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# Strong systems save lives



**JSI improves health logistics** in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean, Eastern Europe, and Eurasia.



**We strengthen supply chains end-to-end** by building systems that connect manufacturers, funders, IT experts, health ministries, pharmacies and communities.



**JSI creates sustainable systems** that draw on >30 years of strong relationships with country governments, commercial sector, civil society, academia, and the donor & multilateral communities.



**We are leading the way** on more than **30 current SCM projects**, with \$3B+ of health procurement experience on 125 SCM projects implemented in >100 countries.



**We are passionate about using our public health and supply chain expertise** to help our partners eradicate malaria, increase access to contraceptives, improve routine immunization

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GATES foundation



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**Early lessons in adapting *Visibility and Analytics Networks (VAN)* to improve health supply chain performance**

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Yasmin Chandani,  
*John Snow, Inc.*



## Overview

- Understanding of an Integrated Supply Chain
- What is a VAN?
- Definition of a Control Tower
- The problem we are trying to solve
- Lessons learned from VAN early adopter countries





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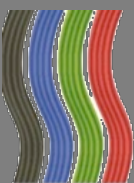
# Why Data Visibility is So Critical for Supply Chain Evolution

## AD HOC



LOGISTICS DATA  
ARE NOT  
AVAILABLE OR  
SHARED

## ORGANIZED



ESSENTIAL  
LOGISTICS DATA  
ARE COLLECTED  
AND REPORTED

## INTEGRATED



SUPPLY AND  
DEMAND  
INFORMATION  
ARE VISIBLE  
THROUGHOUT  
THE SUPPLY  
CHAIN AND  
USED TO  
MAKE  
DECISIONS

Data drives supply chain agility and responsiveness to changes in the environment, marketplace, and customer needs

High performing teams and empowered supply chain managers use data

Data informs process optimization and continuous improvement

Data visibility enables effective collaboration and engenders trust among supply chain partners

Data provides evidence to guide comprehensive supply chain strategies and to measure results

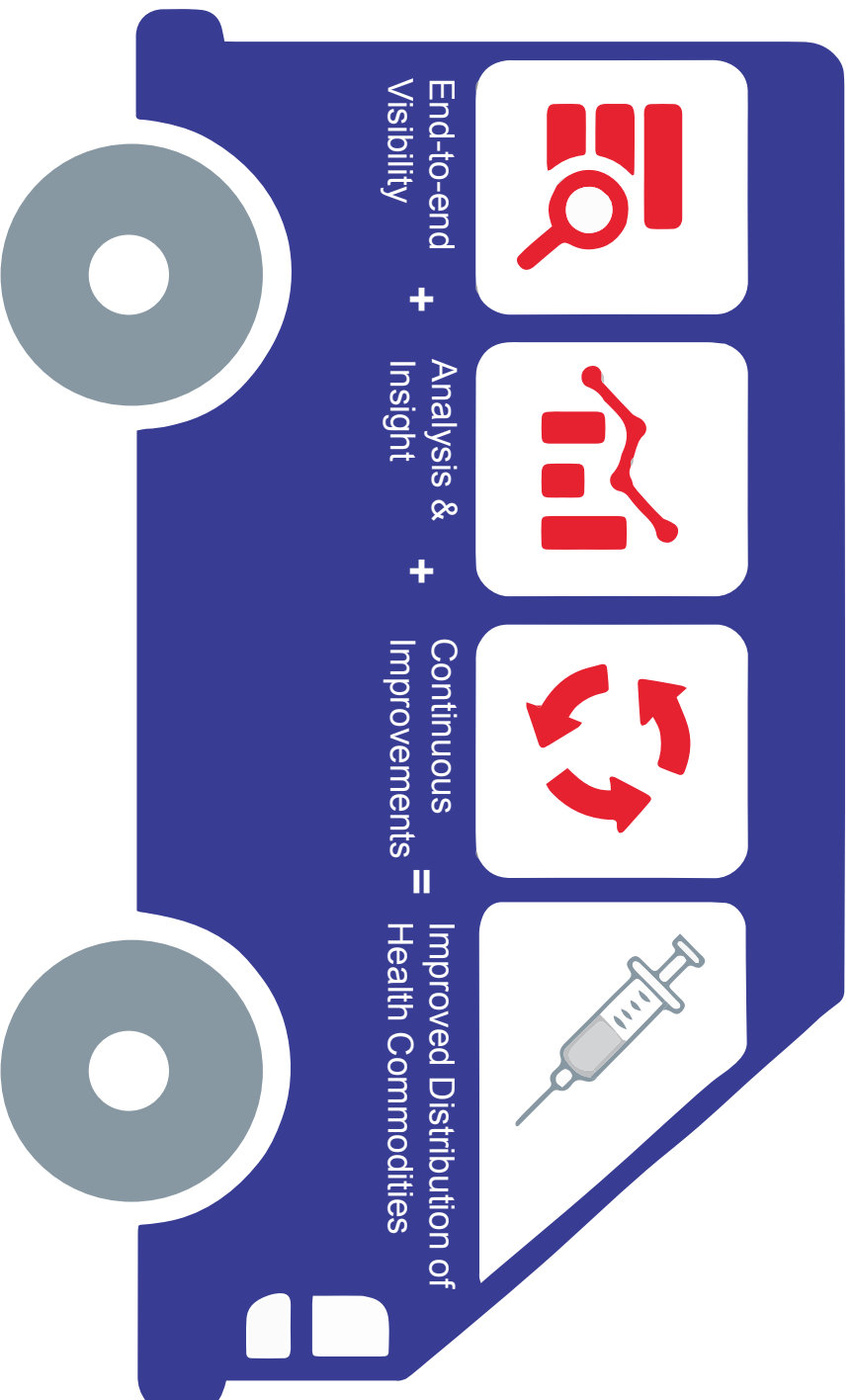
**Implementing a VAN approach  
can help catapult the health supply  
chain to higher levels of performance  
and closer to an integrated state**

