

# Key issues and agenda for Africa in Emergency Preparedness and Response in Africa For Africa

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*UKHSA/Africa CDC, October 27, 2023*

*Disclaimer: This presentation is my own opinion and does not represent the position of the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) or the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC). October 27, 2023*

# Quiz

What is the estimated current population of Africa?

Number of African countries with ongoing civil war \*>1000 casualties?

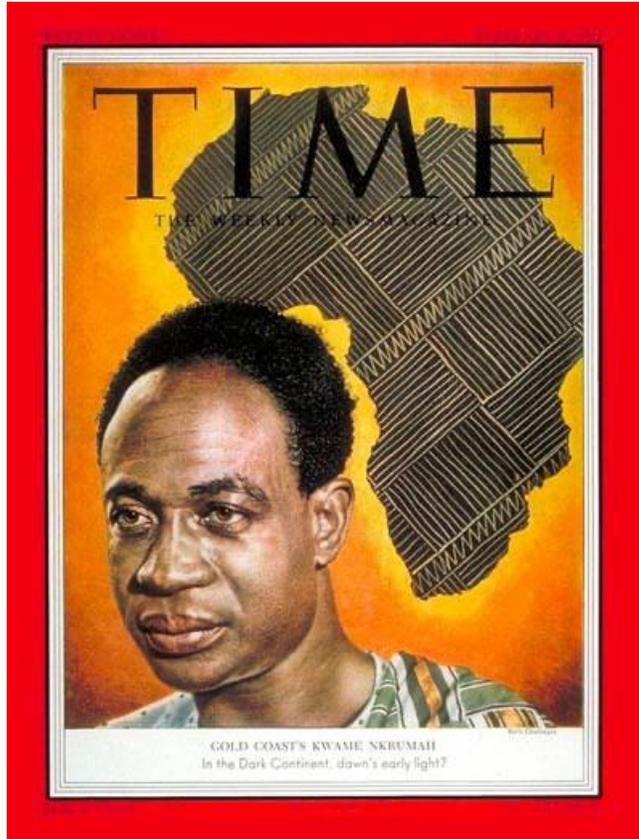
What percentage of vaccines administered in Africa are manufactured in Africa?

# Outline

- Dream for Africa ... then and now
- Agenda 2063
- Regional Collaborating Centres and Economic Communities
- The New Public Health Order
- Rethinking, reimaging, and re-engineering Public Health & Epidemiology Training

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“--It is clear that we must find an African solution to our problems, and that this can only be found in African unity. Divided we are weak; united, Africa could become one of the greatest forces for good in the world—”

**Kwame Nkrumah, 1953 (February 9)**

**Agenda 2063: Integration, Institutions, Infrastructure: need for innovative and continent-wide approaches**

# Organisation of African Unity (OAU)

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... an intergovernmental organization - 25 May 1963, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 32 signatory governments

## Focus

Attainment of political independence

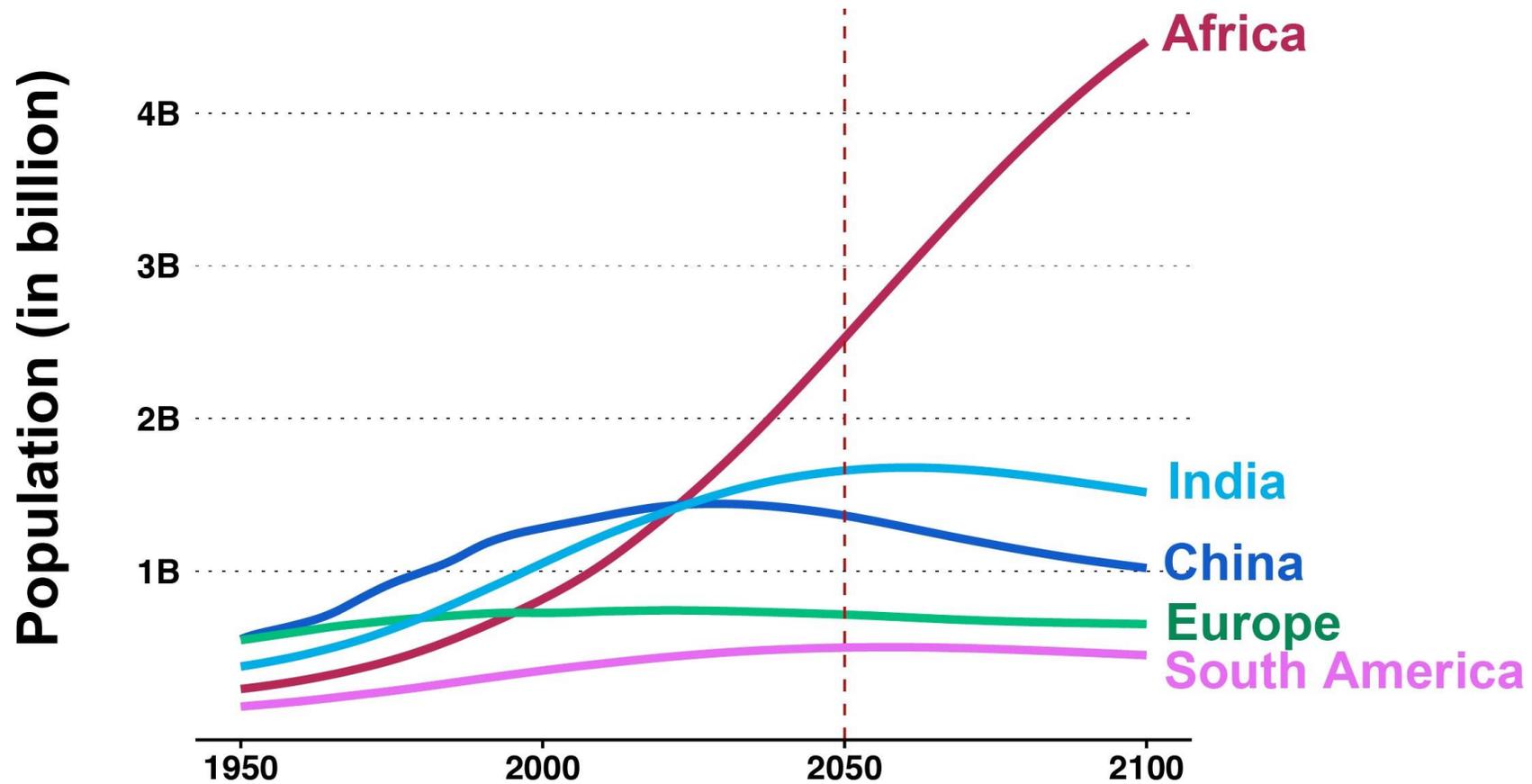
**2002:** 21 States joined – total 53 Members States



