



ANNUAL REPORT 2025



ABOUT SFA FOUNDATION

The Science for Africa Foundation (SFA Foundation) is a pan-African, non-profit, and public charity organisation that supports, strengthens, and promotes science and innovation in Africa. The SFA Foundation serves the African research ecosystem by funding excellent ideas in research and innovation, enabling interdisciplinary collaborations, and building and reinforcing environments that are conducive for scientists to thrive and produce quality research that generates new, locally relevant knowledge.

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In a changing world, Africa is defining its own path through science.



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Letter from CEO

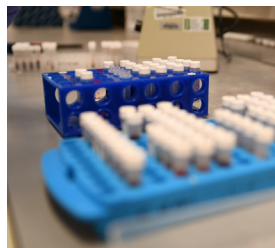
Positioning Africa at the forefront of global science innovation benefits not just Africans, but the world.



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Real progress is built on a robust scaffold of partnerships and relationships to sustain impact.



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Message from the Board Chair

At a pivotal midpoint, African-led science is redefining global standards, driving innovation, impact, and sustainable development

The SFA Foundation 2025 Annual Report represents the halfway point of our five-year strategy. More importantly, it reflects an era of major geopolitical change that is shifting global priorities and engagement. Amidst the chaos, the Board and Management undertook a deep reflection on our mission, our experiences and our future “from science to impact.” It is clearer than ever that the destiny of science in Africa must be determined by Africans. African institutions, sufficiently resourced and armed with trust and agency, can become the global standard. Our work in research management

standards and financing mechanisms is already demonstrating leadership in defining international models of excellence. Our science portfolios have grown in depth and variety, including in genomic medicine, pandemic preparedness, mental health and climate change adaptation. These fields exemplify the potential for African science to not just be a *recipient* of global innovation, but a *leader*. African governments have pledged to increase funding for their local research ecosystems. SFA Foundation continues to facilitate the fulfilment of the immense potential the continent possesses in alignment to our

vision to strengthen African science for a better future for all. The Foundation is grateful to those who share our conviction: our partners, funders and many like-minded communities. Together, we are building an Africa where science drives development, innovation transforms lives, and our people are the beneficiaries of our investments.



Africa’s scientific future must be shaped by Africans. With trust, resources, and agency, our institutions can set global standards. At this pivotal moment, SFA Foundation reflects not just progress, but purpose, from science to impact. Together with our partners, we are building a future where African-led innovation drives development, strengthens resilience, and transforms lives across the continent.



Message from the CEO

African science is leading global impact through local innovation, trust, investment, and strong institutions

In a year when Africa continued to navigate complex challenges, from evolving global partnerships to changing funding landscapes, the need to make a real impact through science was more urgent than ever before.

Our strategic focus remains to position Africa at the forefront of global health innovation, ensuring that scientific advancement on the continent benefits not just Africans but the world. We are building comprehensive systems for health security as varied as early disease detection and policy implementation. We prove continuously that African-led institutions, when given the right support, set global standards.

Enduring scientific progress requires strong institutions. In 2025, SFA Foundation continued to invest in standards and tools to shape the research and development landscape in Africa. Excellence frameworks developed by African researchers and other professionals are recognised worldwide as proof that Africa can define “quality” for herself.

Our reach and influence expanded within and beyond the continent. We address diverse areas including mental and physical health, climate and agriculture -- by securing commitments from African governments to invest in their own research ecosystems.

This shift toward domestic financing signals a maturing landscape where African nations increasingly establish their own priorities and benefit from their scientific futures. An active review of the Foundation’s five-year strategic plan is being conducted, lessons and opportunities from which will shape our next chapter. Central to our forward vision is organisational sustainability anchored in locally sourced funding. The geopolitical realities of today remind us that Africa’s scientific future must ultimately rest in African hands.

Science diplomacy ensures that global health architecture appropriately reflects Africa’s realities and priorities; it was conducted at the highest levels of global governance by giving Africa a voice in policy development.

One of our sharpest strategic priorities is to bridge discovery to development. This is essential to free Africa from a history where research conducted on the continent too rarely moves beyond the laboratory, leaving communities unable to benefit from it, or, when it is developed, principally benefiting other populations. The Foundation pursues partnerships and funding that enable a clear transition from innovation to scale and impact to serve Africa and Africans.

Trust is the foundation upon which science delivers impact, and we are committed to earning it. In an era of misinformation and diminishing trust, exposing society to credible science remains vital. We are developing new ways to showcase African research in accessible, relatable formats that reach local communities, policymakers and international audiences. We champion journalism that promotes factual reporting.

Our extraordinary team is the driving force behind our achievements; their commitment reflects a deep belief in the potential for Africa to unleash her full potential. The Foundation’s strong operational systems, deep roots and reputation for quality and efficiency provides a real sense of purpose, as we continue to move science to impact, shaped by African leadership in health, innovation, and shared prosperity.

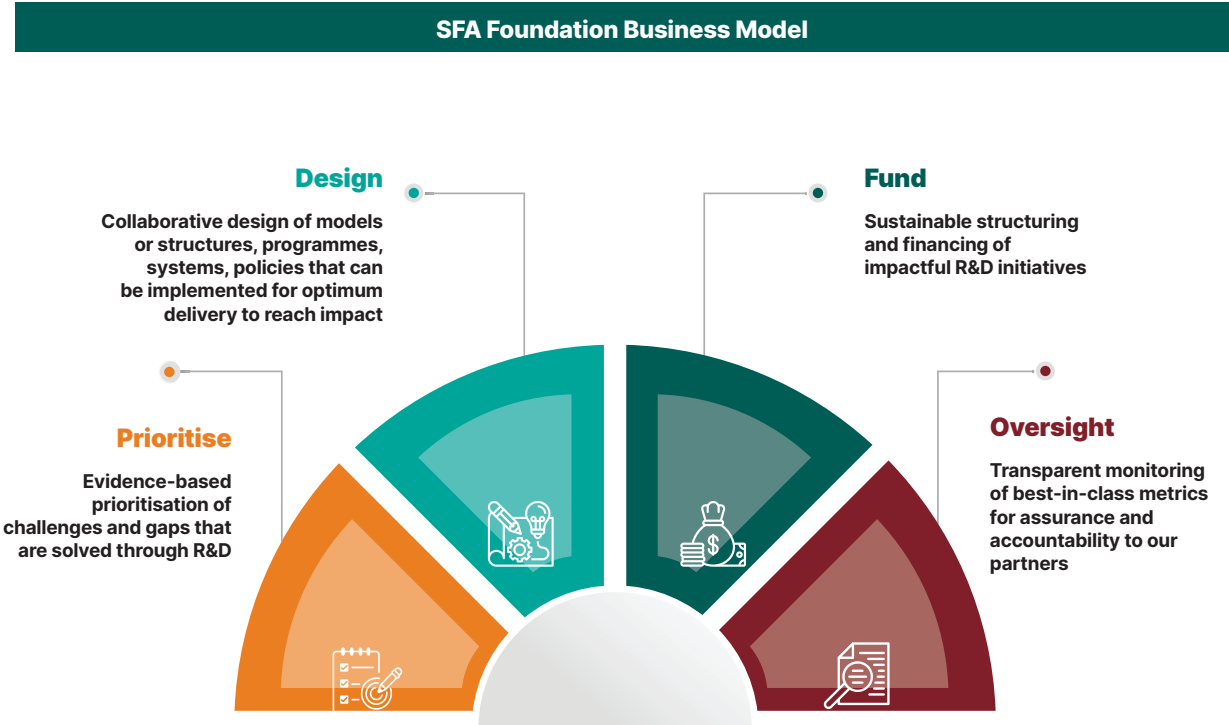


Executive Summary

Real progress is built on a robust scaffold of partnerships and relationships to sustain impact

SFA Foundation, at the midpoint of its five-year strategic plan, has evolved into a consolidated force for African scientific leadership, accelerator of the research ecosystem on the continent, shepherd of a transition from capacity-building to excellence and stability, and provider of a voice for Africa in global health and climate discourse.

