

Africa Public Health Foundation

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

A year of transition for the foundation.

Letter from the CEO



Dear Partners,

It is my pleasure to present the Africa Public Health Foundation's Annual Report for 2023. It has been a year of transition for the Foundation.

2023 marked the first year of the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (Africa CDC)elevated status as an autonomous agency of the Africa Union, with increased responsibilities and opportunities. It also marked the first year of new leadership of the institution. As our 'protector' and our raison d'etre, Africa CDC's priorities and ambitions inform APHF's efforts. Africa CDC leads, APHF follows.

Thus, 2023 was a year of revision, redefinition, repurposing and redirection.

APHF had a new CEO and onboarded new members of the Governing Council in 2023. Under that new leadership and with an increasingly strengthened partnership with Africa CDC, we were able to make significant progress as highlighted in this Annual Report.

2023 also marked the first full year 'post pandemic', as the world scaled down the emergency response to the COVID-19 pandemic and refocused on implementing lessons learned and health system recovery, but also with a view to building a more resilient system. APHF worked with Africa CDC and our donors and partners to repurpose funds raised for the pandemic response to build a strong emergency response capability and to respond to other emergencies across the continent, including the Cholera outbreak in the Southern African region and the Ebola outbreak in Uganda.

In 2023, the Foundation reached an agreement with Africa CDC to mobilise resources in support of Africa CDC's Flagship Programmes - specifically strengthening National Public Health Institutions and supporting the regional manufacturing agenda. We are working to develop investment cases in support of these flagship initiatives and to align the strategic ambitions with donor interest.

This report summarises our efforts to remain a relevant and effective part of the African public health ecosystem during a time of significant change and to continue to maintain the highest standards of accountability and transparency. We remain ever grateful to partners and donors who continue to maintain and extend their commitment to our shared ambition, under the leadership of Africa CDC, to establish the New Public Health Order for Africa.

Thank you for your continued support.

- Dr. Ebere Okereke
Chief Executive Officer (May 2023 – May 2024)

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Our new CEO



Dr. Ebere Okereke
APFH CEO (May 2023 – May 2024)

In May 2023, Dr Ebere Okereke officially started her role as CEO. Dr Ebere Okereke is a dedicated public health physician, recognised for her extensive expertise in shaping public health policy, designing strategic frameworks, and successfully executing complex health programs. Her work primarily focuses on global health security, health system strengthening, and the cultivation of effective leadership in the field. Dr Okereke has garnered prestigious accolades in recognition of her advocacy for women and under- represented groups in public health leadership, solidifying her status as a trailblazer in the field. Her contributions to the world of academic medicine were honored by the British Medical Association, which recognized her as an outstanding role model for women in academic medicine. Additionally, the UK Government Science and Engineering Profession recognized her as an 'Inspirational Leader in Science and Engineering". She was profiled in The Lancet in November 2023 and in December 2023, she received an honorary Doctor of Science degree from the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine UK.

Dr Okereke has held pivotal roles in esteemed organisations, including her previous position as the Lead Consultant in Public Health England's International Health Regulations Strengthening Programme. Her influence has also extended to the Tony Blair Institute for Global Change, where she served as a Senior Adviser, and as an Honorary Senior Adviser to the inaugural Director of the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.As an adviser at the Africa CDC, she co-led the creation of the Partnerships for African Vaccines Manufacturing. Beyond her professional roles, Dr Okereke actively engages in numerous prominent institutions and initiatives. She sits on the governing board of the Albert Luthuli Institute of Leadership at Pretoria University and is a founding member of the Africa CDC Kofi Annan Global Health Leadership Programme.

Her involvement extends to several global health expert reference and advisory groups, as well as scientific committees. She served on the GAVI Expert Reference Group for the creation of the Africa Vaccines Manufacturing Accelerator and is currently a member of the WHO African Region Emergency Preparedness and Response Technical Advisory Group. Dr Okereke is a Fellow of the UK Faculty of Public Health and an Associate Fellow at Chatham House. She is a graduate of the University of Nigeria College of Medicine and has post graduate qualifications from Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, Newcastle University and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. As the CEO, Dr Okereke's key priorities will include strengthening Africa Public Health Foundation's role as a leader in promoting health equity in Africa, building strategic partnerships with key stakeholders, and enhancing the Foundation's capacity to respond to emerging health challenges in the region.

Commenting on her appointment she said, "I am honored and excited to be taking on the role of CEO of Africa Public Health Foundation at this critical time. I am committed to working with our partners and stakeholders to promote health equity and improve public health outcomes in Africa". The Foundation had been under Dr Francisco Songane's leadership as Interim CEO for two and a half years; Dr Songane returned to his position as a Governing Council Member. The Governing Council, led by Dr Bernard Haufiku, welcomed Dr Okereke and emphasised that they look forward to working with her to achieve the Foundation's mission of improving public health in Africa.

