

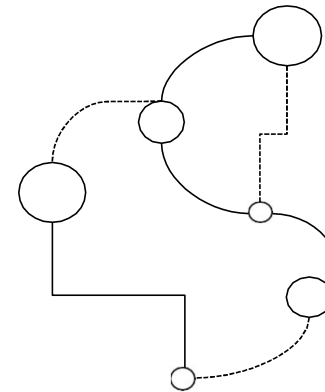


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Experience of a High-Volume Vaccination Site (Vaccinodrome) in increasing access and demand for COVID-19 vaccination in Kinshasa (DRC)

*Proven and promising strategies for enhancing vaccine confidence
and uptake and risk communication and community engagement with
an emphasis on high-risk and vulnerable groups*

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The Problem

Situation overview

- *DRC's COVID-19 vaccine coverage < 1 % (Nov 2021, EPI)*
- *VillageReach began operating a COVID-19 vaccination sites, or Vaccinodromes, in Kinshasa Province, Democratic Republic of Congo*



Outside the Vaccinodrome at Place des Evolues, Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo

Problem statement

- *Initial vaccination targets were ~1,000 per day, but throughput at the vaccinodromes was not meeting these goals*
- *Low traffic at fixed COVID-19 vaccination sites, despite the sites being located in high-traffic urban settings.*
- *Wanted to address **access** (by making vaccination more convenient) and **demand** (by providing opportunities for community health workers (CHWs) to interface with the community)*

The Solution

Actions

- Address **demand** using CHWs:
 - 109 CHWs trained on COVID-19 vaccines and motivational interviewing
 - Each day, pairs of CHWs sensitize community members in high-traffic areas around the vaccinodromes, using megaphones and also directly conversing with people
 - The CHWs pre-register people for vaccination and give them a token to bring to the vaccination sites
- Address **access**
 - Multiplication of vaccinodromes (from 1 in Nov 2021 to 4 by April 2022)
 - Use of “Hub and Spoke” model : Vaccination teams are split between the fixed site and outreach sessions which may change location depending on traffic and CHW suggestions

Primary group engaged:

- The CHWs initially focused on generally targeting people in high traffic areas without targeting a specific sub-population
- CHWs are now focusing on engaging with women due to the gender disparity in COVID-19 vaccination rates (34% of women) , and conducting some outreach sessions at sites for people with comorbidities and people with disabilities

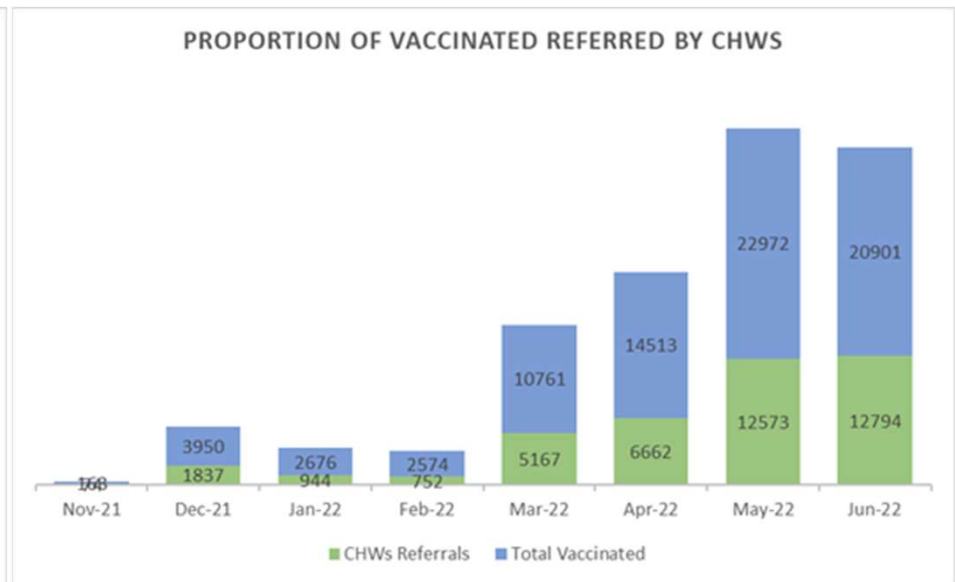
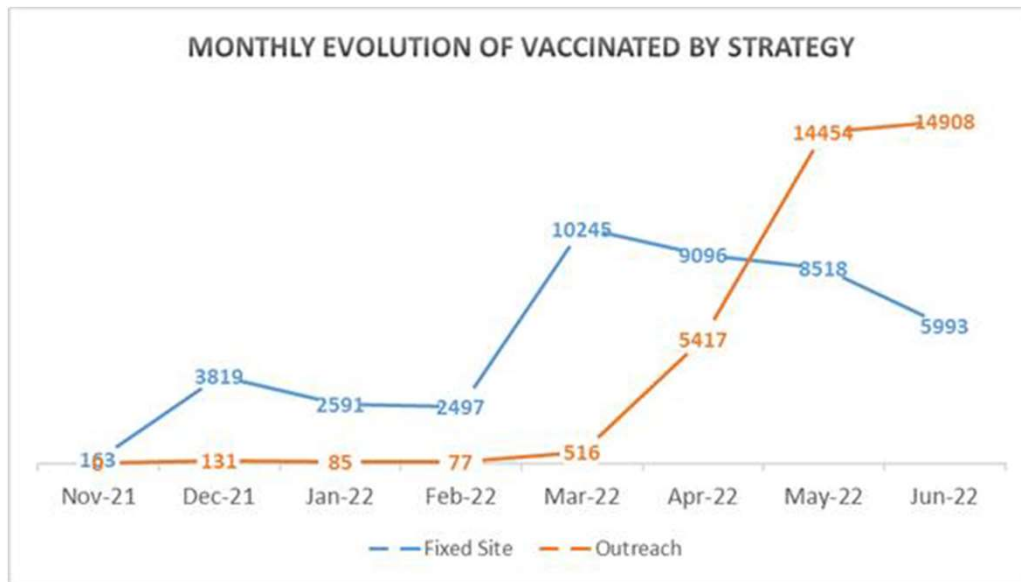
Measurement

- # people vaccinated at vaccinodromes who present a CHW token
- # people vaccinated during outreach sessions



CHWs conducting sensitization in the area around a Vaccinodrome in Kinshasa Province, Democratic Republic of Congo

Outcomes and Key Learnings



Key Learnings

- Strategy requires flexibility and communication between CHWs and site managers
- Splitting the vaccination site staff into teams that include CHWs, vaccinators, and data staff makes it easier to conduct sensitization from the outreach sites, vaccinate, and stay on top of data collection

Enabling factors: Location- high traffic areas; CHW motivation

This strategy provides opportunities to target high risk groups – women, health care workers, over age 65, etc.



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THANK YOU

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