



# WHO Kenya

Working for better health  
for everyone, everywhere.



World Health  
Organization

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Kenya



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# We champion health and a better future for all.

The World Health Organization (WHO) is the lead specialized agency of the United Nations system, with a mandate to direct and coordinate international health, and to provide expert technical support to all countries in respect of health matters.

The mission of WHO is to promote health, keep the world safe and serve the vulnerable.

A photograph of two women shaking hands in a rural setting. The woman on the left is wearing a light blue safety vest over a pink shirt and dark pants. The woman on the right is wearing a white shawl over a green patterned dress and a green headwrap. They are standing in front of a simple, light-colored building with a corrugated metal roof. The background shows lush green trees.

**Welcome! And thank you for your support.**





## Background & **Areas of Work**

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The World Health Organization (WHO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations, responsible for international public health. Established in 1948, WHO operates in more than 150 countries and collaborates with governments, health authorities, and other stakeholders to **promote health, keep the world safe, and serve the vulnerable**. In Kenya, WHO works closely with the Ministry of Health and partners to improve health outcomes and ensure that every Kenyan has equitable access to quality healthcare.

WHO Kenya supports key areas including health systems strengthening, disease prevention, health data, and emergency preparedness, aligning its efforts with national health priorities. Through technical assistance and capacity-building, WHO Kenya helps drive critical health strategies, from universal health coverage to tackling communicable and non-communicable diseases, strengthening the health workforce, and expanding access to essential services across counties.

In emergency preparedness and response, WHO Kenya collaborates with the Ministry of Health to strengthen Kenya's ability to prepare for and manage health emergencies effectively. By enhancing rapid response capabilities, supporting robust surveillance, and fostering multi-sectoral coordination, WHO Kenya works to build resilience in Kenya's health security, supporting sustainable progress toward national and global health goals.

# Core Functions of the WHO



## PARTNERSHIPS

Providing leadership on matters critical to health and engaging in partnerships where joint action is needed



## RESEARCH

Shaping the research agenda and stimulating the generation, translation, and dissemination of valuable knowledge



## POLICY

Articulating ethical and evidence-based policy options



## CAPACITY

Providing technical support, catalysing change, and building sustainable institutional capacity



## STANDARDS

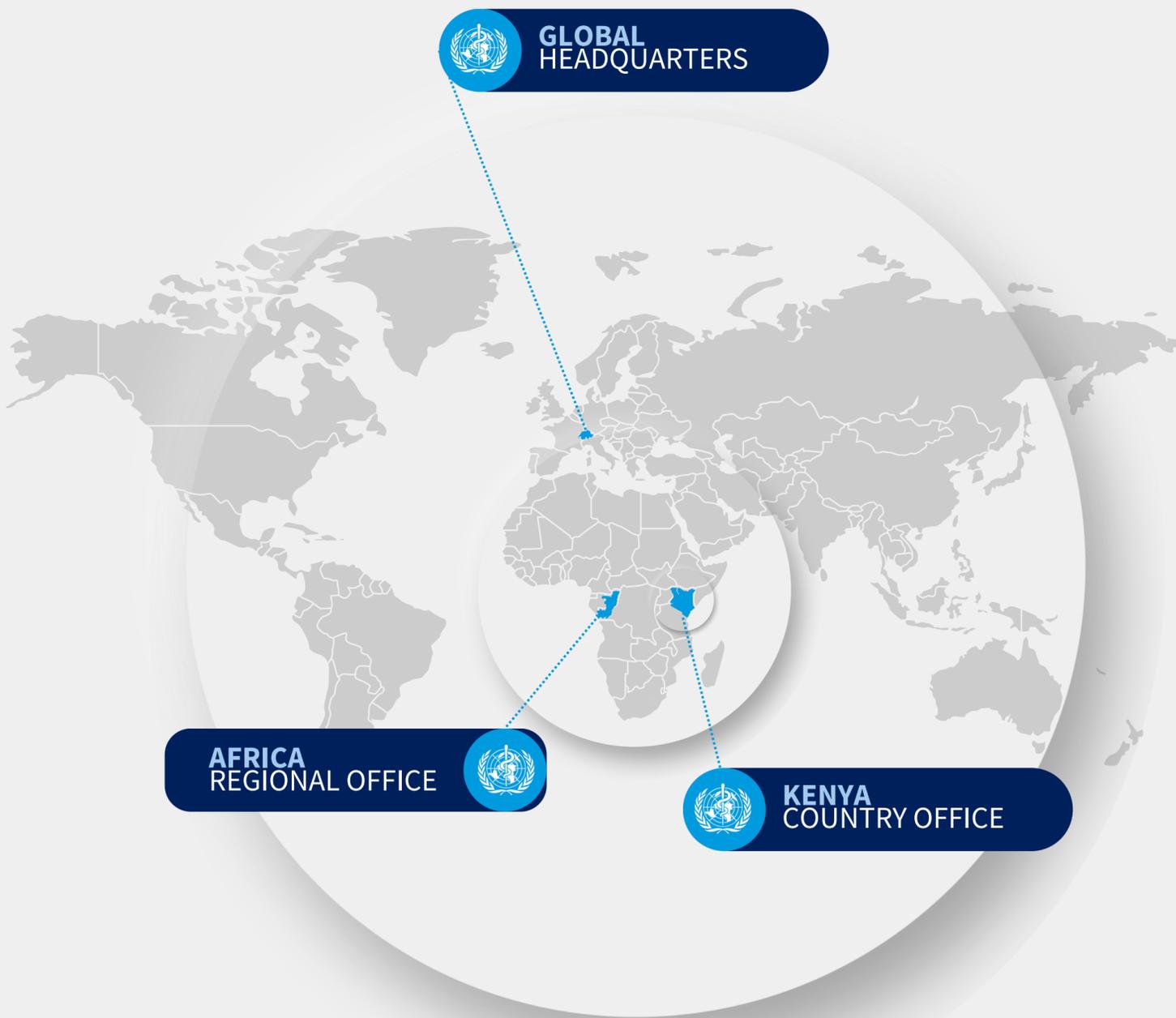
Setting norms and standards and promoting and monitoring their implementation



