

DRAFT Programme

Virtual COVID-19 Innovation and Investment Forum 2020

“Investing in Innovation for a Transformed and Prosperous Africa.”



Date: 15-19 June, 2020

Venue: Cisco Webex - Addis Ababa time

Draft Programme

	Online platform opens on 14 June 2020
	Monday – 15 June 2020
13:00-14:00	<p>Opening Session The Forum by ECA</p> <p>Opening remarks Mr Daan du Toit, Deputy-Director General: International Cooperation and Resources, Department of Science and Innovation, South Africa. Vera Songwe, Executive Secretary and United Nations Under-Secretary General, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa</p> <p>Keynote Address: Dr. Eng. Getahun Mekuria, Minister of Education, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia</p> <p>Moderator: Jean-Paul Adam - Director, Technology, Climate Change and Natural Resources Management Division, UNECA</p>
14:00-15:30	<p>High Level Panel on Investing in Science, Technology and Innovation in Africa</p> <p>Since the 1980s, African countries committed themselves to invest at least 1% of their gross domestic product (GDP) in R&D to build a critical base of technical and entrepreneurial competencies and sound infrastructure that can support innovation in communities and firms. Today, Africa is estimated to invest about 0.5% of its GDP in R&D (or 0.43% for SSA) – is far from the world average of 1.7% of GDP. In other words, SSA accounted for about 0.8% of the global \$2.3 trillion spent on R&D in 2019. The low investment in R&D also says Africa has few doctors, engineers, scientists and economists, among others, that are needed to meet challenges such as those imposed by COVID-19. The panel will address and suggest innovative ways in which Africa can quickly mobilize investments from both the public and the private sector sources to meet current and future research, development and innovation needs. Approaches to harness the current goodwill (e.g. the \$8 billion raised of COVID-19 research, development, manufacturing and distribution of potential treatment and vaccines globally) to achieve short and long terms science, technology and innovation goals such as those in 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Africa’s Agenda 2063?</p> <p>Her Excellency Sarah Anyang Agbor (Professor), Commissioner, Human Resources, Science and Technology, African Union Commission. Hon. Prof. Yasser Refaat, Deputy Minister for Scientific Research Affairs, Egypt Professor Mary Teuw Niane, Former Minister of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, Senegal and Professeur titulaire de classe exceptionnelle, Président du Conseil d'Administration de PETROSEN Holding, Membre de l'Académie nationale des Sciences et Techniques du Sénégal Hon. Minister Denay Jock Chagor, Minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology, South Sudan Professor Hubert Gijzen, Director and Representative, UNESCO regional Office for Southern Africa</p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Phil Mjwara, Director General, Department of Science and Innovation, Africa</p>

15:30-17:00

High Level Panel Discussion on Lessons on Financing and Investing in Technology and Innovation for COVID-19 Response

Financial institutions play a key role in providing funds for technology development and acquisition and innovation globally. The panel will focus on funding lines or vehicles (e.g. corporate venturing, venture capital, innovation funds etc) for technology and innovations in general, and for driving innovations in an emergence such as COVID-19. They may also address challenges that funding entities face in identifying viable and bankable innovations and business opportunities that may be emerging from COVID-19 innovations and technologies (e.g. PPEs, medical devices, test kits and other key **medical** supplies) locally and globally?

- **Ms. Pauline Koelbl**, CEO and Founder of AfriProspects GmbH and ShEquity. Switzerland and Mauritius
- **Mr. Nick Allen**, Savant Venture Fund, South Africa
- **Mr. Muhammed Hajat**, Esquared, South Africa
- **Dr. Robert M. Karanja**, CEO and Cofounder of Villgro - Kenya
- **Mr Elijah Mokhethi**, Head: Energy and Acting GM: Sector Funding, Technology Innovation Agency, South Africa

Dr. Victor Konde, OiC, Green Economy and Innovation, TCND

17:00-18:00

Continental Q&A Dialogue with the Youth on COVID-19 and Implication on Education, Health, Innovation, Gender and Entrepreneurship

This Q&A will feature at least 6 youths who will pose their questions to the audience and get immediate answers from three panellists (1 minute per question and 2 minutes per answer)

Vera Songwe, Executive Secretary and United Nations Under-Secretary General, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
Mr Mmboneni Muofhe, DDG: Technology Innovation, Department of Science and Innovation, South Africa

Closing remarks

Jean-Paul Adam, Director -Technology Climate Change, Natural Resources Management Division, ECA

