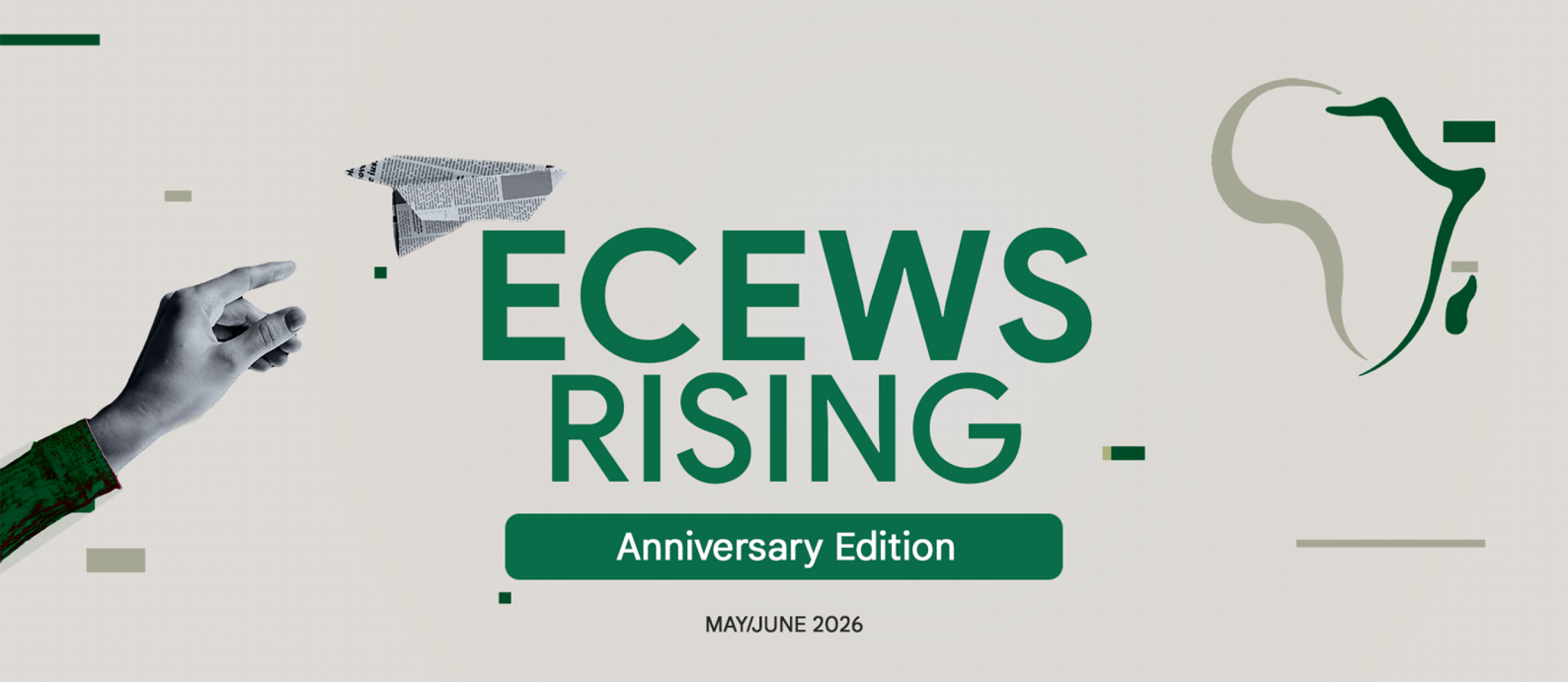




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From THE CEO'S DESK

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness."

These four words capture everything we feel as ECEWS celebrates 25 years of partnership, service, sacrifice, and impact. Through it all, one thing has remained constant, the faithfulness of God.

What began as a humble classroom mission has grown into a national movement, touching millions of lives, transforming communities, and contributing significantly to Nigeria's health sector. On June 19, 2026, that journey reached a defining moment as ECEWS held its Silver Jubilee anniversary ceremony, bringing together staff, partners, government stakeholders, and communities. This edition proudly tells that story: From a Classroom Mission to a National Movement: Celebrating 25 Years of ECEWS and we invite you to relive the moments and milestones that made the day truly historic.

We also spotlight ECEWS's groundbreaking work driving Lenacapavir PrEP access in Ebonyi, Akwa Ibom, and Cross River States. This long-acting injectable, administered just twice a year, marks a new era in HIV prevention and through strategic collaboration with government and development partners, ECEWS is expanding access to this innovative, people-centred service, bringing renewed hope to communities.

This edition also highlights ECEWS's landmark 100KVA solar installation at NIMR, strengthening sustainable healthcare delivery, and how ECEWS and MAYA are empowering 11 market women with business grants to boost economic growth. We celebrate the lives transformed through our work, Mrs. Akpan, who welcomed two healthy, HIV-free babies, and Gbolahan, whose childhood was restored through our integrated care and counselling services.

As we reflect on 25 years of excellence, we are filled with gratitude for the lives touched, the communities served, and the even greater work that lies ahead. To our staff, partners, donors, government stakeholders, and the communities we serve, thank you for being instruments of this faithfulness. Your dedication, trust, and partnership have made this journey possible.

And above all, to God, whose mercies are new every morning, we say:

Great Is Thy Faithfulness.

Happy reading.

Andy Ego

Chief Executive Officer, ECEWS



ECEWS

...Improving Education and Health in Nigeria



ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION

ECEWS Marks 25 Years of Transforming Lives with Silver Jubilee Celebration

On 19 June 2026, ECEWS celebrated its Silver Jubilee on 19 June 2026 in Abuja, FCT, Nigeria. Themed "Great Is Thy Faithfulness," the event marked a quarter-century of transformative service, impactful partnerships, and excellence in strengthening health systems and improving lives across Nigeria.

The anniversary event brought together senior government officials, development partners, donors, diplomats, traditional leaders, private sector representatives, civil society organizations, and friends of ECEWS to celebrate the organization's remarkable journey and reaffirm a shared commitment to advancing public health and sustainable development.

Reflecting on ECEWS' remarkable journey, Board Chairman, Prof. Enoabasi Urua, paid tribute to the staff, partners, donors, government institutions, and communities whose unwavering support has shaped the organisation's 25-year legacy.

Chairman of the Occasion, Dr. Bernard M. Doro, Honourable Minister of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Reduction, described ECEWS as one of Nigeria's leading indigenous development organisations, commending its resilience, stewardship, and measurable impact in transforming lives and strengthening communities.

The celebration was further enriched by an inspiring keynote address delivered by Coordinator of the Office of the First Lady of Akwa Ibom State, Her Excellency, Lady Helen Obareki, commended ECEWS for its remarkable contributions to improving public health and advancing sustainable development over the past twenty-five years. and challenged the organisation to see its Silver Jubilee as the beginning of an even greater chapter of impact.

In his Vision Address, Dr. Andy Eyo, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of ECEWS, reaffirmed the organisation's commitment to expanding locally led solutions, strengthening strategic partnerships, embracing innovation, and reaching even more underserved communities in the years ahead. A major highlight was the Awards and Recognition Ceremony, which honoured distinguished individuals and organisations that have shaped ECEWS's journey through leadership and partnership. The awards presented were the Champion of Humanity Award, the Award of Public Health Excellence, and the ECEWS Excellence in Service Awards, recognising excellence in public health, compassionate leadership, and sustainable community development.