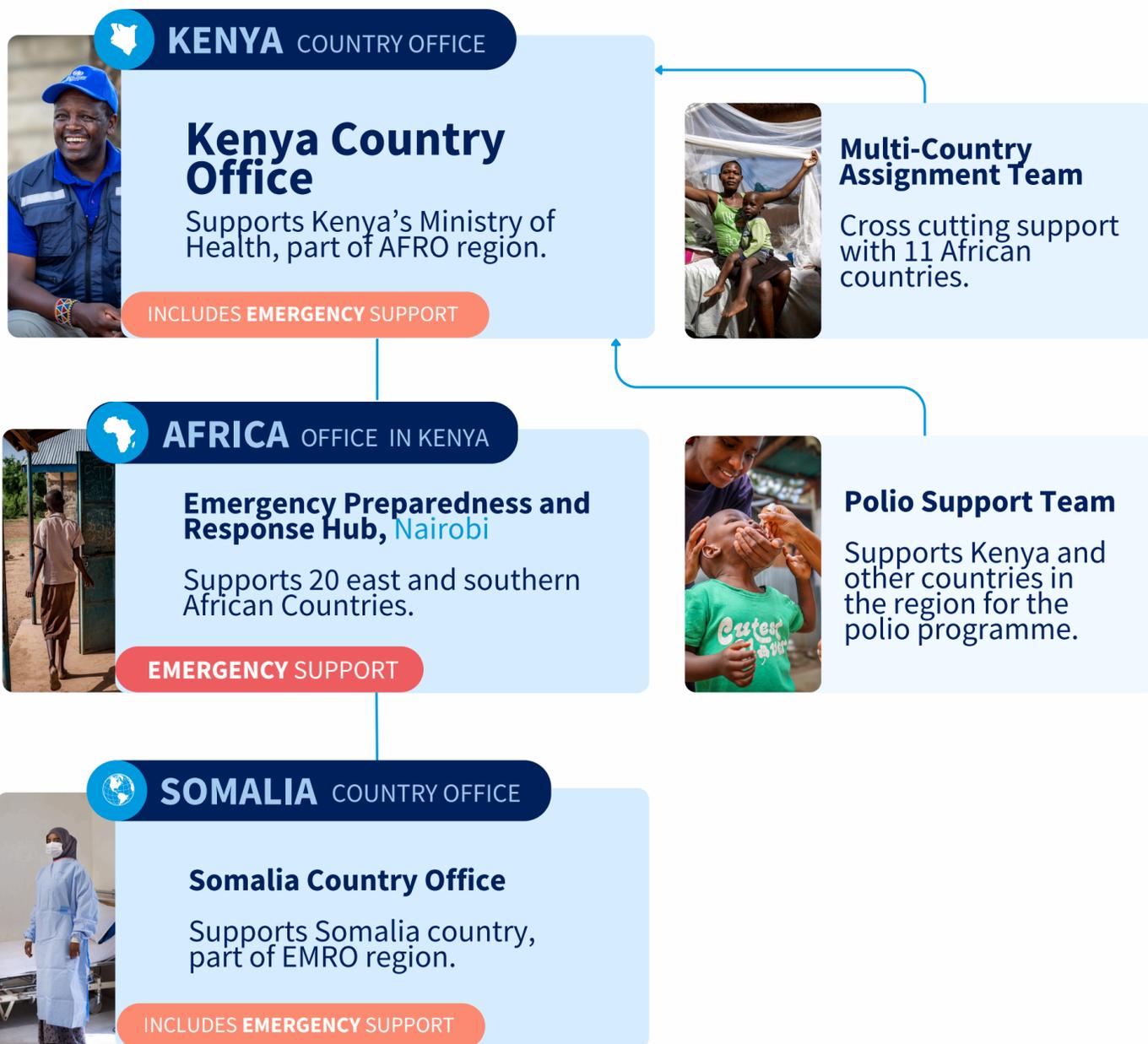
## MONITORING

Monitoring the health situation and assessing health trends



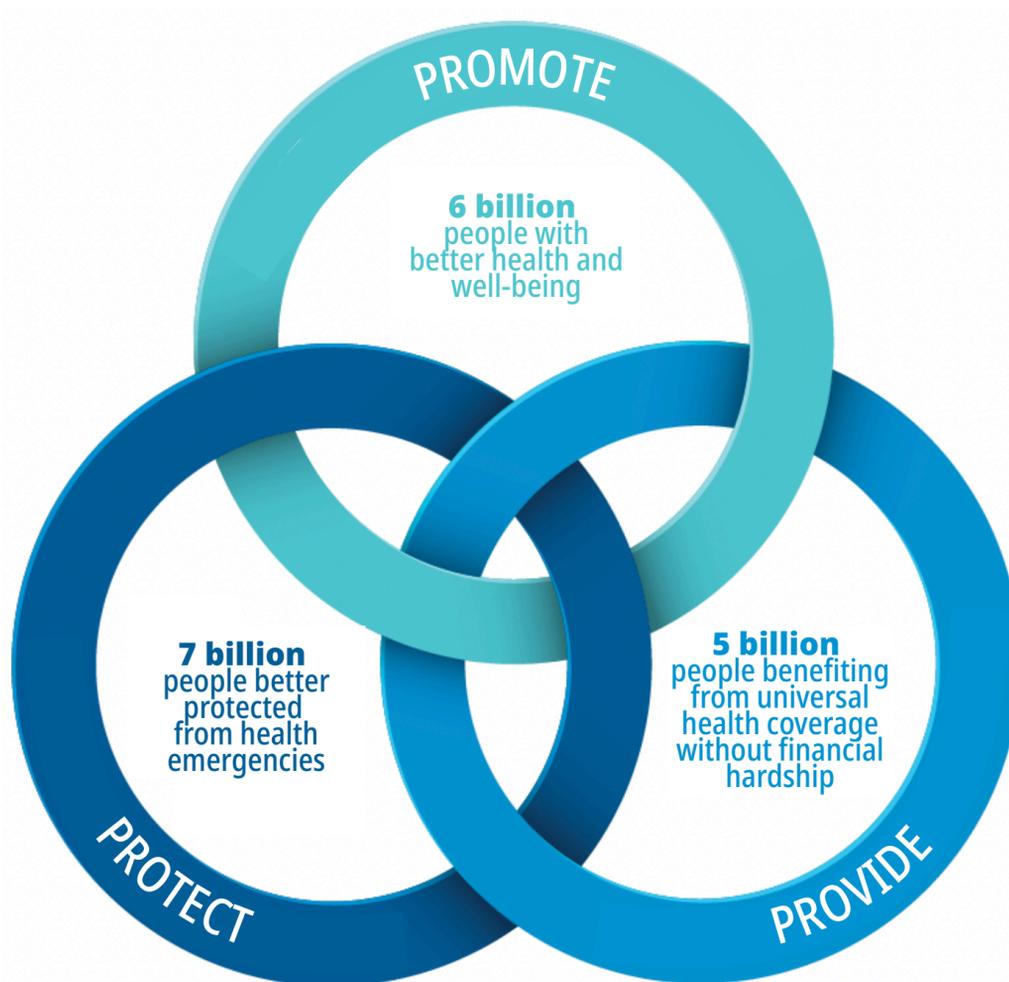


# WHO PRESENCE IN KENYA





# WHO's Global **Mission and Strategic Goals**



WHO's Fourteenth General Programme of Work (GPW 14) for 2025–2028 sets ambitious global health goals across three areas: **universal health coverage, protecting people from health emergencies** and **promoting health and well-being**. In Kenya, WHO aligns its work with these global targets, collaborating with the Ministry of Health and partners to achieve sustainable health outcomes for all Kenyans and to strengthen the resilience of Kenya's health system.

## THE WHO'S MISSION

PROMOTE  
HEALTH



KEEP THE  
WORLD SAFE



SERVE THE  
VULNERABLE

# Strategic objectives 2025-2028

1

Respond to **climate change**, an escalating health threat in the 21st century.

2

Address **health determinants** and the **root causes of ill health** in key policies across sectors.

3

Prevent, mitigate and prepare for health risks from all hazards.

4

Advance the **primary health care approach** and **essential health system** capacities for universal health coverage.

5

Rapidly **detect and sustain an effective response** to all health emergencies.

6

Improve **health service coverage and financial protection** to address inequity and gender inequalities.





## OUR WORK IN KENYA

WHO Kenya works across **4 main areas** to support Kenya's health priorities, working with the **Ministry of Health and partners** to ensure equitable health access and resilient systems.

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**1** HEALTH PROMOTION DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL | **2** EMERGENCIES | **3** HEALTH SYSTEMS AND SERVICES | **4** LEADERSHIP

# Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Control



- **Communicable Diseases:**  
Combatting HIV, TB, malaria, and other targeted diseases.

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- **Non-Communicable Diseases:**  
Addressing cancer, diabetes, and other chronic conditions through programmes such as PEN-Plus and WICS.

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- **Immunisation:**  
Expanding vaccine coverage to protect against a range of diseases including polio, cholera, HPV and more.

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- **Anti-Microbial Resistance:**  
Tackling drug-resistant infections through surveillance, stewardship, and public awareness.

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- **Tobacco Free Farms**  
Assisting farmers in shifting from growing tobacco to high-iron beans, improving health outcomes and economic stability.

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- **Social Determinants and Health Promotion**  
Addressing root causes of health inequity through cross-sector collaboration and community engagement.

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- **Nutrition and food health**  
Providing leadership and policy support in nutrition, promoting healthy diets, and guiding food standards

## EXAMPLES OF OUR WORK AND IT'S IMPACT



### Neglected Tropical Diseases

Kenya is on track to eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis by 2027, thanks to Mass Drug Administrations and other key interventions supported by WHO.



### Immunisation

WHO supported Kenya to reach over 16 million children nationwide with the measles, rubella and typhoid vaccination in July 2025.



### Tobacco Free Farms

WHO has been supporting tobacco farmers since 2019 to grown food crops instead. So far over 12,000 farmers have converted, improve their income, land and health.

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**1 HEALTH PROMOTION DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL** | 2 EMERGENCIES | 3 HEALTH SYSTEMS AND SERVICES | 4 LEADERSHIP

# Emergency Preparedness and Response



- **Emergency Preparedness:**  
Strengthening Kenya's capacity to prevent, prepare for, and respond to health emergencies, including seasonal risks and emerging disease outbreaks.

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- **Surveillance and Rapid Response:**  
Supporting integrated disease surveillance and establishing rapid response systems for early detection and control of outbreaks.

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- **Health Systems Resilience:**  
Building resilient health systems to ensure effective emergency response and continuity of health services.

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- **Capacity Building and Training:**  
Working to train healthcare workers in emergency management and support crisis response.

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- **One Health Approach:**  
Utilising a collaborative approach across human, animal, and environmental health sectors to address health risks and prevent zoonotic disease outbreaks.