Leadership

African Union (AU) Assembly Appoints Dr. Jean Kaseya as the Director General of the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC)



During the 36th Assembly of the African Union on 19th February 2023, Dr Jean Kaseya from the Democratic Republic of Congo was appointed as the Director General of the Africa CDC for a mandate of 4 years. He is a medical doctor with over two decades of experience in public health, working at both international institutions and the government of the Democratic Republic of Congo. He will oversee the delivery of the core functions and key objectives of Africa CDC as per its statute. The Director General will also be responsible for the formulation and implementation of substantive work programs for the Regional Coordinating Centres and ensure that programmed activities are carried out in a timely fashion.

He will also play a key role in strengthening the public health infrastructure, improving disease surveillance and response, and promoting research and innovation to improve the health outcomes of people across Africa.

> “ The Africa Public Health Foundation has worked closely with Africa CDC, especially in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic and we look forward to continuing to build on what has been achieved so far in the quest to ensure safer and healthier lives. ”
>
> Dr Bernard Haufiku, Founder and Chairman
> of the Governing Council in a congratulatory letter to Dr Jean Kaseya.

His Excellency, the Director General's Main Achievements

In his first 100 Days, His Excellency the Director General set out prioritise the enhancement of Africa CDC's capacity, ensuring that an adequate and skilled workforce can be employed with increased presence in AU Member States. Dr Kaseya has focused on establishing the necessary governance structures to oversee the institution. Another priority has been the new strategic direction for Africa CDC over the next five years, maintaining strategic engagements for major initiatives and key partnerships, as well as ensuring the financial sustainability of Africa CDC.

The diagram below provides a summary of his **major milestones.**



Successful engagement and advocacy with the AU Policy Organs for the unprecedented approval of the new structure (with 155 regular positions) by the AU Executive Council comprised by Ministers of Foreign Affairs during the 5th Mid-Year Coordination meeting in Nairobi, Kenya

1st convening of the newly constituted Africa CDC Governing Board, Nairobi, Kenya.

Inaugural meeting of the newly established Africa CDC Advisory and Technical Council, Nairobi, Kenya

Successful advocacy conducted with H.E. President Ruto (Kenya) who providedland and committed $2 million for theconstruction of the new building for the RCCEastern Africa.

Ongoing advocacy with other countries of the region to provide the gap.

From May to July 2023, meeting with 18 Heads of State and Government and 32 Ministers of Health to enhance responsiveness and foster the engagement of Member States

Development of the Africa CDC StrategicPlan 2023-2027 that received inputs fromAU Member States, key Health partners, andCSOs. The Strategic Plan was endorsed by the ATC and approved by the Governing Board.



For the first time in Africa, creation of a common social platform connecting all Ministers, Deputy Ministers, and Permanent Secretaries/ Director Generals/Secretary Generals from the 55 countries of Africa. This is the largest network of its kind promoting swift information exchange and decision making.

Charted a clear vision for the 5 Regional Coordinating Centres of Africa CDC, as well as the introduction of Country Teams.

Secured a seat as full member of the Gavi Research and Institutes constituency and observer ver in the Gavi Governing board.

Conducted strategic discussions with GAVI and facilitated the advocacy of $11 billion for African Manufacturers



Revitalized strategic partnership with various Health Partners and donors, and launched the Joint Action Plan Africa CDC-WHO AFRO -WHO EMRO on the Pandemic Preparedness Prevention and Response during the World Health Assembly (WHA)

Established a robust partnership with WHO, ana alignment with the mandate of Africa CDC with the authority to declare Public Health Emergency of Concern, as conferred by AU Heads of State and Government to Africa CDC

Developed and submitted the governance and operational arrangements for the Africa Epidemics Fund and Africa CDC's Financial Sustainability Plan

Initiated a strategic reorientation of Africa CDC's major initiatives, including the Saving Lives and Livelihoods Program, to optimize funding impact and focus on strengthening health systems across the continent

Our Governing Council

The Africa Public Health Foundation has an active Governing Council of eight members, two of whom joined the Council in 2023. In 2023, our founding member, Dr Bernard Haufiku, remained in post as Chair of the Council. Africa CDC, as Protector of the Foundation, continues to attend Council meetings in a non-voting capacity.

Our New Governing Council Members



Dr. Edem Adzogenu

Dr Edem Adzogenu's work straddles the public, private and civic sectors, with an emphasis oninnovation, economic development, pan-African integration and social transformation. Dr Adzogenu has been at the forefront of ground-breaking initiatives to promote public-private partnerships and a stronger role for the African private sector in regional and continental integration.

Under his leadership, Afro-Champions, an organisation he co-founded, has grown into an influential regional public-private partnership platform that partners the African Union and several regional institutions to drive African integration and transformation, using innovative toolkits such as technology investing, novel financing instruments and intergovernmental policy design. Working with some of Africa's foremost thinkers and leaders, he guided the adoption by African Heads of State of the "Trillion Dollar Private Sector AfCFTA Investment & Financing Framework" in support of AfCFTA Implementation. Beyond his special focus on Africa, Dr Adzogenu sits on several International Advisory boards.



