



Emerging Leaders' Day: Rising Together

October 17, 2026
Nairobi, Kenya



In partnership with



The acacia tree featured on the cover of this program embodies the spirit of Emerging Leaders' Day: Rising Together. Renowned for its strength, resilience, and ability to flourish in challenging environments, the acacia symbolizes the qualities of emerging leaders.

Its deep roots reflect the values, purpose, and integrity that anchor effective leadership, while its growing trunk and expansive branches represent continuous learning, meaningful collaboration, and the positive impact leaders create within their teams and communities.

Like the acacia, leadership is strengthened through growth, adaptability, and connection. The tree reminds us that true leadership is not only about individual achievement, but about supporting one another, growing together, and creating a stronger future for all.



Karibu!

Welcome to Emerging Leaders' Day

Emerging Leaders' Day: Rising Together is an official side event of the 2026 Africa Health Collaborative Convening, co-created by the Reach Alliance and the Africa Health Collaborative, in partnership with the Mastercard Foundation.

At Amref International University in Nairobi, this full-day gathering brings together emerging leaders from the nine Africa Health Collaborative universities. Together, participants represent a growing community of students and emerging leaders committed to advancing primary health care through research, innovation, leadership, and community engagement.

Emerging leaders are already helping shape the future of health in Africa. However, opportunities to connect across institutions, strengthen leadership practice, and contribute meaningfully remain limited. Emerging Leaders' Day was created to help bridge that gap by creating space for collaboration, learning, and shared leadership.



Along the way, we hope to strengthen interdisciplinary peer networks, spotlight African-led student research, build values-based leadership skills, and foster intergenerational mentorship and dialogue.

Our hope is that every participant leaves with a stronger sense of purpose, greater confidence in your leadership, and an expanded network of peers and mentors who will continue to support your journey. Most importantly, we hope this experience reinforces your role as a co-builder of Africa's health future.

Thank you for joining us. We are honoured to welcome you to Nairobi and look forward to learning, collaborating, and rising together.

Sincerely,

Malin MacLeod

Executive Director, Reach Alliance

John Nyagaka

Chair and University of Toronto Representative, Africa Health Collaborative Youth Leaders Table

Awatit

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research and Community Extension, Amref International University



Emerging Leaders' Day is co-created by a diverse team.

The Reach Alliance



The Reach Alliance (Reach) is a consortium of global universities developing the leaders we need to solve urgent local challenges of the hard to reach — those underserved for geographic, administrative, or social reasons.

Working in interdisciplinary teams, Reach's globally minded students use rigorous research methods to identify innovative solutions to climate, public health, and economic challenges.

Research is conducted in collaboration with local communities and with guidance from university faculty members, building capacity and skills among Reach's student researchers.

The power of the Reach Alliance stems from engaging leading universities to unleash actionable research insights for impact. These insights have been published in academic journals and taken up by policymakers and sector leaders around the world.

Africa Health Collaborative

The Africa Health Collaborative (AHC) brings together nine universities across Africa and Canada, in partnership with the Mastercard Foundation, to strengthen primary health care by training 30,000 health professionals and supporting 5,000 youth-led health ventures.

The annual Convening serves as a catalytic platform for learning, partnership, and action, creating space for policy, investment, research, and innovation to align around African-led solutions and the continent's growing network of researchers, practitioners, and change-makers.



Amref International University

Amref International University (AMIU) is a chartered, premier Pan-African institution of higher learning, established in 2017 and dedicated to advancing excellence in health sciences education.

Rooted in over six decades of experience and expertise from Amref Health Africa, AMIU provides a globally informed and community-centred approach to training the next generation of health professionals.



**Amref International
University**

Advancing Actionable Research Through the Reach Alliance

Reach Research in Africa

Reach partners with three Africa-based universities: Amref International University, Ashesi University, and the University of Cape Town. Together, Reach's consortium of ten global universities have completed 25 research projects across 15 countries in Africa.

Collaborating Across Sectors

- Addressing urgent climate, public health, and economic challenges of those under-served for geographic, administrative, or social reasons

Identifying Solutions

- Tackling these complex challenges in collaboration with local communities resulting in actionable research insights

Creating Impact

- Catalyzing direct support for communities by building partnerships with policymakers and sector leaders, accelerating innovation, and improving local implementation

Reach Research Projects in Africa



Publishing Peer-Reviewed Research for Action and Impact

The power of the Reach Alliance stems from engaging leading universities to unleash actionable research insights for impact. These insights have been published in academic journals while also informing policies, programs, policymakers, and sector leaders around the world.



