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WHX Leaders Africa

ABCHEALTH SESSIONS

ACCRA, GHANA

Roundtable Theme:
Forging a Predictive Health Intelligence and Digital Structure for Local Production Efficiency and Market Responsiveness in Africa's Healthcare Sector

10TH DECEMBER 2025

Outcome Report

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Aliko Dangote is the founder and president/chief executive of the Dangote Group, the largest conglomerate in West Africa. The Group currently has a presence in 17 African countries and is a market leader in cement on the continent. One of the Group's subsidiaries, Dangote Cement Plc, is the largest listed company in West Africa and the first Nigerian company to join the Forbes Global 2000 Companies list.

The Group has diversified into other sectors of the Nigerian economy including agriculture and is currently constructing the largest petroleum refinery, petrochemical plant and fertilizer complex in Africa.

Internationally, Dangote sits on the board of the Corporate Council on Africa and is a member of the Steering Committee of the United Nations Secretary-General's Global Education First Initiative, the Clinton Global Initiative, the McKinsey Advisory Council, and the International Business Council of the World Economic Forum.

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Foreword

Africa's healthcare systems remain largely reactive, responding to crises after they occur rather than anticipating them. With over 100 disease outbreaks each year and more than half of essential medicines imported, delayed data and fragmented supply chains leave millions exposed to preventable illness and economic disruption. The continent's future health security depends on a decisive shift toward predictive intelligence.

This carries profound economic, social, and developmental consequences for the continent. Africa accounts for 24% of the global disease burden yet possesses only 1% of the world's health-data infrastructure, leaving health systems ill-equipped to anticipate and respond to emerging crises. . The shift from reactive, crisis-driven responses to anticipatory, data-informed health planning is no longer optional it is a continental imperative that demands urgent action and coordinated leadership.

In recognition of this urgency, ABCHealth convened the High-Level Roundtable Session on the margins of the World Health Expo (WHX) Leaders Summit Africa in Accra, Ghana, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Republic of Ghana, and with the technical partnership of the West Africa Private Healthcare Federation (FOASPS) and the Healthcare Federation of Ghana. This convening brought together policymakers, private sector leaders, investors, and technical experts to explore and operationalize pathways for a predictive, digitally enabled health ecosystem capable of optimizing local production efficiency and enhancing market responsiveness.

The Roundtable provided a unique platform to interrogate the critical intersections between policy, innovation, and private sector engagement in African healthcare. Discussions centered on leveraging predictive health intelligence, integrating digital infrastructure, and aligning market-driven production strategies with national and regional health priorities. Speakers provided evidence-based perspectives on regulatory coherence, investment mobilization, technology-enabled supply chain management, and mechanisms to ensure equitable access to health commodities. The outcomes underscored the importance of cross-sectoral collaboration, data-driven decision-making, and sustainable financing in advancing UHC and strengthening local manufacturing capacity across Africa.

The conversation highlighted a fundamental imperative: Africa's healthcare systems must shift from reactive operations to proactive, intelligence-driven planning. Central to this transformation is the integration of predictive analytics, AI-driven modeling, IoT-enabled monitoring, blockchain traceability, and automation across production and supply networks. By linking real-time health data with manufacturing and distribution systems, these technologies can anticipate demand, optimize resource allocation, and prevent stockouts before they occur. The Roundtable explored how such digital innovations, combined with cross-sector coordination, can create a seamless, responsive, and resilient healthcare ecosystem that aligns local production with actual health needs across the continent.

This report is a call to action for Africa's healthcare future. It challenges governments, the private sector, and development partners to align strategies, investments, and policies to scale predictive health intelligence and digitally integrated production. By bridging data, manufacturing, and market responsiveness, Africa can build proactive health systems, agile supply chains, and self-reliant local production. May this blueprint inspire every policymaker, innovator, and health leader to turn ambition into action, forging a resilient, accessible, and forward-looking healthcare ecosystem that secures health, dignity, and prosperity for all Africans.

Dr. Mories Atoki
CEO, ABCHealth

Executive Summary

The ABCHealth Roundtable session at the WHX Leaders Africa Summit convened a strategic coalition of CEOs, policymakers, investors, and technologists to address the systemic vulnerability of Africa's healthcare sector. The dialogue was anchored on the consensus that the continent's persistent reactive stance to health crises, marked by fragmented data and disjointed supply chains is untenable. With Africa bearing over 24% of the global disease burden yet operating on just 1% of its health-data infrastructure, the imperative for a fundamental shift from reactive response to predictive intelligence is clear.

The analysis focused on three interdependent levers for transformation: intelligence, infrastructure, and coordination. Regarding intelligence, the session emphasized the imperative of establishing predictive analytics and AI-driven modeling systems capable of forecasting disease trends, anticipating medicine and device demand, and detecting supply chain bottlenecks before they escalate. Harnessing real-time health data and advanced analytics ensures that decisions are anticipatory, evidence-based, and aligned with actual population health needs.

In terms of infrastructure, the Roundtable highlighted the role of digitally integrated production and supply systems. Technologies such as IoT-enabled monitoring, blockchain traceability, and automated manufacturing were discussed as critical enablers for linking public health data with local production capacity. Such integration enhances efficiency, quality, and responsiveness, allowing manufacturers and health authorities to align output with demand while reducing dependency on imports. Strategic coordination, interoperability, and robust data governance frameworks were underscored as foundational to realizing these gains.

Coordination and partnerships were framed as essential to scaling impact. Structured collaboration between governments, private sector actors, investors, and development partners can align policy, financing, and technology deployment, creating a sustainable ecosystem for predictive, data-driven health production. This Roundtable session serves as both a roadmap and a call to action: Africa must build proactive, resilient, and market-responsive health systems, leveraging predictive intelligence and digital innovation to secure health, efficiency, and long-term prosperity for its populations.

> Africa can no longer afford reactive healthcare systems. With over 100 disease outbreaks each year and more than half of essential medicines imported, the continent must harness predictive health intelligence and integrated digital infrastructure to anticipate crises, align supply with demand, and transform fragmented data into actionable, life-saving insights.

Background

Across Africa, healthcare delivery remains overwhelmingly reactive, with systems mobilizing primarily in response to outbreaks, shortages, or emergencies rather than anticipating them through forward-looking planning. The continent records more than 100 disease outbreaks annually, ranging from communicable diseases to climate-related health shocks, yet continues to import over 50% of its essential medicines and health commodities. This structural dependence on external supply chains, combined with delayed health data, fragmented logistics networks, and limited coordination between public health needs and production systems, exposes millions to avoidable disruptions in access to care. The result is a cycle of crisis response that weakens health security, strains public finances, and constrains long-term system resilience.

Underlying this persistent reactivity is a profound data and intelligence gap. Africa bears approximately 24% of the global disease burden but commands only about 1% of global health-data infrastructure, creating a severe imbalance between health needs and analytical capacity. Health information remains dispersed across surveillance systems, clinical records, procurement platforms, manufacturing data, and distribution networks, with limited interoperability between them. In many settings, data is incomplete, delayed, or inaccessible, preventing timely forecasting and evidence-based decision-making. These structural weaknesses undermine governments' ability to anticipate health threats, manufacturers' capacity to plan production accurately, and markets' responsiveness to shifting demand.

In recent years, Africa has seen a surge in digital health investment, exceeding USD 1.3 billion since 2020. While this reflects growing confidence in technology-enabled solutions, much of the investment has been directed toward isolated, point-based systems. Limited interoperability, weak integration with national platforms, and insufficient real-time analytics mean that data often fails to translate into actionable intelligence. As a result, despite increased digitization, health systems and producers remain constrained in their ability to predict disease trends, align supply with demand, or pre-empt disruptions—highlighting that digital adoption without systemic integration cannot deliver transformative impact.

Predictive health intelligence, enabled by real-time data, artificial intelligence (AI), and advanced analytics, offers a pathway to shift from reactive response to anticipatory planning. By forecasting disease patterns, projecting medicine and device demand, and identifying supply chain bottlenecks before they escalate, predictive systems can significantly improve preparedness and efficiency. Evidence suggests that effective deployment of digital health tools could improve health-system efficiency in Africa by up to 15% by 2030.

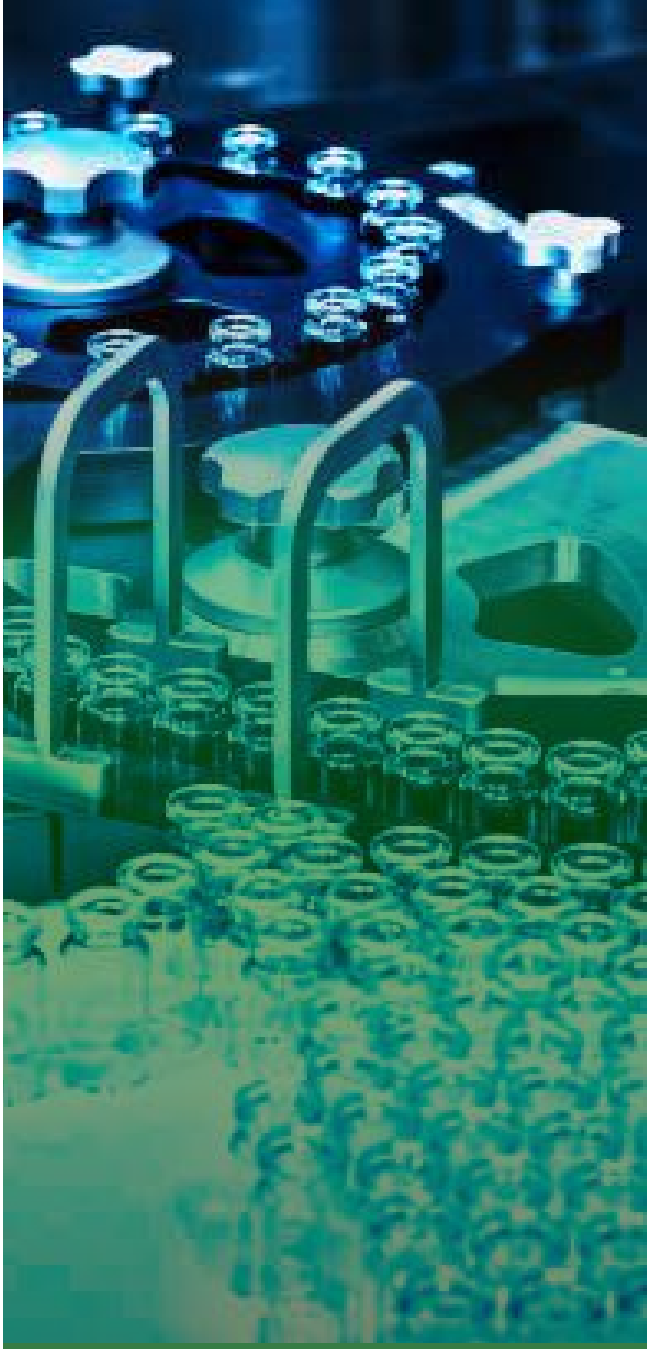
The absence of reliable, real-time demand intelligence continues to undermine local production efficiency across Africa's healthcare sector. Many producers operate with limited visibility into actual consumption patterns, disease trends, and service utilization, resulting in recurring challenges such as overproduction, underproduction, stockouts, and operational waste. This structural disconnect weakens planning accuracy, constrains responsiveness, and reinforces dependence on external supply sources, even as domestic production capacity steadily expands across the continent.

Building a robust, interoperable digital health and production infrastructure is essential to bridging the gap between health demand and supply responsiveness. Technologies such as IoT-enabled monitoring, automation, blockchain-based traceability, and AI-driven forecasting can link public health data directly to production and distribution systems. When deployed in an integrated manner, these tools support real-time production adjustments, strengthen quality assurance, improve inventory management, and provide end-to-end visibility across supply chains, enabling more coordinated and efficient system performance.

Predictive supply chains enable timely positioning of essential health commodities, while digital traceability enhances transparency and reduces losses across the system. Realizing these benefits, however, depends on strong data governance frameworks, interoperable standards, and trusted mechanisms for ethical data sharing. Predictive systems are ultimately only as effective as the quality, accessibility, and integrity of the data that informs them.

Recognizing this reality, the ABCHealth Leaders Roundtable convened a high-level cohort of policymakers, private sector leaders, investors, regulators, and technology innovators to advance a shared agenda around predictive health intelligence and digitally integrated systems. The session provided a strategic platform to align incentives, reduce implementation risks, and co-design scalable, system-wide approaches that connect health data, local production, and market responsiveness at both national and continental levels.

