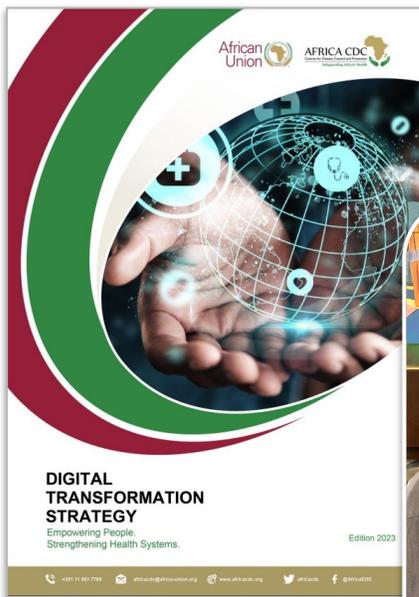# INFORMATICS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT:
AFRICAN EPIDEMIC SERVICE PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATICS FELLOWSHIP

OVERVIEW

DIGI is partnering with Africa CDC to launch the **Africa Epidemic Service Public Health Informatics** (AES-PHI) fellowship program. This fellowship is part of Africa CDC's continental digital health transformation strategy. Partners in developing and launching the AES-PHI fellowship include: the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), PATH, and Resolve to Save Lives.
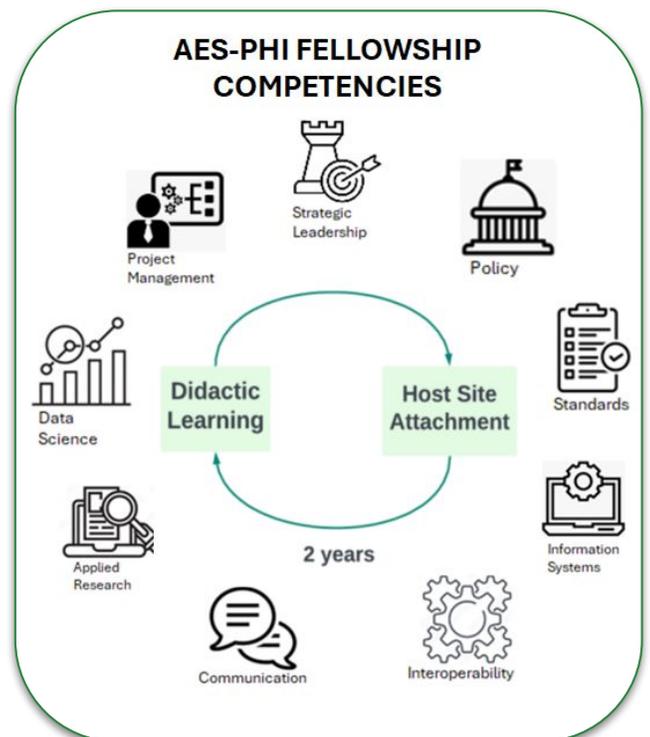

CHALLENGE

As part of the African Union's Digital Transformation Strategy, Africa CDC has a mandate to strengthen the capacity of its 55 Member States and their public health institutions to detect, prevent, control and respond quickly and effectively to disease threats. Addressing the critical workforce gap in health informatics on the African continent is a key goal for Africa CDC.

SOLUTION

The AES-PHI program is designed to address by **developing advanced leaders in public health informatics**, through a two-year fellowship training program. The AES-PHI fellowship uses an applied learning model, where fellows spend approximately 15% of their time in classroom-based learning and 85% of their time in field-based learning placements within National Public Health Institutes and Ministries of Health.

The **AES-PHI fellowship is one of three applied fellowship tracks – including applied epidemiology and laboratory services – that seek to cultivate a new generation of health leaders** working in multidisciplinary teams to prevent and control disease threats across national borders.

AES-PHI FELLOWSHIP COMPETENCIES

INFORMATICS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT:
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RESULTS

> Supported Africa CDC to form a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) of public health informatics experts from across the African continent, to advise AES-PHI through in-person and virtual meetings.

> Validated informatics competencies to ground the AES-PHI curriculum, with input from the AES-PHI TAG.

> Developed a curriculum and learning resources for the 24-month program, including:
>   > Four in-person learning blocks ranging from 3-4 weeks;
>   > Case studies and practical exercises;
>   > Weekly half-day virtual learning sessions when fellows are at their host sites;
>   > Practice-based core activities for learning during applied learning blocks.

> Conducted AES-PHI curriculum validation with subject matter experts from across African member states.

> Implemented AES-PHI learning resources within Africa CDC's online learning management system (LMS).

> Developed monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan and tools for AES-PHI.

SUSTAINING SUCCESS

The UW DIGI and PATH teams have helped Africa CDC position itself for the launch of AES-PHI, by defining criteria for selection of fellows and faculty, and designing the AES-PHI faculty and host site orientation. UW is working together with all project partners as part of the Africa CDC-led core team to ensure that all decisions and planning are aligned with Africa CDC's strategies and procedures.

PARTNERS

AFRICA CDC
Centres for Disease Control and Prevention
Safeguarding Africa's Health

CDC
CENTERS FOR DISEASE
Control and Prevention

PATH

RESOLVE
TO SAVE LIVES

LET'S COLLABORATE!

To learn more about DIGI, please email us at **digit@uw.edu** or visit **uwdigi.org** and **healthinformationexchange.org**