

Note from the CEO

As we come to the end of 2025, I want to take a moment to acknowledge how far we have come and to appreciate the unwavering commitment of our Coalition's members, partners, and stakeholders in advancing the health landscape across Africa. The journey so far has been both encouraging and inspiring, marked by a collective resolve to embrace innovation, adapt to change, and improve lives across the continent.



Mories Atoki (Dr.)
Chief Executive Officer

The Academy provides a robust pathway for scaling context-relevant solutions that contribute to Africa's development agenda; connecting visionary entrepreneurs with global and regional industry experts, growth advisors, and impact investors who can help refine their models, accelerate growth, and unlock long-term sustainability. It graduated its first cohort recently on December 12, 2025 and a new cohort will commence in February 2026.

The last part of the year has seen remarkable advancements, particularly in the digital health space. Africa is proving that the future of healthcare is now—and it is digital. It is heartwarming that our continent is not lagging behind as our digital health market, currently estimated at \$5.58 billion, continues to grow at a steady 7.9% annual rate, pointing to a continent ready to scale its innovations and unlock real impact.

The growing embrace of digital health solutions is a defining trend. From drone-assisted medical deliveries in Rwanda and Ghana, to AI-powered systems piloted in Malawi and Ethiopia, Africa is showing the world what is possible when innovation is combined with intent. These advancements are not just about technology—they are about better outcomes, increased access, and systems that can adapt quickly in the face of need. Experts have identified strategic partnerships as a key enabler of this progress and if this trend continues, the continent is on track to witness a radical transformation in its healthcare space. ABCHealth remains at the forefront of engendering partnerships and has engaged in a series of strategic actions aimed at delivering its mandate of driving improved health outcomes across Africa.

As a Coalition, we crossed major milestones including the launch of our Academy for Health Entrepreneurs (AAHE) which is a venture-building initiative organized to strengthen the entrepreneurial ecosystem, supporting high-potential entrepreneurs who are creating solutions with transformative impact on population health and well-being, whether through health tech, logistics, supply chain innovation, local production, digital platforms, or community based service delivery.

Like manner, ABCHealth launched its virtual healthtech hub for entrepreneurs across Africa. The Hub serves as a community for digital health entrepreneurs and designed to coordinate and deepen health tech interventions and solutions, connecting the player and pioneers to their peers from other parts of the world. ABCHealth convened and participated in several high-impact engagements which served as platforms for fostering collaborations between the public and private sectors and within the private sector to support the continent's drive for achieving the health goals contained within the global SGD 2030 and the continent's Agenda 2063.

Looking ahead especially in 2026, our focus remains on creating enabling environments for innovation to thrive. This includes continuing to support government-led reforms, investing in digital infrastructure, and creating opportunities for collaboration across sectors. With Africa's digital health market projected to grow from \$3.8 billion in 2023 to \$16.6 billion by 2030, now is the time to harness this momentum and accelerate coordinated action.

I want to express my heartfelt thanks to our board, management team, coalition members, and partners who continue to drive change, one initiative at a time. Let us carry the momentum of the previous months into the coming year with renewed sense of purpose and clarity. We invite all stakeholders to join us in the Coalition's journey of building an Africa where quality healthcare is not a privilege, but a right accessible to all. And we will achieve this through unlocking the full potential of digital health to save lives, strengthen systems, and shape a healthier, stronger continent. Together, we will continue building a healthier and more resilient Africa—powered by innovation, anchored in collaboration, and committed to impact.

Thank you and happy holidays ahead

Join the Coalition and Fix Africa's Health

The African Business Coalition for Health (ABCHealth) is a not-for-profit established to bring together businesses, philanthropists and development institutions that will collectively seek greater private sector contributions to improve health outcomes and save lives in Africa. You too can take action - [join](#) the Coalition today and let us work together to fix Africa's health.

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ABCHealth Academy Graduates Health Entrepreneurs



The ABCHealth Academy for Health Entrepreneurs (AAHE) is a venture-building series of classes across Africa's key healthcare markets created with the goal of advancing sustainable healthcare investment opportunities towards driving innovation and growth.