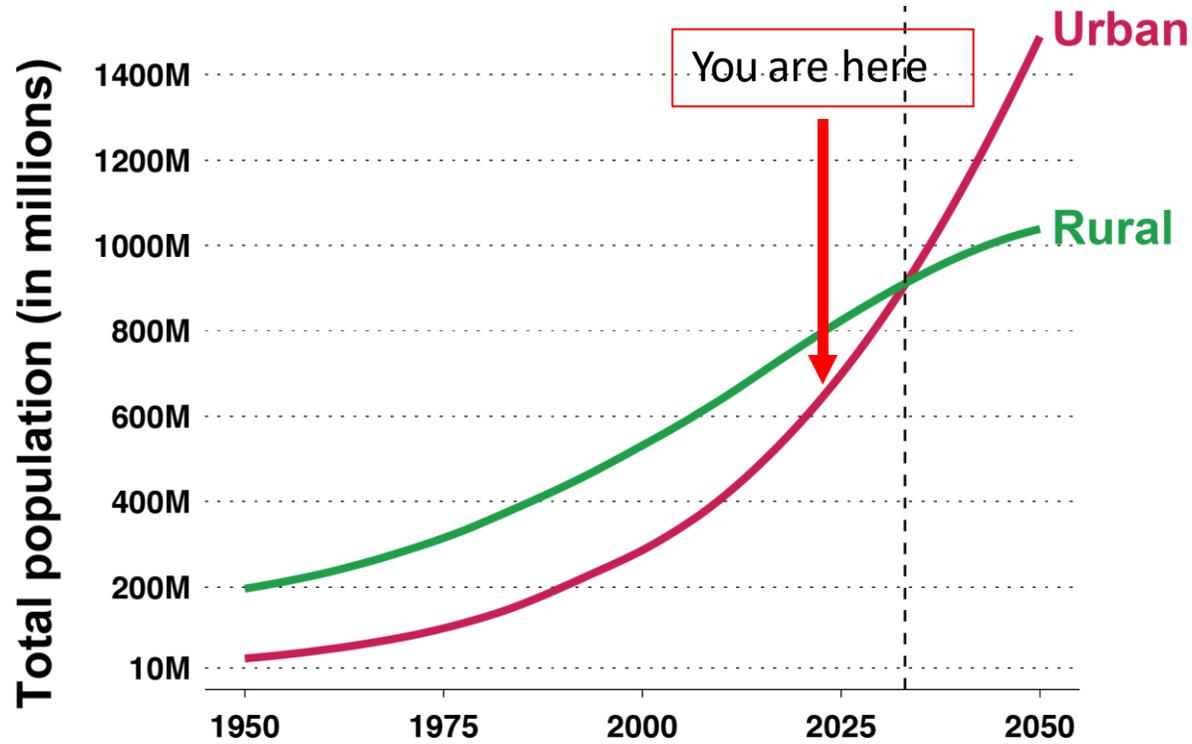
Founding leaders of the OAU, 1963

*... what has happened since then? > > >*

# Projected population of Africa by 2050 - 2.5 billion



# Rapid urbanization in Africa



Source: UN World Urbanization Prospects database

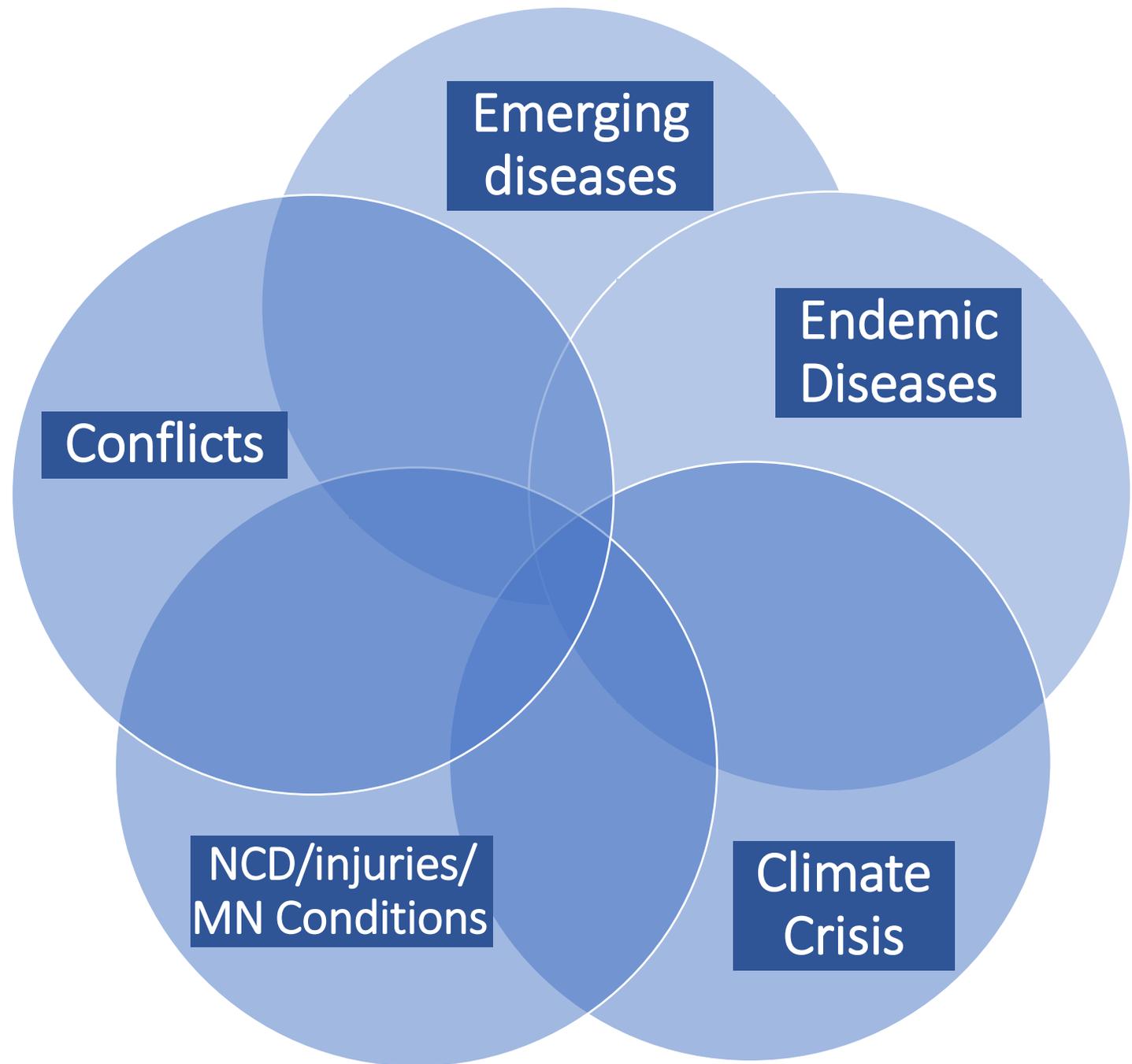
## TOP 10 LARGEST CITIES 2010 - 2050

1. LAGOS NIGERIA	10.578 (2010) 15.810 (2050)
2. KINSHASA DRC	8.754 15.041
3. CAIRO EGYPT	11 12.54
4. LUANDA ANGOLA	4.772 8.077
5. ABIDJAN CÔTE D'IVOIRE	4.125 6.321
6. NAIROBI KENYA	3.523 6.246
7. DAR ES SALAAM TANZANIA	3.349 6.202
8. ALEXANDRIA EGYPT	4.387 5.648
9. KANO NIGERIA	3.395 5.06
10. ADDIS ABABA ETHIOPIA	2.930 4.757

(UNIT: MILLIONS OF PEOPLE)

Image: futurecapetown.com

**Syndemics and crisis exacerbating the disease burden across the African Continent**



...from OAU to ... the African Union

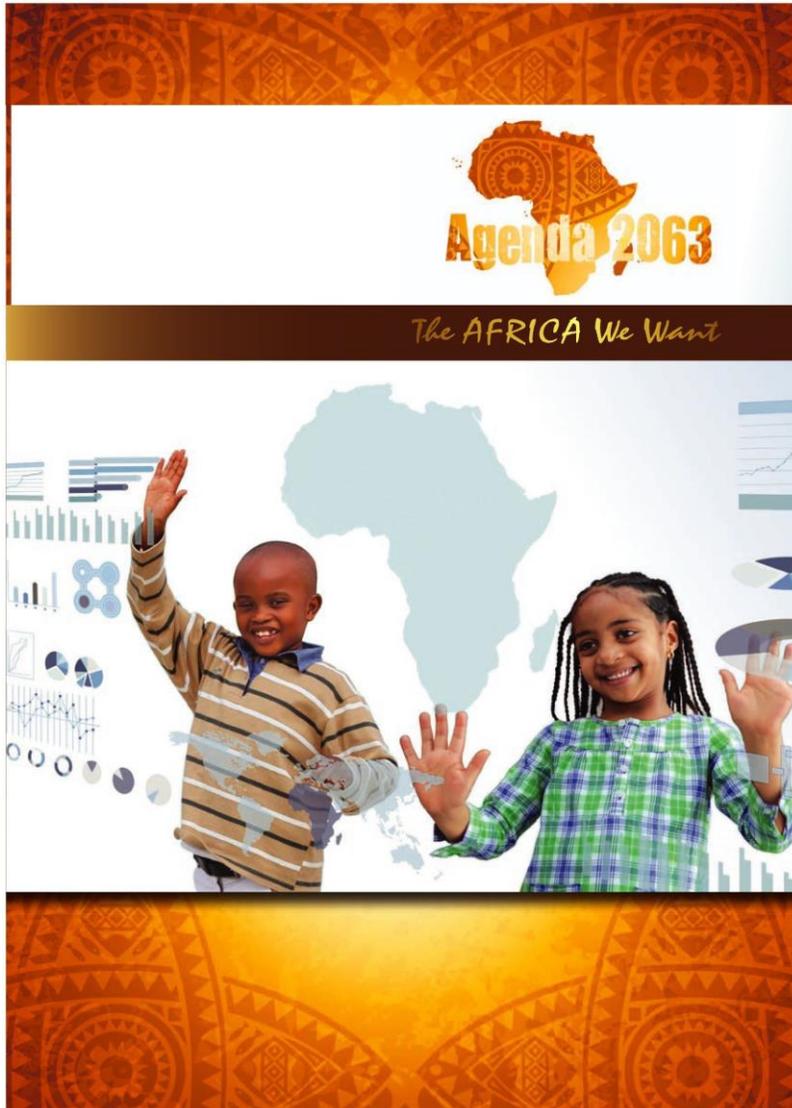
- **2002 – African Union formed** – successor of the OAU
- **2013 May** – 50th Golden Jubilee celebrations - OAU
  - **refocus and reprioritise** - and repositioning Africa in the global arena (**social and economic development, integration, democratic governance and peace and security...**)

*Agenda 2063 (2013 – 2063)*

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# ..we dream of a better future for our children



## The Seven Aspirations For The Africa We Want

Aspiration 1: A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development.

Aspiration 2: An integrated continent; politically united and based on the ideals of Pan-Africanism and the vision of Africa's Renaissance.

Aspiration 3: An Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law.

