

ANADACH GROUP

ANALYZE | ADVISE | ACHIEVE

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

2021 has been an extremely busy, and in many ways a rather strange year for Anadach. As usual, we have been working with old and new clients in several countries on various issues, with a notable increase in our support to health tech companies/start-ups and potential investments across the health and pharma space. There are also collaborations with new partners including several multinational companies and organizations to help reduce the consequences of the most serious pandemic of our lifetime, that has completely disrupted the entire healthcare space and economies across the globe. Once again at the end of November, the discovery of a new COVID-19 variant - Omicron has reminded us all, that the pandemic is not over.

We are particularly concerned about the low vaccination rates across several regions including Africa. So working with RDAssociates Africa, we have organized a series of webinars focussed on COVID vaccine hesitancy. **The third and final session is scheduled to hold on Thursday December 9th, 2021 at 1pm UTC / 2pm WAT / 4pm EAT. It is titled COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy in Africa – Reimagining the role of key messengers in both traditional and social media, as well as within the highly impacted hospitality & services sector. You can register to attend this event here - https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZckc-mqrz0uE9OWVN7_xxBA5ObTH4Y2DFbt .**

The next year promises to be just as busy, and unfortunately we are all still likely to be dealing with the consequences of the pandemic and/or post -pandemic impact on various issues. As usual, Anadach will host, and/or co-host several webinars with different partners to drive forward discussions & knowledge sharing, and help foster networking that could facilitate change.

We believe such events are an excellent way to network with industry peers, develop new relationships and collaborate on common goals as we move to a post-COVID world. We look forward to seeing you!

We wish you and yours a healthy and safe end of the year, and a much calmer 2022..

Best,
The Anadach Team

EVENTS



WEBINAR SERIES: 'COVID-19 VACCINE HESITANCY IN AFRICA– UNDERLYING FACTORS, WHY IT MUST BE ADDRESSED AND THE ROLE OF STAKEHOLDERS'

In the fourth quarter of 2021, Anadach and RDAssociates Africa kicked off a 3-part webinar series on COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy in Africa. As of this time, less than 4% of Africa's population has been fully vaccinated according to the WHO. Additionally, while most Western nations are expected to achieve widespread COVID-19 vaccine coverage by the end of 2021, studies estimate that Africa will achieve the same feat in 2023 or beyond, at best. Low vaccination rates anywhere leaves the world susceptible to new variants of concern (VOC), and a resurgence of COVID-19 everywhere.

Low vaccination rates in Africa can be explained by a myriad of reasons including the lack of a sustainable supply of vaccines, weak healthcare systems hampering access to immunization, funding limitations, lack of widespread availability of cold chain storage and distribution systems, and low political will etc. However, increasingly in several countries, **high vaccine hesitancy may already be contributing or could contribute to the sluggishness of vaccination programs.**

Vaccine hesitancy can be defined as “the delay in acceptance or refusal of vaccines despite availability of vaccine services”. This has been an issue from the commencement of the global rollout of COVID-19 vaccines. However, the flames have been fanned by the misinformation and disinformation rampant across the internet and messaging apps, and also by news headlines such as the one in July 2021 that stated Covishield was not an acceptable vaccine under the European Union's [Digital COVID certificate](#).

In light of the above, Anadach and RDAssociates Africa launched our webinar series:

- The first session was held on Thursday October 28th, 2021 and was titled *COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy in Africa – Reimagining the role of healthcare workers*. This session focused on viewing the issue through the lens of African healthcare workers. . You can watch a recording of this session here - <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL7FtJ5gnFXsqeWG3DfxI7VgOlxQ6HFsy5>
- The second session was held on Thursday November 18th, 2021 and was titled *COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy in Africa – Reimagining the role of faith-based and community leaders, as partners in addressing vaccine hesitancy*. In this session, we had community, Christian and Muslim leaders, speaking candidly to both our audience, as well as to their peers. A number of myths around the vaccine such as being the mark of the beast, a microchip, evil, fertility issues etc. were also frankly discussed. You can watch a recording of this session here - https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL7FtJ5gnFXspqYMQb_SugtjJhdFAMzEG
- The third and final session is scheduled to hold on Thursday December 9th, 2021 at 1pm UTC / 2pm WAT / 4pm EAT and is titled *COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy in Africa – Reimagining the role of key messengers in both traditional and social media, as well as within the highly impacted hospitality*

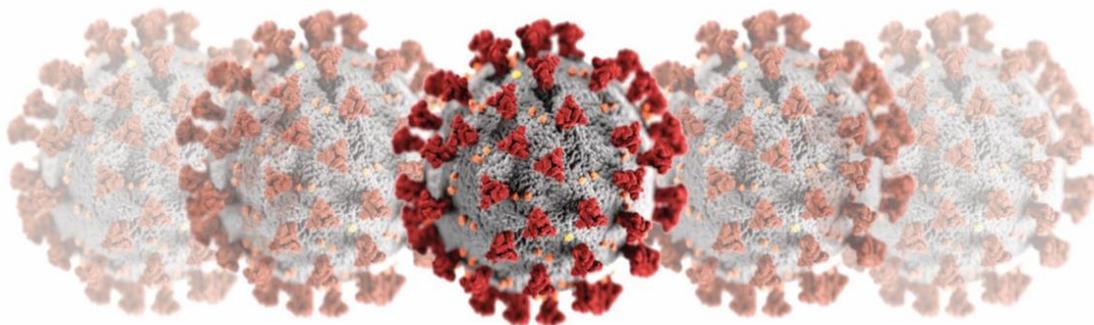
& services sector. You can register to attend this event here -
https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZckc-mqrz0uE9OWVN7_xxBA5ObTH4Y2DFbt .

A theme that emerged and continued to present itself in earlier sessions was the importance of ‘messengers’ to combat faceless dis- and mis-information found online. Therefore, during this final webinar session we will cap off discussions speaking to key messengers - journalists, social media influencers, entertainers, civic society members, hospitality sector professionals and communication strategists. Confirmed speakers include **Ms. Ego Boyo – an award winning Nollywood producer and actress, Ms. Jolene Samuels – the founder of the South African vaccine campaign initiative ‘Jab Raffles’, Mr. Mike Haynie – a world-class hotelier and hospitality consultant, Ms. Nobert Atukunda – a reporter for the Daily Monitor Newspaper, Uganda, Mr. Nick Raistirck - Editor at the Africa Resilience Network, and moderated by Helen Mesfin - an East African Media Personality.**

We expect our final session to be highly enlightening, and an impactful end to what has been eye-opening discussions with stakeholders from across the continent, and beyond. We hope to see you there! Please also share the registration link with your network.

Media Coverage: https://tribuneonlineng.com/fake-news-rumours-fueling-vaccine-hesitancy-in-africa-%e2%80%95-experts/?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=facebook

Registration: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZckc-mqrz0uE9OWVN7_xxBA5ObTH4Y2DFbt



The changing face of COVID-19: how can Africa get ahead of the curve?

From our Guest Writers

With the recent emergence of the Omicron coronavirus variant in southern Africa, and cases being identified from elsewhere in Africa, the world is again reminded of the unprecedented reality of the COVID -19 pandemic and the precipitous global uncertainty that has come in its wake. With an unparalleled set of 50 genetic mutations, the fear is that the Omicron coronavirus variant could be more transmissible than the dominant Delta variant and could evade some of the protection conferred by COVID-19 vaccines or previous infection. Despite the significant improvements in surveillance, preparedness planning, and clinical and laboratory capacity across the African continent over the last decade¹, the continent appears to be struggling to scale-up one key strategy for COVID-19 control – vaccination. Yet vaccination is so very effective. With the currently dominant Delta variant, in the USA, the unvaccinated people are about:

- 6 times more likely to test positive than vaccinated people,

- 9 times more likely to be hospitalized, and
- 14 times more likely to die from COVID-related complications.

An interim analysis of COVID-19 vaccination data from 15 countries that comprise the Economic Community of West Africa States (ECOWAS) after 3 months of vaccine deployment has shown that only 0.27% of the region's total population had been fully vaccinated.² This is further exacerbated by the high prevalence of diseases such as tuberculosis in Africa which have been associated a higher chance of developing serious complications from COVID-19.³ The unfortunate reality is that new COVID-19 variants of concern will keep surfacing until Africa is able to achieve the population-level immunity needed to bring the pandemic under control.

