



Mainstreaming Digital Technologies and Services into EU Development Policy: eHealth

Examples from African countries

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Leapfrogging health service delivery constraints in Africa through mobile communication technologies

Mobile phone-based technological innovations are changing the service delivery landscape in Africa, especially among poor populations and those living in fragile states.

They represent a valuable way to improve patient treatment and public health reporting in the developing world. Mobile health (mhealth) offers opportunity for the:

- Provision of medical expertise to frontline health workers,
- Systematization of compiling patient information,
- Tracking of the spread of epidemics,
- Boosting disease diagnosis and management training.

ehealth and mhealth: terminology

eHealth is the overarching broad term, and refers to the use of electronic information and communications technologies in healthcare.

Mobile health or **mHealth** (m-health) as part of ehealth describes the use of mobile telecommunication and multimedia technologies as they are integrated with increasingly mobile and wireless health care delivery systems.



eHealth solutions for South Africa

Two EU projects, funded by the Horizon 2020 programme, aim at helping Africa through the use of digital health solutions.

One aims to improve malaria prevention, the other focusses on new born babies and their mothers.



Diagnosis Management Communication - Malaria Vector Control DMC-Malvec

This project aims at improving the control of malaria in sub-Saharan Africa by automating the monitoring of mosquito vector populations – this monitoring is a prerequisite for effective insecticide interventions, currently the best way to prevent malaria.

mHealth4Afrika –multiple countries

Addresses the quality of maternal and new born healthcare delivery in Southern Africa (Malawi, South Africa), East Africa (Kenya) and the Horn of Africa (Ethiopia).

Until 2018, the project will research and evaluate the impact of co-designing an open source, multilingual mHealth platform on this topic.



Chad: mHealth to help combating malnutrition

Project Name: Saving Children's Lives Using mHealth to Improve Treatment, Reporting, Monitoring, and Supply Management for Acute Malnutrition

Funded by DG ECHO, World Vision has developed an innovative mHealth solution to improve Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) programming.

The mHealth solution provides Health Workers (HWs) with easy-to-use case management and decision making and patient tracking tools facilitating a full continuum of care from home to health centre.

The potential of ICT for health systems

- Increased accessibility to health care services
- contributing to resilient health systems and improved health emergency and response mechanisms
- efficiency gains in health systems strengthening helping to achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC)