



Strengthening Public Health Laboratory Systems and Networks in Africa



In her strive to strengthen public health interventions across Africa, the Africa Centers for Disease Control and prevention (Africa CDC), in collaboration with its implementing partner Global Health Systems Solutions (GHSS), is implementing a series of activities to strengthen public health and laboratory systems and networks in the West and Central Africa regions. This is done through the Regional Integrated Surveillance and Laboratory Network (RISLNET) projects for the West and Central Africa. Within the framework of the implementation of the RISLNET projects for West and Central Africa, GHSS has recorded remarkable impacts in strengthening laboratory systems across all the nine countries in the Central Africa Region and six countries in the West Africa Region:

- 458** Some 458 laboratory personnel from the national public health reference laboratories in the Central Africa Region trained on laboratory Quality Management Systems (QMS), Basic Laboratory Information System (BLIS), Equipment Maintenance and Calibration (EMC), Strengthening Laboratory Management Towards Accreditation (SLMTA), Quality Assurance (QA) and External Quality Assessment (EQA)
- 29** laboratory personnel (laboratory managers and technicians) from six reference laboratories in the West Africa Region trained on biosafety and biosecurity in clinical and medical laboratories and International Federation of Biosafety Associations (IFBA) certification
- 26** POC testers trained on Quality Assurance (QA) and External Quality Assessment (EQA) procedures in the Central Africa Region
- 24** trainers from seven Central Africa states trained on Quality Assurance at Point of Care for Early Infant Diagnosis and External Quality Assessment.
- 21** equipment managers and maintenance technicians from laboratories of seven countries in the Central Africa Region trained on equipment maintenance and calibration
- 18** laboratory professionals from the reference laboratories of six countries in the West Africa Region trained on quality management systems (SLMTA 1 and 2)
- 13** laboratories enrolled for ISO 15189 & WHO accreditation process (seven reference laboratories in Central Africa Region and six others in West Africa Region)
- 09** national laboratory strategic plans and policies developed for all nine countries in the Central Africa Region
- 08** frame work and guideline documents developed for laboratory use and shared with laboratories being supported
- 05** laboratories supported with biosafety cabinets certification and or donation in countries within the Central Africa Region
- 04** Laboratories four countries in the Central Africa Regions benefit from C4G Basic Laboratory Information Systems (BLIS)
- 01** Extension for Community Health Outcome (ECHO) launched at GHSS in Douala-Cameroon to supervise seven labs enrolled for accreditation