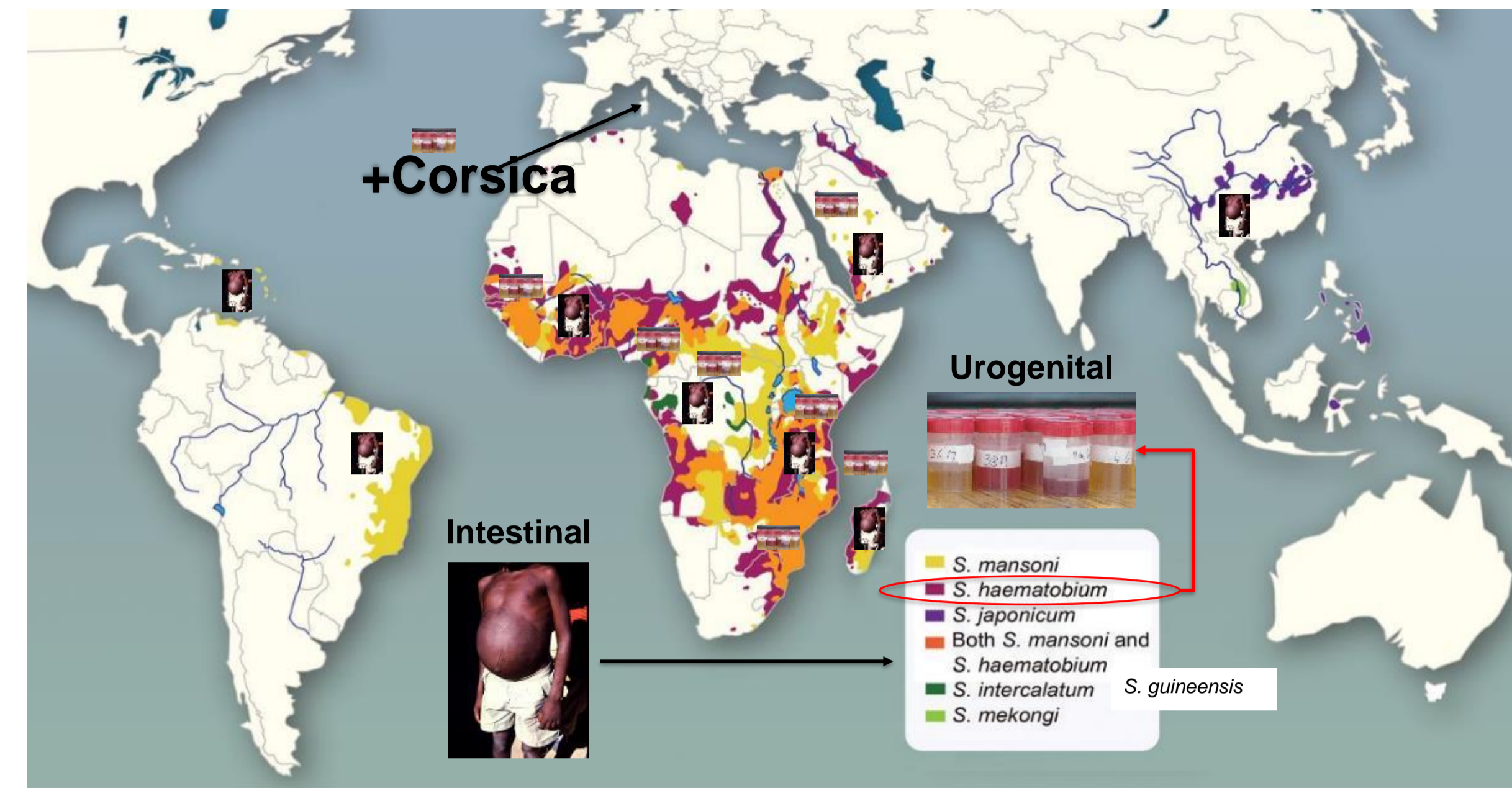


Fernanda S Coelho<sup>1</sup>; Adam Cieplinski<sup>2</sup>; Vanessa Yardley<sup>1</sup>; Amaya Bustinduy<sup>1</sup>; Aidan M Emery<sup>2</sup>; Bonnie Webster<sup>2</sup>

