



CROWN AGENTS
ACCELERATING SELF-SUFFICIENCY & PROSPERITY

Strengthening health systems: Supervision of Community Health Workers at Scale



Community Health Workers (CHWs) across the globe are relied upon as a solution to shortages of professional health care workers, particularly in low-income countries. Without them, many people, especially in remote areas would not have access to any form of healthcare.

By passing down certain health care duties from qualified health care workers to CHWs, many health systems have prevented diseases from taking hold by ensuring early access to basic services. CHWs providing services in the communities they reside in also increase the health system's footprint, especially in places where there is a large rural population and access to a health facility is limited.

However, a key challenge is the adequate and cost-effective supervision and continued training of CHWs to ensure they can effectively support their communities. Over the last few years, there has been tremendous investment in scaling up CHW programmes with philanthropic and other private support. However, there has been **no successful demonstration of how to cost-effectively scale a CHW programme to a national size, maintaining high-performance levels and impact - even with the use of innovative technologies and financing approaches.**

At the heart of the problem is that many community health interventions are not designed for scale from the beginning. It is a problem that should be overcome at the start, rather than once a pilot has demonstrated some success at a small scale - otherwise they risk losing fidelity of approach that got them initial success, and being consigned to the grave of many noble but failed attempts.

Drawing on Crown Agents' well-established presence and relationships in countries such as Zimbabwe and South Sudan, and our proven track record of operating success health programmes from day one at scale, combined with

our robust programme and fund management capabilities, we are well placed to take on the challenge of **delivering cost-effective, performance-driven supervision of CHWs at scale.**

We will **undertake assessments in several countries** (*Sierra Leone, Liberia, Burkina Faso, Kenya, Ethiopia, Ghana, Nigeria, Mozambique, Mexico, Brazil and South Africa*) to look at national approaches to CHWs supervision structures. This data will help to reduce the reliance on traditional supervision methods, such as costly face-to-face intervention. The research will hone in on specific CHWs activities which will best serve communities effectively, and the right level of targeted supervision for CHWs to drive down costs and ensure the maximum health impact.

To ensure healthcare services can sustainably reach rural areas, Community Healthcare Workers are key.

By working with us to scale up the effectiveness of CHW at a national level, you will help to strengthen health care systems for many developing countries long into the future.

Interested to know more or get in contact?

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