



International Conference on
Primary Health Care (ICPHC) 2025

THEME

**Advancing Primary Health
Care in the 21st Century:
Putting People First**



REFLECTIONS AND LEARNINGS FROM ICPHC 2025

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Executive Summary

The International Conference on Primary Health Care (ICPHC 2025), held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, brought together global health leaders, policymakers, and development partners to reimagine primary health care delivery across Africa under the theme, **“Advancing Primary Health Care in the 21st Century: Putting People First.”**

eHealth Africa (eHA) joined this pivotal gathering to share innovative experiences, digital tools, and community-driven models aimed at strengthening health systems, promoting sustainability, and achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

Through its active participation in plenary panels, lightning sessions, and roundtable discussions, eHA demonstrated its leadership in advancing digital transformation, renewable energy integration, and data-driven coordination within public health systems. The organization showcased practical initiatives, including the **Climate Health Vulnerability Assessment Tool (CHAT), Planfild microplanning platform, and solarization of Primary Health Care (PHC) facilities across Nigeria.**

As one of the few organizations at the forefront of implementing interventions that integrate digital innovation, renewable energy, and public health infrastructure. This includes the establishment of Public Health Emergency Operations Centers (PHEOCs) across Africa. Thus eHealth Africa’s engagement at ICPHC 2025 represented far more than mere participation. It was a strong demonstration of our institutional capacity, technical expertise, and commitment to driving transformative impact across multiple dimensions of public healthcare on the continent.

Date: October 06–10, 2025

Location: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
(Hybrid: Physical and Virtual)

Organizers: International Institute For
Primary Health Care – Ethiopia (IPHCE)

Participating Organization: eHealth
Africa (eHA)

Number of Participants:

Over 750

participants (on-site)
from 64 countries

Sectors Represented: Public health,
digital innovation, renewable energy,
academia, and civil society



Background and Objectives

The ICPHC 2025 served as a global convening for stakeholders driving Primary Health Care transformation, focusing on equitable, people-centered systems that adapt to new realities—climate change, pandemics, and digital innovation. eHealth Africa's participation aligned with its mission to build stronger systems through data, technology, and collaboration. The objectives of eHA's participation included:

- Showcasing impactful projects;
- Networking with global and regional partners;
- Learning from peer innovations; and
- Influencing discussions around sustainability, emergency preparedness, and health equity.





SESSION OVERVIEW

The conference featured plenaries, lightning talks, and interactive roundtables. eHA played a leading role in several segments, including a major panel on Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs), two technical roundtables, and one lightning session.



Panel Session:

Strengthening Health Systems through Digital Transformation and Sustainability

Moderated by Loveth Metiboba, Senior Manager, Impact Measurement at eHealth Africa, the panel featured key speakers from eHealth Africa, including **Atef Fawaz** (Executive Director), **Anthony Edozieuno** (Program Manager, Public Health Emergency Management), and **Kazeem Balogun** (Deputy Director, Supply Chain Management).

The discussion centered on the evolution and sustainability of Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs) across Africa.

Atef Fawaz recounted eHA's early work establishing two EOCs in Nigeria in 2012, which has since grown into over 25 centers across the continent. He noted that EOCs are more than coordination centers; they are collaborative problem-solving spaces where governments and partners align on real-time public health response.

Anthony Edozieuno detailed the expansion of EOCs into 24 countries, with over 37 operational centers. He highlighted eHA's partnership with the **Gates Foundation** and **WHO** to strengthen outbreak preparedness.

Kazeem Balogun emphasized government ownership, urging that *"EOCs should be viewed not merely as polio infrastructure, but as integrated command centers for all public health emergencies."*

The panel highlighted lessons from countries like Somalia, Cameroon, Zambia, and Mozambique, where EOCs have transformed outbreak response, improved coordination, and reduced detection-to-response times from 75 days to 30 days in some regions.





Roundtable Sessions

eHA participated in two roundtable sessions that showcased its digital innovations for strengthening primary health care systems across Africa.

ROUNDTABLE 1

Climate Health Vulnerability Assessment Tool (CHAT):

Presented by **Temitayo Tella-Lah**, Program Manager for Climate Adaptation in Health, Food Security, and Nutrition.

CHAT is a digital platform enabling governments and health facilities to assess vulnerabilities and design climate-resilient interventions.

Participants explored its integration of climate and health data to identify at-risk regions and design adaptation plans. Attendees commended the tool's scalability and practical application in resilience planning across subnational levels.



ROUNDTABLE 2

Planfeld Digital Microplanning:

Led by **Abubakar Shehu**, Program Manager for Disease Prevention and Monitoring, Planfeld reduces vaccination microplanning time from five days to ten minutes, ensuring equitable workload distribution and faster decision-making.

Evidence from Kebbi State pilots showed a drop in missed settlements from 24% to 8%, demonstrating the platform's efficiency and precision. Attendees from over 25 partner organizations expressed interest in replicating the tool within their national immunization programs.



LIGHTNING SESSION

Resilient and Inclusive Primary Health Care for Women and Communities

Representing eHealth Africa, **Toju Chibuzor Ogele** presented findings from the study titled “From Generators to Green Energy: A Climate-Centered Evaluation of Energy Access in Primary Health Care Facilities in Nigeria.”

This session, hosted alongside **PATH India** and **Johns Hopkins University**, explored how renewable energy strengthens equity and resilience in health systems.

The study assessed **238 PHCs across 12 Nigerian states** and found that current energy systems, largely dependent on diesel generators, are unsustainable and inequitable.

Solarization initiatives led by eHA have significantly improved service delivery, patient visits, and the potency of vaccines, while ensuring safer night deliveries.

Ogele emphasized the need for decentralized renewable energy integration into PHC systems, linking energy reliability directly with improved maternal and child health outcomes.

Key Learnings

1. Sustainable energy access is foundational to resilient health systems.
2. Digital tools like CHAT and Planfeld enhance decision-making and service equity.
3. Local ownership ensures the sustainability of public health structures like EOCs and POCRs.
4. Behavioral insights improve coordination, accountability, and data-driven response.
5. Cross-sectoral partnerships amplify innovation, impact, and long-term system endurance.



This momentum directly aligns with key part of eHealth Africa's 2026 Strategy which revolves around;

- Amplifying the visibility of eHealth Africa's impact across global and regional health innovation networks while positioning the organization as a trusted leader in digital innovations, public health infrastructure and stronger health systems.
- Scaling the impact of renewable energy integration into Primary Healthcare through our solarization initiatives to sustainably power health facilities and strengthen service delivery in underserved areas.
- Advancing climate-smart primary healthcare systems that enhance resilience, ensure service continuity, and protect vulnerable communities from the growing impacts of climate change.

Engagement & Follow-up with Key Partners for ICPHC 2025

eHealth Africa colleagues at the conference successfully engaged industry experts and potential partners to explore opportunities for collaboration aimed at scaling impact in critical areas such as climate change resilience, the establishment of Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs), and the solarization of primary healthcare facilities, among others.

Nigeria Healthcare Sector-Wide Approach (SWAp)

eHealth Africa engaged with Dr. Kamal Ibrahim, Senior Technical Advisor for the Nigeria Healthcare Sector-Wide Approach, along with other key representatives from the Federal Ministry of Health, to discuss the feasibility of deploying eHealth Africa's Climate Health Vulnerability Assessment Tool (CHAT). The initiative seeks to support the Federal Government of Nigeria's SWAp program in conducting health facility vulnerability assessments to enhance the climate resilience of primary healthcare facilities.

In addition, the team explored potential collaboration areas with the SWAp initiative on Public Health Emergency Management (PHEM) and supply chain strengthening under the Maternal Mortality Reduction Innovation and Initiatives (MAMII) project. SWAp is also considering the adoption of eHealth Africa's LoMIS digital innovation suite for improved logistics management and accountability in medical supplies.

Following subsequent engagements led by Kazeem Balogun and Mohammed-Faosy Adeniran, both teams are currently coordinating to confirm a suitable date for a demonstration of eHealth Africa's digital tools.

