

Resource Summary Report

Generated by SPARC SAWG on Aug 9, 2026

Tropical Disease Initiative

RRID:SCR_008638

Type: Tool

Proper Citation

Tropical Disease Initiative (RRID:SCR_008638)

Resource Information

URL: <http://tropicaldisease.org>

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Description: The Tropical Disease Initiative aims to provide a kernel for open source drug discovery. Such kernel should allow scientists from laboratories, universities, institutes, and corporations to work together for a common cause: find new drugs against tropical diseases such as Malaria or Tuberculosis. Computation plays an increasing role in biology. The convergence between computing and biology suggests that open source methods can be used to organize early phase drug discovery. We argue that a new approach, which we call open source drug discovery, would significantly reduce the cost of discovering, developing and manufacturing cures for tropical diseases. First, it would give hundreds of scientists a practical way to donate urgently needed manpower. Second, open source discoveries would not be patented, permitting sponsors to award development contracts to the company that offered the lowest bid. Finally, competition from generic drug makers would keep manufacturing prices at or near the cost of production, significantly accelerating drug development for the 500 million people who currently suffer from tropical diseases. The TDI was initiated by: Thomas Kepler - Duke University Marc A. Marti-Renom - Prince Felipe Research Center, Valencia, Spain Stephen Maurer - University of California, Berkeley Arti Rai - Duke University Andrej Sali - University of California, San Francisco

Synonyms: TDI

Resource Type: database, data or information resource

Resource Name: Tropical Disease Initiative

Resource ID: SCR_008638

Alternate IDs: nif-0000-32034

Record Creation Time: 20220129T080248+0000

Record Last Update: 20260808T190416+0000

Ratings and Alerts

No rating or validation information has been found for Tropical Disease Initiative.

No alerts have been found for Tropical Disease Initiative.

Data and Source Information

Source: [SciCrunch Registry](#)

Usage and Citation Metrics

We found 2 mentions in open access literature.

Listed below are recent publications. The full list is available at [SPARC SAWG](#) .

Pieper U, et al. (2014) ModBase, a database of annotated comparative protein structure models and associated resources. Nucleic acids research, 42(Database issue), D336.

Ort?? L, et al. (2009) A kernel for open source drug discovery in tropical diseases. PLoS neglected tropical diseases, 3(4), e418.