Grand Challenges
African Drug Discovery
Accelerator

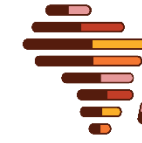GC ADDA Critical Success Factors
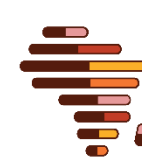
What does success look like?

- To leverage **drug discovery network capabilities** - infectious diseases as the short-term goal and potential to expand to non-infectious diseases in the long-term.

- To collectively put together a **pipeline of clinical candidates** in the next 15 years

- Sustainable drug discovery and development on the African continent by **diversifying funding streams**, obtaining government buy-in, infrastructure development and **extending the ecosystem** (biotech, pharma, academic)

- To **connect** with the African diaspora to accelerate the impact of the network

- To support and **train the next generation** of African drug discovery researchers

Can we convert our objectives into SMART goals? (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Timebound)
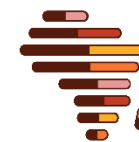
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Strategic Objectives	Critical Success Factor
Diversifying funding streams	Fundraising
Leveraging network capabilities and building a pipeline of drug discovery projects	Drug Discovery Pipeline targets
	Capability Building targets
Training the next generation of drug discovery researchers	Skills development
Extending the ecosystem	Patient advocacy community engagement
	Diaspora engagement
	Industry engagement
Building the network	Membership targets
	Communication and marketing
Any other objectives?	**Any other critical success factors?**

What Initiatives/Activities Fall under each Critical Success Factor?

Strategic Objectives	Critical Success Factor	Potential Initiatives/Activities
Diversifying funding streams	Fundraising	Fundraising for projects, skills development, sustaining the network, Funders to target, routine funding calls to target
Leveraging network capabilities and building a pipeline of drug discovery projects	Drug Discovery Pipeline targets	#projects, Disease area focus, #preclinical candidates,
	Capability Building targets	Areas that need strengthening or don't exist on the continent, platforms/infrastructure
Training the next generation of drug discovery researchers	Skills development	Which communities, what outputs, are there programmes we can build on?
Extending the ecosystem	Patient advocacy community engagement	Are there existing networks we can work with? What are we asking of the diaspora?
	Diaspora engagement	Engagement with scientific exchange, skills development, mentorship etc. Sponsorship/Donations, Collaboration on research projects Formal link between the GC ADDA network and existing industry skills development programmes
	Industry engagement	#workshops, #fellowships, #online courses, #webinars, #mentorships, #number of researchers trained, Job creation targets etc.
Building the network	Membership targets	Publication? Communication? OpEds? Events? Policy roundtables? Social Media targets
	Communication and marketing	#members for the different types, geographic representation, gender representation, countries

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Example Discussion: Industry Engagement

Industry Engagement: Call to action

Call to partner with the H3D Foundation and commit multi-year support for GC ADDA under one or more of the following themes:

1. Scientific exchange
2. Skills development
3. Mentorship
4. Sponsorship/Donations
5. Collaboration on research projects
6. Formal link between the GC ADDA network and existing industry skills development programmes

1. Scientific Exchange

- **Hosting emerging researchers**/post graduate students to learn specific skills/capabilities required for their drug discovery research projects
  - Opportunity for immersion in a drug discovery team
  - Access to specialized equipment
  - Technical transfer of assays/protocols
- **Industry experts seconded** to work with the PI and research group onsite to mentor/transfer specific skills/capabilities
  - Opportunity to assist with implementing new capabilities
  - Opportunity to mentor/train teams of African scientists

2. Skills Development

- Co-host hands-on **training workshops** in drug discovery and related topics

- Providing **training material** for workshops

- Provide **expert speaker(s)** for the H3D-F webinar series

- Support the development of online drug discovery and development **training courses**

3. Mentorship

- **Volunteer as a mentor** in the H3D Global Health Mentorship Program

- Five thematic areas for mentorship
  - the scientific process
  - scientific communication
  - personal interactions
  - career progression
  - scientific responsibility

- 100 mentees have completed the H3D Global Health Mentorship Program since 2019

4. Sponsorship/Donations

- Contribute to a **R&D fund to provide continuity** and expand breadth of funded projects in targeted therapeutic areas