As we celebrate this milestone, we honour every partner, donor, staff member, volunteer, and community that has been part of this extraordinary journey. Twenty-five years is more than a milestone, it is a proof to faith, partnership, resilience, and purpose. And with God's faithfulness as our foundation, the next chapter promises even greater impact.





We have reviewed what has been done over the last 25 years and identified ECEWS as a partner of choice for government as we continue this journey.

Dr. Muntaqa Umar-Sadiq

Representing the Coordinating Federal Minister of Health and Social Welfare



ECEWS has grown into one of Nigeria's most respected indigenous development organisation. It has been delivering results consistently... we are not only celebrating longevity, we are also celebrating faithfulness, excellence and impact.

Dr. Bernard M. Doro

Honorable Minister of Humanitarian Affairs and Poverty Reduction



25 years of continuous unbroken service in the global development landscape is not just an anniversary, ECEWS has created an impact that transcends boundaries.

Lady Helen Enobareki

Coordinator, Office of the First Lady, Akwa Ibom State



ECEWS functions with integrity. It ensures that whatever it does is done openly, honestly and transparently, and that is why funding agencies continue to trust and support our projects.

Prof. Enobasi Urua

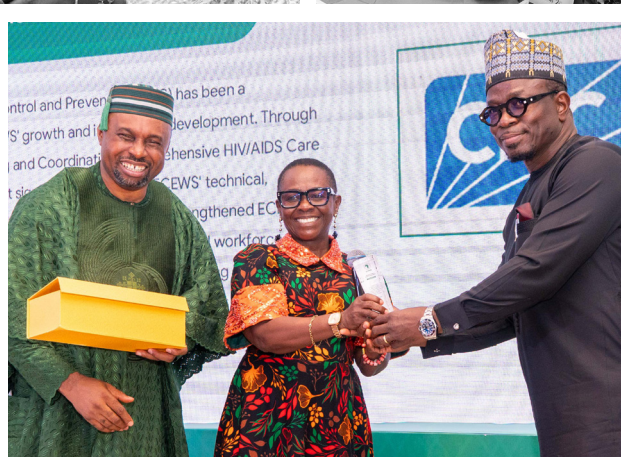
ECEWS Board ChairPerson



...You were given a thousand and it was multiplied to two thousand and now look at where we are today. Indeed, ECEWS is a story and a testament of God's faithfulness and goodness.

Funmi D. Adesanya

Senior Foreign Assistance Coordinator



GREAT IS THY



FAITHFULNESS

From a Classroom Mission to a National Movement: Celebrating 25 Years of ECEWS

As we celebrate 25 years of Excellence Community Education Welfare Scheme (ECEWS), we reflect on a journey defined by the unwavering mandate to “rebuild the old ruins and repair the ruined cities”. What began as a local effort by passionate educators has blossomed into a national force for transformation, touching over 16 million lives across Nigeria.

The Spark: Excellence in Education

The ECEWS story did not begin in a clinic but in a classroom. Founded in 2001 by a group of Christian graduate teachers led by Dr. Andy Eyo in Akwa Ibom State, the organization was born out of a desire to restore standards in Nigerian schools.

In those early days, the mission was clear: curb examination malpractices and improve academic motivation among youth. Through its first Free

Education Counseling Workshops in 2002, ECEWS reached over 2,000 students, teaching study habits and instilling a zeal for success. These humble beginnings laid the ethical foundation for an organization that would soon take on Nigeria's greatest public health challenges.

Growth: The Nexus of Opportunity

By 2003, as the HIV/AIDS pandemic began to ravage communities, ECEWS recognized that education and health were inseparable. Partnering with the Red Cross, the organization launched essay competitions to break the silence surrounding the virus, marking its transition into a multi-sectoral development partner.

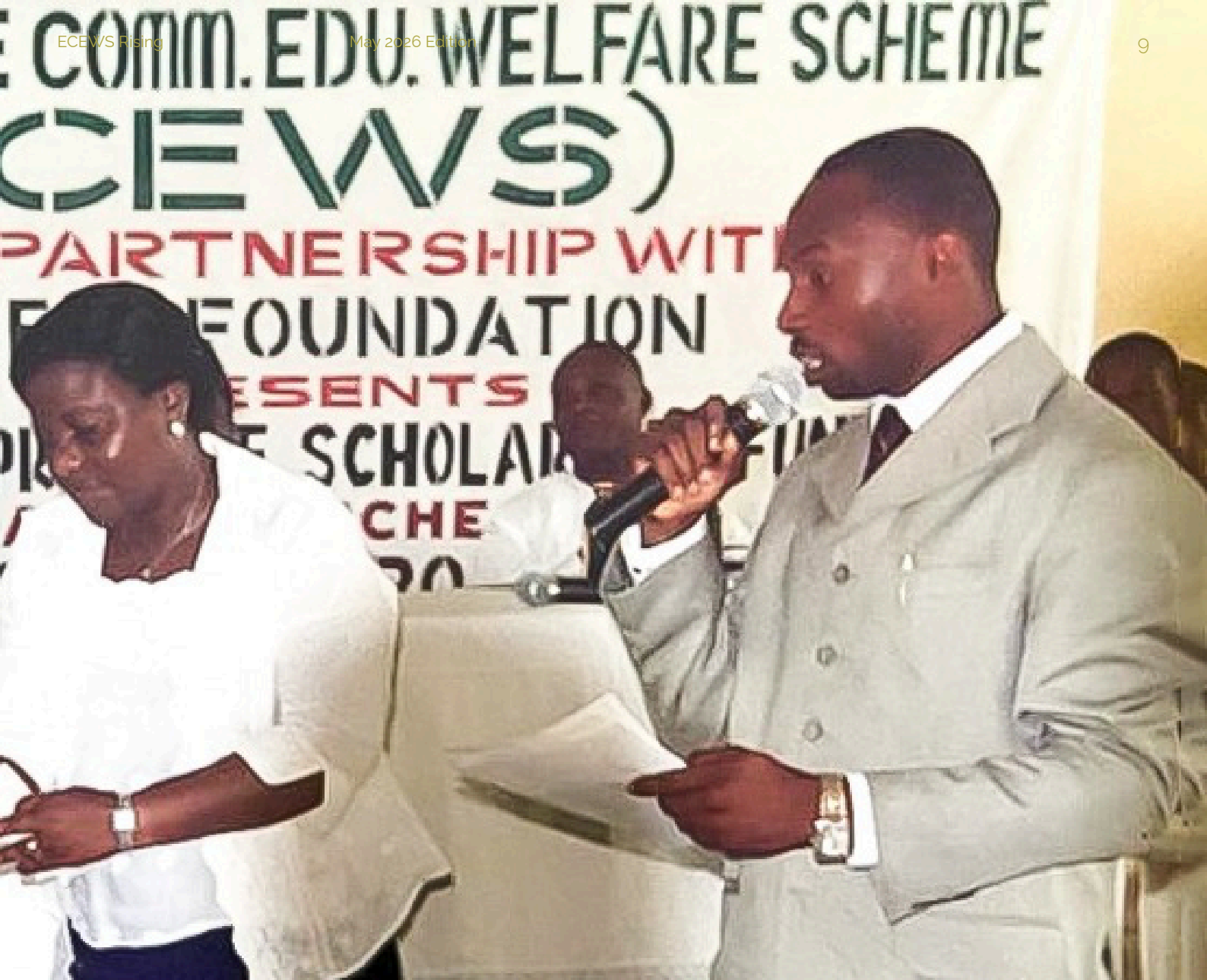
Over the next two decades, ECEWS evolved into “The Nexus of Opportunity, Knowledge, and Well-being”. The organization expanded its

reach through landmark initiatives like the MACC-4 Project (2007), which pioneered mobile HIV testing in hard-to-reach riverine areas, and the LOCATE Project (2013), which strengthened local capacity for a robust national health response.