Among flagship initiatives, the Developing Excellence in Leadership, Training, and Science in Africa (DELTAS Africa), in its tenth year, has created a self-sustaining research culture, nurturing generations of scientific leaders. “Being” expanded mental health research to 12 countries, amplifying the influence of marginalised youth in scientific frameworks. The Calestous Juma Science Leadership Fellowship positioned African researchers as shapers of global scientific priorities. Innovations from Grand Challenges Africa advanced women’s health and AI. Disease modeling teams and clinical research networks bridged the gap from data generation to life-saving implementation to provide confident, emergency-ready expertise.



Executive Summary

Continuous investment in science delivers value

The Africa Pandemic Sciences Collaborative launched seven consortia – increasing Africa's agency of its own health security. Integrated climate, health and agriculture initiatives became mature systems informing global best practices.

Internationally, adoption of the Good Research Management Practice (GRMP) Standard, the first of its kind in Africa, strengthened the governance and management of research and facilitated its impact. It provides a model of accountability so that investment in science can deliver value. SFA Foundation served as the voice of African interests for strategic diplomacy at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA 79), G20 and other multilateral forums, helping to shape global health governance.

Real progress is built on robust partnerships and relationships to sustain impact. SFA Foundation created new alliances with national governments in and beyond Africa over the year, while leveraging its credibility to fortify existing partnerships. The Foundation made inroads into new media spaces through the launch of the *Echoes of Evidence* podcast and the Africa Science Journalism Awards, shaping perceptions of African science through powerful storytelling.

SFA Foundation will continue to consolidate its leadership in health, agriculture and science research and infrastructure in and for Africa, for the benefit of all humanity.

5

Year Strategy: at the midpoint of SFA Foundation's long-term transformation plan

10

Years of DELTAS Africa: A decade of building a self-sustaining African research ecosystem

15

MoUs signed with various continental and global institutions

7

Consortia launched under the Africa Pandemic Sciences Collaborative



Dr. Jimmy Volmink, Executive Director for Equity at Wellcome with SFA Foundation CEO Dr. Tom Kariuki in April 2025. As a key funding partner since our inception, Wellcome has played an instrumental role in shaping our journey and supporting our vision for African-led science and innovation.



On 31 October 2025 SFA Foundation and the International Vaccine Institute signed a Memorandum of Understanding to establish a collaborative framework aimed at advancing global health through equitable clinical research, sustainable vaccine manufacturing, innovation, and capacity building.

Governance

SFA Foundation is represented by a robust governance, management and programme team drawn from across the continent and with decades of experience in designing and managing science and innovation programmes to catalyse major change in African science. The team is committed to a shared vision of success and is prioritising strong capabilities in science communication, knowledge management, finance and grant making, partnerships, fundraising and performance management.

Members of the Board



Alinah Segobye
Board Chairperson



Djikeng Appolinaire



Éliane Ubalijoro



Nabila Bouatia-Naji



Paul Sagnia



Victoria Sabula



Martin Eigbike



Victoria Simpkin



Kevin Marsh
August 2021 - May 2025



Gebreyes Wondwossen



Tom Kariuki
Board Member &
Chief Executive Officer

Leadership for African Research Networks

Strengthening Africa's scientific leadership by supporting exceptional researchers and institutions to run transformative, collaborative, impactful science. It fosters mentorship, career development and the institutional environment that enable excellence, equity and accountability in research. Throughout 2025, the portfolio delivered significant achievements across its four flagship initiatives.



DELTA Africa

Now in its tenth year, the DELTA Africa programme, funded by Wellcome and the United Kingdom's Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, supports 14 African-led research consortia advancing high-quality, locally relevant research in health, social sciences and climate. Grounded in rigorous science, strong institutional systems and civic engagement, the programme strengthens research excellence, organisational capacity and equitable collaboration while nurturing the next generation of African research leaders.

The 10th Anniversary DELTA Africa Scientific Meeting, held in Cape Town in July, brought together more than 150 researchers, funders, policymakers and partners to showcase research achievements, exchange knowledge, strengthen collaborations and position DELTA Africa as a leader in African research capacity strengthening.

Published case studies highlighted Human Papillomavirus (HPV) self-sampling in Ethiopia to expand cervical cancer screening in line with World Health Organization (WHO) elimination targets, and a Buruli ulcer wound-care model in Côte d'Ivoire to inform regional policy, improve patient care and strengthen evidence-based health systems.

