

WEEKLY BULLETIN | 1- 7 December 2025



Spotlight

Africa CDC Joins DRC in Marking the End of Ebola Outbreak

After 42 days without a single new case, the 16th Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of Congo has officially ended. What began in September with a pregnant woman in Kasai Province escalated to 53 confirmed cases and 45 deaths - but relentless action and collaboration turned the tide.

On 2 December 2025, Africa CDC Director General Dr Jean Kaseya joined Prime Minister Judith Suminwa Tuluka to mark this historic milestone - a testament to national resolve and the vital support of Africa CDC and partners working tirelessly behind the scenes to strengthen response systems.

Over 48,000 vaccine doses were deployed, protecting more than 44,400 people - including

frontline health workers and high-risk contacts. Tireless health teams and courageous communities made this success possible. The last patient was discharged on October 19, marking the start of the countdown to zero.

Dr Kaseya called this a moment to learn and prepare: "Managing an epidemic doesn't end when the outbreak ends." With USD1 million committed to post-epidemic studies, Africa CDC will work with the DRC Ministry of Health and global partners to strengthen alert systems, improve laboratory capacity and enhance risk communication - ensuring Africa is ready for future health threats.

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SMS Reminders Could Transform TB Treatment in Ethiopia and Liberia



Instant mobile messaging is at the heart of a new study by Africa CDC aimed at improving tuberculosis (TB) treatment adherence in Ethiopia and Liberia, two of Africa's highest TB-burden countries. Supported by a US\$100,000 World Bank grant, the research runs from 17 November to 12 December 2025 in collaboration with the two national health ministries, along with universities and local health bureaus.

TB remains a major global health challenge, with 10.8 million infections and 1.25 million deaths recorded in 2023. Ethiopia and Liberia report incidence rates of 119 and 308 cases per 100,000 population, respectively.

Despite progress in diagnosis and treatment, poor adherence to medication continues to drive relapse and drug-resistant TB. The study will test SMS reminders, identify barriers to digital adoption, and evaluate their impact on patient outcomes.

It will enrol 844 TB patients, with about 200 receiving SMS reminders during a pilot phase. Findings will inform national TB strategies and continental policy on digital health integration, reinforcing Africa CDC's commitment to evidence-based innovations aligned with the WHO End-TB Strategy and African Union health priorities.

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5 Pillars

AFRICA'S HEALTH SECURITY AND SOVEREIGNTY AGENDA

Africa's Health Security and Sovereignty (AHSS) agenda builds on the New Public Health Order adopted in 2022 after COVID-19. It addresses reduced aid, recurring outbreaks and fragile supply chains. Centred on five pillars - governance, preparedness, financing, digital innovation and local manufacturing - AHSS seeks to strengthen resilience and cut external dependence. By 2040, Africa aims to produce 60% of essential health products, secure it data and lead in global health.

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Africa Public Health Podcast: Season One Recap



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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DIRECTOR GENERAL'S

ENGAGEMENTS



Investing in Primary Care to Build System Resilience

Dr Kaseya joined global health leaders at the Universal Health Coverage High-Level Forum in Tokyo to advance universal health coverage. He highlighted Africa's bold steps toward health sovereignty - strengthening domestic financing, investing in primary care and building resilient systems.

"This is how we move from aspiration to action," he said, noting that countries are shifting from donor-driven models to nationally anchored financing. For example, Nigeria raised its health budget by 60% in 2025, Ghana boosted NHIS funding by 66%

and Rwanda's CBHI now covers over 85% of its population. Egypt is showing how universal insurance, unified procurement and local manufacturing reinforce resilience.

Africa CDC is driving reforms - launching the African Epidemic Fund in 2026, advancing pooled procurement, and supporting 25 vaccine manufacturing projects across the continent. These efforts, alongside investments in primary care and health security, are building a stronger, self-reliant health ecosystem.

Read more...

