

RALLYING PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN JOINT CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTRE (JCRC) AND NATIONAL HEALTH LABORATORY AND DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES (NHLDS)



The Executive Director, National Health Laboratory and Diagnostic Services (NHLDS) Dr. Susan Nabadda (left) receives the Car keys from the Deputy Executive Director, Finance and Operations, Joint Clinical Research Centre (JCRC), Ms. Drollah Ssebagala. on 15th July 2022 at the NHLDS-Butabika offices.

The Joint Clinical Research Centre (JCRC) is on track to implement the CDC –JCRC Cooperative Agreement through which JCRC was funded as a prime to support the UNHLS to strengthen laboratory systems and establish sustainable diagnostic optimized network and partnerships for integrated HIV related testing, disease surveillance and outbreak investigation in Uganda. As part of the required support, JCRC is set to build the institutional, managerial and technical capacity of the NHLDS at central, regional and district levels. Due to the growing number of international accredited labs in the country, with growing needs for equipment calibration services for over the 100 HUBS and research labs across the country, to contribute towards service sustainability and National Equipment Calibration Laboratory (NECL) business plan operationalization.

While at the handover ceremony of the Project vehicle and commissioning of renovation works at National Equipment and Calibration Laboratory (NECL) on 15th July 2022, the

Story by Christine Matama, Coordinator, JCRC

Executive Director JCRC who was represented by the Deputy Executive Director, Finance and Operations said that this vehicle will improve mobility. “With the availability of this vehicle, we expect the equipment down time to be reduced and efficiencies from the biomedical engineers to respond to the needs of the labs across the country,” she said. *This smooth and quick responses shall also help the laboratories to reduce the risks associated with the delayed responses from the NECL team and among other technical teams.*

She further said that the renovation and expansion of the NECL, will result into efficiency of the lab, allowing for growth both in scope, Human Resource and other capacity building requirements for Uganda and across the region. “*we do believe that this is in line with the strategic implementation of the NECL Business Plan and will go a long way to support the sustainability of NECL.*” She sincerely extended gratitude to our partners/funders – Centre for Disease Control (CDC) for the strong support and assistance which she said would go a long way to a sustainable development in Uganda. This renovation is scheduled to be done within a period of July –Sept 2022.

This activity was made possible through the support of Centre for Disease Control (CDC) and therefore JCRC would like to applaud CDC for this timely support.



Some of the guests at the ceremony including CDC-Uganda representatives, NHDLS and JCRC



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