcare systems to implement the next generation of medicine: a crucial shift”
ERA PerMed Joint Transnational Call 2021	Scientific experts of Africa were successfully integrated as reviewers in the JTC2021.
ICPeMed Workshop Q4-2023	Representatives of the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research Tunisia participated in workshop 2023 as experts and received financial support for the travel by the CSA ICPeMed Secretariat.
EP PerMed ELSI symposium 2024	Representatives of African organisations have participated in the EP PerMed symposium on Ethical Legal and Social Aspects of Personalised Medicine on 26



	September 2024 (Brussels, Belgium). The event allowed online attendance via a hybrid format.
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4. The integration of the African PM perspective in strategic reflections (international level).

EU-Africa PerMed helped to identify priority topics for African countries and proposed their potential inclusion in future ICPeMed strategic papers as Action Plans, roadmaps etc. and reflections, e.g. for the preparation of the European Partnership for PM, EP PerMed, in the framework of Horizon Europe.

Activities to achieve this aim:

- presenting EU-Africa PerMed activities and outcomes to ICPeMed, ERA PerMed and the ICPeMed family, e.g. through oral presentations. Dedicated events were organised for this purpose by ICPeMed: ICPeMed family events (2021, 2023, 2024) and ICPeMed family CSA meetings (biannually). Additional opportunities: the ICPeMed workshops and conferences.
- sharing of documents developed by the project or communication on the progress of the project, e.g. through the ICPeMed and ERA PerMed newsletters.
- EU-Africa PerMed activities and progress presented biannually to the ICPeMed consortium through an ambassador system, i.e. one elected ICPeMed member is reporting on the EU-Africa PerMed project during each meeting of the ICPeMed Executive Committee meeting. The organisation acting as ambassador was ANR who is also WP4 and task 4.1 co-lead.
- encouraging and supporting African representatives and stakeholders to participate in and propose African experts, e.g. as speakers, for workshops, conferences and other types of events.

Activity	Description of activity and results
ICPeMed executive committee meeting	EU-Africa PerMed activities and results were presented to ICPeMed during the biannual executive committee meetings. The sub-task leader (ANR) was also the project ambassador and updated biannually in this role the ICPeMed about EU-Africa PerMed activities and results. The project is well known among the ICPeMed consortium.
ICPeMed Workshop Q1-2023	EU-Africa PerMed coordinators (J. Guinea and E. Sela) participated in the ICPeMed Workshop “Preparing the future for Personalised Medicine: EP PerMed” in Pamplona (Spain) on 17-18 January 2023, as a panellist in the 2 nd Plenary session: “Key Areas: International and Regional Perspectives of Personalised Medicine”.
ICPeMed family meetings 2021, 2023 and 2024	1 st ICPeMed family meeting “Joining forces”, on 9-10 October 2021: EU-Africa PerMed actively participated in the preparation of the “Internationalisation of ICPeMed activities – Facilitators and hurdles” session. 2 nd ICPeMed family meeting “Staying connected to shape the future for Personalised Medicine”, held on-line on the 19 th October 2023: E. Sela and J. Guinea (INNOVATEC), T. Nyawira (NACOSTI) and E. Gitau (APHRC) participated in the session