The Roundtable was anchored in a clear strategic mandate: to advance predictive, digitally integrated health and manufacturing systems that are locally led, financially viable, and policy-aligned. By bringing together decision-makers with the authority to influence capital flows, regulatory reform, and industrial strategy, the session emphasized coordinated action over isolated interventions. This convergence of leadership underscored a shared recognition that Africa's health security, market responsiveness, and industrial self-reliance depend on integrated solutions that align technology, finance, and policy—moving the continent decisively toward resilient, data-driven healthcare ecosystems.



> To achieve resilient, responsive, and self-sufficient healthcare systems, Africa must integrate predictive intelligence with digitally connected manufacturing and distribution, align policy, investment, and regulation, and empower local stakeholders to lead the design and scaling of sustainable, data-driven solutions across the continent

Key Themes

Strengthening Predictive Health Intelligence for Proactive Planning

Africa's healthcare systems face a pressing need to transition from reactive responses to anticipatory, data-driven planning. Harnessing real-time health data, artificial intelligence, and advanced analytics allows stakeholders to forecast disease patterns, anticipate medicine and device demand, and identify supply chain bottlenecks before they escalate into crises. Such predictive capabilities enhance resource allocation, improve decision-making, and strengthen preparedness for epidemics, climate-related health threats, and sudden shifts in patient demand, transforming uncertainty into actionable foresight.

Building an Integrated Digital Health Infrastructure for Local Production Efficiency

Connecting public health data directly to manufacturing and distribution systems is critical to bridging the persistent gap between demand and supply. Digital infrastructures including IoT-enabled monitoring, automated production, blockchain traceability, and AI-driven forecasting enable producers to adjust output in real time, improve quality assurance, optimize inventory management, and reduce waste. When integrated across institutions, these technologies enhance the competitiveness of local manufacturers, promote self-sufficiency, and strengthen supply chain resilience across the continent.

Enabling Market Responsiveness through Interoperability and Data Governance

Seamless interoperability and robust data governance form the backbone of a responsive, predictive health ecosystem. Standardized, secure, and ethically managed data systems facilitate coordination among ministries, healthcare providers, manufacturers, and regulators. By ensuring the integrity, accessibility, and ethical use of data, Africa can foster trust among stakeholders, support cross-border collaboration, and enable health systems to respond swiftly to dynamic market needs and emerging public health threats, ensuring medicines and medical devices reach the right places at the right time.

Aligning Policy, Partnerships, and Investment for Scale

Sustainable transformation of Africa's health sector requires the deliberate alignment of policy, investment, and multi-sector partnerships. Coordinated public-private partnerships, blended financing mechanisms, and harmonized regulatory frameworks can de-risk innovation, accelerate technology adoption, and ensure equitable access to essential health products. Africa can scale predictive intelligence and digital infrastructure to create resilient, efficient, and market-responsive healthcare systems that support local production, strengthen supply chains, and improve health security continent-wide.

Keynote Address

By: **His Excellency President John Dramani Mahama** - President, Republic of Ghana

In his address, H.E. President John Dramani Mahama presented a disciplined and system-oriented assessment of Africa's health vulnerabilities and opportunities. His remarks were grounded in the recognition that Africa's health systems remain shaped by external supply chains, fragmented markets, and episodic donor financing, conditions that have repeatedly constrained the continent's capacity to respond to both routine health needs and systemic shocks.

He advanced the concept of health sovereignty as a governing framework rather than a political slogan. In this context, sovereignty denotes the capacity of states to determine health outcomes through domestic production, regulatory coherence, skilled human capital, and sustainable financing structures. Health is inseparable from industrial development, trade policy, and national resilience. The address therefore positioned health as a productive sector—capable of generating employment, attracting long-term capital, and reinforcing macroeconomic stability, rather than a recurrent fiscal liability. The Summit, as articulated by the President, was intended to move discourse beyond problem identification toward execution, with an emphasis on investable pathways, regional coordination, and institutional accountability.

Health Sovereignty and the Industrialisation of Medical Supply Chains

President Mahama's primary emphasis rested on the structural exposure created by Africa's dependence on imported health commodities. He noted that despite repeated global disruptions, the continent continues to rely overwhelmingly on external producers for vaccines, pharmaceuticals, diagnostics, and active pharmaceutical ingredients. This dependence, he argued, is neither economically efficient nor strategically defensible.

To address this imbalance, the President called for the deliberate integration of health into Africa's industrial policy agenda. He urged private-sector actors to engage as co-investors in the expansion of pharmaceutical manufacturing, vaccine production, and biologics, supported by state-backed incentives and predictable demand signals. The objective outlined was not substitution at any cost, but the development of competitive production capacity capable of meeting regional standards and volumes.

Regional market consolidation was presented as a precondition for success. The African Continental Free Trade Area is the principal mechanism for overcoming market fragmentation, enabling manufacturers to operate at scale and distribute products across borders without prohibitive regulatory or tariff barriers. Ghana, he suggested, is positioned to function as a regional anchor—providing manufacturing, logistics, and regulatory coordination for health products serving West Africa and the wider continent. Regulatory fragmentation was identified as a persistent barrier to investment. The President therefore highlighted the role of the African Medicines Agency in standardising approval processes, quality assurance, and pharmacovigilance. Without regulatory convergence, he cautioned, Africa would remain a collection of high-cost, low-predictability markets unattractive to long-term capital.

Infrastructure Renewal and the Digital Reconfiguration of Health Systems

Beyond manufacturing, President Mahama devoted significant attention to the internal architecture of health systems. He argued that physical expansion alone is insufficient without corresponding upgrades in data infrastructure, diagnostics, and supply-chain intelligence. He outlined a shift toward health systems governed by real-time information, anchored in interoperable digital platforms capable of supporting clinical decision-making, disease surveillance, and fiscal oversight. The deployment of artificial intelligence in diagnostics and population health analytics was framed as a necessary efficiency measure, particularly in contexts of constrained human resources.

Hospital retooling featured prominently in his remarks. This encompassed modern imaging capacity, strengthened laboratory networks, and the integration of logistics systems that reduce stockouts and wastage. Such investments, he noted, are essential for improving service quality while containing long-term costs.

Financing Architecture and the Reorientation of Health Capital

The Ghana Medical Trust Fund (MahamaCare) was introduced as a response to the financing gap associated with high-cost care. Targeting conditions such as cancer, renal failure, and complex surgical needs, the Fund is structured to pool public resources with private and philanthropic capital, thereby expanding access while providing predictable revenue streams for providers. On universal health coverage, the President reaffirmed Ghana's commitment to eliminating financial barriers at the primary care level. The planned operationalization of Free Primary Healthcare by 2026 was presented as a system-wide investment in prevention, early diagnosis, and workforce productivity, rather than a narrow social protection measure.

At the continental level, the Accra Compact was advanced as a coordinating framework for Africa's engagement with global health financing and governance. Embedded within it, the SUSTAIN Initiative seeks to mobilize domestic institutional capital toward health infrastructure and manufacturing, reframing health from a consumption-driven expenditure to an investable asset class.

Regional Integration and Pan-African Health Diplomacy

Beyond domestic capacity-building and national system reform, the President's remarks implicitly gestured toward a deeper, more strategic horizon: the necessity of regional integration and health diplomacy as instruments of long-term resilience. In an era where pathogens, data, capital, and talent traverse borders with increasing velocity, health systems can no longer be architected as insular national projects. Instead, they must be embedded within a continental logic of shared preparedness, pooled resources, and coordinated response mechanisms. This perspective reframes health as a domain of geopolitical and economic cooperation. Through regional harmonization of regulatory standards, joint procurement mechanisms, interoperable digital health platforms, and shared research infrastructures, African nations can reduce fragmentation, enhance bargaining power, and accelerate the diffusion of innovation. Such integration also enables smaller or resource-constrained countries to benefit from collective scale—particularly in pharmaceutical manufacturing, disease surveillance, and emergency response logistics.

Workforce Strategy and Collective Health Security

President Mahama stated human capital as both a constraint and an opportunity. He observed that Africa's health workforce continues to bear the consequences of underinvestment, limited career progression, and outward migration. Addressing these challenges, he argued, requires alignment between training institutions, service delivery needs, and national development priorities. He called for international cooperation models that strengthen local capacity rather than extract skilled personnel. Workforce development, in his assessment, must be embedded within long-term national strategies, supported by adequate remuneration and professional advancement pathways. The President also situated Africa's health agenda within the broader domain of global security. Reflecting on recent pandemics, he warned that systemic vulnerabilities in African health systems represent a global risk. Conversely, strengthening Africa's surveillance, manufacturing, and response capabilities would enhance collective preparedness and reduce the likelihood of supply-chain failures during future crises.

Execution as the Measure of Leadership

President Mahama emphasized that the credibility of the WHX Leaders Africa Summit would rest on tangible outcomes rather than policy declarations. He cautioned against the historical tendency for continental health commitments to dissipate after high-level convenings, stressing that the post-Summit phase must prioritize project preparation, regulatory readiness, and bankability. In this regard, he called for the rapid translation of summit resolutions into investment pipelines—comprising manufacturing facilities, digital health platforms, workforce programmes, and infrastructure upgrades, capable of attracting both domestic and international financing.

He noted that political leadership alone would be insufficient without corresponding reforms in public-sector governance. Procurement systems, licensing processes, and fiscal frameworks, he argued, must be recalibrated to support long-term private participation while safeguarding public interest. Transparent contracting, predictable reimbursement mechanisms, and credible regulatory oversight were identified as essential conditions for sustaining investor confidence in health-related ventures. In reinforcing the link between health and economic transformation, health-sector industrialization is a driver of employment, skills development, and technology transfer. Manufacturing plants, research facilities, and digital health enterprises were described as platforms for domestic value creation, capable of absorbing skilled labour and reducing outward migration of health professionals and technical experts.

Side Session 1

Topic: **Building the Future of African Healthcare**: Strategic Infrastructure Development

The high-level side session titled 'Building the Future of African Healthcare: Strategic Infrastructure Development' convened senior policymakers, industry leaders, and health system strategists to examine one of the most persistent bottlenecks in Africa's health transformation agenda: the deficit in fit-for-purpose health infrastructure.

Despite hosting over 17% of the global population, Africa accounts for less than 1% of global healthcare infrastructure investment and continues to operate with fewer than 2 hospital beds per 1,000 people, compared to a global average of approximately 3.5. Diagnostic density remains critically low, with many countries averaging fewer than one CT or MRI scanner per million people, severely constraining early detection, clinical decision-making, and specialized care delivery. These gaps contribute directly to Africa's disproportionate disease burden, where the continent carries over 25% of global disease burden but commands less than 3% of global health expenditure.

The session responded to this structural imbalance by focusing on how African governments and private-sector actors can jointly develop world-class hospitals, clinics, diagnostic centres, blood systems, and research hubs, anchored in sustainable financing models, well-structured public–private partnerships (PPPs), and enabling regulatory frameworks. The discussion moved beyond problem statements to interrogate execution—how infrastructure can be financed, governed, and scaled without reproducing fiscal stress or donor dependency.

Healthcare is a long-term economic asset requiring lifecycle planning, revenue certainty, and regulatory stability. Participants examined the intersection of infrastructure development with diagnostics, digital health, workforce capacity, and supply-chain resilience, situating infrastructure as the backbone of health system performance and pandemic preparedness.

Two core questions guided the deliberations:

- *How can governments and private investors collaborate to finance large-scale health infrastructure projects while ensuring transparency, risk mitigation, and fiscal sustainability?*
- *What structuring and governance practices are required to ensure PPPs deliver both bankable returns for investors and measurable health gains for populations?*

Composition of the Panel and Institutional Perspectives

The panel brought together a deliberately cross-cutting group of actors whose mandates span policy, financing, technology deployment, and system stewardship.

