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

CONTEXT

In Mozambique, over 70% of the population lives in rural and remote areas, often cut off from essential public infrastructure and health services. Improving distribution and storage of life-saving medicines can make big impacts in improving access to availability for those in need.

PROJECT LAST MILE RESPONSE

Project Last Mile was invited by The Global Fund and the Ministry of Health to partner with the Central de Medicamentos e Artigos Médicos (CMAM) to help advance the Strategic Plan for Pharmaceutical Logistics (PELF) through network optimization, outsourced distribution and logistics capability development. Project Last Mile is driving this work through designing and delivering specific approaches to insights based on private sector expertise and experiences of local Coca-Cola bottler, Sabco.

APPROACH

Project Last Mile is deploying responses to improve PELF outcomes across three workstreams, including:

- **Network / routing optimization models to reach health facilities:** Improving route-to-market mapping and planning activities and building a route-to-market business case.

- **Outsourced distribution of life-saving medicines:** Creation of potential supplier list and evaluative framework benchmark data estimations for outsourcing, supplier performance metrics and contract management documents.

- **Logistics management capability development:** Development of job descriptions, performance metrics, training materials, and management tools.

PROGRESS AND MILESTONES

- Completed route surveys and optimization for Gaza, Tete, Inhambane and Zambezia provinces including, future intermediary warehouse sizing recommendations.

- For remaining seven provinces a simulated study was undertaken based on outcomes from the pilot provinces.

- Shared models, processes and costing for outsourced distribution alternatives.

- Supported development of organizational structure and Standard Operating Processes (SOPs) for first intermediary warehouse in Vilankulo.

TEAM

Project Last Mile has engaged a former TCCS African Country General Manager and Logistics Specialist to lead design and delivery, in addition to an HR specialist and key TCCS Bottler Market Research and Logistics Partner from the Coca-Cola ecosystem to execute project activities. Project Last Mile works in close partnership with local bottler, Coca-Cola Sabco, and implementing partners VillageReach and Centro de Colaboração em Saúde (CCS).

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 help 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 in Swaziland is specifically made possible by funding from The Global Fund and The Coca-Cola Foundation. Project Last Mile aims to support 10 countries by 2020.