ABCHealth's Academy is an exclusive, impact-driven learning and acceleration platform designed not just to train entrepreneurs, but to act as a vital catalyst, equipping them with the tools, insights, networks, and capital access needed to build resilient and transformative health solutions in Africa.

The Academy was kickstarted with the 2025 Cohort of carefully curated health innovators and entrepreneurs in collaboration with the Innovation and Technology Management Office (ITMO), University of Lagos on a tangent with the African Engineering and Technology Network (AFRETEC). These partnerships strengthened the Academy's impact with the inclusion of tens of health innovators, exposing them to programming that built up their entrepreneurship capacities alongside established startups in sessions facilitated by experts across Africa's diverse healthcare value chain.

The Academy is structured to run three successive diets and these are the Ideation, Accelerate and Growth stages comprising a total of thirty-three modules each facilitated by carefully selected experts in various fields including finance, legal and governance, human resources, sales and marketing, branding and business development.

The Ideation Stage is focused on helping early-stage founders validate their concepts, build robust foundational strategies, and achieve

robust foundational strategies, and achieve product-market fit.

For ventures with established traction, the Accelerate Stage is tailored to scaling operations, securing strategic partnerships, and preparing rigorously for major funding rounds. Finally, the Growth Stage is dedicated to established businesses seeking systematic expansion into new African markets, enhancing long-term sustainability, and deepening their systemic impact.

The Academy's comprehensive framework is built on pillars that address real-world business challenges in the health sector. Participants engage with curated learning modules rooted in the realities of African health systems dynamics, cross-sector innovation, and market readiness; enabling them to engage learnings rooted in the realities of African health systems dynamics, cross-sector innovation, and market readiness.

Ultimately, the Academy provides invaluable access to ABCHealth's global coalition of corporate partners, development institutions, and investor networks, culminating in opportunities to pitch for funding and secure strategic scale partnerships.

Whether the entrepreneur is building a HealthTech startup, pioneering a community health model, innovating in diagnostics or supply chain, or developing new financing models, the ABCHealth Academy provides the critical framework to grow their venture and amplify their impact.

Over three hundred innovators and entrepreneurs registered to participate in this cohort. A hundred and two were selected with sixty-one graduating.

ABCHealth founders – Mr. Aliko Dangote, President Dangote Industries and Aigboje Aig-Iroukhuede, Chairman Access Corporation and Chairman Coronation Group – firmly believe that solving Africa's health challenges should be Africans' responsibility using home grown solutions to exploit the opportunities in the continent's healthcare value chain.

The Academy is one element of our founders' vision and will serve as an institution where innovators and entrepreneurs in Africa's healthcare space will be supported to solve complex development challenges, applying innovative thinking, market-driven strategies, and technology-enabled solutions to address critical gaps in health, logistics, finance, manufacturing, and beyond. These entrepreneurs are not confined to one sector; rather, they operate at the intersection of multiple industries, building integrated models that drive both commercial success and social impact.

This sentiment is echoed by many experts and critical stakeholders who have formed various networks including key collaborators in the Innovation & Technology Management Office, University of Lagos and the African Engineering and Technology Network (AFRETEC).

Indeed, the institution of the ABCHealth Academy presents Africa's private sector a strategic platform for governments, investors, and institutions to align with the mission of advancing sustainable health innovation and enterprise development across the continent; it offers meaningful partnerships and drives impact within the continent's growing health ecosystem.

Wall of Honour: ABCHealth Academy Partners and Collaborators

The ABCHealth Academy for Health Entrepreneurs (AAHE) recognizes and appreciates its partners, sponsors and collaborators for the 2025 Cohort. These are:

- Aliko Dangote Foundation
- Access Bank
- Innovation and Technology Management Office (ITMO), University of Lagos
- African Engineering and Technology Network - AFRETEC (through ITMO, UniLag)
- Synlab Nigeria Limited
- Lagos Business School
- ALN Nigeria - Aluko & Oyebo

Aliko Dangote Foundation

Innovation and Technology Management Office
University of Lagos



access

LAGOS BUSINESS SCHOOL
PAN-ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

AFRETEC NETWORK
BY CONSORTIUM COLLABORATION

SYNLAB

ALUKO & OYEBO
ALN





The ABCHealth Digital Health & AI Conference, held as part of the ABCHealth HealthTech Summit at WHX Lagos, was convened under the theme ‘**Engaging the Digital Health Ecosystem: Enabling Interoperability, Scalability & Sustainability across Health Systems.**’ Stakeholders from across the digital health landscape including policymakers, healthcare leaders, private sector investors, development partners, technologists, and innovators gathered to confront Africa’s myriad health challenges and the opportunities therein for the continent in building a world class and sustainable healthcare system.