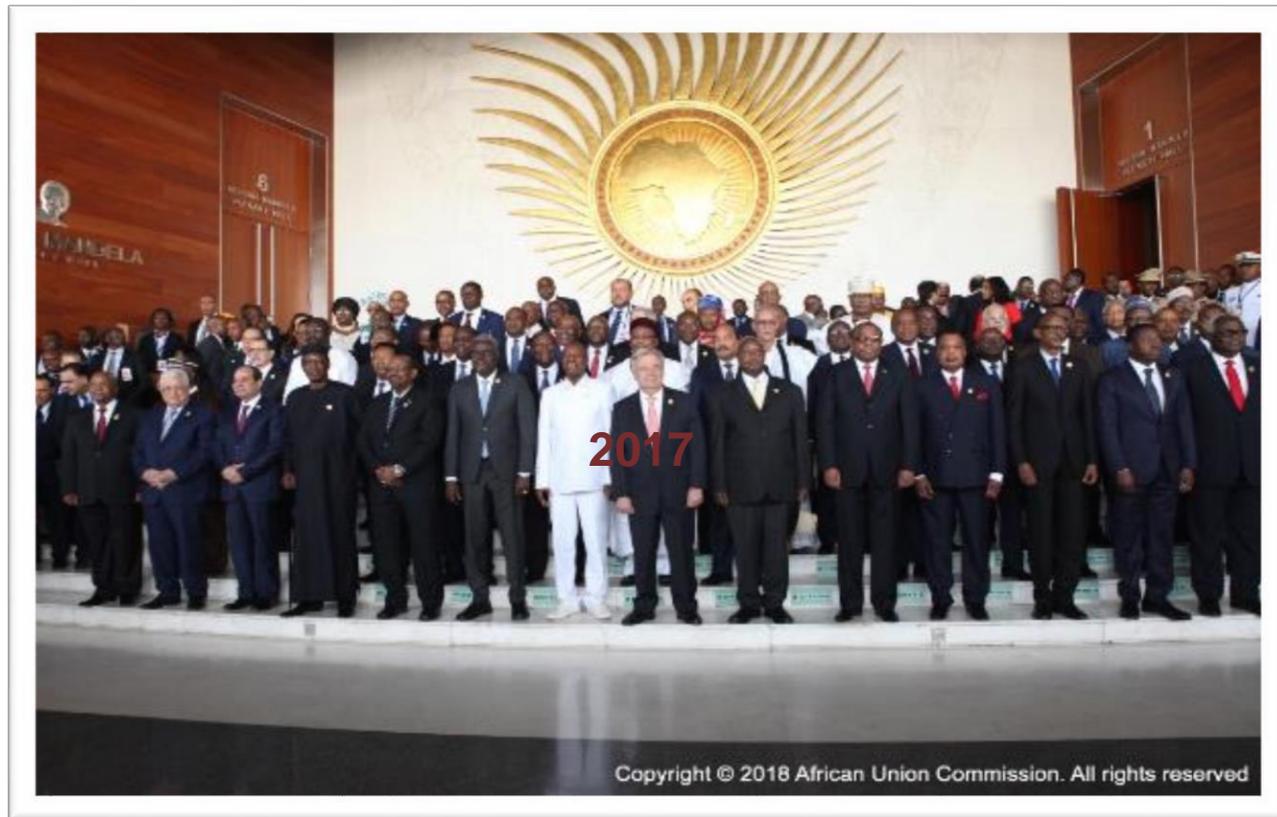
Aspiration 4: A peaceful and secure Africa.

Aspiration 5: An Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, shared values and ethics.

**Aspiration 6:** An Africa, whose development is people-driven, relying on the potential of African people, especially its women and youth, and caring for children.

Aspiration 7: Africa as a strong and partner. **Healthy population; Health security**

# Official Launch of the Africa CDC – January 2017



# Africa CDC – Vision & Mission



## Vision

**A safer, healthier, and prosperous Africa**

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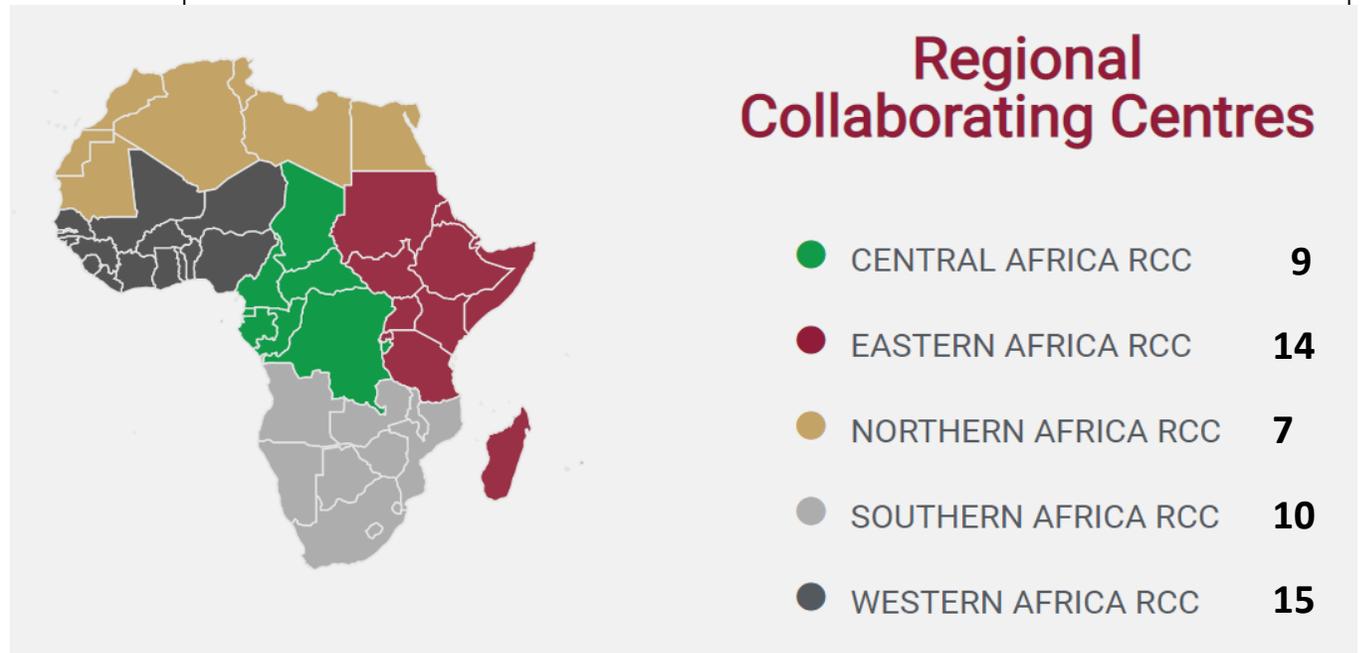
## Mission

To strengthen Africa's **public health institutions'** capacities, capabilities and **partnerships** to detect and respond quickly and effectively to disease threats and outbreaks based on science, policy, and data-driven interventions and programs.

