# Vaccine Confidence in Africa

Vaccine confidence is crucial for the success of any vaccination program. In Africa, the Vaccine Confidence Project, Janssen Pharmaceutica, and The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation have collaborated to conduct waves of quantitative research in 2022. This initiative aims to understand and address vaccine hesitancy across the continent.

## Methodology

The research was conducted using the Vaccine Confidence Index (VCI), a longitudinal measure of vaccine confidence. The VCI provides a high-resolution view of vaccine confidence across countries that allows for the identification of key drivers of hesitancy and helps to measure the effectiveness of interventions.

## Key Learnings

1. **What this partnership offers**
   - 38K* Face-to-face methodology using random household probability sampling in Nigeria, Uganda, the DRC, Senegal, South Africa, Morocco, Egypt, Tunisia, Botswana, Rwanda, Mauritius.
   - Four waves of data collection, representing sub-national regions: 9 in 2022, 5 in 2021, 10 in 2020, and 12 in 2019.
   - Wave 1 started in Jun-2020 and Jan-2022.
   - Wave 3 included 38K people in 10 countries.

2. **Key insights from the research**
   - There was a sharp drop in the Vaccine Confidence Index between Jan-2020 and Jan-2022, despite a slight resurgence in Aug-2022. Confidence has not yet returned to pre-vaccine roll-out levels.
   - The VCI provides a high-resolution view of vaccine confidence across countries that allows for the identification of key drivers of hesitancy and helps to measure the effectiveness of interventions.

## What this partnership offers

The partnership has mobilized a network of experts from across the continent to accelerate the uptake of COVID-19 vaccines in Africa. Bingwa Ventures' selection of countries to become Exemplars in Global Health - a network of COVID-19 Youth Champions - has been instrumental in this effort.

## Future efforts

Future efforts to address vaccine hesitancy must be targeted to young adults (18-24 year olds), and to people in geographic regions where there have been consistent falls in confidence.

### REAL WORLD IMPACT

- **Africa CDC’s Saving Lives and Livelihoods Initiative**
  - Key insights from the research will be used to inform the design of vaccines being implemented across the continent.
  - This includes tracking the success of 10 COVID-19 vaccine roll-out in Nigeria at the local level.

- **A Network of Influence**
  - The research provides an important opportunity to support the design of policies and interventions aimed at increasing vaccine confidence across the continent.

- **Open-source Data to Support Implementation**
  - Through publishing interactive data dashboards and the Vaccine Confidence Index map, the data will be accessible for hyperlocal, real-time decision-making on the ground to improve vaccine uptake.

### Regional Characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Sub-national region with the most consistent falls across the VCI between Jan-2020 and Jan-2022</th>
<th>Regional characteristics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Eastern Cape, Free State, Western Cape, Northern Cape</td>
<td>- North-east, 120% urban split-off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRC</td>
<td>Equateur, Bas-Sassandra, Kasaï-Oriental, Kongo-Central, Sud-Kivu</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>Nairobi</td>
<td>- Week-end</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>Kebbi, Kano and Katsina</td>
<td>- East majority rural</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Greater Accra</td>
<td>- Capital (2018)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>Dar Es Salaam</td>
<td>- Urban split-off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Dakar</td>
<td>- Two-dose split-off</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rises in confidence on the VCI map have seen an increase in sub-national regions. The northern (O.T. Conac), Ben-Seraf, and Lala (O.T. Nouad, Tékéték) regions are also seeing increases.

## Acknowledgements

This project was funded by Janssen Pharmaceutica. The funders had no role in data collection, questionnaire design, data analysis, interpretation, or in writing of this study.

---

*Note: The VCI provides a high-resolution view of vaccine confidence across countries that allows for the identification of key drivers of hesitancy and helps to measure the effectiveness of interventions. The data is used to inform policy and programmatic decisions to increase vaccine confidence at the local level.**