#GRID³ MAPPING FOR HEALTH

FLOWMINDER.ORG Center for International Earth Science Information Network

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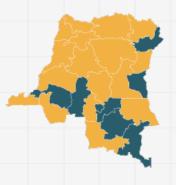








In October 2018, the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) launched an ambitious plan to tackle low routine immunisation coverage across the country. The Mashako Plan aims to strengthen routine immunisation in a country where, in 2017, 20% of children did not receive any vaccines and two-third of all children (2.5 million) were not fully vaccinated.



The most recent immunisation statistics show that an estimated 1,224,000 children were unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated in the provinces of Kinshasa, Kwilu, Kasai, Kasai-Oriental, Sud-Kivu, Ituri, Lomami, Haut-Katanga, and Haut-Lomami. These nine provinces were identified as priority provinces as these children represent cumulatively 50% of the unvaccinated or incompletely vaccinated children population.

Eighteen months after the launch of the Plan, the country has already achieved significant results. Yet, thousands of Congolese children are still in need of vaccines to protect them from life-threatening diseases such as measles, yellow fever, or polio.

While the next phases of the Mashako Plan will work on reaching those children, challenges still remain. In a country with no recent demographic and infrastructure data, the planning and delivery of effective vaccinations interventions can often prove difficult. Access to up-to-date, accurate and timely geospatial data will support the DRC in boosting its routine immunisation interventions and meet the ambitious goals set out in the Mashako Plan.



About GRID3 Mapping for Health

GRID3 Mapping for Health aims to strengthen the effectiveness and equity of vaccination interventions in DRC through timely access to high-resolution geospatial data solutions. The project directly supports DRC's Mashako Plan goal to boost vaccine coverage by 15% per each targeted province, protecting 220,000 additional children nationally by contributing to more effective and equitable vaccination interventions.

Geospatial data is a critical component in the path to improved immunisation outcomes. Working closely with the Ministry of Health, through a Steering and a Technical committees as well as ongoing consultation with the key health agencies, the project works to address the lack of access to viable data and analytical tools for immunisation strategies and operations. By supporting the production of geo-referenced micro-plans and providing actionable data on population movements and estimates of changes in population density, GRID3 Mapping for Health aims to inform vaccination strategies, budget allocation, and logistics coordination for effective and efficient vaccine delivery.

GRID3 Mapping for Health provides health sector actors with access to essential geospatial data on health facilities, health boundaries, settlements, population size, density, spatial distribution and age/sex structure as well as information on their movement flows. The project also provides them with analysis of underlying gender-related barriers affecting vaccination coverage. This bundle of data solutions supports improvements to planning for wider coverage, with the aim to leave no one behind, particularly those in the most remote areas. The project especially supports more equitable access to vaccination for girls and boys under 2 by paying specific attention to gender, equity, and diversity. All of the project's data outputs and tools are complemented by capacity strengthening activities to ensure that health actors can sustainably access, use, maintain and update essential geospatial datasets and gender analysis tools for vaccination purposes in the long-term.

GRID3 Mapping for Health in use

GRID3 Mapping for Health makes fundamental geo-referenced data available and useful for health and data actors in DRC, through the following activities:

Immediate Outcomes Activities Results & Applications **Geospatial data** Improved in-country service Up-to-date and accurate geospatial data available delivery and resource Production of high-resolution management gridded population estimates Sustainable generation and implementation of Improved vaccination coverage Delineation of accurate health area for hard-to-reach and mobile geo-referenced micro-plans boundaries populations Comprehensive mapping of settlement Increased understanding of locations and health facilities gender barriers to Reduction in the number immunisation of zero-dose children National analysis of routine and sudden-onset population Strengthened capacity and movements using Call Detail Records increased awareness of health actors and decision makers in **Capacity strengthening** geospatial analytics Support to micro-planning and data management Identification of gender barriers to immunisation Training on Geographic Information System (GIS) and geospatial analytics **Engagement and outreach** Creation of effective collaborations and specialists networks Organisation of expert roundtable discussions





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