

A photograph of a group of women in a community setting. The central woman is smiling broadly and holding a baby wrapped in a patterned cloth. Other women around her are also smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is slightly blurred, showing more people in a similar setting.

Bate-Papo Vacina! –  
Listening Case  
Study

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# Study Overview

A qualitative, participatory research study to examine determinants of and potential solutions to immunization dropout among children below two years in Zambézia, Mozambique. This study is funded by Wellcome Trust

## Study Objectives

- 1** Identify and describe the primary drivers of why some children under two are not completing their full immunization schedule, including both pre-COVID-19 and during pandemic conditions
- 2** Identify community-driven solutions to improve full immunization of all children below two years
- 3** Assess the extent to which using community based participatory research (CBPR) and human centered design (HCD) principles engaged participating health workers in active listening about the barriers caregivers face when vaccinating their children



# Study Overview cont.

## Research methods

This study will involve an iterative process of engaging community perspectives and collectively creating solutions, with community members involved in every part of the process. **Caregivers trained as researchers** will:



Conduct **photovoice** interviews with 30 other caregivers by asking caregivers to take and describe photographs that reflect their experience vaccinating their children while they were under the age of two



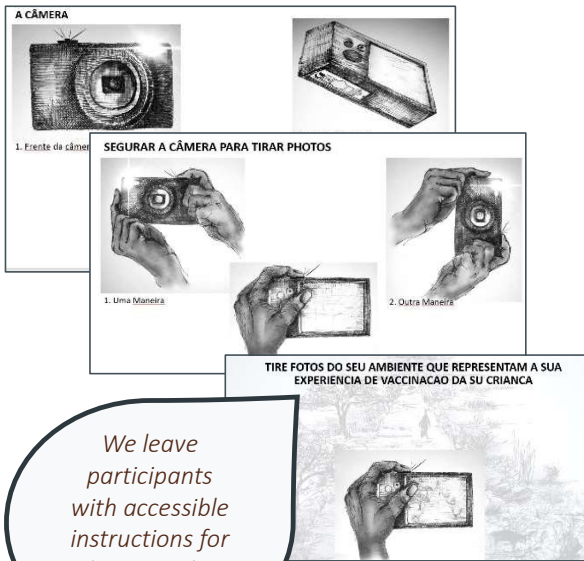
Interview **health workers** and collect their ongoing observations via SMS over the course of a month of providing vaccinations to children under the age of two



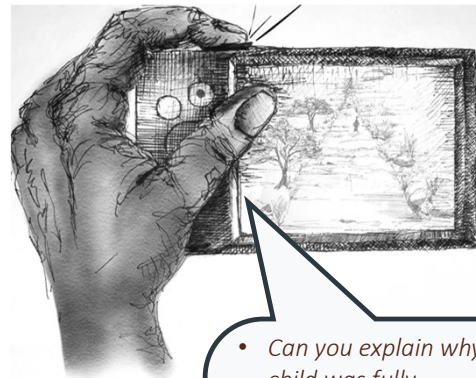
Facilitate human centered design **workshops** with caregivers and health workers to review the barriers identified and generate potential solutions