Mr. Alain Ah Sue

Mr. Alain Ah-Sue is the Managing Director of EO Solutions Ltd and Linxia Ltd since 2016, managing a team of 150 professionals in the Technology business. Mr. Ah-Sue started his working career in Mauritius after his studies in Computer Science at the City University of New York in 1987 and has been the General Manager and Managing Director of Harel Mallac Technologies Ltd from 1989 to 2016. During this period, he has managed a team of 400 technology professionals in Mauritius, Madagascar, Burundi and Rwanda.

Mr. Ah Sue has over 30 years with vast experience in business development, planning and problem-solving abilities. He focused on maximizing resource utilization to support and grow scalable operations to increase bottom-line profitability. Mr. Ah Sue has an organized and systematic approach with natural relationship-building and leadership talents.

Our Year in Review

In 2023, we strengthened our organisational capacity by bringing on board new team members, wesecured further funding for advancing Africa CDC's priorities, and we homed in on our transparency and accountability as a critical partner in the public health ecosystem.

January

Started implementing the second phase of the COVID-19 Vaccine Roll-Out Pooled Fund with US$2,000,000 from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation

April

Attended the Skoll World Forum in Oxford, UK

Supported an Africa CDC biobanking workshop in Ghana and a COVID-19 waste management workshop in Ethiopia

May

Supported Africa CDC emergency Cholera and Marburg capacity building trainings requested by Member States in three countries (Malawi, Equatorial Guinea, and Tanzania)

Onboarded our new CEO, Dr Ebere Okereke

July

Conducted a financial review of three implementing partners, ensuring donor funds were well spent

Secured US$1,483,226 from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to support a shift within the African clinical trial ecosystem toward building a cohesive, efficient, and impactful approach for advancing high-priority products that meet the needs of low- and middle-income countries.

August

Disbursed a total of US$3,324,926 to implementing partners highlighting our strategic fund management and allocation

Strengthened our organisational capacity by hiring a new Grants Management Lead

Signed agreements with National Public Health Institutes and Laboratories of Uganda, Mozambique, Nigeria, Cameroon and the Democratic Republic of Congo to build Cholera Genomics capacity

Provided logistical support to an Africa CDC Refresher Workshop for Health Reporters and Community Media Networks in Africa on COVID-19 and other vaccinations

September

Attended the United Nations General Assembly where the CEO moderated high-level events for African Union/ Africa CDC and WHO

October

Joined the Global Health Partner of the Global Health Innovation Xchange: a platform to cultivate a dynamic community of forward-thinking organizations, innovators, and funders dedicated to driving innovation in the realm of global health

November

Attended the International Conference on Public Health in Africa with the Governing Council and APHF Senior Leadership Team

Received continue support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for APHF's operational support

December

Reached an agreement with Africa CDC in principle on the basis for our cooperation agreement

Supported an Africa CDC biobanking workshop in Ghana and a COVID-19 waste management workshop in Ethiopia

Secured a contribution of EUR 3,179,096 from the European Health and Digital Executive Agency for Africa CDC's Pathogen Genomics Institute Integrated Genomic Surveillance for Outbreak Detection

Strengthened our fiduciary accountability by completing the Mastercard Deloitte Audit as part of the Saving Lives and Livelihoods grant

Resource Mobilisation

As Africa moves from the acute to the recovery phase of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is critical to identify the continent's persistent health hazards and the rising frequency of climate-change-related calamities.

To address these problems, multi-sectoral response mechanisms must be built that provide adaptability, interoperability among member states, and a one health strategy. This necessitates innovative methods to health funding, digitalisation, research and technology, and deeper partnerships, with the goal of increasing Africa's dependence on local resources and solutions.

In enabling investments in Africa's health, the Africa Public Health Foundation continues to call upon various donors across the world to support Africa CDC's programmatic priorities by extending funds to ensure a safer, healthier, productive, and prosperous Africa. We provide foundations, corporations and organisations and other potential funders with an opportunity to support vital public health systems strengthening work across the continent, leveraging millions of dollars directly and indirectly.





Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) And Africa Public Health Foundation (APHF) Reinforces Resource Mobilisation Efforts

Joint Statement: Africa CDC And APHF Reinforce Resource Mobilisation Efforts

Africa CDC and the Africa Public Health Foundation renewed their commitment to support and strengthen health and economic security in Africa, to advance sustainable financing for public health initiatives across the continent.

The Africa Public Health Foundation met with the Africa CDC in July 2023 to discuss the implementation of its mandate, which included coordinating resource mobilisation and grants management for Africa CDC's strategic priorities.

