

ITM alumni win prize for global research of the province of Antwerp

Through this award, the Province of Antwerp wants to stimulate research relating to the global South

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Dit is de omschrijving

Four former ITM master's students, graduates of our MSc in Public Health, MSc in Tropical Medicine and MSc in Tropical Animal Health (2020-2021) have been awarded the 2021 Prize for Global Research of the Province of Antwerp. The award ceremony, preceded by a press conference, took place on Wednesday 15 September 2021. The Province has been handing out this award since 1996.

The Prize for Global Research (formerly called Prize for Development Cooperation) is awarded yearly by the Province of Antwerp to 'master-after-master'-students of ITM and the Institute of Development Policy (IOB) - University of Antwerp. This year's edition saw also the nomination of graduation projects of bachelor students from the KdG University of Applied Sciences and Arts, AP and Thomas More University of Applied Sciences and Arts. In total, eight 'master-after-master'-laureates and three bachelor laureates have been awarded with the Prize for Global Research 2021.

The projects focus on topics such as economy, politics, society, culture, environment, (public) health or medicine (human and animal). Development relevance, quality and originality of the master theses and graduation projects are central in the selection criteria.

Luk Lemmens, Deputy of Global Policy at the Province of Antwerp, awarded the prizes by emphasizing: *"We want to stimulate students and make them think about global themes, which is important and relevant given the increasing globalisation. That is why we have the provincial Prize for Global Research. The University of Antwerp, with its Institute for Development Policy, the Institute of Tropical Medicine and the colleges AP, Karel de Grote and Thomas More, are the ideal partners for this. The unique expertise of these educational and research institutions reaches far beyond the Province of Antwerp. As provincial government, we therefore stress the importance of this collaboration."*

ITM director Marc-Alain Widdowson stressed the importance of the Prize for ITM and its laureates: *"The Prize signifies an important recognition of the research conducted by the ITM master students/alumni and serves as an important stimulus to pursue their work in their fields of expertise; and to contribute to global science for health worldwide. This Prize promotes the advancement of science and health for all, through the support of qualitative and original research with development and societal relevance."*

The 2021 ITM winners

John De Maesschalck from Belgium, who completed his Master of Science in Public Health – Health Systems and Disease Control programme. His thesis is entitled "PREVENTING SUICIDE IN INDIGENOUS YOUTH - Insights from a scoping review to prevent indigenous youth suicide in the Andes region"

Tatiana Prudence Nti Mvilongo from Cameroon, who completed her Master of Science in Public Health – Health Systems and Disease Control programme. Her thesis is entitled "The "4th 90" target, as a strategy to improve health-related quality of life, of people living with HIV in Sub-Saharan Africa: A scoping review."

Jahan Mallick from Germany completed the Master of Science in Tropical Medicine. His thesis is entitled "Acquired bedaquiline resistance during the treatment of drug-resistant tuberculosis: A systematic review."

Hendrik Swanepoel from South Africa is the laureate of the Master of Science in Tropical Animal Health programme. His thesis is entitled "A scoping review of viral diseases in African ungulates."

Alumni Webinar Series

The ITM Alumni Network launches a new series of alumni webinars featuring the four winners. [Join the first webinar](#) with John De Maerschack's work on Thursday 23 September.