# National Public Health Institutes & Regional Coordinating Centres

- **NPHIs:** Each AU Member State - NPHI or Equivalent Agency
- NPHIs at different levels of maturity; 21 are functional
- Economic Communities

- **Five AU Regional Coordinating Centres**
- **Role:** to implement:
  - Africa CDC Strategy
  - Region context-specific activities



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# Need for a New Public Health Order - 2017

THE LANCET  
Global Health

Log in



[John Nkengasong](#)  • [Benjamin Djoudalbaye](#) • [Olawale Maiyegun](#)

Open Access • Published: November, 2017 • DOI: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X\(17\)30363-7](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X(17)30363-7)

 PlumX Metrics

On July 3, 2017, African heads of state and government issued a declaration and committed to accelerating implementation of the 2005 International Health Regulations (IHR)<sup>1</sup> and tasked the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), the African Union

# A NEW PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER AFRICA'S HEALTH SOVEREIGNTY



## Continental and national public health institutions

- *An autonomous, funded Africa CDC, NPHIs*



## African Public Health Workforce Development

- *Health Workforce; 2M Community Health Workers, Field Epidemiology PH leadership*



## Local manufacturing of vaccines, therapeutics, and Diagnostics

- *Partnership for Vaccine Manufacturing (PAVM); AMA*



## Partnerships



## Sustainable domestic funding

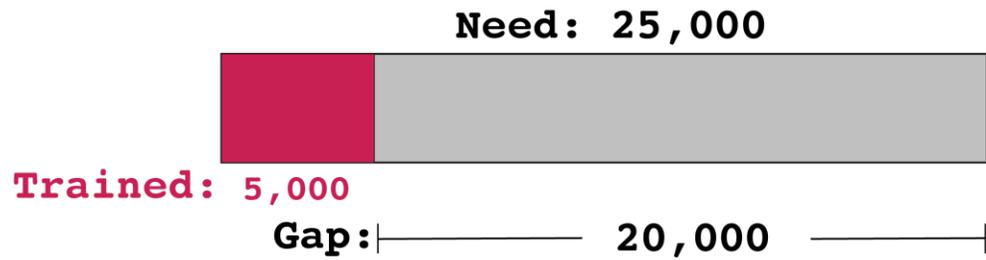


## Digitalization

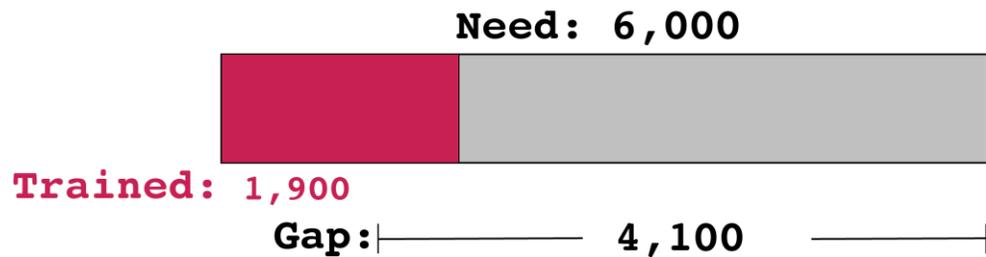
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### Frontline epidemiologists:



