



Public Health Emergency Management (PHEM) Strategy 2026 – 2028

Strengthening Preparedness, Detection, and Response Systems for Health Security.

Strategy Launch
Abuja, Nigeria
March 2026



Foreword

Nigeria continues to face an evolving landscape of public health threats, including infectious disease outbreaks, zoonotic diseases, and climate-related emergencies. Over the past decade, the country has demonstrated strong leadership in responding to major public health events, including Ebola, COVID-19, Mpox, Lassa fever, and cholera.

These experiences have reinforced the importance of strong national preparedness systems, effective surveillance networks, and coordinated emergency response mechanisms. Nigeria has made important progress through the establishment of Public Health Emergency Operations Centres (PHEOCs), expansion of surveillance systems, and strengthening of the public health workforce under the leadership of the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention.

However, emerging global health risks, rapid urbanization, environmental pressures, and increasing population mobility require continued investments in preparedness, early detection, and coordinated response systems.

The **eHealth Africa Public Health Emergency Management Strategy (2026–2028)** reflects a commitment to supporting national and regional health security priorities by strengthening collaboration, innovation, and data-driven decision-making.

Through this strategy, eHealth Africa seeks to contribute to building resilient and responsive systems capable of protecting communities from emerging health threats.



Strategic Context

Nigeria's health system serves a population of over 200 million people through a network of primary, secondary, and tertiary healthcare facilities. Primary healthcare facilities form the foundation of service delivery and are often the first point of contact for communities during disease outbreaks and health emergencies.

In recent years, Nigeria has strengthened its public health emergency management architecture through:

- Establishment of Public Health Emergency Operations Centres
- Expansion of national disease surveillance systems
- Strengthening laboratory networks
- Improved coordination for outbreak response
- Increased collaboration with regional and international partners

Despite these important advances, several challenges remain in strengthening preparedness and response systems.

These include:

- uneven response capacity across subnational levels
- fragmented data and surveillance platforms
- delayed detection of outbreaks in some communities
- workforce capacity constraints
- limited integration across human, animal, and environmental health sectors

Addressing these challenges requires continued collaboration between government institutions, development partners, and communities to strengthen national health security systems.



About eHealth Africa

eHealth Africa is a Nigeria-based organization dedicated to strengthening health systems through innovation, technology, and operational support.

For more than fifteen years, the organization has supported governments and partners across Africa in addressing complex health challenges through data-driven approaches and scalable solutions.

eHealth Africa has contributed to initiatives across multiple areas including:

- disease surveillance
- outbreak response coordination
- digital health innovation
- laboratory systems strengthening
- supply chain and logistics management
- data analytics and geospatial intelligence

Working in partnership with governments, research institutions, and international organizations, eHealth Africa aims to support the development of resilient health systems capable of responding effectively to emerging health threats.



Vision

A future where communities across Africa are protected by resilient and responsive public health systems capable of detecting and responding rapidly to emerging health threats.

Mission

To support the strengthening of public health emergency management systems through innovation, partnerships, and data-driven approaches that enhance preparedness, detection, and response capacities.

Strategic Framework

The eHealth Africa Public Health Emergency Management Strategy is guided by a set of core principles designed to strengthen national and regional health security systems.

These principles guide the organization's engagement with governments, development partners, and communities.

Decentralization

Strengthening preparedness and response capacity at subnational level to ensure faster and more effective management of public health emergencies.

Data-Driven Systems

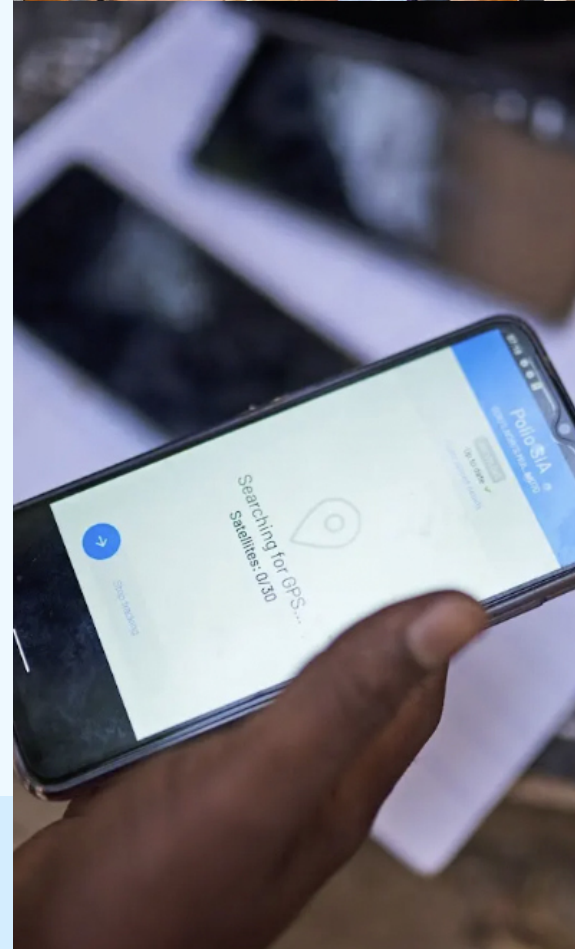
Leveraging digital technologies and analytics to support epidemic intelligence, improve situational awareness, and inform public health decision-making.