- **H.E. Dr. Ibrahima Sy**, Honorable Minister of Health and Social Action (Senegal)
- **Dr. Kevin Massoudi**, Vice President for Public Sector Engagement and Business Development at Siemens Healthineers (Middle East and Africa)
- **H.E. Dr. Iziaq Adekunle Salako**, Honorable Minister of State for Health & Social Welfare (Nigeria)
- **Dr. Mories Atoki**, CEO, African Business Coalition for Health (ABCHealth)
- **Eyong Ebai**, General Manager for Africa at Terumo Blood and Cell Technologies
- **Nyawira Njeru**, Regional Director for Africa at Hologic
- **Brian Kevin De Francesca**, CEO, Ver2

Moderator: **Professor Salim Hasham**, Global Advisor Africa, Cedars-Sinai International

> *For us in Senegal and across West Africa, healthcare infrastructure must be built with both local realities and regional collaboration in mind. Decentralized delivery, regulatory alignment, and shared regional assets like reference labs are critical to ensuring that investments are efficient, equitable, and capable of serving populations across borders.*

H.E. Dr. Ibrahima Sy - Honorable Minister of Health and Social Action (Senegal)

H.E. Dr. Iziaq Adekunle Salako - Honorable Minister of State for Health & Social Welfare (Nigeria)

> *In Nigeria, the challenge is not just building hospitals—it's ensuring they are in the right places, adequately equipped, and effectively managed. With over 200 million people depending on our system, we must design infrastructure that is financially sustainable, governed transparently, and integrated with workforce and referral networks, while leveraging strategic partnerships with the private sector.*

> *Africa has no shortage of ideas, but too many projects stall before they reach scale. To change this, we need investment-ready pipelines, blended financing, and clear policy frameworks. Only when governments, investors, and operators work in coordinated alignment can we build sustainable health infrastructure that delivers real impact.*

Dr. Mories Atoki - CEO, African Business Coalition for Health (ABCHealth)

Side Session 2

Topic: **The Digital Health Revolution**: Unlocking Investment in Africa's Healthtech Ecosystem

Africa faces a pressing health technology gap despite hosting over 1.4 billion people. Less than 20% of health facilities are fully digitized, and interoperability between hospital systems remains minimal, leading to fragmented care, delayed diagnostics, and inefficient supply chains. Mobile health adoption is growing, Africa accounts for over 60% of the world's mobile money usage—but healthtech investment remains concentrated, with less than 2% of global healthtech venture capital flowing to the continent. The session therefore addressed both systemic bottlenecks and investment strategies to accelerate digital health adoption.

Moderated by Dr. Mories Atoki, CEO of ABCHealth, the session brought together senior policymakers, investors, multilateral experts, and private-sector leaders to address the critical question: how can digital health solutions be scaled to deliver measurable health outcomes while attracting sustainable investment? Panelists examined the policy, regulatory, financing, and operational enablers that are required to scale digital health solutions. Key discussion points included cross-border harmonization of digital standards, interoperability, private-sector integration, blended finance mechanisms, and innovations designed for low-resource and low-connectivity settings.

The session unfolded around the recognition that digital health is no longer an auxiliary function but a foundational element of Africa's health system transformation. Panelists explored the structural and operational challenges that have historically constrained the adoption of digital solutions, including fragmented regulatory frameworks, inconsistent interoperability standards, limited investor confidence, and inequitable access in low-resource or rural settings. Central to the discussion was the need for regional policy harmonization, particularly across ECOWAS, to enable cross-border scaling of telemedicine platforms, electronic health records, and data-sharing networks.

The role of the private sector in bridging innovation gaps was emphasized throughout the session. Participants highlighted that while African healthtech startups demonstrate significant ingenuity, they often operate in isolation from established healthcare providers, limiting their reach and impact. Scaling these innovations requires structured collaboration, aligned incentives, and clear evidence of clinical and operational efficacy. Likewise, multilateral financing and blended capital mechanisms were identified as critical enablers, capable of mitigating investment risk, catalyzing private-sector participation, and accelerating the deployment of digital tools across diverse health system contexts.

A third priority addressed the last-mile challenge, recognizing that significant portions of the continent still operate under low-connectivity conditions. Innovations tailored to rural or underserved communities, such as offline-capable platforms, mobile-based diagnostics, and decentralized data collection systems—were highlighted as essential for ensuring that digital health solutions reach all populations equitably. Collectively, these priorities framed a vision for Africa where digital health is scalable, investable, and capable of producing measurable improvements in access, quality, and efficiency.

Composition of the Panel and Institutional Perspectives

The session convened a diverse panel of experts:

- **Prof. Stanley Okolo**, Immediate Past Director General of the West African Health Organization (WAHO) and Honorary Professor of Global Health at University College London
- **Hon. Mr. Mouinou Dine Bouraima** - President of the Africa-International Tourism and Economic Council (AITEC World)
- **H.E. Augusto Gomes**, Minister of Public Health, Guinea-Bissau
- **Nabil Daher**, Senior Division Manager for Marketing & Service at Nihon Kohden Middle East FZE
- **Dr. Njide Ndili**, President of the Healthcare Federation of Nigeria and Country Director of PharmAccess Nigeria
- **Dr. Babatunde Omilola**, Head of Division, Human Development, African Development Bank
- **Dr. Bannett Ndyanabangi**, Vice President for Global Programs, VillageReach Africa

Moderator: **Dr. Mories Atoki**, CEO, African Business Coalition for Health (ABCHealth)

> *For countries like Guinea-Bissau, integrating digital health into national strategies is about aligning policy, building infrastructure, and creating an environment where private investment is incentivized. Government commitment, coupled with clear regulatory pathways and supportive financing models, is essential to unlock the potential of digital health solutions for our populations.*

H.E. Augusto Gomes - Honorable Minister of Public Health, Guinea-Bissau

Hon. Mr. Mouinou Dine Bouraima - President, Africa-International Tourism and Economic Council (AITEC World)

> *Investing in Africa's healthtech ecosystem is a strategic driver of economic growth and regional competitiveness. By fostering cross-sector collaboration, integrating health innovation with broader economic and tourism initiatives, and ensuring that infrastructure and digital systems are both scalable and sustainable, we can unlock value that benefits communities, attracts foreign investment, and positions Africa as a hub for health innovation and economic development.*

> *Digital health must reach everyone, including rural and underserved communities. Innovations that work offline, are mobile-based, and adaptable to low-connectivity settings ensure that no population is left behind. Equity, not just technology, is central to Africa's digital health revolution—every solution we deploy must deliver tangible benefits to the people who need them most.*

Dr. Bannett Ndyanabangi - Vice President for Global Programs, VillageReach Africa

The Roundtable Session

The ABCHealth Roundtable convened an exceptional mix of leaders from across Africa's health sector, including policymakers, public and private sector executives, technology innovators, and development partners, reflecting the high-level nature of the WHX Leaders Summit. The gathering provided a platform to explore practical frameworks for leveraging predictive health intelligence and digital infrastructure to enhance local production, supply chain responsiveness, and market alignment.

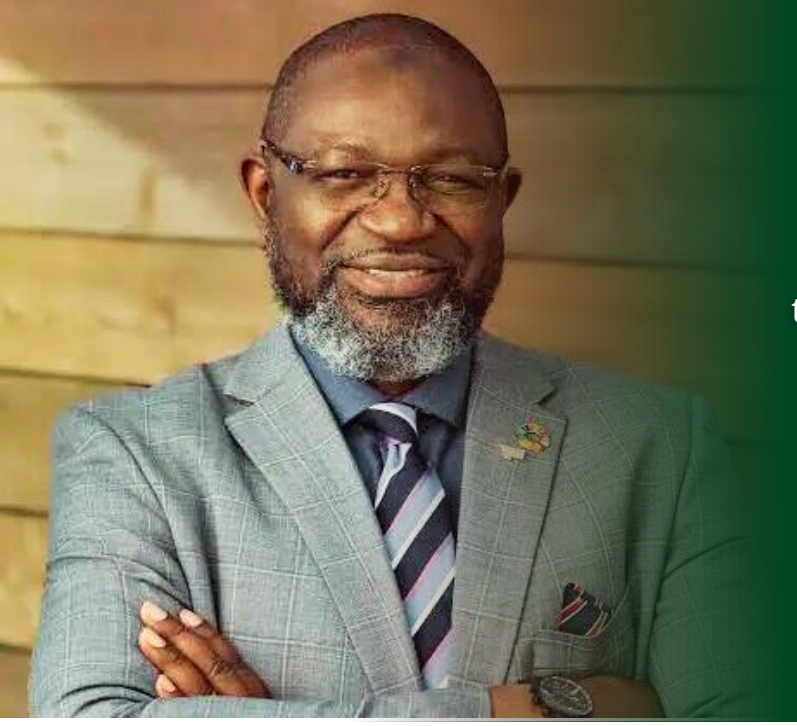
1. Assess the Health and Manufacturing Landscape: Examine gaps in data systems, production inefficiencies, and delayed access to essential medicines.
2. Evaluate Digital and Predictive Health Solutions: Explore AI analytics, IoT monitoring, blockchain, and automation to improve forecasting and supply chain alignment.
3. Foster Multi-Sector Collaboration: Identify scalable PPPs and investment approaches that align technology, finance, and policy for local production and market responsiveness.
4. Strengthen Governance and Data Interoperability: Promote harmonized data standards and ethical frameworks to ensure predictive systems operate effectively.
5. Define Strategic Action Plans: Co-create actionable steps for integrating predictive intelligence, optimizing digital infrastructure, and enabling proactive health systems.
6. Build Workforce and Institutional Capacity: Strengthen technical skills, regulatory readiness, and organizational capabilities across public and private institutions to effectively adopt, manage, and sustain predictive health intelligence and advanced digital manufacturing systems.

Session Leadership

The Roundtable convened an exceptional mix of leadership across Africa's health sector providing a high-level platform for exchanging strategic insights, aligning cross-sector priorities, and exploring actionable approaches to strengthen predictive health intelligence, digital infrastructure, and local production efficiency in the continent's healthcare systems. The session was co-chaired by eminent representatives from the public and private sectors — including senior government officials from Ministries of Health, health financing and planning agencies, and representatives from private sector coalitions, development organizations, and global health institutions. Together, they provided a balanced platform for aligning public priorities with private sector innovation and investment capabilities.

Key participants included:

- Public Sector Leaders: National and sub-national health policymakers, commissioners, and agency heads responsible for primary health care and health financing reforms.
- Private Sector Executives: CEOs and investors from health technology companies, healthcare providers, pharmaceutical industries, and financial institutions driving innovation and resource mobilization.
- Development Partners: Representatives from international organizations and donor agencies supporting health system strengthening, health financing reforms, and UHC initiatives.
- Policy and Technical Experts: Health economists, researchers, and academics providing data-driven insights into PHC financing efficiency, governance, and impact evaluation.
- Civil Society and Implementing Partners: Organizations working at community and facility levels, ensuring that predictive intelligence and digital investments remain responsive to population health needs and equity considerations.



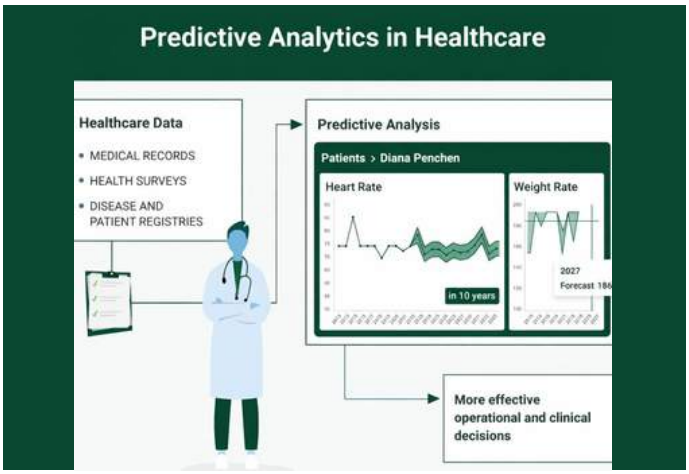
> Shifting from reactive to predictive approaches enables African health systems to anticipate challenges, optimize resources, and make strategic, evidence-informed decisions aligned with continental priorities

Dr. Ahmed Ogwell
CEO
Village Reach Africa
Roundtable Chair

Dr. Ahmed Ogwell opened by noting that Africa's health systems have traditionally operated reactively, often constrained by external priorities rather than their own strategic needs. He emphasized the critical importance of foresight, arguing that sustainable health development requires deliberate planning rooted in a clear understanding of local realities and anticipated health demands. By moving from reactive crisis management to predictive, proactive approaches, African health systems can anticipate emerging public health challenges, optimize resource allocation, and make evidence-informed strategic decisions that align with continental priorities rather than ad-hoc donor frameworks.

Building on the need for foresight, Dr. Ogwell underscored predictive health intelligence as the foundation for proactive system management. He advocated for systematic collection and analysis of health data from facilities, laboratories, and communities to enable trend forecasting, early identification of risks, and scenario planning. This institutionalization of predictive intelligence, he argued, is critical to ensuring that decision-makers can anticipate resource needs, plan interventions, and allocate budgets effectively, transforming health systems from reactive entities into adaptive, forward-looking networks capable of responding to evolving public health demands.