57

Number of African institutions serving as DELTA Africa II hubs and spokes

29

Number of African countries serving as DELTA Africa II spokes

18

Number of institutional partnerships in Europe and North America



Continental Footprint of DELTAS Africa II Institutions

1,167

Fellows supported across the research training pipeline

304

Fellows successfully completed their training

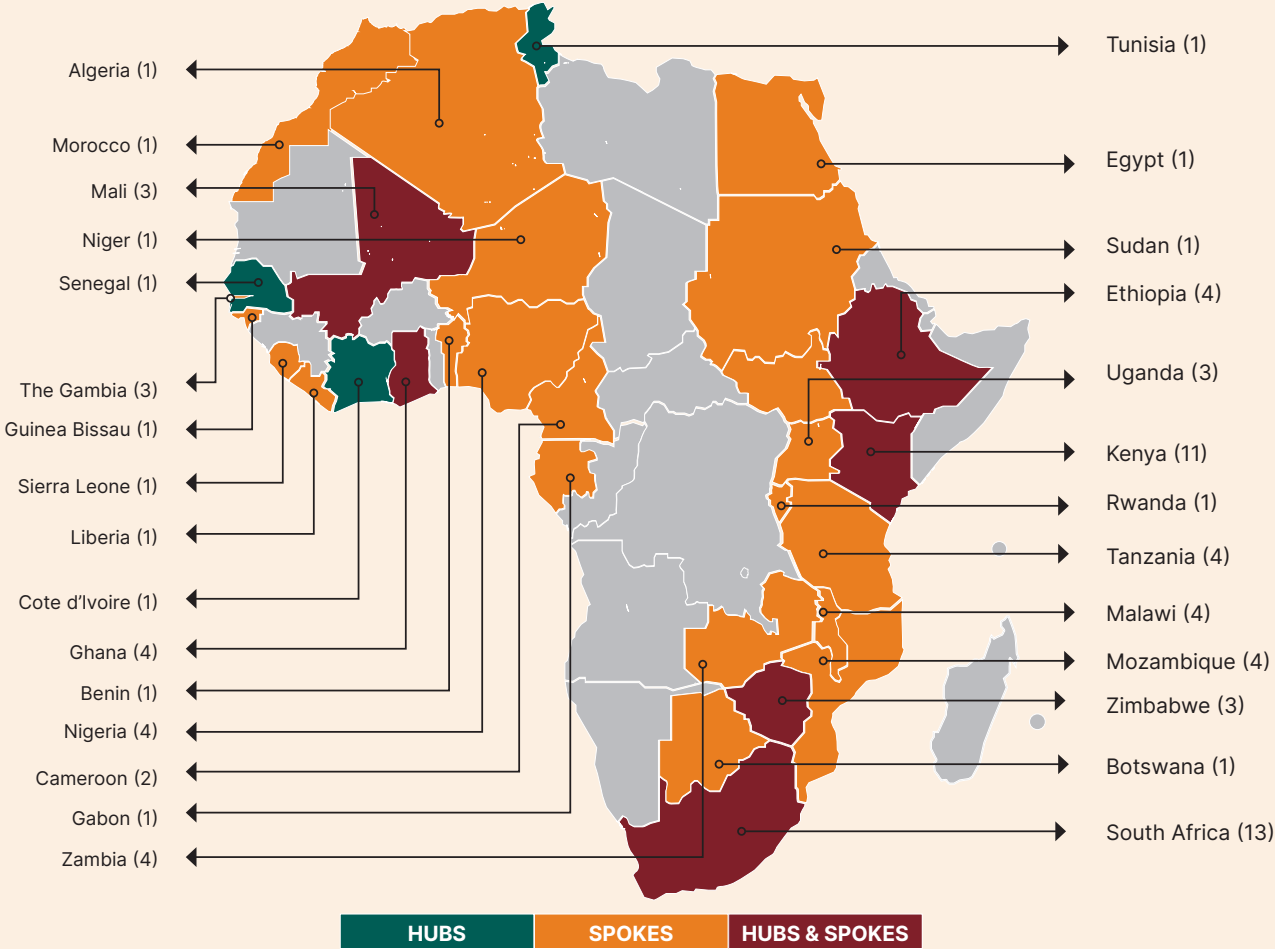


36M+

People reached through science communication activities

307

Research and administrative staff supported across universities and research institutes



DELTA Africa

IMPACT SPOTLIGHTS: INNOVATION IN CANCER PREVENTION AND ACCESS IN EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA: Expanding Cervical Cancer Screening Through an HPV Self-Sampling Kit

Medhanit Worku chose courage. Like many women in Ethiopia, she understood the importance of cervical cancer screening, but invasive, clinic-based procedures felt intimidating and culturally uncomfortable, keeping her and many others away. To address this barrier, DELTA Africa-supported researchers, REACCT-CAN consortia are developing a low-cost HPV self-sampling kit that allows women to collect samples privately and comfortably. Bringing screening closer to women restores dignity, autonomy and choice

When testing becomes easier and more acceptable, more women say yes. This shift enables earlier detection, faster treatment, and saved lives, contributing to Africa's progress toward WHO's goal of screening 90% of eligible women by 2030.

WHY IT MATTERS?



Africa bears **22%** of the global disease burden



Innovation contributes to WHO's goal of screening **90%** of eligible women by 2030



Low-cost innovation has the potential for **scale-up** across similar contexts



A self-screening kit is giving women dignity and power to take control of their health. Sometimes, courage looks like a simple test and that's where change begins. Watch *Power in Her Hands* by clicking the link below

[Watch the video.](#)

DELTA Africa

IMPACT SPOTLIGHTS: STRENGTHENING NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASE CONTROL IN WEST AFRICA

COTE D'IVOIRE: Shortening Healing Time for Buruli Ulcer and Other Skin Diseases

When Paul Angoua developed Buruli ulcer, it wasn't the wounds that changed his life; it was the isolation. The neglected tropical disease causes skin wounds that can take months or even years to heal, often costing patients their dignity, livelihoods and social connections.

In Côte d'Ivoire, scientists working under the DELTA Africa-supported, Afrique One REACH consortium, are transforming how the disease is treated. They have developed a holistic wound-management model that combines clinical care, nutrition and psychosocial support, reducing healing time, lowering treatment cost and enabling patients to return to their communities sooner.

Angoua's recovery is an example of the broader impact of a more affordable people-centered approach to Buruli ulcer care that restores dignity, livelihoods, and hope.

WHY IT MATTERS

Wound healing model has been submitted to WHO to classify Buruli Ulcer and other skin diseases as global health priorities.

The model has contributed to a decline in cases in Cote d'Ivoire, over the past 10 years, 147 cases reported in 2024.



A holistic, people-centered model of care is changing the course of recovery for people living with Buruli ulcer. Click on the link below to watch how the African-led model is *Healing Wounds and Restoring Hope*.

[Watch the video.](#)

Being Initiative: Transforming Youth Mental Health

The global Being initiative advances mental health science, public engagement and sustainable environments for youth wellbeing to improve mental wellbeing among youth aged 10-24 in 12 countries across Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America. A partnership with Grand Challenges Canada and Fondation Botnar, the youth-led initiative addresses early drivers of mental health.

In an inception meeting held in April, Being launched three consortia: Ghana, Tanzania and Sierra Leone (Principal Investigator in Ghana), India and Vietnam (PI in India), and Pakistan, Colombia and Indonesia (PI in Pakistan). Each consortium prioritised policy goals, including the development of a policy book and analysis of the policy, youth mental health and artificial intelligence nexus.

Being contributed to a *Nature Medicine* publication on the Africa Task Force on Brain Health, discussing brain health and economic resilience in Africa. A report on emerging stressors affecting youth in Kenya was produced through the NIVISHE Foundation, reinforcing the importance of locally relevant research. Being was also represented at the G20 Global Mental Health Summit to assert Africa's leadership in community-driven mental health innovations and solutions, and the 7th Global Mental Health Summit. The latter was co-hosted with the Mental Health Innovation Network (MHIN); emerging research, innovative interventions and policy strategies in mental health were discussed. A Suicide Prevention Workshop, hosted with the Brain and Mind Institute at Aga Khan University, considered culturally appropriate suicide prevention strategies for youth. A publication in *BMC Psychiatry* examined suicide prevention.

12

**Countries:
Programme reach
across Africa, Asia,
Europe, and Latin
America**

3

**Consortia launched
to drive regional
research and policy
impact:**

- Ghana, Tanzania, Sierra Leone
- India, Vietnam
- Pakistan, Colombia, Indonesia

2

**Peer-reviewed
publications on
advancing evidence
in brain health and
suicide prevention**



The SFA Foundation, in partnership with the Brain and Mind Institute at The Aga Khan University, on 1 October 2025, convened a high-level forum in Nairobi, Kenya. This event brought together diverse voices to address suicide as one of the most pressing public health challenges of our time.



Prof. Petra Gronholm from the Mental Health Innovation Network (MHIN) moderates a panel discussion during the 2025 Global Mental Health Summit where she announced a new partnership between the Mental Health Innovation Network and the SFA Foundation. Together, the two organisations will host the Global Mental Health Africa Conference in Nairobi in February 2027.