## EXAMPLES OF OUR WORK WITH EMERGENCIES AND IT'S IMPACT



### Cholera

Over 11,000 cholera cases have been reported in Kenya since 2022. WHO supports surveillance, case management, labs, training, and community engagement to curb spread.



### Mpox

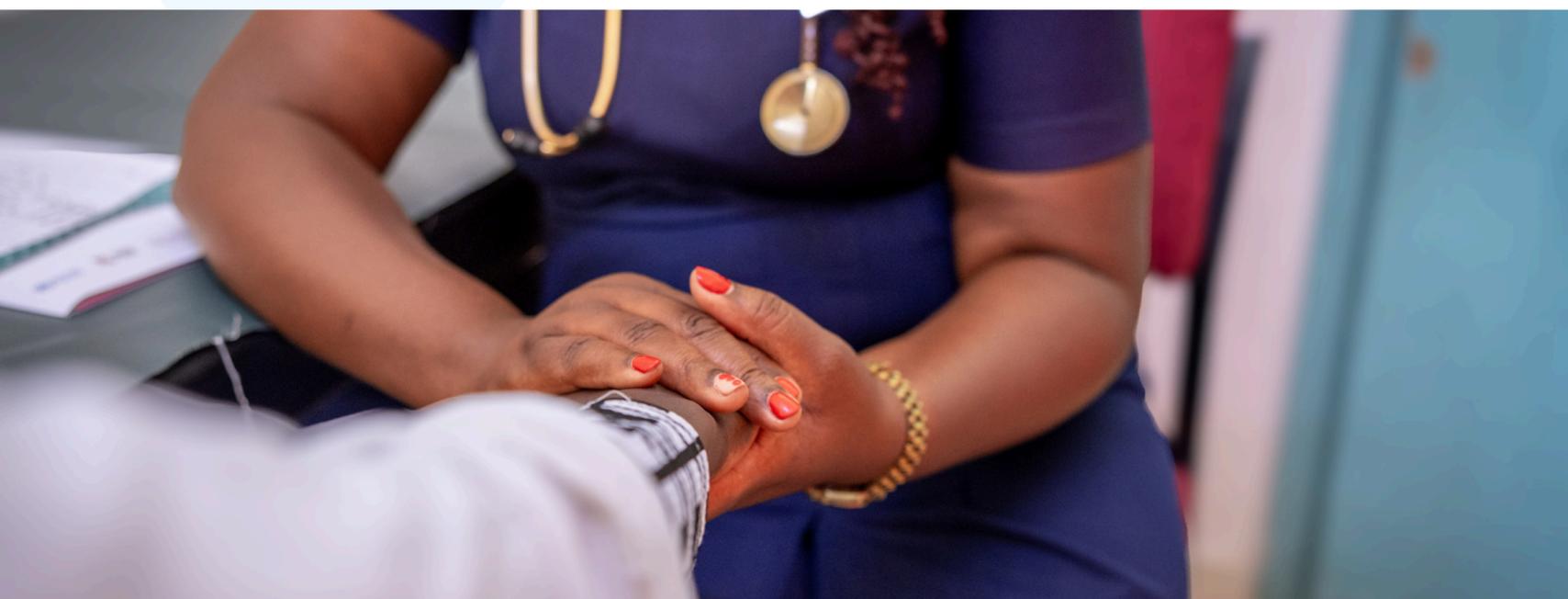
Kenya actively responded to Kenya's mpox outbreak through supporting Kenya to reduce cases, through case detection, contact tracing, risk communication and more.



### Health Migration

In Kenya's border counties, WHO has been strengthening health services for migrants by supporting route mapping, disease surveillance, outbreak response, and more.

# Health Systems and Services



- **Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights:**  
Ensuring access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services for all.

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- **Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health:**  
Supporting the health of mothers, children, and adolescents.

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- **Health Workforce Development:**  
Building a responsive and skilled health workforce to meet the needs of communities.

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- **Manufacturing of Immunobiologicals and Medicines**  
Building a responsive and skilled health workforce to meet the needs of communities.

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- **Health Financing**  
Building a responsive and skilled health workforce to meet the needs of communities.

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- **Integrated Service Delivery and Primary Health Care**  
Strengthening primary health care systems to deliver accessible, people-centred services closer to communities.

