

# PROPOSAL ON INNOVATIVE SOURCES OF FUNDING TO STIMULATE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT RELATED TO DISEASES THAT DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECT DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

## BACKGROUND

Funding of research and development of diseases that disproportionately affect developing country is unarguably grossly inadequate. These have obviously translated to increase in morbidity and mortality in these countries of the world. The diseases are classified as Type 2 & 3 diseases. Type 2 diseases are prevalent in both rich and poor but with a substantial proportion of the cases in poor countries or developing countries e.g HIV/AIDS, Malaria, Tuberculosis e.t.c. Type 3 diseases are those overwhelmingly or exclusively prevalent in developing countries such as Trypanosomiasis, Onchocerciasis e.t.c and they are often termed neglected diseases.

Budgetary allocation by government which is the main source of funding of health is still very poor in developing countries. For example, in Nigeria, the percentage of health allocation has always revolved around 2-3%. This is grossly inadequate considering the recommendation of World Health Organization that Federal government, State government and Local government should allocate 11%, 25% and 30% of their respective budget to health. This has to be increased, especially funding of research and development into diseases that disproportionately affect developing countries so as to meet up with the challenges posed by them.

## OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this proposal are as follows:-

- To identify diseases that disproportionately affect Nigerians
- To identify gaps in current coverage of research in Type 2 & 3
- To identify innovative sources of funding that will stimulate research and development of products that will address these diseases

## DISEASES THAT DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECT DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

1. Poliomyelitis
2. Trypanosomiasis
3. Onchocerciasis

4. Malaria
5. Tuberculosis
6. Human Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV)/ Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)
7. Lasa Fever
8. Guinea Worm

**IDENTIFIED INNOVATIVE SOURCES OF FUNDING INTO RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF RELATED TO DISEASES THAT DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECT DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

1. Increased budgetary allocation by Federal Government
2. Millennium development goals (MDGs) funds
3. National Health Insurance Scheme
4. States and Local governments
5. Company's profit e.g Telecommunications, banks
6. Company's tax
7. Excess crude oil account
8. Philanthropists
9. Recovered misappropriated funds from corrupt public officers
10. Money from forfeited assets of drug dealers

**CONCLUSION:**

Concerted efforts should be made to explore possibility of sourcing for funds from these identified areas so as to step up research and development into identified Type 2 & 3 diseases that disproportionately affect Nigeria.