Elevating Social Sciences and Humanities

The Preparing Outstanding Social Science Investigators to Benefit Lives and Environments in Africa (POSSIBLE-Africa) initiative is a 24-month postdoctoral Fellowship to build African research leaders in the Social Sciences and Humanities. Supported by the Andrew Carnegie Foundation, the Fellowship supports independent research, mentorship, training in research leadership, policy, and community engagement.

Research topics of the 12 fellows include gender studies, food security, integration of indigenous knowledge into university curricula, climate change, women's health, archaeology and cultural heritage, labour migration, peace building, pandemic preparedness, mental health and malaria research. Grantees in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Nigeria, Mali and Ghana collaborate with each other and others across the continent and globally.

The initiative participated in the African Humanities Conference in Dar es Salaam, facilitating a session on social sciences and humanities in research. An annual progress review reinforced several learnings: peer mentorship fosters research collaboration, productivity and academic resilience; impact tracking beyond academia builds scientific citizenship; co-creation and collaboration with like-minded organisations transfers strengths and opportunities, and policy and community engagement lead to significant and sustainable outcomes.



A section of the POSSIBLE Africa postdoctoral Fellows during a visit to the SFA Foundation. They have made impact in their various fields of study, with notable focus on policy and community engagement to enhance research uptake.

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Emerging African researchers advancing Social Sciences and Humanities

3

Core Capacity Pillars Strengthened

- Peer mentorship and collaboration
- Policy and community engagement
- Impact tracking beyond academia

1

Engagement at the African Humanities Conference to advance social sciences dialogue

Calestous Juma Science Leadership Fellowship

The Calestous Juma Science Leadership Fellowship provides strategic communication and leadership development to scientific global health leaders. It includes 25 fellows from eight African countries, specialising in malaria research, immunology and biotechnology, health economics, data science, maternal and neonatal health, sexual reproductive health and drug discovery. The inaugural cohort published a white paper outlining six actionable approaches to empower African research and development.

The Fellowship increases the global visibility and leadership of Africa's scientists. Recognitions included two of the Most Influential Africans of 2024 (Profs. Collen Masimirembwa and Moses Obimbo), the FIGO Women's Award in 2025 (Prof. Annette Nakimuli), Bloomberg New Economy Catalyst and representation at the UNGA 80 Science Summit (Dr Yaw Bediako) and launch of the data- and biospecimen-sharing Africa Biospecimen and Data Exchange (ADBEx) platform (Prof. Nicki Tiffin). Professor Moses Obimbo initiated the End Postpartum Haemorrhage Run in Kenya, held simultaneously in seven other countries to highlight this leading preventable cause of maternal mortality.

25

Scientific leaders shaping global health research and policy

WHITE PAPER

Outlining six actionable approaches to empower African research and development.

CJSLF Impact Spotlight Links

- [Two Calestous Juma Fellows named among 100 Most Influential Africans](#)
- [Professor Nakimuli awarded at FIGO Congress for outstanding Contribution to Women and Child Health](#)
- [Yaw Bediako Recognized Among The 100 Most Influential CEOs in Oncology in 2025](#)
- [Introducing the African Data and Biospecimen Exchange - ADBEx](#)
- [Actionable Approaches to Empower African Research & Development](#)



Dr. Patrick Amoth (middle), Director General for Health, Ministry of Health, Kenya, flags off the End Post-partum Hemorrhage (PPH) Run 2025 at Ulinzi Sports Stadium in Nairobi, Kenya. As Africa grapples with high maternal mortality, the End PPH Run, organised by CJ Fellow Prof. Moses Obimbo stands as a unifying platform to connect global commitments with local realities. It is a reminder that women's health is not just a medical issue but also a question of equity, dignity, and justice.



From left: Kestef Tesfagiorgis, Deputy Director, Global Partnerships and Grand Challenges, Gates Foundation, Calestous Juma Science Leadership Fellows: Collen Masimirembwa, Isabella Oyier, Nicki Tiffin and Yaw Bediako at a panel discussion during the 2025 Evidence for Development Conference. The session titled "Empowering African R&D - Practical Pathways to Resilience and Impact" focused on the need for standardised, context-appropriate data systems and stronger collaboration between public and private sectors as a means to building resilient research and development ecosystem across Africa.

Science Innovation, Translation and Entrepreneurship

Translating research into tangible
products, tools and systems.



Grand Challenges Africa

The Grand Challenges Africa (GC Africa) initiative drives Africa-led scientific innovation to help countries better achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by awarding seed and scale-up grants to fund the most promising, research-based scientific solutions. The initiative continues to anchor Africa's science innovation ecosystem with a USD 27 million portfolio from the Gates Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, Wellcome, the Patrick J McGovern Foundation, Foundation S and others.

In 2025, the team achieved a key milestone by mobilising USD 1.2 million for the Modelling for Health in Africa (ModHA) cohort and hosting its inception meeting, marking the transition to implementation.

Investments in women's health were a key area of focus, spanning both product development and research. The launch of the vaginal formulations request-for-proposals process marked an expansion of the pipeline for women's health innovations, while the Gynaecological Conditions learning agenda advanced knowledge generation in priority areas, supported by a no-cost extension to deepen research and to enhance global engagement. In parallel, the Genetic Associations of Infertility (GAIN) study strengthened Africa's leadership in genetic research on infertility, with five country sites activated and progressing into participant screening.

Beyond women's health, GC Africa sustained momentum across climate-resilient agriculture despite environmental challenges, implementing no-cost extensions to safeguard delivery and maintain scientific output. The establishment of the AI for Global Health Community of Practice further strengthened collaboration and knowledge exchange among innovators.



The GC Africa team organised the Women's Health Innovation Workshop on Gynaecological Conditions in Africa in Nairobi, Kenya from 8-9 July 2025, bringing together experts from across Africa, funders, and people with lived experience to address the neglect of gynaecological health.



**\$27
Million**

Total innovation portfolio anchored by Grand Challenges Africa

**\$1.2
Million**

Mobilised in 2025 for the Modelling for Health in Africa initiative

5

Number of countries advancing genetic research in women's health

Tackling Emerging Global Priorities

Emerging and re-emerging health threats, disease outbreaks, pandemics, antimicrobial resistance and non-communicable diseases, require sustainable solutions and preventive mechanisms for human health and to address the interaction among these global threats and climate change, agriculture and food systems.



Africa Pandemic Sciences Collaborative (The Collaborative)

The multi-year Collaborative, backed by USD 60 million in funding, is led by the SFA Foundation in partnership with Oxford University's Pandemic Sciences Institute, with support from the Mastercard Foundation. The initiative funds seven Epidemic Science Leadership and Innovation Networks (EPSILONS), each made up of three to five partner institutions. Together, these form a robust network of African institutions advancing pandemic science capacity for sustained, collaborative research across academia, industry, government, and policy organisations. EPSILONS supports the career development of scientists and other professionals in pandemic sciences, helping prepare Africa to anticipate and respond to epidemics and pandemics.

