



# HEALTH DATA COLLABORATIVE

## REGIONAL INSTITUTES FOR DATA IN AFRICA – BUILDING CAPACITY

### **Background**

There are several gaps in the way that health data is collected and analyzed globally, regionally and nationally. For example, Global health partners have developed several health facility survey tools collecting overlapping information and many donors have invested in digital health systems that are incompatible with software used by country health ministries. Moreover, donors often request reporting on health indicators that fall outside of priorities set by health ministries.

Fragmented health data systems hamper effective use of data during disease outbreaks, which in turns weakens policy and resource allocation decisions in country.

The Health Data Collaborative (HDC) is a UHC2030 related initiative that gathers shared knowledge and expertise in order to align technical and financial investments in efforts to strengthen country Health Information Systems. HDC's mission is to provide a collaborative platform that leverages and aligns resources (at all levels) to country owned strategies and plans for collecting, storing, analysing and using data to improve health outcomes, with specific focus on SDG targets and communities that are left behind.

Between 2020 and 2023, the HDC operational workplan has evolved with a renewed focus on strengthening country capacity as well as focused collective action to support healthcare data initiatives and activities at global, regional and national levels.

As part of this effort to strengthen regional and country engagement, the HDC aims to identify regional data and digital institutes and peer support mechanisms that can support HDC objectives and engage with advocacy, technical support and capacity building on data and digital issues. The institutes could also support national & sub national data and digital institutes supporting HDC objectives and support engagement in national HDC activities.

Two regional institutes in Africa (KEMRI Wellcome in Kenya and Institut Pasteur in Senegal) will host the 2021 annual regional HDC meeting in Africa for the HDC community. Focus countries will share good practices, stimulate peer learning and strengthen alignment with HDC objectives. It is hoped that in 2022 an Asian regional institute will host one of the HDC global events.

Specific objectives for collaboration with a regional institute are;

1. To be an advocate and champion for healthcare data in the region;
2. To provide technical assistance to countries;
3. To provide training and capacity building in the regional context, bringing people and information together and building capacities at all levels;
4. To host a regional meeting.

Regional networks of institutes can be built up to play roles in advocacy, capacity building and technical support for country data efforts, with HDC partnership approaches.



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### SUGGESTED REGIONAL INSTITUTES FOR HDC ENGAGEMENT IN AFRICA

**These include participating institutions at the Meeting with WHO Collaborating Centres (WHOCCs) in the WHO African Region, Kintélé, Brazzaville, Congo, October 21 – 22, 2019**

<b>Centre</b>	<b>Country</b>
Centre for Nursing and Midwifery Development	Botswana
Centre on Tobacco Product Testing and Research	Burkina Faso
Centre for Reference and Training on Diagnosis of Human African Trypanosomiasis	Democratic Republic of Congo
Centre for Mental Health Research and Capacity-building	Ethiopia
Centre for Arboviruses and Viral Haemorrhagic Fevers	Gabon
Centre for Research & training in Mental Health, Neurosciences & Drug & Alcohol Abuse	Nigeria
Centre for Antimicrobial Resistance	South Africa
Centre for Educating Nurses and Midwives in Community Problem-Solving	South Africa
Centre for Family of international Classifications	South Africa
Centre for Human Reproduction	South Africa
Centre for Neglected Tropical Diseases	Tanzania

### **Participating institutions at the inaugural API meeting, 24 – 25 October 2019**

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Country</b>
Public Health Department, Agostinho Neto University	<b>Angola</b>
University of Botswana	<b>Botswana</b>
Institute of Research and Health Sciences	<b>Burkina Faso</b>
Médecin de Santé Publique, Epidémiologiste-Biostatisticien, Institut Régional de Santé Publique	<b>Benin</b>
Faculty of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, University of Yaounde	<b>Cameroon</b>
School of Public Health, University of Kinshasa	<b>Democratic Republic of Congo</b>
College of Sciences, Eritrea Institute of Technology	<b>Eritrea</b>
School of Public Health, University of Ghana	<b>Ghana</b>
School of Public Health, University of Nairobi	<b>Kenya</b>
College of Medicine, University of Lagos	<b>Nigeria</b>
Faculty of Public Health, University of Ibadan	<b>Nigeria</b>
Department of Community Medicine, University of Nigeria	<b>Nigeria</b>
School of Health Systems and Public Health, University of Pretoria	<b>South Africa</b>

Other Institutions

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Country</b>
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University of Addis Ababa, College of Health Sciences	Ethiopia
KEMRI Wellcome Trust	Kenya
University of Nigeria, Health Policy Research Group	Nigeria
University of Rwanda, School of Public Health	Rwanda
Institut Pasteur de Dakar – Epidemiology, Clinical Research and Data Science	Senegal
Ifakara Institute	Tanzania
Africa Population and Health Research Centre	Kenya