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## Wuhan Lab Wanted MORE Subsidies

Other than Anthony Fauci and Francis Collins — the heads of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) and National Institutes of Health (NIH) — no one with any intelligence denies those agencies subsidized potentially catastrophic gain-of-function research at the Wuhan Institute of Virology (WIV) that created the SARS-CoV-2 pathogen. The subsidies to the lab were reported last year, and two grant proposals recently unearthed by the Intercept clearly show the subsidies did indeed pay for the dangerous experiments. Nor does any objective observer seriously dispute that the virus escaped an institute lab.



AP Images

Yet in late September, DRASTIC, the Decentralized Radical Autonomous Search Team Investigating COVID-19, reported that the mad scientists involved in this Moreau-like research were planning even more dangerous work. And they wanted U.S. taxpayers, via a Defense Department subsidiary, to pay for them.

DRASTIC released a grant proposal from the EcoHealth Alliance (EHA) — the outfit that funneled the NIAID-NIH subsidies to the WIV — to the U.S. Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). Run by British zoologist Peter Daszak, EHA wanted DARPA to fund WIV's gain-of-function experiments that would enable coronaviruses to infect human beings. EHA also wanted to use the money to monkey with the virus that causes Middle East Respiratory Syndrome, or MERS, which is deadlier than SARS-CoV-2.

The DRASTIC release on the apparently unsupervised Daszak and his Chinese and American collaborators demands not only a major probe of U.S. science agencies and the privately run nonprofits they subsidize, but also a criminal investigation to find out just what charges can be filed, and against whom, in connection with the China virus outbreak. Another significant matter is that the Chinese Communists wanted to use the souped-up viruses as bioweapons, and the People's Liberation Army is linked to the WIV.

## The Grant Proposal

Based on documents provided by a whistleblower, the DRASTIC report explains that DARPA nixed and possibly stopped that greater catastrophe:

[EHA and WIV] attempted to carry out advanced and dangerous human pathogenicity Bat Coronavirus research that would clearly qualify as Gain of Function (GoF), in a grant proposal submitted to the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) in 2018.



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That was more than a year before SARS-CoV-2 infected institute lab workers, spread through Wuhan, infected athletes at the Military World Games, and then went global (see the article *House Report All But Proves Lab-leak Theory* in our September 20, 2021 issue).

Titled Project DEFUSE: Defusing the Threat of Bat-borne Coronaviruses, the two-phase grant sought more than \$14.2 million from DARPA for gain-of-function research. Daszak and EHA “proposed injecting deadly chimeric bat coronaviruses collected by the Wuhan Institute of Virology into humanised and ‘batified’ mice,” DRASTIC reported.

Though gain-of-function subsidies were banned in 2014, the government lifted the ban again in 2017 in connection with something called the Potential Pandemic Pathogen Care and Oversight framework, known as P3CO. That protocol was meant to govern and monitor such subsidies, yet in practice “allowed GOF research with SARS-like coronaviruses to resume with very few practical limits.”

How few is frightening, DRASTIC’s report shows:

In particular the absence of clear definitions of GoF, creative interpretations of the guidelines, and rather discretionary decisions to refer research projects or not, all contributed to reducing the effectiveness of the P3CO framework — despite the fact that other agencies of the US federal government actively maintained the GOF standards.

That “absence of clear definition” and those “creative interpretations” might be one reason Fauci felt comfortable telling the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions that his agency didn’t fund gain-of-function research in Wuhan (see page 10).

EHA submitted the DEFUSE proposal two months *after* U.S. science diplomats expressed grave concerns about WIV’s poorly trained technicians and overall safety. It “includes some elements of research that are already public via scientific papers, as well as other elements that have never been made public,” DRASTIC reported. They continued:

These include vaccinating wild bats using aerosolized viruses and further work on published and unpublished CoV strains that could fill the extant gaps in our understanding of the origins of SARS-CoV-2.

Forgetting what London’s *Telegraph* called “skin-penetrating” viruses to vaccinate bats in the wild, the grant proposals show “a staggeringly deep level of involvement of EHA with the WIV.”



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**Funding our own destruction:** U.S. taxpayers helped fund the research that created SARS-CoV-2, the virus that led to a worldwide pandemic and possibly millions of deaths. (*Photo credit: Kativ/GettyImagesPlus*)

Daszak's outfit wanted U.S. taxpayers to pay a "good chunk" of WIV researcher salaries, and even wanted them to visit DARPA in Arlington, Virginia. Shi Zhengli, the Bat Lady, would be paid for 22 eight-hour days a month, another researcher would get quarter time, and Shi would attend a "kickoff" event and the defense installation.

The research would be done "without proper risk assessment and considerations for ethical and social issues and with an incorrect evaluation of what constitutes GoF research," DRASTIC reported.

Not surprisingly, EHA "confidently assessed" that its research was not subject to the restrictions on gain-of-function research even though the research clearly involved the forbidden work. EHA, DRASTIC alleged, "tried to bypass" those restrictions. "EHA unsuccessfully proposed the use of bat-SARSr-CoV backbones and not the human evolved SARS-CoV in what looks like a deliberate attempt at circumnavigating the restrictions," DRASTIC reported, and the plan to "inoculate wild bats with aerosolized vaccines" was never "publicly released or opened to the wider scientific community for discussion as to potential risks."

EHA envisioned creating three to five chimeric viruses per year, and manipulating the bat viruses to "alter human pathogenicity," introduce "human-specific cleavage sites," and "create novel coronaviruses."

