

First Climate and Health in Africa Conference | 29 - 31 October 2024 | Harare, Zimbabwe

*The Interconnectedness of the Global
Emergencies of Climate Change, Food Systems
and Health*

Prof Tom Kariuki

CEO, Science for Africa Foundation



Multiplier Effect of Climate Change on Agrifood & Health Systems



Vulnerability of
agriculture sector



Effects on human
health – WASH
infrastructure,
disease & vector
development

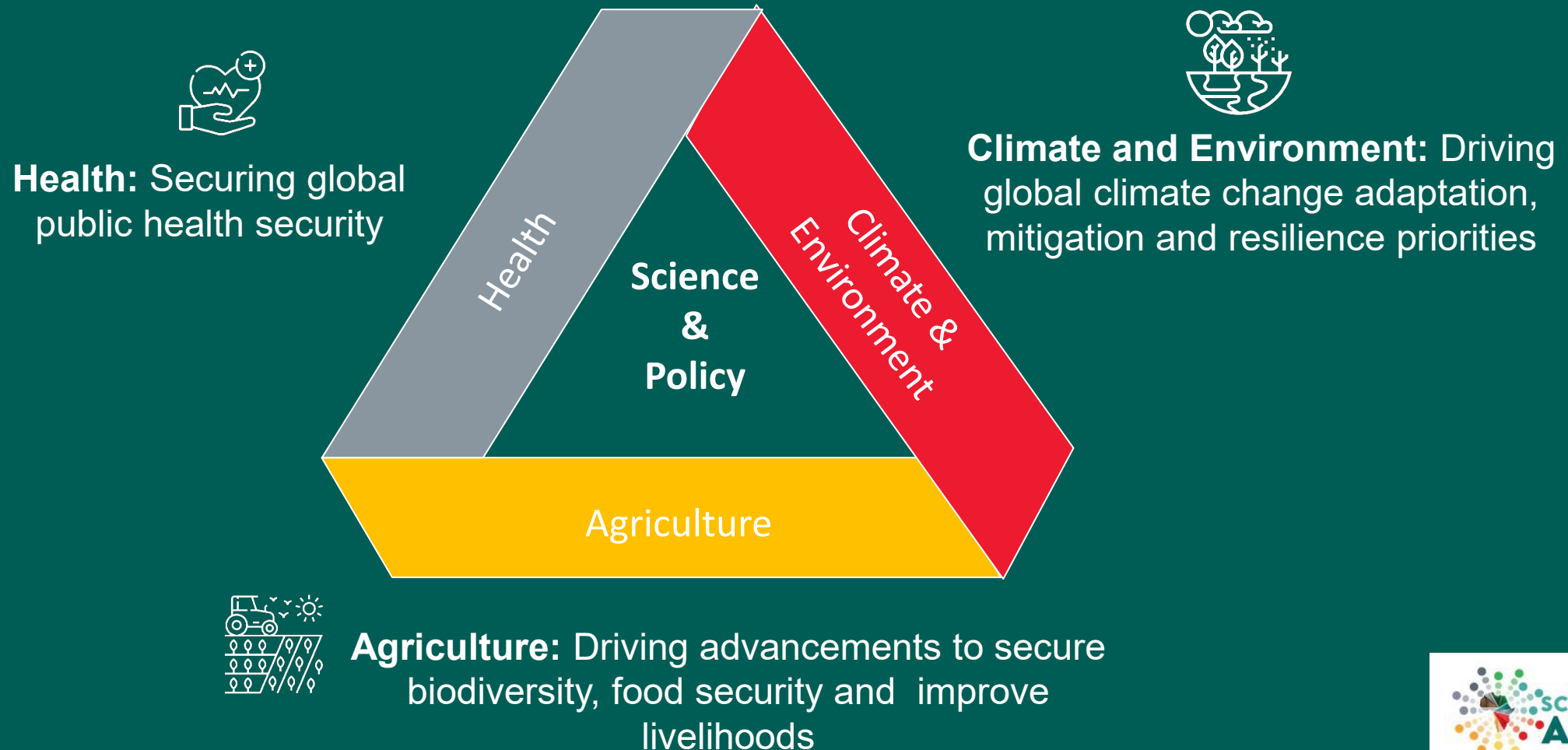


Effects on health &
