

# Session 5: Distance Learning and Dolutegravir Controversy

Engaging in Collaborative Hands-On Learning: Building the Response in Africa

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# Engaging in Collaborative Hands-On Learning: Building the Response in Africa

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# Introduction

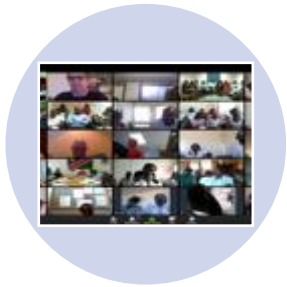
- Africa
  - World's second-largest and second-most populous continent.
  - Poorest and least-developed continent
- Health
  - Affected the most by HIV
  - Challenges with other diseases such as TB and Malaria
  - NCDs also rising in Africa
  - Shortage of human resources
  - Inaccessibility of health services

# Project ECHO - Introduction



- ECHO
  - Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes
- Guided-practice model that reduces health disparities in under-served and remote areas.
- Model uses a hub-and-spoke knowledge-sharing approach where expert teams lead virtual clinics, amplifying the capacity for providers to learn and share best practices

# The ECHO Model



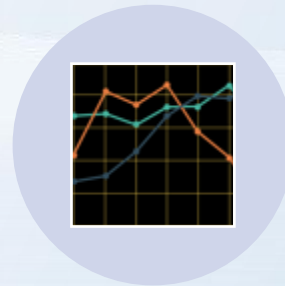
Leverage Technology



Case-Based Learning



Sharing Best Practices

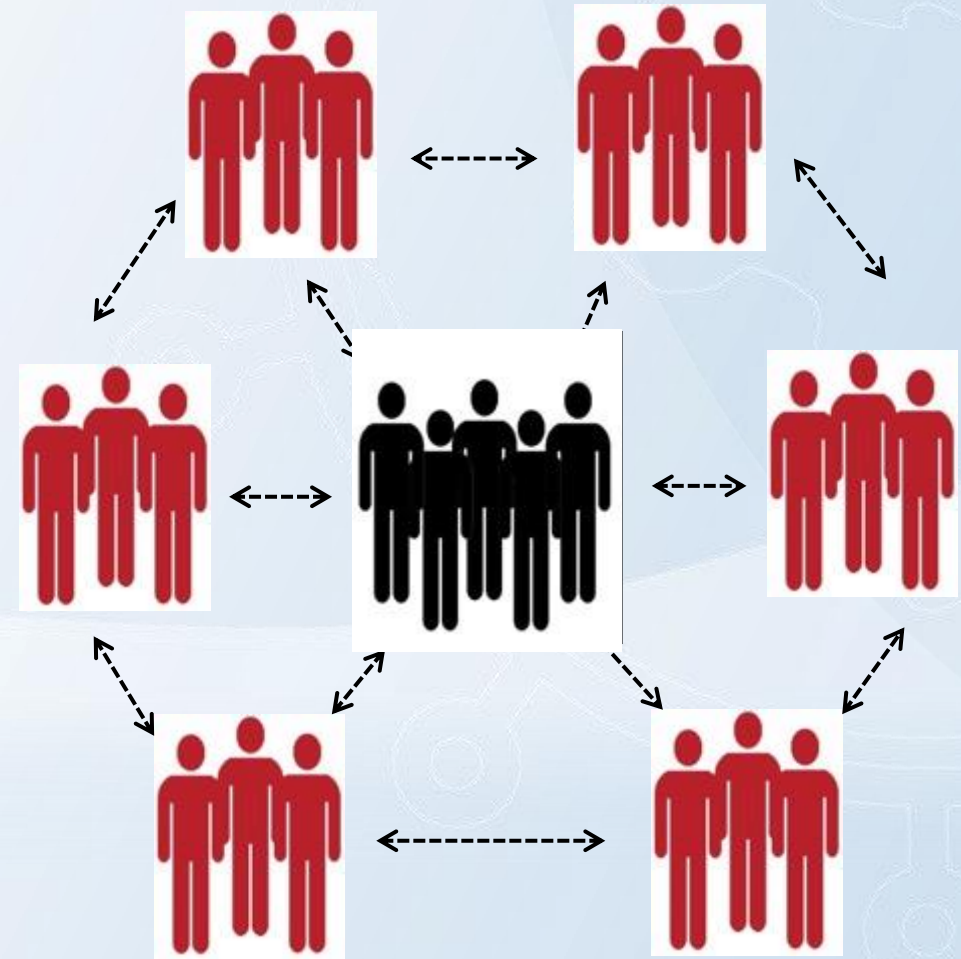


Monitor and Evaluate Outcomes



# Collaborative Hands-On Learning

- Interactive Learning Environment
- Co-management of Cases
- Learning by doing
- Learning from didactics
- Learning from each other
- Collaborative Problem Solving
- On going mentorship



