

SoftTech a partner in bringing wireless, cloud-based technologies to African labs, 4/13:86

The African Society of Laboratory Medicine, working in conjunction with the CDC, Clinton Health Access Initiative, UNAIDS, and WHO/AFRO, has partnered with SoftTech Health in a program to network the laboratories continentwide with the LabQMS (Quality Management Software).

The first site for the new partnership is the KEMRI/CDC HIVR lab in Kenya. “The SoftTech system is transforming the Kenya Medical Research Institute/CDC HIV Research laboratory into a paperless, efficiency-driven organization that makes critical information available instantly,” Dr. Clement Zeh, director of the KEMRI/CDC HIVR lab, said in a statement.

Since its inception in 2011, the African Society of Laboratory Medicine, recognizing that efficient and accurate diagnostic services are critical to patient health, has focused on building capacity in African labs.

“By skipping right over the traditional processes of establishing physical infrastructural technologies, and going directly to wireless and cloud-based technologies instead, we’re helping labs in Africa go straight to the front of the line in terms of being able to use the same software tools that the top labs in America use,” Craig Madison, senior partner of SoftTech Health, said in a statement.

As more labs in Africa are able to use the same software systems to streamline and improve day-to-day management, the CDC expects to see more and more labs meet international standards and achieve accredited status as a result. “Our work with the ASLM, and SoftTech Health, has been instrumental in guiding our initiatives to take the field of laboratory medicine to the next level—electronic management of processes,” the CDC’s Carole Moore said in the statement.