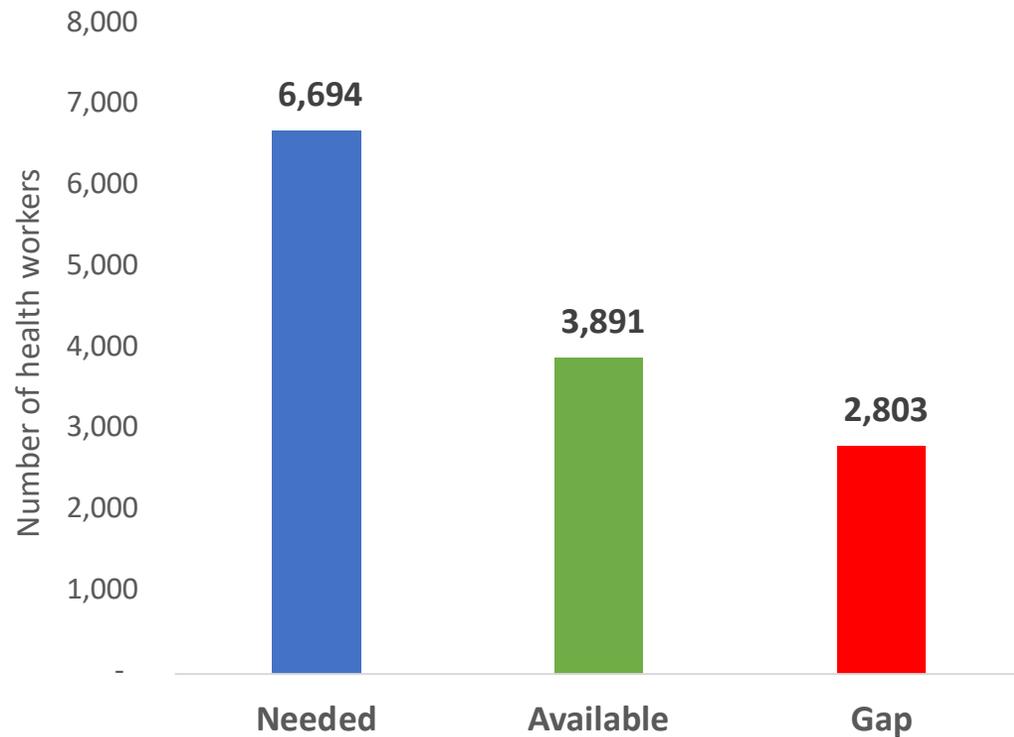
### Field epidemiologists



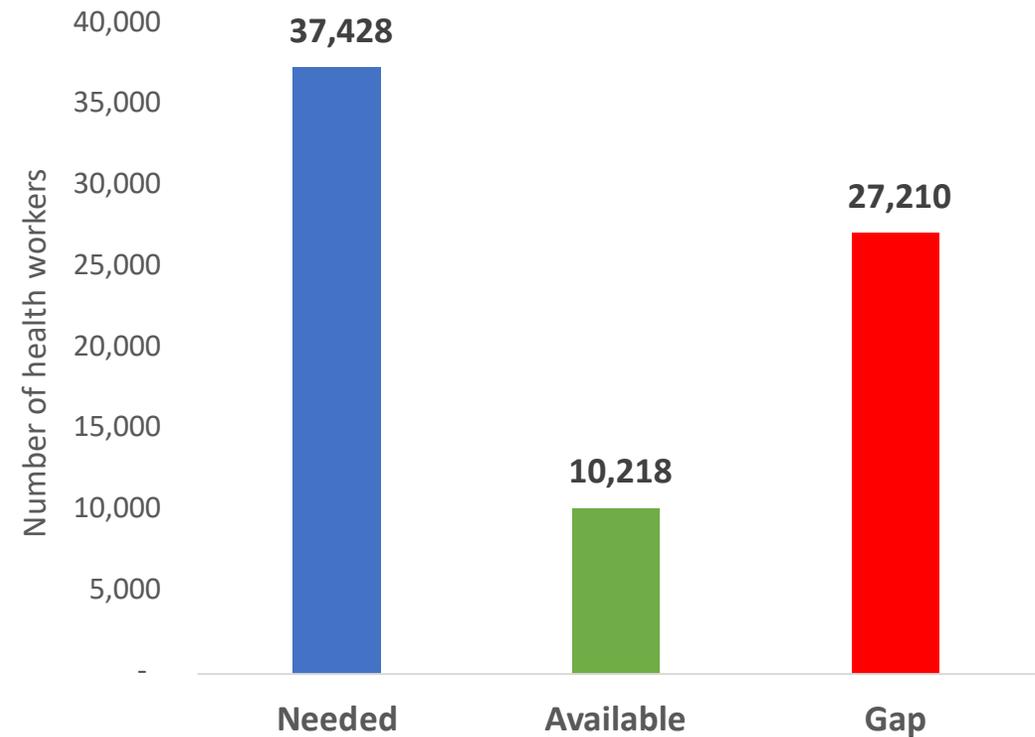
**An example in field epidemiology gaps**

# Epidemiologists needed Versus number trained

## Epidemiologist (Advanced & Intermediate FETP)



## Frontline FETP



Source: AFENET, 2022

# In the context of weak health systems



**Health facilities**

<**50%** of people have access to modern health facilities



**Health budget**

<**10%** of GDP is spent on healthcare for most African countries (**low fiscal space**)



**Health workers**

**2 health workers / 1K** people vs 25 health workers / 1K in the Americas (**Sub-optimal training, low absorptive capacity, poor working conditions, migration**)

# Local vaccine manufacturing 1

- Vaccine nationalism – COVID-19 lessons
- Africa imports 99% of its vaccines, uses 25% of global supply
- 5 countries - fill and finish, end to end.
- 16 October 2023 – AUC, Africa CDC, Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance
  - sustainable and equitable systems
  - public trust and confidence
  - vision to expand vaccine manufacturing in Africa