Dr. Ogwell stressed that predictive intelligence is only as effective as the strategic foresight it enables. Gathering comprehensive health data is essential, but it must be analyzed to anticipate trends, identify emerging risks, and inform proactive decision-making. He highlighted that Africa's health systems often rely on external projections, which limits self-reliance and agility. By harnessing locally generated data and integrating it into forward-looking planning, health authorities can move from reactive responses to anticipatory strategies that optimize resource allocation, strengthen equity, and guide both policy and operational priorities across public and private sectors.



He highlighted that predictive intelligence alone is insufficient without strong, integrated digital health infrastructure. He argued that advanced digital platforms are essential for collecting, analyzing, and visualizing real-time data, enabling health authorities to act quickly and accurately on emerging insights. Digital infrastructure, he stated allows disparate health data sources to converge, providing a comprehensive picture of system performance and population needs. When designed effectively, these systems facilitate evidence-driven policy formulation, enhance operational efficiency, and provide a solid foundation for scaling predictive capabilities across national and regional health systems.

Interoperability, he emphasized, is the key enabler that allows predictive intelligence and digital infrastructure to reach their full potential. Fragmented systems, he

explained, undermine data flow and limit the ability to coordinate responses across facilities, regions, and countries. Interoperable digital networks ensure seamless information exchange between health providers, regulators, manufacturers, and development partners, enabling coherent planning and coordinated action. This approach not only strengthens predictive accuracy but also supports cross-border collaboration, fostering a truly integrated African health ecosystem.

In his remarks, he connected predictive health intelligence directly to local manufacturing, stressing that demand-driven production is essential for reducing inefficiencies and improving self-reliance. By translating health data into actionable production forecasts, manufacturers can align outputs with actual health needs, avoiding surplus or shortages of essential medicines and supplies. This linkage strengthens domestic manufacturing capacity, enhances the reliability of supply chains, and ensures that local industries contribute meaningfully to health system resilience, while simultaneously creating economic value and employment opportunities.

He further emphasized that predictive health intelligence, when integrated with interoperable digital systems, is pivotal for cultivating agile and highly responsive health markets across Africa. By harnessing accurate, real-time data, health authorities and supply chain actors can anticipate demand fluctuations, optimize inventory distribution, and rapidly reallocate resources to regions experiencing shortages. Market responsiveness extends beyond operational efficiency it is a critical mechanism for promoting equity in healthcare access, ensuring that populations across diverse geographies, from Accra to Lome and beyond, receive essential health products and interventions without delay. Moreover, he highlighted that a market structured around predictive insights and system interoperability not only mitigates inefficiencies and wastage but also fosters adaptive, resilient, and demand-driven supply chains. This approach positions African health markets to respond dynamically to emerging public health needs, enhance patient outcomes, and strengthen the overall sustainability of the continent's healthcare ecosystem.

For predictive systems to function effectively, strong governance and robust data protection are non-negotiable. Health data must be secure, reliable, and ethically managed, with clear accountability frameworks guiding collection, use, and sharing. This ensures public trust, encourages stakeholder participation, and safeguards sensitive information while allowing data to inform decision-making across multiple levels. Governance frameworks that align policy, investment, and operational practices are essential to embed predictive intelligence sustainably within Africa's health architecture to inform decision-making across multiple levels. Governance frameworks that align policy, investment, and operational practices are essential to embed predictive intelligence sustainably within Africa's health architecture.

Finally, Dr. Ogwell called partnerships as catalysts rather than substitutes for local leadership. He argued that collaboration with global partners, including donors, multilateral agencies, and private sector actors, provides opportunities for technology transfer, shared learning, and capacity building.

These partnerships can accelerate progress, enabling African health systems to leapfrog conventional development stages while retaining ownership and control over local solutions. When combined with predictive intelligence, interoperable systems, and indigenous innovation, partnerships help establish resilient, responsive, and sustainable health systems across the continent.

Key Actions/Recommendations

- Institutionalize Predictive Health Intelligence: African health systems should embed predictive analytics as a core function, enabling proactive planning, early risk detection, and more effective allocation of resources.
- Develop Integrated Digital Infrastructure: Create interoperable digital health platforms that connect facilities, suppliers, regulators, and manufacturers, allowing seamless data sharing and coordinated responses across regions.
- Link Local Production to Health Data: Use predictive insights to guide demand-driven manufacturing, ensuring that essential medicines and supplies match actual health system needs and reduce inefficiencies.
- Enhance Market Responsiveness and Equity: Leverage data to optimize product distribution, enabling timely access to care across Africa and supporting efficient resource allocation in all regions.
- Strengthen Governance and Data Protection: Implement clear frameworks for secure, ethical management of health data to maintain public trust and enable reliable evidence-based decision-making.
- Promote Indigenous Innovation and Partnerships: Support African-led technological innovation while engaging global partners for capacity building, knowledge sharing, and scalable, locally relevant solutions.

ABCHealth

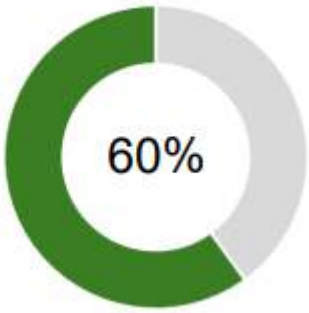
Emerging Workforce Insights:

Youth Trends & Expectations

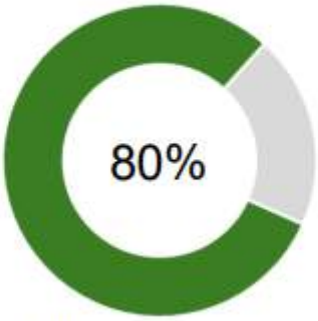
Africa Digital Healthcare Landscape:
An Emerging Opportunity

Africa's digital health ecosystem is increasingly defined by converging demographic, technological, epidemiological, and policy dynamics. Rapid population growth with a predominantly youthful demographic, expanding mobile and smartphone penetration, and the rising prevalence of non-communicable diseases are intensifying demand for scalable, digitally enabled health solutions.

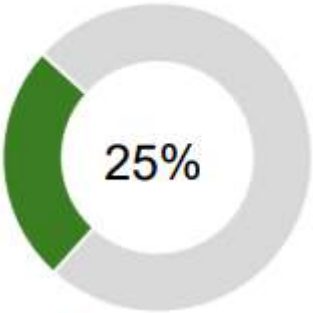
At the same time, strengthened policy alignment at national and continental levels is creating a more enabling environment for digital health adoption. The infographic below synthesizes the core indicators shaping market readiness and investment relevance for digital and telehealth interventions across the continent.



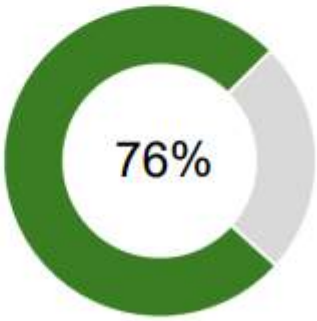
Youth Population -
1.4B population, with 60% under 25, fueling demand for mHealth solutions.



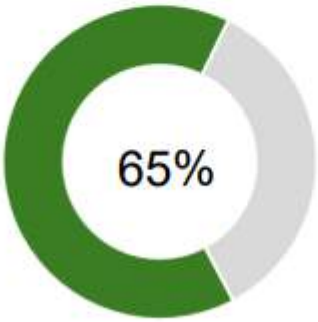
Mobile Penetration -
80%+ smartphone adoption in key markets (Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa) supports telehealth and app-based care



Health Challenges -
25% of adults with chronic diseases (e.g., diabetes, hypertension) need scalable digital interventions.



Policy Support
41/54 African countries have digital health strategies, aligning with WHO's Global Strategy on Digital Health 2020–2025.



Telehealth Adoption -
Tripled since 2020, with 65% of consumers using at least one health app in urban areas.

Empowering youth and integrating frontline clinical insights into predictive systems are essential to building health systems that are agile, responsive, and locally driven.

Dr. Jonathan C. Francois

Co-Founder & Chief Operating Officer
West African Health Partners
Speaker

Dr. Jonathan C. Francois, Co-Founder and Chief Operating Officer of West African Health Partners, brought a unique perspective shaped by his clinical background in cardiology and his operational leadership in health systems development. He emphasized that achieving predictive, digitally integrated, and market-responsive health systems in Africa requires combining clinical insights with strategic management. His contribution highlighted the need to translate frontline patient care experiences into system-level data intelligence, ensuring that predictive models reflect real health needs and not just theoretical projections. By grounding digital strategy in clinical reality, health systems can build trust, relevance, and operational effectiveness.

The role of youth and emerging talent in driving digital health transformation is very critical. He underscored that young professionals especially those versed in data science, digital tools, and health operations are critical to operationalizing predictive health intelligence. Rather than seeing youth engagement as peripheral, he framed it as central to innovation ecosystems: empowered young talent can support real-time data interpretation, digital tool deployment, and adaptive response mechanisms across public and private health institutions. By integrating youth into core strategy and implementation teams, African health systems can enhance agility, creativity, and long-term sustainabilit

Concluding his insights, Dr. Francois highlighted that collaboration across stakeholders governments, private sector entities, technology innovators, and civil society is fundamental to scaling predictive, digitally enabled systems. He emphasized that partnerships should not only focus on funding or technology transfer but also on shared platforms, interoperable standards, and collective decision-making. Such collaborative ecosystems strengthen institutional capacity, enable shared accountability, and accelerate the adoption of digital solutions that are contextually relevant and locally led.

By integrating diverse expertise, Africa can leapfrog traditional system development pathways and build health systems that are anticipatory, responsive, and resilient.

Key Action Points

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- Bridge Clinical Insight with System Design: Health systems should integrate frontline clinical experience into predictive analytics to ensure data models reflect real-world health needs.
- Empower Youth and Emerging Talent: Invest in training and structured inclusion of young professionals in digital health initiatives to strengthen innovation capacity and institutional agility.
- Link Predictive Data to Local Production: Use data-driven demand forecasts to guide local manufacturing decisions, enhancing alignment between supply and population health needs.
- Build Collaborative Digital Ecosystems: Foster multi-stakeholder partnerships that promote interoperable platforms, harmonized standards, and shared governance for digital health systems.
- Strengthen Workforce Digital Literacy: Scale up digital literacy and analytics training for health professionals across public and private sectors to ensure tools are fully leveraged and sustained.
- Promote Contextualized Technology Adoption: Prioritize digital solutions that are adaptable to local contexts, build on existing capacities, and are co-designed with African stakeholders.

> Inclusive health literacy and accessible digital engagement are foundational to predictive systems that truly reflect and respond to community needs.

Dr. Joyce Omatseye
Medical Director
JNC International Limited
Speaker

Dr. Joyce Omatseye brought a distinct voice to the Roundtable, grounding technical discussions in the lived realities of communities often sidelined in system design. As the founder of ARA NINI Health, an initiative dedicated to creating safe, empowering spaces for health education and women's well-being across Africa and the diaspora she emphasized that predictive health intelligence must start with inclusive, accessible health literacy. Without shared understanding and community engagement, data systems risk becoming abstract tools disconnected from the people they intend to serve. Her remarks accentuated that empowered communities are essential to both generating the quality data needed for prediction and acting on insights to improve health outcomes.

On the importance of community engagement, she highlighted how digital platforms, especially those that meet people where they arecan amplify health knowledge, real-time reporting, and preventive care behaviour. In her experience, digital health communication channels not only expand reach but also enhance feedback loops between individuals and health systems, contributing richer data that inform predictive models. She argued that predictive intelligence is only as strong as the breadth and quality of data inputs, and digital engagement tools when designed for accessibility and cultural relevance—can dramatically improve timely data capture from underrepresented populations, particularly women and youth.

She also framed market responsiveness and production alignment as strategic outcomes of integrated predictive systems. She stressed that local markets and manufacturers must be informed by accurate demand signals derived from predictive analytics, as this allows supply to be attuned to genuine needs rather than reactive, fragmented patterns. Public-private partnerships, she argued, enhance market efficiency, reduce dependence on imports, and support sustainable health commodity distribution networks capable of responding across regions.

The integration of community engagement, digital innovation, and predictive analytics are as essential to building health systems that are responsive, resilient, and equitable. She asserted that inclusive data ecosystems—where individuals feel seen, heard, and informed—are critical for accurate forecasting, accountability, and trust. Partnerships across digital platforms, public health institutions, and community organizations, she argued, can unlock richer, more representative data that bridge technical systems with everyday health realities

Key Action Points

- Build Health Literacy into Predictive Systems: Ensure that predictive health intelligence frameworks include community-focused education and engagement to generate high-quality data and promote actionable insights.
- Expand Accessible Digital Platforms: Invest in digital health solutions designed for inclusive, culturally relevant engagement that captures real-time health behaviours and feedback.
- Strengthen Two-Way Data Channels: Create mechanisms that allow community health insights to inform system planning and that enable health authorities to communicate predictions back to communities.
- Integrate Equity into Analytics: Prioritize data collection and analytics approaches that proactively include underserved populations, particularly women and youth.