Follow-up Engagement and Key Outcomes

Led by Program Manager, Temitayo Tella-Lah, eHealth Africa held a productive follow-up meeting with the SWAp team. A demonstration of the CHAT application was successfully conducted on Friday, 31st October 2025. The session yielded valuable feedback on ways to further optimize the CHAT platform.

The integration of CHAT with DHIS2 was particularly commended as a significant milestone toward strengthening interoperability with national health information systems, enabling

seamless data exchange and cross-platform functionality. Additional insights were shared during the meeting, and both teams expressed commitment to translating ongoing discussions into tangible action and impact.

University of Gondar, Ethiopia

During ICPHC 2025, eHealth Africa held an insightful discussion with Dr. Netsanet Mengistu, Associate Professor of Infectious Diseases and Nutrition, and Coordinator for the Nutrition in Emergencies Research and Training Center at the University of Gondar, Ethiopia.

The conversation focused on the potential establishment of an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at the university, following a robust exchange on eHealth Africa's experience and technical expertise in developing public health infrastructure across Nigeria and other regions.

Follow-up Actions

An ongoing email exchange between both teams is exploring potential areas of collaboration and next steps for the proposed EOC initiative.



Conclusion and Call to Action

Through its participation at ICPHC 2025, eHealth Africa reaffirmed its leadership in driving people-centered, data-informed, and climate-resilient health systems across Africa.

The conference made clear that digital innovation, renewable energy, and collaborative emergency coordination are not peripheral but essential to achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

eHA calls on partners, governments, and funders to:

- Invest in sustainable PHC infrastructure,
- Strengthen data and digital systems for preparedness, and
- Prioritize local ownership for long-term resilience.

Together, these actions can create an Africa where every community, no matter how remote, has access to quality, equitable, and sustainable primary health care.



Post-Conference Action Items

As we build on the engagements from the International conference on primary healthcare (ICPHC 2025), some key post-conference action eHealth Africa will prioritize immediately include;

- Deepen collaborations with both local communities from Ethiopia and International partners across the world as initiated at ICPHC 2025 to accelerate digitally connected health systems.
- Leverage new partnerships to promote climate-smart health systems through the scaling of eHealth Africa's Climate Health Vulnerability Assessment Tool (CHAT) and Logistics Management Information Systems (LoMIS) across Africa.
- Strengthen visibility efforts through knowledge sharing, media engagement, and participation in strategic policy dialogues leading into 2026.
- Translate conference insights into actionable strategies for scaling impact in climate resilience, energy access, and digital transformation of primary healthcare.





Media and Communications Coverage

The ICPHC 2025 conference garnered significant regional and international attention. eHealth Africa's contributions were highlighted in post-conference communiqués, partner briefs, and technical recaps.

eHA's coverage across LinkedIn and other channels reached over **15,000 users**, reinforcing its visibility as a leader in climate-health innovation and digital transformation in Africa.

Photographs, video highlights, and media mentions of the sessions further amplified partner engagement and future collaboration opportunities.



Appendix

[Photographs](#)

[Video highlights](#)

[Press release](#)

[Blog story](#)

Media mentions:

<https://thenationonline.ng/ngo-calls-for-sustainability-of-emergency-operation-centers-in-phcs/>

<https://leadership.ng/ehealth-africa-others-make-case-for-emergency-operation-centres/>

<https://promptnewsonline.com/icphc-2025-ehealth-africa-calls-for-sustainability-of-emergency-operation-centers-renewable-energy-integration/>

<https://blueprint.ng/stakeholders-advocate-renewable-energy-for-better-healthcare-delivery-in-africa/>

<https://royalnews.com.ng/ehealth-africa-calls-for-sustainable-health-systems-in-africa/>

<https://allafrica.com/stories/202510200234.html>

<https://guardian.ng/news/nigeria-innovation-summit-charts-path-for-africas-sustainable-future/>

<https://renexlogistics.com/icphc-2025-ehealth-africa-calls-for-sustainability-of-emergency-operation-centers-renewable-energy-integration/>

https://www.threads.com/@leadership_newspaper/post/DQBXdPzCKG_/ehealth-africa-others-make-case-for-emergency-operation-centres-httpsleadershipn