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- **Digital Health**  
Leveraging technology to improve health service delivery, data systems, and patient outcomes.

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- **Health Information Management Monitoring and Evaluation**  
Strengthening health data systems to inform evidence-based decision-making and track progress.

## EXAMPLES OF OUR WORK AND IT'S IMPACT



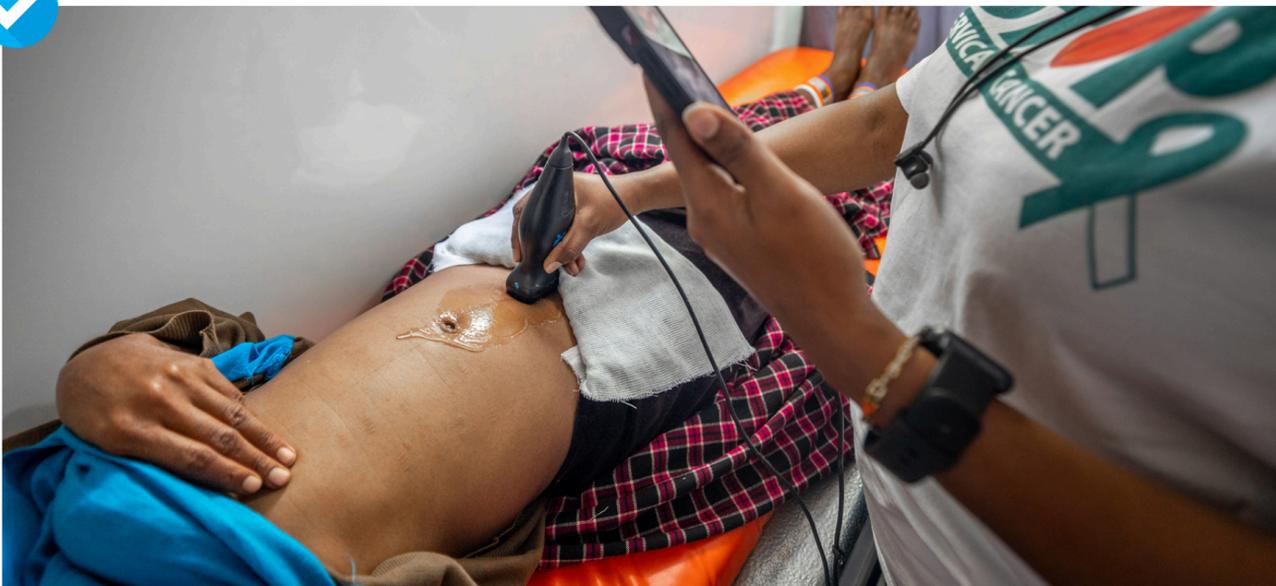
### Health workforce

Kenya has doubled its health workforce in the past 10 years. To achieve this WHO has supported Kenya to map its workforce ensuring proper distribution and planning



### Manufacturing of Immunobiologicals and Medicines

WHO is supporting Kenya to produce its own vaccines locally through the WHO-MPP mRNA Technology Transfer Programme, to strengthen national health security.



### Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

Since 2024, WHO has supported the Ministry of Health to deliver sexual and reproductive health services to over 30 000 women through outreaches across 6 counties.

## OUR WORK IN KENYA

# Strengthening the country's **leadership** and **stewardship** of health



- **Policy and Governance:**  
Assisting in the development of ethical, evidence-based health policies and strengthening governance for effective health sector management.

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- **Partnerships:**  
Enhancing collaboration with government, NGOs, and international partners to coordinate health initiatives and optimize resource use.

