

BioNTech, Google, Deutsche Bahn back African-founded AI firm

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Vaccine maker BioNTech, Google and rail firm Deutsche Bahn are among the companies investing in African-founded artificial intelligence company InstaDeep.

The [company](#), now based in London, announced Tuesday that it has raised \$100 million from investors, allowing it to expand its presence to

the United States. The exact amounts invested by each company were not disclosed.

InstaDeep focuses on using [artificial intelligence](#) to improve electronics manufacturing, logistics and biotechnology research.

Recently, the company announced the development of an early warning system together with BioNTech to analyze coronavirus samples and predict high-risk variants. BioNTech and its U.S. partner Pfizer developed the first widely available vaccine against COVID-19. The two companies said Tuesday they are working on [a shot tailored to the omicron variant](#).

Founded in Tunis eight years ago, InstaDeep now has engineers and researchers in South Africa, Nigeria, Tunisia, France, Britain and the United Arab Emirates.

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