The Collaborative Inception Meeting, held in Nairobi from 13-15 May 2025, convened about 120 individuals from the EPSILON community and key stakeholders, including the International Vaccine Institute, Africa CDC, CEPI, and Africa Oxford Initiative. This landmark gathering brought together the key actors who will drive the Collaborative's agenda over the coming years.

The policy workstream achieved significant milestones through the Individual Policy Exchange Programme (iPEP), which enables early-career researchers to translate research into policy at national public health institutions. Five iPEP fellows were placed in national public health institutes: two each in Kenya and Uganda, and one in Zambia.



Delegates at the Africa Pandemic Sciences Collaborative inception meeting held in Nairobi, Kenya from 13-15 May 2025.

<p>\$60 Million</p> <p>Investment powering Africa's pandemic science ecosystem</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Networks (EPSILONS): Epidemic Science Leadership and Innovation Networks advancing pandemic preparedness</p>	<p>120+</p> <p>Stakeholders engaged at the Collaborative launch, including global partners and institutions</p>
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Strengthening Africa's Clinical Trials Ecosystem

The Clinical Research and Trials Community (CRTC) builds sustainable capacity, mobilises ethical investment and fosters trust and collaboration among researchers, regulators, sponsors, funders and communities for clinical research. It coordinates research and engagement through the Clinical Trials Community online platform and the Clinical Trials Community Africa Network.

The Clinical Trials Community Africa Network (CTCAN)

In 2025, CTCAN completed the implementation to consolidate clinical trial readiness in 24 African countries. Kenya, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Nigeria and South Africa were visited in-country to pilot assessment frameworks. Regulatory, ethics and operational requirements used operational templates developed for CRTC. Core preparedness resources include the Clinical Trial Preparedness Compendium, a site self-assessment module and an electronic medical record implementation playbook. CTCAN hosted a side meeting at the European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) Forum on strengthening clinical research coordination in Africa, convened a dialogue at the CPHIA conference on clinical trial preparedness in pandemic settings, and supported a regional seminar to disseminate WHO guidelines on best practices for clinical trials. The External Advisory Board is charged with providing strategic oversight and alignment with continental stakeholders.

24

African countries reached as CTCAN completed implementation to consolidate clinical trial readiness across the continent



The Cross-Pharma Capacity Development Initiative (CPCDI)

CPCDI collaborates with global and regional strategic partners and participates in strategic events to deploy collective expertise and resources for clinical trial implementation in Africa. It builds local capacity, facilitates regulatory harmonisation and fosters innovation. Throughout 2025, the CPCDI secretariat collaborated closely with global and regional strategic partners, organised advisory committee discussions to develop a joint roadmap for implementation and attended or organised key strategic events to highlight critical capacity and gaps within Africa's clinical trial ecosystem.

The Advisory Committee developed a joint, three-year draft roadmap to coordinate Africa's clinical research and clinical trials ecosystem through industry investment, harmonised regulation and capacity building

with the African Union's Africa Medicines Agency (AMA) and Africa CDC. Clinical research capacity data from the R&D Pipeline from the Impact Global Health study informed the Committee. The roadmap will be validated in 2026.

Engagements with the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers & Associations (IFPMA) and AUDA-NEPAD's African Medicines Regulatory Harmonisation provided a holistic view of clinical trials capabilities that can be leveraged to inform future investments and catalyse potential partnerships, including with GSK and the Africa Pharmaceutical Network. These collaborations reinforce CPCDI's reputation as a credible convening platform for industry, regulatory bodies and implementing partners.

Pathogen Genomics Funders Forum

The Pathogen Genomics Funders Forum increases the effectiveness, coherence and equity of investments in pathogen genomics in low- and middle-income countries with the dissemination of resources and reports on pathogen genomic sequencing in these countries. Launched in 2025, it is available without barriers to all. Forty-eight entities from 29 organisations contributed to pathogen genomic sequencing funding.

The first Pathogen Genomics Funders Forum in-person meeting was hosted by Wellcome to align funder priorities and define future collaborations. Priority areas identified were confronting substantial cuts in global health support, creation of a dynamic landscape map for ongoing investments, data sharing and data sovereignty, emergency preparedness, procurement and supply chain management, and the role of AI in pathogen genomic sequencing.

The Forum partnered with WHO's International Pathogen Surveillance Network to launch a webinar series on pathogen genomic sequencing topics. The inaugural program was on Mpox, followed by TB and Metagenomics Surveillance for Emerging Threats. The webinars enjoyed strong participation and reinforced global dialogue to translate surveillance into actionable public health outcomes.

48

Contributing Entities supporting pathogen genomic sequencing investments

29

Organisations Engaged, driving global collaboration across funders

6

Priority Areas Defined, including data sovereignty, AI, supply chains, and emergency preparedness



The first Pathogen Genomics Funders Forum in-person meeting held at the Wellcome offices in London, United Kingdom from 19-20 May 2025.



Harare Family Care CRS site visit by SFA Foundation's Clinical Research & Trials Community team situated in Parirenyatwa Hospital, Harare Zimbabwe, to pilot and refine the Clinical Trials Community Africa Network-developed assessment tool for mapping and evaluating the capabilities of clinical trial sites and laboratories. The visit took place on 10 March 2025.

Clinical Trials Community Platform



The Clinical Trials Community (CTC) platform expands access to African clinical research information on clinical trial sites, laboratories, national regulatory authorities, ethics committees, researchers and logistics capacity. SFA Foundation hosted quarterly Advisory Committee meetings of experts, including from Africa CDC, African Vaccine Regulatory Forum (AVAREF), research institutions, funding organisations, the private sector and industry. Outputs from CTCAN, such as the Clinical Trial Preparedness Compendium and its associated self-assessment tool, added practical resources that help clinical trial sites assess readiness.

Climate-Health-Agriculture-Biodiversity Programme (C-HAB)

C-HAB addresses the interconnected challenges of climate change, public health, agrifood systems, and biodiversity in Africa. Its five-year roadmap was approved and has attracted growing interest from governments and funders.

SFA Foundation served as an Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) observer in October 2025, providing the opportunity to position African scientists and policy experts in IPCC assessments, including African evidence in global reports and ensure that African priorities, contexts and knowledge systems are more effectively reflected in international climate policy decisions.

The Foundation partnered with the Government of Kenya, the IPCC Bureau and National Focal Points, AGNES, CIFOR-ICRAF, the University of Nairobi and others to hold a Pan-African IPCC outreach. It included academic, NGO and other research experts institutions to sensitize and strengthen the

meaningful participation of African scientists and experts in the IPCC during the Seventh Assessment Cycle (AR7) and beyond. All five sub-regions of Africa were represented.

The Foundation advised the negotiating position of Kenya's delegation to the IPCC 63rd Plenary to strengthen Kenya's contributions and position the Foundation as an honest broker for African scientific communities in international climate policy. In partnership with the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD), Wellcome, the Brown University Pandemic Center and the Rockefeller Foundation, C-HAB convened a high-level roundtable at the Second Africa Climate Summit for health resilience in Africa. It resolved to accelerate technical and institutional capacity, establish multi-sectoral coordination, secure high-level political leadership and mobilise co-financing.



AfDB Annual Meeting - MDB-Philanthropy Breakfast Meeting, Abidjan. With representatives of Bankers without Borders (BwB) and Prof. Njuguna Ndungu (right), former Governor Central Bank of Kenya and Minister of Finance, Kenya.



