

A-Project : a Training Program from ASID

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The A-project concept was originally proposed by Prof Aziz Bousfiha during the first IPIC Congress in Estoril, November 2013. This one day training programme was inspired by the European J Project but has been designed to suit African needs in training African health care professionals in the diagnosis and management of primary immunodeficiency disorders. As such, a protocol that governs and guides the execution of this training programme was developed in December 2013 to guide the A-project activities. This protocol was gradually improved to meet the training needs of the majority of continent.

It is now proposed that 3 levels of A-project are held to cope with different levels of expertise as follows:

1. **Level 1 (Primary):** to cover the diagnosis area using ASID 10 recommendations. This level focuses on general physicians, paediatricians and family doctors. It may also accommodate other health care professionals including biomedical scientists.
2. **Level 2 (Intermediate):** to cover treatment and therapeutic options
3. **Level 3 (High):** to cover the use of immunophenotypic classification (IUIS 2014) to guide all the possible diagnostic and therapeutic options.

In December 2014, further modification was made to the A-project original concept with the objective of ensuring that the programme is comprehensive enough to cover training in

all areas of care to the highest possible standard within the limitations of health care provision in Africa. Thus the development of the following individually specialized A-projects has been proposed:

1. Med A-project for medical doctors (original protocol)
2. Biol A-project for biomedical scientists (level 1 A-project)
3. Nurses A-project
4. Training A-project.

As the original concept targeted medical doctors, there has been reasonable progress with these meetings (Med A-projects) and so far the target of covering 4–6 countries per year has been met. The following table summarizes the progress of the meetings:

A-project Order	Location	Date	African Expert	Number of Participants
1	Benin	4/3/2014	Pr. A A Bousfiha, Pr. M J Alao	29
2	Sudan	29/4/2014	Pr. S Reda, Dr Monika Esser	82
3	Gabon	26/9/2014	Pr. A A Bousfiha	45
4	Zambia	6/10/2014	Dr Monika Esser, Pr. J. Chipeta	41
5	Cameroun	21–22/10/2014	Pr. M J Alao, Dr M. Mimbila	37
6	Senegal	25–26/02/2015	Pr T N Dieye Pr A A Bousfiha	35
7	Ethiopia	18/02/2015	Pr R Seger Dr N Erwa	30
8	Mauritania	06/03/2015	Pr AA Bousfiha	32
9	Uganda	24/04/2015	Pr J Chipeta	56
10	Morocco	28/04/2015	Pr AA Bousfiha Pr F Ailal	50
11 & 12	Algeria	29–31/05/2015	Pr AA Bousfiha Pr MJ Alao Pr R Boukari Pr S Reda Pr B Eley Dr N Erwa	2 Med A-projects (English & French)+1 Biol A-project 100

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The outcomes so far are as follows:

- Twelve level 1 Med A-projects (above table), 3 Biol A-projects (Senegal, Uganda and Algeria), two Nurses A-projects (Morocco and Algeria) have been held.
- All A-projects were well attended by the appropriate number and quality of participants.
- PID case reports are slowly coming up from the countries where the training was done.
- Establishing an African registry has not materialized yet. However, it remains an outstanding agenda in the A-project programme. Local registries are in a similar position to the African Registry. These will require better collaboration, more intensive training as well as a good source of continuous funding.



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of PID in Africa**

A-projet:
A program of medical training

ASID eLetter:
A Scientific and Social eLetter

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The image is a promotional poster for ASID. It features a large green map of Africa in the background. In the foreground, a young girl with braided hair is smiling and holding a small, light-brown paper cutout of the African continent. The text 'Do something... in Africa' is written on the cutout. The ASID logo is in the top left corner, and the website 'www.asid.ma' is below it. The main title 'Support the development of PID in Africa' is centered over the map. Below the map, there are two green boxes with white text: 'A-projet: A program of medical training' and 'ASID eLetter: A Scientific and Social eLetter'. At the bottom, a green banner contains the text 'Be my sponsor please.' in white.