The Mastercard Foundation is deploying $1.5 billion in partnership with the Africa CDC to save the lives and livelihoods of millions of people in Africa, hastening the economic recovery of the continent.

This bold partnership is ensuring vaccine equity for Africa by purchasing vaccines for more than 65 million people, supporting the delivery of vaccinations to millions more, and integrating into and supporting the delivery of routine immunization ensuring the strengthening of public health systems in Africa.

The Saving Lives and Livelihoods initiative is assuring the long-term health security of the continent by developing the workforce for vaccine manufacturing in Africa and strengthening the Africa CDC.

This partnership is an enabler of, and a contributor to, the Foundation’s Young Africa Works strategy, which seeks to enable 30 million young people, particularly young women, to access dignified and fulfilling work by 2030.
COVID-19 in Africa: Where are we today?

Currently, 14 African nations have vaccinated 70 percent of their eligible population with the COVID-19 vaccine, according to the WHO. Tanzania and São Tomé and Príncipe have fully vaccinated their populations, while Botswana has immunised 94 percent of theirs. Mauritius, Seychelles, and Somalia have vaccinated over 90 percent of their eligible population. Comoros, Liberia, Rwanda, and Zambia have vaccinated about 80 percent of the eligible population.

Meanwhile, approximately 51.7 percent of the continent’s eligible population is fully vaccinated.

More than 12 million COVID-19 cases have been reported in Africa since the outbreak began. Egypt, Ethiopia, Libya, Morocco, South Africa, and Tunisia have reported the greatest number of cases.

### Top 10 countries in Africa where vaccines have been administered

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Vaccinated Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>183 million</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>175 million</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>76 million</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>66 million</td>
<td>103%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>55 million</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>47 million</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07</td>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>35 million</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08</td>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>33 million</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>31 million</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>28 million</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Africa CDC (2023)
PAVM initiative aims to boost Africa's vaccine production to meet the continent's demand

The Partnerships for African Vaccine Manufacturing (PAVM) aims to enable Africa to produce and supply over 60 percent of the continent’s required vaccine doses by 2040, up from less than 1 percent currently. Currently, Africa’s vaccine manufacturing capacity is nascent, with most of the supply relying on global providers and just five African countries contributing. However, the demand for vaccines in Africa is expected to more than double by 2040.

Achieving the PAVM vision requires significant investment and coordination, as Africa seeks to produce at least 1.5 billion vaccine doses annually by 2040. The potential public market for vaccines in Africa is estimated to reach $3-6 billion by 2040, with a potential upside due to sustained demand for COVID-19 vaccines.

Local African manufacturing currently accounts for only 1 percent of continental demand, with the remaining supply dependent on global providers and multinational corporations. The Framework for Action aims to increase local manufacturing capacity and reduce reliance on external suppliers. Read more.

The Partnerships for African Vaccine Manufacturing (PAVM)

**PAVM GOAL**
Enable Africa to produce and supply over 60 percent of vaccine doses required on the continent by 2040.

**INTERIM GOALS**
10 percent by 2025, 30 percent by 2030.

**CURRENT STATE**
Africa’s vaccine manufacturing capacity is less than 1 percent of continental demand.

**POTENTIAL MARKET VALUE**
Estimated $3-6 billion by 2040 (excluding COVID-19 vaccines), with a potential upside of $10-17 billion.

**AFRICAN MANUFACTURERS**
Currently consolidated in five countries (South Africa, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, and Senegal).
Updates on the Saving Lives and Livelihoods Initiative

Africa CDC responds to WHO's lifting of global COVID-19 emergency status and the transition to long-term strategies

The World Health Organization has lifted the status of COVID-19 as a public health emergency of international concern, owing to global increases in vaccination rates and reduced severe illness and death rates.

In response, the Africa CDC is transitioning to long-term control strategies, consolidating gains from the pandemic response, and focusing on areas such as widespread vaccination, genomic sequencing, health workforce development, and integration of COVID-19 response into primary healthcare systems. Read more.