During the discussions, H.E. Dr Jean Kaseya, the Director General of Africa CDC reaffirmed Africa CDC's commitment to the partnership with the Foundation. He emphasised the critical importance of sustainable financing to advance public health initiatives across the continent. Dr Haufiku, Founder and Chairman of the Governing Council of APHF, commended the Africa CDC for their unwavering dedication to advancing public health across the continent. He also recognised the tremendous achievements made through collaborative initiatives, emphasizing the positive impact of joining forces for the greater good of the continent. With its strong fiduciary accountability track record and access to diverse funding sources, the Foundation is well positioned to achieve its mandate, and will work towards achieving the African Union's New Public Health Order, for a safer, healthier, and prosperous Africa in alignment with the African Union Agenda 2063.

You can read the full Joint Statement here joint-statement-africa-centres-for- disease-control-and-prevention-africa-cdc-and-africa-public-health-foundation-aphf-reinforces- resource-mobilisation-efforts/

Looking Ahead: The Flagship Priorities We Are Fundraising For

At the Africa Public Health Foundation, we aim to forge partnerships and mobilise resources and investments for critical African public health initiatives, in support of Africa CDC and the African Union's New Public Health Order. After approval from Africa CDC, we are positioned to fundraise for Africa CDC's flagship initiatives.

Going forward, the Foundation will fundraise for the following five flagship priorities:

Priority 1: Protecting health care workers with COVID-19 vaccines and other recommended vaccines, as well as broader infection prevention and control (capacity building and personal protective equipment) and geolocation
Priority 2: Establishing continental digitalization, connectivity and solarization of primary health care facilities
Priority 3: Strengthening continental pathogen genomics, bioinformatics, and data capacity
Priority 4: Strengthening National Public Health Institutes' ability to improve Member States' national health security
Priority 5: Strengthening regional vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics manufacturing We will initially focus on the strengthening National Public Health Institutes by developing an investment case. There remains tremendous untapped potential available for us to scale and expand on what has already been achieved so far. We aim to provide an interface for collaboration with donor communities to catalyse development across the continent.

Grants Management

Our grants team works to ensure transparency, to step in and improve policies where needed and provide assurance to donors regarding the implementation of Africa CDC programmes. We also provide additional hands-on support in the planning, organisation and logistics of various meetings, workshops and trainings to ensure Africa CDC can focus wholly on the technical delivery of the content.

Expanding beyond COVID-19

At the start of the year, 84% of APHF's programmatic grants were COVID-19 focused. APHF is now managing a wider variety of grants for Africa CDC, particularly for the Africa CDC Pathogen Genomics Institute. Given the changing nature of the COVID-19 pandemic response, we determined with Africa CDC to reprogramme funds to respond to the continent's most pressing needs, including the Ebola outbreak in Uganda and cholera outbreak in Malawi. The repurposed funds looked at the rapid deployment of emergency responders and appropriate trainings that can limit the spread and extent of outbreak situations and provide a foundation for longer term containment and resilience interventions.

Working with National Public Health Laboratories

Through Africa CDC's Pathogen Genomics Institute, APHF is working with five national public health laboratories in Uganda, Mozambique, Nigeria, Cameroon and the Democratic Republic of Congo to build the national diagnostic capacity for cholera rapid and molecular diagnostics as well as genomic capacity for a resilient and sustainable public health surveillance and response.

These partnerships are a crucial part of strengthening the wider public health ecosystem and have expanded the scope of implementing partners that the Foundation works with. Through these agreements, we aim to simultaneously strengthen the financial capacity of these institutes.

Africa CDC's Response During the Ebola Outbreak in Uganda







Africa CDC's Response During the Ebola Outbreak in Uganda

Case Study: Africa CDC's Response During the Ebola Outbreak in Uganda

Ebola Virus Disease: a severe, often fatal, illness. On 20 September 2022, Ugandan health authorities confirmed an outbreak of the Sudan Ebola Virus, following laboratory confirmation of a patient from a village in Mubende District, Central Uganda. According to the Ministry of Health of Uganda's last EVD report, the outbreak claimed the lives of 55 people and infected over 114 people in 9 districts which also disrupted the socio-economy of the affected communities. The report also indicated that more than 87 people recovered among the confirmed cases.

The Minister of Health of the Republic of Uganda, Honourable Dr Jane Ruth Aceng elaborated, "Uganda has experienced seven Ebola outbreaks since the year 2000, when our first Ebola outbreak was extremely devastating, with over 400 cases and 250 deaths. Uganda started putting systems in place for early detection and response. Subsequently, we expanded laboratory capacity to the extent that we have several mobile laboratories that we can deploy anywhere at any time. We also started the Field Epidemiology Training Program programme, and Laboratory training program at that time, to increase the number of field epidemiologists who could investigate and act as rapid response teams in the event of an outbreak. We also addressed the sample transport network because samples come from any part of the country. In addition, we developed a village health team surveillance manual and trained our village health team so they're on a lot at any one time."

