



NIGERIA

If you can get a Coca-Cola product almost anywhere in Africa, why not life-saving medicines?



Project
Last Mile

CONTEXT

Nigeria is Africa's most populous country (186 million people in 2016) and is composed of more than 250 ethnic groups. Located in West Africa, Nigeria is predicted to become the world's fourth most populous country by 2050, with a population of 392 million. Nigeria has some of the highest under-five mortality rates and some of the lowest vaccination rates in the world. About 25% of these deaths could be prevented through routine immunization. Weak cold chain infrastructure and inefficient vaccine distribution systems are one of the six key immunization program challenges in Nigeria.

PROJECT LAST MILE RESPONSE

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation invited Project Last Mile to support Lagos State in improving cold-chain equipment maintenance practices to make life-saving vaccines more regularly available. Project Last Mile taps into the Coca-Cola System to help improve uptime and management of vaccine cold chain equipment and save the lives of children in Nigeria.



APPROACH

Since 2016, Project Last Mile has partnered with the National Primary Healthcare Development Agency (NPHCDA), the Lagos State government, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI), and the Nigerian Bottling Company (NBC) to improve availability of vaccinations by strengthening public sector cold chain capacity.

Having successfully trained NPHCDA staff in preventative maintenance for refrigeration units in previous quarters (eight trainers were trained in a specialty-level preventative maintenance course, and they cascaded this capacity building to 121 technicians), the country team has focused on the final deliverable for the project: finalizing contracts for outsourced cold chain maintenance for the Lagos State.

PROGRESS AND MILESTONES

To date, the following project milestones have been achieved:

- **Specialized technical training delivered:** NBC validation of tools/accessories/parts required, and training delivered by NBC trainers
- **Primary preventative maintenance training delivered:** Curriculum developed from Coca-Cola and NBC materials; train-the-trainers model developed for NPHCDA staff and validation of tools/accessories/parts required by NBC.

An **outsourced maintenance and pilot plan** is currently in development. The process is as follows:

- Establish a preventative maintenance and 24 to 48-hour repair service aligned to NBC costs and metrics;
- Build, test, and refine service model for cost/performance.

Once the above has been finalised, the final step is to create the **business case for expansion of the maintenance model**.

TEAM

Project Last Mile has engaged a subject matter expert from NBC to lead cold chain equipment maintenance and other team members with extensive experience in the Nigerian cold chain to coordinate activities locally. The Delivery Lead brings years of experience in building cold chain capacity in the private sector.

Project Last Mile believes life-saving medicines should be in reach of every person in Africa. This pioneering cross-sector partnership between USAID, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, The Global Fund, The Coca-Cola Company and its Foundation helps life-saving medicines go the "last mile" to communities in Africa. We collaborate with regional Coca-Cola bottlers and suppliers in participating countries to build public health systems capacity in supply chain and strategic marketing by sharing the expertise and network of the Coca-Cola System with the local Ministry of Health. Project Last Mile Nigeria is specifically made possible by funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Project Last Mile aims to support 10 countries by 2020.

Global Partners