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2- Life Science Department, Natural History Museum, London, UK

## Background

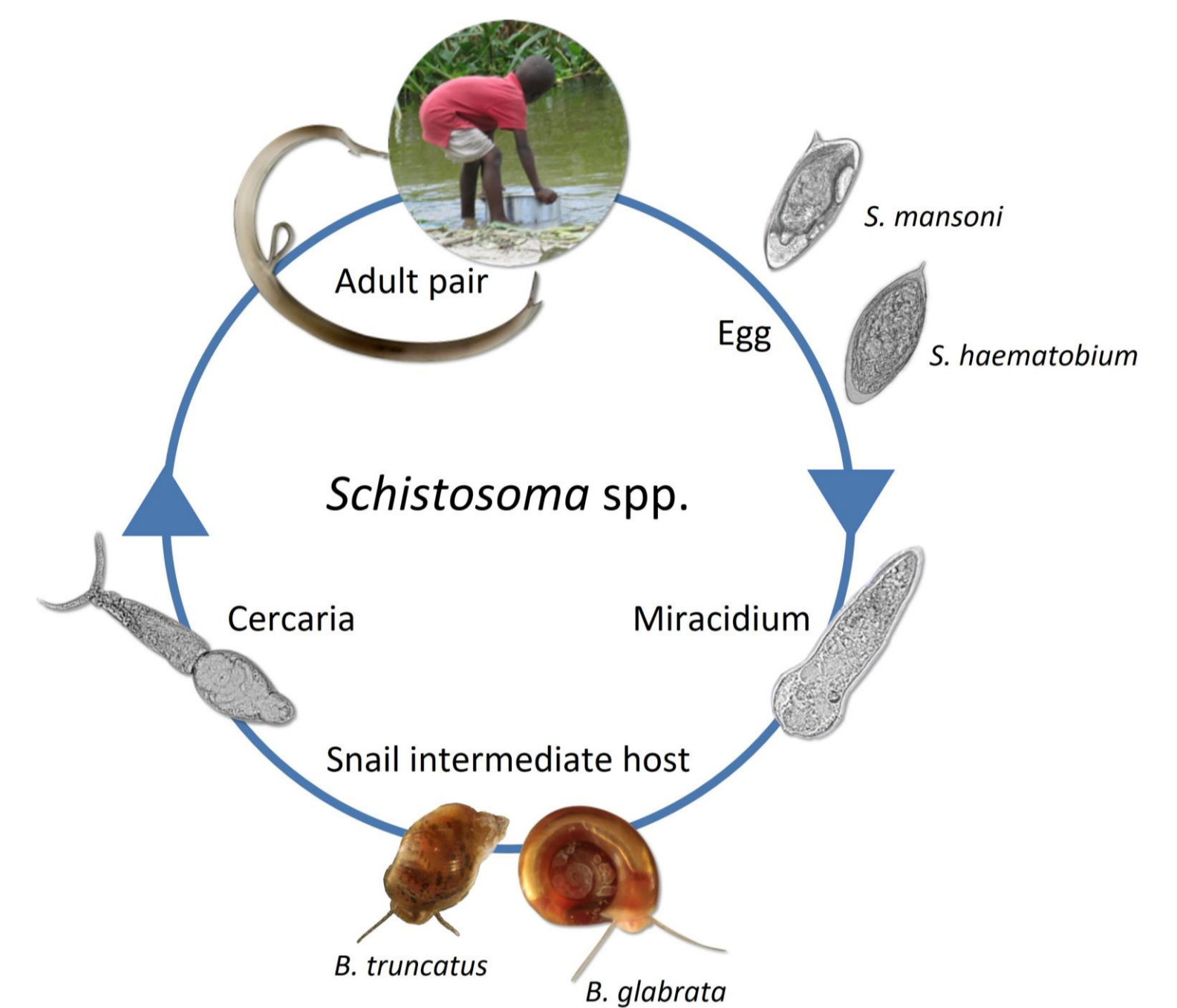
Schistosomiasis is a chronic and debilitating tropical parasitic disease caused by schistosomes (*Schistosoma* spp.), transmitted by freshwater snails. It is a Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD) of both humans and animals, with considerable health and economic impacts. Endemicity is associated with low/middle-income countries with considerable disease burden within impoverished communities despite widespread control efforts. Whilst substantial advances have been made in the control of schistosomiasis, the diversity and complexity of *Schistosoma* species and their specific fresh-water snail hosts warrants fundamental research requiring lifecycles, live material and diverse collections.