- Student **Bursaries** for drug discovery research projects

- Emerging researcher **travel grants** for training/workshops/skills development

- Sponsorship for Africa-led drug discovery **symposia/conferences**

- Donations of redundant **equipment** to key sites across the continent

# 5. Collaboration on research projects
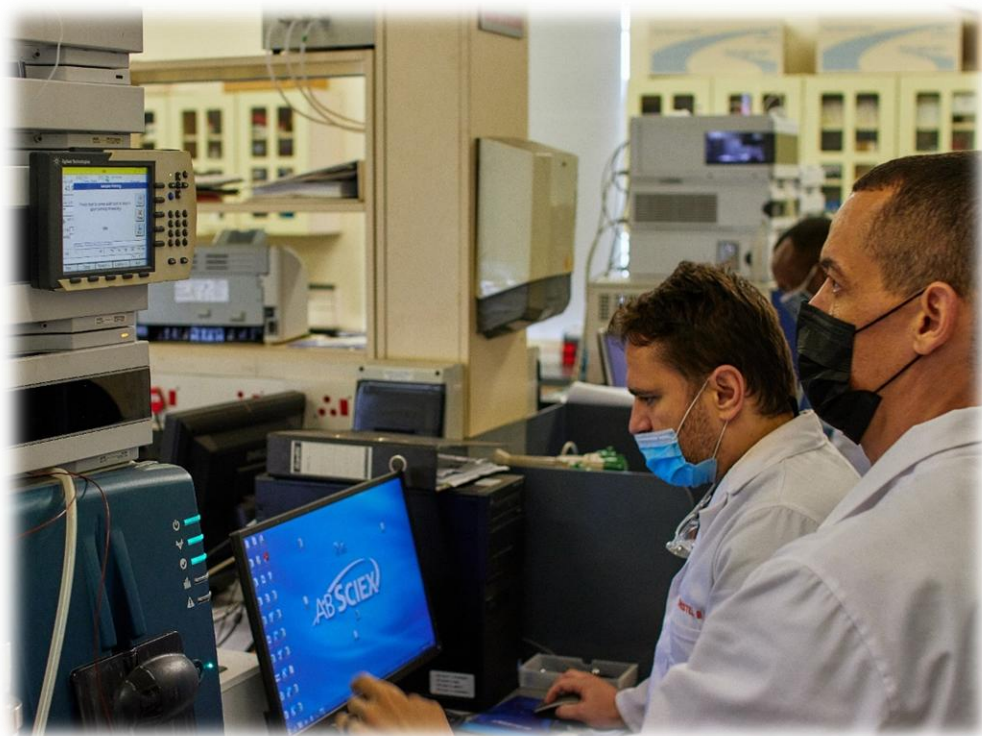
- Initiation of joint drug discovery **projects**

- Provide access to **compound libraries** for screening

- Access to drug discovery **data** for development of computational and AI models

- Providing **access** to specialized technology and capabilities to support Africa-led drug discovery projects
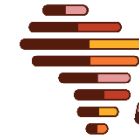
6. Formal link between the GC ADDA network and existing industry skills development program