Health markets cannot be predicted or supplied efficiently without structured financing; predictable payment flows are the foundation of reliable demand intelligence and local production planning.

Gloria Niiquaye

Co-Founder/CEO
COMESO
Speaker

Gloria Niiquaye stated that Africa's health access crisis is fundamentally a financing and market-structure problem, not a shortage of clinical knowledge or demand. She referenced global estimates indicating that more than 8 million deaths occur annually due to limited access to healthcare, noting that inability to pay remains one of the most decisive factors preventing timely care across low- and middle-income settings. In her assessment, weak financial pathways distort health markets, obscure real demand, and undermine efforts to build efficient local production systems.

She noted that in many African countries, out-of-pocket spending accounts for over one-third of total health expenditure, with even higher levels among informal and low-income populations. This financing pattern, she explained, fragments purchasing behavior and delays care-seeking until conditions become severe. For manufacturers and distributors, this results in incomplete consumption data, volatile purchasing cycles, and limited visibility into future demand—conditions that make predictive planning and scaled local production difficult to sustain.

Predictive health intelligence requires predictable financial behavior. Without structured payment flows, data systems capture need in theory but fail to reflect purchasing capacity in practice. She described how COMESO was built to convert diaspora remittances, estimated at over USD 100 billion flowing into Africa annually—into organized, health-specific payment streams. By directing funds toward defined healthcare uses, these remittance flows begin to function as advance demand indicators rather than ad-hoc household transfers.

She explained that digitized, purpose-linked remittance platforms generate granular, real-time data on service utilization, geographic demand concentration, frequency of care, and price sensitivity. When aggregated within appropriate governance frameworks, such data strengthens forecasting accuracy for procurement agencies, insurers, and manufacturers. She further highlighted the implications for local production and investment confidence. When manufacturers have visibility into prepaid demand, subscription-based care models, or pooled financing arrangements, revenue volatility declines. This allows for longer production cycles, more efficient procurement of inputs, and improved cost structures. Over time, such financial predictability strengthens the competitiveness of locally produced medicines, diagnostics, and services relative to imports.

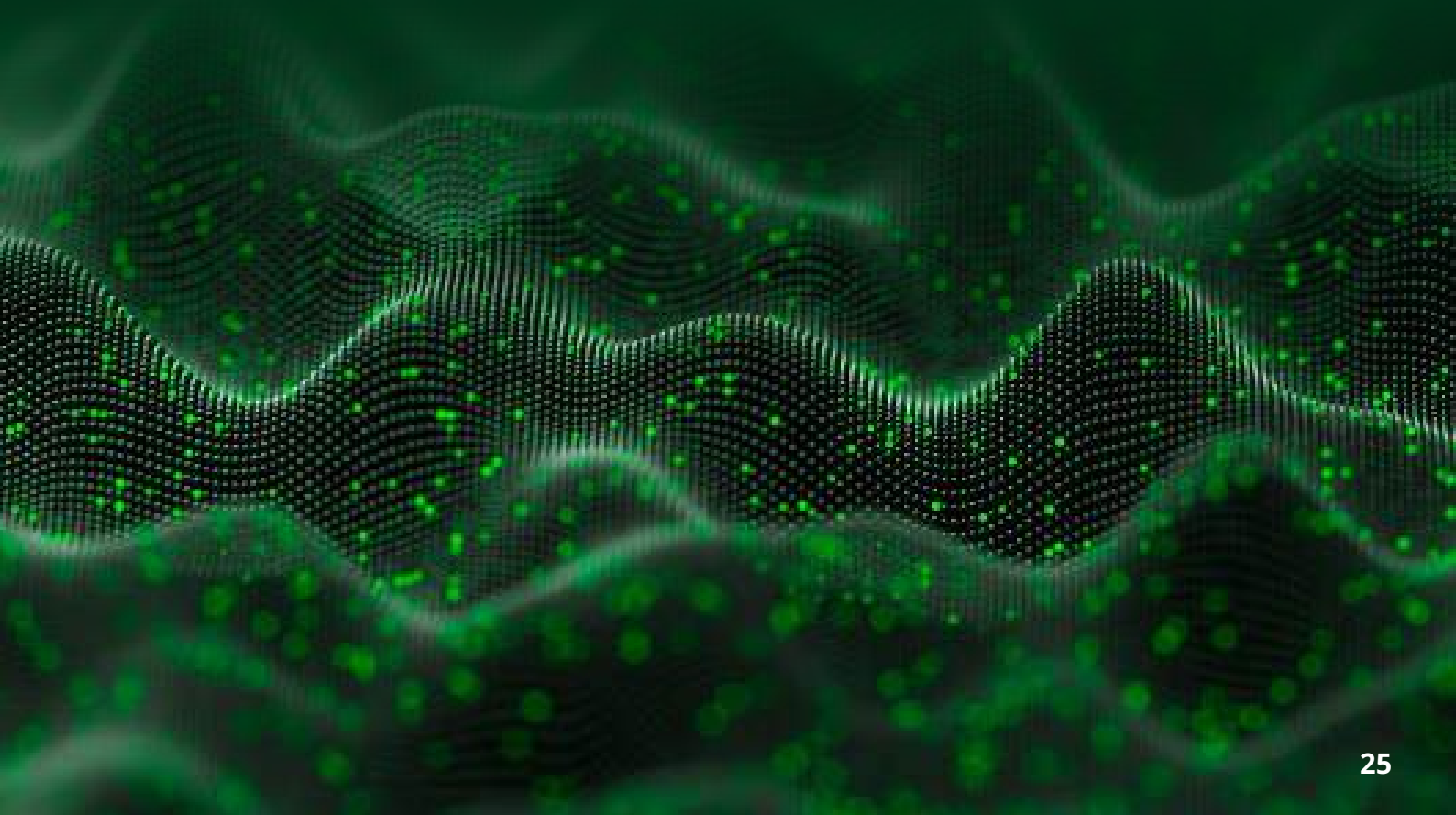
Key Action Points

- Structure Health Financing Flows: Convert remittances and digital payments into earmarked, health-specific demand signals.
- Embed Financing into Demand Forecasting: Integrate payment data with procurement and production planning systems.
- Strengthen Data Trust Infrastructure: Apply robust cybersecurity and governance standards to health-financing platforms.
- Enable Prepaid and Pooled Purchasing Models: Use subscriptions, advance payments, and pooled funds to stabilize demand.
- Link Financial Inclusion to Local Production: Align predictable financing with manufacturer capacity planning and investment decisions.
- Institutionalize Diaspora Health Financing Channels: Formalize partnerships with regulators, providers, and manufacturers to integrate diaspora-funded care into national health financing and procurement frameworks.

ABCHealth

Leadership & Institutional Insights

Evidence from Long-Term Practices



Resilient health systems in Africa hinge on the convergence of predictive analytics, robust digital infrastructure, and strengthened local production

Dr. Mories Atoki
Chief Executive Officer
ABCHealth
Host

Dr. Mories Atoki, CEO of ABCHealth, opened the Roundtable by highlighting Africa's pressing healthcare challenges, where limited local production, fragmented supply chains, and non-integrated digital systems hinder the ability to anticipate demand and respond proactively. Rising population pressures and growing demand for quality care, alongside the imperative to achieve Universal Health Coverage, make predictive, digitally enabled solutions both urgent and strategic. She underscored that Africa's heavy reliance on imported medical commodities, over 70–90%—leaves the continent vulnerable to supply shocks, price volatility, and delayed access, as starkly revealed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

She emphasized predictive health intelligence as a transformative mechanism for moving from reactive response to anticipatory planning. Integrated analytics and real-time data enable accurate demand forecasting, optimized production planning, and responsive distribution. By leveraging these insights, health systems can proactively mitigate risks, improve efficiency, and enhance preparedness for both routine and emergency health challenges.

The convergence of predictive analytics, digital infrastructure, and strengthened local production, she highlighted are the keys to building resilient systems. Digitally integrated supply chains reduce waste, ensure timely delivery, and enhance accountability, while expanding domestic manufacturing strengthens health sovereignty, stimulates economic growth, and reduces import dependence, creating a more responsive and sustainable healthcare ecosystem.

In closing she emphasized that the merging of predictive analytics, digital integration, and local production forms the cornerstone of a responsive and sustainable healthcare ecosystem. When combined with strategic partnerships, accountability frameworks, and evidence-driven decision-making, these elements collectively create a predictive health intelligence and digital structure capable of improving production efficiency, market responsiveness, and health security across Africa.

Key Action Points

1. Strengthen Predictive Health Intelligence: Invest in real-time epidemiological, demographic, and facility-level data systems to enable accurate forecasting, resource allocation, and early-warning responses.
2. Develop Integrated Digital Infrastructure: Build interoperable digital platforms connecting health data, production systems, and distribution networks to enhance efficiency, traceability, and visibility.
3. Boost Local Production Capacity: Support domestic manufacturing through targeted investments, technical assistance, and data-driven demand planning to reduce import dependence.
4. Promote Cross-Sector Collaboration: Facilitate public-private partnerships that align incentives, leverage expertise, and foster coordinated implementation of predictive and digital health solutions.
5. Embed Accountability and Governance: Establish robust regulatory frameworks and data governance mechanisms to ensure ethical, transparent, and effective deployment of predictive health and digital systems.
6. Build Human and Institutional Capacity: Strengthen workforce skills, leadership capability, and organizational readiness across public and private sectors to effectively adopt, manage, and sustain predictive intelligence and integrated digital health systems at scale.

> Integrating health system data with predictive analytics empowers African authorities to anticipate demand, optimize resources, and build resilient supply chains.

Dr. Francis Ohanyido
Director-General
West African Institute of Public Health
Co-chair

Dr. Francis Ohanyido, Director-General of the West African Institute of Public Health (WAIPH) highlighted the critical role of digital health in shaping resilient, efficient, and equitable health systems across Africa. He positioned the development of a digitally skilled workforce as central to the continent's ability to leverage predictive health intelligence effectively. Emphasizing the need to understand system capacity, he noted that talent must not only be technically proficient but also capable of integrating insights into operational decision-making across public health networks.

His remarks accentuated the value of interoperable digital health networks as foundational for enabling real-time data collection, analysis, and application. By linking health system data with predictive analytics, African health authorities can anticipate demand, optimize resource allocation, and strengthen supply chain resilience. He stressed that robust digital infrastructure allows data to inform decision-making, reduce inefficiencies, and enhance responsiveness at both national and regional levels.

He identified the critical need for a strong nexus between research, innovation, and operational application. Research should not remain confined to academic or experimental silos but must be translated into actionable insights that inform policy, planning, and service delivery. Dr. Ohanyido highlighted Africa CDC's flagship programs as exemplary models demonstrating how research, digital innovation, and practical implementation can converge to strengthen system capacity. He emphasized that integrating evidence-based research into health operations is key to building scalable, resilient, and contextually relevant interventions that address Africa's unique healthcare challenges.

Achieving predictive health intelligence and digitally integrated systems demands coordinated action across workforce development, digital infrastructure adoption, and research translation.

These efforts collectively strengthen local capacity, enhance supply chain and system responsiveness, and foster sustainable, data-driven health ecosystems. By aligning technology, talent, and evidence, Africa can create resilient healthcare systems that are both equitable and capable of responding rapidly to evolving health needs.

Key Action Points

- Develop Digital Health Workforce: Invest in building a skilled workforce capable of managing, interpreting, and applying predictive analytics to strengthen health system performance.
- Enable Interoperable Digital Networks: Establish integrated digital health networks that allow real-time data sharing, informed decision-making, and coordinated responses across the health system.
- Translate Research into Practice: Ensure that research and innovation are operationalized to directly inform policy, production planning, and service delivery for measurable impact.
- Strengthen System Capacity: Align talent development, technology adoption, and predictive intelligence to enhance system resilience, efficiency, and equity.
- Scale Flagship Programs: Leverage successful programs and best practices to expand their adoption across national and regional health systems, maximizing impact and sustainability.
- Align Financing with Predictive Outcomes: Tie financing to predictive metrics to drive efficiency and responsive supply chains.

Operationalizing interoperable systems is essential for realizing predictive health intelligence and responsive, market-driven health systems.