financial well-being
of women & girls

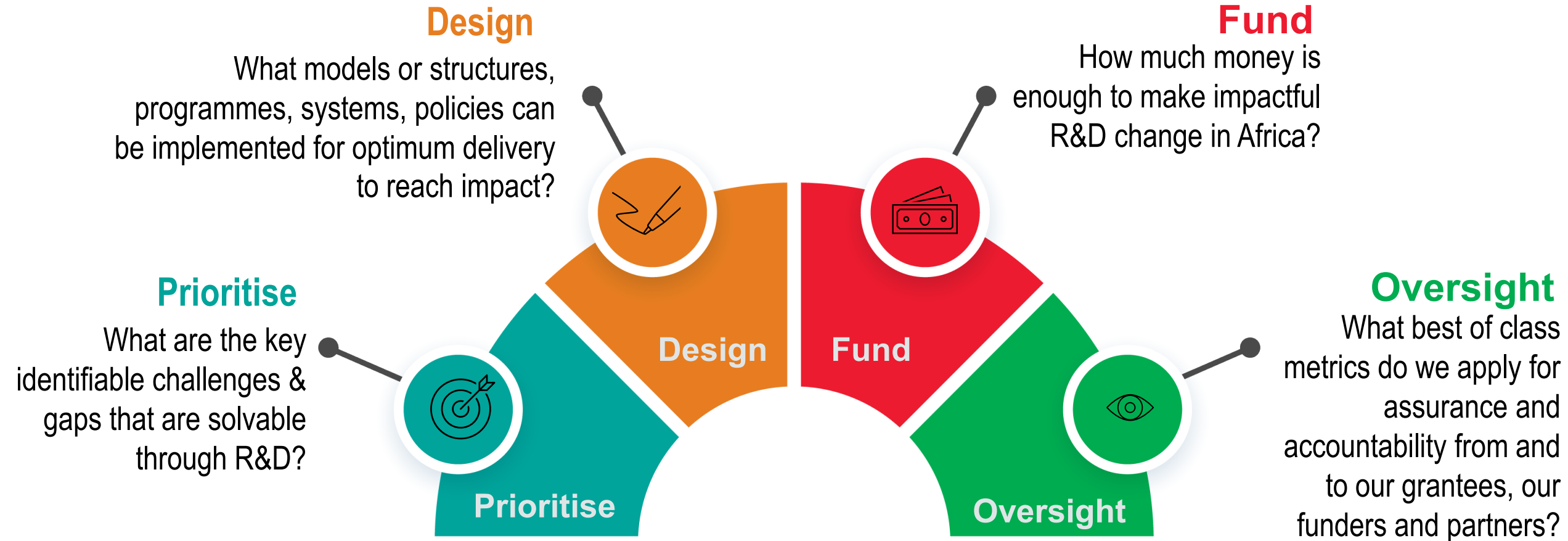
*Kariuki T, Omumbo J, Ciugu K, Marincola E. **The interconnected global emergencies of climate change, food security and health: a call to action by the Science for Africa Foundation.** Open Res Afr. 2023.

Science For Africa Foundation: Our Big Why

We believe science & innovation are central to delivering sustainable development for Africa and our strategic direction is focused on moving *‘from science to impact’*.