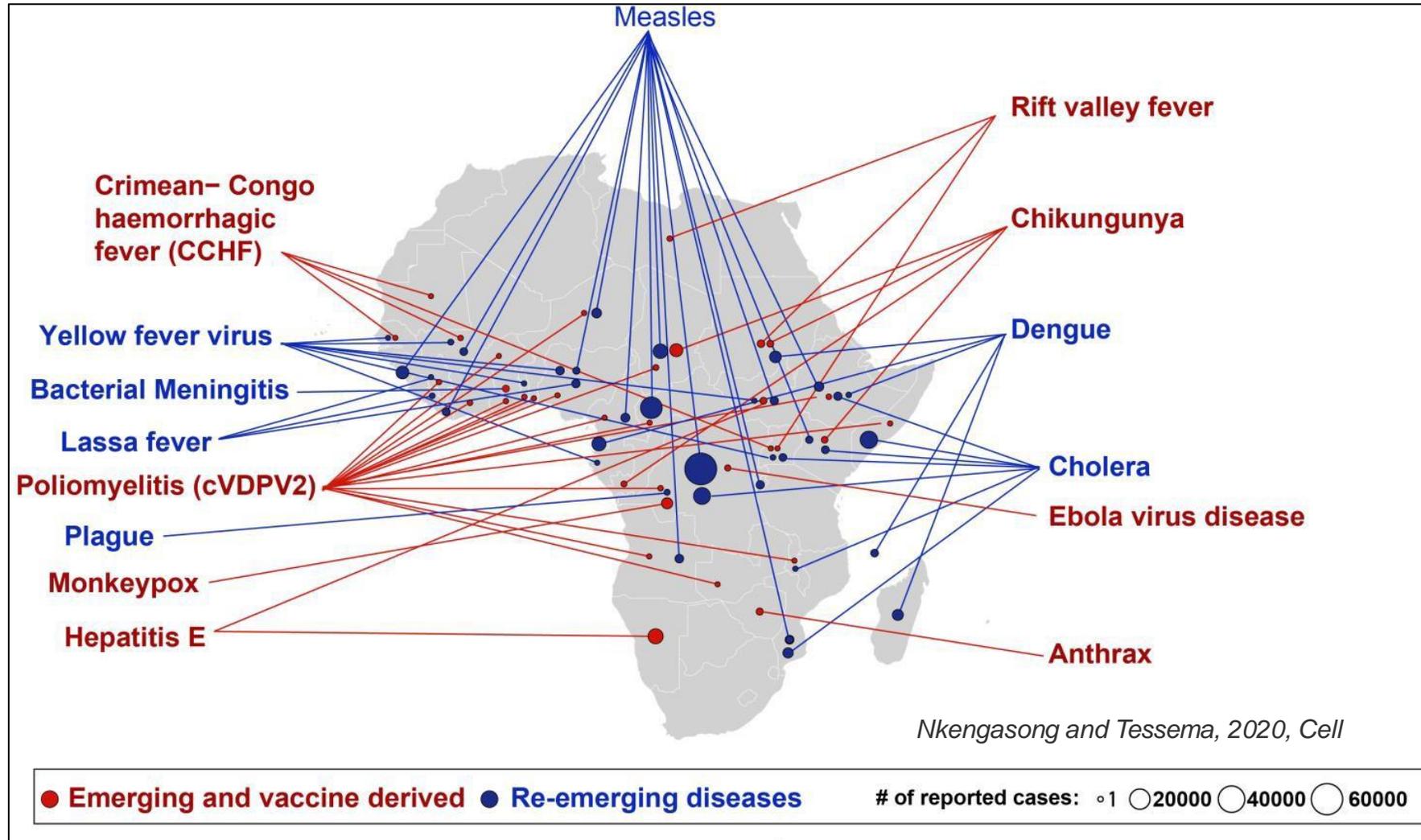
# Local vaccine manufacturing 2

- By **2040** manufacture at **least 60%** of vaccines need in Africa
- **Partnerships** - Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, Gates Foundation to shape the market; Market shaping; Competitive marketing
- Prioritize -epidemic/pandemic-like vaccines
- Invest and incentivize research and development (R&D)
  - Human capital
  - Technology transfer; resolve patent – TRIPS - issues
  - Rwanda -first country -mRNA vaccine manufacturing facility (BioNTech).

# Sustainable domestic funding

- African Air Tax to be paid by airline passenger
- African Health Emergency Fund (AHEF)
- 
- African Development Bank to Africa CDC pledge US\$3 billion over 10 years - vaccine manufacturing
- Philanthropies

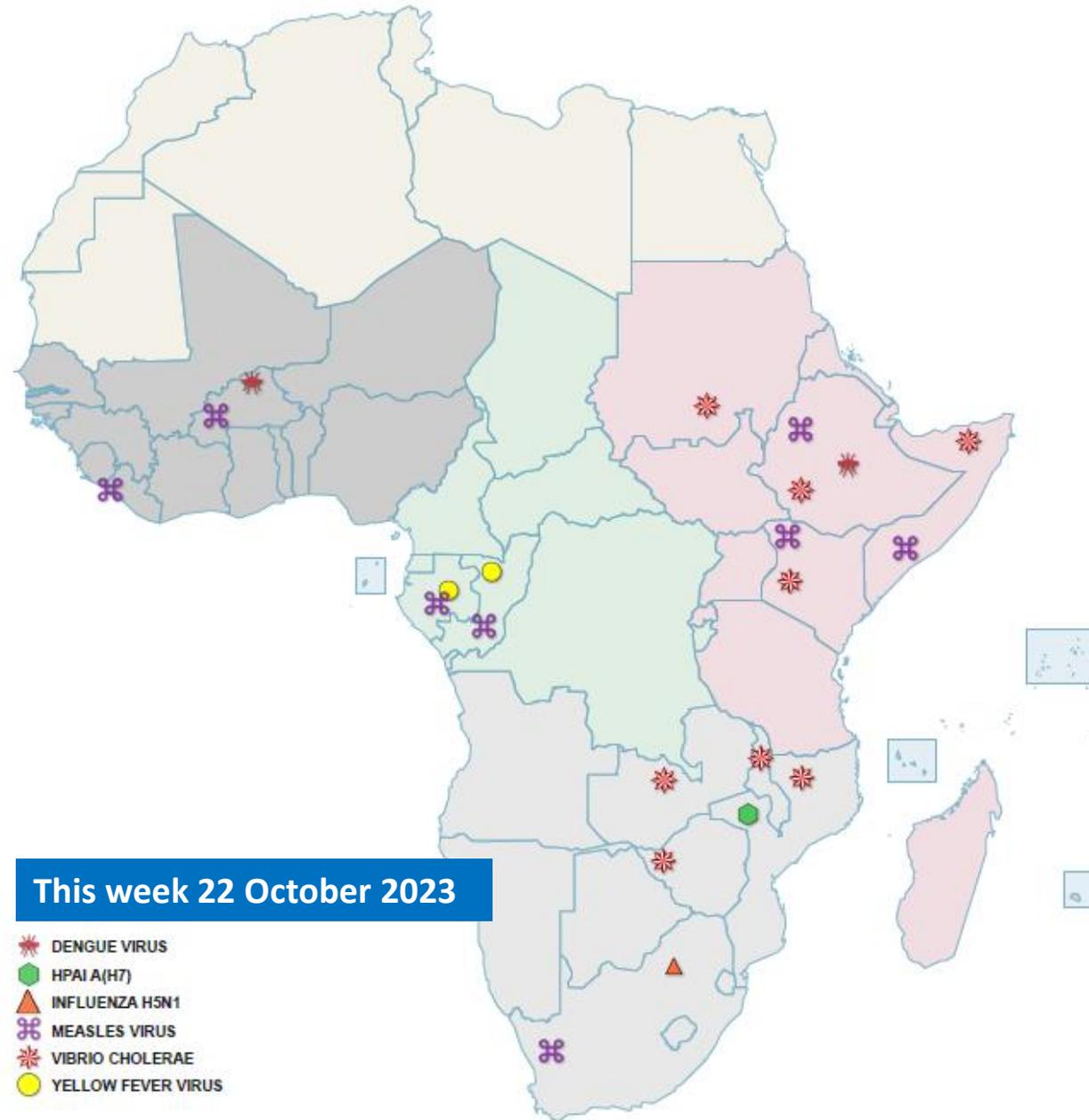
# Emerging, re-emerging, and other diseases reported to Africa CDC in 2020 (January - August 2020)



# This year, 2023

Events reported = 150

Events	Cases	Deaths
HPAI (Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza A(H7) Africa	<b>224,540</b> <b>215,770</b>	Humans = 0 Animal CFR 96.5%
Dengue fever (confirmed 20,390; suspected 68,987)	<b>89,377</b>	158 (CFR 0.2%)
<b>COVID-19</b> (confirmed 12,404,644;	<b>12,404,644</b>	257,181 (CFR 2.1%)
<b>Mpox</b> (confirmed 803; suspected 10,085)	<b>10,888</b>	556 (CFR 5.1%)
<b>Cholera</b> (confirmed 86,044; suspected 109,708)	<b>195,752</b>	3,061 (CFR 1.6%)
<b>Measles</b> (confirmed 20,508; suspected 260,330)	<b>280,838</b>	3,655 (CFR 1.3%)
<b>Yellow fever</b> (confirmed 126; suspected 2,651)	<b>2,777</b>	35 (CFR 1.3%)



