

## **Title:** Immunization Academy: Innovative Approaches to Training in a Post-Pandemic World

**Background:** During the acute phase of the COVID-19 pandemic, many countries found it difficult to implement new and quickly scale-up capacity building activities, as large gatherings and travel to subnational levels was limited. However, during this time many new activities related to COVID-19 surveillance and immunizations began, and it became increasingly important for staff to be efficiently sensitized and trained on these new processes. Furthermore, logistics for enrolling staff and other immunization stakeholders in formal trainings at central training centers would require a significant budget. Both the governments of Kenya and Nigeria were advised to use virtual training modules to address their needs to quickly scale up training and to ensure long-term sustainability. The Kenyan National Vaccine and Immunization Program (NVIP) has recently consolidated multiple immunization-related supportive supervision checklists into a single comprehensive checklist and integrated it into the country's health information system, DHIS2. However, prior to nationwide implementation of the checklist and data dashboard, all levels of staff had to be trained on the new tools. In Nigeria, the impact and effectiveness of in-person trainings healthcare staff on routine immunization services has long been suboptimal. These deficiencies were highlighted further by the COVID-19 pandemic, and the need for trainings tailored to the audience with an adaptable trainer became apparent. To overcome these obstacles the governments of Kenya and Nigeria supported Bull City Learning's (BCL) development of country-specific eLearning curriculums on their Immunization Academy (IA) Learn platform.

BCL has previously launched customized country-specific trainings via the IA Learn app in several countries, including Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, to enhance immunization performance and vaccine delivery in the field. Both Kenya and Nigeria utilized the IA Learn app to conduct their trainings. The virtual curriculums of IA Learn are accessed using a customized Android app where users can set their own pace and access the training both online and offline.

It is crucial that representatives of the IA Learn app in Kenya and Nigeria have the opportunity to share their broader experiences regarding the implementation and use of the IA learn app which will also help to document best training practices in modernizing capacity building activities at the lowest health levels. The AFENET preconference workshop will serve to facilitate such conversation between the two countries, ultimately affecting the continuance and long-term sustainability of their instances of the app. Additionally, unfamiliar participants will also be sensitized to the IA platform in this workshop, which will spark discussions on the feasibility of using similar training methods in other contexts.

**Goal:** The goal of this workshop is to sensitize participants with the eLearning platform of Immunization Academy and to discuss feasibility of using similar training methods in other countries

### **Workshop objectives:**

- To share knowledge and experiences on eLearning on the Immunization Academy platform amongst the participants
- For participants to work collaboratively and brainstorm unique solutions to use eLearning to address immunization related obstacles

- To sensitize participants to innovative eLearning training techniques on the Immunization Academy platform

**Duration of workshop: Half day**

**Target Participants:** Subnational immunization supervisors

**Number of participants:** 50

**Facilitators & Sponsor:** Alice Bumgarner from Bull City Learning; Erin Goucher, Oluwasegun J. Adegoke and Ester Sikare from US CDC and Dr. Rose Jalang'o from Kenya NVIP