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# What is a VAN?

A visibility & analytics network is a commercial sector approach adapted for public health.



## End-to-end Visibility

*What is happening now?*

Data Aggregation from multiple sources bringing end-to-end, real-time visibility +

## Analysis & Insight

*Why is this Happening? What could happen next? How can we improve?*

Visualization, Business Intelligence and predictive modeling +

## Continuous Improvement

*Let's make it happen.*

Alerting, conditional actions, workflows out to internal and external recipients.

**The Control Tower is a concept built on people, processes, and technology for improved visibility that improves supply chain across silos and enables coordinated decision-making.**

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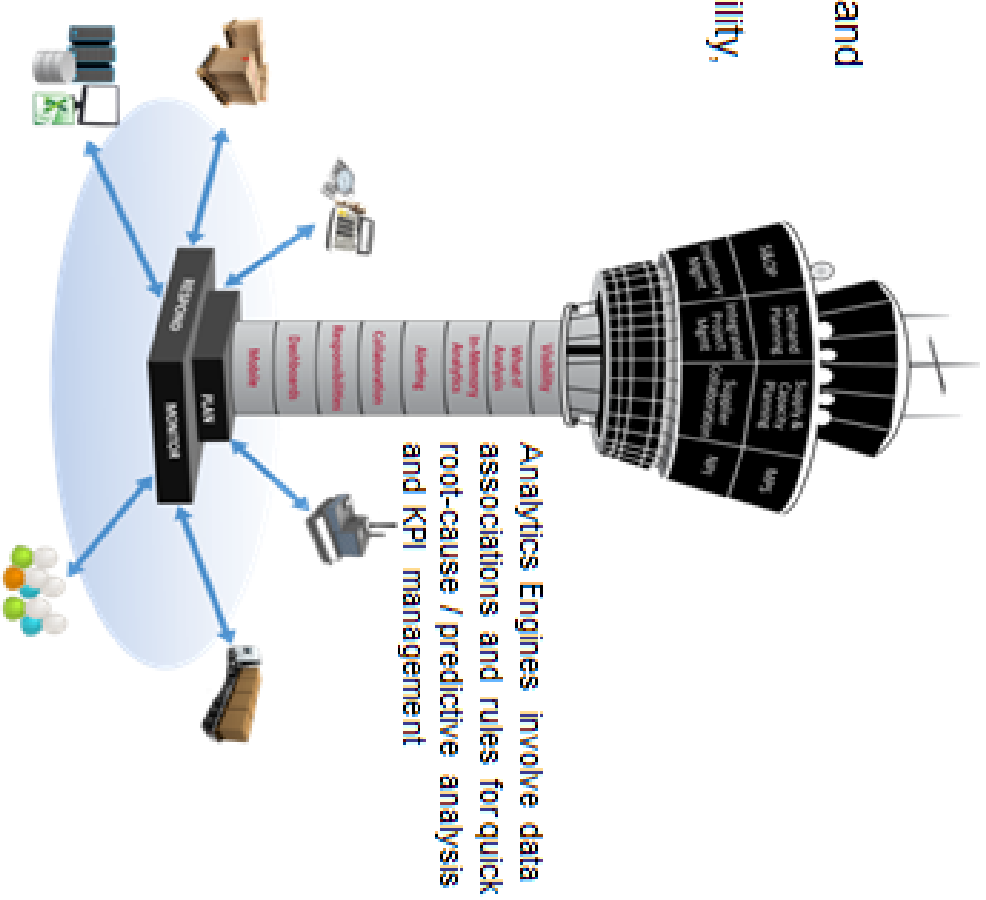
## Control Tower Definition