Vaccine hesitancy is a problem in Africa with public distrust of government response to COVID-19, and minimal attempts to debunk misinformation about COVID-19 being identified as potential drivers.⁴ We have made efforts to tackle this last issue by working with the Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH) Nigeria and other African countries to develop and deploy concise clinical guides and electronic training modules (<https://comdis-hsd.leeds.ac.uk/2020/05/14/covid-19-clinical-and-operational-guidelines-for-healthcare-facilities/>; <https://www.fhind.org/covid-19/>) for frontline health facility practitioners as free continuing professional development with good results across Nigeria.^{5,6} Although improved diagnostics and greater capacity for vaccine manufacturing are critical for Africa, getting the COVID-19 vaccine into the arms of Africans and achieving population-level immunity must be prioritized. Scaling up tested strategies such as ours for disseminating reliable information on COVID-19 for the African populace is a critical step to achieving higher COVID-19 vaccination coverage. Only then can Africa surmount the challenges of controlling a complex pandemic such as COVID-19.

by Akan Otu and John Walley

About the Authors: Akan is an Infectious Disease/Public Health specialist and Executive Director of the Foundation for Healthcare Innovation and Development (FHIND www.fhind.org). John is a Clinical Professor of International Public Health at the Nuffield Centre for International Health and Development, University of Leeds UK and Co-Research Director of the Communicable Diseases Health Service Delivery (COMDIS-HSD <https://comdis-hsd.leeds.ac.uk/>) research programme. References available on request.



The rapid development of COVID-19, within a year of the start of the epidemic has led to, what is likely to become, the largest and fastest vaccination campaign in history. As some African countries have started their own COVID-19 vaccination programs, we would like to hear from you if you are based in any African country! Have you been able to get a COVID-19 vaccine? What has your experience been like? This input could be helpful as countries design or refine their COVID19 vaccination strategies. All input is anonymous, and individuals cannot be identified.

Take the English Survey:

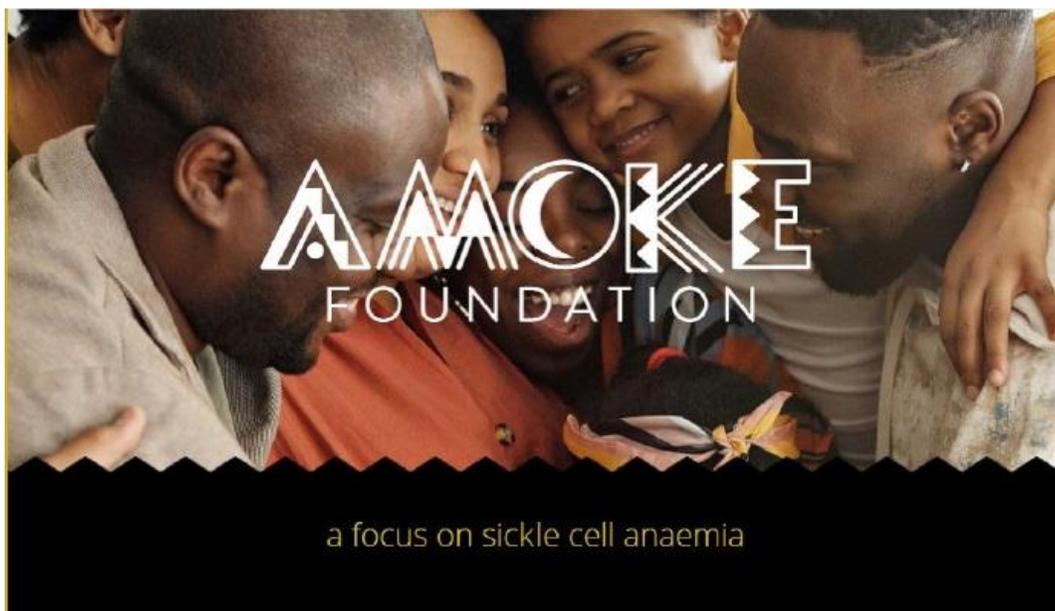
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/anadachcovid19survey>

Take the French Survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/anadachcovid19surveyfrench>

Take the Arabic Survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/anadachcovid19surveyarabic>