- Does the industry partner already have a skills development program that GC ADDA could formally participate in? Can we ring fence positions/opportunities in the industry programme for members of GC ADDA network?
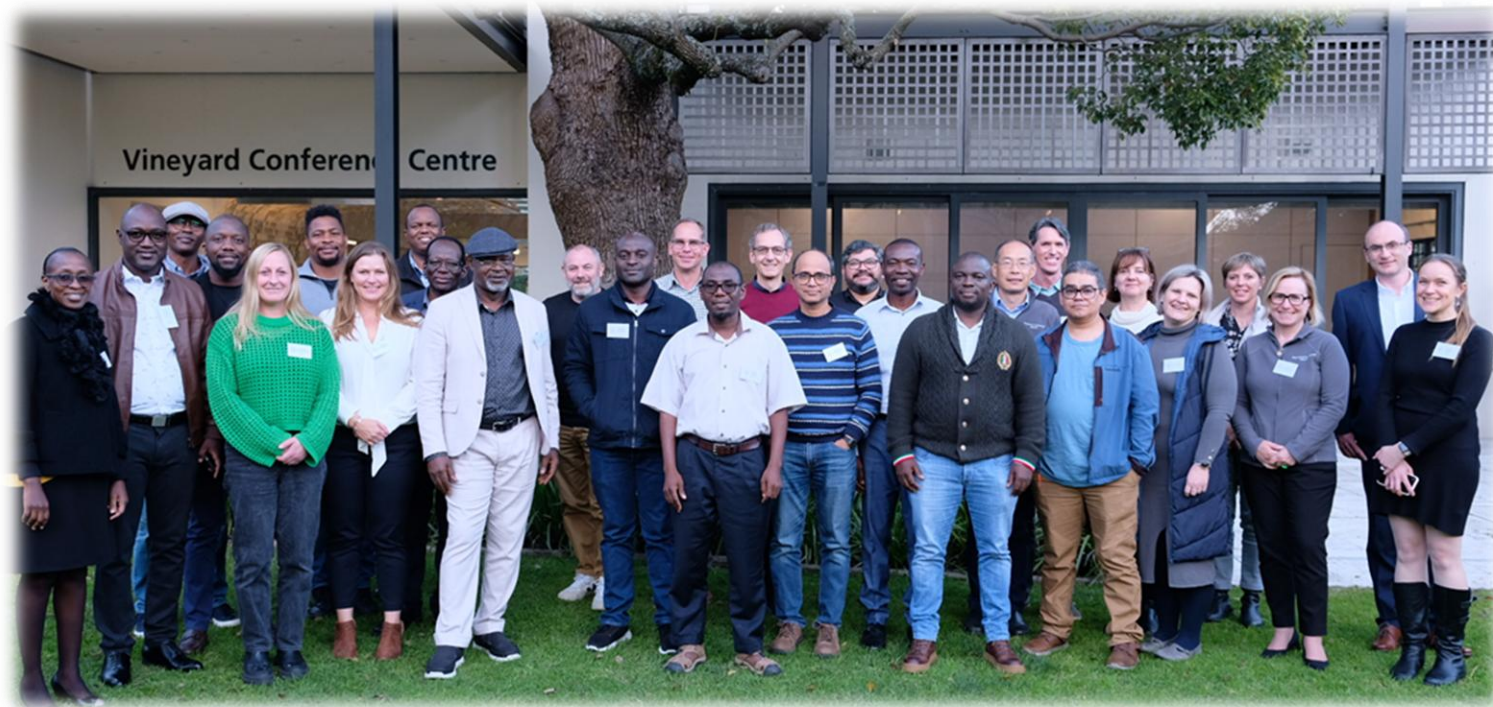
Industry Engagement example

Strategic Objectives	Critical Success Factor	Initiatives	Metrics
Extending the ecosystem	Industry engagement	Joint Research Programmes	# of programmes
		Industry mentors	# of mentors
		Access to Libraries (virtual and/or physical)	
		Access to capabilities	
		Sponsorship/Donations	$ value?
		Involvement in existing industry programme (e.g. Novartis NGS, GSK OpenLabs, MSD Fellowship programme etc.)	
		Other?	

Group Activity

- Nominate a presenter and scribe for your group

- Request a topic or get one at random (max 2 teams/topic)

- Explore the topic/options broadly

- Consider the metrics we could use to measure success

- **Refine down to short, medium and long-term goals (or rank based on importance for the network)**

- When your group is ready, you can request another topic

- Be prepared to present the feedback to the full team after tea (3 min presentation/topic for each of the groups that discussed that topic, 5 min Q&A)
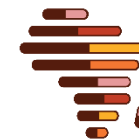
Groups:

- Group 2 Drug Discovery Pipeline Targets: upstairs NB 11

- Group 4 Capability Building Targets: Seminar Room 2

- Group 8 Skills Development Targets: Seminar Room 1

All other groups to stay in Main Auditorium

- Group 1 Fundraising Targets

- Group 5 Patient Advocacy and Community Engagement

- Group 6 Diaspora Engagement

- Group 7 Industry Engagement

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Thank you!