**Figure 1: Distribution of Schistosomiasis**  
(Kosala G. A. D. Weerakoon et al. Clin. Microbiol. Rev. 2015; doi:10.1128/CMR.00137-14)

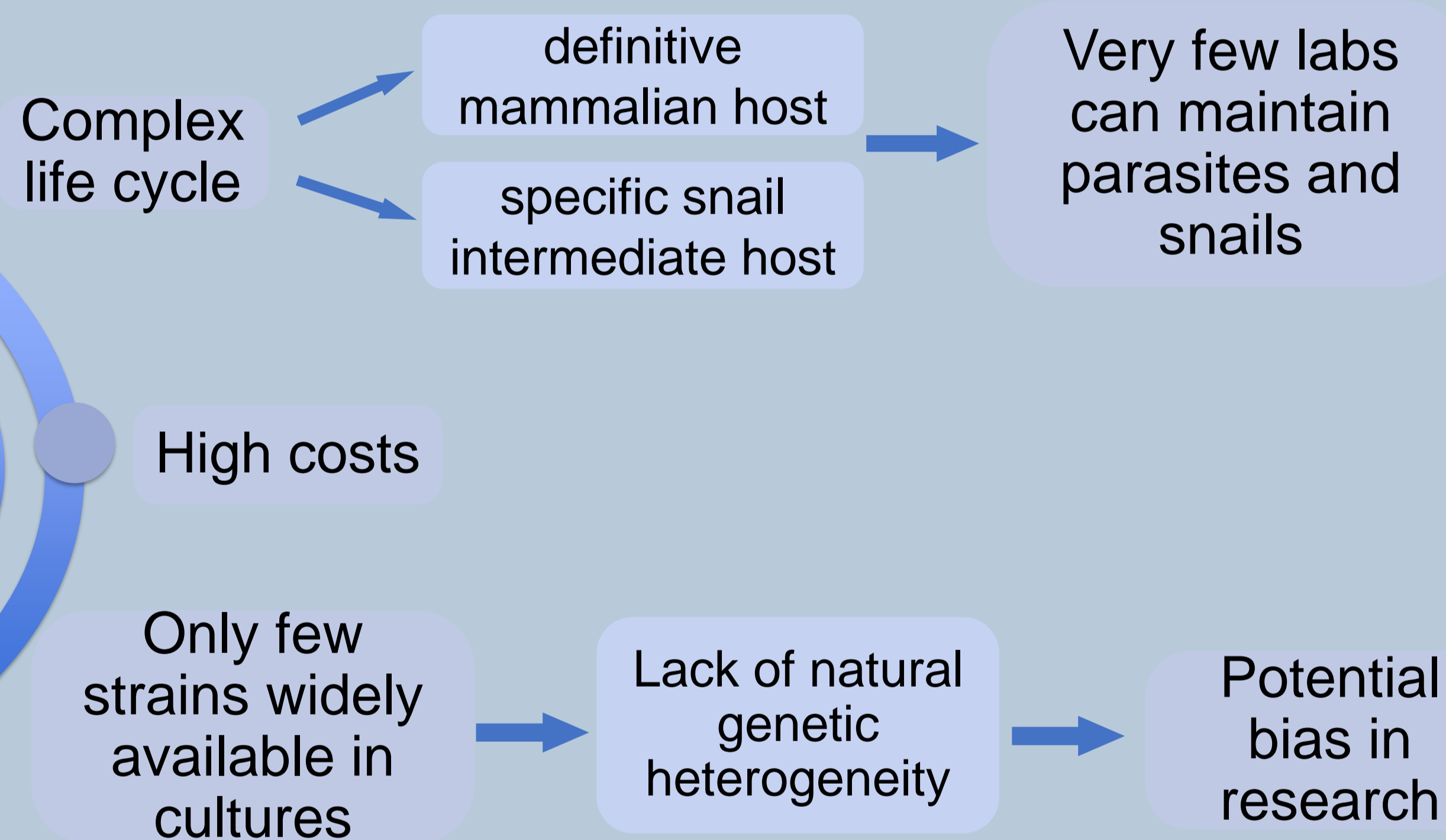
## SSR

SSR is a Wellcome Trust funded, open access biomedical resource that aims to generate and make freely available live schistosome life-cycle stages, snail intermediate hosts and related material for schistosomiasis research. SSR will be the largest UK biomedical resource providing live schistosome life-cycle stages and their intermediate snail hosts to advance schistosomiasis research worldwide.

