EBODAC
tools designed
to promote acceptance
and uptake of new
Ebola vaccines
Challenge

Grameen Foundation, based in Washington D.C., was founded in 1997 with the aim to increase poor people’s access to microfinance in order to enable them to create a world without poverty. GF fields of operation include finance, health and agricultural projects in several countries around the world. They bring a mix of financial services – loans, savings, insurance – to the rural poor and connect farmers to markets, help them grow more high-value crops, and enable them to demand better prices. The foundation works also with government agencies, the private sector and civil society to develop mobile health solutions aimed at improvement of health outcomes of the poor.

Case

EBODAC is a part of a bigger project called EBOVAC, the main goal of which is to develop a vaccine for Ebola. There are a number of vaccine candidates in development, and there are 3 projects running to generate the data needed to assess the safety, immunogenicity and the duration of protection of different vaccines. The EBOVAC project uses cutting-edge technologies in order to carry out in-depth analyses of samples taken from clinical trial participants before and after vaccination.
The EBODAC project will develop a communication strategy and tools designed to promote acceptance and uptake of new Ebola vaccines. One of the project’s most important products will be a platform based on mobile technology. In addition to providing local communities with information on Ebola and vaccines, the platform will send reminders to people receiving the ‘prime-boost’ vaccine to return to get their second ‘booster’ dose. It will facilitate the tracking of vaccination coverage. EBODAC will also set up local training programs designed to ensure that the communication strategy and its tools are ready for deployment in the local setting.

Solution

The project went into production in October 2015, only 10 months after its start. A booking application was released for the participants in the trial in December 2015, only a month after the beginning of work on it. In 2016, three functionalities were added: statistics, email reports and integration with Nagios.

The most difficult part was to integrate different needs of all project participants. The key to success was clear communication and good relations between all parties involved in the project.
Result

EBODAC is currently deployed in East Africa, in Sierra Leone. It is also responsible for the synchronization of data from biometric kits in real-time and the addition of data from eCRF.

EBODAC acted as an intermediary between the three different organizations. It also sends messages with information on the Ebola virus and reminders to participants so that they do not forget about scheduled visits.

References

“SolDevelo provide tireless, effective, full-service development and is one of the best groups I’ve worked with.”

Emily Tucker / Director, Product Management, Grameen Foundation