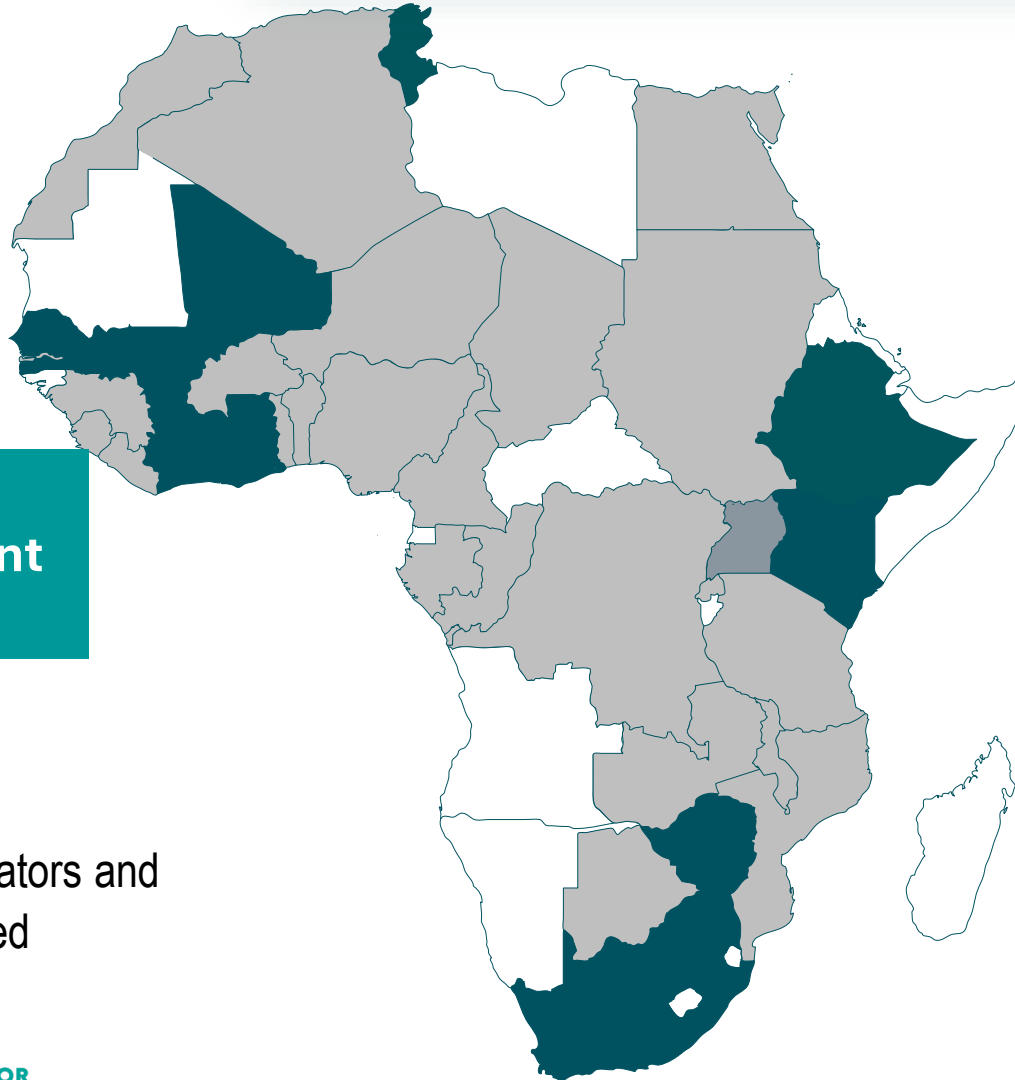


How we engage with Africa's science and innovation ecosystem



Our Engagement Levers: Current Initiatives

Ecosystems Approach – Inter and Trans Disciplinary Research

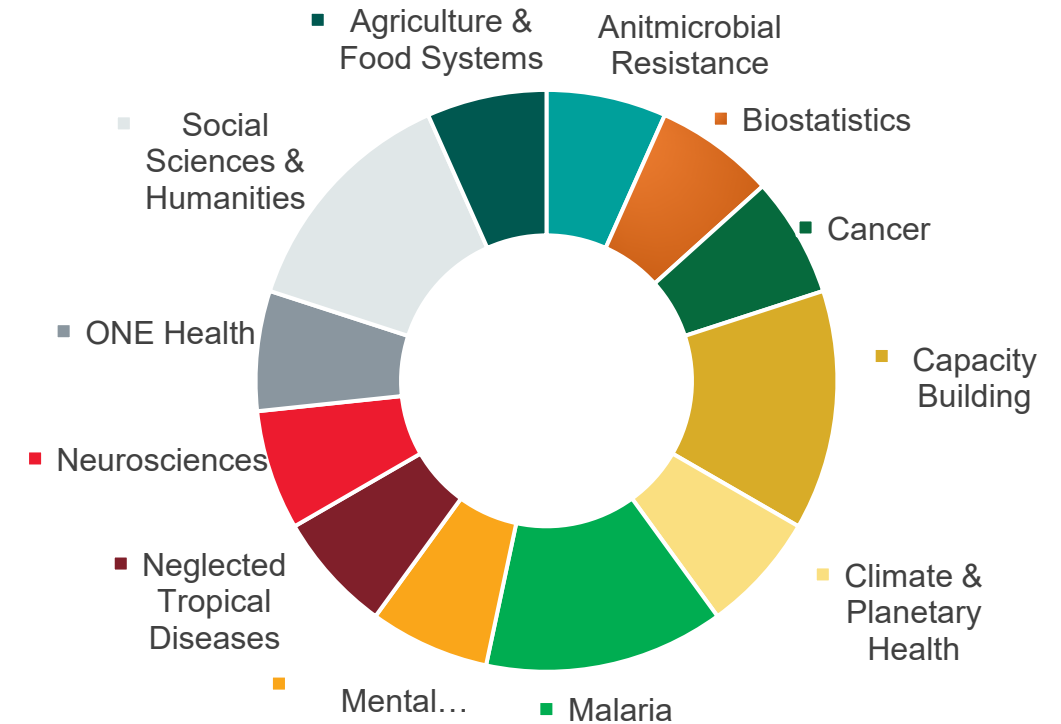


**Decade
investment
\$ 500M**

21 Consortia

40 Countries

567+ Innovators and scientists funded



Newest Grant: Climate and Health Cohort



Dr Ousmane SY
Universite Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar
(Senegal)



Professor Mawuli Dzo dzomenyo
University of Ghana School of
Public Health
(Ghana)



Prof Blaise Bouguom
Centre for Research in Infectious
Diseases (CRID)
(Cameroon)



Professor Emery Metelo
Institut National de Recherche
Biomédicale (INRB)
(DRC)



Dr. Diana Karanja
COHESU
(Kenya)



Dr. Daniel Kwaro
Kenya Medical Research Institute
(KEMRI)/Research World Limited
(Kenya)



Dr Devotha Nyambol
Nelson Mandela African Institute of Science
and Technology (NMAIST)
(Tanzania)



Dr Cleo Conacher
South Stellenbosch University
(South Africa)

Gender



5 Male



3 Female

**\$9.6M supporting 59
grantees globally**

Focus Areas

- Early warning and disease surveillance,
- Knowledge management and data integration of climate and health databases,
- Gender equity, diversity and inclusion
- Resilient health systems.



From Science to Impact – How we Evaluate Success



People

- Developing **African science leadership**
- **Strong focus on young people** through funding, mentorship, leadership development etc.



Places

- **Strengthening institutions:** Balance teaching vs research, policy hubs, curriculum reviews
- **Standards and tools:** GFGP, GRMP, accountability, due diligence



Products

- **Health Innovations-** vaccines, diagnostics, treatment and disease surveillance.
