



Nairobi, Kenya
Hybrid full day event
24th February 2022



MINISTRY OF HEALTH



Opportunities for Health Investments in Kenya

24th February 2022 • 12:00pm - 1:30 pm (EAT)

Session Report

Africa Women's Health

The role of the private sector in advancing women's health in Africa



Curated By



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SPEAKERS



Dr. Zeinab Gura
Head of Health Systems
Strengthening
Ministry of Health, Kenya



Mr. Ismail Maaruf
Director, Economic
and Macro Pillar
Kenya Vision 2030



Mr. Mugo Kibati
Chairman
Kenya Biovax Institute



Mr. Vimal Patel
Managing Director
Cosmos Pharmaceutical Ltd and
upcoming Chairman, Federation
of Kenya Pharmaceutical
Manufacturers (FKPM)

MODERATOR



Ms. Flora Mutahi
Board Chair,
Kenya Private Sector
Alliance (KEPSA)



Dr. Jacqueline Kitulu
First Deputy Governor,
Kenya Red Cross Society
& Member, Kenya Medical
Practitioners and Dentist
Council (KMPDC)

HOST



Dr. Daniella Munene
Head of Operations
Africa Health Business (AHB)

1.0 Background

Africa Health Business (AHB), together with the Kenya Vision 2030, convened a special health session themed “Opportunities for Investment in Kenya” during the Seventh Africa Health Business Symposium (AHBS VII): Africa Women’s Health. The hybrid session brought together both state and non-state actors to demonstrate gains made in the local production of health products and technologies. The session also showcased Kenya’s existing health service delivery capacity, with a view of positioning the country as an investment hub for health.

The discussion touched on emerging innovations, financing models, investment opportunities, and the optimal enabling infrastructural and policy environment that has the potential of accelerating Kenya’s health sector’s journey to self-reliance.

2.0 Overview of the Kenyan Healthcare Sector

The Government of Kenya emphasizes the health of its citizens and improvement of health service delivery. The Ministry of Health (MOH) has a coordinating and capacity-building role that all services are in line with established policies and standards. The government is cognizant of the fact that good health is a pre-requisite to socioeconomic development.

The Kenyan health system has six levels of the hierarchy, as follows:

- level 1, community services
- level 2, dispensaries, and clinics
- level 3, health centers, maternity, and nursing
- level 4, sub county hospitals and medium sized private hospitals
- level 5 county referral hospital and large private hospitals, and
- level 6, national referral hospitals and large private teaching hospitals [11].

The Healthcare insurance is dominated by the public sector as private health insurers cover one percent of the Kenyan population. The National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) has a total of 10.13 Million registered members of which 5.03 Million are active.

The national health expenditure has been growing exponentially at 3.9 percent, 4.6 percent, and 16 percent year on year between 2015 and 2018,

fuelled by the increased spending power of the growing middle class, heightened awareness and demand for health services, and availability of a qualified health workforce.

Government health spending, as a proportion of total government expenditure, stood at 6.2% in 2019/2020 against the Abuja Declaration target of 15%. The annual private sector health expenditure in Kenya is expected to rise to USD 3.1 Billion by 2025. This is poised to decongest government service delivery points, leaving room for the most vulnerable to access subsidized care and fast-track the country's move towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

In terms of health products and technologies, the Kenyan healthcare sector has imports driven with 70% (by value) of finished products and 100% of raw materials imported. In terms of health service delivery, Kenya's healthcare professionals are well-trained as evidenced by global demand for our doctors and nurses.

Most interventions in the health sector are at the county level. Many of the improvements are particularly in maternal and child mortality and longevity where newborns and young children have a better chance to reach their full potential thanks to progression in postnatal care.

Kenya is headed towards the realization of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) No. 3 which seeks to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all ages, and aspiration of Africa's Agenda 2063 which is a development blueprint to achieve inclusive and sustainable socio-economic development over a 50-year period.

Capacity of women related healthcare services in Kenya.

- 90% of health facilities offer outpatient services for sick newborns including low birth weight
- 70% of health facilities offer Ear Nose and Throat (ENT) services
- 70% of health facilities offer post neonatal services
- 80% of health facilities offer family planning
- 50% of health facilities offer delivery services
- 30% of health facilities provide a comprehensive package of emergency, obstetrics, and neonatal care
- 10% of health facilities offer a complete full suite of life saving basic emergency obstetric care



We are all familiar with barriers women face when accessing healthcare. All those barriers should be seen as areas of investment and focal thematic areas of partnerships to enable the region to realize the UHC

Dr. Zeinab Gura

Head of Health Systems Strengthening
Ministry of Health, Kenya



3.0 Institutional Insights

3.1 Kenya Vision 2030

Kenya Vision 2030 launched in June 2008 and serves as the long-term development blueprint for the country. The organization is motivated by a collective aspiration for a better society by the year 2030. The aim of Kenya Vision 2030 is to create *"a globally competitive and prosperous country with a high quality of life by the year 2030"*. It aims to transform Kenya into *"a newly-industrializing, upper-middle-income country providing a high quality of life to all its citizens in a clean and secure environment"*.

Kenya Vision 2030 is anchored on three main pillars: Economic, Social, and Political.

- **Economic:** To maintain sustained economic growth of ten percent per annum for most of the next 20 years
- **Social:** A just and cohesive society enjoying equitable social development in a clean and secure environment
- **Political:** An issue-based, people-centered, result-oriented, and accountable democratic political system

Under the Social Pillar, health is one of the key sectors:

- The goal is to ensure *"Equitable, Affordable and Quality Health Care of the Highest Standard"* for all citizens by the year 2030.
- Health is one of the "Big Four" initiatives with a particular focus on the achievement of UHC.
- Aims to increase access to quality healthcare services and offer financial protection to people when accessing healthcare.

3.2 Ministry of Health, Kenya

On 23rd June 2016, the East Africa Community (EAC) Ministers for Health held a high-level meeting presiding the United Nations General Assembly. During this meeting, they committed to developing a UHC financial strategy.

Upon successful rollout of the regional and national UHC financial strategy, the EAC heads of state agreed to prioritize increased access to safe, efficacy, and affordable medicines, vaccines, and other healthcare technologies for high disease burden areas.

In December 2021, the EAC Council of Ministers responsible for health adopted the EAC comprehensive reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, and TB program for 2022 to 2027. The program will guide the region and country investments in reproductive, maternal, neonatal, child, and adolescent health (RMNCH). It will provide a package of services across the continuum of care for women including pregnancy and childbirth, post neonatal for mothers and babies.

The MOH Kenya flagship projects are:

- Kenyatta National Hospital
- Kenyatta University Teaching, Referral & Research Hospital (KUTRRH)
- Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital (MTRH)
- Radiotherapy Centres
- East Africa Kidney Institute
- Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI)/National Public Health Institute
- Kenya National Blood Transfusion Services
- Kenya Neuropsychiatric C.o.E
- Specialized Spinal Injury Hospital
- Global Human Resource Positioning (Training)
- Kenya Biovax Institute



I invite you to come to Kenya to invest as it has an enabling environment and I want competition because it wakes me up. Competition makes you think harder and think of new ideas.



Mr. Vimal Patel
Managing Director
Cosmos Pharmaceutical Ltd



We should not only be aiming to bounce back from the pandemic but also strategize on how to be self-sufficient to avoid such pandemics from happening again.

Ms. Flora Mutahi
Board Chair
Kenya Private Sector Alliance



3.3 Kenya Private Sector Alliance

Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA) is a limited liability membership organization registered in 2003 as the apex body of the private sector in Kenya.

KEPSA brings together local and foreign business associations, chambers of commerce, professional bodies, corporates, multinational companies, start-ups, Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) from all sectors of the Kenyan economy. KEPSA represents over one million businesses under one umbrella and enables them to speak in one voice when engaging the government, development partners and other stakeholders on cross-cutting policy issues affecting private sector development. It also implements programs that ensure the growth of businesses and the social-economic development of the country.

KEPSA supports businesses with opportunities for training, networking, financial linkages, mentorships & coaching, access to markets, value chains, and investment opportunities while working closely with many partners from across the world.

The cost of doing business remains high in Kenya and Africa, and intra-Africa trade remains below 20%. This is relatively low as compared to Europe and Asia, which are 65% and 45% respectively. This is one of the many challenges KEPSA is trying to tackle. By not only looking into the cost of doing business, but also the competitive index, KEPSA aims to position Kenya as a getaway for investments in Africa. Currently, the organization is advocating for green growth, especially in the energy spaces e.g. COP 27.