As part of the response, Africa CDC, with funding from the Rockefeller Foundation through the AfricaPublic Health Foundation, trained and deployed 1,926 Community Health Workers (CHWs) in two districts, Mukono (980) and Wakiso (946), to support the Ebola response from November 2022 to January 2023. The two districts were considered high risk, given the high population density and movement of persons for trade and other purposes. The training focused on equipping the CHWs with skills in disease surveillance, contact tracing, infection prevention and control, risk communication, and community engagement.

Dr Ebere Okere, CEO, stated, "Having resources readily available enabled a rapid response in the affected districts in Uganda, as time is of the essence during a public health emergency. It allows for the mobilisation of personnel, equipment, and supplies to the affected areas, enabling a more efficient and targeted response. This readiness helped to minimize the impact of the Sudan Ebola Virus outbreak, reduce its spread, and increased the chances of controlling the outbreak effectively. We are grateful to our donors, Rockefeller Foundation for availing this grant that enhanced the overall capacity to manage the crisis effectively." In the two districts, the CHWs were able to record 10,366 suspected cases and 282 community deaths. In addition, they referred all the suspected cases to the Ministry of Health gazetted facilities and conducted 447,069 household visits. Additionally, 29 alerts were found to be within the case definition of the Ebola virus and samples were taken and sent to the Uganda Virus ResearchInstitute.

Dr Lul Riek, Ag. Regional Collaborating Center Coordinator for East Africa remarked, “Outbreaksbegin and end in communities. This was the approach we introduced as Africa CDC by strengthening Community engagement during the Ebola response in the most affected districts through the involvement of local council chairpersons, religious leaders, and village health teams. This was the turning point in the controlling of the outbreak.”

On 11 January 2023, Uganda was declared Ebola free. However, the Ministry of Health (MOH) recommended continued surveillance in communities through the deployment of CHWs to remain on high alert and be able to quickly identify and locate new infections. Africa CDC will continue to work with MOH to enhance surveillance by supporting the establishment of Events Based Surveillance in priority districts, strengthening biosafety and biosecurity in priority areas identified
by MOH, and supporting the ecological study and documentation of the outbreak.

APHF supported the following Africa CDC trainings and workshops:

Training	Location
Refresher Workshop for Health Reporters and Community Media Networks in Africa	Abuja, Nigeria
Cholera Genomic bioinformatics training	Kinshasa, DRC
Capacity building on Surveillance at Points of Entry, Case Management, and IPC	Equatorial Guinea
Steering Committee for Biobankinq Network in Africa	Blantyre, Malawi
Capacity building in Tanzania on Public Health Events of Concern: Marburg Virus Disease	Bukoba, Tanzania
Workshop on Internal Auditing of Quality Management Systems (QMS) based on ISO 15189:2022 for National Public Health Laboratories enrolled in SLMTA Programme	Lome, Togo
Regional workshop on the GIS mapping of national public health laboratories, including biobanking facilities, in support of better laboratory programming for epidemic response	Lusaka, Zambia

Visibility For Africa Public Health Foundation

Skoll World Forum 2023

APHF attended the 20th Skoll World Forum as a Skoll Foundation partner, as part of its efforts to expand its network, share knowledge and experiences, and learn about innovative approaches to public health.

It was a great opportunity for APHF to interact with and learn from other organisations and individuals working in the field of public health. The Forum provided a platform for APHF to engage with thought leaders, innovators, and policymakers who are shaping the global public health agenda.

Through workshops, panel discussions, and networking events, APHF was able to gain insights into new and emerging trends in public health and explore potential partnerships and collaborations.

There was a lot of networking done with potential partners/donors.

In terms of strengthening health systems, the Skoll World Forum provided APHF with an opportunity to learn about designing pathways to equitable health outcomes. Through various discussions on topics such as health systems strengthening and innovative financing models, APHF was able to gain insights into how other organisations are addressing the challenges facing healthcare systems in Africa. This knowledge can be applied to APHF's own work and inform the Foundation's advocacy efforts to improve healthcare systems in Africa.

In terms of preventing pandemics, the Skoll World Forum provided APHF with opportunities to engage in how to unlock resources and impact in unprecedented times, emerging trends, and future of giving in pandemic preparedness. With the increasing threat of pandemics, it is essential for organisations working in public health to be well informed and prepared to respond quickly and effectively to emerging threats. The Forum provided APHF with access to experts in the field of philanthropy and public health.

Read the full story here. https://aphf.africa/africa-public-health-foundation-participates-in-the-20th-skoll-world-forum/





Africa Public Health Foundation attended the 20th Skroll World Forum 2023







Africa CDC holds the second Partnerships Forum

Africa CDC holds the second Partnerships Forum

Africa Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) on February 20-21 held the secondAfrica Partnerships Forum in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The event, this time with attendance in person,brought together bilateral and multilateral agencies,foundations and technical implementing partners working with Africa CDC. Africa Public Health Foundation (APHF) was represented by theInterim CEO, Dr. Francisco Songane and the Resource Mobilization Lead, Milou Biesebroek.