	<p>on “International perspectives on Personalised Medicine “, with a 20’ presentation on African-Europe collaboration in PM – focus on East Africa – country and regional perspective, and after in the Panel discussion.</p> <p>3rd ICPeMed Family Meeting “A new phase for PerMed”, held on-line on November 28th, 2024: E. Sela and L. Gine (INNOVATEC) together with M. Frenzel presented the results of the EU-Africa PerMed project, the Action Plan and the Success Stories for African-European collaboration in PM identified by the project.</p>
Events organised by other initiatives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. AERAP (Africa-Europe Science Collaboration Platform) summit, session “Genomics for Shared Research and Better Health Outcomes”, June 16, 2021 (online); Presentation of ICPeMed and EU-Africa PerMed, M. Frenzel, ANR, France 2. EDCTP 10th Forum, 19th October 2021 (online), Sponsored symposium focusing on EU-Africa PerMed. The project and PM as a concept was presented and discussed. 3. PerMediNA project “Réunion Annuelle du Projet PerMediNA - Vers une médecine de précision accessible à tous”, 15 Mars 2023 (hybrid) : “The EU-Africa PerMed Project: Lessons learned & future directions”, E. Sela, INNOVATEC, Spain 4. Final Meeting of the PerMediNA Project “Towards a Precision Medicine Accessible to All”, September 17-18, 2024, Tunis (hybrid): “EU Africa PerMed”, E. Sela, INNOVATEC, Spain
Sub-Saharan Africa Funders Forum 2022	2 nd SAMRC Sub-Saharan Africa Funders Forum, 20-22 November 2022, Cape Town, South Africa (on-site): “EU-Africa PerMed Project”, M. Frenzel, ANR, France
Personalised Medicine Southern African Regional Workshop 2022	Southern-African Regional Stakeholder Workshop, 5-6 December 2022, Cape Town, South Africa (on-site): “The EU-Africa PerMed Project”, presented by E. Sela, INNOVATEC, Spain and “Reflection on Consortium/ Collaboration Models” presented by M. Frenzel, ANR, France
Development of the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda for Personalised Medicine (SRIA for PM, 2023)	<p>The EU-Africa PerMed project coordinators E. Sela and J. Guinea, INNOVATEC, Spain, participated in the preparation of the SRIA for PM as experts interviewed for the development of the document.</p> <p>The project partners MJ. Ruiz Alvarez, IT-MoH, Italy, and M. Frenzel, ANR, France, supported as members of the “drafting group” particularly the development of the chapter “4.3. International perspectives of PM” outlining the need for international collaboration in the field of PM.</p>
European Presidency event 2023	“Conference on Personalised Medicine: the evolution of healthcare to improve people's lives” held during the Spanish Presidency event on 4-5 October, 2023, in Valencia (on-site/hybrid), Spain. R. Mia (SAMRC, South Africa) and M. Ramsey (EU-Africa PerMed Advisory Board member, South Africa) actively participated in a round table discussion focusing on International collaboration. R. Mia was



	presenting the work of the EU-Africa PerMed project and raised the awareness for the potential and benefit of African and European collaborations.
Science Summit at the United Nations General Assembly	SCIENCE SUMMIT session “Agenda Setting for the Genomics Centres of Excellence in Africa” at United Nations General Assembly (UNGA 78), 15 September 2023, New York, hybrid: “The EU-Africa PerMed project” presented by R. Mia, SAMRC, South Africa.
International conferences	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. World Science Forum, side event organised by EU-Africa PerMed on 06 December 2022, Cape Town, South Africa (on-site), “EU-Africa PerMed - Building Links Between Europe and Africa in Personalised Medicine”, presentation titles: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. “How personalised medicine fits in the Health Research and Innovation Strategy for Africa (HRISA 2018-2030)”, P. Tanui, AUDA-NEPAD b. “The vision from ICPeMed, the future outlook for international collaboration in PM”, M. Frenzel, ANR, France c. “The EU-Africa Per Med project Scientific mapping of PM in Africa, how Africa performs and collaborates in PM research”, E. Sela, INNOVATEC, Spain d. “African Regional engagements to highlight strengths, weaknesses and opportunities of PM in the regions”, Rizwana Mia, SAMRC, South Africa 2. World Health Summit <p>The EU-Africa PerMed Advisory Board member Dr. A. Brand participated in the World Health Summit, in the session “WS 14 – Reflecting on the AU-EU Innovation Agenda – How Far Have We Come?”. Dr. Brand had the opportunity to share with the audience the work of EU-Africa PerMed and ICPeMed, the importance of the collaboration and reflecting on not only what Africa can learn from Europe, but what can Europe learn from Africa when it comes to PM research.</p>
AU-EU Innovation Agenda Workshop 2024	EU-Africa PerMed was invited to participate in two sessions as a speaker of the “AU-EU Innovation Agenda Workshop on Public Health Innovations”, 3 rd December 2024, Cape Town, South Africa, hybrid: Session “Experience sharing – Testimonials sharing insides on the experiences with the AU-EU Innovation Agenda” and Session “Virtual coffee – Matchmaking and Networking session – Breakout room: Precision/ Personalised Medicine – What’s ahead for the European-Africa cooperation?”. E. Sela, INNOVATEC, Spain, and R. Mia, SAMRC, South Africa, participated online and on-site.
Joint meeting of EP PerMed and EU-Africa PerMed (January 2025)	On 16 January 2025, the EU-Africa PerMed project will present the projects results, including the Action Plan to the EP PerMed General Assembly. Furthermore, a meeting is organised on the same day in that EU-Africa PerMed representatives will discuss with representatives of ICPeMed, EP PerMed, the EC and EDCTP how the respective initiative may support the implementation of the EU-Africa PerMed Action Plan.