3.4 The Federation of Kenya Pharmaceutical Manufacturers

The Federation of Kenya Pharmaceutical Manufacturers (FKPM) has at least 33 manufacturers as members. The federation tries to engage the government i.e. policymakers, regulators, through a symbiotic relationship. This engagement is regular, and the actors meet quarterly to listen to each other's issues and work the way forward. The federation consistently talks to the National Treasury through the MOH.

3.5 The Kenya Biovax Institute

Access to quality medicines and healthcare services remain a challenge to developing countries and this has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. This has resulted in interrupted supply chains and shortages of essential drugs and Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs). The pandemic has brought a further surge in maternal, physical, and mental health, especially among women and girls.

During the pandemic, Africa has stepped up and realized the importance of manufacturing and buying local commodities and keeping supply chains close to home. Africa's focus should not only be aiming to bounce back from the pandemic but also strategize on how to be self-sufficient to avoid such pandemics happening again.

H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta, the President of the Republic of Kenya set up a task force in early 2021 to look at setting up a local vaccine manufacturing facility. The task force was under the MOH and several health actors, including the KEMRI. The idea of having a basic fill and finish facility, and a fully-fledged manufacturing facility in the next 5 years inspired the incorporation of the Kenya Biovax Institute in September 2021. Kenya Biovax board was constituted in December 2021 and commissioned by the Minister for Health, Senator. Mutahi Kagwe, EGH.



Crisis are good catalysts for driving strategic initiatives that have gotten stuck and that do not have the political will. That is what COVID-19 has done by bringing about the entire vaccine and immunization strategy

Mr. Mugo Kibati
Chairman
Kenya Biovax Institute



The institute aims to serve both national and regional markets and will be relying on research institutions like KEMRI to do fundamental research. However, the institute will still have a developmental/research type capacity. Kenya Biovax will strive to close the funding gap brought about by the county's exit from the GAVI program due to changes in the country's income status.

4.0 Kenya's Big Four Agenda: Universal Healthcare Coverage

Kenya has developed a five-year development plan under 4 Pillars:

1. Enhancing manufacturing by raising the GDP from 9.2 percent to 20 percent by 2022
2. Increase affordable housing opportunities by developing 500,000 new affordable homes
3. Food, Security, and Nutrition
4. UHC ensuring access. to safe, effective, quality essential health care services, including affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all

Below are the specific set targets for the attainment of affordable health care.

- Social health protection schemes to cover harmonized benefit packages to targeted populations.
- Access to health insurance for all citizens.
- Access to fully equipped health centers within eight kilometers of a household.
- Establishment of ten new referral hospitals
- Increasing the number of health facilities at the community level, including mobile health services.

5.0 Women's Health in Kenya

Women in Africa serve as the pillars of their families and communities. They serve as life-givers, mothers, peacemakers, entrepreneurs, and providers of care for children and the elderly. Accessibility to quality and affordable health services is one of the major issues that women face that contributes to high maternal mortality rates in Kenya. According to

the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) Economic Survey, the maternal mortality rate in Kenya has been steadily reducing from 767 deaths in 2003 to 285 in 2019. Maternal deaths in Kenya are strongly associated with the following:

- Sub-standard healthcare delivery services.
- A poor work ethic among healthcare personnel
- Lack of the necessary medical supplies at the time of labour, delivery, and immediately after birth.

Adolescent girls and young women aged between 15 and 24 years are disempowered by the disease and structural conditions such as poverty, lower literacy levels, and inadequate availability to access healthcare services. This age group accounts for 30% of all new infections of HIV/AIDS in Kenya. Some of the challenges women face in health include:

- Early pregnancies with no proper education or knowledge,
- COVID-19 effect on access to maternal health services,
- HIV/AIDS and women,
- Cancer,
- Experiences of women and girls while accessing health services for reproductive health problems including Female genital mutilation FGM,
- Child/infant mortality rate,
- Family planning, and
- Diabetes.

All these barriers could should be seen as areas of investment and focal thematic areas of partnerships to enable the country to realize UHC.

There is an urgent need to address women's issues and challenges and promote the health of women with a focus on quality, affordability, and equity for the wellbeing and development of both current and future generations. To achieve this, several strategies have been put in place by the government to address issues in women's health including the revitalization of health infrastructure, strengthening health service delivery, and developing equitable financing mechanisms. The foundation and the spirit of unity is assuring everyone has an equal opportunity of accessing quality healthcare without the financial burden or catastrophe out-of-pocket expenditure.