THE LANCET

Near universal childhood vaccination rates in Rwanda: how was this achieved and can it be duplicated?



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF HEALTHCARE

Making sense of Rwanda's remarkable vaccine coverage success



HEALTH PROMOTION PRACTICE

Bolstering Access to HIV-Related Health care in Zimbabwe Among Young Mothers Living With HIV...



GLOBAL POLICY

Climate Resilience at the Margins: Five Key Lessons from Last Mile Populations



SUSTAINABLE EARTH REVIEWS

Learning in action: embedding the SDGs through the Reach Alliance



HEALTH SERVICES INSIGHTS

The Role of Health Policy and Systems in the Uptake of Community-Based Health Insurance Schemes in Low- a...

Agenda

Arrival & Registration

- 9:00 – 9:30 Arrive at AMIU before 9:30 a.m. to collect your name tag and program materials. The event will start promptly at 9:30 a.m.
-

Welcome

- 9:30 – 10:00 Opening remarks from the Reach Alliance, Africa Health Collaborative Youth Leaders Table, and Amref International University, and expressive arts performance by Moffat Muchui.
-

Fireside Chat

- 10:00 – 10:45 Intergenerational conversation on leadership and accountability.
-

Coffee & Tea Break

- 10:45 – 11:15 Informal networking opportunity for participants to connect across institutions.



African-led Research Spotlight

11:15 – 1:00 Emerging leaders share their research for feedback and discussion.

Lunch & Networking

1:00 – 2:00 Dedicated time for cross-institutional peer connection and informal relationship building among participants.

Workshop

2:00 – 4:30 Interactive workshop introduces Giving Voice to Values — a leadership framework for navigating ethical dilemmas through case studies tailored to early-career researchers and professionals. There will be a short break in middle of the workshop.

Closing Session & Call to Action

4:30 – 5:00 Bridge between Emerging Leaders' Day and the broader Africa Health Collaborative Convening.



"Africa has the world's youngest and one of its largest youth populations. Young people must therefore be at the centre of research, leadership, and solution-building, not simply as participants, but as co-creators of Africa's future."

*– Emmanuel Naturinda
Reach Alliance Researcher & Mastercard Foundation Scholar*



Emerging Leaders' Day Organizing Committee



[Nice Cailie Ineza](#)

Reach Alliance Alumna,
Ashesi University;
Associate Data
Scientist, World Data
Lab



[Marin MacLeod](#)

Executive Director,
Reach Alliance



[John Nyagaka](#)

Chair and University of
Toronto
Representative, AHC
Youth Leaders Table;
Research Officer,
University of Toronto



[Beryl Oborah](#)

Amref International
University
Representative, AHC
Youth Leaders Table;
Student, Amref
International University



[Eudora Sackey](#)

2024 Chair, AHC Youth
Leaders Table; Clinical
Researcher, Global
Health and Infectious
Diseases



[Tiffany Wanjiru](#)

2024 Member, AHC
Youth Leaders Table;
Student, Amref
International University

Reach Alliance Researchers & Alumni



Ayesha Ali

Reach Alliance Alum,
University of Toronto



**Tinsae Getachew
Bahiru**

Reach Alliance
Researcher, Addis
Ababa University



Nellie Kamau

Reach Alliance Alum,
University of Toronto



Andrew Mofolo

Reach Alliance
Researcher, University
of Cape Town



Florence Muvu

Reach Alliance
Researcher, Amref
International University



Hilder Mwitalie

Reach Alliance
Researcher, Amref
International University



**Emmanuel
Naturinda**

Reach Alliance
Researcher, University
of Toronto



**Nicole Uzile
Sibanda**

Reach Alliance
Researcher, Ashesi
University



Wilson Tompoi

Reach Alliance
Researcher, Amref
International University



Peter Tongoyo

Reach Alliance
Researcher, Amref
International University

Africa Health Collaborative Youth Leaders Table



[Carine Idani](#)

Member, African
Institute of
Mathematical
Sciences Rwanda



[Yvonne Kyule](#)

Member, Moi
University



[Nicole Nanka-
Bruce](#)

Member, Ashesi
University



[Nathina Pakade](#)

Member, University of
Cape Town



[Christiana Teiko](#)

Member, Kwame
Nkrumah Institute of
Science and
Technology



[Cynthia
Umugwaneza](#)

Member, Africa
Leadership University



**Mihret
Geberetsadik**

Member, Addis Ababa
University



The Africa Health Collaborative Youth Leaders Table at the 2025 Convening in Kigali.