Tuesday – 16 th June 2020																										
14:00-15:30	Investing in Identification and Testing High Level Panel Discussion on Investing in Infrastructure and Systems for Rapid Detection Identification and Testing of Pathogens: Case of COVID-19																									
	<p>COVID-19 highlighted Africa’s limited capacity to identify and test for new pathogens. In early February, perhaps only five countries served as referral testing centres with Senegal and South Africa being the only two from African countries south of the Saharan. While the situation has massively improved with all countries being able to test for COVID-19, number of centres capable of testing for COVID-19 remains low – leading to samples travelling over long distances and increasing turnaround time to get results, chances of samples being lost and spread of the infections. As such, this panel will look at investments in national, regional and community research centres and hospitals, the infrastructure needed to ensure Africa becomes self-sufficient in identification, testing and use of such data to inform policies. These may include strategies and emerging technologies, tools or areas of research that Africa may have or is neglecting in this regard.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof Christian Happi – Director, Africa Centre of Excellence of Genomics and Infectious Diseases, Nigeria 2. Dr Richard Gordon, Medical Research Council, South Africa 3. Prof. Collen Masimirembwa (DPhil, PhD), President & CEO, African Institute of Biomedical Science & Technology (Zimbabwe) and Chief Scientific Officer, CradleOmics-South Africa (TBC). <p>Presentations: Bioengineering Platform for Lab on Chip R&D; Dr Ammar Azioune, Director of Research Centre on Biotechnology, Algeria</p> <p>Moderator: Mmampei Chaba, DSI</p>																									
15:30-17:30	Pitching and Showcasing Investment Ready Rapid and Point-of Care Testing Innovations																									
	<p>Maximum of five minutes per presentation.</p> <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Hassan Azzazy, Egypt</td> <td>In vitro Diagnostics</td> <td>advanced prototypes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Haruna S Jallow, Gambia</td> <td>Scaling up COVID-19 testing capacity</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mugabi Kigundu, Germany</td> <td>In vitro RNA-seq data for rapid diagnostic testing and validating</td> <td>project idea and planning</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Guido Geerts, Netherland</td> <td>Affordable Rapid Testing</td> <td>Prototypes running in several countries</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nkiruka N. Odunukwe, Nigeria</td> <td>Affordable Rapid Testing</td> <td>prototype is being validated in-house</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mountaga Keita, Guinea</td> <td>MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES</td> <td>successful trial tests</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lesego Pitsoane, South Africa</td> <td>Image processing technologies using AI</td> <td>prototype</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Phiyani Lebea, South Africa</td> <td>Affordable Rapid Testing</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Hassan Azzazy, Egypt	In vitro Diagnostics	advanced prototypes	Haruna S Jallow, Gambia	Scaling up COVID-19 testing capacity		Mugabi Kigundu, Germany	In vitro RNA-seq data for rapid diagnostic testing and validating	project idea and planning	Guido Geerts , Netherland	Affordable Rapid Testing	Prototypes running in several countries	Nkiruka N. Odunukwe, Nigeria	Affordable Rapid Testing	prototype is being validated in-house	Mountaga Keita, Guinea	MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIES	successful trial tests	Lesego Pitsoane, South Africa	Image processing technologies using AI	prototype	Phiyani Lebea, South Africa	Affordable Rapid Testing	
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14:00-15:30	<p>Building Domestic Supply and Value Chains for Medical devices and PPEs</p> <p>Presentations of “Remote Health System” (10 minutes) Tzvika Agassi, Co-founder & CEO, Salient Eye, Israel.</p> <p>High Level Panel Discussion on Innovation and Investing in Design, Production and Marketing of Medical Devices and PPES: COVID-19 has revealed significant weakens in innovation and production value and supply chains for critical medical supplies to the extent that exports bans of simple items such as face masks sparked international debate. A shortage of items such as ventilators became the symbol of our collective failure to stress test our healthcare systems. This panel will look at ways and strategies to build resilient and competitive domestic supply and value chains to meet national demand for medical devices and personal protective equipment. What are the major bottlenecks, regulatory barriers, investment opportunities and key regional and international markets? What role can academia, industry and governments play?</p> <p>Panel discussion</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Professor Elsie Effah Kaufmann, <i>Senior Lecturer</i>, Department of Biomedical Engineering, University of Ghana 2. Ms. Philippa Makobore, <i>Head- Instrumentation Department</i>, Uganda Industrial Research Institute, Uganda 3. Dr. Beatrice Murage, <i>Philips Africa Research & Innovation</i>, Kenya 4. Prof. Arti Ahluwalia, <i>University of Pisa</i>, 																			
15:30-17:30	<p>Showcasing of investment ready medical devices and personal protection equipment (10 cases)</p> <p>Medical Devices</p> <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Mouafo FOGUIENG Stephen, Cameroon</td> <td>Sante</td> <td>Prototype, tested</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Yared Yaregal, Ethiopia</td> <td>Multi Patient Ventilation System and Patient Mentoring</td> <td>working prototype</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shona McDonald, South Africa</td> <td>Innovative, rural Assistive technology and health, education and social support for social inclusion,</td> <td>Prototypes ready</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Yusuf Shittu, United Kingdom</td> <td>Medical Device Innovation</td> <td>Passed functionality test</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY COMPANY Ltd, Rwanda</td> <td>Manufacture medical equipment /respiratory equipment</td> <td>Tested prototype</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Prof. Sudesh Sivarasu, South Africa</td> <td>Ventilators</td> <td>Prototype</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Mouafo FOGUIENG Stephen, Cameroon	Sante	Prototype, tested	Yared Yaregal, Ethiopia	Multi Patient Ventilation System and Patient Mentoring	working prototype	Shona McDonald, South Africa	Innovative, rural Assistive technology and health, education and social support for social inclusion,	Prototypes ready	Yusuf Shittu, United Kingdom	Medical Device Innovation	Passed functionality test	MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY COMPANY Ltd, Rwanda	Manufacture medical equipment /respiratory equipment	Tested prototype	Prof. Sudesh Sivarasu, South Africa	Ventilators	Prototype
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1730-18:00	<p>Closing Session Moderator: Victor Konde</p>																			