Where We Are Now: Leading at Scale

Today, ECEWS stands as Nigeria's leading indigenous non-profit, operating across 17 states. From its headquarters in Uyo, it manages massive, high-impact portfolio projects.

The organization is now responsible for approximately 17% of Nigeria's total HIV treatment recipients—over 324,000 individuals, proving that indigenous organizations can lead world-class health interventions with transparency and integrity.



25 Years of Impact and Innovation

The 25-year journey has been one of constant innovation. Beyond traditional healthcare, ECEWS is now climate-resilient, technologically advanced, and future-focused. As ECEWS enters its next quarter-century, it remains dedicated to its founding vision: achieving quality of life and economic empowerment for Africa's most vulnerable populations. From teachers in a classroom to a national force for good, ECEWS continues to rebuild, repair, and restore hope across Nigeria.

ECEWS Boosts Nigeria's Health Sector With 100KVA Solar Power System at NIMR

On May 12, 2026, we joined partners and stakeholders at the commissioning of the newly installed 100KVA Solar Power System donated by ECEWS to the Nigerian Institute of Medical Research (NIMR).

The project was commissioned by the Honourable Minister of State for Health and Social Welfare, Dr. Izaq Adekunle Salako, represented by the Director-General of NIMR, Prof. John Oladapo Obafunwa.

This milestone reflects our shared commitment to strengthening healthcare infrastructure, enhancing research capacity, and advancing sustainable energy solutions within Nigeria's health sector.

Speaking at the event, the CEO of ECEWS, Andy Eyo, noted that the solar power system will provide reliable and uninterrupted power supply to support critical research, laboratory operations, and healthcare services at NIMR. The system will power critical facilities including the biobank, the PCR laboratory, and other key research and healthcare units, ensuring continuity of vital public health research and innovation activities.



Beyond improving operational efficiency, the solar power system will also deliver sustainable energy solutions that reduce operational costs, minimize dependence on diesel, and ensure uninterrupted power supply for critical health research and service delivery.

At ECEWS, we remain committed to empowering healthcare systems through strategic investments, partnerships, and sustainable interventions that improve health outcomes for all Nigerians.

Together, we are building a stronger, more resilient, and sustainable healthcare future.





Hope, Health, and Motherhood Mrs. Akpan's Story

Science has made remarkable strides in HIV treatment but stigma, fear, and misinformation continue to stand in the way. For many, these barriers are more debilitating than the virus itself, undermining confidence, affecting adherence, and undermining aspirations for the future. Addressing these barriers is a critical component of quality HIV care and an important measure of health system effectiveness.

Under the ACE-5 Project, implemented by ECEWS with support from the United States Department of State, investments in adherence counseling, treatment literacy, and client-centered support are helping individuals navigate both the medical and psychosocial dimensions of living with HIV. These interventions enable clients to make informed decisions, remain engaged in care, and pursue their life goals with confidence.

Mrs. Akpan, a client from Oruk Anam Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State, is one such beneficiary. Following her diagnosis and initiation on antiretroviral therapy, she struggled with concerns about her future. Influenced by longstanding misconceptions surrounding HIV, she feared that marriage and motherhood were no longer possible and worried about the risk of transmitting the virus to her future children.

Through the programme's integrated counseling services, Mrs. Akpan received continuous support from trained healthcare providers who created a safe environment for discussion, learning, and reassurance. Over several counseling sessions, she gained accurate information about HIV treatment, prevention of mother-to-child transmission, and the importance of sustained adherence

to care. She learned that people living with HIV who remain on effective treatment can lead healthy lives, build families, and give birth to HIV-negative children.

As her understanding grew, so did her confidence. Supported by consistent counseling and uninterrupted treatment, Mrs. Akpan remained engaged in care throughout pregnancy and childbirth. She subsequently delivered a healthy baby girl who tested HIV-negative. The outcome marked a significant milestone, demonstrating the effectiveness of evidence-based HIV interventions and the impact of informed, client-centered care.

Today, Mrs. Akpan is the mother of two children, both born HIV-negative. Her experience illustrates how comprehensive HIV services can transform uncertainty into empowerment and help individuals realise aspirations that stigma and misinformation once placed beyond reach.

Ensuring Quality Healthcare Through High-Level Monitoring Visit



From 4 to 8 May 2026, the Akwa Ibom State Ministry of Health, in collaboration with ECEWS ACE-5, conducted a High-Level Technical Assistance and Monitoring Visit across five supported facilities: General Hospitals Awa, Oron, and Etinan, Ikot Ekpene General Hospital, and Immanuel General Hospital.

The visit was led by the Honourable Commissioner for Health, Dr. Ekem Emmanuel John, alongside the Permanent Secretary, Dr. Patrick Essiet, and other senior government stakeholders. The exercise was designed to assess service delivery performance, infrastructure adequacy, laboratory systems, and the implementation status of ECEWS ACE-5-supported interventions across the visited facilities.

During the visit, the team conducted comprehensive assessments of healthcare operations, reviewed

facility-level challenges, and evaluated the effectiveness of ongoing program activities aimed at improving health outcomes. Direct interactions with facility management teams and healthcare workers provided a platform to discuss operational gaps, resource needs, and strategies for strengthening service delivery. Priority areas reviewed included Laboratory Quality Management Systems (QMS), Human Resources for Health (HRH), equipment functionality, Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) practices, referral systems, and general facility operations.

The monitoring exercise awakened the shared commitment of government stakeholders and implementing partners to improve healthcare quality, operational efficiency, and accountability across the state's health system.

How Rapid Diagnostics are Changing Infant HIV Care in Ebonyi State

Through the Global Fund Nigeria TB/HIV Reach and Integration (N-THRIP) project, ECEWS is transforming Early Infant Diagnosis (EID) services in Ebonyi State by integrating EID Testing on four GeneXpert and two m-PIMA machines across six comprehensive treatment sites. Previously, caregivers waited up to two months for test results, relying on the conventional PCR laboratories, thereby delaying critical care for HIV-exposed infants. Today, results are delivered in less than one week, with urgent cases processed within 24 hours using m-PIMA technology.

This improvement is enabling faster diagnosis, immediate linkage to treatment, and reducing loss to follow-up among vulnerable and HIV-exposed infants. Healthcare workers can now make timely clinical decisions, while caregivers experience reduced anxiety and improved confidence in the healthcare system.

