

AFRICID / ATRI

African Trust & Reputation Infrastructure

INTRODUCTORY OVERVIEW | JUNE 2026



A continental trust layer for identity, credentials, reputation and institutional verification

AfricID / ATRI is a proposed African Trust & Reputation Infrastructure: a public-interest, governance-first framework for making verified claims portable across institutions and borders, while respecting Member State authority, institutional mandates, privacy, consent and due process.

THE PROBLEM	THE OPPORTUNITY	THE PROPOSED SOLUTION
Trust evidence is fragmented. The same person, credential, business, institution or role is often verified repeatedly through separate, manual and non-interoperable processes. That friction slows education-to-work pathways, cross-border activity, MSME participation, professional mobility and diaspora-linked economic engagement.	Africa can move from repeated point-to-point verification to interoperable trust evidence: national identity, local evidence, continental interoperability. The opportunity is not to replace national systems, but to connect trustworthy assertions across approved institutions and use cases.	ATRI would provide a federated trust layer through which verified assertions can be issued, checked, corrected and relied upon across defined contexts. It verifies claims; it does not rank human beings. It is not a social-credit system, surveillance database or private data monopoly.

High-level design

- **Complements national identity systems** — rather than replacing them.
- **Connects trusted issuers, verifiers and subjects** — through shared governance and interoperability rules.
- **Supports consent, data minimisation, correction and redress** — as first-order design requirements.
- **Prioritises practical corridors** — such as education and skills, MSME trust, professional mobility and diaspora participation.

Why it merits a closer conversation

ATRI addresses a policy problem that sits between identity, education, trade, finance, employment and institutional governance. Its value is not a single app or database. Its value is a trusted operating layer that can reduce duplicated verification, support inclusion, preserve public authority and make credible participation easier to prove.

Immediate engagement objective

Validate the priority first-use corridor, governance vehicle, institutional safeguards and pilot sponsorship pathway before any software build is advanced.

Core proposition: verify claims, protect rights, preserve public authority and make trusted participation portable across African contexts.