Africa CDC Epidemic Intelligence Weekly Report: 3 December 2025

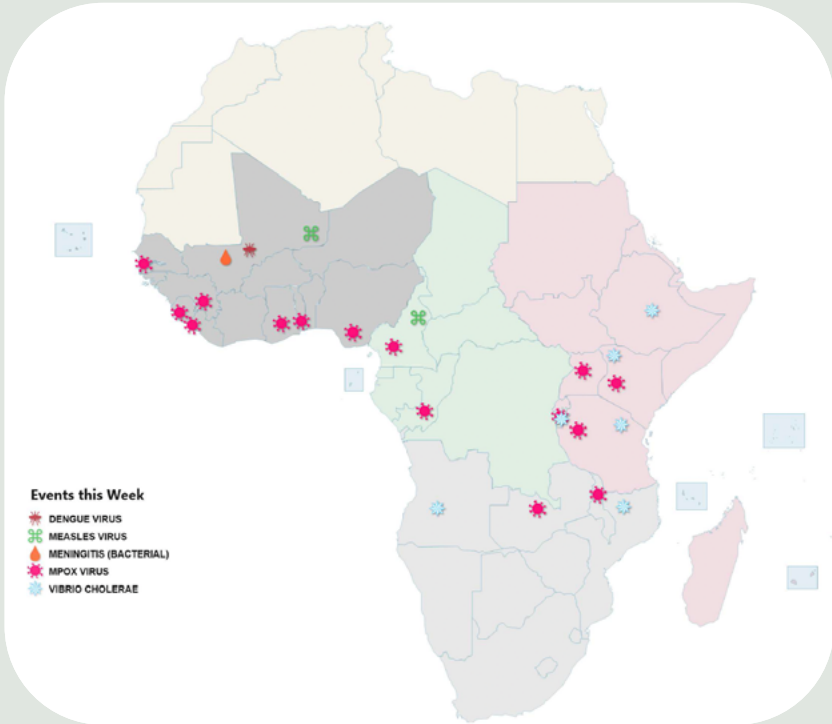
Weekly real-time insights on public health threats across the continent

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 dis-

eases 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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Building a Culture of Smart Decisions

Quality decision-making does not come automatically. Humans often act first on intuition, but intuition alone can lead to logical fallacies that affect organisational and programmatic outcomes. Africa CDC recognises that Decision Quality (DQ) is a skill -one that must be cultivated like any other business or technical capability. Building a quality-driven decision-making environment is just as essential. Africa CDC is not only creating the frameworks needed but also fostering a culture that enables DQ through transparent, structured and documented processes.

This week's five-day workshop, facilitated by expert practitioners,



marks another step in strengthening its internal culture - where decisions are faster, collaboration is stronger, and excellence is the standard.

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Institutionalising Social and Behaviour Change Across Africa



Social and Behaviour Change (SBC) is critical for building stronger health systems - from increasing service uptake to fostering community trust. However, many countries still lack the tools and resources to fund SBC initiatives effectively.

To address this gap, Africa CDC, in collaboration with UNICEF and John Snow Inc., partnered with Malawi, Burundi, Uganda, The Gambia and Libya to strengthen SBC costing and financing. These countries piloted a new costing framework and monitoring and evaluation

scorecard, developed standard budget codes, and improved investment cases for domestic funding. This process enabled capacity assessments, refinement of SBC tools, and the establishment of standardised budget lines.

These efforts are driving the institutionalisation of SBC within national financing systems and laying the foundation for sustainable, predictable SBC investments across Africa.

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Training Regulators to Transform Africa's Vaccine Landscape



Africa CDC, AUDA-NEPAD, and Institut Pasteur Dakar convened regulators from 10 African Union Member States for hands-on training to accelerate Africa's vaccine manufacturing ambitions.

The programme focused on practical, high-stakes skills - inspecting production sites, verifying batch safety and quality, reviewing scientific dossiers, and assessing approval applications. These capabilities form the backbone of robust regulatory systems that

ensure vaccines made in Africa meet global standards.

By investing in regulatory excellence, Africa is doing more than building oversight - it's creating the foundation for a self-reliant vaccine ecosystem. Strong regulators mean trusted vaccines, faster approvals and a continent moving closer to its vision: local production for local health security.

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