Thursday – 18 th June 2020																									
14:00-15:00	<p>Special features: KTN Global Alliance: “International knowledge exchange to enhance Africa’s domestic capacity to respond, recover and promote resilience to crises through innovation”</p>																								
15:00-15:40	<p>Innovations and investments in contact tracing technologies and approaches</p> <p>Presentation: Dr. Happy Sithole, Center Manager: National Integrated Cyber-Infrastructure System “Efforts for track and tracing for COVID-19 using Mobile Data” Mr Dhesigen Naidoo, CEO – Water Research Commission, South Africa</p>																								
15:40-17:40	<p>Showcasing of investment ready personal protection equipment and contact tracing technologies and systems</p> <p>PPEs</p> <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Edmond Ngwalago, Tanzania</td> <td>Automatic Whole Body Sanitizer Machine</td> <td>prototype</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tewodros Tessema, Ethiopia</td> <td>Portable Sanitizer delivery tool with wristband</td> <td>prototype</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dr Gerrie J. Booysen, South Africa</td> <td>Product Design, Respiratory Mask</td> <td>prototype</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Prof. Sudesh Sivasaru, South Africa</td> <td>COVID19 PPEs</td> <td>Prototype</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Contact tracing</p> <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Eniola Ishola, Nigeria</td> <td>AI-powered, contact tracer, self-checker</td> <td>Working Demonstration</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mustapha Zaouini, South Africa</td> <td>Blockchain Consent Management</td> <td>Beta release</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Magdalena Johanna Grobler, South Africa</td> <td>mobile app health data collection for Covid-19</td> <td>under development</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jabu Madlala, South Africa</td> <td>Detect person with Covid-19 virus</td> <td>concept</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Edmond Ngwalago, Tanzania	Automatic Whole Body Sanitizer Machine	prototype	Tewodros Tessema, Ethiopia	Portable Sanitizer delivery tool with wristband	prototype	Dr Gerrie J. Booysen, South Africa	Product Design, Respiratory Mask	prototype	Prof. Sudesh Sivasaru, South Africa	COVID19 PPEs	Prototype	Eniola Ishola, Nigeria	AI-powered, contact tracer, self-checker	Working Demonstration	Mustapha Zaouini, South Africa	Blockchain Consent Management	Beta release	Magdalena Johanna Grobler, South Africa	mobile app health data collection for Covid-19	under development	Jabu Madlala, South Africa	Detect person with Covid-19 virus	concept
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13:00-14:00	COVID Knowledge Exchange Building Regional and Global Alliances	
	<p>Ann Therese Ndong Jatta, Regional Director and Representative, UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa Dr. Ereck Chakauya, NEPAD Southern Africa Network for Biosciences</p>	
14:00-16:30	Showcasing of investment ready innovation in government	
	<p>Corrin Varady, South Africa</p>	<p>Digital curriculum, assessment, professional development and data analytics, Learner Management System and digital content</p> <p>running in 6 countries</p>
	<p>Naledzani Mudau, South Africa</p>	<p>Human settlements and service delivery</p>
	<p>Mohamed El Habib, Morocco</p>	<p>COVID-19 Physicochemical disinfection device for solid products.</p> <p>concept</p>
	<p>Obi P. Adigwe, Nigeria</p>	<p>Pharmaceutical research, Drug development, Quality assurance of medicines, Clinical trials</p>
	Showcasing Innovation in pharmaceutical production systems	
	<p>Dr Martha M. O’Kennedy, South Africa</p>	<p>Vaccines and diagnostics</p> <p>research</p>
	<p>Kathleen Hefferon, Botswana</p>	<p>Plant-made pharmaceuticals for infectious diseases</p> <p>working prototype</p>
	<p>Eluemuno Blyden, Sierra Leone</p>	<p>Egg-based Vaccines, Diagnostics, Therapeutics</p> <p>Pre-clinical stage</p>
16:30-18:00	Closing Ceremony and Awards	
	<p>His Excellence Blade Nzimande, Minister of Higher of Education, Science and Technology, South Africa Jean-Paul Adam - Director, Technology, Climate Change and Natural Resources Management Division, UNECA</p>	
	Moderator: Victor Konde and Mmampei Chaba	

Contact:

- Dr. Victor Konde, Officer-in-Charge, Green Economy and Innovation Section, Email: kondev@un.org