# PhotoVoice – process for collecting the data

1. After consenting participants, we explain the study and brainstorm potential photos

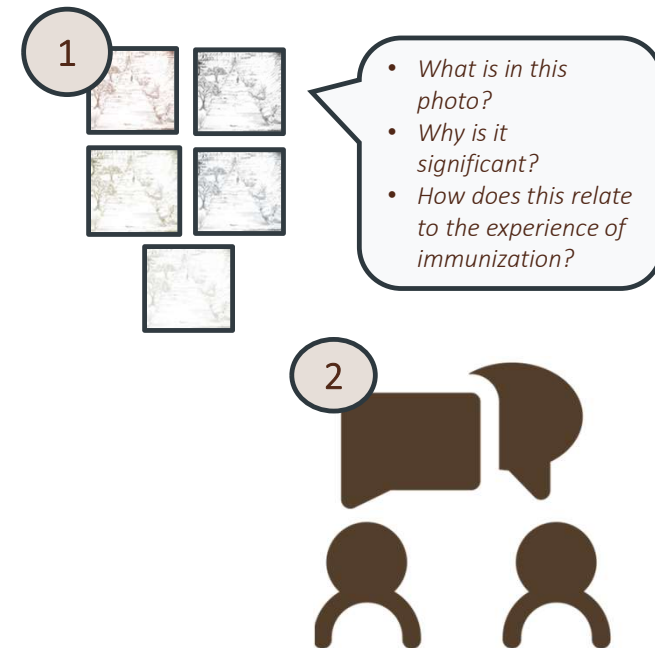


2. Over two days, participants take photos that represent their child's immunization story



- Can you explain why your child was fully immunized/partially immunized?
- What was that experience like?
- Let's walk through each immunization experience and brainstorm photos

3. Participants select their top 5 photos, we interview about each photo and end with a semi-structured interview



## What are some ways we are listening on this?

1. **Caregiver Researchers** - Hiring women who are mothers of children aged 25-37 months to collect all data, facilitate the human centered design workshop and participate in analysis and community engagement
2. **Photovoice** - Employing photovoice to gather data on caregiver's experiences vaccinating their child

# Caregiver Researchers

*“If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart” – Nelson Mandela*

## Why we took this approach

- ✓ Ground data collection in local context
- ✓ Ensure inclusion of caregiver perspectives in multiple steps of the research
- ✓ To empower local women in research roles

## Early Benefits

- ✓ Opportunity for CR’s to help their communities & learn about a topic that interest them
- ✓ Improve data collection (tools & approach)
- ✓ Participant appreciation

## Early lessons learned

- ✓ Had to shift internal data collection hiring practices – don’t just hire from the cities
- ✓ Equip community researchers for success – budget for equipment to enable them to fully participate as part of the team

## Hiring Criteria:

- ✓ **Closely represent target participants** (female, caregivers of children aged 2-3, fluent in local languages, from study districts)
- ✓ **Have at least a high-school diploma** (position requires ability to read, write and operate a computer)
- ✓ **Have some research experience**

## We hired:

- **Four** women who met all the criteria
- **Two** women as alternates, in case someone leaves the position or scheduling becomes difficult



# PhotoVoice

*“...the medical and public health community are so focused on the act of vaccination, of counting, of reaching numerical targets that efforts to engage the web of society, culture, politics, and economies that surround that vaccination has been lost.” – Heidi Larson, Stuck 2020*

## Why we took this approach

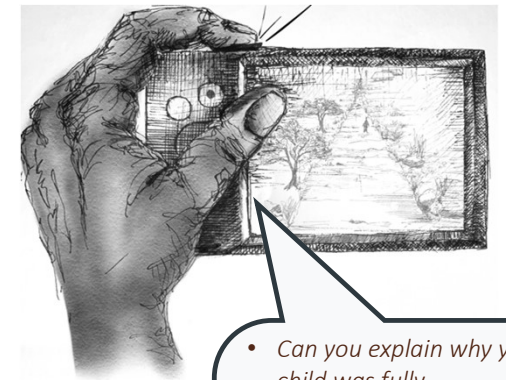
- ✓ Wanted more nuanced data on drivers of vaccine dropouts
- ✓ Wanted approach that lead to more active involvement from the community
- ✓ Curious to try other methods of data collection

## Early Benefits

- ✓ Participants engaged and excited about using cameras
- ✓ Data so far is rich and nuanced, showing us a glimpse into the experience of vaccinating their child beyond the standard barriers and facilitators

## Early Lessons learned

- ✓ Engaging and seeking permission from community leaders is key for success
- ✓ Time and labor intensive
- ✓ May get some photos outside of the research question and particular engagement in the new technology



- *Can you explain why your child was fully immunized/partially immunized?*
- *What was that experience like?*
- *Let's walk through each immunization experience and brainstorm photos*



A dirt path winds through a lush tropical forest. The path is flanked by tall, green grasses and dense foliage, including many palm trees. In the distance, a few people can be seen walking along the path. The overall scene is bright and vibrant, suggesting a sunny day in a tropical environment.

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Thank you