

WEEKLY BULLETIN | 15 - 21 September 2025



Spotlight

Historic First as Ethiopia Rolls Out R21 Malaria Vaccine

Ethiopia has made history, becoming the first country to launch the R21/Matrix-M malaria vaccine, delivered alongside insecticide-treated nets to protect children in 58 high-burden districts.

With 186,000 doses ready for rollout, this integrated approach provides double protection against one of Africa's deadliest diseases.

Africa CDC congratulates Ethiopia for its leadership and partnership - bringing us one step closer to a continent free of malaria.

The R21/Matrix-M malaria vaccine, developed by the University of Oxford in partnership with the Serum Institute of India and Novavax, demonstrated up to 77% efficacy in clinical trials published in 2021 and was endorsed by the World Health Organization in 2023 for use in children under three - marking a major advancement in global malaria prevention efforts.

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Africa Public Health Podcast: Season One Recap



TELLING AFRICA'S HEALTH STORY FROM WITHIN!

Public health in Africa is evolving-and so is the conversation. Season one of the Africa Public Health Podcast, powered by Africa CDC, brought together expert voices from across the continent to unpack Africa's most pressing health challenges and homegrown solutions.

Six episodes are available now on YouTube, Spotify, Apple Podcasts, and the Africa CDC website

[Listen in...](#)

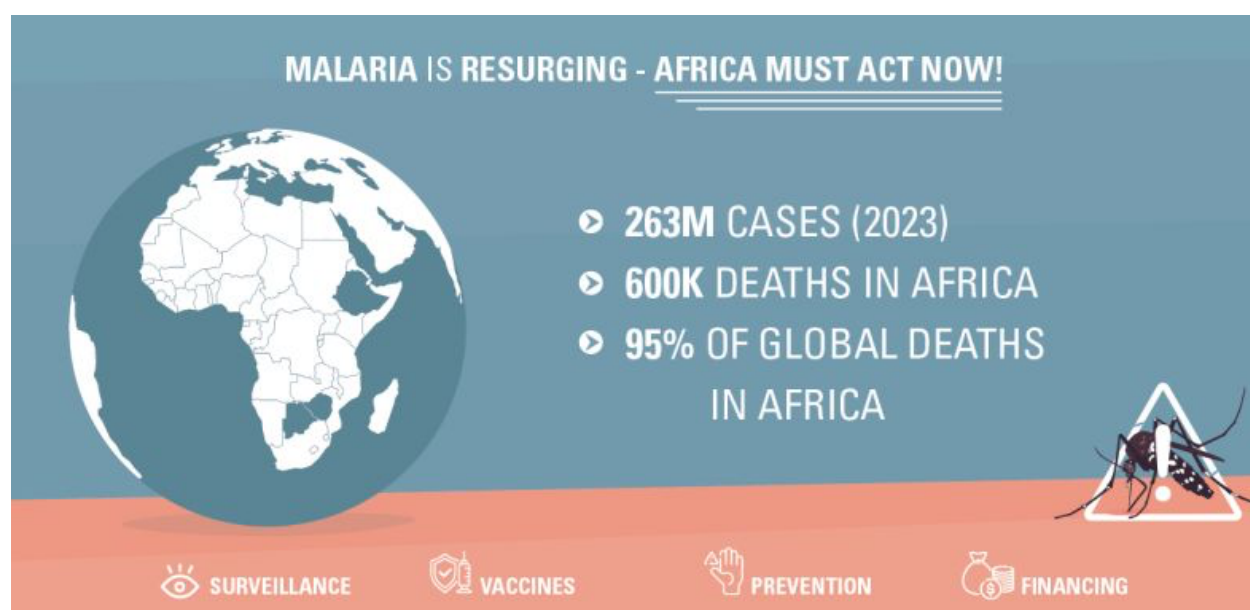
Africa CDC's call on Health Financing

Africa CDC is advancing its strategic agenda on sustainable health financing. Read the latest concept note, "Rethinking Africa's Health Financing in a New Era: Toward Sustainable, Resilient, and Self-Reliant Health Systems", outlining the core pillars for transforming Africa's health financing architecture.



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Stopping Malaria's Resurgence: A Call to Action



Malaria is resurging across Africa - but this crisis is avoidable. In 2023, the continent accounted for 95% of global malaria deaths, with alarming surges in countries such as Zimbabwe and Botswana, signalling the disease's spread into new regions.

This is a critical turning point. Without urgent and coordinated action, decades of hard-won progress risk being reversed.

In a recent BMJ opinion piece co-authored with colleagues from Africa CDC, Dr Jean Kaseya outlines what Africa - and the global community - must do to halt malaria's resurgence and safeguard the future of public health on the continent.

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DIRECTOR GENERAL'S
ENGAGEMENTS



Canada’s Senate Welcomes Kaseya

A visit to Canada’s Senate offered Dr Jean Kaseya the opportunity to engage in meaningful dialogue with Honourable Senator Amina Gerba, who extended a warm and gracious welcome.

The conversation focused on the importance of enhancing collaboration between Africa CDC and Canada in science, innovation, and health

security. Dr Kaseya emphasised that such partnerships are crucial for building resilience, safeguarding communities, and promoting health equity globally.

Kaseya expressed sincere gratitude to Senator Gerba for her leadership and steadfast support.

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Africa CDC Epidemic Intelligence Weekly Report: 14 September 2025

Weekly real-time insights on public health threats across the continent

The Africa CDC Epidemic Intelligence Weekly Report highlights the epidemiological situation, risk assessments, and public health interventions by affected Member States, partners, and Africa CDC.

Focusing on moderate to very high-risk events, the report tracks a range of threats-from emerging infectious diseases to natural disasters-through a One Health, multisectoral lens. Events affecting both single and multiple countries are covered, empowering Member States and partners with the latest intelligence for timely, effective response.

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Africa’s Voice to Resonate at WHS2025

Join WHS 2025

Menu

Speakers

Katrín Jakobsdóttir
Former Prime Minister
Iceland

Jean Kaseya
Director-General
Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC)

Petra Khoury
Global Director of Health and Care
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)
Switzerland

Diene Keita
Executive Director
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

[→ See all speakers](#)

Global health leaders will gather at the World Health Summit (WHS2025) in Berlin and online from 12–14 October to advance solidarity, equity, and preparedness in global health.

Dr Jean Kaseya is looking forward to joining this critical dialogue and is keen

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to ensure the continent’s voice remains central in shaping the global health agenda.

The summit offers a vital platform to advocate for inclusive partnerships that build resilience and promote a healthier, safer world for all.

Strengthening Ebola Response in Bulape, DRC

In Bulape, located in the Kasai province of the Democratic Republic of Congo, the response to the Ebola outbreak is being reinforced. Africa CDC is supporting national health authorities to enhance surveillance, contact tracing, and data management - protecting communities and working to end the outbreak.

The outbreak was officially declared on 4 September 2025, marking the DRC’s 16th

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Ebola Virus Disease outbreak to date. It was confirmed following laboratory testing of samples from suspected cases, including health workers and close contacts of a 34-year-old pregnant woman who died after presenting symptoms consistent with Ebola.

Building Lab Leadership for a Stronger Africa

In partnership with the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), Africa CDC is equipping laboratory professionals across the continent with essential leadership and management skills to strengthen disease surveillance, enhance outbreak response, and advance the New Public Health Order.

In Lusaka, 34 lab professionals from 15 African Union Member States received training under the Laboratory Leadership Programme, marking a significant step toward a more resilient and responsive public health workforce.

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