African Population Cohorts Consortium (APCC)

APCC brings together population cohorts - a specific group of individuals within a larger population who share a common characteristic, experience, or time-based event and are tracked together over time. This cross continental collaboration to harnesses Africa's extraordinary diversity and its research potential. Our vision is to unite these cohorts to promote scientific breakthroughs, build a robust African evidence base, and strengthen policy and practice towards attaining equitable universal health coverage for all. To achieve this, APCC is establishing the infrastructure and governance framework needed to mobilise existing population cohorts and implement the APCC Blueprint.

Our initial work will establish a secretariat to manage day-to-day activities and formalise cohort membership, develop strategic research programmes that address Africa's most pressing health challenges, coordinate member cohorts with regional and national stakeholders to advance population cohort-based science, develop ethical, data and bio-sample sharing guidelines for research. This work will enhance African population cohort data harmonisation, standardisation and access. These efforts are organised across five active workstream divisions: Secretariat & Governance, Strategic Research Programme, Cohort & Stakeholder Engagement, Trusted Research Environment and Ethics Programme, each led by experienced researchers from member institutions.

5

Active workstreams driving implementation of the APCC Blueprint

- Secretariat & Governance
- Strategic Research Programme
- Cohort & Stakeholder Engagement
- Trusted Research Environment
- Ethics Programme

4

Core priority areas in the initial phase:

- Secretariat establishment
- Strategic research programmes
- Stakeholder coordination
- Data, ethics & biosample frameworks

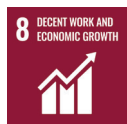
APCC Timeline



The APCC was officially launched in May 2024 at a landmark meeting in Cape Town, South Africa, where representatives from 45 cohorts across 16 African countries endorsed the APCC Blueprint, a strategic framework that defines its mission, values, governance, and research agenda.

Strengthening Science Ecosystems

Building stronger science ecosystems across Africa — advancing governance, inclusive leadership and institutional capacity, while developing open, African-owned knowledge systems and deepening regional collaboration.



Strengthening Science Ecosystems

Strengthening science ecosystems enhances governance, inclusive leadership and institutional capacity, develops open, African-owned knowledge systems and fosters regional collaboration. It builds robust, well-managed and impactful research environments that support high-quality science and ensure knowledge is translated into tangible societal benefits.

In 2025, the team published and launched the Good Research Management Practice (GRMP) standard. The Standard was published at the African Organisation for Standardisation (ARSO) 31st General Assembly in Tanzania, significantly enhancing continental legitimacy and positioning the standard for widespread institutional adoption across Africa. At its 16th Quinquennial Meeting, the Association of African Universities resolved to adopt and promote the GRMP Standard to its membership, opening a powerful pathway for widespread academic integration. Comprehensive GRMP audit and training materials were finalised, providing practical tools for self-assessment, capacity building, and structured rollout across diverse organisations.

Progress also continued towards strengthening financial management standards. The revised Good Financial Grant Practice (GFGP) Standard remains on track for publication in June 2026, while certification efforts expanded across institutions. Aga Khan University achieved GFGP Platinum Tier certification, demonstrating excellence in governance, financial management and risk controls. The team provided targeted support to Addis Ababa University, Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources, the University of Cape Town and Institut Pasteur de Tunis, all of which enhanced their grant management systems and progressed toward certification.



Prof. Shaukat Abdulrazak, Principal Secretary, State Department for Science, Research and Innovation, Republic of Kenya, on 17 October 2025, presided over the official launch of the SFA Foundation-developed Good Research Management Practice (GRMP) Standard.



The Aga Khan University Research Office in Kenya was on 23 October 2025 awarded the Platinum certification under the Good Financial Grant Practice (GFGP) Standard, the highest level of global compliance in financial governance and grant management.

Open Research

In 2025, notable progress was made in advancing Open Research as a continental system, grounded in equity, sustainability, and African leadership. Key achievements included the promotion of Diamond Open Access models, strengthening of open repositories, support for multilingual communities of practice, and advancing responsible research assessment as a core component of open scholarship. Collectively, these efforts contributed to repositioning Open Research as a public good, supporting a more inclusive, resilient, and representative knowledge ecosystem across Africa.

Significant strides were also made in coalition building and global engagement. Science granting councils, partners, and funders were convened around a shared Vision Statement on Open Research for Africa, aligning stakeholders behind a unified, African-led agenda. This vision gained international visibility through high-level platforms, including a UNGA 80 side event and the UN Science, Technology and Innovation Forum, strengthening credibility and creating momentum for broader adoption and co-investment.

MILESTONE

A shared vision statement on Open Research for Africa, uniting stakeholders and funders behind a unified, African-led agenda

GLOBAL REACH

The Foundation participated in two high-level UN events - UNGA 80 and the Science, Technology and Innovation Forum

SYSTEMS REFORM

Based on four pillars — Diamond Open Access, open repositories, multilingual knowledge communities, and responsible research assessment



United Nations
STI FORUM

Tuesday, 6 May 2025

10:00am–11:00am EST | 5:00pm–6:00pm EAT |
4:00pm–5:00pm SAT | 3:00pm–4:00pm BST

VIRTUAL SIDE EVENT

The Future of Open Access: How Science Diplomacy Can Champion Equitable Knowledge Systems Through Global Research Publishing Reform

PANELISTS



Tom Drake
Associate, International
Network for Advancing Science
and Policy - *Moderator*



Evelyn Gitau
Chief Scientific Officer,
SFA Foundation



Nathaniel Bevan
Interim Chief Scientific Adviser
and Director of Research and
Evidence, UK FCO



Alphonsus Neba
Program Director, African
Population and Health
Research Centre



Nokuthula Mchunu
Director, International Collaborative
Research Grants, National
Research Foundation (South Africa)



Ezra Clark
Chief of Section, Science
Technology & Innovation
Policy, UNESCO

*This virtual convening is a side event at the 10th Multistakeholder Forum on Science Technology and Innovation (STI) for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) taking place at the UN HQ, New York, USA from 7–8 May 2025. *

ENQUIRIES
stforum@scienceforafrica.foundation

REGISTER HERE
bit.ly/4jvds1q

SFA Foundation brought Africa's Open Research agenda to two of the world's most influential science stages: the UN General Assembly Science Summit and the UN STI Forum, convening voices from government, philanthropy and research.



SCIENCE SUMMIT
NEW YORK CITY | 2025

Financing Open Research for Global Development: Challenges & Opportunities

TUESDAY, 9 SEPTEMBER 2025

VIRTUAL EVENT



7:00am–8:45am EDT | 2:00pm–3:45pm EAT
1:00pm–2:45pm SAT | 12:00pm–1:45pm BST

Co-organised by:



SCIENCE FOR AFRICA
FOUNDATION



UK International Development
Partnership | Progress | Prosperity



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Science Communication and Engagement

Science communication and engagement lifts the voices of African science and research, develops and sustains community and public engagement initiatives and positions SFA Foundation as a thought leader in emerging policy spaces such as Artificial Intelligence (AI.) The portfolio transitioned from coordination to strategic impact through storytelling, product development, articulation of societal relevance of research, and the uptake and influence of research-based evidence. Strategic partnerships built through these activities reflects the Foundation's commitment to making science heard, accessible and trusted, as well as impactful to people's lives.