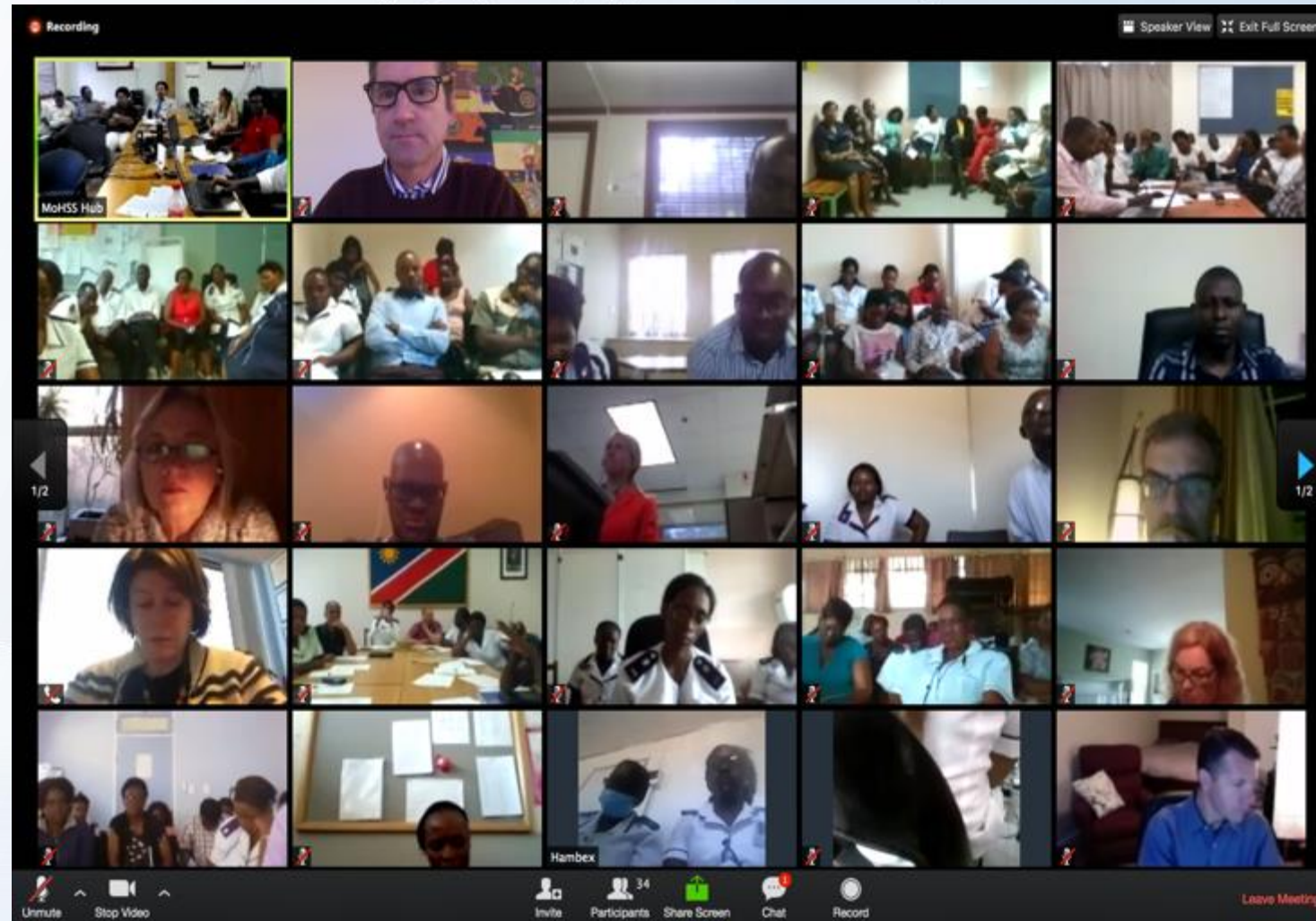
# Namibia HIV ECHO November 2015

First African Country to implement this model in 2015.

Care and Treatment HIV Program which started in 10 sites.

