

# Digital health in West Africa

---

## Overview - Francophone Africa



# Context: A health system needing adjustment

## Overview



**2 doctors per 10,000 inhabitants  
versus 32 per 10,000 inhabitants  
in Europe**

**12 nurse-midwives per 10,000  
inhabitants versus 82 per 10,000  
inhabitants in Europe**

**Highest mortality and morbidity  
in the world with no funding**

The WHO is convinced that the use of e-health can make a real contribution to improving the health system - e-health components are: HR, financing, medical products, information, care.

**E-HEALTH: Would help to achieve Universal Health Coverage**

# Context: Digital health as an accelerator

PWC Survey 2017 - Do you know what m-health means?

61% in emerging or developing countries, compared to 37% in Europe and America

In 2017, the number of active m-Health services in sub-Saharan Africa had increased by more than 58% compared to the previous year

Adoption is more advanced in Africa than in Europe and the US - Like mobile money in Africa

80%+ mobile penetration rate - Developing digital technology infrastructure

GSMA: 80% of connections in Africa are from smartphones

GSMA (Global Mobile Operators Association) survey:

Number of m-health projects identified worldwide: many more in Africa than in Europe and the US

# Context: A competitive and open market

Aujourd'hui cela se traduit par le fait que des sociétés américaines ou européennes décident de s'installer ou de commercialiser leurs produits en Afrique avant de se développer dans leur propre pays.

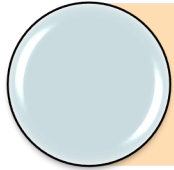
## Contraints

**Creating or requesting adjustments**

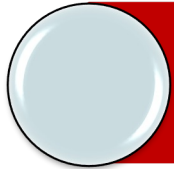
**Creating disruptions to the way traditional care systems work**

**Legal and regulatory constraints**

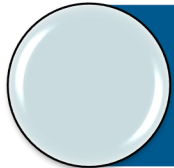
# Some examples



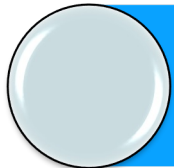
**Delivery of blood bags in Rwanda by drone supported by ZIPLINE**  
behind it - trialled in the US but encountered bottlenecks.



**Babyl: Babylone - Telemedicine service - Connect with your doctor –**  
**2,500,000 subscribers in Rwanda in 3 years. Babylon health care - UK company**



**Sophia: Diagnostic solution that allows 30 diagnostic tests to be carried out and analysed in less**  
than 1 hour - US startup solution implemented in India



**LEAP: Nairobi - training health professionals via sms - useful for rural areas**

# Strategy and Financing

## Francophone region - very behind compared to the Anglophone region

- **In terms of a national e-health strategy:** 42% of countries have a digital health strategy compared to 73% for Anglophone Africa
- **In terms of public funding:** 86% of countries are budgeting versus 59% for Anglophone Africa
- **In terms of NGO funding:** 52% of NGOs are involved versus 73% in the Anglophone region

# Strategy and Financing



## In the Anglophone region

- Digital health is funded by private and international institutions: USAID, NORAD, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Tony Blair, etc



## In the Francophone region

- More funding by the States. More efforts are needed from international institutions

# Apercu – Constats majeurs

- **Digital transformation dynamic with a multiplicity of platforms and business and decision support solutions;**
- **Disparate IT platforms and solutions**
- **Most platforms and solutions are not locally managed or hosted;**
- **The enterprise architecture of the health sector is not formalised and seems to be non-existent in many countries;**
- **There is an important need to strengthen human capital in e-health, m-health, etc.;**
- **Lack of baseline and federated data (patient\_IDs, hospitals, meds, etc.)**
- **Need for synchronisation between the public and private sectors**



# Challenges and issues

Putting the patient at the heart of the system

Avoiding implementation, funding silos - systemic vision

**Ensuring system consistency** - Guaranteeing interoperability

Establishing benchmarks

Thinking about regulatory issues - Ensuring rigorous governance

Aligning e-health with the country's strategic health priorities

**and many more.....**

# Thank you for your attention

