CENTRE DE RECHERCHE EN MALADIES TROPICALES (CRMT), RETHY, DRC

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OUTLINES

• Origin
• Location
• Areas of activities
• Achievements
• Challenges
• The Way Forward
• Acknowledgement
ORIGIN

1. **Conduct of Phase 3 study for moxidectin:**

2. **Naming of “CRMT”:** Dr Didier Bakajika, PI of the above study.
LOCATION

• Rethy is located within Rethy Health Zone in northeastern DRC at approximatively 2,000 Km away from capital Kinshasa by air.
• Savannah area and highlands at about 1,800 meters above the sea level
• Rural area
AREAS OF ACTIVITIES

• Onchocerciasis:
  ✓ Clinical trials on Moxidectin for onchocerciasis
  ✓ Search for LF endemic foci
  ✓ Onchocerciasis-Associated Epilepsy

• Plague: Correlation between plague and flea

• Nature conservation: Discovery of chimpanzees in the fragmented forests in the highland of Mounts Blue
KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Validation of RAPLOA conducted in 2004 and published in 2012: *Parasites & Vectors* 2012;5:25
- Role of free fleas in the transmission of plague in rural Africa, especially in remote areas where the flea density in houses is high in 2014: [https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0003152](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0003152)
CHALLENGES

• Formal recognition of CRMT by the government
• Lack of manpower
• Political instability
THE WAY FORWARD

• Focus on capacity building
  ✓ Dr Michel Mandro (Antwerp)
  ✓ Mr Maurice Mutro (Basle)
  ✓ Mr Ismaël Byaruhanga (Cologne)

• Recognition of CRMT by the Government

• Collaboration with other research and funding organizations
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THANK YOU!