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The participation of EU-Africa PerMed during the Ep PerMed General Assembly in Brussels on the 16th January, was an important and relevant opportunity to share with major European Stakeholders. The special session focused on EU-Africa PerMed, was attended by representatives from EC- DG RTD, EC Dg INTPA, EDCTP, Representatives of the AU-Eu Innovation Agenda, and funding organizations from European Member States that participate in EP-PerMed. During the session, the project team joining this meeting (Monika Frenzel-ANR, Rizwana Mia -SAMRC, María José Ruíz -IT-MoH and Erika Sela- INNOVATEC) was able to discuss with them opportunities to implement the actions proposed in the Action Plan.



EU-Africa PerMed team at the EP PerMed General Assembly in Brussels, 16th Jan 2025



Participants of the EU-Africa PerMed session with a copy of the Action Plan

Developing common communication and dissemination activities between EU-Africa PerMed, ICPerMed, ERA PerMed and the ICPerMed family

Through WP4 and WP6, a close collaboration was established with ICPerMed and ERA PerMed as well as the newly developed EP PerMed including common communication and dissemination activities e.g. through news presented on the websites or social media communications (i.e. Twitter, LinkedIn and YouTube), common communication material (e.g. promotion videos), events and other activities of EU-Africa PerMed, ICPerMed



or the ICPeMed family. EU-Africa PerMed used the opportunity to report on its activities in the ICPeMed newsletter that were published quarterly.

Activity	Description of activity and results
Communication and dissemination activities via social media and website posts	<p>Information were shared between the initiatives, ICPeMed and EU-Africa PerMed and supported the wider dissemination e.g. concerning events and other activities of EU-Africa PerMed, ICPeMed or the ICPeMed family and well as ERA PerMed and the EP PerMed.</p> <p>The contacts and links with ICPeMed were continuous and permanent, thanks mainly to M. Frenzel, ANR, France, and MJ. Ruiz Alvarez, IT-MoH, Italy, who were part of the CSA ICPeMed Secretariat and (for M. Frenzel) assigned ambassador within ICPeMed for EU-Africa PerMed.</p>
ICPeMed promotion Video	J. Guinea presented the EU-Africa PerMed project in an ICPeMed promotion video focussing on “ICPeMed Family: International Perspective” ⁸ .
Newsletter	EU-Africa PerMed has shared information about ICPeMed, ERA PerMed, the ICPeMed Family and EP PerMed via its Newsletters. ICPeMed has invited EU-Africa PerMed as ICPeMed Family project to share project news via the ICPeMed Newsletters which was implemented successfully in 6 newsletters published by ICPeMed.

4. Contribution to the EU-AU Policy Dialogue and support to the Africa-EU Partnership

The EU-Africa PerMed Project aims to integrate African countries into the global Personalized Medicine (PM) agenda by fostering collaboration with Europe. Task 4.3 focuses on supporting the EU-AU Policy Dialogue and enhancing the Africa-EU partnership, with AUDA-NEPAD playing a critical role, as task leader and the co-chair of the Working Group under the AU-EU Innovation Agenda. They have worked diligently to ensure the inclusion of the Africa-EU PerMed project on the [Innovation Agenda dashboard](#). This inclusion has significant implications, ensuring the sustainability of Personalized Medicine as a priority area long after the project concludes. Additionally, the dashboard creates a marketplace that connects potential development partners with related projects, fostering collaboration and knowledge sharing. By reflecting the priorities of African and European policymakers, the dashboard underscores the strategic importance of Personalized Medicine in the broader Innovation Agenda.

EU-Africa PerMed has been extremely involved in and attentive to the development of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda, already from the time of the online public consultation on the working document of the Agenda.

As part of its inclusion in the Dashboard, as one of the projects selected to contribute to the Public health priority area, EU-Africa PerMed had an active participation in the 3rd workshop focused on “Public Health innovations contributing to the implementation of short-term actions of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda”, organised by the Task Force of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda Working Group in Pretoria, South Africa (and online) on the 3rd December 2024. It is the third of the series of Workshops contributing to the implementation of the 10-year AU-EU Innovation Agenda (2023-2033). The event had a clear focus on the priority area of Public

⁸ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VvRgvOd3QSY>



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Health. Highlighting and reflecting on the short-term actions (Q3 2023 - Q4 2026) in Public Health of the AU-EU Innovation Agenda, showcasing some of the initiatives contributing to their implementation, while pinpointing tangible and sizeable opportunities provided by these, and stimulating actionable ideas, to a wide audience of stakeholders, researchers and innovators.