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*Is Emergency  
Preparedness and  
Response in Africa for  
Africa feasible?*

# Keynote Address by President Kagame at 71<sup>st</sup> World Health Assembly (2018)

**“The Africa Health Strategy recently adopted by the African Union, in the context of Agenda 2063, defines Universal Health Coverage by 2030 as the continent’s top strategic objective in this area. The Sustainable Development Goals include the very same target. Since last July there is also consensus on how to measure progress “**



# Forward to the:



H.E. Dr Jean Kaseya,  
Director General,  
Africa CDC

## African CDC Strategic Plan 2023–2027

“...to address these challenges, **multi-sectoral** response mechanisms need to be established, ensuring **adaptability**, **interoperability** between Member States, and a **One Health** approach.”

*... there is hope*

# Forward to the:

## African CDC Strategic Plan 2023–2027



H.E. Dr Jean Kaseya,  
Director General,  
Africa CDC

“This requires **innovative** approaches in health **financing, digitalisation, science and technology**, and stronger **partnerships** with a **vision** of fostering Africa’s **reliance on local** resources and **homegrown** solutions.. (2023)

# Recalibration: prioritize, focus

- **Workforce Training**
  - African Epidemic Services: 3 tracks Epi, Lab, Informatics (to start 2024)
  - Public Health Emergencies Management (to be launched)
  - African Volunteer Health Corps (AVoHC - on-going)
  - Ministerial Executive Leadership Programme (MELP) (to start)
  - AFENET
  - Kofi Annan Public Health Fellowship Leadership Programme (KAF - ongoing)
- **Universal Health Coverage**
- **Sustainable Development Goals**
- Role of Academic and other institutions

# African Volunteer Health Corps (AVoHC)

- AU Heads of State & Government Assembly Decision **/AU/Dec.570 (XXV) of June 2015**
- AUC and MS establish AVoHC
- To be deployed during disease outbreaks & other health emergencies.
- Local, regional, diverse skills, roster, training, deployment

52 outbreaks and public health events supported in the last Six years

Technical support to outbreak with deployment:

2022: 8

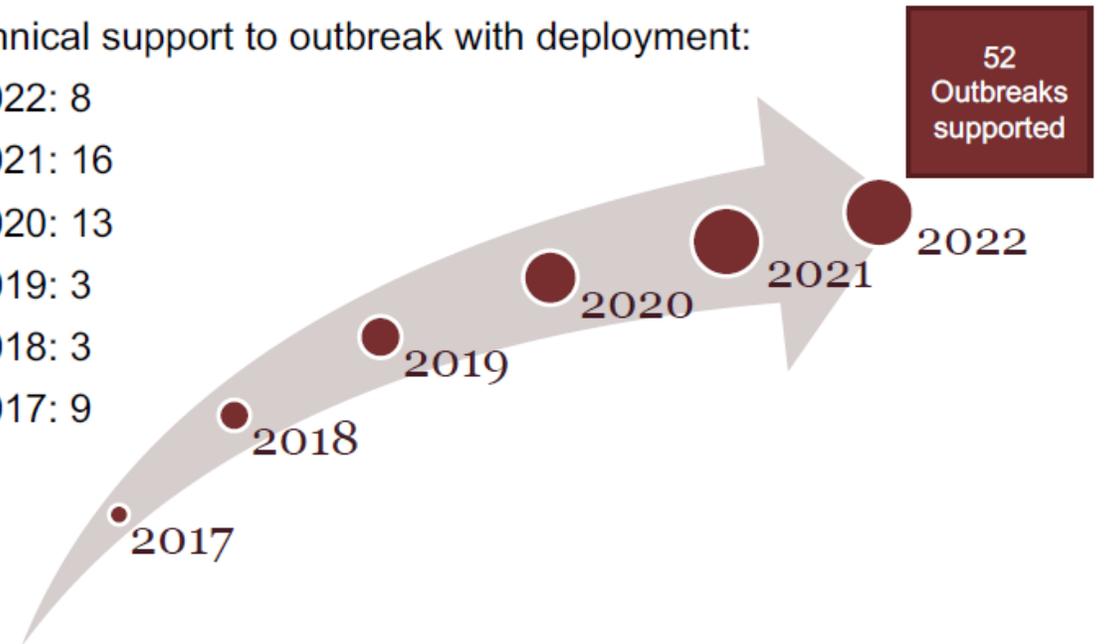
2021: 16

2020: 13

2019: 3

2018: 3

2017: 9



Source: EPR Africa CDC

# Conclusions and the way forward

- COVID-19 and Public health threats - wake-up call - the New Public Health Order
- Partnerships in the new public health order
- Africa leadership and ownership to meet Agenda 2063 goals
- Back to basics: adaptative public health workers development
- Invest in public health institutions
- Local manufacturing of medical interventions

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1. Establishing the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention: responding to Africa's health threats<sup>1</sup>
2. A new public health order for Africa's health security<sup>2</sup>
3. Africa Health Strategy 2016 – 2030<sup>3</sup>
4. Treaty for the Establishment of the African Medicines Agency (AMA)<sup>4</sup>
5. Countries Currently at War<sup>5</sup>

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- 1. Nkengasong JN, Maiyegun O, Moeti M. Establishing the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention: responding to Africa's health threats. *Lancet Glob Health*. 2017;5(3):e246-e247. doi:10.1016/S2214-109X(17)30025-6
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- 5. Countries Currently at War 2023. Wisevoter. Accessed July 7, 2023. <https://wisevoter.com/country-rankings/countries-currently-at-war/>

# Quiz

What is the estimated current population of Africa?

**1.4 billion**

Number of African countries with ongoing civil war \*>1000 casualties?

**At least 12**

What percentage of vaccines administered in Africa are manufacture in Africa?

**1%**

# Safeguarding Africa's Health



**THANK YOU!**

Discussion  
&  
Questions