### A Control Tower is...

- ... a set of **supply chain capabilities** built on people, process, and technology
- ... Organized as a **centralized shared service** to improve visibility, enable analysis, and focus on functional improvements
- ... **agnostic to the systems** used to manage data
- ... comprised of two key technology components: **Integration Platforms and Analytics Engines**

### A Control Tower can help public sector by...

- ... being the **first point of integration** in improving visibility across silos without physically integrating supply chains
- ... driving **collaboration and integration** across programs
- ... providing **MoH** with oversight and ownership of the supply chain without being involved in the day-to-day operations
- ... being an enabler for a **data-driven culture** focused on continuous improvement
- ... identifying and **improving data gaps and quality** issues
- ... being a source of **cost savings / revenue for the government**

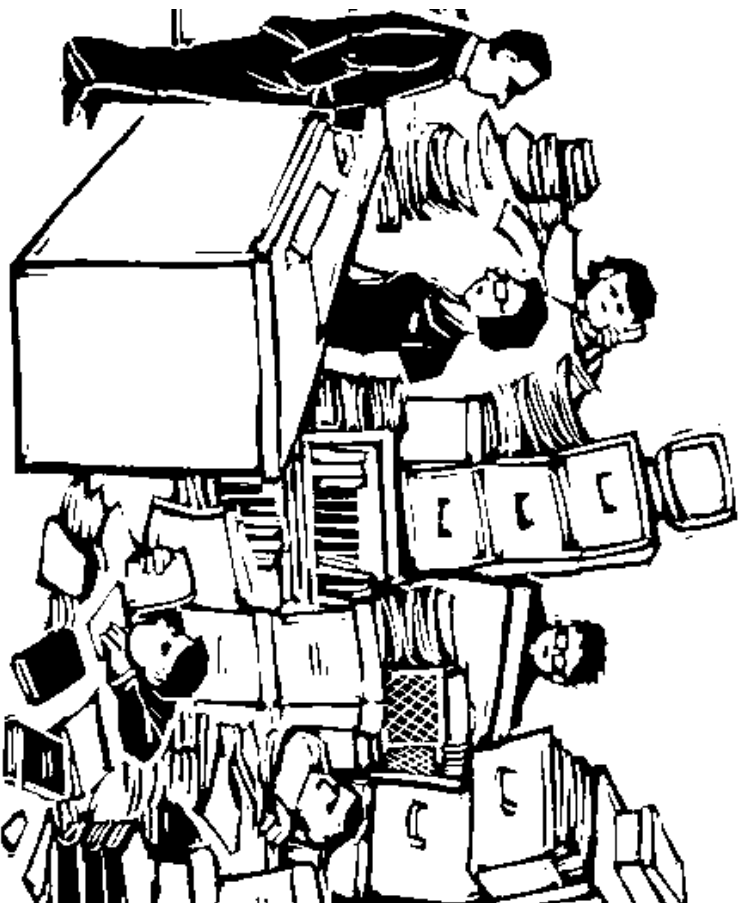


Integration platforms harmonize data across disparate data management systems (ERP, LMIS, HMIS, etc.) and organizations (Suppliers, 3PL, Mfg., etc)

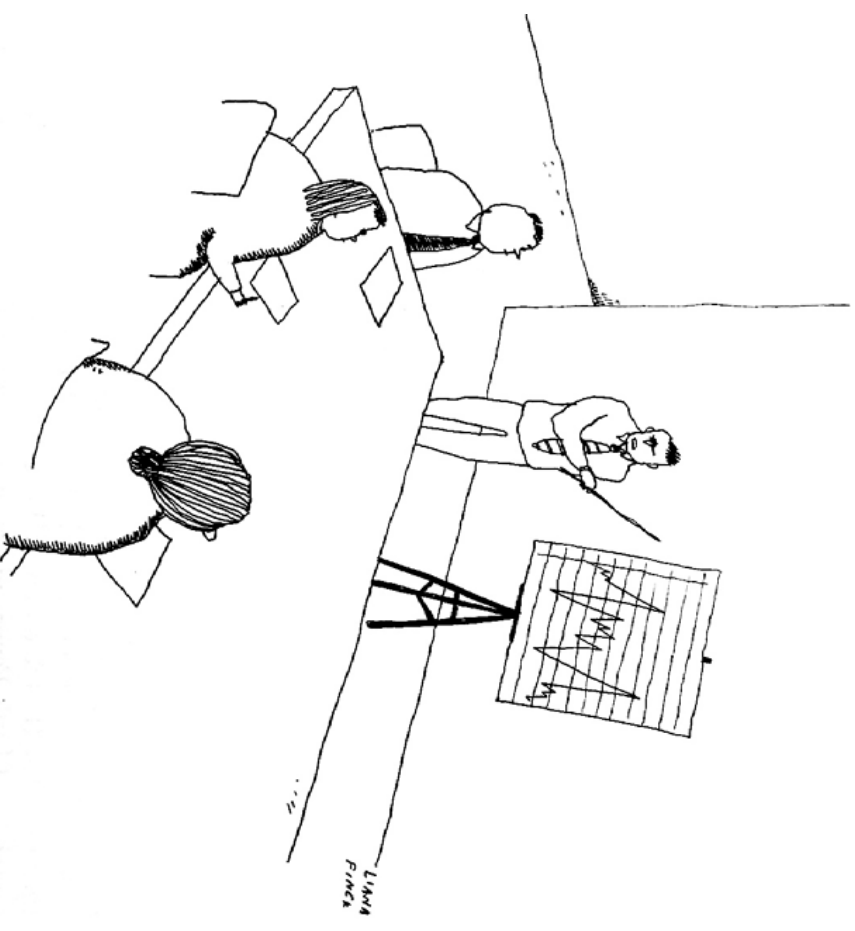


# The Problem

**Too much data,  
poorly organized**

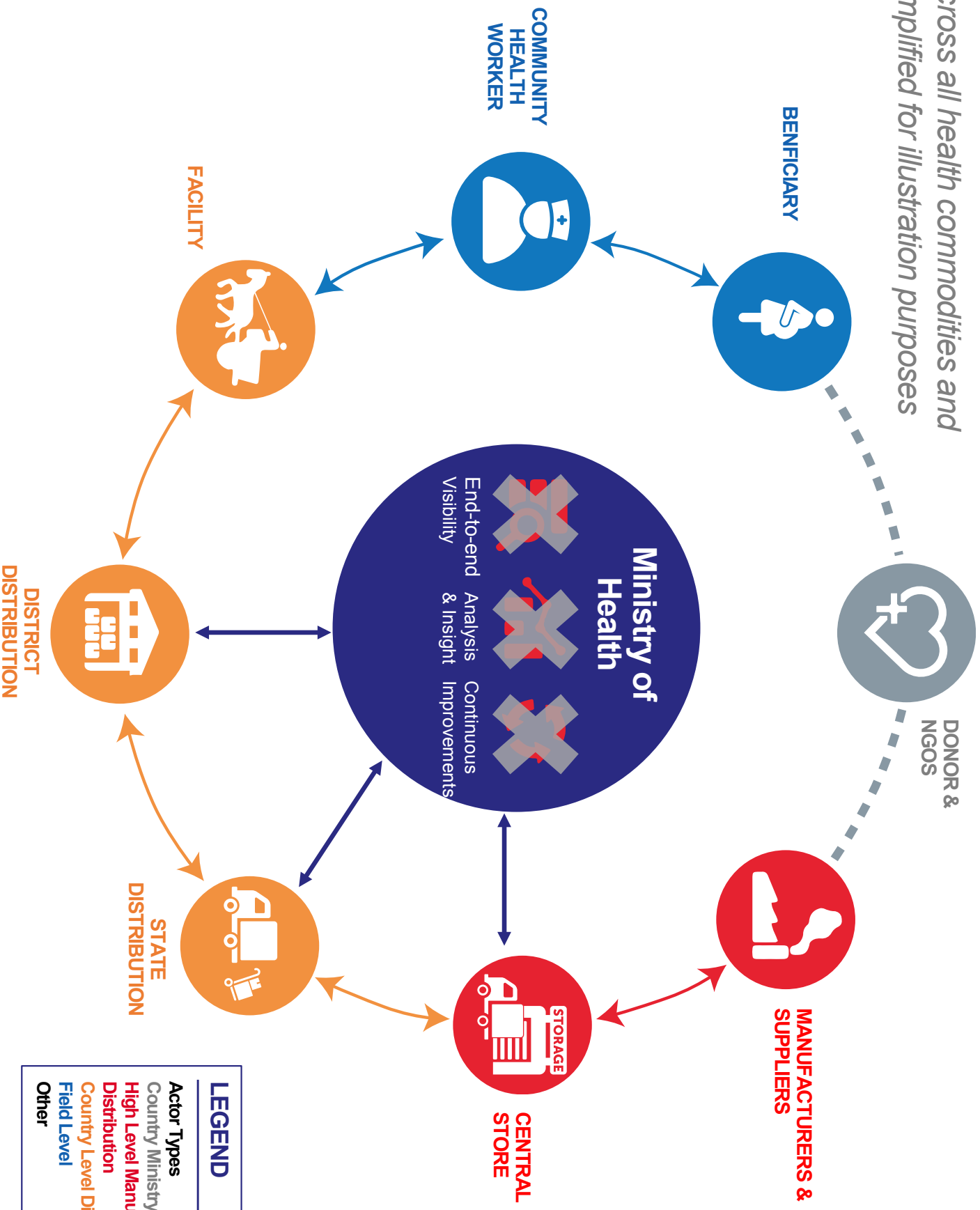


**Too little definition of what we  
need to know and do**



# The CURRENT State of Product Data Flow

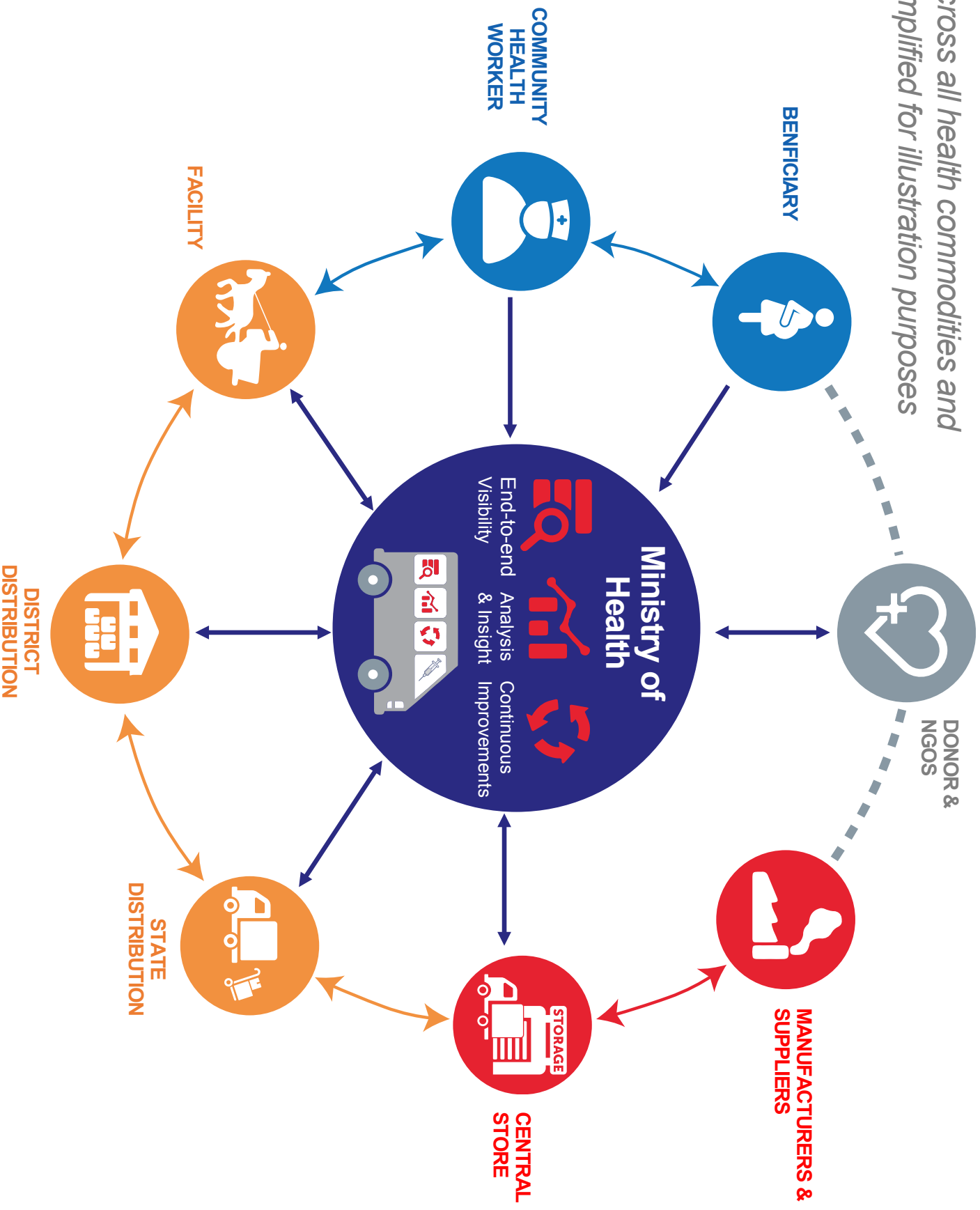
Across all health commodities and simplified for illustration purposes



LEGEND	
<b>Actor Types</b>	
Country Ministry of Health	Country Level Distribution
High Level Manufacturing & Distribution	Field Level
Country Level Distribution	Other

# The FUTURE State of Product Data Flow

Across all health commodities and simplified for illustration purposes



# People of a VAN

What is done?

What Decisions?

When/How Often?

When does it?

## Operations Team

### CT Ops Lead

- KPI reporting
- Team coordination
- Day to day SC orchestration

### Warehousing

- Daily stocks monitoring
- Risks assessment
- Stock policy mgt.
- KPIs monitoring

### Demand Planner

- Forecasting
- Coordination with programs for demand
- KPI monitoring

### Data Mgt. Lead

- Data gaps/follow ups
- Data policy mgt.
- Master Data mgt.
- KPIs monitoring

### Distribution Planner

- Scheduling
- Supplier coordination
- Track and trace
- KPIs monitoring

## Analytics and Improvement Team

### Analytics & C.I. Lead

- C.I. business case development
- Team coordination
- Value mgt.