To thrive in Kenya as a local manufacturer, investing in training and good manufacturing practices (GMP) will be key

Mr. Vimal Patel
Managing Director
Cosmos Pharmaceutical Ltd



5.1 The Role of the Private Sector in Advancing Women's Health in Kenya

The private sector is a critical partner in the provision of healthcare. In the 2020/2021 financial year, the private sector contributed to almost 50% of the healthcare services provided in Kenya. Over the years, the private sector has been supporting in:

- Service delivery,
- Innovations,
- Technologies,
- Logistical platforms for RMNCH commodities,
- COVID-19 surveillance,
- Vaccination drives, and
- Technologies that are needed for surgical support e.g. anti-shocker garment for emergency bleeding.

There are more opportunities for private sector to support in providing the best sustainable healthcare model to the public. Below are some of the areas private sector can partner with the government to enhance women's health in Kenya:

- The private sector can bring fundamental changes to the way health services are delivered in Kenya. The Public-Private Dialogue can strengthen policymaking and create momentum for reform.
- Public-Private Partnerships can assist the Government in lowering the nation's disease burden.
- Provision of low-cost health insurance products and schemes.
- Establishing private healthcare facilities with low-cost services across all the 47 counties
- Focusing on financing insurance and human resources.

- The private sector can lobby counties to continuously invest in health infrastructure especially level II and III hospitals, which will promote access to preventive services
- Provision of E-Health and mobile health services.
- Local manufacture of generics and own brand pharmaceuticals.

The pandemic accelerated opportunities for the private sector to multiply investments in the health sector value chain, human resource strengthening, and supporting health insurance, through marketing, digitization, asset management, claims management etc. Investing in our women, girls and children promises a significant social impact.

To accelerate the journey to self-reliance, there is an opportunity for the private sector to take up a larger share of healthcare expenditure. This can be done by deploying innovative health products and services which leverage the expanding coverage of health insurance and serve a rising proportion of people who can afford less subsidized healthcare.

Public and private sector stakeholders continue to play a crucial role in equipping local manufacturers to enhance their capacities, e.g COVID-19 Fund Board that enhances production and distribution of Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs). Additionally, local manufacturing can be strengthened by the private sector through:

- Capacity building of local manufacturers through adequate training and education is essential to ensuring their future.
- The provision of various incentives to promote stakeholder investment in the sector. This will contribute to Kenya's GDP.
- Providing a stable and predictable industrial policy environment. This can be achieved through industrialization and consultation with healthcare stakeholders.

5.2 Initiatives that Support Women's Health in Kenya

- Kenya Vision 2030 Social Health Protection Programme: The national health insurance scheme is set to become the largest source of healthcare sector financing by 2030 in Kenya.
- The government of Kenya has initiated free maternity services through the Linda Mama Program/Free Maternity Cover, to eliminate financial barriers to scale up maternal health services. The program has registered over one million expectant mothers during the 2020/2021.

- Through Beyond Zero, an initiative of the H.E. Margaret Kenyatta, the First Lady, Republic of Kenya, It has ensured that no lady is left behind to access maternal health services.
- The Maternal and Child Hospital at Kenyatta National Hospital is being built through the Medical Tourism Programme, which aims to market Kenya as a center for specialist healthcare. Through hospital, access will be provided to services like labour and maternity wards, children wards, maternity theatres among others.
- Ten fully functional county-level chemotherapy centers in several county referral hospitals have been established.
- The National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) has come up with the Health Insurance subsidy programme for the poor, elderly, and persons living with disabilities.

“The KMTCC is the largest health training institution in Sub-Saharan Africa in human resources for health. A Public-Private Partnership can help accord accommodation to students in more than 72 campuses in 44 counties.”

Dr. Kelly Oluoch
Ag. Chief Executive Officer
KMTCC

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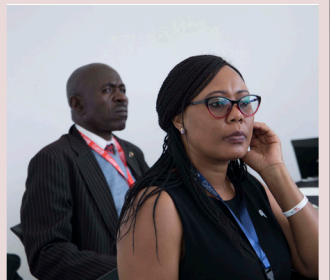
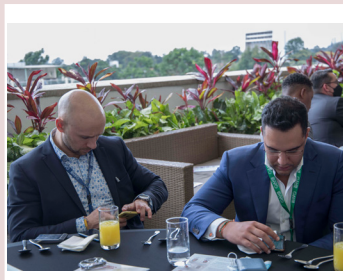
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