- **Transform Agri** practices to increase efficiency and food production
- Support **agro-processing**, curtail food wastage, more efficient management of post-harvest
- **Prioritize** clean renewable energy for climate and health mitigation and adaptation
- Thought leadership - The interconnected global emergencies of climate change, food security, and health:



Policies

- Facilitate transitions of **R&D knowledge into policy and practice** · Convening/participation of 47 countries to identify AI + Data science policy gaps
- Inputs into **STISA 2034 strategy** and WHO African pandemic preparedness R&D agenda
- Policies that are attractive for **private sector investing** by de-risking their investments in agri processing, clean energy, health innovations, WASH etc.



Partnerships

- **Our Partners Group** – committed to long-term funding **>10 global funders** ·
- Target grants to institutions and researchers embedded in **global policy dialogue on climate change**
- MOUs and LOI's **with key strategic organisations/institutions**
 - MOU with AUDA-NEPAD – our thought partner
 - UN Agencies (UNESCO; UNGA Science Summit; UNEP Foresight reports; IPCC; etc

Further Together: Levers to Fast-Track Climate and Health Progress



Streamlined
and **united
action**



Promote
multidisciplinary
research



Strategise on
**emerging and
existing**
priorities



Greater
involvement of
the **private
sector**



Incorporate
**indigenous
knowledge**



Build capacity &
infrastructure for
Data science
integration



Govt Connect with
local science to
fund and demand
innovations



Spend less on
planning,
**more on
execution**



“There are strong incentives for status quo... ..talk is fun,
results are hard, and people hate accountability.”

Peter Singer, Former CEO of GCC and Senior Advisor for WHO



www.scienceforafrica.foundation