By strengthening laboratory systems and expanding access to rapid diagnostics, the N-THRIP project is improving the quality of pediatric HIV care and giving more children in Ebonyi State a healthier start to life.

ECEWS Facilitates Malaria Sensitization for NYSC Members



On 11 May 2026, Excellence Community Education Welfare Scheme (ECEWS) team in Enugu State held a high-impact sensitization session for National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) members at the Permanent Orientation Camp in Awgu. The session was designed to equip the corps members with practical knowledge about the free malaria diagnosis and treatment services available across the state before they were deployed to their various places of primary assignment.

Opening the engagement, the ECEWS Project Director, Mr. Ayodele, opened the session by framing its purpose around three ideas of practical knowledge for immediate application, accountability in service delivery, and genuine community engagement where the corps members would live and work. He laid out the core mission of the initiative and emphasized why corps members need to also advocate for those services throughout their service year.

Community Lead Mr. Christopher Amalu walked participants through the identification of malaria signs and symptoms. He distinguished established scientific facts from the myths and misconceptions that often circulate in local communities, carefully deconstructing common misunderstandings about how malaria is contracted and treated. By addressing these misconceptions directly, he gave the corps members the confidence and clarity needed to share correct information and counter harmful beliefs wherever they were posted.



Following that, ECEWS Clinical Lead Dr. Clinton provided a detailed walkthrough of the malaria diagnosis, treatment, and referral pathway. He stressed the importance of proper case management, timely referrals for complicated cases, and accurate documentation at every step. His presentation reinforced the idea that good clinical practice at the community level depends not only on the right drugs and tests, but also on accountability and continuity of care for patients.

To close the session, Mr. Henry Okowuru, the Grievance Redress Mechanism Manager for ECEWS, introduced available feedback channels, including the toll-free line, and distributing information materials tailored for use at their places of primary assignment.

Through this comprehensive sensitization, ECEWS reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening malaria control efforts in Enugu State by leveraging the reach and credibility of NYSC corps members as trusted health advocates who will help expand access to free malaria diagnosis and treatment at the grassroots level.



How Integrated Care Restored Gbolahan's Childhood >>>

For children facing complex health challenges, effective care often means more than managing a diagnosis. It means addressing every barrier that stands between a child and a healthy, fulfilling life. Gbolahan's story illustrates exactly what becomes possible when that kind of care is delivered.

At an age when most children are discovering the world, seven year old Gbolahan was striving to stay alive. He had for nearly four years endured persistent seizures, sudden falls, and repeated episodes of foaming at the mouth due to severe neurological condition. Each episode disrupted his daily life, endangered his safety, and made consistent adherence to treatment regimen increasingly difficult, placing his long-term health at serious risk.

Recognising the urgency, LIWOM with funding support from the ECEWS Community Case Management Programme (CCMP) SPEED Project provided comprehensive support including financial assistance for medical consultations, investigations, and treatment, alongside regular follow-up visits and psychosocial support for the family.

The results were remarkable. Gbolahan's seizures reduced drastically, the episodes of foaming stopped completely, and his treatment adherence improved significantly. He gradually regained the ability to enjoy normal childhood experiences, moving more freely and engaging in daily life with renewed confidence. The impact extended to the whole household. His caregiver found relief from emotional exhaustion and financial pressure and the family regained hope in managing his care successfully.

Gbolahan's story is a reminder that effective care and treatment must go beyond ART to address co-existing conditions, support caregivers, and treat the whole child not just the diagnosis.

Before



After



ECEWS Advances PMTCT at Safe Motherhood TWG Meeting, Lagos State

Excellence Community Education Welfare Scheme (ECEWS), Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission (PMTCT) team represented the organization at the Safe Motherhood Technical Working Group (TWG) meeting held at the Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Lagos State. The session brought together a broad coalition of stakeholders including the Lagos State Ministry of Health, SASCP, CIHP, CHAI, mDoc Healthcare, and IRISE International, reflecting the multi-sectoral commitment to advancing maternal and child health outcomes across the state.

The forum centered on Q1 advocacy updates and implementation progress on Maternal, Child, and Neonatal Health innovations. Discussions gave considerable attention to the key drivers of maternal mortality, with stakeholders examining systemic gaps in the continuum of care for pregnant women, particularly those at high risk. A

prominent focus of deliberations was the urgent need to strengthen engagement with Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs) and delivery homes to facilitate the early identification and timely referral of high-risk pregnancies to appropriate health facilities.

Participants also called for the formal involvement of the Traditional Medicine Board in the registration and structured support for TBAs, recognizing their extensive community reach as both a challenge to be managed and an opportunity to be harnessed in improving maternal health outcomes.

ECEWS's participation reflects its sustained commitment to reducing maternal and neonatal mortality through collaborative, system-wide approaches that leave no woman behind in the continuum of care.



General Hospital Calabar and ECEWS Drive Seamless HIV Service Integration

A service integration review meeting was held at General Hospital Calabar, Cross River State, to assess progress and identify recommendations for improving the integration of HIV service delivery into the facility's general outpatient department. The meeting brought together the ECEWS ACE-5 project team, facility coordinators, clinical mentors, case managers, and key stakeholders, all committed to strengthening seamless, patient-centred care.

The facility currently manages approximately 3,439 clients, with a viral load suppression rate of 95%. Service integration activities formally commenced on 3 March 2026, with the co-location of the pharmacy and laboratory units. Government of Nigeria staff in these units have since assumed responsibility for drug dispensing and pharmacy documentation, while laboratory technicians now process samples from all patients referred to the laboratory, regardless of HIV status.

Following the assessment, facility management committed to fully aligning the records unit with the broader integration approach. Two key measures have already been implemented: the co-location of Recipients of Care folders alongside general medical folders, and the active engagement of Government of Nigeria staff in managing records activities, including documentation and Electronic Medical Record (EMR) updates, to ensure a unified system for all patients. All Recipients of Care are now assigned standard hospital identification numbers and folders, consistent with every other patient in the facility.

This strategic shift is designed to achieve several important objectives, including the elimination of stigma and discrimination for individuals accessing ART services, promote confidentiality, dignity, and equity in patient interactions, and strengthen records management and continuity of care across all service touchpoints.



Building Stronger Laboratory Systems Through Quality Management and Accreditation Support



ECEWS is continually strengthening laboratory systems across Nigeria through targeted investments in Quality Management Systems (QMS), capacity building, and accreditation preparedness. From the 4th to 8th of May 2026, ECEWS collaborated with partners to deliver a five-day Quality Management System Certification Training for 38 QMS Implementers and Medical Laboratory Science Council of Nigeria (MLSCN) Auditors in Uyo, Akwa Ibom State.

Conducted under the theme Implementing and Auditing an Integrated Quality Management System for Fit-for-Purpose Laboratory Services, the workshop addressed internationally recognised standards including ISO 15189:2022 for quality management, ISO 19011:2018 for audit management, and standards covering occupational safety, biorisk management, and risk management. Through technical sessions, case studies, and hands-on exercises, participants built practical skills across a broad range of areas such as continuous quality improvement and internal auditing to biosafety, documentation,

laboratory information management, and emergency preparedness.

