

A person is holding a white, rectangular MariTest water quality sensor in their hand. The sensor has a black square at the bottom. The person is wearing a light-colored shirt with a MariTest logo on the sleeve. The background is a blurred outdoor scene with green foliage and yellow flowers.

MariTest Innovation Memo



The
FutureList

July
2025

MEET THE INNOVATORS



“My journey with malaria nearly cost me my life, but it gave me a clear purpose: to end the needless suffering that so many African families endure. With MariTest, we are setting a new standard, one where diagnosis is fast, accurate, and accessible, and where technology serves people, not just profits. This is the future of African healthcare, and we’re building it now.”

A note from [Hakim Kakooza](#), the Founder and CEO of MariTest

Team



[Hakim Kakooza](#)
Founder &
CEO



[Stanley Kinyanjui](#)
Co-founder &
Managing Director

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Sector:
Health



Sub-sector:
Medical Devices



Website:
maritestafrica.com



Funding Stage:
Pre-Seed



Founded:
2023



Locations:
Uganda



Business Model:
B2G, B2B

MariTest aims to revolutionise malaria diagnosis across Africa with an innovative bloodless and AI-powered device. The company's innovation is a non-invasive technology that will detect malaria by identifying hemozoin, a unique paramagnetic biomarker produced by the malaria parasite. By removing the need for blood samples, the reusable device will provide results faster, enabling community health workers to diagnose patients quickly and efficiently, even in the most remote locations.

MariTest's strategy is to address key issues in current malaria diagnostics, such as false negatives caused by evolving parasite strains and slow data collection, which delay outbreak responses.

MariTest is collaborating with five hospitals to conduct lab tests. In the future, MariTest plans to undertake large-scale clinical trials in Uganda to obtain regulatory approval and validate the integration of its innovative products into national health systems.



INNOVATION SPOTLIGHT

MariTest is working to reimagine malaria diagnosis with its flagship bloodless and AI-powered malaria diagnostic device. MariTest seeks to address the critical problems of delayed, invasive and often inaccurate malaria testing, which contribute to nearly 40% of malaria deaths.

Beyond individual diagnosis, MariTest hopes to connect every test result to a cloud-based dashboard, that will enable real-time case tracking, outbreak prediction, and monitoring of treatment responses in the future.

Key Features:



Non-invasive detection using magnetic tunnelling technology

MariTest identifies malaria by reading the paramagnetic signature of hemozoin, removing the need for blood samples.



Planned AI-powered analytics and real-time surveillance

MariTest's device is being developed to enable analysis of test data and transmission of results to a centralised cloud platform.



Planned integration of vital signs monitoring

In addition to malaria diagnostics, MariTest plans to incorporate the ability to record heart rate, temperature, and oxygen saturation in future versions of its device.



INNOVATION SPOTLIGHT



Market and Social Impact

MariTest targets a critical gap in malaria-endemic regions, particularly across sub-Saharan Africa, where over 200 million cases and more than 600,000 deaths occur each year, with children under five most at risk. By providing an accurate, bloodless, and rapid diagnostic tool, MariTest will empower community health workers to deliver timely treatment and reduce transmission in the most remote and hard-to-reach communities.



Scalability of Innovation

MariTest's innovation is built for scalability by combining durable hardware and cloud connectivity for data collection. Each device is designed to be rechargeable and perform up to 100,000 tests before replacement. If these are achieved, it will make the device practical for use in remote and off-grid areas.



Partnerships

MariTest has built strategic partnerships to help advance its mission from prototype to validated product. Supported by institutions such as *Oxford University Innovation*, *Villgro Africa*, *Microsoft Imagine Cup*, and *African Leadership University*, the company has successfully developed functional prototypes, completed over 270 validation tests, and engaged with healthcare facilities for real-world trials.



Future Outlook

MariTest's team is working to transition from validated prototype to full-scale clinical deployment, with plans to conduct multi-site clinical trials across Uganda as the next critical step toward regulatory approval. Following successful trials, the company aims to integrate its device into national malaria programs, supporting ministries of health and global NGOs in scaling up diagnostics in high-burden areas.

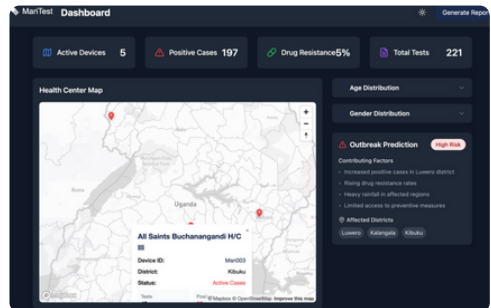
INNOVATION IN VIEW

MariTest's innovation lies in its bloodless diagnostic device, which detects malaria by sensing hemozoin, a paramagnetic biomarker left behind by malaria parasites within red blood cells.

This non-invasive approach aims to replace traditional blood-based rapid test kits, offering a faster and reusable alternative.

MariTest Device for Malaria Diagnostic

MariTest's device is designed to integrate advanced sensors and AI algorithms .



Dashboard for Tracking Malaria

CONTRIBUTORS

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ABOUT THE FUTURELIST

The FutureList, powered by Sand Technologies, spotlights and connects innovators with investors and strategic growth partners to help scale innovation globally.

PARTNER

Sand Technologies, is an enterprise AI solutions company solving complex problems for enterprises and governments around the world.

Learn more at www.sandtech.com

The FutureList



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