

Introduction

The healthcare industry in Africa is continuously evolving and expanding beyond clinical practice. Enjoyment of the right to health, a fundamental part of the human right, is hinged upon the proper functioning of health systems. Health systems in Africa are inundated by multiple challenges including inadequate human resources, poor infrastructure, and a lack of political will. Additionally, African governments' spending on health and healthcare financing is way below par creating impediments towards achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC). These challenges were intensified in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. The path towards reform and recovery of health systems in Africa must prioritize knowledge transfer, training, and human resource development, among other strategies.

Knowledge of how health systems function, based on the World Health Organization (WHO) building blocks, is dismal among young healthcare workers and undergraduates pursuing healthcare courses in Africa. Many young people interested in venturing into this field, find themselves ill-equipped after their undergraduate training. The AHSLI Programme has been curated by Africa Health Business (AHB) to address this gap. The programme is designed to develop leadership skills, foster knowledge and innovation in African health systems, create spaces for collaboration and networking, and provide a platform for young leaders to shape their role in strengthening healthcare systems in Africa.

The programme will be a half-day programme with topical presentations, sessions, and group discussions facilitated by experts in health systems.

Objective

The objective of the AHSLI programme is to equip young healthcare professionals with basic knowledge and skills in Health Systems, Engaging Stakeholders in Health, and Personal Development.

Expected outcomes

At the completion of the programme, participants will be able to:

1. Define key concepts associated with Health Systems based on the WHO building blocks
2. Develop an understanding of Health Systems in Africa
3. Understand who the stakeholders in health are and how to engage them
4. Interact closely with experts in healthcare
5. Identify opportunities in health beyond clinical practice
6. Appreciate the importance of Personal Development, including the activities involved
7. Have an opportunity to join the AHB talent acquisition pool
8. Obtain a professional certificate

Topics

1. Overview of Health Systems

- WHO Building Blocks in Health Systems
- Africa Health Systems (Challenges and Opportunities)

2. Engaging Stakeholders

- Who are the different stakeholders in Health
- How to effectively engage stakeholders

3. Personal Development

- Why is Personal Development important?
- What steps are involved in Personal Development?

Registration Requirements:

1. Early career Healthcare worker i.e 0-3 years post-undergraduate (Degree in Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, or Nursing)
2. Undergraduate student in the final year (Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, or Nursing)
3. Registration fee of KShs. 1,000

Program

Activity	Time (EAT)	Speakers
Registration	8:45am - 9:00am	Victor Mwanza Management Associate Africa Health Business
Welcome Remarks	9:00am - 9:15am	Dr. Amit Thakker Executive Chairman Africa Health Business
Trainers' introduction	9:15am - 9:30am	Marloes Kibacha Managing Director Africa Health Business
Personal Development	9:30am - 10:30am	Dr. Daniella Munene Head of Consulting Africa Health Business
Tea Break	10:30am - 10:50am	
Health Systems	10:50am - 11:50am	Dr. Amit Thakker Executive Chairman Africa Health Business
Healthcare Stakeholders	11:50am - 12:20pm	Marloes Kibacha Managing Director Africa Health Business
Open forum	12:20am - 13:00pm	All trainers
Lunch and networking	12:20am - 13:00pm	

Speaker Profiles



Dr. Amit Thakker
Executive Chairman
Africa Health Business

A visionary entrepreneur and an industry captain, Dr. Amit N. Thakker, has been a ground-breaking pioneer in the integration of private sector within the healthcare system in Africa. Dr Thakker actively supports governments, corporates, health organisations and development partners to foster effective public private partnership initiatives towards improved health outcomes.

He is the executive chairman of Africa Health Business, a health consultancy, advisory and investment firm that aims to improve access to quality affordable healthcare in Africa. He is also the president of Africa Healthcare Federation, chairperson of the Kenya Health Professionals Oversight Authority, and the former chairman of Kenya Healthcare Federation. He has served as a director at LumiraDx, Seven Seas Technology, AMREF Flying Doctors. Action Aid and Ghanima Limited.

As an active member of several institutions including international business group YPO Gold (Nairobi Chapter), Dr. Thakker also chairs the University of Nairobi Alumni Medical Chapter and serves as an advisor to Asia Africa Investing & Consulting Ltd, Coalition for Blood in Africa (CoBA) and Ministry of Health, Kenya.

Dr. Thakker founded Avenue Healthcare, a Kenyan based integrated private health service provider in 1995 which led him to receive the “Best Male Entrepreneur of the Year” award by Rotary International in 1999. He also won the “Best CEO” award by Titans Global in the Business and Professional services category in 2017 and proudly received the Chairman’s Award for Kenya Medical Association in 2004.



Marloes Kibacha
Managing Director
Africa Health Business

Mrs. Marloes Kibacha holds the position of Managing Director at Africa Health Business. She has been a pivotal member of the company co-founding it in 2015, launching the flagship product - the Africa Health Business Symposium and growing the company into a full-fledged consultancy and advisory firm serving some of the largest institutions, companies, and investors on the African continent and beyond.

Marloes Kibacha has more than 12 years experience in healthcare research, consultancy, and advisory services in Africa. She has strong and extensive network in the wider African and East African (private) healthcare space in particular.

She holds a Master of Arts in Public Administration and Organizational Sciences, a Bachelor of Science in Cultural Anthropology and Sociology of non-Western cultures both from Utrecht University, The Netherlands and a Certificate in Proficiency (Health) obtained from the College of Insurance, Nairobi – Kenya.

Marloes previously worked for the Kenya Healthcare Federation (Kenya) and the Investment Fund for Health in Africa (The Netherlands). Marloes has also worked with other organisations including Palladium, Swedfund, WorldBank, PharmAccess Foundation, Sanofi, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Nairobi, UNFPA, Malteser International, IBM, BroadReach Healthcare, Abt. Associates, and others.

Marloes’ area of expertise is in capacity building, having provided overall oversight for projects such as the Grand Challenges Canada project where AHB was supporting innovators to build their internal capacity and strengthen their governance to transition to scale.

Besides her role at Africa Health Business, Marloes is the founder and board member of Imarika Initiative, a small-scale community program that supports mentally disabled children and their families in Mukuru Slum, Nairobi.

Speaker Profiles



Dr. Daniella Munene
Head of Consultancy
Africa Health Business

A pharmaceutical professional with over 13 years' experience in strategic planning, business development, team leadership, and management of key stakeholder relationships in health. Over the course of her career, Daniella has focused on quality management systems for the health supply chain, as well as organizational regulatory compliance.

Dr. Daniella is one of the directors at Kenya Healthcare Federation and immediate former CEO of the Pharmaceutical Society of Kenya (PSK) role where she was involved in shaping policy and strategies and formation of key networks in government. Daniella has also worked with communities, youth, and marginalized groups.

Dr. Daniella has a track record of a solid, successful career in drug regulatory affairs with rich exposure to organizational regulatory and ethical compliance as well as maintenance of regulatory dossiers and licenses.