### Special Projects

- Project mgt.
- Coordination with SC Ops, programs, and other stakeholders

### SC Perf. Analyst

- Root Cause/What if
- Support CT Ops team
- Improvement opportunities

### Distribution Planner

- Scheduling
- Supplier coordination
- Track and trace
- KPIs monitoring



Early Adopters, Early Lessons

# COUNTRY VAN EXPERIENCE



# TANZANIA & ZAMBIA

LMUs and eLMIS form the backbone

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## Overview

- LMUs established within MSD (TZ) / MSL (ZM)
- Use data from eLMIS for operational decisions
  - Replenishment to SDP
  - Positioning stock at **facilities**
  - Upstream supply planning
- Monitor KPIs of routine performance **using the eLMIS**:
  - Reporting rates
  - Stock status
  - Expiry risk, etc.

## Lessons Learned

- Clear focus on operational decisions, demand planning, supply planning, and performance
- Need for clarity on routine processes that promote a culture of data use:
  - KPI review meetings
  - KPI ownership & accountability
  - Root case analysis, and intervention, and monitoring intervention outcomes.



# ETHIOPIA

eLMIS forms the backbone

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## Overview

- HCMIS system (eLMIS) is implemented across GOE (PFSA) warehouse network (center plus 17 regional hubs)
- Live transactional data accessible through dashboards & being used for both strategic (e.g. forecasting) and operational (e.g. replenishment) decision-making
- Upstream supplier data being integrated; plans to test capture of downstream facility data using their version of HCMIS (600 of the largest health facilities)

## Lessons Learned

- People and underlying business processes are far more important than “technology”
- More data requires shift in business culture – takes time
- More data in many cases makes people jobs more difficult, in all cases makes their jobs different



# KENYA

## VAN Light: Setting up County IMPACT Teams

### Overview

- **Technology:** DHIS2 serves as MOH's eLMIS for FP, vaccines. No ready to use dashboards with data for decision making.
- **Analytics:** Extract, analyze, visualize 5-7 indicators for use on a monthly cycle by counties
- **Processes:** Use a structured process for teams to analyze, use data for action
- **People:** Teach key county leaders, managers how to use processes for continuous improvement in the FP, vaccine supply chains

### Lessons Learned

- Implementing a full VAN will require addressing coordination between levels (devolution)
- Because data is visualized in a usable, actionable way, teams are excited and motivated by the idea of performance monitoring
- Structured processes are a key success factor in teaching teams how to routinely review data and use for root cause analysis, action planning



# PAKISTAN

## Linking the VAN “Control Tower” with IMPACT Teams and Actionable Data

### Overview

- Building a VAN at provincial level (Sindh), with links to IMPACT Teams in three pilot districts
- Vaccine focus to prove the concept
- Uses web-based vLMIS and dashboard

### Lessons Learned

- Supply chain knowledge gaps at both levels; all staff need capacity building
- Existing vLMIS dashboards are not user-centered and need to be configured to provide **data in actionable format**
- VAN and IMPACT Teams need support to interpret the data and identifying root causes



## Summary of Initial Findings

- Critical gaps in staff capacity to understand what logistics data is telling them, which limits their ability to use the data for root cause analysis.
- First generation dashboards present **a lot of data**, but not **always** the right data in the right format to facilitate analysis **and action**
- Inadequate understanding of supply chain management is a key issue among the VAN teams.
  - Extensive capacity must be built to ground the teams in relevant supply chain competencies and thereby enable them to see beyond an immediate problem (e.g. resolving a stock out at a health facility) to address underlying system weaknesses (e.g. long lead times or ill-defined resupply processes).



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## Food for Thought

Consider implementing VANs that go beyond logistics data, to ensure participation of program managers who care about health outcomes and can advocate for logistics investments as a way to achieve those.

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Adopting a user centered approach to dashboard design will facilitate consumption of data for analysis and action.

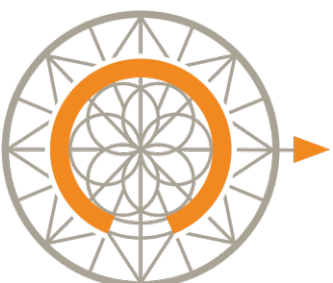
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Consider specialized analysts as part of a VAN team that generate data-driven insight to complement dashboard KPIs.



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