The purpose of the forum was to convey the visionand way forward for where Africa CDC is today and where the institution is headed as well as increased awareness and understanding of key gaps and opportunities moving forward for partnership and investment. In addition, the forum tackled the issue of investment by creating and/or fostering an open environment for maximizing partner coordination with Africa CDC, and between partners. For partners who were in attendance, it was a great opportunity to garner ideas and perspectives on key agendas through a collective approach.

Africa CDC promotes partnerships and collaboration among Member States to address emerging and endemic diseases and public health emergencies. The institution works with several partners including other African Union entities, regional economic communities, regional health organizations, non-governmental and non-profit organizations, donors, development partners, United Nations agencies as well as bilateral and intergovernmental organizations. The forum held under the theme ‘New Public Health Order, Partnerships for Africa’ is important for Africa CDC as it is part of the operationalization of the African Union Health Strategy. The New Public Health Order calls for enhancing public health institutions in Africa, developing workforce competencies in public health, expanding local production of health products, boosting domestic health investment, and encouraging respectful partnerships.

The World Health Assembly (WHA), the decision-making body of the World Health Organization, is an annual gathering of representatives of the health leadership of all WHO member states as well as global health leaders, policymakers, advocates, experts and representatives of various stakeholders from around the world. WHA 2023 was held in Geneva, Switzerland between 20th-30th May 2023. The theme was WHO at 75: Saving lives, driving health for all. As always, WHA is accompanied by several side events, almost as important as the actual assembly itself, as the side events provide opportunities for networking, advocacy, building partnership, sharing ideas and learning from each other.

Dr. Ebere Okereke, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Milou Biesebroek, Resource Mobilisation Lead, Africa Public Health Foundation (APHF) represented the Foundation in Geneva, attending many side events. Dr. Ebere's participation in the WHA side events in various panels provided an opportunity to highlight the specific opportunities to strengthening Africa's public health system in the wake of the pandemic and other public health emergencies. In her sessions, Dr. Ebere focused on the perspective of the African populations, commenting on access to quality healthcare, healthy ageing, healthcare infrastructure development, and strengthening health systems. By representing the Africa Public Health Foundation and advocating for the continent's health priorities, Dr. Ebere contributed to a more inclusive global health agenda that addresses the pressing concerns of African nations.

Dr. Ebere said, ***"We were able to forge valuable connections with influential stakeholders and potential partners for the Africa Public Health Foundation. Collaborative ventures and partnerships can significantly amplify the Foundation's capacity to implement impactful public health programs, secure funding, and access valuable resources to advance public health initiatives in Africa."***

One of the key meetings that happened was with His Excellency Dr. Jean Kaseya, the Director General of Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC). They agreed to strengthen the collaboration between Africa CDC and APHF. Dr. Ebere congratulated him on his appointment and offered APHF's support for his strategic vision and the priorities for Africa CDC.





Africa Public Health Foundation attends the 76th World Health Assembly

World Health Organization

76th World Health Assembly

#WHA76

Overview of the 78th United Nations General Assembly

Three global health priorities dominated discussions during the high-level week of the 78th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York in September 2023. Political resolutions were adopted on the fight against tuberculosis, universal health coverage, and pandemic prevention preparedness and response – all of which are priorities for the African continent. APHF participated in events related to these resolutions.

Our CEO moderated a side event convened by the AU and Africa CDC which focused on efforts to strengthen local manufacturing of medical products – vaccines, diagnostics and therapeutics, recognizing the importance of resilience and affordable access to these products as essential to pandemic preparedness and for UHC.

Our CEO was invited by WHO and the Government of South Africa to moderate a ministerial breakfast summit to discuss interim measures for access to medical countermeasures to ensure lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic are implemented urgently while longer term solutions in the proposed Pandemic Accord are developed.



Overview of the 78th United Nations General Assembly

APHF Participates in the 3rd International Conference for Public Health in Africa

The third annual International Conference on Public Health in Africa (CPHIA 2023), organised by the Africa CDC and hosted by the Zambian Ministry of Health, took place in Lusaka, Zambia from 27-30 November 2023. Under the theme, "Breaking Barriers: Repositioning Africa in the Global Health Architecture", the conference provided a unique African-led platform for leaders across the continent to reflect on lessons learned in health and science and align on a way forward for creating more resilient health systems.

During the opening ceremony, His Excellency Hakainde Chilema, President of the Republic of Zambia, stated, "CPHIA is unique in the sense that it is talking about health in a holistic way. Health for one, health for families, health for countries, health for the World."



