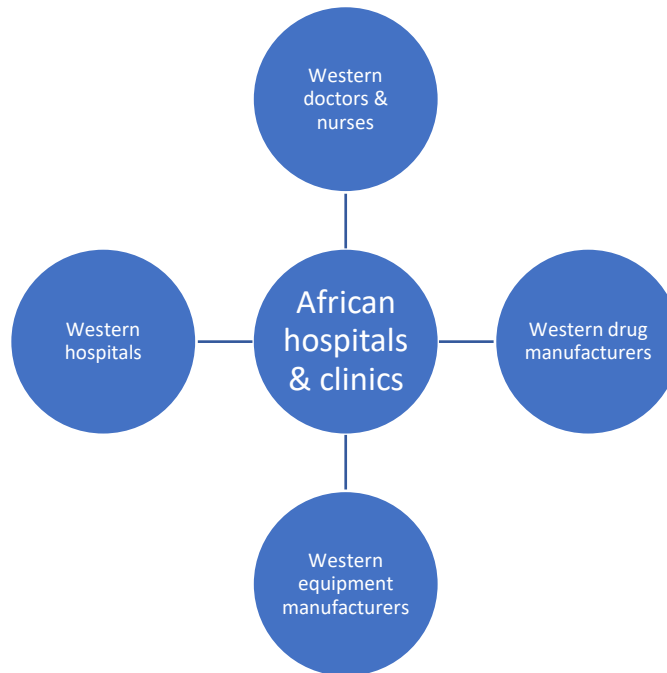


Web portal project linking healthcare systems in Africa & the West. Sponsors wanted!



We are seeking one or more sponsors as partners for our new, innovative web portal and digital interface that will link clinicians and practitioners in African healthcare settings with those in the UK and other parts of the Western world, as shown in the illustration below.



As a sponsor, you will gain the following:

- Recognition of your support, such as logo and thank you on the portal itself
- Invitations to select meetings and events
- Opportunity to input into the direction of the platform and be a founding member of a potentially global initiative

Background

My Bridge International (<https://www.mybridgeinternational.org>) is a registered UK charity (no 1192169) founded in 2020. The portal project is our flagship initiative and will focus on four key themes that we believe will help to address challenges in African healthcare systems:

Best medical practices – promoting best practices in medical procedures and providing information on global public health safety and policies for African clinicians

Surplus medication – helping make essential medicines available for African patients

Medical equipment utilisation - enabling the reuse of surplus medical equipment and instruments that would otherwise go to waste

Knowledge transfer – providing a platform on which medical practitioners in Africa can coordinate and discuss treatments with their Western-country colleagues for patients with acute or chronic conditions

Endorsement

We have consulted and engaged with both UK and African organisations and individuals and received a very encouraging response to our proposals, such as from Professor John Sandham, who runs a world-class medical engineering portal with over 9,800 members. He says, *“This initiative is well thought-out and much needed. The medical manufacturers and those responsible for equipment in hospitals will be delighted and eager to get involved.”* John has recently demonstrated his commitment by becoming the Chair of My Bridge International.

Our plan of work

We plan to carry out a pilot project to design, develop and launch the web portal over a one-year timeline. Subject to funding, we aim to commence the project in 2023. During this first year, we will:

- Appoint and work with an appropriate supplier to design and test the web portal (months 1-2)
- Secure a domain name and stand-alone site for the portal (month 3)
- Consult with organisations that have expressed an interest in using the portal to gather feedback and suggestions/improvements (months 3-4)
- Incorporate improvements into the portal design in preparation for launch (months 4-6)
- Launch the portal through our networks and at national and global events (such as Arab Health 2023, the world's largest medical equipment exhibition, and Medica Health, Europe's largest), and sign up donors (months 7-12).
- Carry out an evaluation of the pilot project (months 10-12)

We are also planning to rent 100 sq ft of storage space in Kennington, London. This will be close to the five London pilot hospitals that have already expressed an interest in the project, allowing equipment and other supplies to be easily transported into a safe storage facility.

This pioneering new portal and its operational systems will lay the foundations of a virtual marketplace in which:

- African hospitals and clinics can state their drug, equipment and training needs and post requests for assistance
- High-income-country doctors, nurses and biomedics can post their availability for CPD support and respond to volunteer requests from African hospitals and clinics.
- High-income-country hospitals can flag spare and redundant equipment and respond to drug requests from African establishments.
- Equipment and drug manufacturers can offer surplus stock and respond to requests from African healthcare settings

We will continue to promote and develop the portal in subsequent years to widen its reach and develop robust supply and demand systems to ensure that the participating organisations' needs are well-matched and that both goods and expertise reach those most in need.

How you can become involved

We would be delighted to meet anyone interested in becoming a sponsor and helping to defray the one-year pilot cost of £30,424, which includes project management, the design and development of the portal prototype and the rental/insurance of a suitable storage facility to commence the collection and storage of surplus medical equipment. We would also be keen to hear from any companies willing to donate medical equipment or supplies or any hospitals wishing to participate.

Contact details

For an initial discussion, please get in touch with Nick Ryan at nick.ryan@mybridgeinternational.org / 07905 896473