During the summit, ABCHealth launched its virtual healthtech hub which is envisioned as a dynamic, multi-layered ecosystem that brings together the full spectrum of actors necessary for Africa’s digital health transformation.

Also, the ABCHealth Xcelerator Pitch Event was concluded with Heala Tech emerging as the overall winner from thirty-three entrants and nine finalists. The Xcelerator Pitch Event was conceived as a strategic platform to identify, support, and amplify Africa’s most promising early-stage health entrepreneurs.



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Outcome
Reports



Health News



Healthcare in Africa: Emerging Technologies at Play

Technology is playing an increasingly transformative role in improving health outcomes across Africa as disruptive innovation and grit take centre stage. Emerging technologies are advancing discoveries and revolutionizing how healthcare is being delivered.

Africa’s Governments jump on the Digital Health Train

African governments are increasingly interested in digital health and are actively implementing various reforms as different countries develop national strategies that will enable them improve their health outcomes. The only question now is ‘how far will they go?’

Incubation Hubs: Driving Health Entrepreneurship in Africa

By providing resources, funding, and networks to help innovators develop and scale healthcare solutions for major health challenges, incubation hubs are fueling health entrepreneurship in Africa. The impact of these hubs are not up for debate.

Africa’s Public Health: The First Line of Defence

Africa’s first line of defense isn’t just hospitals or emergency responses, it’s a strong, well-coordinated public health system and this is because public health focuses primarily on prevention, preparedness, and community well-being rather than only treating illness.

Digital Health in Africa: A Turning Point

Digital technology is no longer an emerging concept in Africa's healthcare space; it is a present-day driver of transformation. The adoption of tools such as telemedicine platforms, mobile health (mHealth) apps, AI diagnostics, drones for supply chain, and electronic medical records (EMRs) is reshaping healthcare delivery across the continent.

What sets this moment apart is not just the technology itself, but its growing accessibility and localization. With over 70% mobile phone penetration and expanding internet access, digital health innovations are reaching more people in underserved and remote areas. Tools like USSD-based services, SMS alerts, and community-based data collection apps are being tailored to local languages and needs, making care more inclusive, proactive, and patient-centered.

Moreover, the surge of healthtech startups across Africa signals a shift toward homegrown solutions. Innovators are designing tools that address region-specific challenges — from maternal health and disease surveillance to diagnostics and medication delivery. Startups like Zipline, mPharma, Ubenwa, and Helium Health are already revolutionizing how patients access care and how providers deliver it.

This surge, supported by impact investors and strategic partnerships, is creating a vibrant ecosystem with the potential to scale solutions continent-wide, build resilient health systems, and reduce dependency on fragmented infrastructure. With over 850,000+ drone deliveries completed by Zipline, and AI fetal monitoring in Malawi reducing neonatal deaths by 82%, the impact is no longer theoretical — it is measurable, scalable, and life-saving.

Innovators are designing tools that address region-specific challenges, supported by an enabling ecosystem driven by organizations like ABCHealth through coalition building and resource mobilization.

Spotlight on Recent Innovations

Drone Deliveries: Zipline's expansion into Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, and Rwanda is bridging supply chain gaps in real time.

AI Diagnostics: Ubenwa's AI tool in Nigeria analyzes newborn cries to detect asphyxia — offering fast, early diagnosis in low-resource settings.

Telemedicine Vans in Ghana: Microsoft-backed mobile 3D telemedicine is bringing virtual consultations to rural areas.