Reach Alliance Faculty & Leadership Team



[Angela Owusu-Ansah](#)

Provost, Ashesi University



[Katusha De Villiers](#)

Senior Project Manager, University of Cape Town



[Erica Di Ruggiero](#)

Director of the Centre for Global Health, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto



[Alice Lakati](#)

Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research and Community Extension, Amref International University



[Peninah Masibo](#)

Associate Professor, Amref International University



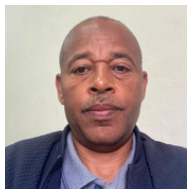
[Tracey Naledi](#)

Deputy Dean, Social Accountability and Health Systems, University of Cape Town



Solange Rosa

Director, Bertha Centre
or Social Innovation
and Entrepreneurship,
University of Cape
Town



Desalegn Wana

Associate Professor,
Addis Ababa University



**Dawit
Wondimagegn**

Co-Lead, Toronto
Addis Ababa Academic
Collaboration,
Addis Ababa University



Joseph Wong

Vice-President
International, University
of Toronto

Expressive Art Performance

Emerging leaders rise when every voice has the opportunity to lead.



Conceptualized by Nice Caillie Ineza and Moffat Muchui. Art sketch by Moffat Muchui.

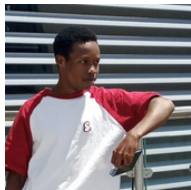
Beyond a Seat at the Table

This artwork envisions a future where emerging leaders are not waiting for permission to shape society — they are already helping lead it. At its centre is a university student actively leading a conversation with other individuals (representing policymakers, researchers, community leaders, and change-makers) from across generations.

It reflects the belief that emerging leaders should not simply be included in societal discussions, but rather should have meaningful opportunities to shape them. The scene emphasizes collaboration, shared leadership, and the exchange of ideas between experienced leaders and the next generation.

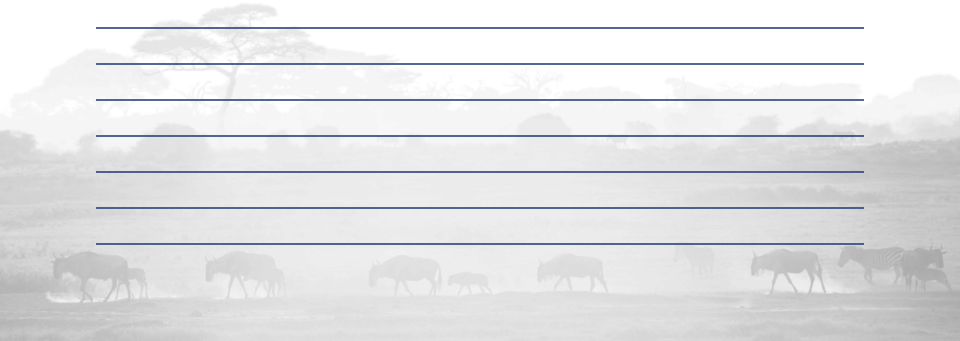
Inspired by Reach Alliance's mission and vision, the piece celebrates the power of research, inclusion, and locally driven solutions to global challenges. By placing a student at the helm, the artwork symbolizes the importance of empowering emerging leaders to contribute alongside established voices, demonstrating that lasting impact is achieved when diverse perspectives come together to build more equitable and sustainable communities.

The artwork serves as a visual reminder that meaningful change happens when leadership is shared across generations, diverse perspectives are welcomed, and every voice has the opportunity to influence the decisions that shape our communities and our world.



Moffat Muchui

Contemporary Artist; Undergraduate Student,
Amref International University

A faint, artistic background image of a savanna landscape. It features several acacia trees with flat tops, typical of African savannas. In the lower portion, there is a herd of animals, possibly wildebeest or zebra, grazing in a grassy field. The overall tone is light and ethereal, with a soft focus effect. The image is overlaid with horizontal blue lines, suggesting it is a page from a notebook or a template for writing.



The bead pattern featured on the cover of this program was generated by Nice Cailie Ineza using a Bead Pattern Designer Tool, developed with code generated and assisted by Claude Sonnet (Anthropic) through Claude Code. During the pattern development, an iStock image of a Kenyan beaded necklace was used as a source of inspiration and design reference.

 [The Reach Alliance | Africa Health Collaborative](#)

 [@reachallianceto | @africahealthcollaborative](#)

 [www.reachalliance.org | www.africahealthcollaborative.org](#)