Saving Lives and Livelihoods Safety Messages

Getting vaccinated against COVID-19 can help to stop the spread of the virus. Don’t miss out, get your vaccine today. #GetVaccinated
Spotlight on Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)

Snapshot of key successes for COVID-19 vaccination acceleration in Africa.

Engaging teens to improve COVID-19 vaccination rates in Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe is witnessing a significant increase in COVID-19 vaccination rates among individuals aged 12 and older. This promising outcome can be attributed to a dedicated social mobilization initiative spearheaded by the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society.

The impactful development is due to broad consultations and awareness campaigns that have effectively dispelled numerous myths, fears, and misconceptions about the vaccine that initially circulated at the onset of the pandemic. Learners, particularly in higher grades at the primary school level, now comprehend the safety and preventative benefits of the COVID-19 vaccine.

The positive response to vaccination messaging from young people in Zimbabwe is a promising step towards achieving herd immunity, potentially relegating COVID-19 to a non-public health emergency status in the region.

Equipped with accurate information, the teenagers now understand the safety measures and the preventive benefits that the COVID-19 vaccine offers.

This significant milestone is a testament to the effectiveness of community-driven initiatives and the power of community engagement.

The Zimbabwe Red Cross Society’s mobilization drive has not only dispelled doubts but has also instilled hope and resilience in the hearts of the nation. By fostering a culture of trust and understanding, they are paving the way for a healthier and more secure future.

As Zimbabwe continues on this trajectory, the collective efforts of the Red Cross volunteers and the unwavering determination of the Zimbabwean teenagers will play a pivotal role in reducing the COVID-19 virus spread. Together, they are forging a path towards a brighter tomorrow, where communities are safeguarded, and the threat of COVID-19 is diminished.
Spotlight on Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)

Door-to-door COVID-19 vaccine mobilization for the elderly in Zimbabwe

In the Dimbamiwa community, Lower Gweru, Midlands Province, Zimbabwe, vaccine hesitancy among the elderly has been fuelled by myths, misconceptions, and rumours about the COVID-19 vaccine. These unfounded beliefs have contributed to many senior citizens remaining unvaccinated.

To counteract this misinformation and reassure the elderly about the benefits of vaccination, the Zimbabwe Red Cross Society has launched a door-to-door mobilization campaign.

This grassroots approach allows trained volunteers to have face-to-face interactions with community members, providing an open platform for them to ask questions and receive correct information about COVID-19 vaccines.

As a result, this approach has created a safe space for community members to express their apprehensions and seek accurate information about COVID-19 vaccines. Through these meaningful conversations many elderly people have been informed, engaged, and referred for vaccination at their nearest health facilities or outreach points, marking a significant stride in the fight against vaccine hesitancy.

The results of this community-driven effort are far-reaching. With each informed elderly individual, the community moves closer to a higher vaccination rate, strengthening its collective defence against COVID-19.

Fostering inclusivity: vaccination drive in the Correctional Facilities

Through a comprehensive social mobilization and vaccination drive, the Malawi Red Cross Society and Amref joined forces to engage inmates at Chichiri Prison. This approach ensures no one is left behind in the fight against COVID-19. Over 2,300 inmates participated in discussions about the vital role of vaccines in saving lives. These informative sessions served as an essential platform for addressing concerns, debunking myths, and fostering a deeper understanding of the importance of COVID-19 vaccination. Following these conversations, approximately 460 inmates received COVID-19 vaccines.

Continues overleaf >>>
This initiative highlights the team's dedication to fostering an inclusive approach to COVID-19 vaccination in Malawi, encompassing even the most marginalized populations. As the fight against COVID-19 continues, the collaboration between these two implementing partners will undoubtedly continue to make a profound impact. Through their joint efforts, they are creating more resilient and protected Malawi communities where every individual, including inmates, can safeguard their health and contribute to the nation's recovery.

