

## ***Technopolicy Hot News:***

### **ATPS retains top Science and Technology Policy Think Tank clinching 1<sup>st</sup> position in Africa and 10<sup>th</sup> globally**

The 2018 Global Go To Think Tank Index Report has just been released marking 13 years of the Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program (TTCSP) that aims to acknowledge important contributions as well as emerging trends in think tanks worldwide. The report seeks to showcase the role played by think tanks in governments and civil societies with the sole aim of improving their capacity as well as performance. A total of 8,162 think tanks were catalogued and ranked in 2018 by expert panels comprising of members from diverse backgrounds and disciplines.

The report shows that the African Technology Policy Studies Network (ATPS) has retained its position as the 1<sup>st</sup> Top Science and Technology Policy Think Tank in Africa (10<sup>th</sup> globally). According to the report, this category is dedicated to the leading science and technology institutions within the global community. The top think tanks in this category provide superior innovative research and strategic analyses on topics ranging from innovation and telecommunications to energy, climate, and life sciences. These think tanks excel in research, analysis, and public engagement on a wide range of policy issues with the aim of advancing debate, facilitating cooperation between relevant actors, maintaining public support and funding, and improving the overall quality of life in the relevant countries that they cover. ATPS ranked tops in 16 other categories assessed in the report making it the organization in Africa that received the highest number of ranking in different categories.

ATPS remains the premier science and technology policy research think tank in Africa with over three decades of impact-oriented research policy on science, technology and innovation (STI) on the continent. We have facilitated the development and implementation of several STI policies in most African countries since the 80s. Currently, the ATPS is leading a major impact-oriented project on ***Networking Africa's Science Granting Councils in 15 sub-Saharan African countries*** under the Science Granting Councils Initiative (SGCI) being funded by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), the British Department for International Development (DFID), the National Research Foundation (NRF) South Africa, and most recently the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA). The initiative aims to promote social and economic development in the region through research and innovation. More details about this Initiative are available online at: <https://atpsnet.org/projects/building-partnerships/> .

The ATPS also ranked tops in many other categories that were used to assess Think Tanks across the world. Notable among these categories where the ATPS ranked tops are: Best Think Tank Network; Best Managed Think Tank; Think Tank with the Most

Innovative Policy Ideas/Proposals; Think Tank with the Most Significant Impact on Public Policy; Best Transdisciplinary Research Think Tank; Best Advocacy Campaign Think Tank; Think Tank with the Best Use of the Internet; and Think Tank with the Best institutional collaboration involving two or more Think Tanks among many others. Details of the ranking can be found in the report at:

[https://repository.upenn.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1017&context=think\\_tanks](https://repository.upenn.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1017&context=think_tanks)

A summary of the ATPS Ranking in the different categories is presented in the table below:

### ATPS Ranking at a Glance

S/N	Relevant Criteria	ATPS Ranking in Africa	ATPS Ranking Worldwide
1.	Top Science and Technology Think Tanks	1	10
2.	Best Institutional Collaboration Involving Two or More Think Tanks	1	15
3.	Best Think Tank Network	1	14
4.	Think Tanks with the Best Use of the Internet	1	24
5.	Best Advocacy Campaign	2	19
6.	Best Managed Think Tank	2	21
7.	Think Tanks with the Most Innovative Policy Ideas/Proposals	2	32
8.	Best Transdisciplinary Research Think Tanks	2	11
9.	Think Tanks with the Most Significant Impact on Public Policy	2	32
10.	Top Think Tanks with Annual Operating Budgets of Less Than US \$5m	2	5
11.	Best Regional Studies Centre	2	16
12.	Top Domestic Health Policy Think Tanks	3	33
13.	Best Independent Think Tank	4	77
14.	Top International Development Think Tanks	4	48
15.	Top Domestic Economic Policy Think Tanks	5	82
16.	Top Think Tanks Worldwide – (U.S. and non-U.S.)	7	103
17.	Top Think Tanks in Sub-Saharan Africa	31	N/A

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