These efforts build on ECEWS's broader laboratory systems strengthening agenda, as evidenced by its participation in a QMS Capacity Building exercise supported by the Lagos State Ministry of Health under the Resilient and Sustainable Systems for Health Global Fund grant, held from 13 to 17 April 2026. Through this engagement, four ECEWS-supported laboratories Sango PHC, Iba PHC, Iga Idunmagan PHC, and Orile Agege General Hospital are being strengthened in quality management practices, day-to-day service delivery, and compliance with national and international accreditation standards.

Together, these interventions strengthen the foundation for laboratory accreditation and compliance, ensuring that the diagnostic services communities depend on are accurate, reliable, and safe.

Multi-Partner Supportive Visit Enhances Advanced HIV Disease Implementation in Lagos State



The ECEWS team in Lagos joined a NASCP/SASCP-led Mentorship and Supportive Visit and Data Quality Assessment from 13 to 16 April 2026, supported by CIHP and CHAI, reviewing Advanced HIV Disease implementation across five supported facilities: General Hospital Gbagada, General Hospital Badagry, Ojo PHC, General Hospital Ikorodu, and Massey Street Children's Hospital.

The visit reaffirmed facility staff strong awareness of paediatric Advanced HIV Disease (AHD) protocols, and a growing sense of Government of Nigeria ownership over programme implementation was evident across all assessed sites, a positive indicator of sustainable service delivery.

The active participation of the full state technical team spanning clinical, pharmacy, laboratory, and cluster functions, reflected the multi-disciplinary commitment with which these assessments are approached. Findings from the visit will inform targeted technical support to strengthen AHD service delivery and improve health outcomes across all five supported facilities.

ECEWS Partners with FMC, Asaba to Advance Hand Hygiene



Every year, health systems around the world on 5 May pause to reflect on one of the most fundamental yet consistently underestimated practices in clinical care, hand hygiene. Observed under the leadership of the World Health Organisation, World Hand Hygiene Day is a global call to action, reminding healthcare workers, institutions, and policymakers that clean hands remain one of the most effective and accessible tools for preventing infections, protecting patients, and saving lives.

In commemoration of Hand Hygiene Day 2026, ECEWS brought that global message to communities, joining health leaders, clinicians, and public health stakeholders at the Federal Medical Centre (FMC) Asaba, Delta State, to mark the day with purpose and commitment.

The event brought together health professionals and policymakers around a shared message: awareness alone is not enough. Dr. James Ibuaku, Acting Chairman of the Medical Advisory Committee at FMC Asaba, described hand hygiene as a non-negotiable cornerstone of safe healthcare delivery. Dr. Christian Tetsola, Director of Public Health at the Delta State Ministry of Health, stressed the importance of institutionalising infection prevention and control practices across health facilities, while Dr. Adesuwa Aigbokhaode, Head of Community Medicine at FMC Asaba, called on healthcare workers to uphold hygiene standards daily, regardless of workload or environment.

Representing ECEWS, Strategic Information Advisor Mr. Ikponmwosa Omogun connected hand hygiene compliance directly to the quality of HIV service delivery across CDC-supported facilities. Drawing attention to the 2026 World Health Organization theme, he challenged healthcare workers to move beyond knowledge and commit to deliberate daily practice. "Action, not knowledge alone, saves lives," he noted, urging frontline workers to see hand hygiene not merely as a routine procedure, but as a professional responsibility tied to patient trust, dignity, and survival.

As Nigeria continues efforts to build resilient healthcare systems capable of responding to both infectious diseases and long-term public health challenges, initiatives like World Hand Hygiene Day provide an important platform for reinforcing simple but lifesaving practices. Through partnerships, advocacy, and technical support, ECEWS says it remains committed to advancing evidence-based healthcare delivery at every point of the HIV response, ensuring that quality care begins with safe hands.

Strengthening PHC at PPSIF Mapping Validation in Akwa Ibom State

ECEWS joined government and development partners at the Validation and Dissemination Meeting of the PPSIF Mapping Document hosted by the Akwa Ibom State Primary Health Care Development Agency (AKSPHCDA) in the month of May, reinforcing a shared commitment to expanding access to quality healthcare across the state.

Representing ECEWS, Dr. Bala Gana highlighted the organization's support to more than 161 health facilities in Akwa Ibom State through data-driven planning and innovative solutions such as Starlink connectivity for Primary Health Centres (PHCs). These interventions help to bridge connectivity gaps, improve access to health information, and strengthen service delivery in underserved communities.

The meeting convened key stakeholders, including the World Health Organization, UNICEF, MSI Reproductive

Choices, and PATH, to review progress, validate the PPSIF Mapping Document, and identify priority areas for future investments. Through collaborative discussions and evidence-based planning, participants charted a clearer path for strengthening primary healthcare services across the state.

For ECEWS, the meeting's outcomes underscore the power of strategic partnerships in building a resilient and responsive health system. By working alongside government and development partners, ECEWS continues to support sustainable solutions that improve healthcare access and outcomes for communities throughout Akwa Ibom State.



ECEWS Trained 38 QMS Implementers in Akwa Ibom to Strengthen Laboratory System

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Through technical sessions, case studies, and hands-on exercises, participants built practical skills across a broad range of areas such as continuous quality improvement and internal auditing to biosafety, documentation, laboratory information management, and emergency preparedness.

Together, these interventions strengthen the foundation for laboratory accreditation and compliance, ensuring that the diagnostic services communities depend on are accurate, reliable, and safe.

ECEWS Engages Juhel Nigeria on Local Health System Strengthening

The ECEWS Management team paid a strategic visit to Juhel Nigeria Limited, one of Nigeria's foremost indigenous pharmaceutical manufacturers on 30th April, 2026.

The visit provided an opportunity to engage directly with the CEO Dr. Ifeanyi Okoye and management team, fostering meaningful conversations around innovation, local manufacturing, and strengthening healthcare systems in Nigeria.

A key highlight of the visit was a guided tour of Juhel's production facilities, where our team gained firsthand insight into their operations and decades of expertise in delivering quality, affordable medicines at scale.

It was an enriching experience for the entire ECEWS team, one that reinforced the value of learning from institutions that have consistently shaped the pharmaceutical landscape in Nigeria.

We look forward to building a strong and impactful collaboration with Juhel Nigeria Limited, as we continue working together to improve health outcomes and expand access to essential medicines.



