

## Russell DACOMBE

**Nationality:** British  
**Expertise:** Laboratory systems, Category 3 laboratory design and management, TB control

### Summary of experience :

Experienced international consultant specialising in laboratory system development and TB control in developing countries. Holds a BSc Hons degree in Biomedical Science and an MSc in Medical Microbiology. Has managed both category 2 and 3 laboratories in developing countries and the UK. Has expertise in the design and evaluation of category 3 facilities for TB control. Specialises in the laboratory aspects of tuberculosis and malaria control. Experienced in the design, delivery and evaluation of workshops and courses to degree level. Has experience in policy and strategic planning development and implementation. Has the ability to work creatively, independently and on own initiative to achieve results and to develop long-term productive relationships with partners.

### Education and Professional Qualifications:

<b>Institution</b>	Westminster University
<b>Date from / to</b>	September 1999 to July 2001
<b>Degree/diploma</b>	<b>MSc Medical Microbiology (Merit)</b>

<b>Institution</b>	Kingston University
<b>Date from / to</b>	September 1991 to July 1995
<b>Degree/diploma</b>	<b>BSc Biomedical Science (2:2)</b>

### Employment Record:

<b>Date : from / to</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> October 2005 to Present
<b>Location</b>	15-17 Seymour Terrace, Seymour Street, Liverpool, L3 5PE.
<b>Company</b>	Liverpool Associates in Tropical Health
<b>Position</b>	<b>Laboratory Systems Specialist</b>
<b>Description</b>	Technical consultancy for laboratory systems in developing countries and development of marketing and business strategies in this area. Currently attached to the Centre for Research on Equity and Systems for TB and HIV/AIDS at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM) as a technical consultant with managerial responsibilities for the TB laboratory. Head of the Category 3 users group and member of the Pathogen Safety Panel at LSTM.

<b>Date : from / to</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> March 2003 to 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2005
<b>Location</b>	Karonga Prevention Study, Chilumba, Karonga District, Malawi.
<b>Company</b>	London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
<b>Position</b>	<b>Laboratory Manager</b>
<b>Description</b>	Management responsibilities for the on site laboratories which included a Category 3 facility. Work undertaken in the laboratories included serological testing (for HIV, syphilis, HSV2, filariasis), DNA extraction, stool and urine microscopy for helminths, TB microscopy and culture, flow cytometry (CD4 counts) & haematology analysis.

### Employment Record (cont.):

<b>Date : from / to</b>	September 2001 to March 2003
<b>Location</b>	University College Hospitals Trust, Grafton Way, London.
<b>Company</b>	University College Hospitals Trust
<b>Position</b>	<b>Senior Biomedical Scientist</b>
<b>Description</b>	Duties and responsibilities included: Reading of slit skin smears for Hospital of Tropical Diseases, development of SOPs, training of trainee and basic grade BMS, appraisal of basic grade BMS, supervision of other BMS in a section, liaising with other technical and medical staff. Mainly seconded to mycobacteriology laboratory.

### Consultancy Experience:

<b>Country</b>	<b>Donor/Client</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Description</b>
Global	Stop TB partnership	2008-9	Support to the New Diagnostics Working Group to design a scientific blueprint and pipeline for new TB diagnostics.
Malawi	TBCAP (USAID)	2007-10	Supporting the development of the CRL for the TB-CAP MDR TB survey.
Malawi	MoH	2006-9	Support for the development and implementation of the 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> years of BSc course in MLT at the College of Medicine.
East Africa	AMREF	2006-9	Validation, monitoring and evaluation of the Laboratory Management and Methods in support of anti-retroviral rollout programmes course.
Malawi	Welcome Trust	2006	Assessment of TB culture facilities at MLW laboratories.
Nigeria	DFID	2006-8	Design and support for the Community Diagnostic Programme. This programme was designed to bring quality assured point of care diagnostic tests into primary health care.
Nigeria	DFID	2006-8	Support for the implementation of the five year strategic plan for TB control in Kano state.
Nigeria	DFID	2005-6	Supporting the production a five year strategic plan for TB control in Kano state.

### Languages:

<b>Language</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Speaking</b>	<b>Writing</b>
<b>English</b>	Native	Native	Native

### Publications: (most recent first)

- DJ Bell, R Dacombe, SM Graham, A Hicks, D Cohen, T Chikaonda, N French, ME Molyneux, EE Zijlstra, SB Squire, SB Gordon. 2009." Simple measures are as effective as invasive techniques in the diagnosis of pulmonary tuberculosis in Malawi." *Int J Tuberc Lung Dis* 13(1):99-104.
- R.J. Dacombe, A.C. Crampin, S. Floyd, A. Randall, R. Ndhlovu, Q. Bickle, P.E.M. Fine. 2007 "Time delays between patient and laboratory selectively affect accuracy of helminth diagnosis" *Trans Roy Soc Trop Med* 101 (2): 140-145
- RJ Dacombe, SB Squire, ARC Ramsay, HT Banda, I Bates. 2006 "Essential medical laboratory services: their role in delivering equitable health care in Malawi". *Malawi Med J* 18(2): 77-79.