



TAMC REPORT 2024

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

The second annual Transforming African MedTech Conference was held in Nairobi, Kenya from 28th-30th August 2024. With almost **200 stakeholders** from across the African continent (92%) and beyond (8%), delegates spent **three days** learning from experts, discussing relevant issues, hearing from MedTech entrepreneurs, and connecting with like minded professionals.

Addressing Africa's Healthcare Challenges

The conference opened with discussions about Africa's critical healthcare barriers, including access to medical oxygen, affordable healthcare technology, and the need for sustainable systems. Experts like Dr. Bernard Olayo (Hewatele) and Dr. Lucy Mazyanga (Africa CDC) emphasized local innovation and reducing reliance on imports to build stronger, self-reliant systems.

MedTech Innovation and Industry Growth

The MedTech industry's challenges—ranging from dependency on imported devices to regulatory complexities and funding gaps—dominated discussions. Solutions focused on:

- Local manufacturing and tailored innovations.
- Streamlined regulatory processes.
- Blended finance models and strategic partnerships.
- Building skilled workforces and fostering ecosystems for startups.

Policy and Regulatory Improvements

Fragmented regulations in Africa hinder MedTech growth. Experts advocated for harmonizing standards through initiatives like the African Medicines Agency (AMA) to ensure faster approvals, better compliance, and improved patient safety.

Spotlight on Startups

The startup pitching competition highlighted Africa's MedTech ingenuity, with innovators presenting solutions like AI-driven diagnostics and locally produced devices. This year's winning startups are all developing homegrown diagnostic solutions in maternal child health and non-communicable diseases. They received a total of \$20,000 in grant funding and mentorship to develop and scale their impact.

Building a Local MedTech Industry

Africa imports over 90% of the health system's medical devices and equipment resulting in high costs and inefficiencies that are borne by patients. Experts noted the potential for locally developed and manufacturing health technologies and proposed strategies like establishing local assembly plants, creating innovation hubs, and supporting local talent. Sustainable funding and policy support are essential to foster growth.

Strategic Roadmap for Africa

The conference culminated in actionable recommendations:

- 1. Investment:** Develop Africa-specific funding models and attract local and global investors.
- 2. Product Development:** Promote scalable, locally driven innovations to address healthcare gaps.
- 3. Regulation:** Harmonize standards continent-wide to streamline product approvals and enhance safety.

Looking Forward

TAMC 2024 showcased a shared vision of transforming Africa's MedTech landscape through collaboration, innovation, and sustainable practices, setting the stage for improved healthcare outcomes across the continent. Over the next year, in preparation for the next TAMC, working groups have been formed to continue to develop this sector on the African continent.

For the full, detailed report, visit www.africanmedtech.com or scan the QR code.



Sponsored by:



www.africanmedtech.com