Community Engagement

Recognizing communities as the first line of detection and response in managing emerging health threats.

Multisectoral Collaboration

Promoting integrated approaches that bring together human, animal, and environmental health sectors to address complex public health risks.



Strategic Pillars

The strategy focuses on four mutually reinforcing pillars that support stronger preparedness, early detection, and coordinated response to public health emergencies.



Pillar 1:
Strengthening Public Health Emergency Coordination Systems

Effective emergency management requires strong coordination structures capable of managing surveillance, logistics, laboratory networks, and response operations.

Efforts under this pillar support improved coordination and collaboration among institutions responsible for public health preparedness and emergency response.



Pillar 2:
Advancing Community-Level Detection and Response

Communities play a critical role in identifying emerging health threats. Strengthening local detection systems and promoting community awareness can significantly improve the speed at which outbreaks are detected and addressed.

This pillar supports initiatives that enhance early warning mechanisms, disease surveillance and strengthen collaboration between communities and public health authorities.



Pillar 3:
Strengthening Data Systems and Epidemic Intelligence

Timely and reliable data are essential for effective decision-making during public health emergencies. This pillar focuses on strengthening the use of data, analytics, and digital systems to support epidemic intelligence and risk monitoring.

Improved data sharing and interoperability across relevant systems can enhance coordination and response efforts.



Pillar 4:
Promoting Integrated One Health Approaches

Public health threats increasingly arise at the intersection of human, animal, and environmental health.

This pillar supports initiatives that strengthen collaboration across sectors and promote integrated approaches to addressing health security challenges, including zoonotic diseases and climate-related health risks.



Strategic Outcomes

Through the implementation of this strategy, eHealth Africa aims to contribute to strengthening public health emergency preparedness and response systems across Nigeria and the African region.

Expected outcomes include:

- strengthened coordination mechanisms for emergency preparedness and response
- improved early detection of emerging public health threats
- enhanced use of data and analytics for epidemic intelligence
- increased collaboration across sectors involved in health security
- stronger community engagement in outbreak detection and response

These outcomes contribute to broader national and regional efforts to strengthen health system resilience and pandemic preparedness.

Partnerships for Health Security

Strengthening public health emergency management requires strong collaboration across institutions and sectors.

The successful implementation of this strategy will depend on partnerships with:

- national and subnational government institutions
- international development partners
- academic and research institutions
- civil society organizations
- private sector innovators

These partnerships provide opportunities to leverage expertise, mobilize resources, and strengthen collective efforts to protect communities from emerging health threats.



Looking Ahead

Nigeria has made important progress in strengthening public health emergency management over the past decade. However, evolving global health risks require continued collaboration, innovation, and investment in preparedness systems.

The eHealth Africa Public Health Emergency Management Strategy seeks to support national and regional health security priorities by strengthening systems that enable early detection, coordinated response, and resilient health systems.

Through continued partnership with governments and development partners, this strategy aims to contribute to stronger public health systems capable of protecting communities from future health emergencies.



Strengthening Health Systems **Through Data, Innovation, and Partnership.**

— N I G E R I A

4-6 Independence Road,
Kano State.

28 Osun Crescent,
Maitama, FCT, Abuja.

— **Phone:** +234 9093995111
Email: info@ehealthafrica.org
www.ehealthafrica.org

— U . S . A

1200 G Street NW, Suite 800,
Washington, DC 20005,
USA.

— G E R M A N Y

Prenzlauer Allee 186,
10405 Berlin