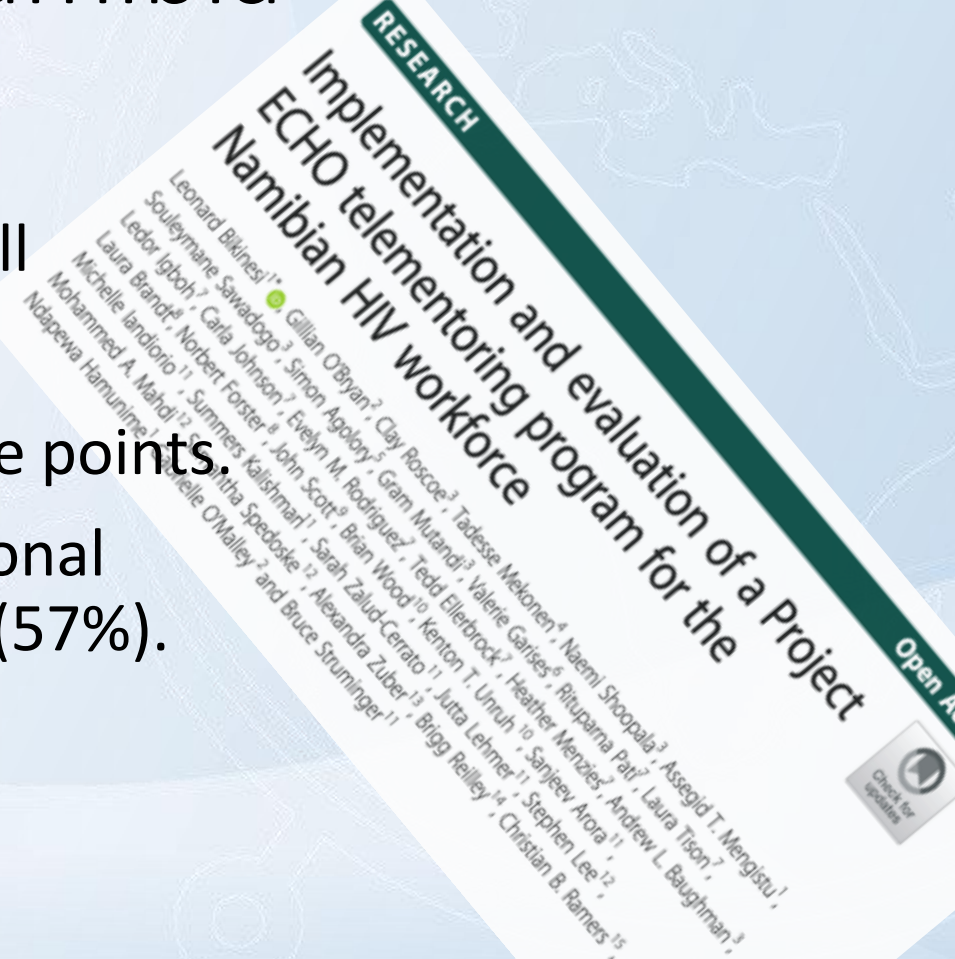
Model was to address:

- High HIV burden in the country
- Lack of human resources in peripheral clinics
- Long distances between clinics and referral sites