Local leaders support COVID-19 vaccination drive in Nigeria

In efforts to enhance COVID-19 vaccination rates and dispel vaccine misconceptions, community health volunteers have embarked on a series of community outreach initiatives across Nigeria.

In Osun, the volunteers spearheaded a visit to one of the paramount rulers, the Ogunsua of Modakeke, Oba Joseph Olubiyi Toriola. After receiving comprehensive information about the vaccines, the king not only pledged to transform his palace into a vaccination site but also committed to sharing accurate vaccine information among his subjects.

Continues overleaf >>>
Meanwhile, in Bauchi, a similar advocacy visit was made to Reverend Abraham Diminnie, Chairman of the Christian Association of Nigeria. Demonstrating his support, Reverend Diminnie pledged to achieve full vaccination among his followers by the end of the year.

In Cross River, volunteers initiated discussions with community leaders about integrated health services with COVID-19 vaccination. The leaders, acknowledging the importance of community-wide vaccination, pledged to motivate their community members to receive the vaccine.

In Abia, volunteers, in partnership with the Abia State Primary Health Authorities, visited the Ariaria International Market. The market's chairman expressed his keen interest in establishing a health centre within the market premises, further cementing his commitment to the health and wellbeing of the traders.

Lastly, outreach expanded to educational institutions, conducting sensitization drives at the University of Calabar and the College of Education Akwanga in Nasarawa State. The initiatives were met with positive reactions, as institutional leaders vowed to support and promote the cause among their students and staff.

As the sensitization drives continue to expand, the commitment from institutional leaders will play a pivotal role in ensuring the success and sustainability of the campaign.
Other Important Developments

Africa CDC and WHO commit to strengthening health security and emergency response in Africa

In a bid to bolster health security and emergency response capabilities in Africa, Africa CDC Director General Dr. Jean Kaseya, met with the WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus at the WHO headquarters in Geneva on May 15, 2023. The two discussed strategies to intensify their collaborative efforts to enhance regional health security.

They further agreed to advance digital health initiatives across the African continent, a move that promises to transform healthcare accessibility and efficiency. Dr. Kaseya expressed satisfaction with the strategic discussions, underlining the shared goal of both organizations to better prepare Africa for any potential health threats.

In a keynote address at the 24th Assembly of Health Ministers of the Economic Community of West African States, Africa CDC Director General Dr. Jean Kaseya emphasized the importance of robust public health systems for pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response among AU member states.

Presenting his vision for the Africa CDC, Dr. Kaseya underlined the need for a strong workforce capable of effectively handling health emergencies. He further reinforced his commitment to fostering a solid collaboration with the West African Health Organization and countries within the region to better equip Africa in its battle against health crises.

Africa CDC Director General advocates for strengthened public health systems at Ecowas Assembly of Health Ministers

Left to right: Africa CDC Director General Dr. Jean Kaseya with the WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus at the WHO headquarters in Geneva on May 15, 2023.

Africa CDC Director General Dr. Jean Kaseya General, speaks on workforce development for pandemic prevention on the sidelines of the 24th Assembly of Health Ministers of Ecowas in Guinea-Bissau, May 13, 2023.
Ghana unveiled national vaccine institute to boost vaccine production and manufacturing

Ghana inaugurated the National Vaccine Institute (NVI) to spearhead the development and manufacturing of vaccines within the country. President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo officially commissioned the NVI board and its secretariat on May 10, 2023, highlighting the need for self-reliance in vaccine production to overcome challenges associated with international distribution.

The NVI will coordinate and facilitate the capacity of domestic pharmaceutical companies to fill, finish, and package mRNA COVID-19 vaccines and those for malaria and tuberculosis.

President Akufo-Addo expressed his full support for making Ghana a vaccine manufacturing hub in West Africa and the entire continent, aiming to enhance the nation's healthcare capabilities and ensure a sustained supply of vaccines. Read more.

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