Dr. Lynda Decker

President
West Africa Private Healthcare Federation
Co-chair

Dr. Lynda Decker, President, West Africa Private Healthcare Federation highlighted interoperability as a foundational pillar for building predictive, digitally empowered healthcare systems across Africa. She emphasized that fragmented digital systems and siloed data flows hinder timely decision-making, reduce operational efficiency, and constrain the ability of health authorities and private actors to anticipate demand or respond to emerging health needs. Interoperable platforms, she noted, create seamless connections between public and private health actors, enabling coordinated planning, optimized resource allocation, and real-time monitoring across the health ecosystem.

She emphasized that robust interoperability allows predictive health intelligence to move from theoretical potential to actionable insight. By integrating data across facilities, manufacturers, and policymakers, digital systems can forecast demand, reduce supply chain inefficiencies, and improve service delivery responsiveness. She stressed that interoperability strengthens accountability, reduces redundancy, and ensures that both domestic production and distribution systems are aligned with population health needs, ultimately enhancing system resilience and equity.

Interoperability, Dr. Decker emphasized, plays a central role in unifying the healthcare ecosystem.. Governments, private sector actors, innovators, and development partners must operate as a coordinated network rather than in parallel silos. She emphasized that standardized data protocols, ethical data governance, and shared digital platforms are essential to foster collaboration, accelerate evidence-driven decision-making, and scale interventions efficiently. By embedding interoperability within policies and investment strategies, health systems can strengthen production, improve supply chain visibility, and enhance regional health security. In her concluding remarks we affirmed that operationalizing interoperable systems is critical to achieving predictive health intelligence and market-responsive health systems. She highlighted that building such systems requires deliberate alignment of technology, workforce capacity, and governance structures. Interoperability, she argued, enables accurate forecasting, optimizes resources, and allows supply chains to adapt to changing demands, supporting a resilient and sustainable healthcare ecosystem in Africa.

Key Action Points

- Strengthen Digital Connectivity: Develop interoperable platforms linking public and private health actors to enable seamless data flow and coordinated decision-making.
- Enable Data-Driven Decision-Making: Ensure real-time health data is accessible, standardized, and actionable to support predictive analytics and operational planning.
- Align Governance and Policy: Establish regulatory frameworks that promote ethical data sharing, system integration, and accountability across stakeholders.
- Foster Collaborative Ecosystems: Encourage coordinated engagement between governments, private sector, innovators, and development partners to scale evidence-based interventions.
- Optimize Local Production and Supply Chains: Use interoperable data to align production capacity with actual demand, reducing waste and strengthening health system responsiveness.
- Encourage Innovation and Scale-Up: Support pilot-tested solutions to transition into scalable, that strengthen healthcare delivery across regions.

> Blended financing, aligned incentives, and shared accountability are key to mobilizing capital and transforming investment into responsive, efficient, and secure health systems across Africa

Dr. Babatunde Omilola
Head of Division, Human Development
West African Institute of Public Health
Co-chair

Dr. Babatunde Omilola anchored his intervention in the structural financing realities shaping Africa's healthcare systems, framing the discussion around urgency, scale, and strategic reform. He highlighted the widening gap between ambition and available resources, noting that while the African Development Bank has committed USD 66 million to health-focused initiatives, the continent faces an estimated financing requirement of USD 36 billion, with only about USD 4 billion currently disbursed. This imbalance, he emphasized, underscores not only a funding deficit but also the need to rethink how Africa structures, mobilizes, and deploys health financing to support resilient and responsive systems.

Central to his remarks was the financial architecture of the continent, which he described as a critical lever for unlocking sustainable health system transformation. Dr. Omilola positioned health financing as a core component of AfDB's human development mandate, arguing that fragmented and short-term funding approaches are insufficient to support predictive health intelligence, digital infrastructure, and efficient local production. He stressed that capital must be aligned with long-term system objectives, enabling investments that strengthen data systems, support digital integration, and de-risk innovation across the healthcare value chain

Dr. Omilola linked healthcare financing reform to Africa's demographic dividend, stressing that the continent's growing and youthful population represents a strategic opportunity if matched with deliberate investment. Unlocking this dividend requires sustained financing for human capital development, digital skills, and institutional capacity, ensuring that health systems can effectively absorb innovation and operationalize predictive analytics. Without such investment, demographic growth risks deepening system strain rather than enhancing resilience and productivity. Collaboration was emphasized as essential, with coordinated partnerships between development finance institutions, governments, and the private sector required to scale predictive health intelligence and digitally enabled production. Blended financing, aligned incentives, and shared accountability were highlighted as critical to mobilizing capital and translating investment into improved market responsiveness, system efficiency, and health security across Africa.

Key Action Points

- Reform Health Financing Architecture: Africa must align health financing structures with long-term system transformation goals, ensuring that capital supports predictive intelligence, digital integration, and sustainable local production.
- Close the Health Financing Gap: Bridging the gap between available funding and actual needs requires scaled investment, innovative financing instruments, and more efficient deployment of existing resources.
- Leverage the Demographic Dividend: Targeted investments in human capital, digital skills, and institutional capacity are essential to transform population growth into a driver of resilient and productive health systems.
- Strengthen Public–Private Collaboration: Blended finance and coordinated partnerships between governments, development banks, and the private sector are critical to de-risk innovation and scale system-wide solutions.
- Support Regional Market Integration: Align financing and policy frameworks across countries to enable pooled procurement, cross-border production, and economies of scale in pharmaceutical and health technology markets.

> Integrating predictive intelligence into core processes enables health systems to anticipate population needs, optimize resources, and respond proactively to emerging challenges

Dr. Pamela Ajayi
CEO
Bridge Clinic
Co-chair

Dr. Pamela Ajayi opened by emphasizing the critical importance of embedding predictive health intelligence as a foundational and systematic tool across Africa's healthcare sector. She argued that predictive analytics should no longer be an ad hoc capability but a standardized, institutionalized function that informs planning, resource allocation, and operational decision-making across both public and private health systems. By integrating predictive intelligence into core processes, health systems can anticipate population health needs, optimize the deployment of limited resources, and respond proactively to emerging challenges. Without such institutionalization, she noted, health systems risk remaining reactive, fragmented, and inefficient, unable to fully leverage data-driven insights to enhance system performance, resilience, and equitable access to healthcare across the continent.

Building on the importance of predictive intelligence, she explained that local production must be directly informed by real-time demand data. When manufacturers are connected to consumption patterns, they can produce the right quantities of essential commodities, minimizing waste and ensuring that health needs are met efficiently. Demand-driven production, she noted, is only possible when predictive insights are accurately generated and consistently applied across all levels of the system.

Extending from data-driven production, Dr. Ajayi stressed that interoperability is essential for connecting fragmented systems across Africa. Harmonized digital standards and governance frameworks allow predictive intelligence and demand data to flow seamlessly between health networks, supply chains, and production hubs. This connectivity ensures that the insights generated in one sector or country can inform decision-making elsewhere, enhancing responsiveness and system cohesion. She concluded her remarks by highlighting the synergistic impact of integrating predictive intelligence, demand-driven production, and interoperable systems. Coordinated strategies, cross-sector collaboration, and shared accountability frameworks are required to translate data into actionable decisions, improve supply chain efficiency, and strengthen health security. When these elements operate in tandem, they create a digitally enabled, efficient, and resilient healthcare ecosystem capable of meeting Africa's evolving health needs.

Key Action Points

- Institutionalize Predictive Intelligence: Standardize predictive analytics across public and private health sectors to enable proactive planning and resource optimization.
- Align Production with Demand: Use real-time consumption data to guide manufacturing decisions and ensure health commodities meet actual needs.
- Strengthen Interoperability: Harmonize digital systems and governance frameworks to connect health networks, production, and supply chains.
- Promote Cross-Sector Collaboration: Foster partnerships between governments, private actors, and development partners to operationalize integrated strategies.
- Leverage Data for Decision-Making: Ensure operational and strategic choices are guided by accurate, timely, and actionable information.
- Enhance System Responsiveness: Integrate predictive, production, and interoperability frameworks to anticipate demand and improve service delivery.
- Implement Feedback-Driven Improvement: Establish mechanisms for monitoring system performance, and refining predictive models and operational processes.

> Engaging youth across public and private health sectors fosters ownership, boosts responsiveness, and cultivates a generation of skilled leaders to sustain predictive, digitally integrated health systems

Mr. Atef Fawaz
Director
eHealth Africa
Co-chair

Mr. Atef Fawaz in his remarks emphasized that young people must be recognized as active participants in shaping Africa's healthcare systems. He argued that youth inclusion is not merely symbolic; it strengthens system innovation, ensures that emerging needs are addressed, and injects fresh perspectives into policy, production, and service delivery. Engaging youth across public and private health sectors fosters ownership, enhances responsiveness, and builds a generation of skilled leaders capable of sustaining predictive and digitally integrated health systems.

Building on the imperative of inclusion, Mr. Fawaz highlighted that youth engagement is central to operationalizing predictive health intelligence across Africa. Young professionals, equipped with expertise in digital health, data analytics, and system modeling, can play a pivotal role in real-time demand forecasting, resource optimization, and evidence-based decision-making. By institutionalizing youth participation, health systems can ensure that predictive tools are not only implemented but continuously refined, bridging the gap between insights and actionable interventions, and fostering a culture of innovation and agility across both public and private sectors.

Mr. Fawaz further emphasized that youth involvement is critical for creating demand-driven local production ecosystems. By actively connecting young innovators and entrepreneurs with manufacturers, health systems can ensure that products and services are aligned with real community needs rather than hypothetical demand. This collaborative, participatory approach strengthens supply chain efficiency, reduces waste, and embeds continuous feedback loops between consumers, producers, and policymakers. In doing so, youth-driven innovation becomes a key driver of Africa's market responsiveness, system adaptability and long-term sustainability of healthcare delivery. In his concluding insights, he stressed that integrating youth perspectives with predictive analytics, digital infrastructure, and local production is essential for building resilient and equitable healthcare systems.

Such measures create a foundation for sustainable, data-driven health systems capable of adapting to evolving health demands while nurturing the next generation of health leaders.

Key Action Points

- Institutionalize Youth Engagement: Integrate young professionals into predictive health initiatives to enhance data-driven decision-making across health systems.
- Build Digital Skills: Train youth in data analytics and digital health tools to strengthen demand forecasting and resource optimization.
- Link Innovators to Production: Connect youth-led innovations with manufacturers to ensure products meet actual community needs.
- Enable Feedback Loops: Create mechanisms for ongoing interaction between consumers, producers, and policymakers to improve efficiency and relevance.
- Strengthen System Responsiveness: Leverage youth-driven innovation to make local production more adaptable, reduce waste, and enhance healthcare system sustainability.
- Support Youth-Led Health Enterprises: Create enabling policies, financing pathways, and mentorship structures that allow youth-driven health innovations to transition from pilots into scalable, market-ready solutions within local health ecosystems.

Embedding predictive tools into decision-making enables African health systems to anticipate demand, optimize resources, and strengthen supply chain responsiveness

Dr. Charles Fordjour

President
Healthcare Federation of Ghana
Co-chair

Dr. Charles Fodjour began by reflecting on his first experience attending a healthcare conference in Switzerland, where he observed that much of the world was already far ahead in predictive health intelligence, digital integration, and local production strategies. He reiterated that Africa's healthcare sector must recognize the urgency of closing this gap and adopt bold, forward-looking approaches to leapfrog conventional development stages. Benchmarking against global standards, he argued, is essential to identify opportunities for innovation and to align Africa's systems with best practices in efficiency, responsiveness, and resilience.

Building on this global perspective, he stressed the importance of institutionalizing predictive health intelligence across both public and private health sectors. By embedding predictive tools into decision-making processes, African health systems can anticipate demand, optimize resource allocation, and enhance supply chain responsiveness. He highlighted that without proactive adoption of predictive analytics, local production and service delivery remain reactive, limiting the continent's capacity to respond efficiently to emerging health needs and market shifts.

Dr. Fodjour emphasized the urgent necessity of demand-driven local production systems as a cornerstone for Africa's healthcare transformation. He advocated for sophisticated real-time feedback mechanisms that directly connect manufacturers with consumers, enabling production decisions to be guided by actual market needs rather than speculative assumptions. By aligning supply with demand, this approach minimizes waste, optimizes resource utilization, and accelerates innovation cycles. Moreover, it strengthens market responsiveness, enhances system efficiency, and contributes to building a sustainable, resilient, and adaptive healthcare ecosystem capable of meeting both routine and emergent health challenges across the continent. Concluding his insights, Dr. Fodjour highlighted that achieving a digitally integrated, predictive, and responsive health sector requires coordinated efforts across stakeholders. He emphasized that leapfrogging Africa's health systems is possible when predictive intelligence, real-time production feedback, and interoperable digital infrastructure are strategically integrated, ultimately driving efficiency, equity, and resilience at a continental scale.