AMOKE FOUNDATION

On the 18th of August, 2021, Anadach coordinated the Launch of the Amoke Foundation in a virtual global event. The Foundation is a charitable non- profit organization set up in memory of Dr. Yemisi Adetunji-Badejo who passed away on August 18th 2010 due to complications from Sickle Cell Disease (SCD). It is dedicated to improving the quality of life of people living with Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) worldwide with a focus on medically underserved communities in sub-Saharan Africa. The Foundation's aim is to develop a network of Pain management hubs by collaborating with teaching hospitals and bio-pharmaceuticals to improve awareness of new treatment and protocols. It will also provide training and healthcare personnel capacity building in the treatment and management of sickle cell disorder, and raise awareness to the latest research in SCD.

Please consider supporting the Foundation [here](#).

USAID -TB LON 3 PROJECT

ANADACH
GROUP



@anadach

@anadachgroup

www.linkedin.com/
company/anadach-group

www.facebook.com/
anadachgroup



Anadach Group in partnership with the Institute of Human Virology Nigeria (IHVN) has continued to implement the Private Sector Component of a United States Agency for International Development (USAID) funded Tuberculosis Local Network Organization Network (TB-LON3) Project.

Project Goals

- Mobilize the organized private sector to support early TB detection, prevention and treatment
- Build capacity for staff screening and detection by occupational physicians

Year One Achievements

- Advocacy efforts reached over 2 million people in the formal private sector in the TB-LON3 focal states; (virtual & physical) to over 100+ leaders in Lagos, Abeokuta, Ibadan and Oshogbo who represent at least 100,000 employees, in addition to reaching over 2000+ key leaders through our Quarterly newsletter
- Direct Advocacy to over 90 organized private sector stakeholders, focused on getting companies to widen TB screening beyond food handlers to all employees.
- Companies engaged on the project include: Leadway Assurance and its associated Companies, Unilever Plc, Sterling Bank, GT Bank, Dangote Group, OLAM, Animal Care Services Consult, Lafarge Plc, Nigerian Breweries, International Breweries Plc, Sahara Group, GE, Phillips, Honeywell Flour Mills, IHS Towers, Flutterwave.
- Associations engaged include the Nigerian Employers Consultative Association (NECA), State Chapters of the Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (MAN) and Chambers of Commerce and Industry in Lagos and Ogun State.
- Successfully trained 150 Health and Safety Officers, occupational health physicians and human resources for screening and referral of presumptive TB cases.

If you are interested in the training or would like further information on the project, please contact: Dr. Olunmi Ogbodu at bogbodu@anadach.com.

Recruitment



Anadach is Recruiting on Behalf of Clients

1. Our client is a Physiotherapy Clinic in Lagos that offers highly specialized physical rehabilitation programs for Children, Adults and Aged.

Positions currently available: [Physiotherapist](#)

Job location: Victoria Island, Lagos

2. Our client is a leading provider of world-class healthcare services for over 15 years in Lagos. The facility is a growing family practice that places strong emphasis on the delivery of high quality patient-centered family medicine.

Positions currently available: [Medical officer](#)

Job location: Victoria Island, Lagos

Interested candidates should send application to <https://www.anadach.com/resume>

Job descriptions are available at <https://www.anadach.com/recruitment-solutions>

PAST EVENTS

The National TB Conference 2021



NATIONAL TUBERCULOSIS (TB) CONFERENCE 2021

THEME:

SUSTAINING A RESILIENT TB RESPONSE IN NIGERIA:

ADDRESSING THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 AND OTHER DISEASES

DATE: 9th - 11th November

VENUE: International Conference Center, Abuja, Nigeria

#NationalTBConference #EndTBNigeria #EndTB

The National TB Conference 2021 was organized by the Stop TB Partnership Nigeria and National TB and Leprosy Control Program (NTBLCP) in collaboration with other stakeholders. The Conference provided a platform for all stakeholders to deliberate on the magnitude and dimensions of the effects of Covid-19 pandemic on TB control in Nigeria. It also created an opportunity to share experiences and recommend strategies to address TB control during the current and future pandemics.

Dr. Egbe Osifo-Dawodu spoke at the conference on domestic resource mobilization. Click [here](#) for her presentation

Event website: <https://stoptbnigeria.org/2021/08/31/the-national-tb-conference-2021/>

www.anadach.com

