eHealth4ChildTB

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Improving TB diagnosis & care in children
Through innovative digital tools
& decentralizing services

Editorial

Launched in June 2024 with the support of L'Initiative, the eHealth4ChildTB project was designed with a clear ambition: to strengthen health systems for better diagnosis and management of childhood tuberculosis through the use of Treatment Decision Algorithms (TDAs), digital innovations, enhanced imaging tools and operational research.

The project's first year focused on the development and adaptation of its digital ecosystem — including electronic medical records (EMR) and applications for clinical decision support systems (CDSS) — designed to support health workers in their daily practice.

Since September 2025, eHealth4ChildTB has moved into its implementation phase, with Côte d'Ivoire leading the way through national engagement, training and field deployment. Implementation in Mozambique, slightly delayed due to severe weather conditions, is now set to begin in March 2026.

Through this biannual newsletter, we are pleased to share the project's key milestones, field experiences and lessons learned as digital tools move from design to real-world impact in strengthening child TB services.

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Funders

L'INITIATIVE sida, tuberculose, paludisme

EXPERTISE FRANCE GROUPE AFD

As we commemorate **World TB Day 2026**, eHealth4ChildTB embraces this year's WHO theme: "**Yes! We Can End TB: Led by countries, powered by people.**"

Led by countries – In Côte d'Ivoire and Mozambique, eHealth4ChildTB project partners National TB Programmes (NTPs) will implement several TDAs, that are adapted to the specific vulnerability profile of children (including the WHO-suggested TDA A and TDA B for setting with/without Chest X-Ray). NTPs will also deploy innovative digital solutions -- electronic medical records, tablet-based decision-support applications, & digital supervision -- contributing to strengthen their national health system.

Powered by people – Through training, lung ultrasound capacity-building and on-site mentoring, eHealth4ChildTB equips frontline health workers with practical tools to improve early detection and timely treatment of childhood TB.

By combining digital innovation and strengthened clinical capacity, eHealth4ChildTB contributes to more responsive, child-centered TB services — moving closer to ending TB.

News from the field

Côte d'Ivoire: From national engagement to operational rollout

National Workshop on Treatment Decision Algorithms (TDAs)

The project's operational journey in Côte d'Ivoire began with a high-level National Workshop organized with the National Tuberculosis Control Programme (PNLT), PAC-CI and the University of Bordeaux.
During the workshop, institutional representatives, clinicians, district officers and civil society actors, discussed and approved the introduction of WHO-suggested TDAs, and the piloting of specific TDAs for severely malnourished children and those living with HIV, and defined specfic implementation strategies for TDAs, adapted to decentralized health services. This workshop was an important milestone for ensuring strong national ownership and strategic alignment before field deployment of eH4CTB.


National workshop, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

Formative Phase: Understanding Local Realities

Before implementation of the TDAs and digital innovations, a formative phase was conducted in three districts, including Abengourou, Agboville, and Sassandra. During site visits, and based on observations, questionnaires and interviews, teams assessed baseline knowledge, diagnostic practices and digital readiness. These findings informed training design, supervision strategies and tool adaptation.


Formative phase, Agboville, Côte d'Ivoire

Official Launch and Training – Agboville, January 2026

On 20 January 2026, eHealth4ChildTB was officially launched in Agboville district in the presence of national and local authorities, marking the transition to operational implementation. A three-day TDA training coordinated by the PNLT, PAC-CI and the Treichville UTH teams, immediately followed, strengthening health professionals' capacities in childhood TB diagnosis, implementation of TDAs and the integration of digital tools into routine care — laying the foundation for the rollout of eH4CTB.


Official launch, Agboville, Côte d'Ivoire

Distribution of Tablets & Digital Coaching

In February 2026, tablets were distributed across participating facilities, accompanied by hands-on coaching on the DHIS2 Tracker — a digital patient record system integrated into national health information platforms — and the clinical decision-support application. This milestone marked the effective integration of digital tools into routine clinical practice.

Special focus on digital tool: Paediatric lung ultrasound (POCUS)

Paediatric lung ultrasound is one of the innovative tools integrated into eHealth4ChildTB. This rapid, radiation-free imaging technique enables clinicians to identify key pulmonary abnormalities directly at the bedside, offering valuable support in settings with limited access to radiography or radiologists.

In November 2025, key team members from participating countries and institutions completed an intensive train-the-trainer programme, combining theory and supervised practice, to enable them to train clinicians in the 2 project countries.

By strengthening imaging capacity alongside digital decision-support tools, eHealth4ChildTB aims at enhancing early detection and clinical confidence in the diagnosis of childhood TB.