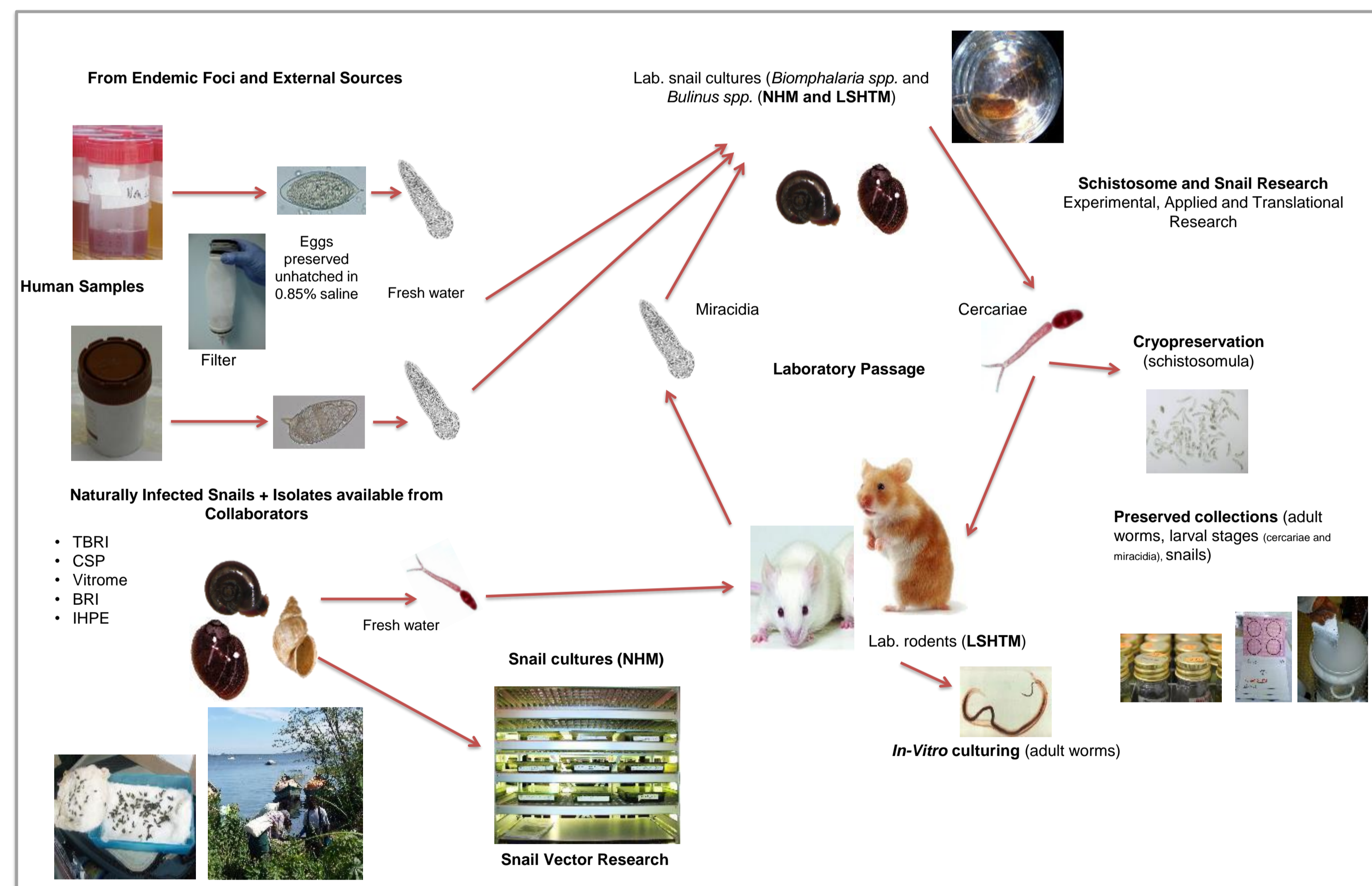


**Figure 2: Schistosoma life cycle**

## Why do we need a schistosomiasis biomedical resource?



Without the availability of diverse *Schistosoma* lifecycles/live material, future research face substantial obstacles.



**Figure 3: Methods for bringing snail and schistosome isolates into the SSR and the laboratory lifecycle system**

## Facilities

Natural History Museum, London

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London



