

# Mozambique's Community Health Workers

## Agente Polivalente de Saúde (APS)

### Selection

APS are chosen by their local leaders and health committee to serve their community with lifesaving health services and messages. The prospective APS must take a proficiency exam and demonstrate basic qualifications to undergo training.



### Training

APS undergo a 6-month course focusing on theory, practical applications, and skills at a health training institute covering health promotion, nutrition, family planning, and effective communication. APS also learn integrated community case management (iCCM): how to test and treat malaria, diarrhea, and pneumonia; record and report cases; and refer cases requiring further care. Those trained under the previous cadre receive a 3-month requalification to be certified as APS.



### Deployment

APS are deployed with the equipment—durable bicycle, registers, phone, and commodities—they need to test, treat and track disease in their communities. One APS typically covers 1,000 community members.



### Monthly Meetings

APS from a catchment area gather for a monthly health facility meeting with their supervisor to review registers, submit aggregated data, and restock on commodities. Aggregated data is validated by supervisors, district statistical stakeholders, and coordinators prior to electronic submission into the national system.



### Supportive Supervision

Supervisors observe APS activities and provide feedback on their performance. Each APS should receive at least one supervisory visit per month. In addition, supervisors conduct quarterly reviews to monitor the quality of activities and ensure proper record-keeping.



### Data Quality Audits

Supervisors and coordinators visit health facilities to ensure the national data reporting system aligns with aggregated data and APS hand-written registers ensure the flow of quality data.

**Outcomes:** Stronger systems, quality data, healthy children.