Health Financing: Platforms like mTIBA (Kenya) and Reliance Health in Nigeria are expanding access to affordable care using mobile insurance.



A medical doctor digitally consulting with a patient online.

Challenges and Barriers

Digital Divide

Access to digital tools is uneven across Africa. Many rural communities lack internet connectivity, smartphones, or even electricity. This limits the reach of mobile health apps, telemedicine, and digital consultation platforms that are otherwise transforming care in urban centers.

Limited Interoperability Between Systems

Digital platforms and electronic medical records often operate in silos, making it difficult to share data between hospitals, clinics, and national systems. This fragmentation leads to duplication of services, incomplete patient histories, and reduced efficiency in service delivery.

Weak Infrastructure

Unreliable electricity, poor internet coverage, and inadequate health facility infrastructure remain major constraints. These issues particularly affect rural and remote areas, where digital solutions could have the most impact but are least accessible.

Regulatory Gaps and Data Privacy Issues

Many communities still lack clear legal frameworks for digital health, data protection, and the ethical use of artificial intelligence in healthcare. This uncertainty makes it difficult to safeguard patient data, regulate innovation, or attract long-term investment.

Low Digital and Health Literacy

Patients and even health workers in some settings may not fully understand or trust digital platforms. Without adequate training and support, digital tools may be underutilized or misused, limiting their potential to improve care outcomes.

Sustainability and Donor Dependency

Many digital health projects rely on temporary funding, making it difficult to maintain and scale solutions over time. A shift toward government ownership and long-term financing is essential.

A Way Forward

The development of national AI and digital health strategies in over 39 African countries marks important progress, as reported by the Science for Africa Foundation in 2024. However, translating these strategies into large-scale, impactful systems remains a work in progress. Significant challenges — including infrastructure deficits, policy misalignment, and uneven access — continue to slow equitable implementation across the continent.

In July 2025, ABCHealth convened key stakeholders at the Africa Social Impact Summit during a high-level roundtable themed “Consolidating Bold Impact Actions towards Achieving Self-Sufficiency in Africa's Healthcare: Aligning Priorities with Technological Innovations.” Discussions emphasized the need for stronger inter-sectoral partnerships, supportive policies, and coordinated investment in digital infrastructure and local innovation.

The next frontier lies in ensuring that digital health solutions are inclusive, interoperable, and impactful at scale. ABCHealth is committed to enabling this transformation through strategic convenings, capacity-building, and coalition-wide action.

To truly accelerate digital health across the continent, Africa must focus on regional data harmonization, cross-border interoperability standards, and open-source digital tools that can be adapted across various contexts. This will ensure that national systems are not only innovative but also integrated, sustainable, and scalable.

Equally critical is the investment in digital literacy and health workforce upskilling. Training programs tailored for frontline workers, tech developers, and health administrators are essential for long-term adoption and impact. In addition, youth innovators and entrepreneurs must be given opportunities to lead — as they represent Africa's greatest asset and the driving force behind the continent's digital transformation. This is one of the goals that the ABCHealth Virtual Health Tech Hub aims to achieve.

Digital health is a critical lever in achieving not just Universal Health Coverage (UHC), the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 3), but also the broader vision of Agenda 2063 — building a prosperous, self-reliant Africa with accessible, inclusive healthcare for all.

At ABCHealth, we believe that the future of healthcare in Africa will not be imported — it will be invented here, digitized here, and driven by the bold actions of those who call this continent home and there is no better time than now to set the stage for an Africa with improved health outcomes.

ABCHealth Virtual Healthtech Hub

In response to Africa's healthcare industry undergoing a transformative shift, driven by technological advancements that enhance patient care, improve healthcare delivery, and streamline operational processes; ABCHealth launched its HealthTech Virtual Hub with the critical objectives of fostering collaboration, innovation, and growth in this space.

The Hub is a dynamic and interactive digital ecosystem that enhances networking among startups, experienced health entrepreneurs, industry professionals, healthcare providers, technology developers, and policymakers; as well as a safe space for acceleration support, an advisory desk and a launch pad for the next generation of health technology innovations.