Figure 1- Programme of the workshop, with the participation of EU-Africa PerMed.

During this workshop, a “Virtual Coffee” – Matchmaking and Networking Session was organized focused on **Precision/Personalised medicine, – What’s ahead for the Europe-Africa Cooperation?**, with the participation of EU-Africa team members Rizwana Mia SAMRC (on site), Erika Sela INNOVATEC (online) and Badara Cisse IRESSEF (online).

In its efforts to foster science-policy dialogue, AUDA-NEPAD hosted a policy dialogue through the Calestous Juma Executive Dialogue (CJED) Series. CJED, established in 2018, serves as a platform to strengthen the capacity of policymakers and decision-makers to champion science, technology, and innovation. On the 30th April 2024, AUDA-NEPAD organized a CJED webinar themed “Unlocking Africa's Genetic Potential: Exploring Genomics, Gene Editing, and Precision Medicine for Transformation.” This virtual event targeted senior policymakers, researchers, and stakeholders, highlighting the critical role of genomics and precision medicine in transforming healthcare across Africa. The dialogue provided a forum to share insights, discuss challenges, and promote collaborative strategies to advance Personalized Medicine and genomics research. EU-Africa PerMed, represented by its coordinator Erika Sela, participated in this event with a short presentation of the project.

AUDA-NEPAD is actively contributing to the drafting team and conducting technical horizon scanning to ensure that Personalized Medicine and Genomics are prioritized within the STI Strategy 2038 (STISA2038). While the agenda is still under development, as the implementing Agency of AU policies, AUDA-NEPAD is playing a crucial role in shaping its direction.

The priority of innovation, including Personalized Medicine, will be reflected in the finalized implementation strategy. Teams are set to convene in Cape Town in January 2025 to further advance this critical work. By driving this inclusion, AUDA-NEPAD demonstrates its commitment to fostering innovation and ensuring the integration of Personalized Medicine within Africa’s long-term development frameworks.



5. Final output, impact and contribution to sustainability

The short-term impact of WP4, i.e. the expected direct output of WP4 activities and expected achievements towards the project objective 3, were translated into WP4 specific **Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)**:

<p>Number of African organisations that joined the ICPeMed consortium at the end of the project (target: at least 3).</p>	<p>The expected target was reached successfully:</p> <p>The SAMRC (South Africa), the ASRT (Egypt) and the MHESR (Tunisia) have successfully joined the ICPeMed as members. Other candidate organisations were identified and it may be expected that more organisations of Africa may join the ICPeMed in the near future.</p>
<p>Number of African organisations participating in ICPeMed activities (target: at least 6).</p>	<p>The expected target was reached successfully:</p> <p>The following organisations participated actively (as speakers) in ICPeMed activities: NACOSTI (Family meeting 2023), APHRC (Family Meeting 2023), SAMRC (e.g. ICPeMed conference 2021), ASRT (ICPeMed ExCom 2023), MHESR and Ministry of Health of Tunisia (ICPeMed workshop Q4/2023).</p> <p>More organisations have acted as simple participants during ICPeMed events (workshops, conferences, ICPeMed Family events), e.g. Ministry of Higher Education and Research of Morocco.</p>
<p>Number of bilateral meetings with African organisations to discuss their participation in ICPeMed/ERA PerMed (target: at least 3 meetings in years 2, 3 and 4).</p>	<p>The expected target was reached successfully:</p> <p>Bilateral meetings (online and on-site) were organised with the following organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academy of Scientific Research and Technology (ASRT), Egypt • Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MHESR), Tunisia • Ministry of Health, Tunisia • Ministry of Higher Education and Research, Morocco • Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health, Kenya • Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH), Tanzania • Armauer Hansen Research Institute (AHRI), Ethiopia • Science for Africa Foundation • European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) • PerMediNA • Global Research Collaboration for Infectious Disease Preparedness (GloPID-R) • Programme for Research and Innovation solutions in the Mediterranean region (PRIMA)



