

**EIGHTH INTERNATIONAL COURSE
ON TRYPANOSOMIASIS IN AFRICA
(ICAT8)**

**Bouaké, Cote d'Ivoire
September 23 – October 11, 2024**



IPR
(Institut Pierre Richet)
Centre de Recherche



The World Health Organization (WHO) is organizing, in partnership with the Institut Pierre Richet (IPR) of Bouaké, and the Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD), the Eighth International Course on Trypanosomiasis in Africa, (ICAT8) in Bouaké, Côte d'Ivoire, from September 23 to October 11, 2024.

Previous courses were organized in Marseille in 2000 (ICAT1), Lyon in 2001 (ICAT2), Lisbon in 2003 (ICAT3), Tunis in 2005 (ICAT4), Nairobi in 2009 (ICAT5), Kinshasa in 2014 (ICAT6) and Kampala in 2017 (ICAT7). The first seven ICATs thus enabled the training of 170 people from human African trypanosomiasis (HAT) endemic countries and many of them are still involved in the fight against the disease.

This course, like those that preceded it, has the main objective of providing in-depth knowledge of the disease and a high level of expertise to doctors, veterinarians, microbiologists, scientists and other personnel involved in the fight against human African trypanosomiasis.

This intensive training aims to strengthen the knowledge and capacities of staff of national programs or institutions contributing to the control and elimination of HAT. This eighth course will therefore constitute a complementary step in preparing future staff for their surveillance, control and elimination and/or research activities in the field of human trypanosomiasis.

In consideration of the recent epidemiological evolution of sleeping sickness and the substantial reduction in the number of new cases due to the intensive efforts in recent years, this eighth course will focus on the most practical aspects of surveillance, control, diagnosis and treatment, facing elimination.

In the spirit of establishing links between newcomers to the field of sleeping sickness and those who have been working in it for many years, the organizers have chosen teachers who have extensive experience in the different areas of program implementation, covering a wide range of topics from parasite and disease to program management to vector control.

TRAINING ORGANISATION

The training is "in person" and includes theoretical sessions and practical work. Teaching will favor interactivity and work in small groups with feedback in plenary sessions. An important place will be allocated to practical work and role-playing games focused on eliminating the disease.

This three-week course in French and English is demanding and teaching intensive. Candidates must be perfectly proficient in one of the two languages.

The course program is under development, depending on the availability of teachers within the calendar. It takes three weeks with 17 effective days (Sunday is off) and 116 effective hours. The detailed program, week by week, will be made available soon.

THE FACILITATORS

Teachers are chosen on the basis of their competence in the different areas of the course: parasitology, entomology, human disease (physiopathology, symptomatology, diagnosis, therapeutics, clinical trials) and public health (field control).

THE PARTNERS

ICAT8 is organized by the WHO with the collaboration of the Institut Pierre Richet of Bouaké, Côte d'Ivoire, which offers its facilities, personnel and logistics, with the support of the IRD (French National Research Institute for sustainable development) and other partners.

THE PARTICIPANTS

Participants are selected on the basis of their profile, by a committee formed for this purpose, in consultation with the national human African trypanosomiasis control programs. Priority is given to those who work or will work in the field of trypanosomiasis.

The required level of education is a Health Sciences (medical, veterinary,...) degree, or a doctorate in biology or entomology, or another pertinent postgraduate specialization.

Candidates should send a letter of motivation and a Curriculum Vitae to WHO (francoj@who.int or priottog@who.int) before 31st May.