The Hub has a number of objectives including:

- promoting collaboration through convening health stakeholders in various sectors including finance, logistics, policy
- leveraging the Coalition's global exposure and influence in order to solve critical health challenges
- entrenching responsibility and trust for early-stage health tech startups to access resources, mentorship, and funding opportunities to scale their solutions



The Hub also intersects with the ABCHealth Academy, positioning it as a platform where Africa's health value chain system can be virtually engaged addressing isolationist tendencies of many health innovators, whilst encouraging cross-functional health-focused solutions.

African innovation hubs are transforming the continent's economy by fostering entrepreneurship, creating jobs, bridging the digital divide, and developing local solutions for regional challenges. At ABCHealth, we believe that hubs are critical support systems and as such, investing in them is crucial to bridging capacity gaps, attracting investments, and boosting innovation.

Coalition Events

ABCHealth partnered with a number of organisations and institutions to convene a number of events towards advocating improved health outcomes in Africa

Africa Social Impact Summit 2025, Lagos



At the Africa Social Impact Summit 2025, Lagos, ABCHealth convened high-level Panel and Roundtable Sessions that brought together senior policymakers, private sector leaders, and health innovators to drive actionable dialogue on sustainable, inclusive health systems across Africa.

2025 Africa Primary Healthcare Forum, Abuja



At the Africa Primary Healthcare Forum in Abuja, ABCHealth's Roundtable Session convened government officials, health system leaders, frontline practitioners, and private sector stakeholders to advance practical solutions for strengthening primary healthcare delivery and financing in Nigeria and across the continent.

Africa Healthtech Summit, Kigali



At the Africa HealthTech Summit in Kigali, ABCHealth CEO Roundtable Session brought together leading digital health innovators, policymakers, investors, and healthcare practitioners to explore scalable, technology-driven solutions for improving healthcare access, interoperability, and health system efficiency across Africa.

2025 Conference of the Academy of Public Health, Abuja



The ABCHealth Panel Session in Abuja, convened as part of the 10th Anniversary, 6th Membership Induction, and 2025 Conference of the Academy of Public Health in collaboration with the West African Institute of Public Health (WAIPH), featuring a high-level interview with Dr. Ahmed Ogwell (FAPH), CEO VillageReach, and insights from Prof. Muhammad Ali Pate, Coordinating Minister of Health and Social Welfare, Federal Republic of Nigeria.

A.H.E.A.D Healthtech Conference 2025, Lagos



The ABCHealth Panel Session in Lagos at the A.H.E.A.D Healthtech Conference showcased cutting-edge HealthTech innovations and ecosystem collaborations, spotlighting Apex Healthtech, a student of the ABCHealth Academy, for its winning solution and underscoring the role of emerging entrepreneurs in driving scalable digital health solutions across Africa.

2025 WHX World Health Leaders Summit, Accra



The ABCHealth High-Level Roundtable Session at the World Health Leaders Summit (WHX) in Ghana convened senior policymakers, healthcare executives, and thought leaders to drive strategic dialogue on sustainable healthcare delivery, digital transformation, and collaborative approaches to strengthening health systems across Africa.

ABCHealth Outcome Reports



ABCHealth mobilizes private sector interests and capabilities to collectively address the healthcare challenges of the African continent; working to unlock synergies to help companies and their leadership contribute impactfully to meeting national and regional health goals in the context of SDG Agenda 2030 and Africa Agenda 2063. ABCHealth does this through various mechanisms including high-level gatherings at national, regional, continental and global level where Coalition members exhibit thought leadership and showcase their contributions to the mandate of improving health outcomes across the continent.



ABCHealth Roundtable Session - Africa Primary Healthcare Forum (APHCF) 2025, Abuja, Nigeria.



ABCHealth Panel Session, Africa Film Finance Forum (AFFF), Lagos, Nigeria.



ABCHealth CEO Roundtable Session, Africa Healthtech Summit, Kigali, Rwanda.



ABCHealth Panel Session, 10th Anniversary, 6th Membership Induction, Academy of Public Health Conference 2025, Abuja.



ABCHealth Panel Session, A.H.E.A.D Africa Healthtech Summit, Lagos, Nigeria



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