

## **Scaling and Sustaining the Integrated Vaccine & Other Health Commodities Last Mile Delivery (LMD) Model in Kenya**

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Kenya

**S**tatement of the Problem: Health commodities distribution systems within the supply chain in Kenya, spanning from the National, county and sub-national levels to health facilities, are often costly and ineffective, due to ad hoc collection of commodities, poor planning and resource constraints. This leads to frequent stock outs or overstocking that disrupts service delivery. Methodology & Theoretical Orientation: The Kenya's Ministry of Health - National Vaccines and Immunization Program (NVIP), in collaboration with the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) and county leadership, implemented an in-sourced LMD model to improve distribution efficiency. Initially piloted in three counties - Kwale, Kisii and Uasin Gishu from August 2019 to July 2022 and later scaled to include Transnzoia, Kericho, Kilifi and Nairobi from October 2022 to date. The LMD model was integrated into the Health Products & Technologies Unit (HPTU). Findings: The implementation of the Last Mile Delivery (LMD) system in Kenya has yielded notable achievements in the 7 counties.

**Conclusion & Significance:** The LMD system has significantly improved vaccine and commodity distribution. This model demonstrates reduced lead times, stock outs, and enhanced stock adequacy. The incorporation of the HPTU strengthened the pull system, transformed distribution culture, and ensured continuous performance monitoring and corrective actions. To scale and sustain these improvements, continuous planning, resource allocation, capacity building, and integrated funding, leveraging the lessons learned and proven strategies.

### **Biography**

Faith Mutuku Public Health Specialist, with core expertise in health & immunization systems strengthening, program development & management, health technology introduction & evaluation, and health policy advocacy. She has over 15 years of industry experience laden with achievements in delivering specialized healthcare-based development programs such as immunization initiatives, from strategic planning, policy development and stakeholder engagement to successful implementation. I have extensive experience in leading health programs, particularly in immunization, and I have well-honed skills in managing programs and teams to ensure smooth coordination and high performance. I have led efforts in new vaccine introductions, vaccine delivery and improving vaccine supply chains. My experience in program management is both in the public and private sectors managing complex, multi-sectoral projects as a consultant in a leading consulting firm and as a program manager in an international NGO.

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