Key Action Points

- Implement Demand-Driven Production: Establish systems that link manufacturers directly to consumer needs, ensuring production aligns with real-time demand.
- Strengthen Feedback Mechanisms: Develop digital platforms to capture continuous market and consumer feedback, guiding responsive production and distribution.
- Promote Innovation Cycles: Encourage iterative product development informed by real-time data to foster continuous improvement and adaptability.
- Optimize Resource Utilization: Use predictive analytics to reduce waste, improve efficiency, and ensure that resources are allocated where they are most needed.
- Enhance Market Responsiveness: Build agile supply chains that can rapidly adjust to changing demand patterns, improving service delivery and health outcomes.
- Institutionalize Market Intelligence Systems: Establish coordinated market intelligence units that aggregate consumption, pricing, and supply data to inform strategic production planning and anticipate shifts in healthcare demand.

> Digital integration is the critical mechanism that transforms predictive health intelligence into tangible production and supply chain outcomes

Dr. Njide Ndili
Country Director, PharmAccess
President, Healthcare Federation of Nigeria (HFN)
Co-chair

Dr. Njide Ndili, President of the Healthcare Federation of Nigeria (HFN), positioned the private healthcare sector as a critical driver of system efficiency, innovation, and service delivery across Africa's healthcare landscape. She underscored that persistent challenges ranging from fragmented supply chains to limited local production capacity cannot be addressed through public action alone. Instead, she emphasized the need for structured engagement with organized private sector actors who are already embedded within service delivery, manufacturing, and distribution ecosystems.

She highlighted the importance of predictive health intelligence in enabling health systems to move beyond reactive planning. She noted that access to reliable, timely data allows providers, manufacturers, and policymakers to anticipate demand patterns, allocate resources more efficiently, and reduce systemic inefficiencies. Without predictive insights, market decisions remain misaligned with population needs, perpetuating shortages, excesses, and inequitable access.

Digital integration systems is the critical mechanism through which predictive health intelligence translates into tangible production and supply chain outcomes. She noted that interoperable digital platforms linking health facilities, distributors, regulators, and manufacturers allow real-time demand signals to flow across the system, replacing fragmented and assumption-based production planning. By enabling manufacturers to align output with actual utilization patterns and epidemiological trends, digital integration reduces inefficiencies such as overproduction, stockouts, and distribution delays. Over time, these data-driven feedback loops strengthen supply chain responsiveness, improve cost efficiency, and enhance the long-term viability of domestic manufacturing by grounding production decisions in reliable, market-relevant evidence. Collaboration, governance, and accountability are the enabling conditions for scale. She stressed that aligning public policy, private investment, and digital infrastructure is necessary to institutionalize predictive health intelligence across the system. When effectively coordinated, these elements create a resilient healthcare ecosystem that enhances market responsiveness, supports local industry, and improves access to quality care across Nigeria and the wider region.

Key Action Points

- Strengthen Public–Private Alignment: Governments should institutionalize structured engagement with private healthcare actors to improve system coordination and delivery efficiency.
- Embed Predictive Intelligence: Health systems should integrate predictive analytics into planning and procurement to enable anticipatory, demand-driven decision-making.
- Advance Digital Interoperability: Invest in interoperable digital platforms that connect service delivery data with supply chains and local manufacturing.
- Support Demand-Driven Local Production: Align production planning with real-time health system data to improve efficiency, reduce waste, and enhance sustainability.
- Reinforce Governance and Accountability: Establish clear regulatory and accountability frameworks to ensure data-driven systems translate into measurable system-wide outcomes.
- Catalyze Strategic Investment and Incentives: Deploy targeted fiscal incentives, and risk-sharing mechanisms to stimulate private investment in predictive technologies, digital infrastructure, and local health production capacity.

Transforming African health systems requires leaders who translate digital insights into predictive strategies, anticipating demand and responding swiftly to health challenges

Professor Salim Hasham

President & CEO, KKM Healthcare International

Speaker

Professor Salim Hasham brought a strategic lens to the role of healthcare leadership in advancing predictive, digitally enabled, and market-responsive health systems across Africa. Drawing on decades of experience leading complex healthcare organizations globally spanning hospital systems, international consultancies, and advisory roles he stressed that transforming African health systems requires a shift from fragmented operational mindsets to integrated, systems-wide planning.

He emphasized that transforming African health systems requires a fundamental shift from fragmented operational mindsets to integrated, system-wide leadership capable of aligning strategy, policy, and practice. Technology and innovation, he argued, are powerful tools but remain insufficient without leaders who can translate digital insights into actionable strategies that drive tangible health outcomes. Predictive planning, he noted, must be treated as a core managerial discipline, enabling health systems not only to anticipate demand and allocate resources efficiently but also to respond rapidly and effectively to emerging health challenges, ensuring resilience and continuity of care across diverse African contexts.

Central to his remarks, he highlighted that predictive tools are only as effective as the professionals who use them. Strengthening digital literacy, analytical skills, and system leadership is essential to sustain transformation. Equally, institutional readiness including robust governance, accountability frameworks, and performance management mechanisms is critical to ensure data-driven insights translate into operational and policy decisions. Together, these elements empower health institutions to adopt advanced digital systems and integrate predictive intelligence into everyday planning and service delivery. Linking predictive intelligence to local production, he argued that digitally enabled demand forecasts can align manufacturing with real health needs, reduce import dependence, and strengthen regional supply chains. He emphasized that multi-stakeholder collaboration including governments, private sector actors, development partners, and professional associations is vital for shared standards, coordinated investment, and technology transfer. Such partnerships accelerate the development of resilient, anticipatory, and contextually relevant African health systems while preserving local ownership and fostering sustainable economic growth.

Key Action Points

- Align Leadership with Predictive Strategy: Health sector leaders should integrate predictive analytics into core strategic planning processes to anticipate needs, guide investment, and improve decision-making.
- Build Interoperable Digital Ecosystems: Governments and institutions must prioritize interoperable digital platforms that enable seamless data exchange across facilities, supply chains, and decision centers.
- Invest in Leadership and Analytical Capacity: Strengthen digital literacy and data interpretation skills among healthcare managers and clinicians to ensure predictive insights are effectively operationalized.
- Establish Governance and Accountability Frameworks: Create clear governance structures to safeguard data security, align incentives, and ensure performance tracking drives system improvement.
- Link Predictive Data to Local Production: Use predictive insights to inform manufacturing planning and distribution, enhancing local production efficiency and reducing import dependency.

> Strengthening health systems requires combining predictive analytics with local production and digital integration, ensuring Africa can respond swiftly, efficiently, and equitably to emerging health needs

Dr. Clare Omatseye
Managing Director/ CEO
JNC International Limited
Speaker

Dr. Clare Omatseye brought a highly practical and governance-oriented perspective to the session, reflecting her extensive experience leading healthcare infrastructure initiatives and private sector health federations across Africa. She emphasized that market responsiveness and production alignment are not incidental outcomes but strategic imperatives that depend on integrated predictive health intelligence. According to her, local manufacturers and health markets cannot operate effectively on reactive or fragmented demand signals; instead, they require accurate, real-time data derived from predictive analytics to ensure supply is closely attuned to genuine health system needs.

Building on the imperative for predictive intelligence, She emphasized the transformative role of digital and mobile technologies in expanding access, driving efficiency, and supporting real-time data flows. She drew attention to the rapid adoption of mobile health solutions across Africa and reiterated that harnessing such technologies can empower consumers, providers, and payers alike enabling people to access preventive services, participate in health financing mechanisms, and contribute to richer, real-time datasets that support forecasting and responsive planning. This digital emphasis, she noted, is especially critical in markets where traditional infrastructure has lagged but where mobile penetration offers a unique avenue for leapfrogging systemic bottlenecks.

She also framed market responsiveness and production alignment as strategic outcomes of integrated predictive systems. She stressed that local markets and manufacturers must be informed by accurate demand signals derived from predictive analytics, as this allows supply to be attuned to genuine needs rather than reactive, fragmented patterns. Public-private partnerships enhance market efficiency, reduce dependence on imports, and support sustainable health commodity distribution networks capable of responding across regions. She highlighted the necessity of institutional readiness that can operationalize predictive health intelligence within organizational and national contexts. She pointed to the importance of aligning policy incentives, regulatory environments, and investment priorities to support system interoperability, data governance, and quality standards. She reiterated that fostering enabling environments for private sector innovation, quality improvement, is essential to realizing the session's vision.

Key Action Points

- Institutionalize Predictive Health Planning: Governments and private sector leaders should embed predictive health intelligence into core strategic planning to anticipate demand and align investments with system priorities.
- Advance Digital Integration and Interoperability: Prioritize interoperable digital and mobile platforms that unify health data across providers, payers, and producers to support real-time decision-making.
- Empower Digital Consumer Engagement: Expand the use of mobile health technologies to broaden access, empower patients, and enrich data ecosystems that inform supply and care delivery.
- Strengthen Local Market Infrastructure: Develop demand-driven local production and distribution systems informed by predictive insights to improve market responsiveness and reduce import dependence.
- Enhance Public-Private Collaboration: Foster coordinated partnerships that align policy, financing, and operational capacities to scale predictive, digitally enabled health solutions.

> Until production planning is guided by real-time epidemiological trends, consumption patterns, and assured off-take mechanisms, investments in manufacturing infrastructure will remain exposed to volatility rather than positioned for scale

Mrs. Mary Akangbe

President
Zenith Global Health
Speaker

Mrs. Mary Akangbe focused on the structural disconnect between Africa's aspiration for local health production and the realities of how health markets function across the continent. She pointed to a recurring pattern in which manufacturing capacity is discussed in isolation, without sufficient attention to the quality, timeliness, and usability of market and demand data. According to her, this gap continues to weaken local production efforts, regardless of policy intent or capital investment.

She noted that Africa continues to import more than 70 percent of its pharmaceuticals and medical commodities, even as the continent accounts for roughly a quarter of the global disease burden. This imbalance, she explained, persists not because local manufacturers lack capability or interest, but because they operate in environments where demand information is fragmented, procurement signals are inconsistent, and consumption patterns are poorly documented. In such conditions, manufacturers struggle to plan production volumes, manage inventory, or secure long-term financing, often relying on short-cycle tenders that do not support industrial scale.

Production efficiency depends on the ability to anticipate demand rather than respond after shortages emerge. She drew attention to the fact that non-communicable diseases now account for approximately 37 percent of deaths in sub-Saharan Africa, yet production planning in many countries remains anchored in outdated procurement models that fail to reflect this shift. Without accurate forecasting tied to epidemiological trends, manufacturers remain exposed to demand volatility and pricing pressure from imports produced at scale. From her perspective, the missing link is predictive health intelligence—the systematic use of real-time epidemiological data, consumption patterns, and procurement information to guide production and distribution decisions. While data is routinely collected across health systems, it is rarely connected across supply chains, regulators, financiers, and producers. The result is a market where decisions are made retrospectively, leaving local manufacturers at a disadvantage compared to global suppliers with advanced forecasting capabilities.

Information asymmetry is a critical but under-acknowledged barrier to health sovereignty, with global suppliers outperforming local producers due to superior market intelligence. She stressed the need for deliberate investment in African-owned data systems, analytics, and governance frameworks that align public health goals with commercial viability.

Key Action Points

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- Establish Integrated Demand Intelligence Systems: Link epidemiological data, facility-level consumption, and inventory systems into shared digital platforms that provide manufacturers with reliable, forward-looking demand signals.
- Align Procurement with Predictive Planning: Transition from short-cycle, reactive tendering toward multi-year purchasing frameworks informed by disease burden trends, particularly for non-communicable diseases now accounting for over one-third of mortality in sub-Saharan Africa.
- De-Risk Local Manufacturing Through Structured Off-Take Mechanisms: Deploy advance purchase commitments, and pooled procurement arrangements to stabilize revenues and improve bankability for local producers.
- Integrate Blended Finance with Market Transparency Requirements: Link financing to data transparency and measurable production and delivery outcomes.

Without predictive intelligence driving every stage of production and distribution, local manufacturing will remain reactive, inefficient, and unable to meet Africa's evolving healthcare needs.

Dr. John Adesioye
CEO
Utopian Consulting
Speaker

Dr. John Adesioye pointed out the operational and technological dimensions of building a predictive health intelligence ecosystem that can enhance local production efficiency and responsiveness in African healthcare markets. He highlighted that one of the primary challenges facing local manufacturers is a lack of integrated, real-time data that links health demand, production capacity, and supply chain dynamics. This information gap contributes to persistent inefficiencies: over 60% of health facilities in sub-Saharan Africa operate without fully digitized systems, and procurement planning often relies on historical data rather than predictive modeling, creating misalignment between production volumes and actual demand.

