

Supply Chain Integrators: *Catalyzing Transformations in Primary Health Care*

VillageReach works with governments to transform health care delivery to reach everyone by strengthening supply chains, tech-enabled approaches for primary health care (PHC) delivery and collaboration with the private sector. To achieve impact at the last mile, especially for the most under-served, requires focusing on all levels of the system with an emphasis on embedding people-centered supply chains in national plans and policies, subnational delivery models, and community-level service delivery.



VillageReach’s **Supply Chain Integrators** is a catalytic investment to build health supply chains that are demand-driven, resilient and integrated. Integration goes beyond vertical to horizontal product integration, as the term is often used, broadening it to include the many ways integration improves supply chain performance, including the integration of the private sector into public sector delivery models and the integration of a range of funders at multiple levels. PHC systems, and the supply chains that support them, require leaders with the ability to integrate: to weave together seemingly disparate programs and actors in a way that strengthens the whole.

Building on past and current investments by global partners, this investment places collaboration at the forefront. Diverse actors lead to innovation and increased sustainability, even when collaboration is harder than moving alone. We depend on collaboration and co-investment with multiple partners.

Recognizing that exemplars of innovation lay beyond the public sector, we aim to create space for new and non-traditional partners to support public health supply chains. For innovation to succeed at scale, solutions must be co-designed with local leaders, who then drive advocacy locally, regionally and globally. Sustaining supply chain improvements requires technical and managerial leadership, with a path to professionalization. This investment will expand the pipeline of African supply chain leaders, particularly women, who can effectively highlight the changes needed to national, regional and global influencers.

Overall, the investment aims to achieve the following objectives:



Program Objectives:



Public health supply chains are more integrated and resilient

Resilient, high-performing and agile supply chains form the basis for strong primary health care systems. This investment enables data-driven and resilient supply chains, critical for equitably responding to COVID-19 while also preparing for other shocks to health systems that may come in the future. We will deploy our supply chain equity framework to ensure potent products are available and accessible for everyone. We will leverage our experience strengthening public health supply chains in Mozambique, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and other low- and middle-income countries to promote evidence-driven frameworks on resiliency and equity.



Government leadership and stewardship of supply chain investments are strengthened

With the fragmentation of supply chain investment between donors, the verticalization of investments within projects, and the overall scarcity of domestic resources to invest, supply chain leaders need the visibility and tools to manage and coordinate supply chain investments. VillageReach will build and scale a model for impactful coordination mechanisms that improve supply chain performance and use of both donor-driven and domestic supply-chain investments at the national and subnational level.



Private sector increases participation in primary health care

In many countries, the private sector has demonstrated the capacity to make and maintain the physical assets, people and information needed to deliver consistent and efficient performance. This investment will increase the private sector's role in public health supply chains through both outsourcing and leveraging innovative distributors.



Funders and implementers integrate perspectives and practices for supply chain integration

Supply chain integration should be driven by African models and African leadership. We will support and amplify voices of African supply chain leaders, and synthesize and disseminate evidence that governments need for cost-effectiveness, impact, sustainability and use. Over time, we expect country stakeholders to adopt changes, regional bodies to support these changes and share them with other countries, and global bilateral and multilateral funders to alter the way their funding is designed and delivered.

For more information,
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