Dr. Andy Eyo Charges New Nurses to Shape the Future of Healthcare



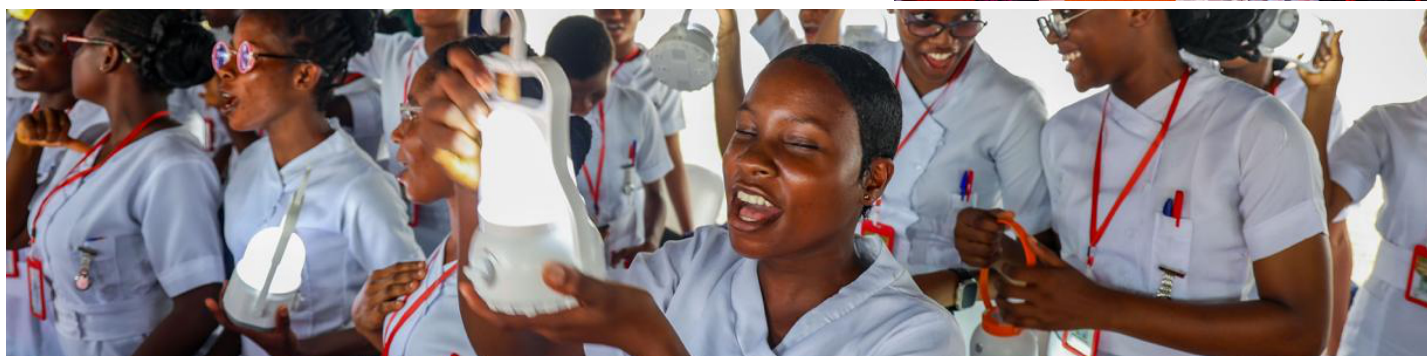
The Chief Executive Officer of Excellence Community Education Welfare Scheme (ECEWS), Dr Andy Eyo, was honoured to stand as Chairman and Keynote Speaker at the Maiden Matriculation Ceremony of Sure Foundation College of Nursing Sciences Ukanafun, on the 13th of May, 2026 where he addressed the newest generation of student nurses on the theme: "The Future of Health Care Begins with You."

In his keynote address, he

encouraged the matriculating students to embrace excellence, empathy, integrity, and service as they begin their journey into the healthcare profession. He also reminded them that beyond clinical skills, healthcare is ultimately about humanity, hope, and impact.

The ceremony marked a major milestone for the institution and its students, celebrating the beginning of a lifelong commitment to saving lives and strengthening communities through healthcare.

We congratulate the pioneer matriculating students and commend the leadership of Sure Foundation College of Nursing Sciences Ukanafun for investing in the future of healthcare in Nigeria.



Better Data Better Care Better Outcomes

How a dedicated SPEED
Project team in Ekiti State
Fixed a Critical Gap in HIV
Treatment Records

30.8%

Before
Intervention

1.6%

After
Intervention

99.4%

Program
achievement rate

Accurate data are the foundation of effective healthcare programming. In Ekiti State, when the FY26Q2 Data Quality Assessment revealed gaps in documentation, TB status concordance, and reporting accuracy across supported facilities in Ekiti State, ECEWS under the US Government-funded Sustainable Programs for HIV Epidemic Control and Service Delivery (SPEED) project, swiftly mobilized a coordinated response to strengthen data quality and improve program performance.

Working closely with facility teams, M&E officers, and other stakeholders, ECEWS implemented targeted interventions, including refresher trainings, supportive supervision, peer-learning sessions, data validation exercises, and routine performance review meetings.

These efforts focused on improving documentation practices, strengthening data verification processes, and promoting accountability at facility level. One of the most significant achievements was the reduction of the state's TX_NEW no-match rate from 30.8 percent at the beginning of FY26 to just 1.6 percent. This remarkable improvement resulted in a 99.4 percent reporting accuracy rate, significantly enhancing the reliability of HIV program data.

Beyond improving numbers, the intervention strengthened confidence in program reporting, improved client tracking, and reinforced the use of quality data for informed decision-making. Ekiti State's success demonstrates how targeted capacity building, mentorship, and teamwork can transform data systems and strengthen health outcomes.



ECEWS, MAYA Empower 11 Market Women with Business Grants to Boost Economic Growth

Eleven market women in Uyo, Akwa Ibom State, have received business grants ranging from ₦300,000 to ₦500,000 from Excellence Community Education Welfare Scheme (ECEWS) in partnership with MAYA, as part of activities marking ECEWS' 25th Anniversary.

The grant beneficiaries were selected from participants of the Nka Uforo IBAN initiative based on their exceptional diligence and prudent utilization of an earlier ₦100,000 seed grant. Their demonstrated ability to grow and sustain their businesses earned them additional support aimed at expanding their enterprises and improving their livelihoods.

The cheque presentation ceremony took place at Itam Market, Uyo, and was attended by the Chief Executive Officer of ECEWS, Dr. Andy Eyo, and the Senior Special Assistant to the Akwa Ibom State Government on Entrepreneurship, Mrs. Awana, who presented the cheques to the beneficiaries.

Speaking at the event, Mrs. Awana commended ECEWS and MAYA for investing in grassroots entrepreneurship and women's economic empowerment. She pledged to explore partnership opportunities with ECEWS to expand the initiative and enable more women-owned businesses to benefit from similar interventions across the state.

The grant recipients expressed gratitude for the support, noting that the intervention would help them increase their business capital, expand operations, and improve the welfare of their families.





ECEWS Hosts Multi-Stakeholder Health Delegation in Akwa Ibom State

Reliable laboratory services do not sustain themselves as they require consistent oversight, assessment, and coordinated action. On Tuesday, May 5, 2026, ECEWS ACE-5 project supported molecular laboratory team hosted a joint technical assistance and monitoring visit from representatives of the National AIDS and STIs Control Programme (NASCP), the Akwa Ibom State Agency for the Control of AIDS (AKSACA), the Akwa Ibom State Ministry of Health (AKSMoH), and the West African Health Organisation (WAHO).

The visiting team conducted a comprehensive review of laboratory operations, examining workflow coordination, sample management, equipment utilisation,

documentation quality, and adherence to biosafety and quality assurance protocols. Interactive sessions with laboratory personnels highlighted implementation progress and opportunities for improvement. Technical discussions focused on strengthening coordination, enhancing support systems for uninterrupted operations, and aligning practices with national and international standards.

The visit reflected the value of coordinated oversight, bringing together national agencies, implementing partners, and laboratory staff around a shared commitment to stronger health systems strengthening.

ECEWS Peer Support Sessions Improve HIV Care for Children and Adolescents in Cross River State

To improve HIV treatment outcomes among younger populations, two impactful peer-supported sessions were recently held at General Hospital Calabar and General Hospital Ugep, Cross River State, reinforcing the commitment of ECEWS ACE-5 program to delivering adolescent-friendly, integrated HIV care across Cross River State.

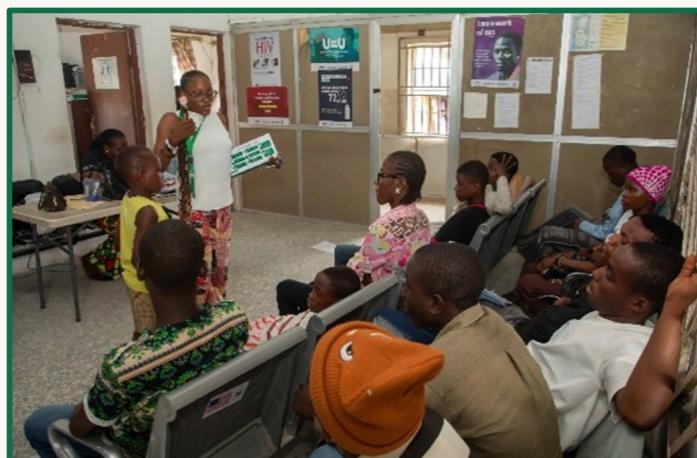
The Child, Teen, and Adolescent (CTA) program is a structured HIV care intervention designed to enhance treatment outcomes among children and young adults aged 5 to 24 years living with HIV. Built around the goal of achieving zero missed clinical appointments, zero missed ART doses, and zero detectable viral loads, the CTA meeting serves as a platform for peer engagement, adherence counseling, and psychosocial support.