He emphasized the need to adopt data-driven planning tools that consolidate epidemiological surveillance, consumption metrics, and procurement trends. In his view, predictive analytics can reduce the reliance on reactive supply chain decisions, optimize raw material sourcing, and improve inventory management, ultimately increasing plant utilization rates and lowering the incidence of stock-outs, which currently affect up to 30% of essential medicines across several African countries.

Dr. Adesioye also highlighted the critical role of digital infrastructure as a backbone for local manufacturing and market responsiveness. He pointed out that countries with interoperable health information systems and real-time logistics monitoring experience faster turnaround times in production planning, more accurate forecasting, and enhanced regulatory compliance. Without these systems, manufacturers struggle to respond to sudden shifts in disease prevalence, seasonal demand spikes, or cross-border distribution requirements. He also noted that investors are hesitant to commit large-scale capital to local manufacturers unless there is confidence in demand predictability and operational transparency. By linking predictive data systems to financing models, such as blended finance, advance purchase agreements, and output-based funding—capital can flow more efficiently, supporting production scale-up while minimizing risk for both investors and producers. His insights underscored that limited analytical and technical expertise constrains the use of predictive health intelligence in many African markets. Targeted capacity-building that integrates data science, supply chain management, and health systems engineering was highlighted as essential to translating insights into effective production and distribution decisions.

Key Action Points

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- Predictive Health Intelligence: Integrate epidemiological, consumption, and procurement data to anticipate demand and optimize production cycles.
- Smart Digital Infrastructure: Deploy interoperable systems for supply chain visibility, real-time monitoring, and rapid response to changing health patterns.
- Investment-Linked Data: Use predictive analytics to de-risk financing, attract private capital, and enable scalable manufacturing operations.
- Workforce Analytics Capability: Build local technical expertise in data analysis, supply chain modeling, and operational planning to convert insights into action.
- Demand-Responsive Manufacturing & Distribution: Connect production to flexible regional networks that adapt to seasonal trends, disease outbreaks, and demographic shifts, reducing stock-outs and improving health system resilience.

> AI-driven predictive analytics is effective only when supported by interoperable digital infrastructure that enables real-time, system-wide data integration for better forecasting and procurement.

Simplice Kamdem
Senior Consultant
Meta Beta Solutions
Speaker

Simplice Kamdem opened his contribution by underscoring the critical role of artificial intelligence (AI) in operationalizing predictive health intelligence across African health systems. From his work at Meta Beta Solutions and with AI tools such as Ventoux AI, he argued that predictive analytics must move beyond theory to become embedded in everyday health decision-making. This ability to rapidly convert raw data into forward-looking insights enables health authorities and planners to anticipate needs rather than simply respond to crises, a core shift that strengthens system resilience and efficiency.

He connected AI-enabled predictive insights directly to market responsiveness and local production outcomes, explaining that intelligence derived from advanced analytics can inform manufacturers and supply chain stakeholders about likely demand shifts, enabling them to adjust outputs before stockouts occur or surpluses build up. Such alignment not only reduces waste and costs but also supports more efficient local production planning, reducing dependence on imports and enhancing economic self-reliance. According to him, AI-assisted forecasting equips both producers and policymakers with the foresight needed to build resilient supply chains that are responsive to real population health needs, rather than reactive to shortages or disruptions.

Building on the predictive imperative, Mr. Kamdem emphasized that robust digital infrastructure is the foundation on which AI can deliver real value. He highlighted that predictive models only work when data is collected, standardized, and connected across platforms and institutions. With interoperable systems that link facilities, laboratories, and public health databases, AI tools can generate real-time insights that that inform procurement, production planning, and resource allocation. The promise of AI must be paired with ethical governance, capacity building, and inclusive design to be sustainable. He urged that data privacy, algorithm transparency, and equitable access remain central to AI deployments in health, reflecting broader discussions on responsible AI integration in healthcare across Africa. Without clearly defined accountability frameworks, AI systems risk reinforcing existing inequities or introducing new forms of systemic bias, particularly in contexts where training data does not adequately represent African populations.

Key Action Points

- Institutionalize AI-Driven Predictive Analytics: Governments and health institutions should adopt AI tools as core elements of health planning, enabling anticipatory actions rather than reactive responses to health demands.
- Invest in Interoperable Digital Platforms: Prioritize the development of interoperable digital infrastructure that unifies data across facilities, public health agencies, and producers to support real-time analytics and forecasting.
- Link Predictive Insights to Local Production: Use AI-enhanced forecasting to inform local manufacturing planning, ensuring supply matches actual demand and reducing reliance on imports.
- Uphold Ethical and Inclusive AI Governance: Establish clear policies on data privacy, algorithm transparency, and equitable access to ensure predictive systems are trusted and broadly beneficial.
- Develop AI and Data Literacy: Scale training programs for health professionals and data scientists to strengthen the workforce's ability to leverage AI insights for decision-making.

Integrated data, predictive analytics, and strategic partnerships are the levers through which African health systems can anticipate needs, optimize resources, and build resilient, market-responsive care for all.

Dr. Kwasi Boahene

Director, Health Systems
PharmAccess
Speaker

Dr. Kwasi Boahene stated by framing data as the cornerstone of predictive and resilient African health systems. He emphasized that accurate, timely, and integrated data flows—spanning financing, service delivery, and supply chains—are essential for evidence-based decision-making. Predictive analytics, when applied to this rich data, enables health systems to anticipate emerging needs, optimize resource allocation, and reduce inefficiencies. He noted that bridging gaps in data collection, harmonization, and accessibility is critical for transforming fragmented health systems into agile networks capable of responding proactively to population health challenges.

He highlighted the transformative potential of digital platforms, mobile solutions, and fintech integration in advancing predictive health intelligence. Linking digital finance with health delivery allows for efficient resource mobilization, transparent tracking of funds, and real-time insights into service delivery patterns. Dr. Boahene argued that such integration enables local producers and supply chains to respond accurately to demand, reducing shortages and waste while ensuring that critical health commodities reach underserved populations. By embedding predictive analytics into digital platforms, health systems can move from reactive responses to proactive planning, aligning production and distribution with actual population needs.

Quality of care emerged as a central pillar in his remarks. He noted that interventions such as the SafeCare standards and the Medical Credit Fund empower health facilities and SMEs to enhance service quality, build patient trust, and increase utilization. Improved care quality generates actionable data, which in turn feeds predictive models, allowing markets to adjust dynamically to shifting health needs.

Finally, he emphasized the critical role of strategic, multi-sector partnerships in scaling predictive health intelligence and digital infrastructure. Governments, private sector actors, development partners, and professional networks must collaborate to establish shared standards, align incentives, and coordinate investments. Such partnerships facilitate interoperability, strengthen governance and accountability, and accelerate capacity building. By leveraging collective expertise, technology, and financing, Africa can build resilient, inclusive, and responsive health systems that are locally owned while benefiting from global innovation and knowledge exchange.

Key Action Points

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- Bridge Clinical Insight with System Design: Health systems should integrate frontline clinical experience into predictive analytics to ensure data models reflect real-world health needs.
- Empower Youth and Emerging Talent: Invest in training and structured inclusion of young professionals in digital health initiatives to strengthen innovation capacity and institutional agility.
- Link Predictive Data to Local Production: Use data-driven demand forecasts to guide local manufacturing decisions, enhancing alignment between supply and population health needs.
- Build Collaborative Digital Ecosystems: Foster multi-stakeholder partnerships that promote interoperable platforms, harmonized standards, and shared governance for digital health systems.
- Strengthen Workforce Digital Literacy: Scale up digital literacy and analytics training for health professionals across public and private sectors to ensure tools are fully leveraged and sustained.

Speakers' Insights

Digital Infrastructure and Predictive Health Intelligence

Africa's health systems struggle with fragmented data and limited predictive planning, slowing timely decision-making and market responsiveness. Speakers stressed that digital infrastructure is essential for connecting health data across facilities, labs, and supply chains, enabling predictive analytics to anticipate demand, optimize resources, and guide responsive local production.

Technological Alignment:

- AI Treatment Algorithms: Integrate locally trained algorithms into point-of-care systems to support diagnosis, triage, and treatment decisions for common primary-care conditions.
- Digital Task-Shifting Tools: Provide mobile decision aids and guided workflows that enable nurses and community health workers to manage expanded scopes of practice under standardized protocols.
- Telemedicine & Remote Supervision: Link peripheral facilities to specialist hubs for real-time consultations, mentorship, and clinical oversight.
- Predictive Workforce Analytics: Use data-driven models to forecast staffing needs, prioritize deployment, and target investments where gaps are largest.

Upskilling Human Capital for Digital Readiness

Speakers highlighted that digital systems are only effective if health workers can use them. Training in digital literacy, data analysis, and predictive decision-making enables the workforce to turn insights into actionable health interventions.

Capacity Building:

- Digital Literacy Programs: Train healthcare workers on digital tools and platforms to enhance system usability and predictive accuracy.
- Decision-Support Training: Equip frontline staff with skills to interpret data and act on predictive insights efficiently.
- Continuous Professional Development: Establish mentorship and refresher courses to keep staff up-to-date with emerging technologies and analytics methodologies.
- Task-Shifting Tools: Provide guided digital workflows to enable expanded scopes of practice while maintaining quality standards.

Speakers' Insights

Sustainable Technology and Local Production

Aligning digital investments with local manufacturing ensures demand-driven production, reduces inefficiencies, and strengthens equitable access to health products. Systems must be scalable, interoperable, and designed for local contexts to sustain long-term impact.

Actionable Strategies:

- Demand-Driven Manufacturing: Use predictive insights to align production with real-time health system needs.
- Local Innovation Hubs: Support African-led development of digital tools and manufacturing solutions.
- Feedback Mechanisms: Create loops connecting consumers, manufacturers, and policymakers to adjust supply rapidly.
- Scalable Systems Design: Develop modular, interoperable solutions that can evolve with changing health priorities.

Partnerships and Collaborative Ecosystems

Building predictive, digitally integrated health systems requires strategic collaboration across sectors. Development agencies, private sector innovators, and regional health bodies can share knowledge, leverage resources, and accelerate implementation. Collaborative ecosystems enhance impact, enabling African countries to leapfrog conventional development stages while retaining ownership and adapting solutions to local contexts.

Actionable Strategies:

- Cross-Sector Collaboration: Align public, private, and donor initiatives to ensure coordinated investment and implementation.
- Technology Transfer Programs: Facilitate shared learning and access to advanced tools while building local expertise.
- Regional Integration: Develop interoperable platforms and harmonized standards to support cross-border health responsiveness.
- Joint Innovation Initiatives: Encourage co-development of solutions that combine local knowledge with global best practices.

Future Outlook

The deliberations of the ABCHealth High-Level Roundtable Session signal a transformative trajectory for Africa's healthcare ecosystem, with a strategic focus on predictive health intelligence, digital infrastructure, and local production efficiency. Beyond immediate operational efficiency and local production, the continent's health systems must evolve to continuously sense, analyze, and respond to emergent health threats, resource constraints, and demographic transitions. The session underscored that future-ready health systems are not merely reactive structures but self-regulating, data-informed networks capable of scenario planning and strategic foresight.

Strengthening innovation ecosystems, linking local manufacturers, research institutions, and digital health platforms—will accelerate technology adoption, streamline production, and enhance market responsiveness. Embedding resilience engineering into infrastructure, supply chains, and decision-making ensures systems can absorb shocks while maintaining continuity of care.

Future strategies will also emphasize outcome-driven accountability, where investments and interventions are continuously monitored against measurable health impacts. By combining predictive governance, market intelligence, and networked innovation, Africa can achieve equitable, responsive, and future-ready healthcare systems, capable of advancing Universal Health Coverage and local production efficiency.

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We also recognize the invaluable contributions of ABCHealth member organizations, strategic partners, and technical collaborators, whose sustained engagement and shared commitment to evidence-informed policy dialogue, private sector mobilization, and implementation partnerships continue to advance the Coalition's work across Africa.

This Roundtable and its outcomes reflect the collaborative ethos that defines ABCHealth. The insights and action points generated reaffirm our commitment to fostering multisector partnerships that leverage predictive intelligence, digital innovation, and strategic investments to enhance local production efficiency, improve market responsiveness, and build resilient, equitable, and sustainable healthcare systems across the continent.

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