The Fondazione Achille Sclavo ONLUS* is an independent, non-profit organization (certified equivalent to a U.S. public charity), entirely dedicated to research and education activities, which depends on public donations and grants. Making a gift to the Fondazione will help us to further our mission to fight poverty and improve health and living conditions.

Our work depends on your generous support

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The tradename “Achille Sclavo” was donated to the City of Siena by the last owners of the historic company, and we hereby thank both parties for having authorized its use for charity.
Fondazione Achille Sclavo ONLINE

Fondazione Achille Sclavo was established in Siena in 2011 as a philanthropic, non-profit organization with the mission to reduce infant mortality and improve health and living conditions in low-income countries, by accelerating availability of new, affordable life-saving vaccines to eliminate neglected infectious diseases, thereby reducing poverty. Every year nearly 6 million children under 5 die, with the highest incidence in sub-Saharan Africa. More than half of these deaths are due to infectious diseases that are preventable through immunizations. The majority of these deaths can be avoided by making the needed vaccines available. Although vaccines already save 2.5 million lives a year, millions of children in developing countries still have no access to vaccines that could be developed using technologies that are already available. Our strategy is to attract funding in order to accelerate the development of new, sustainable vaccines, which are already feasible with existing technologies, making them available as rapidly as possible, thanks to our internal expertise. Our main targets are Enteric and Diarrhea Diseases (EDD), still a leading cause of children’s deaths in Low-Middle-Income Countries.

The S-AFRIVAC Project

A vaccine against invasive non-typhoidal Salmonella (INTS) invasive non-typhoidal salmonellosis is a neglected disease, endemic in Africa, globally responsible for an estimated 3.4 million cases, associated with up to 681,316 deaths every year, with a CFR of about 20% (Ao TT et al, CID 2015).

Worldwide annual deaths per disease

The highest number of INTS cases occur in sub-Saharan Africa, where it is the major cause of septicemia among children under 5 years and adults affected by HIV, malaria, anemia or malnutrition. Today no vaccine against INTS is available and the Salmonella strains causing the disease are showing increasing antimicrobial resistance. The aim of the S-AFRIVAC project is to elaborate an epidemiological model of the INTS disease to correctly estimate its burden and develop a sustainable vaccine accelerating its availability to the neediest regions. The project, co-funded by the Tuscan Regional Government, has very solid bases: a balanced collaboration between public and private, profit and non-profit partners together with years of experience in infectious disease and vaccine fields.

S-AFRIVAC facts
Duration: September 2016 – September 2019,
Economic value: € 2 million,
Partners: 4,
Project coordinator: Fondazione Achille Sclavo
Scientific coordinator: Dr. Rino Rappuoli
(Deputy President of Fondazione Achille Sclavo)

Our strategic objectives

1. Accelerate development of affordable vaccines against EDD, especially for children, identifying those most needed in low-income countries;
2. Train doctors from low- and middle-income countries;
3. Contribute to U.N.’s SDG # 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.

Master in Vaccinology

Master in Vaccinology and Pharmaceutical Clinical Development
The Fondazione Achille Sclavo coordinates the Master in Vaccinology and Pharmaceutical Clinical Development offered by the University of Siena, Italy. The Master program is a uniquely specialized training course which offers talented MDs from developing countries the opportunity to obtain a degree which is recognized worldwide. The program, fully funded for them, covers a number of disciplines that are required by many country’s decision makers and practitioners active in immunization: immunology, epidemiology, regulatory, pharmacovigilance, clinical trials and vaccine policy, among the others.

Graduates of this program return home with a better understanding of their countries’ epidemiology and vaccination needs, to help disadvantaged countries be more independent on key aspects of public health and bring hope where it is needed most. The master program is realized thanks to the support of several international sponsors focusing on improving people’s health and wellbeing.