In 2012, IntraHealth and our Clinton Global Initiative partners committed to using locally designed technology to develop the next generation of computer- and mobile-based learning (e/mLearning) for Kenya’s frontline health workers. Since then, IntraHealth and its consortium of government and private-sector partners have not only developed two eLearning programs, but also leveraged the collective capacity of the consortium to lay the foundation for an integrated eLearning framework for Kenya’s health sector.

The effective design and delivery of high-quality eLearning content can reach exponentially more health workers than traditional training can—and at a fraction of the cost. Training more health workers and training them closer to their places of work promises to give more Kenyans access to high-quality health care based on up-to-date standards of practice, while also freeing up health sector resources.

IntraHealth’s CGI consortium has the membership and expertise to bridge the promise of e/mLearning with a sustainable reality in Kenya and has developed a framework for aligning stakeholders and their activities into a unified effort. The consortium is working with the Government of Kenya to strengthen the country’s regulatory environment for e/mLearning. We are also working with partners to select technologies and strategies that will address common barriers to using e/mLearning effectively, such as the limited capacity of training institutions in eLearning methods and technologies, and lack of coordination across government and regulatory bodies.

IntraHealth and its partners are now working through and with a network of eight regional training institutions across Kenya to enhance access to technology-assisted training programs. IntraHealth has an ongoing partnership with these institutions, which allows us to leverage existing relationships and content.
Highlights from the past year:

- IntraHealth worked with Kenya’s Mission for Essential Drugs and Supplies (MEDS) to develop commodities-management eLearning courses and offer them through the Intel Skoool platform. Through the course, health workers learn how to accurately project and budget for the medicines their communities need. The courses also help participants prevent overstocking—which can lead to expired supplies and waste—by establishing appropriate stock holding levels. And the online format allows workers to get the training they need without necessarily leaving their places of work.

- IntraHealth, the African Medical and Research Foundation (AMREF), the Ministry of Health, and iHub collaborated to convert and deliver e-induction courses to newly hired health workers. These courses orient new workers to the health sector and to Kenya’s newly devolved government structure.

- IntraHealth and AMREF trained 30 eLearning content developers from mid-level colleges and universities in Kenya. The content developers have begun converting courses in their respective training institutions into eLearning modules.

- IntraHealth and Avallain are working closely with the Kenya National AIDS & STI Control Programme to develop eLearning modules for Kenya’s new HIV harmonized curriculum.

In the coming year, IntraHealth and its partners will begin developing accreditation guidelines for e/mLearning. And we will continue to bridge the promise of e/mLearning with a reality that opens up technology, training, and content to health workers on the front lines of care in Kenya.