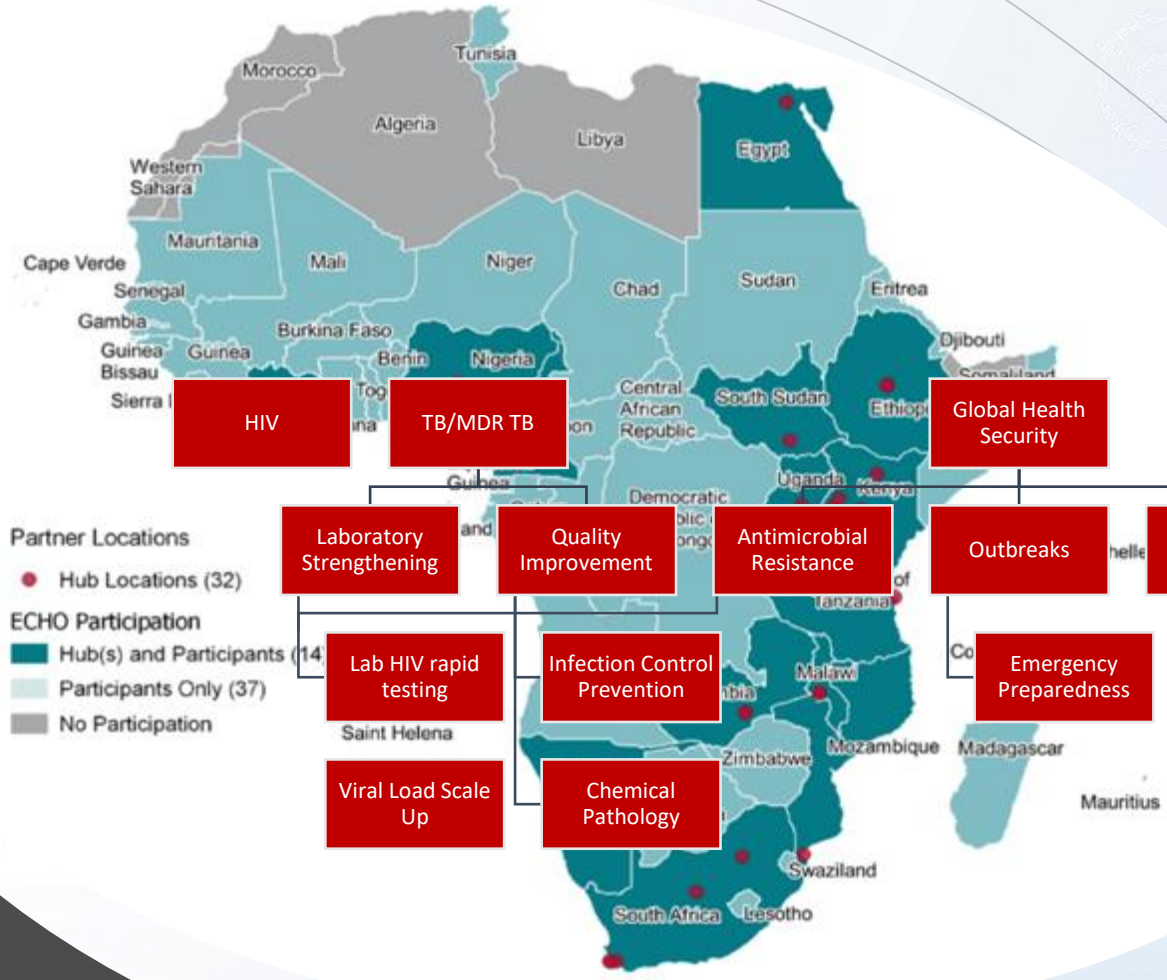
# Results of Implementation: Namibia

- Knowledge of clinical HIV improved 17.8% overall (95% confidence interval 12.2-23.5%).
- Professional satisfaction increased 30 percentage points.
- Most participants experienced reduced professional isolation (66%) and improved CPD credit access (57%).
- Overall improvement in the HIV program goal
- Reduction of HIV referrals
- Management of HIV drug resistance cases by registered nurses at peripheral clinics