At Calabar General Hospital on 17 April 2026, 27 participants participated, of whom 10 received antiretroviral medication refills, and 4 underwent viral load sampling. Every attendee received individualized medication adherence counseling and a clinical consultation. The comprehensive service package spanning medication refills, viral load sampling, peer-to-peer learning, and medical consultations, reflects the program's holistic approach to reducing loss to follow-up, improving treatment continuity, and fostering a safe, supportive, and adolescent-friendly care environment.

Similarly, a Child and Adolescent peer-led activity session was held at General Hospital Ugep, Yakurr LGA. The session brought together key healthcare personnel including the ART Coordinator, M&E focal person, Clinical and Pharmacy Technical Advisors, and CCRN partners, who engaged 10 adolescents aged 10–17

years in an inclusive and supportive environment that encouraged open dialogue about health challenges. Seven participants demonstrated consistent medication adherence, reflecting a positive shift in health-seeking behavior and commitment to treatment. Three received medication refills, one viral load sample was collected, two participants enrolled under facility-based mentorship, and two medical consultations conducted.

Both sessions showed the effectiveness of structured, peer-supported interventions in improving health outcomes for children and adolescents living with HIV. By creating safe spaces for open dialogue, delivering comprehensive services, and promoting peer learning, ECEWS continues to advance a model of care that addresses not only the clinical but also the psychosocial needs of this vulnerable population.





Strengthening Capacity for Effective Rollout of Revised National HIV Data Tools in Lagos and Akwa Ibom States



In line with national efforts to enhance HIV data management systems, ECEWS ACE 5 Project Strategic Information (SI) team successfully cascaded the use of the revised national HIV data tools to facility-level staff across two states in FY26 Quater 2, ensuring the effective use of these tools for routine data collection, improve data quality, and ensure accurate, timely, and consistent reporting across facility and state levels.

In Lagos State, ART Coordinators and M&E Officers gathered for an interactive step-down exercise. Participants shared field experiences, worked through common data management challenges, and collaboratively strengthened their capacity to accurately utilize the revised tools in alignment with national reporting standards.

Also, In Akwa Ibom State, the training was expanded across three clusters of Uyo, Eket, and Ikot Ekpene Local Government Areas (LGA) reaching 195 participants, including project monitoring and evaluation (M&E) staff, pharmacy and laboratory personnel, and Government of Nigeria M&E officers from all 31 Local Government Areas. Led by Dr. Bala Gana, State



Director of the ECEWS ACE-5 Project, the three-day exercise provided a comprehensive review of key HIV program tools and guidelines, including HIV Testing Services (HTS) forms and registers, Index Contact Testing tools, and monthly summary forms. Emphasis was placed on the "5 Cs" of HIV testing: Consent, Confidentiality, Counselling, Correct Results, and Connection to care.



Aniekan Umoh, the Akwa Ibom State AIDS and Sexually transmitted Infection Control Programme (SASCP) Coordinator, commended ECEWS for its sustained support and called on participants to prioritise data quality and take active ownership of state-level data review processes. Together, these trainings form a critical bridge between national policy revision and facility-level practice.

Advancing HIV Care in Lagos State: General Hospital Imota Completes ART Activation Exercise

Strengthening the capacity of healthcare workers to deliver quality HIV treatment services remains critical to improving patient outcomes in Lagos State. To support this effort, ECEWS Clinical and Pharmacy teams conducted a two-day Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) activation exercise at General Hospital Imota, Lagos State, led by the State Technical Officer for Care and Treatment.

The training covered core ART programming principles and HIV case management through interactive sessions, real-world case studies, and hands-on documentation exercises, moving participants beyond passive learning toward building the confidence and competence needed for consistent clinical practice.



The joint involvement of the Clinical and Pharmacy teams reflected the integrated approach that quality ART service delivery demands, where treatment decisions and medication management are complementary responsibilities. Facility staff engaged actively throughout, demonstrating strong commitment to delivering services in line with national guidelines.

The successful completion of this exercise marks a meaningful strengthening of HIV programming in the Eastern Cluster and lays a solid foundation for General Hospital Imota to provide dignified, protocol-driven, and high-quality care to people living with HIV in its community.

ECEWS Commemorates World Health Day 2026

ECEWS, on 7th April 2026, joined the Osun State Ministry of Health (OSMoH), the World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and a broad coalition of government agencies, media organisations, and civil society groups to mark World Health Day at the Osun State Ministry of Health Secretariat. This year's theme "Together for Health, Stand with Science" sets the tone for a day of reflection and recommitment.

In ECEWS's goodwill message, Dr. Oluseun Oketokun, Senior Technical Officer for Clinical Services, spoke to the power of evidence-based interventions and collaboration, in tackling complex health challenges. He underscored ECEWS's commitment to scientifically driven, data-informed, and community-centered health programs, spanning HIV prevention and treatment, maternal and child health, disease surveillance, and health systems strengthening.

ECEWS commended the Osun State Ministry of Health for its sustained leadership and reaffirmed its partnership with the state government, pledging continued investment in sustainable, inclusive health for the people of Osun State.





NACOLGDA and Aviclaire Farms Explore Collaboration for Food Security

Promoting climate-smart agriculture remains critical to achieving sustainable food security in Akwa Ibom State. In line with this commitment, Aviclaire Farms hosted the National Council for Local Government Departments of Agriculture (NACOLGDA), Akwa Ibom State, on a courtesy and exploratory visit aimed at fostering partnership and knowledge exchange within the agricultural sector.

The delegation was received by the Chief Executive Officer, Mrs. Victoria Andy, alongside members of the farm management team, who shared the farm's growth journey from a demonstration facility to a thriving agricultural enterprise. Discussions highlighted the importance of innovative farming practices, food sustainability, and the growing need for climate-smart agricultural approaches to strengthen local food systems and community resilience.

During a guided tour of the facility, the delegation gained firsthand insight into Aviclaire Farms' practical approach to modern and intentional agriculture. The visit provided an opportunity to showcase sustainable farming methods, operational systems, and ongoing efforts to contribute meaningfully to food production and agricultural development in the state.

The Chairman of NACOLGDA, Pastor Lucy Isong, commended the farm's achievements and expressed appreciation for its contribution to agricultural advancement and food security. The engagement reinforced the value of multi-stakeholder collaboration in driving innovation, strengthening local agricultural capacity, and building a more resilient future for communities across Akwa Ibom State and beyond.





ECEWS Drives Lenacapavir PrEP Access in Ebonyi, Akwa Ibom, Cross River States

Nigeria has taken another bold step in the fight against HIV with the introduction of Lenacapavir PrEP, a new long-acting injectable for HIV prevention administered just twice a year. The rollout marks a major milestone in expanding access to innovative, people-centered HIV prevention services across the country.