## What we will provide

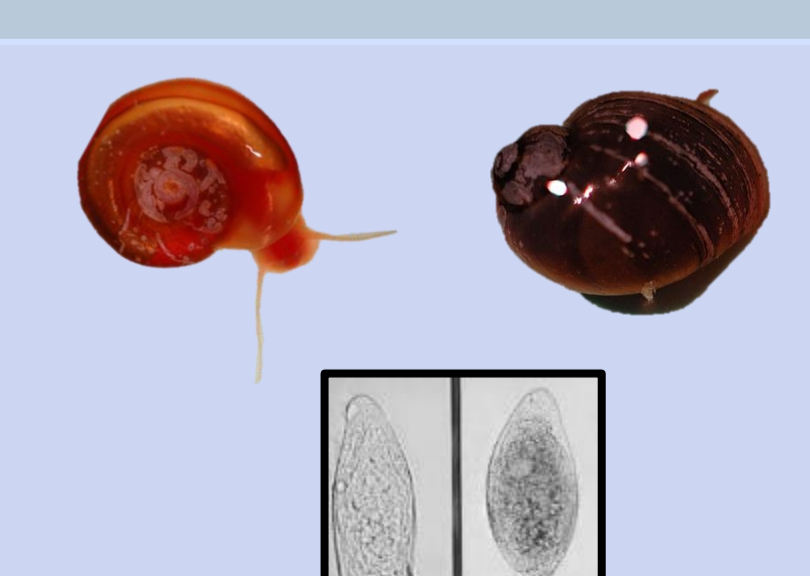
*Biomphalaria glabrata* and *Schistosoma mansoni*

“standard/SSR model”  
*Schistosoma* and snail species

*Bulinus truncatus* and *Schistosoma haematobium*



Non-standard African species/strains of schistosome and snails. Not available anywhere else in cultures.



Cultures of diverse snail vectors, enhancing current research and capacity. Enabling new research

*Biomphalaria* spp. and *Schistosoma mansoni* group species  
*Bulinus* spp. and *Schistosoma haematobium* group species