# ECHO In Africa



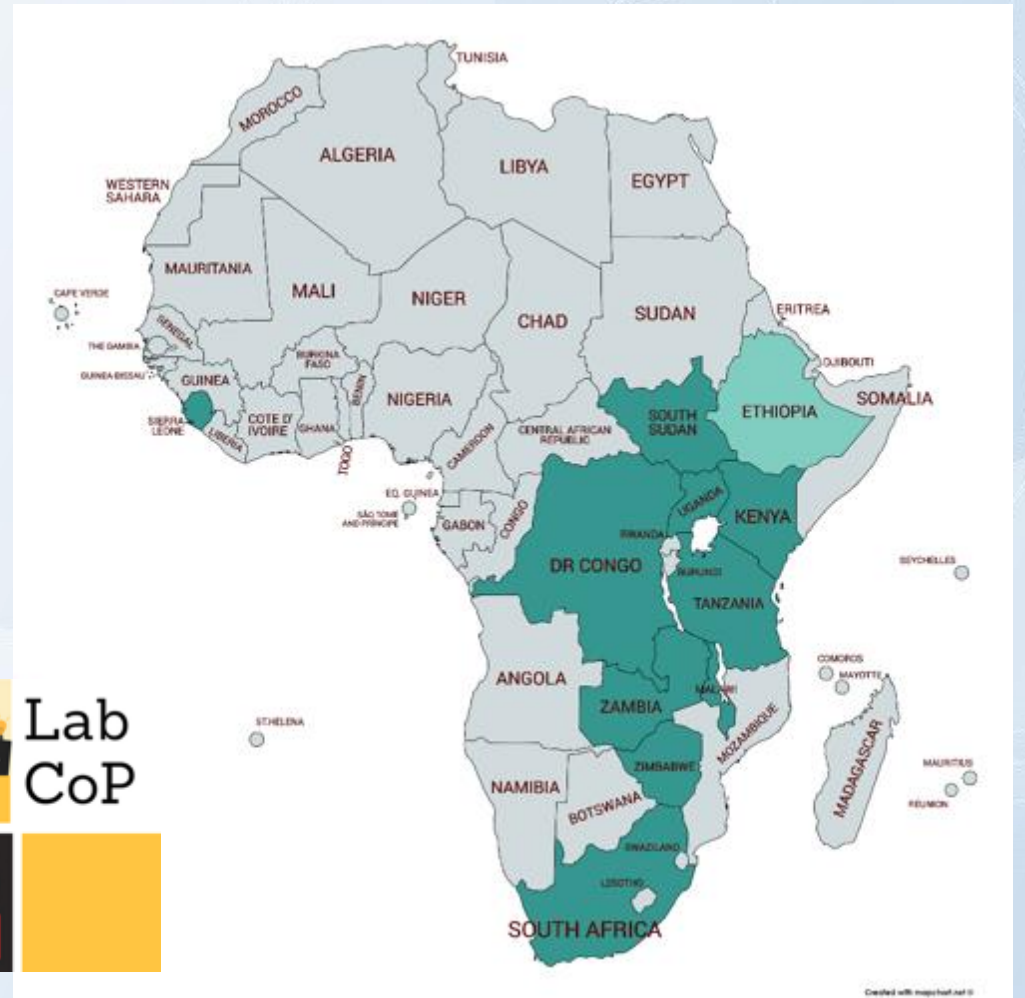
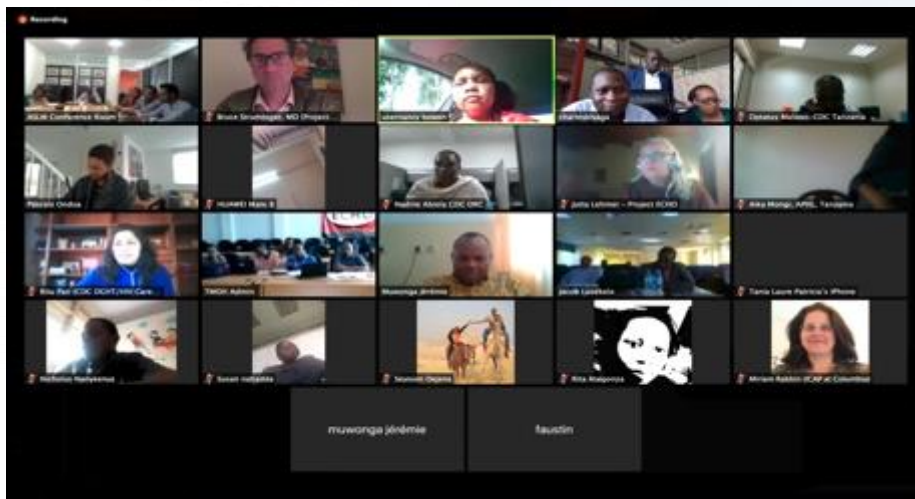
# Kenya MDR TB ECHO – August 2016





