STREPP Health for Africa

Issue 1 | October 2026

Facilitators and Participants (Cohort one- Trainers of Trainees) at the PAHLCA Implementation Research and Implementation Science (IRI) Training, Cape Town, 23–26 September 2026: A Ministry of Health Scenario-based Implementation Science Training Curriculum.

Building Implementation Science Capacity for Ministry of Health Officers for Stronger HIV Programmes Across Africa

Cape Town, South Africa | 23–26 September 2026

With support from ViiV Healthcare Limited, Supporting Translation of Research and Evidence-Based Interventions into Policy and Practice for Africa (STREPP Health for Africa) convened the Paediatric and Adolescent HIV Learning Collaborative for Africa (PAHLCA) Implementation Research Institute (IRI) Training in collaboration with HIGH-IRI (HIV, Infectious Disease and Global Health Implementation Research Institute).

The four-day training brought together Ministry of Health teams and national programme leads working in paediatric and adolescent HIV, Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission (PMTCT), from **11 African countries: Uganda, Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal, Kenya, Mozambique, Malawi, Tanzania, Angola, Côte d'Ivoire and South Africa.**

Dr. Eleanor Namusoke facilitating a session on how to conduct a performance and outcome gap analysis for a national program during the PAHLCA IRI Training, Cape Town, 23–26 September 2026.

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From evidence to practice

Dr. Eleanor Namusoke facilitating a session on how to conduct a performance and outcome gap analysis for a national program during the PAHLCA IRI Training, Cape Town, 23–26 September 2026.

Led by Dr. Eleanor Namusoke Magongo, the founder of STREPP Health for Africa (PAHLCA, IPHASA) with trainers from Uganda, participants examined real-world programme challenges and explored practical approaches for translating evidence into policy and practice.

Prof. Elvin H Geng of Washington University in St. Louis (WashU) facilitating a session on applying implementation science to HIV programme challenges during the PAHLCA IRI Training, Cape Town, 23–26 September 2026.

Prof. Elvin H. Geng of Washington University in St. Louis (WashU), a Principal Investigator for HIGH-IRI, provided mentorship and helped guide the training content, supporting teams to apply implementation science to their programme priorities.

Learning across countries

Dr. James John Kamuga from Tanzania presenting country experiences and HIV programme challenges during the PAHLCA IRI Training, Cape Town, 23–26 September 2026.

Country presentations, discussions and group work enabled participants to share experiences across the paediatric HIV, PMTCT and HTS cascades, explore common challenges, and learn from approaches used in different national settings.

We thank all participants for sharing their country experiences, contributing to the discussions, and making the training a valuable exchange of knowledge and practice.

Continuing beyond Cape Town

Through continued mentorship and follow-up support, country teams will build on the ideas developed during the training and apply them within their programmes. The first step will be to utilize the knowledge and skills acquired in conducting a program gap analysis to identify and prioritize country specific challenges to be addressed. Participants will receive ongoing mentorship to build a robust cadre of Pediatric and Adolescent HIV champions across Africa.

Our appreciation goes to ViiV Healthcare, participating Ministries of Health for releasing their staff, Dr. Eleanor Namusoke Magongo, Prof. Elvin H. Geng, the training team, Mildmay Uganda and all participants. Learn more about STREPP Health for Africa at https://strepphealthafrica.org/

Next PAHLCA IRI cohort

A further 12 countries are scheduled to participate in PAHLCA IRI training from 23–27 November 2026. The training will continue to strengthen Ministry of Health teams' capacity to identify programme gaps and apply implementation science to national HIV priorities.

Webinar highlights

[Kyomm to add a short paragraph on the abstract-writing webinar and the peer webinar, including their dates and key highlights.]

PAHLCA 30 11 26

IPHASA 02 12 26

Upcoming PAHLCA and IPHASA meetings

PAHLCA 2026 | 30 November–1 December 2026

Pretoria, South Africa. The pre-IPHASA workshop will bring Ministry of Health teams and partners together to share experiences in integrating paediatric and adolescent HIV services into primary health care.

IPHASA 2026 | 2–4 December 2026

Pretoria, South Africa. The symposium will bring researchers, policymakers and implementers together to share evidence and approaches to improve HIV outcomes for children and adolescents.

[IPHASA team to add a brief conference update and any additional registration guidance.]

Join PAHLCA and IPHASA

PAHLCA brings Ministry of Health teams and partners together to exchange practical approaches to paediatric and adolescent HIV programming. IPHASA provides a platform for sharing research and innovations that can improve national programmes. We encourage colleagues to register and join these opportunities for learning and collaboration.

Create a STREPP member account first to access registration, submissions and subsequent communications. Visit the programme pages for guidance:

PAHLCA: https://strepphealthafrica.org/pahlca-2/

IPHASA: https://strepphealthafrica.org/iphasa/