



Call For Applications

YOUTH PRE-CONFERENCE

On The Margins Of The 2nd Annual International Conference On Public Health In Africa 2022

10-11 December 2022, Kigali, Rwanda

THEME

Meaningful Youth Engagement For Advancing Sustainable Health Security In Africa











BACKGROUND

After two years of emergency mode due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Africa is now at a crossroads to promote its long-term preparedness for future pandemics and health security. To this end, Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) introduced the New Public Health Order (NPHO) for Africa, for which African Union Heads of State and Government called for a full implementation to drive global health security.

Civil society and young people play a crucial role in African countries in promoting public health and reaching communities. With African youth constituting over 65% of the continent's population, their meaningful engagement has the potential of positively impacting Africa's health security. Therefore, their structured and systematic engagement in the conversation on public health in Africa is key.

Acknowledging this, Africa CDC will convene a Youth Pre-Conference on 10 - 11 December 2022 in Kigali, Rwanda prior to its 2nd Annual International Conference on Public Health in Africa (CPHIA) 2022. The aim is to kick-start a long-term strategic engagement between Africa CDC and young people, to advance the full implementation of the NPHO and thereby, drive health security in Africa and globally.

This Youth Pre-Conference will take place in-person and participants are invited to participate at the CPHIA 2022 (13-15 December 2022) to engage in the conversation on the theme: meaningful youth engagement for advancing sustainable health security in Africa. Africa CDC is therefore announcing a call for applications for young public health professionals who are interested in participating in this conference.









OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

GOAL

The overall goal of the Youth Pre-Conference is to provide a collaborative, open and inclusive space for young public health professionals to critically reflect on the current state of public health in Africa; share perspectives on the role of young people in public health; and prospects for enhancing meaningful youth engagement in this area.



OBJECTIVES

This Youth Pre-Conference will provide a platform for:

- Thorough reflection on the current state of public health in Africa (including the Africa CDC and its NPHO) and the role of young people;
- Interrogate the current state of youth engagement in public health and discussion on prospects and expectations towards meaningful youth engagement, particularly in collaboration with Africa CDC;
- Intergenerational as well as peer-to-peer exchanges to share lessons, reflections and experiences on youth engagement in public health;
- Bridging the gap between youth organisations working on public health in Africa.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Inauguration of a long-term and institutionalised youth engagement framework to advance the full implementation of the NPHO and thereby, drive health security in Africa and globally.
- Mapping of youth engagement in public health and actionable recommendations to enhance their contributions to public health and health security in Africa.









OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Enhanced understanding of the current state of public health in Africa by youth-led or youth-focused organisations and networks to identify possible areas of collaboration and partnership with Africa CDC.
- Institutionalisation of the CPHIA Youth Pre-Conference as a platform for intergenerational as well as peer-to-peer dialogue on youth in public health convened by Africa CDC annually.







WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE YOUTH PRE-CONFERENCE?



2 days pre-conference

2 days pre-conference in Kigali, Rwanda, prior to the CPHIA 2022 (10-11 December 2022).

It will offer a platform for networking (with peers and intergenerational experts), sharing perspectives and discussing current issues of public health in Africa.

FORMAT



Workshops and capacity development sessions on the AU COVID-19 Bingwa Initiative



Presentations and TEDx style sessions



Cultural events



Showcases, Networking and exhibition spaces



The conference language is English and French. Interpretation will be provided for both languages.







PARTICIPANT SELECTION AND ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The application will be open until 22 November 2022 05:00 pm EAT. The selected applicants will be notified by 28 November 2022. Detailed information about their participation and the agenda will be available by 05 December 2022.



The selection of participants will be based on the following criteria:



EXPERIENCE AND LEADERSHIP:

The conference will target young people with track records of work/experience and education (at least enrolled as undergraduate) in the areas of medical science, public health, health technology, as well as public health advocacy, development cooperation and journalism focused on health etc

- Representatives should be from youth-led and youth-oriented organisations and networks, associations, academia or in an individual capacity.
- Interest in public health and engagement as a youth advocate in the area.
- Youth that have also led or engaged in public health related projects, research and initiatives are invited to apply.









PARTICIPANT SELECTION AND ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:



NETWORKS

Youth participants affiliated with a youth-led organisation, network or movement are highly encouraged to apply.

COMMITMENT

Youth participants must demonstrate commitment to public health engagement as an advocate or a practitioner in the area.



OTHER FACTORS



such as geographical balance, diverse ideological and professional backgrounds; gender, ethnic and social diversity, including disability inclusion, will also be considered in the final selection of participants.

SELECTION CRITERIA AND PROCESS:

- An independent committee comprising of experts will conduct the selection of participants for the pre-conference.
- Application documents must provide clear and detailed information about the applicant including their age, gender, nationality, language, education, values and experience in any of the following areas: Public health or medical sciences, media or journalism (Health reports), civil society organisations, public service, and/or community leaders.
- Submission of a written motivation statement briefly detailing why you want to participate in the Youth Pre-Conference, highlighting the role of the youth in advancing sustainable health security in Africa.









HOW TO APPLY

Applicants for the Youth Pre-Conference expected to fill out the application form online with information, their personal educational and professional background attaching a:

- Statement briefly detailing why they want to participate in the Youth Pre-Conference, highlighting the role of the youth in advancing sustainable health security in Africa,
 - A copy of passport. A curriculum Vitae.



All applications should be completed through this link.







FINANCING

Africa CDC will cover all travel related costs of participants, with support from its partners

IMPORTANT DATES



Deadline for applications: 8th to 22nd November, 2022 at 05:00 pm Eastern Africa Time.



Successful applicants will be notified by 28th November 2022.



The Youth Pre-Conference will start from 10th - 11th December, 2022.











Africa CDC welcomes applications from all qualified youth in Africa regardless of their gender, race, disability, religious belief, caste, or marital status. Young women are encouraged to apply.

For more information, contact:

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