APHF's Active Participation in the Third International Conference for Public Health in Africa



Appreciative of Africa CDC choosing Zambia as the host country, Zambia's Health Minister, Hon. Sylvia Masebo, noted that the conference had provided a unique platform for African leaders to define common public health problems affecting Africa. She also emphasized the need for political will and multi-sectoral collaboration as essential tools to ensure equitable health delivery on the continent. "Political will is required for building sustainable health systems." CPHIA 2023 showcased how the continent is breaking down barriers, reaffirming Africa as a powerhouse in science and innovation, generator of new knowledge and health products, and exemplar of progress.

Dr Jean Kaseya, Director General of Africa CDC said, "Breaking barriers requires us to think beyond the confines of traditional health care models, to leverage new technologies and innovations, to embrace equity and social justice principles, and to foster robust collaborations". Dr Kaseya also went on to award Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director General of the WHO, the Lifetime Achievement in Public Health Award for his great contribution to public health in the World. As African countries accelerate the realization of a New Public Health Order, CPHIA is helping build a healthier, more prosperous Africa – for the continent, and the world. The lessons learned and decisions made during the conference are expected to have a lasting impact on shaping policies, guiding research initiatives, and influencing the allocation of resources to address health challenges on the continent.

Media Mentions for 2023

A major milestone for the Foundation has been an increase in visibility, due to the onboarding of our new CEO and attendance of high-profile events. Notable media mentions include:

- Our announcement of the new CEO was published across 345 media stations and websites in Africa and beyond. You can read the press release here. https://aphf.africa/dr-ebere-okereke-appointed-as-the-ceo-of-africa-public-health-foundation/

- Dr Francisco Songane, former Interim CEO and current Governing Council Member, was interviewed by Ruth Terry of Solutions Journalism Network where he spoke about our work in mobilising resources and building capacity for public health initiatives in partnership with the Africa CDC. Read more here. https://whatsworkingsolutions.org/resource/interview-with- francisco-songane-africa-public-health-foundation/

- Our CEO was interviewed by the Access to Medicine Foundation about the impact the Foundation has on tackling global health inequities. Dr Ebere reflects on the key role that the Foundation plays in building partnerships to increase access to healthcare and how she is using the Foundation's research and insights to address healthcare gaps. You can watch the interview here. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qQaA3_7dRJM&feature=youtu.be

- Dr Ebere was interviewed by Devex as part of International Women's Day and they credited her as the CEO of APHF. Read the article here. https://www.devex.com/news/devex-newswire-on-women-s-day-there-s-vanishing-progress-on-equality-105088

- The CEO was featured in The Lancet: "Ebere Okereke: driving the new public health order in Africa" which was published as the third CPHIA was taking place in Lusaka, Zambia. Read the article here. https://www.thelancet.com/pdfs/journals/lancet/PIIS0140-6736(23)01887-1.pdf

Our Partners in Public Health

At the Foundation, we firmly believe in the power of collaboration. Over the last year, we haveworked closely with Africa CDC, our funders, implementing partners and the Africa PartnersCollective. We are deeply grateful to all of you for your extensive collaboration, support andcommitment to strengthening public health systems across the continent.

We would like to thank those named below for their collaboration and continued support.

- The Rockefeller Foundation
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Skoll Foundation
- Africa CDC
- Mastercard Foundation
- Washington GlobalHealth Alliance
- LGT Venture Philanthropy
- Conrad Hilton Foundation
- John Templeton Foundation
- European Commission
- UBS Optimus Foundation

Our Financial Statements

All financials are in US dollar ($)

