

## Novartis accelerates digital health solutions in sub-Saharan Africa

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### Launches virtual innovation hub



Swiss firm Novartis has announced the launch of its new innovation hub, Novartis Biome sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), which will spearhead the further development of innovative business models and technology-driven solutions to improve healthcare in the region.

The hub will focus on cross-sectoral partnerships to accelerate innovative approaches to increase affordable access to high-quality medicines and sustainably strengthen health systems.

Recognizing that access to medicines remains one of the world's biggest healthcare challenges, and with Africa being home to the largest underserved population in the world, the Novartis Biome SSA will concentrate on four strategic priorities:

- 1) extend affordability of healthcare
- 2) strengthen early diagnosis to drive better outcomes
- 3) lead in supply chain innovation
- 4) support HCP education and patient awareness

Working across these four priorities supports Novartis aspiration to double its patient reach in Sub-Saharan Africa by 2022 and increase it five-fold by 2025.

The Novartis Biome SSA will also continue to build on its partnership with Medtronic Labs to deliver end-to-end care for hypertension and diabetes patients.