Perhaps the most frightful note in the DRASTIC report explains that Daszak and his underlings were fiddling with a virus even more deadly than SARS: "EHA proposed MERS-coronavirus experiment and had already introduced SARS and MERS into bat cell lines." That fact alarmed a researcher with the World Health Organization.

"The scary part is they were making infectious chimeric Mers viruses," the researcher told the *Telegraph*, stating:

These viruses have a fatality rate over 30 per cent, which is at least an order of magnitude more deadly than Sars-CoV-2. If one of their receptor replacements made Mers spread similarly, while maintaining its lethality, this pandemic would be nearly apocalyptic.



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The possibility that Daszak and his team of white-coated megalomaniacs might unleash something even worse than SARS-CoV-2 on the world might be one reason EHA “misled DARPA about risk to general public health,” as DRASTIC put it. EHA explained that the “work has minimal risk to the general public.”

“That EHA could propose” such research, DRASTIC averred, “yet totally ignore the risks of laboratory escape is inconceivable and shows a total lack of understanding of the risks.”

## Proposal Rejected

No wonder DARPA rejected the DEFUSE proposal.

“Significant weaknesses were identified,” DRASTIC wrote of the rejection. “The proposal is considered to potentially involve” gain-of-function “because they propose to synthesize spike glycoproteins which bind to human cell receptors and insert them into SARSr-CoV backbones to assess whether they can cause SARS-like disease.” The proposal “does not mention or assess potential risks of Gain of Function (GoF) research,” and “hardly addresses or discusses ethical, legal, and social issues.” Those were just three of nine objections to the research, and, again, EHA misled DARPA about it. DRASTIC concluded that DEFUSE “could have put local communities at risk.”

Still, federal bureaucrats elsewhere had different ideas, DRASTIC reported. The Health and Human Services department OK’d “similar work without P3CO review in 2018 and 2019. In particular, the P3CO framework [developed in 2017] was designed to allow greater flexibility for vaccine development.” Then, in June 2018, NIH’s vaccine subsidiary “expanded its existing partnership with Moderna to include full-scale research into a pan-coronavirus (CoV) vaccine platform. EcoHealth Alliance repeatedly took advantage of this flexibility to continue their work with the Wuhan Institute of Virology.”



**Batty ideas:** Daszak’s EcoHealth Alliance had plans to create many novel human pathogens from bat coronaviruses. (*Photo credit: imamember/iStock/GettyImagesPlus*)

Yet missing in DRASTIC’s report is background on how dangerous giving these grants and know-how — an American taught the Bat Lady how to soup up the viruses — was on another level. As The New American has reported previously, the People’s Liberation Army is tightly linked with the Bat Lady’s lab, and wanted to use genetically enhanced viruses as aerosolized bioweapons to bring down an





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enemy's healthcare system. In a 263-page paper, the Reds envisioned a "new era of genetic weapons." In other words, U.S. health agencies subsidized potential bioweapons in China. Then the conduit for those subsidies approached the *Defense Department* to continue doing so in what experts allege is a misleading grant proposal.

## What's Next

Two culprits in this pandemic and the U.S.-taxpayer subsidized genetic experiments that caused it, and could cause another, are of course Fauci and Collins.

But a third is Daszak, whose outfit tried to get a U.S. military agency to pay for China to develop genetically enhanced viruses. His EHA, after all, sought the \$14.2 million to carry out the experiments that included fortifying a virus even more dangerous than SARS.

Daszak also led the effort to suppress the truth about the origin of the SARS-CoV-2 virus that has run rampant across the globe. As is now well-known, he was part of the WHO team that exonerated the lab after an inadequate inspection, and he led the group of scientists who put the kibosh on the lab-leak theory in a letter to the *Lancet*. With help from the leftist mainstream media, he peddled the falsehood that the lab-leak hypothesis was a "conspiracy theory." E-mails show that he thanked Fauci for helping push the falsehood on the public through the slavishly pro-Fauci media.

Daszak had good reason to push that falsehood. His EcoHealth Alliance channeled the NIAID-NIH grants that subsidized the Bat Lady's genetic fortification of bat viruses. As Nicholas Wade concluded in his 11,000-word piece for the *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists* that detailed the doings at the lab, Daszak must have panicked when he found out that the virus probably leaked from the lab. He would be "potentially culpable." That letter to the *Lancet* did not disclose EHA's role as conduit for the grants, an "acute conflict of interest," Wade observed.

Along with the Bat Lady, Fauci, Collins, and other Americans, Daszak not only shares blame for using U.S. tax dollars to fund potentially disastrous research in a lab where poorly trained technicians greatly worried U.S. science diplomats. He also shares blame for the pathogen's leak from that lab, his effort to suppress that truth, and the subsequent worldwide pandemic. Were this case to be tried in front of a jury, it could well hold him indirectly responsible for the death of those whom the virus has killed. And willful negligence might be the least of his offenses.

Beyond that, Fauci, Collins, and Daszak sent U.S. taxpayer money to a lab working with the Communist Chinese military, which, again, wanted to use the Bat Lady's gain-of-function experiments to create bioweapons to use against those very same taxpayers.

In the end, we can safely predict that no one in this dangerous crew will be punished. Not one will lose his job, as least while Biden is president. All will continue on as if nothing happened. Suggesting otherwise is the triumph of hope over experience.

But at least the federal government could take one step: Ban Daszak and EcoHealth Alliance from applying for future grants *for anything*, and stop all subsidies to *all* foreign labs, no matter how much control the conduits for those grants claim to exercise over the recipients.



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