Africa eHealth Solutions International (AeHS)

Africa eHealth Solutions International (AeHS) is a pan-African network of software developers and implementers founded by the Dutch ICT4D expert organization IICD and the Tanzanian IT-company NPK Technologies Ltd., with support of the Christian Social Services Commission of Tanzania (CSSC).

As a collective, AeHS strives to develop high-quality, affordable ICT-based solutions for the African health market, with a focus on integrated data management solutions, enabling healthcare providers operating at different levels of the health system to further improve the quality of their health services.

History
The foundation of Africa eHealth Solutions is the result of IICD’s experience with implementing technology-enabled health innovations. Over the years IICD has seen the number of vendors and solutions rapidly growing as a result of a growing capacity and willingness at local level to support technology solutions combined with foreign vendors discovering the African health market. Though the development in itself is encouraging, a side effect of it is the existence of a wide variety of tailored solutions limiting further scaling and development of individual solutions. This is particularly disadvantageous for healthcare providers. For this reason IICD initiated the founding of AeHS as a network organization which brings together users, developers and implementers who each contribute in their own way to the quality and sustainability of specific software solutions. Software is reviewed and shared within the network, resulting in robust solutions fit for a wider context that are tested and used in multiple countries. Financial resources for software development are pooled by users of the software, who in return are entitled to new releases based on suggestions and feedback from this same user group.

Solutions & services
AeHS current product portfolio includes services and a number of solutions:

- Hospital Management Information Systems based on AfyaPro
- Performance-Based Financing Systems based on DHIS2
- Beneficiary eVoucher Systems
- Mobile data collection tools

Of this product portfolio HMIS is requested more frequently: the electronic Hospital Management Information System based on the use of the AfyaPro software is already successfully marketed and implemented in Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Congo Brazzaville and Malawi.

Key services provided by AeHS include technical support, training, change management, and consultancies.

Organisational structure
Africa eHealth Solutions is a network organisation with members consisting of users, developers and implementers. The network is coordinated and overlooked by a central office in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Organisations or companies who have implemented software developed by the network partners can choose to become member of the network at a fee. Members are entitled to new releases of the software in AeHS’s portfolio. By sharing user experiences and ideas for product improvement, members also contribute to
the further development of the software and the knowledge base on effective implementation and use of particular products.

For development, customisation and rollout of software, AeHS International works with local (private) entities in Tanzania, Malawi and Zimbabwe, as well as a select number of local and international partners and private consultants. Among the current partners are AfyaC4C (Tanzania), Zalongwa (Tanzania), Hyper Tech (Malawi), ICT Warehouse (Zimbabwe), and CERTES (Mali).

For more information, see www.aeh-s.com