<p>Number of African organisations participating in ERA PerMed future calls (target: at least 2).</p>	<p>The expected target was reached successfully:</p> <p>The SAMRC, South Africa, participated as funder in the JTC2022 of the ERA PerMed. In the very same JTC2022, several African organisations participated as applicants and one organisation (Wits Health Consortium (Pty) Ltd⁹) receives funding as being part of one of the 22 research projects selected for funding.</p> <p>Furthermore, experts of African organisations participated as reviewers in the JTC2021 that was managed by the IT-MoH who is also part of the EU-Africa PerMed project. The name and organisation of the African experts cannot be communicated as being classified as confidential.</p> <p>It should be noted that ERA PerMed has ended in 2023. A new joint funding programme was started in 2024 with the EP PerMed. The SAMRC has successfully joined the JTC2025 and reflects on joining the EP PerMed as partner.</p>
<p>Number of EU-Africa PerMed meetings with ICPeMed participation (target: at least 3).</p>	<p>The expected target was reached successfully:</p> <p>ICPeMed was represented and presented by M. Frenzel, ANR, France, through dedicated talks in all three EU-Africa PerMed Stakeholder Workshops, the ICPeMed information days and the second Summer School.</p> <p>ANR is member of the ICPeMed consortium and was member of the CSA ICPeMed Secretariat. M. Frenzel in person led the ICPeMed working group “Personalised Medicine in Healthcare” (2021-2023) and is currently leading the ICPeMed strategic working group “Internationalisation” (2024-2026).</p> <p>Furthermore, during the 3rd Stakeholder Workshop, representatives of ICPeMed member organisations (SAMRC, ANR, MHESR and the Instituto Nacional De Saúde Doutor Ricardo Jorge) participated in a dedicated “Meet ICPeMed” session.</p>

Three milestones were set, to follow-up on the progress of collaboration between EU-Africa PerMed and ICPeMed/ERA PerMed:

Milestones		
Nº	Name	Due date
MS4	Communication channels between the project and ICPeMed arranged	M8
MS8	Presentation of the ICPeMed and ERA PerMed in the first workshop	M12
MS9	Presentation of EU-Africa PerMed in ICPeMed	M12-M14

All milestones were successfully achieved.

Expected outputs to that WP4 contributed but that are not only related to WP4 but also other WP activities:

⁹ <https://www.eppermed.eu/funding-projects/projects-results/project-database/optima/>



Participation in external events organised by different stakeholders to present the EU-Africa PerMed project and the results (target: at least 4 events/per year; 2 in Europe and 2 in Africa).

In 2021, representatives of EU-Africa PerMed has participated in the following external events/meetings:

- AERAP (Africa-Europe Science Collaboration Platform) summit, session “Genomics for Shared Research and Better Health Outcomes”, June 16, 2021 (online): Presentation of ICPeMed and EU-Africa PerMed, M. Frenzel, ANR, France
- 1st ICPeMed family meeting “Joining forces”, on 9-10 October 2021: EU-Africa PerMed actively participated in the preparation of the “Internationalisation of ICPeMed activities – Facilitators and hurdles” session.
- EDCTP 10th Forum, 19th October 2021 (online), Sponsored symposium focusing on EU-Africa PerMed. The project and PM as a concept was presented and discussed.
- Biannual ICPeMed ExCom meetings – presentation through the EU-Africa PerMed ambassador M. Frenzel.

In 2022, representatives of EU-Africa PerMed has participated in the following external events/meetings:

- 2nd SAMRC Sub-Saharan Africa Funders Forum, 20-22 November 2022, Cape Town, South Africa (on-site): “EU-Africa PerMed Project”, M. Frenzel, ANR, France
- World Science Forum, side event on 06 December 2022, Cape Town, South Africa (on-site).
- Southern-African Regional Stakeholder Workshop, 5-6 December 2022, Cape Town, South Africa (on-site): “The EU-Africa PerMed Project”, presented by E. Sela, INNOVATEC, Spain and “Reflection on Consortium/ Collaboration Models” presented by M. Frenzel, ANR, France.
- Biannual ICPeMed ExCom meetings – presentation through the EU-Africa PerMed ambassador M. Frenzel.

In 2023, representatives of EU-Africa PerMed has participated in the following external events/meetings:

- EU-Africa PerMed coordinators (J. Guinea and E. Sela) participated in the ICPeMed Workshop “Preparing the future for Personalised Medicine: EP PerMed” in Pamplona (Spain) on 17-18 January 2023, as a panellist in the 2nd Plenary session: “Key Areas: International and Regional Perspectives of Personalised Medicine”.
- PerMediNA project “Réunion Annuelle du Projet PerMediNA - Vers une médecine de précision accessible à tous”, 15 Mars 2023 (hybrid) : “The EU-Africa PerMed Project: Lessons learned & future directions”, E. Sela, INNOVATEC, Spain



