BACKGROUND

The Immunization Collaborative Supply Planning Strengthening (ICSPS) project strengthens the capacity and agency of four countries to apply evidence-based forecasting and supply planning (FSP) decisions. The project also applies alternative FSP approaches and test improvements in vaccine supply and access. A network of immunization stakeholders and partners are involved from global, regional, and country levels, including Ministries of Health, WHO, UNICEF, GAVI, Africa CDC, JSI (with funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation), VillageReach, CHAI, inSupply, and WI-HER.

In 2021, the Vaccine Collaborative Supply Chain (VCSP) Initiative partnered with 15 countries to standardize a process to collect and analyze COVID-19 vaccine roll-out information and increase partner and government capacity to respond to supply decisions. Central to the approach was engaging countries in these FSP processes and facilitating decisions about shipments based on usage patterns, program activities, and the global supply dynamic. VCSP supported country-level activities to collect, aggregate, and triangulate various data sets, and provide insights by analyzing COVID-19 vaccine availability and needs. This informed global planning and highlighted opportunities for process improvements.
Building on VCSP’s efforts and country-level focus, ICSPS will engage with immunization programs and partners in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Ethiopia, Mozambique, and Nigeria and apply lessons learned from VCSP to strengthen current routine immunization data systems and data analysis to provide insights for more agile and responsive vaccine supply decisions, particularly around the timing and quantity of needed shipments. By the end of the project, we hope that these country-level learnings will contribute to global-level resources for forecasting and supply planning through technical support and global guidance.

OUR APPROACHES

The ICSPS Project’s approach will be to strengthen the capacity and agency of countries to apply evidence-based FSP approaches to improve the availability of vaccines:

CRITICAL LEVERS FOR CHANGE

• Appropriate and high-quality data are routinely collected in reporting systems and used in the analysis that enables improved FSP decision-making.

• Strengthened vaccine country-adapted FSP guidance and associated standard operating procedures to enable critical decision-makers to apply additional vaccine FSP approaches.

• Global leaders reached a consensus on the additional effective FSP methods, revised the global FSP guidance, and can support and implement alternative vaccine FSP methods.

OUR GOAL

• **Achieve sustainable, systematic immunization supply chain changes**: Increase coverage, reduce waste, and decrease zero-dose children by testing data availability, analytics for FSP, and improving system capacity.

• **Showcase alternative FSP approaches**: Generate evidence to support transformational change in FSP, aiding practices at national and global levels.

For more information about this project, please contact:
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