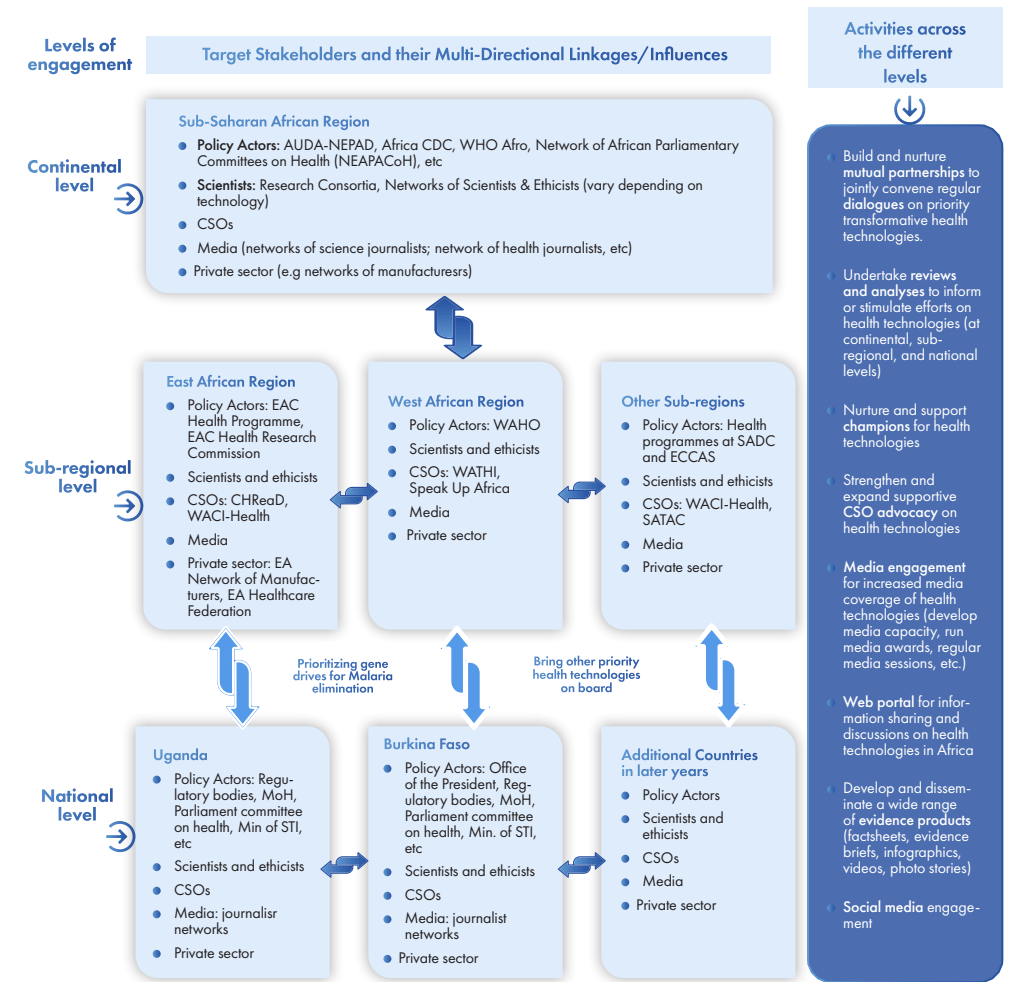


Health Tech Platform



About AFIDEP

AFIDEP is an African-led, non-profit research and policy institute, established in 2010 to institutionalise a culture of evidence use in the public sector and to bridge the gaps between research, policy and practice in development efforts in Africa. AFIDEP is registered as a Non-Governmental Organisation in Kenya and Malawi and as a non-profit institution in the USA, with 501(c)3 status.

AFIDEP contributes to the realisation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and other development strategies by enabling the use of evidence in the formulation and implementation of development policies and programmes. To do this, we undertake activities that fall in two broad categories:

1. Research generation, synthesis and translation for decision-making
2. Capacity development for increased research use and evidence-informed decision-making (EIDM) (including strengthening individual and institutional capacity for research synthesis, analysis, translation, packaging, communications and policy engagement)

AFIDEP implements work in five thematic areas including:

- Population dynamics and demographic dividend;
- Health and well-being;
- Transformative education and skills development;
- Environment and climate change; and
- Governance and accountability.

CONTACTS

- African Institute for Development Policy
- @Afidep
- African Institute for Development Policy
- AFIDEP

Kenya Office:
6th Floor (Block A), Westcom Point Building,
Mahiga Mairu Avenue, Off Waiyaki Way, Westlands
P.O. Box 14688-00800, Nairobi, Kenya
Phone: +254 20 203 9510 | +254 716 002 059

Malawi Office:
Petrola Glasshouse, Area 14 – plot number 14/191,
P.O. Box 31024, Lilongwe 3, Malawi
Phone: +265 995 495 143
Email: info@afiddep.org



HealthTech
Promoting dialogue and action
on health technologies in Africa



**PLATFORM FOR DIALOGUE
AND ACTION ON HEALTH
TECHNOLOGIES IN AFRICA**

AFIDEP

African Institute for
Development Policy

Overview

The Platform for Dialogue and Action on Health Technologies in Africa (Health Tech Platform) promotes and facilitates informed, objective, open and balanced discussions on development and use of emerging transformative tools and technologies to address health challenges in Africa. Examples of some of the technologies being developed or piloted with potential to transform the trajectory of health in Africa include: gene drives for control and elimination of Malaria, mRNA and RNAi vaccines, synthetic biology, artificial intelligence, drones, data analytics, among others.

The motivation for setting up the Platform is the interaction of factors that undermine the development of health technologies including:

- Opposition to the development of some of the technologies (such as gene drives for Malaria elimination);
- Limited African voices and engagement in the development of these technologies;
- Limited knowledge among many Africans on these technologies; and
- Low priority and inadequate investments by African governments in the development of these technologies.

The African Union's development road map, Agenda 2063, recognises the critical role of technology as a catalyst for growth on the continent. However, if emerging technologies do not get a chance to be well designed and developed with meaningful inputs from Africans, and piloted or deployed full-scale where proven safe and efficacious, then their potential for changing the disease trajectory on the continent will remain untapped.

The Platform therefore promotes and facilitates meaningful engagement and involvement of Africans in driving conversations and action about the need for transformational tools and technologies, their design, development, testing, and uptake (where these are proven effective and safe) by governments, other development actors, and communities.

Through strategic partnerships, the Platform employs multi-pronged approaches and tools to engage a wide range of stakeholders including policymakers, scientists, academics, ethicists, media/journalists, and civil



society actors on priority health technologies and the actions needed by African governments, development actors, and Africans to facilitate the development and testing of these technologies, and deployment where the technologies are proven safe and effective. The Platform engages at global, regional, sub-regional, and national levels (in Burkina Faso and Uganda).

The secretariat for the Platform is the **African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP)**.

AFIDEP leads the design and implementation of the Platform's activities in partnership with key stakeholders at the continental, sub-regional, and national levels. Initial funding for the Platform has been provided by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for the first three years of its operations.

Expected Outcomes



Improved policy and regulatory frameworks on the development and use of transformative technologies and tools for tackling health challenges at national and regional levels in Africa



Strengthened champions (e.g., African scientists, media professionals, development experts etc.) to promote development and use of transformative technologies for tackling health challenges in Africa at national, regional and global levels



Strengthened capacity of African institutions in conducting advocacy on the development and use of transformative technologies and tools for tackling health challenges at national and regional levels in Africa



Increased use of the evidence on transformative health technologies by decision makers and other stakeholders at national and regional levels in Africa