The African Alliance of digital health networks transitions to a fully independent initiative, ending incubation support from Digital Square.

Washington, DC, USA, and Abuja, Nigeria, June 15, 2020 — PATH’s Digital Square initiative and the African Alliance of digital health networks are announcing the conclusion of incubation support to the African Alliance. The African Alliance of digital health networks will now function as a fully independent entity.

Launched in May 2018, the African Alliance was envisioned as a wholly independent, African-based initiative. Digital Square has served as the incubator for the African Alliance since 2017, providing the technical, operational, and financial support for establishing the initiative and catalyzing its work.

“As the African Alliance enters this next phase of our existence, we will continue to collaborate with countries and partners—within and beyond Africa—to catalyze appropriate digital health leaders for the continent. We say a huge thank you to Digital Square and others for the support and collaboration that helped us to raise the profile of digital health in Africa. We look forward to working with you all to ensure Africa is appropriately capacitated to own, lead, and direct digital health initiatives.” —Olasupo Oyedepo, Director of African Alliance of digital health networks

The African Alliance has focused its efforts on three domains: raising the visibility of the African Alliance, promoting collaboration with partners and networks in the digital health space, and building capacity for digital health leadership in Africa. Its Digital Health Leadership Program has enrolled 28 participants from 11 countries, resulting in technical certifications for the majority of participants.

To demonstrate full autonomy of the African Alliance, Digital Square has resigned its position on the African Alliance Advisory Board and ended direct support to the network. Digital Square will continue working with regional initiatives, offering services as outlined in the Digital Square strategy.

“Digital transformation is an exciting movement to be a part of, but ultimately the innovations it brings are in service of regional and country leaders and the health systems they oversee. Digital Square continues our work to support leaders and deepen country ownership of digital health systems.” —Skye Gilbert, Executive Director of Digital Square at PATH
Both the African Alliance and Digital Square are committed to advancing a strong, sustainable, and country-led digital health sector on the African continent. They will continue to pursue activities aligned with their individual missions and roles within the digital health sector.

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About the African Alliance of digital health networks
The African Alliance of digital health networks (African Alliance) works to ensure that African countries have the support and resources needed to develop strong digital health systems that improve health impact, create the demand for digital innovations, and drive local job creation and a robust local digital health economy. 
www.africanalliance.digital

About Digital Square
Digital Square addresses the need for a thriving marketplace for digital health. Digital Square brings partners together to improve how the global community designs, uses, and pays for digital health tools and approaches. By strengthening the coordination among partners, Digital Square reorients the market to better match tools and approaches to the needs of countries and communities. 
www.digitalsquare.org