



EDAM: Ethiopian Data Analytics and Modelling Consortium

FAST FACTS:

- While great progress has been made, Ethiopia's maternal mortality remains high at 267 deaths per 100,000 live births - above the global average of 197 and far exceeding high-income countries such as Australia with 8 per 100,000.
- Cholera persists with more than 25,300 cases and 245 deaths reported in the country in 2024.
- Ethiopia confirmed its first Marburg outbreak in November 2025, highlighting the need for real-time data and rapid modelling.

BACKGROUND:

- Ethiopia faces a triple burden of infectious diseases (HIV, malaria and TB), noncommunicable diseases, and nutritional deficiencies.
- The country has made strong progress in health data collection, alongside growing national capacity in data analytics and modelling.
- Key gaps remain in using routine health system data to guide timely evidence informed policy decisions, including limited real-time analysis of sex differences across diseases and services.
- Better surveillance and modelling of health threats could improve the responsiveness of the health system and save lives.

AIMS:

- To build a sustainable, locally owned and locally led national consortium that links real-time health data, modelling and policy decision-making across Ethiopia.
- To strengthen the health evidence pipeline by reducing data fragmentation, improving data quality and enabling faster translation of findings into evidence-based policy.
- To advance data equity by improving sex-disaggregation of data during data collection, analysis reporting and use.
- Enhance gender equity in the Ethiopian data science workforce.

METHOD:

- Establish the governance and operating structures of the EDAM consortium, a partnership between Ethiopian data science institutions including the Ministry of Health.
- Conduct a detailed analysis of the health data ecosystem to identify and understand barriers/enablers to sex-disaggregated approaches in data modelling.
- Build the capacity of researchers and research institutions in Ethiopia in advanced data modelling, AI and sex-disaggregated data analysis methods.
- Co-develop a national policy for sex-disaggregation of health data.
- Collaborate with an Ethiopian gender advisory committee to implement strategies to improve gender equity in the data science workforce.

IMPACT:

- EDAM will leverage major investments by the Ethiopian FMOH, Gates Foundation and other funding agencies in real-time health data collection and build an ecosystem that turns these data into timely evidence-informed health policy decisions.
- The project will identify, train and support a cadre of Ethiopian health researchers, with a strong focus on gender equity.
- Embed sex-disaggregated approaches as a norm of data science practice in Ethiopia.

PROJECT CYCLE:

2025 - 2029

PARTNERS:

The George Institute for Global Health, UK
Imperial College London
Federal Ministry of Health, Ethiopia

SUPPORTERS:

The Gates Foundation

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