

THE REPUBLIC



OF THE GAMBIA

MINISTRY OF HEALTH
THE DIRECTORATE OF PLANNING AND INFORMATION

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Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance,
Global Health Campus
Chemin du Pommier 40
1218 Le Grand-Saconnex
Switzerland.

Dear Sir/Madam,

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN
RECOMMENDATION FOR SHIFO FOUNDATION

Ministry of Health (MoH) of The Gambia has been collaborating with Shifo Foundation (Shifo) since 2017, to implement a unique solution called **Smart Paper Technology (SPT)**, to replace the existing HMIS and LMIS System for EPI Program.

We are proud to say that The Gambia has become the first Gavi Country to completely replace the existing system to a digital system, where all children are registered with a unique ID, all their immunization and nutrition supplement records are available through Electronic Immunisation Registry, and where all EPI supply-chain inventory management, orders and other KPIs are digitally available, across public and private health facilities in the country. Interestingly, there is no need to manually enter EPI data into DHIS2 because SPT is integrated with the National DHIS2 and all data automatically synchronizes.

Shifo's solution enabled the Gambia to save 60% of health workers admin time, make data quality issues visible and where currently, above 99% of data is accurate and consistent, and MoH, regions and health centres have a possibility to monitor in real-time zero-dose children, coverage and inequities and trace defaulters.

MoH Gambia is convinced that Shifo is a Devoted Partner, who turns challenges into opportunities and comes up with solutions that addresses those challenges. Shifo Team never give up, and they continuously innovate and come up with better and better solutions. But most importantly, Shifo is very serious about the transfer of ownership, heavily focused on capacity building at all levels, and, established sharing of experiences and the knowledge between Sweden and Gambia, including PhD level capacity building opportunities in renowned institutions, such as Karolinska Institutet.

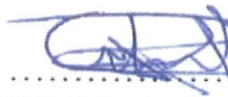
To our knowledge, there is no organization, except Shifo, who managed to replace the existing HMIS System at scale in the African continent. And it is mainly because Shifo Team has a very good understanding of the existing HMIS System, the context, how MoH and other key stakeholders operating at different levels. They utilise this deep understanding to continuously improve their solution, and, come up with unique approaches to implementation, that works like magic.

That's why it is no surprise that in a relatively short period of time, 8 additional countries have now adopted Shifo's solution, and are implementing it at scale. MoH Gambia is now embarking on digitizing the entire primary healthcare data that will include supply-chain data and, to also work towards establishing a National Health Insurance System for the country. We believe Shifo will be playing a critical role to make sure we can successfully achieve these goals.

As the Director of Planning and Information, I am convinced of Shifo's potential, I recommend to all major donors especially Gavi to collaborate with Shifo, to make sure The Gambia and all other priority countries can have the most effective and sustainable solutions. It is of paramount importance to have a strong measurement system, to be able to rapidly improve health coverage and quality of care, have a more resilient and sustainable health system and reaching the SDG Goals. Covid19 has proved that The Gambia and all other countries must strengthen health information systems to be able to track supplies and health events.

Therefore, I recommend Gavi to collaborate with Shifo, to build more resilient and sustainable health systems, so that the Gambia and all countries can gradually transition to becoming self-reliant in the long run.

Yours Sincerely,



Gibril Jarjue

Director of Planning and Information

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Cc: File