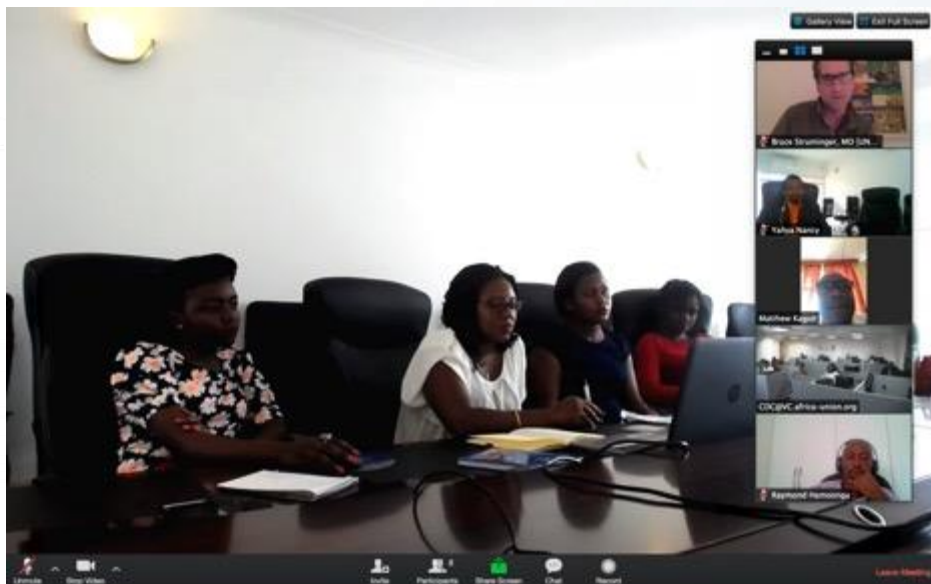
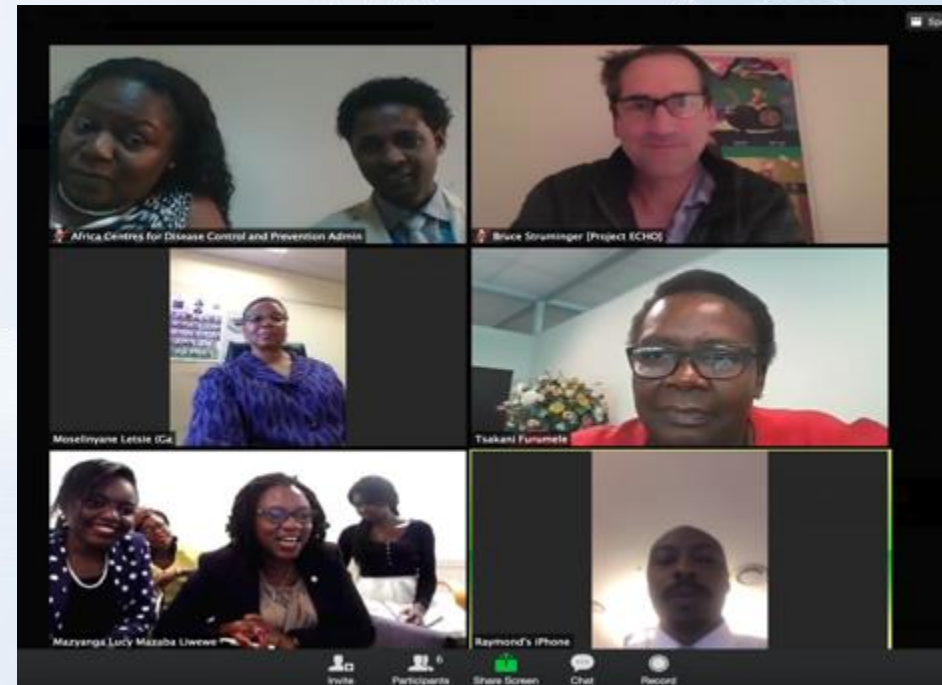
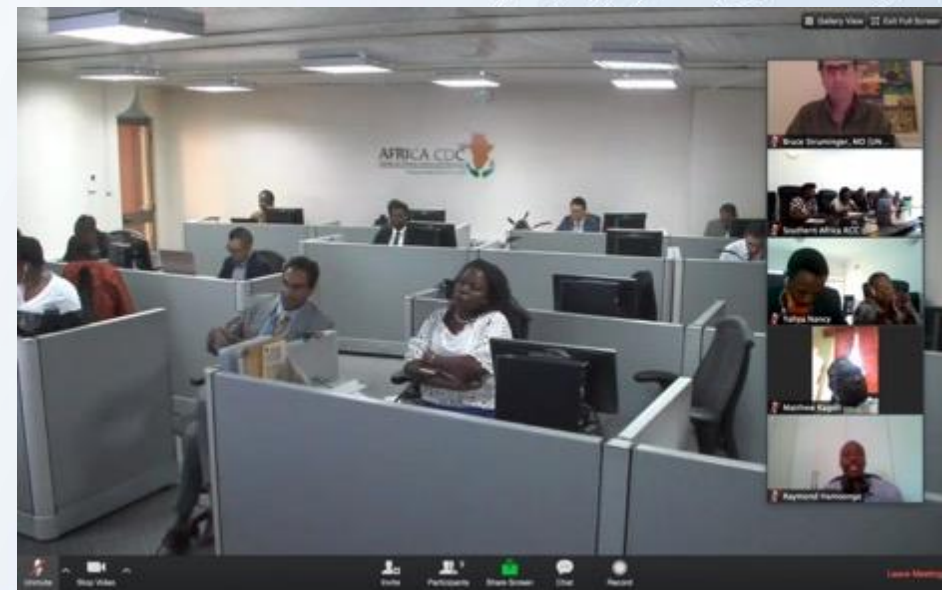
# African Society of Laboratory Medicine LabCoP ECHO – Launched December 2017

- Monthly Lab Community of Practice connects eleven countries in Western and Southern Africa (Launch December 2017)
- Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Sierra Leone, Kenya, Malawi, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe



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**Southern and Central  
Regional Collaborative Centers  
for the Africa CDC  
Discussing outbreak reports  
on Cholera, Monkeypox,  
outbreak surveillance in Congo,  
Antimicrobial Resistance in Zambia**





