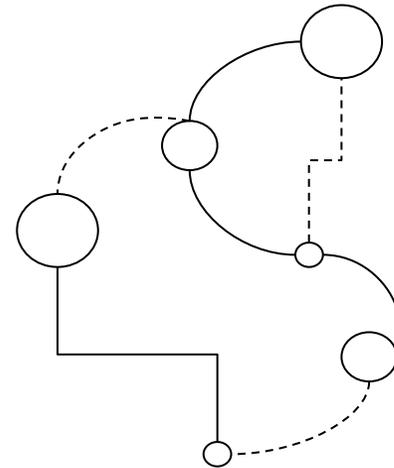




# Hackathon in Cote d'Ivoire

*Innovative and effective strategies of enhancing vaccine confidence and uptake and risk communication and community engagement with an emphasis on high-risk and vulnerable groups*

Charlotte Mbu  
**Member of the Movement for Immunization  
Agenda 2030  
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# The Problem

“I was so afraid of the vaccine that I refused to get vaccinated even though I was encouraging communities to do so. After three months of observing my colleagues who had already been vaccinated, I took my courage in both hands and vaccinated myself. I now feel comfortable again to continue community

## Situation overview

- National team planned **COVID-19 vaccination campaign** for December 2021
- **Health workforce COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy** is a potentially significant hurdle to role as “trusted adviser” to communities
- **Health workforce (HRH) capabilities** are obviously key to success, but time is not available for traditional capability development processes.
- **Lessons learned need to be shared rapidly**, especially how to adapt national guidance to local contexts, but **existing mechanisms are primarily vertical** (top-down)

## Problem statement

- How to rapidly strengthen INHP-EPI and partner staff HRH capabilities based on “what works”, ahead of a national COVID-19 vaccination campaign (10-20 December 2021) to vaccinate 6 million people in Côte d’Ivoire.

Campagne nationale de  
**Vaccination contre la COVID-19**  
dans les 33 régions sanitaires de la Côte d'Ivoire  
du 10 au 20 déc 2021

**POUR QUI ?**  
TOUTES PERSONNES  
ÂGÉES DE PLUS DE  
18 ANS

**OÙ ?**  
DANS LES POSTES DE  
VACCINATION  
RETENUS PAR LE  
MSHPCMU

**COÛT ?**  
GRATUIT

Administrer  
**Objectif: 6 millions**  
de doses de vaccin

The poster features a central image of a hand in a blue glove holding a COVID-19 vaccine vial and syringe. It includes icons for age groups, location, and cost, and a logo for the vaccination program at the bottom right.



# The Solution

## Actions

**IN 7 DAYS:** TGLF's fully-digital Hackathon package was deployed by a country-based team of **alumni volunteers with EPI and INPH support** to connect >500 country and health workers who developed 165 context-specific action plans to accelerate COVID-19 vaccination.

**Capability development embedded into activities focused on urgent priorities, rather than requiring stakeholders to set aside priorities in order to learn.**

The Hackathon involved the following process:

1. Work in small groups to problem-solve context-specific COVID-19 vaccination challenges.
2. Develop action plans focused on a local challenge or barrier to COVID-19 vaccination.
3. Peer review action plans developed by colleagues.
4. Revise own action plan based on feedback from peers.

## Measurement

- Outcomes measured by national EPI through **actual vaccination uptake** during national campaign matched to implementation of Hackathon action plans.
- Hackathon participants self-reported implementation; shared photos of actual implementation of their action plans.



Village head meets health workers to reassure availability of the population and management of cases of refusal, Csr Lengbre / Bouaké Sud 2, Ivory Coast, December 11 2021 (Tuo Désiré)

# Outcomes and Key Learnings

## Outcomes and Impact

<b>Country and health worker ownership</b>	Led by the TGLF alumni network in Côte d'Ivoire embedded in national EPI team, with participation from all system levels and peers from 20 other countries.
<b>Speed</b>	In 10 days, TGLF developed the hackathon with the Côte d'Ivoire Alumni team. Over nine days, without stopping their daily work, participants developed 165 peer-reviewed context-specific action plans, primarily to overcome COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy.
<b>Scale</b>	In five days, 501 applicants were recruited.
<b>Diversity</b>	Ivorian participants represented 96 health districts (85% of total) in Côte d'Ivoire: 51% district, 21% facility, 15% national, 11% regional.
<b>Impact</b>	If implemented, action plans estimated to vaccinate 3.5M people with a funding gap requiring an additional 0.26 USD per vaccination. 71% of participants <b>implemented</b> their action plans during the national vaccination campaign. <b>82% of respondents reported having found a solution to better conduct the COVID-19 vaccination campaign.</b>
<b>Sustainability</b>	<b>78% of respondents felt “capable” of using the methodology for their own needs, and 82% want to organize their own hackathon with their colleagues.</b>

## Key Learnings

- Hackathon participants found local solutions that they were able to integrate and use in the campaign to anticipate, prevent, mitigate, and respond to COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy**
- Health workers' own confidence in COVID-19 vaccine and their vaccination status is consistently reported as one of the most important factors in successfully engaging communities.
- Country-wide digital peer learning networks connecting different system levels foster motivation to share what is learned, accelerate problem-solving, and adapt national guidelines to local contexts.

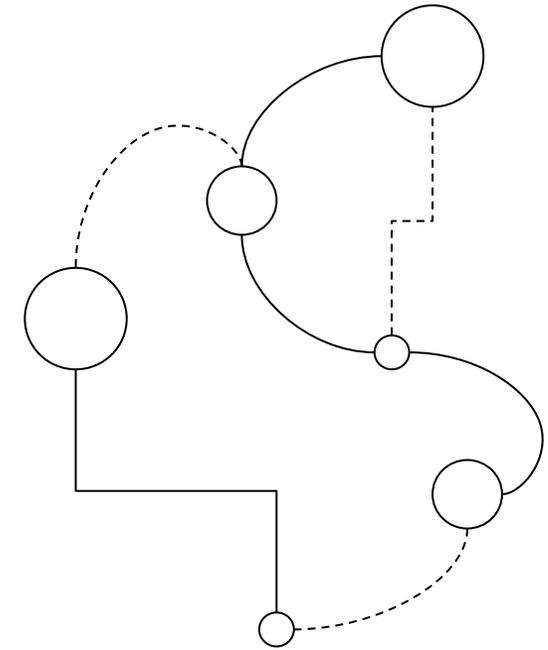
“[During the Hackathon], I realized that it was essential to involve business leaders. If I hadn't participated, I would have stayed focused on traditional methods, going to markets and places of worship.” (MoH staff, Gbeke-Bouaké Nord-Ouest)



Owl strategy or night vaccination, MADAM Village, Sandégué Health District, Gontougo Region, Côte d'Ivoire, 11 dec 2021 (Elysée Mlan)



Vaccination in one of the markets of Gagnoa, Côte d'Ivoire, December 13 2021 (Emma Jocelyne BOSSOH)



# THANK YOU

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*The Geneva Learning Foundation*