- SCIENCE SUMMIT session “Agenda Setting for the Genomics Centres of Excellence in Africa” at United Nations General Assembly (UNGA 78), 15 September 2023, New York, hybrid: “The EU-Africa PerMed project” presented by R. Mia, SAMRC, South Africa.
- “Conference on Personalised Medicine: the evolution of healthcare to improve people's lives” held during the Spanish Presidency event on 4-5 October, 2023, in Valencia (on-site/hybrid), Spain. R. Mia (SAMRC, South Africa) and M. Ramsey (EU-Africa PerMed Advisory Board member, South Africa) actively participated in a round table discussion focusing on International collaboration. R. Mia was presenting the work of the EU-Africa PerMed project and raised the awareness for the potential and benefit of African and European collaborations.
- 2nd ICPeMed family meeting “Staying connected to shape the future for Personalised Medicine”, held on-line on the 19th October 2023: E. Sela and J. Guinea (INNOVATEC), T. Nyawira (NACOSTI) and E. Gitau (APHRC) participated in the session on “International perspectives on Personalised Medicine”, with a 20’ presentation on African-Europe collaboration in PM – focus on East Africa – country and regional perspective, and after in the Panel discussion
- Biannual ICPeMed ExCom meetings – presentation through the EU-Africa PerMed ambassador M. Frenzel.

In 2024, representatives of EU-Africa PerMed has participated in the following external events/meetings:

- Final Meeting of the PerMediNA Project “Towards a Precision Medicine Accessible to All”, September 17-18, 2024, Tunis (hybrid): “EU Africa PerMed”, E. Sela, INNOVATEC, Spain
- 3rd ICPeMed Family Meeting “A new phase for PerMed”, held on-line on November 28th, 2024: E. Sela and L. Gine (INNOVATEC) together with M. Frenzel presented the results of the EU-Africa PerMed project, the Action Plan and the Success Stories for African-European collaboration in PM identified by the project.
- EU-Africa PerMed was invited to participate in two sessions as a speaker of the “AU-EU Innovation Agenda Workshop on Public Health Innovations”, 3rd December 2024, Cape Town, South Africa, hybrid: Session “Experience sharing – Testimonials sharing insides on the experiences with the AU-EU Innovation Agenda” and Session “Virtual coffee – Matchmaking and Networking session – Breakout room: Precision/ Personalised Medicine – What’s ahead for the European-Africa cooperation?”. E. Sela, INNOVATEC, Spain,



	<p>and R. Mia, SAMRC, South Africa, participated online and on-site.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biannual ICPeMed ExCom meetings – presentation through the EU-Africa PerMed ambassador M. Frenzel. <p>In 2025, representatives of EU-Africa PerMed will participate in the following external events/meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 16 January 2025, the EU-Africa PerMed project will present the projects results, including the Action Plan to the EP PerMed General Assembly. Furthermore, a meeting is organised on the same day in that EU-Africa PerMed representatives will discuss with representatives of ICPeMed, EP PerMed, the EC and EDCTP how the repectived initiative may support the implementation of the EU-Africa PerMed Action Plan.
<p>Stakeholder workshops bringing together EU-Africa PerMed partners, representatives of ICPeMed and ERA PerMed, African policy makers, funders, researchers, clinicians, private business and patients (target: at least 60 attendees, including representatives of ICPeMed and ERA PerMed).</p>	<p>Representatives of ICPeMed and ERA PerMed have participated in all three EU-Africa PerMed Stakeholder Workshops.</p>

Long-term impact to that WP4 has contributed:

EU-Africa PerMed aimed to fosters the integration of the African perspective in the global PM research agenda through the participation of African organisations in initiatives as ICPeMed and related initiatives, such as the ERA PerMed. Through their participation in those initiatives, the African stakeholders and therewith the African PM perspective will be integrated in future activities and newly created ones during the running time of the project, i.e. the European Partnership for Personalised Medicine, EP PerMed, under Horizon Europe (2023-2033), including the SRIA for PM (2023) being the strategic baseline of the partnership. EU-Africa PerMed therewith supported sustainable collaboration between Europe and Africa that will be continued even after the project has ended.

In a long-term perspective, WP4 will contribute to global objectives, i.e. the UN Sustainable Development Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. Strengthening the collaboration between Europe and Africa in PM may also accelerate individual country’s progress on health-related sustainable development goals, and in this regard, the EU-Africa PerMed project will contribute to this important health endeavour. No KPIs was developed for this objective as its achievement cannot be attributed to one single action.