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Opportunities for Improving Health Care in SA

Research and Development for health in the 4th IR

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The state of health at a glance

6 million*

Each year around the world, more than 6 million children die before reaching their fifth birthday

200%

Children born into poverty are almost twice as likely to die before the age of 5 as those from wealthier families.

15.6 million

Measles vaccines have averted nearly 15.6 million deaths since the year 2000

6.2 million

Over 6.2 million malaria deaths were averted between 2000 and 2015, primarily of children under 5 years of age in sub-Saharan Africa.

50%

Maternal mortality has fallen by almost 50 percent since 1990. In East Asia, North Africa and South Asia, it has declined by around two thirds.

2.1 million

An estimated 2.1 million people were infected with HIV in 2013, down 38 percent from 2001.



What are our Health Priorities?

Globally

- Sustainable Development Goals*
- SDG 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages
- Health targets have been set for 2030. Targets to eradicate disease, increase access to health and reduce health risk.

Nationally

- National Development Plan**
- Quality Health Care for All
- National Health Strategy



What are the Gaps in Health R&D

Gaps identified in 2015 landscape analysis in SA and Kenya

- Lack of coordinated leadership for health R&D at highest levels of government.
- Proposed R&D investment, but no implementation plan.
- Regulatory delays in registration and clinical trial approvals.
- Lack of systems coordination between government departments.
- Siloed R&D landscape (by disease, technology, and sector).
- Misalignment between global initiatives and national/regional priorities.



How do we Create an Enabling Environment for Health R&D?

- PATH brought together a number of stakeholders including civil society organisations to establish unique national coalitions focused on advancing global health R&D. These coalitions are advocating for increased investments in and access to lifesaving technologies across all health areas.
- The South Africa Health Technologies Advocacy Coalition (SAHTAC), is focused on financing, regulatory policies, and civil society engagement to meet the needs of its growing population and economy.
- Civil Society has a huge role to play in health R&D advocacy. We need to not only be at the table, we need to set the table for dialogue about access to health technologies for those who need them the most.
- We need to hold our governments accountable for the promises that they make to improve the health of its people. e.g. SAHPRA implementation.



Why Innovate for Health

Save
Lives

Decreases in the number of AIDS
related deaths

Save
Money

Projected saving when investing in
treatment of drug resistant TB are
over estimated at \$25mil/year

Create
Jobs

The biotechnology industry has the
potential to employment within
itself and related service industries



The 4th IR can support the national health goals

- Artificial intelligence, robotics, digital technology, biotechnology, big data analytics



What are we doing this so far

Some concrete examples in biotechnology:

- The University of Cape Town's Drug Discovery and Development Centre (H3D)
- Preclinical Drug Development Platform
 - Accreditation from the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care, evaluates entities that use animals in research, teaching or testing.
 - Open doors for SA in the international arena, especially in terms of being recognised and approved for drug development studies
- BioVac initiative
 - Set up to build SA capability for vaccines development



How are we positioning ourselves to be producers (rather than consumers) of tech in the 4IR



Example of new and innovative ways
to tackle health problems

**[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/CHANNEL/UCN4ITS
NBUNTL70IYI7XRVXA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCN4ITSNBUNTL70IYI7XRVXA)**