Echoes of Evidence Podcast

The [Echoes of Evidence](#) science podcast, launched in September, seeks to rebuild public trust in science, promote science literacy, elevate African research voices, foster pan-African dialogue, engage policymakers through science-backed narratives and expand accessible science storytelling.

Community and Public Engagement

A Community and Public Engagement (CPE) Guide and associated tools were finalised and beta tested. They empower researchers and CPE practitioners to embed community engagement in research to improve research design, conduct, uptake and impact.

SFA Foundation membership in the WHO expert reference group on Community Engagement and Involvement, and Patient and Public Involvement (CEI/PPI) yielded an engagement landscape map of patients and communities in clinical trials, development of CEI/PPI MEL domains, and a joint publication in *The Lancet* on better engagement for better evidence in clinical trials. Fifteen CPE practitioners were supported to form a network to create joint publications, collaborative grant applications and peer support in CPE practice.

A partnership with The Global Health Network was formalised to collaborate on Community and Public Engagement and science communication through the MESH Platform, an online network for people working in community engagement in global health research.



Africa Science Journalism Awards (ASJA)

The Africa Science Journalism Awards celebrate excellence in health, science and development reporting across Africa. Its second year attracted nearly 200 applicants from over 20 countries. Seven finalists from seven countries were recognised across categories on the sidelines of the World Conference of Science Journalists, also offering opportunities for capacity strengthening and professional networking. Redesign and re-strategisation are in development for the third year of ASJA.



Partnerships that Advance Science

In 2025, the Foundation strengthened its role as a strategic convener within the global science and innovation ecosystem by deepening engagement with governments, global funders, and multilateral platforms. Through deliberate stakeholder engagement, the Foundation elevated African research priorities in global decision-making spaces and reinforced its position as a platform through which African scientific leadership shapes international research and innovation agendas. This positioning was advanced through targeted participation in key global policy and financing forums, including the United Nations General Assembly and the G-20. These engagements strengthened relationships with governments and development partners, while building momentum around sustainable financing models to support African-led research and innovation. In doing so, the Foundation contributed to growing recognition of Africa's role in addressing global scientific and health challenges.

Policy and Knowledge Translation

Nine policy outputs and three publications were delivered, alongside more than 15 thought leadership outputs. The team contributed to G20 policy by articulating Africa's collective voice in global health governance. The *Data.Digital.AI for Brain Health* initiative was convened under the Davos Alzheimer's Collaborative, contributing to AI-driven brain health innovation discussions to inform the G20 action plan.

Six AI and global health policy reports were launched, reaching 5.9 million people across 27 countries, including Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania, Tunisia and the UAE. A multilingual virtual launch in English, French, and Arabic attracted 192 attendees and resulted in 79 media features across the continent.

The inaugural [Evidence for Development Conference](#) in May brought together over 230 participants from 25 countries, including policymakers, researchers, development partners and civil society representatives, establishing SFA Foundation as a convener of evidence-to-policy dialogue in Africa.

Economic Community of West African States ECOWAS recognition and an invitation to contribute to regional dialogue on ethical AI frameworks for pandemic preparedness had a significant influence on regional policy. A new cohort of health data modellers worked to increase policy impact and secured funding.

5.9 million

People reached across
27 countries, amplifying
Africa's voice in global
health policy

27+

policy and thought
leadership outputs,
including 9 policy reports
and 3 publications

79

Media features secured,
boosting continental
visibility and influence

230+

Participants from
25 countries at the
inaugural *Evidence for
Development Conference*



Dr. Evelyn Gitau, SFA Foundation Chief Scientific Officer delivers opening remarks at the Evidence for Development (Evi4Dev) Conference, held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 6–8 May 2025. The conference brought together researchers, policymakers, funders and development partners to explore how evidence can drive more effective policies and sustainable development across Africa.

Advancing Global Health

A partnership with the Brown University Pandemic Centre, the Universities of Tunis, the University of Witwatersrand and NTIBio produced the continent's first Africa Health Security Index (AHS). As the Africa regional partner, SFA Foundation ensures accurate inclusion of the continent's health security landscape and context. At the Africa Health Agenda International Conference, the Foundation collaborated with the Rockefeller Foundation and Africa CDC to draft the first Strategic Framework for Climate Change and Health for Africa. This work led to the creation of a permanent seat for the SFA Foundation on the Rockefeller Foundation's Expert Advisors Group.

SFA Foundation is a member of the Preparedness Financing Working Group to advise the G20 High Level Independent Panel on Financing the Global Commons for Pandemic Preparedness and Response. Its report, *"CLOSING THE DEAL: Financing our Security Against Pandemic Threats,"* was presented at the G20 Summit.

The Climate and Health Innovation Programme, which supports innovation ecosystems and research collaboration across Africa, was developed with Grand Challenges Canada and other global partners. The programme has a budget of USD 50 million initially and a goal to raise USD 150 million over five years. It serves as a new model for financing local climate–health solutions and was recognised as a Commitment to Action at the 2025 Clinton Global Initiative.

SFA Foundation joined the International Consortium for Personalised Medicine (ICPerMed), an Africa–Europe collaboration for personalised medicine research, policy and innovation, and supported Kenya's membership.

\$50 million

Programme launched for the Climate and Health Innovation Programme

4

Strategic institutional partners (Brown University Pandemic Center, University of Tunis, University of Witwatersrand, NTIBio)

3

Major institutions convened (SFA Foundation, Rockefeller Foundation, Africa CDC)

1

Landmark continental index developed – Africa's first Africa Health Security Index (AHS)

Africa's Scientific Leadership: A Catalyst for Global Progress

Redefining Africa's Place in the Global Scientific Landscape

At the 80th United Nations General Assembly
UNGA 80) Science Summit



Dr. Tom Kariuki delivers the opening address at the SFA Foundation high-level event during the Science Summit alongside the 80th United Nations General Assembly (UNGA80) in New York, USA, on 22 September 2025. Bringing together senior African government officials, representatives of national and continental agencies, multilateral organisations, science funders, philanthropies, the private sector and global research institutions, the session highlighted the critical role of African-led science, technology and innovation in advancing the continent's priorities while addressing global challenges.

Strengthening African Science Systems

SFA Foundation attended a high-level AUDA-NEPAD convening at the Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF) and the African Development Bank (AfDB) Annual Meetings to explore co-financing, scaling, leverage of convening power, and other strategic forms of collaboration.

The Foundation extended its engagement with the Centre for Research on Evaluation, Science and Technology (CREST) as a founding member of the African Science, Technology and Innovation Leaders Forum (ASTIL). ASTIL convenes representatives of African universities, academies, funders and STI policymakers to facilitate debate and action to address barriers to STI adoption in Africa and increase Africa's visibility and influence in global STI. It also shared data for CREST's Africa-wide initiative to provide open access information on STI funding flows, and participated in the launch of its data dashboard during Science Forum South Africa (SFSA 2025). STI Funding Flows is a website created by a three-year mandate to overhaul research evaluation and funding systems in Africa to enable analysis of statistics and patterns of science, technology and innovation funding to and among African countries for the period from 2000 to 2024. Most STI funding on the continent originates outside Africa.