# Infection Control Africa Network

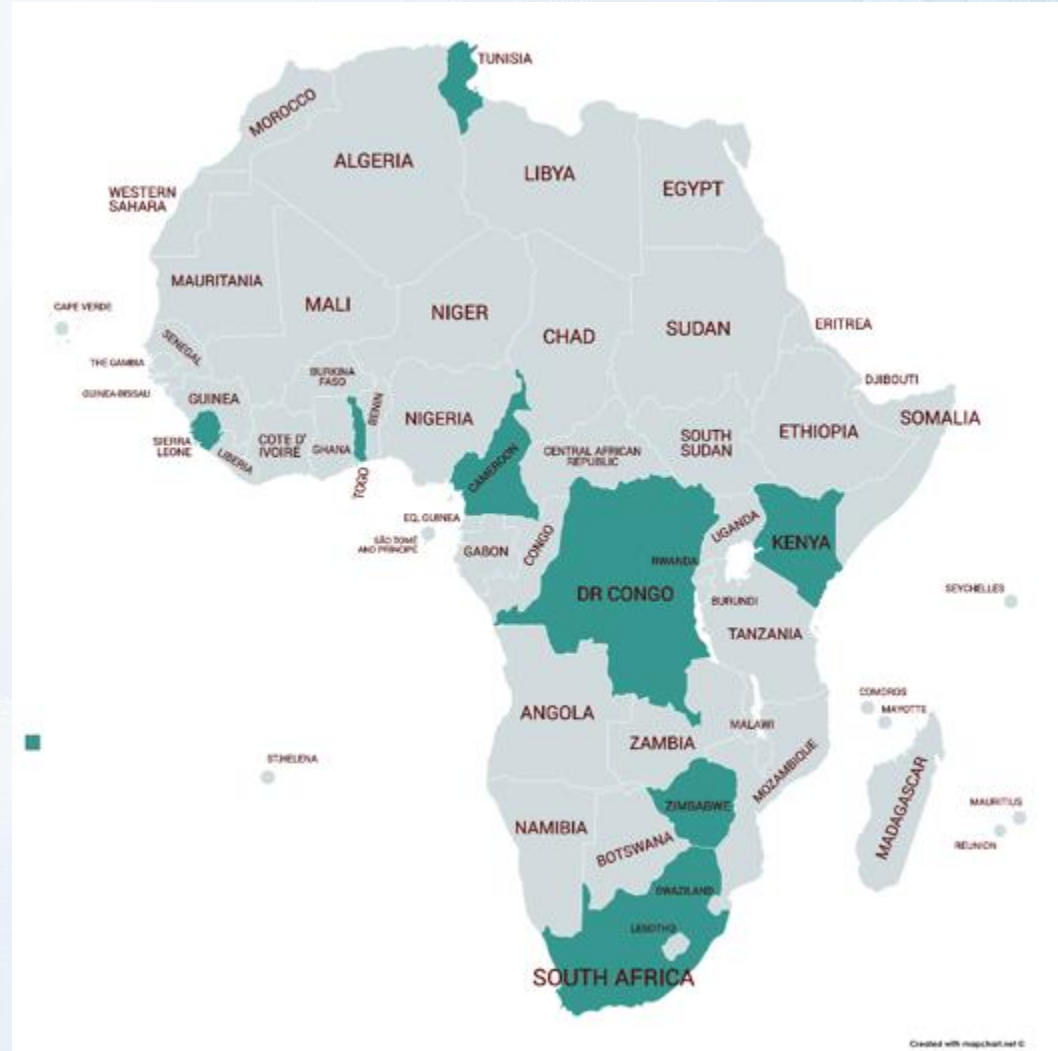


Infection Control  
Africa Network

ICAN connects nine countries in Africa to share best practices on Infection Control Prevention

Launched after Western Cape pilot in South Africa in July 2018

**Countries:** DR Congo, Tanzania, Kenya, Cameroon, South Africa, Togo, Sierra Leone, Tunisia, Zimbabwe



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# Covid-19 And ECHO in Africa

# Covid-19 Human Resources Impact

- Increased Inaccessibility of health services:
  - Movement restrictions in most regions
- Shortage of Specialists or experts
- Inadequate knowledge of health care workers
  - IPC
  - Triaging
  - High care
- Quarantine or isolation of health care workers