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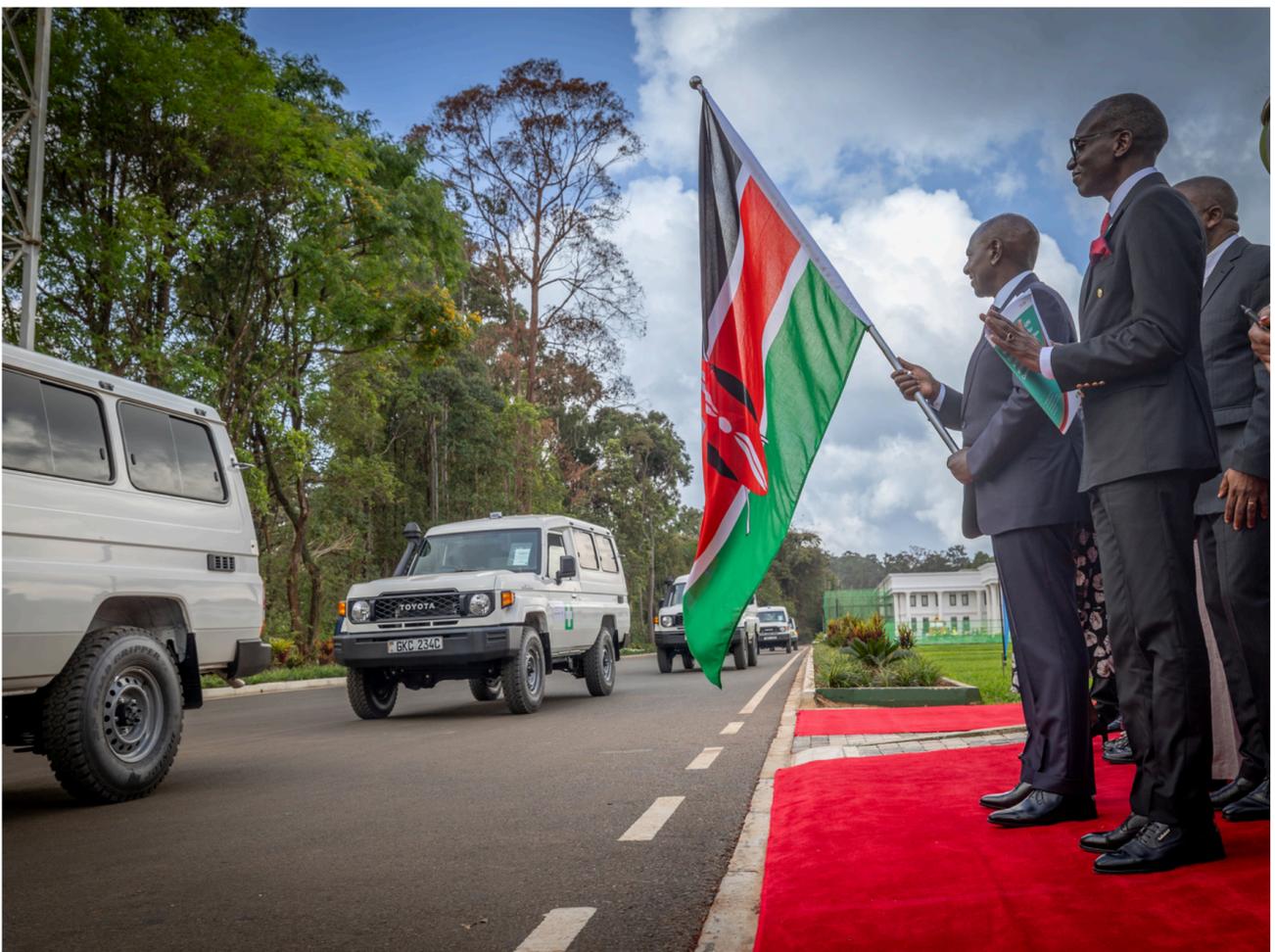
- **Capacity Building:**  
Providing technical support and training to build sustainable capacity within Kenya's health institutions.

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- **Data and Innovation:**  
Supporting Kenya's health data systems, digital health solutions, and evidence-based policy-making for informed decision-making.

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- **Resource Mobilization:**  
Assisting in the mobilization of resources and strategic communication to advance national health priorities.



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# Sustainable Development Goals

## Performance Targets



### 3.8 Universal health coverage

**3.b** Provide access to medicines and vaccines for all, support R&D of vaccines and medicines for all.

**3.c** Increase health financing and health workforce in developing countries.

**3.3** End the epidemics of HIV, TB, malaria and NTDs and combat hepatitis and waterborne and other communicable diseases.

**3.4** Reduce mortality from NCDs and promote mental health.

**3.6** Halve global deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents.

**3.1** Reduce maternal mortality.

**2.2** End all forms of malnutrition, including achieving by 2025 the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under five years of age and address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and older persons.

**5.2** Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation.

**5.3** Eliminate all harmful practices such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation.



**Thank you for your support!**  
We look forward to our  
continued **partnership.**



Lets work **together**



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