As part of this national effort, Ebonyi, Akwa Ibom, and Cross River States were selected among the first states in Nigeria to commence the rollout of Lenacapavir PrEP, reinforcing their commitment to advancing HIV prevention and improving healthcare access for vulnerable populations.

In Cross River State, ECEWS joined the State Ministry of Health, partners, and stakeholders at the official launch held at General Hospital, Mary Slessor Avenue, Calabar. The event highlighted the state's readiness to scale innovative HIV prevention services and strengthen community access to care.

Similarly, Ebonyi State officially flagged off the administration of Lenacapavir PrEP in May 2026 at General Hospital Ezzangbo, where the first client

received the injection in the presence of the Honourable Commissioner for Health, Dr. Moses Ekuma. The event marked the commencement of the rollout across 8+1 supported facilities in the state.

The flag-off brought together representatives from the Government of Nigeria, National AIDS and STIs Control Programme, State AIDS and STIs Control Programme, National Agency for the Control of AIDS, State Action Committee on AIDS, community-based organizations, implementing partners, community leaders, and PrEP focal persons from supported facilities.

Speaking during the event, the Honourable Commissioner for Health commended the Global Fund, Institute of Human Virology Nigeria, and ECEWS for selecting Ebonyi State as one of the pioneering states for the rollout of Lenacapavir PrEP in Nigeria.

The occasion was coordinated by ECEWS, with one of its trained healthcare providers administering the first injection to a client, a milestone representing months of preparation, training, collaboration, and strategic partnership.

Lenacapavir PrEP is now available across nine supported facilities in Ebonyi State, including One Stop Shop (OSS), General Hospital Ezzangbo, General Hospital Onueke, General Hospital Ishiegu, ROMECH Hospital Afikpo, St. Patrick Mile 4 Hospital, AE-FUTHA, Police Clinic, and EBSU General Hospital Uburu.

For individuals who face challenges with daily oral HIV prevention medication, Lenacapavir offers a transformative alternative, one injection providing months of protection. This breakthrough represents more than a medical advancement; it reflects a renewed commitment to reducing new HIV infections, expanding prevention choices, and moving closer to an AIDS-free generation.



ECEWS, GIFA Promote Climate Action for Uyo Communities



As part of activities marking World Environment Day 2026, ECEWS participated in the Climate Change Mitigation Programme organized by the Patience Umo Eno Golden Initiative for All (GIFA) in Uyo, Akwa Ibom State.

Representing the CEO of ECEWS, Deputy Chief of Party Dr. Otoyo Toyo served as a panelist, sharing practical insights on environmental sustainability and climate change mitigation.

The programme brought together students, farmers, market women, and other stakeholders to deepen environmental awareness and promote sustainable actions that build healthier, more resilient communities.

At ECEWS, we recognize that protecting our environment is essential to safeguarding livelihoods, improving health outcomes, and securing a sustainable future for generations to come.





ECEWS, MWAN Strengthen Health Partnership in Akwa Ibom

ECEWS was delighted to host officials of the Medical Women's Association of Nigeria, Akwa Ibom State Branch (MWAN), at the ECEWS Headquarters during a courtesy and appreciation visit.

Led by their President, Dr. Mary Udoh, the delegation expressed gratitude for ECEWS' continued support for health promotion initiatives. They also commended ECEWS for its generous contribution to the MWAN-AKS ₦50 Million Endowment Fund, dedicated to cancer awareness, prevention, and treatment.

The visit underscored the importance of strategic partnerships in advancing public health and improving the well-being of communities.

Receiving the delegation, CEO Dr. Andy Eyo reaffirmed ECEWS' commitment to supporting impactful initiatives in health, education, and community development. He also encouraged the association to strengthen its governance and documentation systems, noting that strong institutional structures are essential for attracting larger partnerships, expanding opportunities, and delivering sustainable impact.

ECEWS believes that lasting change is achieved through collaboration, and we remain committed to working with partners who share our vision of healthier, stronger, and more resilient communities.



Sustaining Akuku- Toru CHIS Healthcare Through Its Board



The Akuku-Toru Community Health Insurance Scheme (CHIS) took a significant step forward on the 7th of April 2026 with the holding of its inaugural Governing Board meeting. Launched the previous year with over 2300+ enrollees accessing care at the Model Primary Healthcare Centre in Abonnema, the Scheme has been steadily building the structures needed to deliver sustainable, community-centred healthcare financing across the local government area.

The inaugural meeting provided an opportunity to formally constitute the Governing Board, review the background and objectives of the Scheme, consider its governance and operational framework, and agree on priorities and the path ahead. The seven-member Board brings together a cross-section of critical stakeholders: Hon. Abioya-a Bob Fubara, Chairman of Akuku-

Toru Local Government Area, serves as Board Chairman; Dr. Akinwumi Fajola and Dr. Aloni Alali represent Renaissance, Dr. Emmanuel Wornu represents the Rivers State Primary Healthcare Management Board, Chief Dr. M. S. D. Bob-Manuel sits as the community representative, Dr. Otoyoy Toyo represents ECEWS, and Dr. Andrew Etete represents the facility.

During the meeting, Dr. Abiye Somiari delivered a comprehensive presentation covering stakeholder engagements conducted to date, progress on the ongoing facility remodelling, enrolment figures, the benefit package, service delivery updates, the CHIS governance structure, and the financial position of the Scheme. The presentation was followed by an open session of questions, comments, and clarifications from all members

present. The Project Director, Dr. Otoyoy Toyo, subsequently provided an overview of the Scheme's operational guidelines and invited all Board members to review the document thoroughly ahead of the next meeting, at which corrections and final ratification will be considered.

Members agreed that the Board will convene quarterly, with the next meeting scheduled for June 2026. This inaugural sitting marks a strong foundation for the governance of the Akuku-Toru CHIS, one that positions the Scheme for greater operational effectiveness, improved service delivery, and better health outcomes for the people of Akuku-Toru Local Government Area.

ECEWS Moves to Establish Pharmacovigilance Committee in Cross River State

In a proactive step toward strengthening drug safety oversight within paediatric antiretroviral therapy (ART) programs, the ECEWS Pharmacy Team in Cross River State paid a courtesy visit to the Cross River State Director of Pharmaceutical Services during the week of March 30, 2026. The visit centered on collaborative plans to establish a state-level Pharmacovigilance (PV) Committee to oversee adherence to drug safety protocols and strengthen regulatory compliance across supported facilities.

The proposed committee would bring together pharmacists with expertise in drug handling, a pharmacy focal person for facility-level coordination, and the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control

(NAFDAC) representative for regulatory oversight. The Director received the team warmly and pledged the state government's full support. A follow-up meeting was subsequently scheduled to formally inaugurate the committee and begin work on adverse event reporting, staff training, and pharmacy audits.

The establishment of the Pharmacovigilance Committee is expected to deliver meaningful improvements to pediatric ART programs by minimizing treatment interruptions and losses to follow-up, ensuring viral suppression through Enhanced Adherence Counselling (EAC), and addressing gaps in post-EAC viral load sampling. The initiative aligns with national pharmacovigilance goals

under Nigeria's Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH) and National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) frameworks and holds significant potential to reduce ART-related adverse events and improve long-term client retention across Cross River State.





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