

Tec and Microsoft join forces to use AI in healthcare research



With the **goal** of **promoting** the use of **artificial intelligence (AI)** in Mexico, [Tec de Monterrey](#) and **Microsoft** will explore opportunities for collaboration in scientific research that promote the **application of AI** to solve **social** issues.

The **collaboration** was formalized through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding by **William Weeks**, Director of Microsoft's [AI for Health](#) initiative, and **Juan Pablo Murra**, Rector for Higher Education at **Tec de Monterrey**, who said:

*“At **Microsoft** and **Tec de Monterrey**, we share the mission to create value for people and society through innovation, science, research, and technology.*

“This new agreement builds on the long-standing relationship and collaboration between our institutions.”



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Also present at the signing was **Jean-Philippe Courtois**, Executive Vice-President of **Microsoft** and President of **National Transformation Partnerships**, who said:

*“We’re excited about the **potential collaboration** we’re building in **healthcare** and in **various areas**. **Innovative research** can have a **significant impact on Mexico** and on people’s lives.”*

Collaboration for social impact

Alejandro Poiré, Vice President of Relations and Development at the **Tec**, pointed out that the signing of this memorandum is **part of the institution’s vision** and role in the community, adding:

*“Tec de Monterrey is an **institution from society and for society**, and we believe we’re a **platform that uses technology** and **partnerships** with high-profile organizations to have an **impact on society**.”*

*“There have been **several instances** where we’ve **collaborated** with a focus on how to **innovate** and carry out **research** that makes a **difference**.”*

“We’ve collaborated with a focus on how to innovate and carry out research that makes a difference.” - Jean-Phillipe Courtois

[Jean-Philippe Courtois](#) pointed to the **similarities between the two institutions** in terms of values and emphasized how these can be used to **maximize the impact** that the Tec and Microsoft have on **society**.

*“We believe that **we can collaborate** with **Tec de Monterrey** to really use **technology and innovation** to have a **positive impact** on the economy and society.”*



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Artificial intelligence and philanthropy

This collaboration between the Tec and **Microsoft** takes place as part of the [AI For Good initiative](#), through which Microsoft **provides resources** to different organizations with the aim of **solving humanity's problems**.

The **partnership** aims to promote **medical innovation development in Mexico, scientific research**, and a better understanding of **global health**.

It also **includes projects** related to **urban planning, smart cities, territorial assimilation, and pollution**.

William Weeks, Director of the **AI for Health** division, said that one of the initiative's objectives is for Microsoft to be able to support **scientific research development** through philanthropy.

*"I see **AI for Health** as a **philanthropy incubator**, where we have the opportunity to **positively contribute to the world** and share **resources and data** to **power projects such as these**,"* Weeks said.



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During the signing ceremony, **8 projects** developed by **Tec researchers** were presented in order to **identify synergies** with projects focused on applications of **artificial intelligence** for:

- Environment - [AI for Earth](#)
- Health - [AI for Health](#)
- Inclusion - [AI for Accessibility](#)
- Humanitarian aid - [AI for Humanitarian Action](#)
- Cultural heritage - [AI for Cultural Heritage](#)

"AI for Health is a philanthropy incubator to positively contribute to the world with resources and data." - William Weeks

OriGen project

The **seeds** of this collaboration between the Tec and Microsoft were sown with the [OriGen Project](#), which was launched last year through **TecSalud**.

Its aim is to study the **Mexican genome** and decipher the **DNA components** associated with **common diseases in the country**.

The project was launched in 2021, and leverages Microsoft **AI for Good solutions** and **services** to take cloud, **artificial intelligence**, and **data analytics capabilities** to different stages of research.

*“We believe that this will be a **transformative project** and it’s just one example of **university projects** that play an **important role in solving the problems** of mankind,”* said **Guillermo Torre**, Director of **TecSalud** and Vice President of [Research](#) at Tec de Monterrey.



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Stepping into the future together

Future plans for the agreement include **promoting research** in **other disciplines** to offer the opportunity of working with **new technologies**, **artificial intelligence**, and **resources** provided by **Microsoft** to Tec researchers, professors, and students.

*“Right now, **we’re facing many challenges**, one of them being **youth**.”*

Thousands of young people are going to graduate and **aspire to work at companies like Microsoft**, looking to have a **direct impact on their lives**. They want to do **something meaningful**, and they want to do it now,” shared Jean-Phillipe Courtois.

He said that nowadays, there are a large number of **bridges that the likes of Tec and Microsoft** can build to amplify impact.

“We’re open to supporting **Rafael Sánchez (General Manager of Microsoft Mexico)** and his team to look at how to **share what we’re doing**,” added Courtois.



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Finally, **Rafael Sánchez**, General Manager of **Microsoft Mexico**, reiterated the company’s interest in working with **Tec de Monterrey** to continue transforming and contributing to society.

“We want to work with you on **cybersecurity, data analysis**, and other areas that can **take companies to the next level**. I would say that’s the **spirit of the Tec** and one of its **roles in society**.”

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