Statement of Activities Comparison | December 31, 2022 and 2023

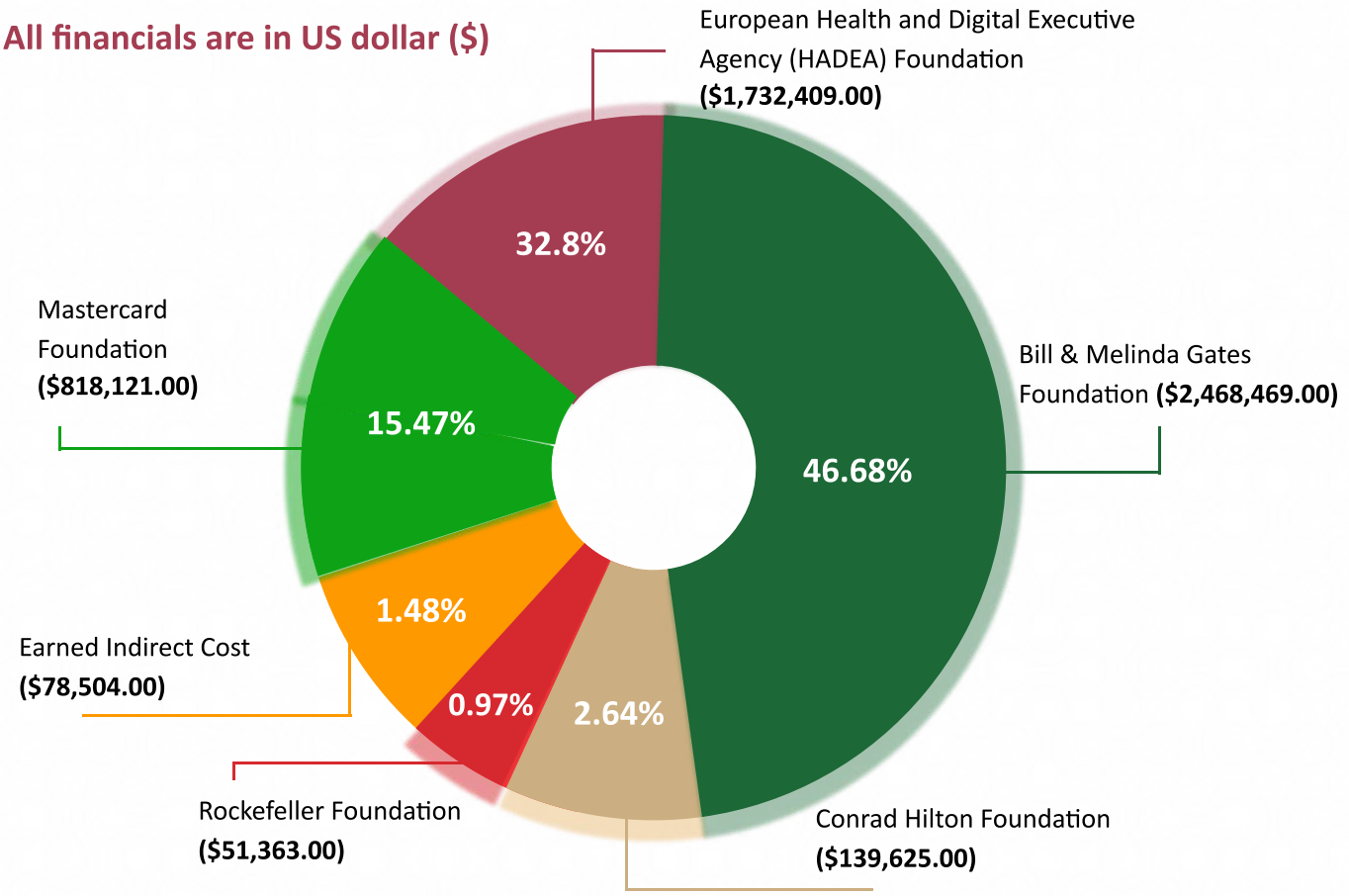
Revenue	2022	2023
Grant Income	**10,894,144.00**	**5,032,364.00**
Expenses		
Program (Sub-grant)	6,861,906.00	1,265,730.00
Personnel Costs	645,238.00	1,248,838.00
Admin Expenses /Office Running Costs	2,139,894.00	2,229,648.00
Consultancy/Professional Fees	1,247,106.00	288,148.00
Total Expenses	**10,894,144.00**	**5,032,364.00**

Balance Sheet Comparison |December 31, 2022 and 2023

Current Assets	2022	2023
Other receivables	300.00	300.00
Cash and cash equivalents	10,059,181.00	10,231,515.00
	10,059,181.00	**10,231,515.00**
Liabilities		
Other payables	32,103.00	26,814.00
Grant received in advance	10,027,278.00	10,204,901.00
	10,059,381.00	10,231,715.00
Net Assets	**100.00**	**100.00**
Net Assets / Equity		
Foundation fund	100.00	100.00
Total net assets/Equity	**100.00**	**100.00**

2023 Revenue Sources

All financials are in US dollar ($)



Purpose of grants

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	Covid19: Support Africa CDC to implement Regional Framework Optimizing Impact and Efficiency of the African clinical trials ecosystem Core grant/General Operating Support
Conrad Hilton Foundation	Pooled Fund
Earned Indirect Cost	Support the operation of Africa Public Health Foundation
Mastercard Foundation	Core grant/General Operating Support
European Health and Digital Executive Agency (HADEA) Foundation	The Africa Pathogen Genomics Institute (PGI) Integrated Genomic Surveillance for Outbreak Detection
Rockefeller Foundation	Partnership to Accelerate COVID19 testing in collaboration with the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Year-end Grant balance $ 10.2 million: 2023 a year of revision, redefinition, repurposing and redirection. APHF worked closely with stakeholders to repurpose funds informed by 2023 being marked the first full year 'post pandemic'; 84% of APHF's programmatic grants were COVID-19 focused. Low burn-rate of program funds resulted to reduced own source income (Earned indirect cost) with more activities anticipated in 2024.

Annual Report 2023

Africa Public Health Foundation

WEBSITE: www.aphf.africa

TWITTER: @AfricaPHF

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