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# Community Health Information Systems: Success Stories from Rwanda and Mozambique

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# Africa Regional Workshop on Improving routine data for child health

## Discussions around Community Health Information Systems

- **Challenges that reflect the diversity and complexity of community health programs**
- **Best approaches need to be adapted to the context and flexible**

The banner features the USAID logo (United States Agency for International Development) and the Maternal and Child Survival Program logo at the top. Below the logos is a photograph of a woman in a blue shirt writing in a notebook. To the right of the photo, the workshop title is written in white text on a red background: "Africa Regional Workshop on Improving Routine Data for Child Health in National Health Information Systems". Below the title, the dates and location are listed: "September 19-22, 2017 • Johannesburg, South Africa". At the bottom of the banner, the USAID and Maternal and Child Survival Program logos are repeated.

# Challenges in ensuring strong Community Health Information Systems

- **Scale** – Large numbers of CHWs & communities affect scalability and sustainability
- **Complexity & technical diversity**-Wide range of technical programs/services can result in complex data needs and forms & often foster fragmentation
- **Cadres of CHWs** –range of CHW skills, diverse incentive structures & heavy reporting burdens can affect quality & sustainability
- **Stakeholders** – wide group stakeholders leads to more diverse data & analysis needs
- **Infrastructure** – constraints in remote areas (accessibility, electricity, internet, etc) affect reporting, use of digital innovations, etc

# Promising approaches to strengthen Community Health Information Systems

- Strong coordination of partners & engagement of political and MOH leadership at all levels
- Engagement of communities
- Emphasis on digitalization and interoperability efforts
- Harmonization of data elements/indicators based on their benefit / use to stakeholders
- Provision of on-going support for CHWs and community actors
- Realignment of incentives for CHWs and communities
- Scale-up of digitalization efforts beyond pilots

# Example from Rwanda reflects highlights challenges & promising approaches

## Challenges

- Diversity of technical areas with multiple reporting structures (Rapid SMS, SISCOM, Facility HMIS)
- Interoperability of systems
- Volunteer CHWs

## Promising approaches

- National, fully functioning CHIS under MOH leadership!
- PBF incentives for CHWs
- Completeness of reporting



# Example from Mozambique highlights challenges & promising approaches

## Challenges

- Diversity of technical areas
- MOH ownership & investment in system
- Interoperability of CHIS with broader HMIS

## Promising approaches

- Scale-up of digital innovation beyond pilot!
  - Decision support & stock management included in innovative application
  - Can link to HMIS and LMIS
- Partner coordination





Thank you!

For more information, please visit  
**[www.mcspprogram.org](http://www.mcspprogram.org)**

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