Co-Designing Global Funding Architecture

SFA Foundation collaborated with Grand Challenges Canada, Foundation S, and the Children's Investment Fund Foundation to design a USD 50 million Climate and Health Grand Challenge. The Foundation contributed significantly to the analysis of 6,000 global survey responses, ensuring that funding priorities are grounded in real-world data ahead of presentation at the World Health Assembly in May and the UN General Assembly in September. SFA Foundation contributed to strategic discussions at Oxford University to identify infrastructure needs for the Africa Pandemic Science Centre.

Governing Emerging Technologies

SFA Foundation was the voice for African scientific interests at the Paris Conference on Mirror Biology at L'Institut Pasteur, engaging the WHO Chief Scientist and other global science leaders directly to ensure that African regulatory and ethical perspectives contribute to emerging global standards for synthetic biology. The engagement also opened a pathway for African researchers to access the Mirror Biology Dialogues Fund; up to three Dialogues will be held in Africa in 2026, including one to be hosted by the SFA Foundation.



Participants at the Paris Conference on Risks from Mirror Life, held from 12-13 June 2025 at l'Institut Pasteur in Paris, France. The conference marked the first in a series of global meetings planned throughout 2025 and 2026, to explore pathways for research and policy to mitigate the potential risks of mirror life.

Driving Collective Climate Action

The Africa Climate Summit was a joint effort of the SFA Foundation, African Centre of Meteorological Application for Development (ACMAD), the Rockefeller Foundation and Wellcome. It hosted the Secretary General of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Prof. Celeste Saulo, who articulated a plan for a climate and health data capacity accelerator and announced Wellcome's intention to invest substantially in global climate services to support the health sector.

To elevate the SFA Foundation's standing and influence within the global climate research landscape, we continue to maintain active strategic alignment with the WMO's Research Programmes through our seat on the WMO Research Board. In September, the SFA Foundation deepened its continental engagement by participating in a World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) workshop in Cape Town, focused on *"Building Actionable Climate Information."*



Dr. Ousmane Ndiaye, Director General, African Centre of Meteorological Application for Development (ACMAD) speaking at a side event on the sidelines of the 2nd Africa Climate Summit (ACS2), in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 8 September 2025.

Financial Performance, Sustainability and Stewardship

Financial Review and Outlook

\$216M
SFA Foundation's
total grant
portfolio

\$30M
Total income in
2025

\$28.8M
Amount invested
in programmes
and operations

\$1.2M
Surplus
strengthening
long-term
sustainability

Against a backdrop of significant shifts in the global development financing landscape in 2025 and with the anticipation of further uncertainty to come, the SFA Foundation maintained a strong financial position while continuing to invest in the systems, people and partnerships required to support Africa's scientific leadership agenda.

The Foundation recorded total income of **USD 30 million** over the year, a modest increase from the year prior. Total expenditures remained stable at **USD 28.8 million**, generating a surplus of **USD 1.2 million**, which helped build unrestricted reserves and reinforce long-term sustainability. Over the year, the Foundation managed a cumulative grant portfolio of almost **USD 216 million**, supported by a diverse group of global partners including Wellcome, APSI/Mastercard Foundation, Gates Foundation, Grand Challenges Canada, FCDO, Andrew Carnegie Foundation and the Patrick J. McGovern Foundation.

The largest component of spending was, as budgeted, programme expenses at **57.8%** of all spending, to directly serve the organisation's mission and commitments. These funds were drawn down against restricted grants, in alignment with funder agreements and approved budgets. Administrative costs represented **25.1%** of funds spent, providing the necessary operational framework and overhead to sustain programme implementation. Employee costs accounted for **16.8%** of total expenses, and governance costs remained minimal at **0.3%**. This spending profile reflects a well-balanced allocation of

resources consistent with budget, with a clear emphasis on programmatic impact, while maintaining adequate investment in operational support and a robust, expert workforce to enable effective programme delivery and sustain and retain SFA Foundation's experienced workforce.

This financial discipline has resulted in the continued confidence of funding partners in the Foundation's ability to design, manage and cost high-impact scientific programmes across the continent.

Building Financial Resilience

A financial highlight of the year was the growth in unrestricted income generated through indirect cost recovery and management of holdings: unrestricted income increased by over **50%**, reaching **USD 1.66 million**. This growth is particularly significant given the increasingly constrained global funding sector in which many organisations faced reductions in development assistance and heightened competition for funding. The growth enabled the Foundation greater flexibility to strengthen institutional capacity, invest in strategic priorities, respond to opportunities and support organizational growth.

SFA Foundation's ability to maintain income, oversee spending, grow unrestricted revenue and increase surplus reflects the strength of its value proposition and indicates strong partnerships earned by operational credibility within the African science ecosystem.

Financial Performance, Sustainability and Stewardship

Investing in Organisational Capacity

The Foundation continued to invest in its people, systems and institutional infrastructure to support future growth and organisational autonomy. This strategy resulted in increased human resource expense to expand specialist capacity across programme management, finance, grants operations, systems and support functions. An increase in administrative costs similarly enabled investment in operational platforms, governance structures, digital systems, management of increasingly complex programmes and strengthened accountability. This allowed SFA Foundation to deliver greater impact across Africa’s research ecosystem and position the Foundation for continued growth.

Balance Sheet and Liquidity Position

The Foundation’s balance sheet grew considerably during the year: total assets increased by **42%**, from **USD 16.9 million** to **USD 24.0 million**. Net assets grew by **62%** to about **USD 3 million**. This growth reflects both a positive operating result and the continued expansion of the Foundation’s programme portfolio.

Cash and cash equivalents closed the year at **USD 12.3 million**, providing sufficient liquidity to meet operational obligations and programme commitments. Deferred income, funding received for future implementation and strengthening the visibility of near-term programme delivery, increased to **USD 19.4 million**.

The Foundation maintained a current ratio of about **1:1**, demonstrating its continued ability to meet short-term obligations while supporting ongoing programme implementation

and organisational growth

Governance and Accountability

The Foundation’s financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2025 were independently audited by Ernst & Young (EY), which issued an unqualified audit opinion, confirming that the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position and performance of the organisation and reflect the strength of the Foundation’s governance, financial management systems and internal control environment.

Looking Ahead

As SFA Foundation continues to build organisational autonomy and long-term sustainability, financial management will maintain focus on four strategic priorities, to:

- i. Strengthen full-cost recovery and institutional sustainability.
- ii. Diversify funding sources and increasing unrestricted income.
- iii. Improve operational efficiency and value for money.
- iv. Build adequate reserves to support strategic investments and mitigate future funding volatility.

The Foundation enters 2026 from a position of strength. Supported by a growing funding portfolio, strong liquidity, robust governance systems, and trusted partnerships, SFA Foundation continues to be well positioned to enable African-led science and innovation while building the institutional resilience required for long-term impact.

42%

Growth in total assets from USD 16.9M to USD 24.0M

62%

Growth in net assets, strengthening long-term organisational resilience

4

Strategic financial priorities driving sustainability and long-term growth in 2026

\$19.4M

Amount secured for future programme delivery



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