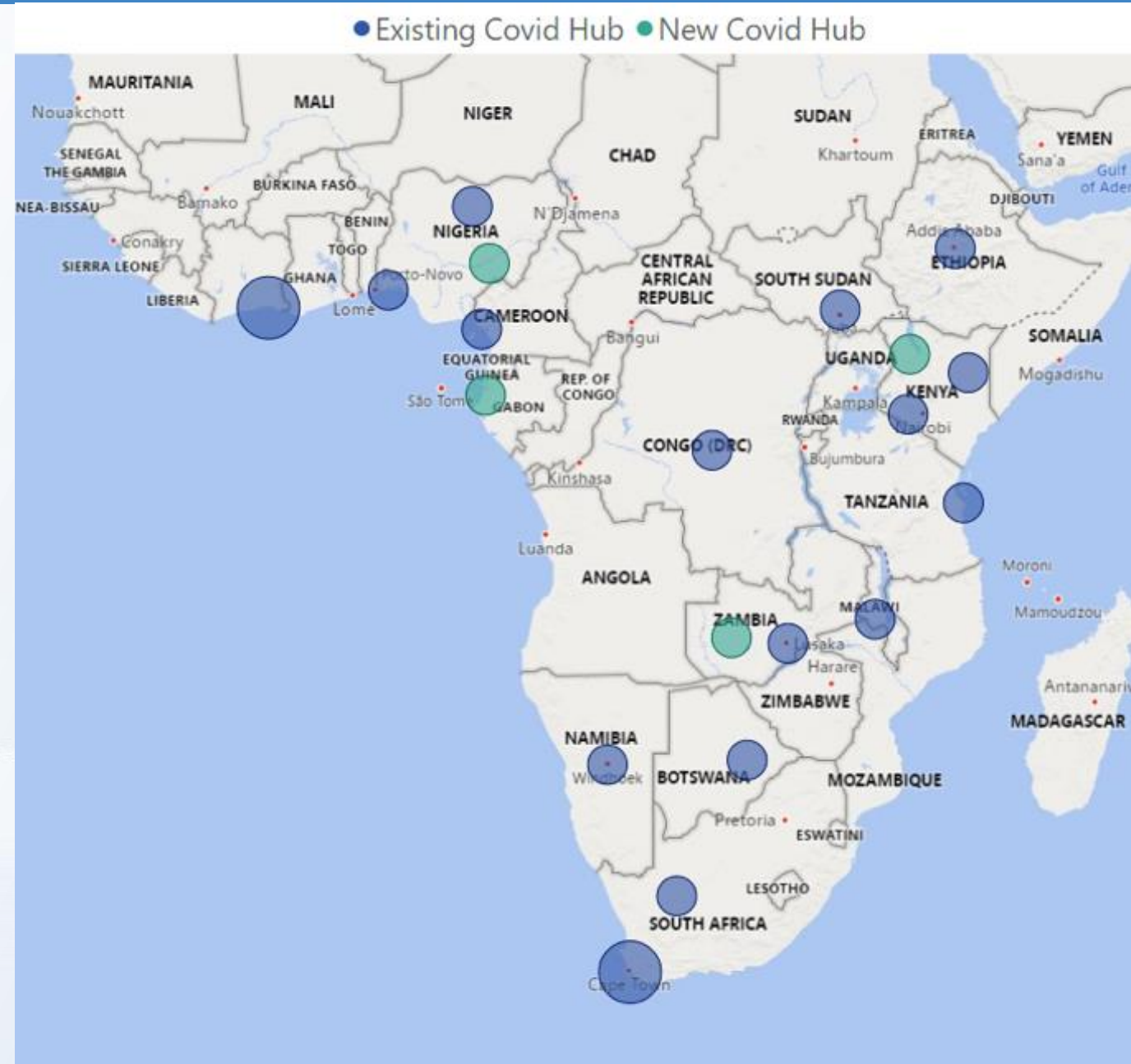
# ECHO Leveraging During Covid-19

- Training on COVID-19
  - Case Management
  - Surveillance
  - Laboratory
- IPC for Health care workers and for Patients
- Continuity of care during Covid-19



# Africa Update

- 22 existing hubs have run 28 Covid-19 ECHO programs
- 10 new ECHO COVID-19 hubs were established in Africa as of Sep 2020
- Since March, 54,814 healthcare workers have attended life-saving information about COVID-19 ECHO sessions.



# Looking Ahead

- ECHO has more uses
  - Covid-19 Vaccine administering
  - Maternal and Child health programs
  - Paediatric HIV Care
- ECHO collaboratives to bridge gaps and standardize care across countries
  - Outbreaks involving several neighbouring countries
- Reach the community
- Collaborative research and publication development.

# Thank You

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