Zipline Surpasses 8 Million Medical Products Delivered in Ghana, Strengthening Health Outcomes Through Government Collaboration

18th July 2025

On the 6th-year anniversary of commencing operations in Ghana, <u>Zipline</u>, the world's largest autonomous logistics system, has successfully delivered more than 8.4 million medical products in the country, marking a major milestone in the country's journey toward equitable healthcare access.

Since its launch in 2019, Zipline has served as a critical infrastructure partner for the Government of Ghana. It has delivered more than 8.4 million medical units – including medications for malaria, HIV and TB, family planning products, blood products, vitamins, nutritional products, medicines for pregnant women, and more than 17 million vaccine doses – to over 3,000 hospitals, health centers, and CHPS compounds in 14 regions of the country.

Operating from six hubs, Zipline's autonomous drones enable real-time delivery of medical products regardless of weather, terrain or infrastructure challenges – revolutionizing last-mile delivery in the health sector. In 2021, Zipline partnered with Gavi and the UPS Foundation to deliver the COVID-19 vaccine and has since delivered more than 3.4 million doses, including hundreds of thousands of mRNA vaccines. Research conducted shows that the company disproportionately serves the most vulnerable populations in Ghana, with rural and hard-to-reach districts receiving 30 percent more COVID-19 vaccines than less remote districts during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since 2022, 9,698 people that were in critical condition and would've died without Zipline's support have survived. 75% of these cases occurred in Northern Ghana. More than 1,600 were snakebite injuries.

Deliveries don't necessarily equate to health impact. But in Zipline's case, it does. Numerous studies now validate that Zipline's operations in Ghana have had a profound impact on population health, contributing to various national health and development goals, including:

- Antenatal Care & In-Facility Births: In Ghana's Ashanti region, Zipline-served facilities saw a 20% increase in antenatal visits, a 25% increase in skilled deliveries, and a 56% drop in maternal deaths compared to non-Zipline areas.
- Blood Supply & Maternal Mortality: A Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) study found Zipline led to greater blood product availability, a broader blood component range, and a significant reduction in maternal mortality (pre-print).
- Vaccination Coverage: A peer-reviewed study published in Vaccine Journal reported a 13–37 percentage point increase in childhood vaccination rates in Zipline-served facilities in Western North Ghana, including a 32.6 percentage point increase in Penta 1 (children who do not receive this shot by a certain age are considered "zero dose").
- Stockouts & Missed Opportunities: An IDinsight study (funded by the Gates Foundation) showed Zipline cut missed vaccination opportunities by 42% and

reduced the duration of vaccine stockouts by 60%. According to a recent Zipline impact report, served facilities in the Volta Region report 60% fewer referrals compared with non-served facilities.

- **Health Worker Satisfaction:** Providers at served facilities in the Volta Region were 22 times more likely to report that access to healthcare improved significantly during the time Zipline has been operating (Zipline Impact Report).
- Cost-Effectiveness: Zipline costs just \$0.66 per additional fully immunized child, making it the most cost-effective immunization intervention ever studied. (<u>Value in Health</u>)

Zipline also invests in local economic development and capacity building—creating over 30 high-skilled jobs at each operating hub and providing in-house training and certification for pharmacists, engineers and technicians. In Ghana alone, that equates to over 240 high-skilled jobs created. Beyond job creation, Zipline also partners with local universities to strengthen local research capacity. For example, in partnership with Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Ghana, it launched a \$10,000 research grant award to fuel student-led public health research.

Zipline's dedication to impact is also reflected in its contributions to communities. Since 2021, Zipline has sponsored more than 300 blood drives around the country that have collected more than 20,000 units of life-saving blood, to help the National Blood Service to improve blood supply across Ghana.

Daniel Kwaku Merki, Head of Zipline Ghana said, "Our approach in Ghana is simple but powerful: we've built a fast, reliable storage and delivery system that ensures essential medicines and supplies reach people exactly when they need them. This demand-driven model eliminates stockouts, ensures more equitable distribution of medical supplies and strengthens trust in the healthcare system. As a result, health system utilization has increased—leading to better health outcomes by reducing both the frequency and severity of disease. Ultimately, this approach delivers significant savings for both households and the health system. None of this would have been possible without the dedication and expertise of our team in Ghana, who continue to drive innovation and impact at every level of our operations."

Beyond healthcare, Zipline is also having a transformative impact on Ghana's education sector. Since 2023, Zipline has delivered more than 1,000 exam papers to students in the Sekyere Afram Plains District – an area that is regularly cut off by flooding – enabling them to take their exams on time. Beyond exam papers, Zipline has also delivered more than 16,000 educational materials, including textbooks, workbooks, creative supplies and writing implements, to students in Ghana.

With millions of successful deliveries and a proven track record of impact, Zipline is not just transforming logistics – it is committed to the continued development of Ghana and its people, enabling a more equitable and responsive future for essential public services in Ghana and beyond.

About Zipline

Zipline was founded to create the first logistics system that serves all humans equally. The company designs, manufactures, and operates the world's largest autonomous logistics system, which is used daily by businesses, governments, and consumers. Zipline's fully electric and autonomous drones reduce delivery emissions by up to 97% compared to gas-powered vehicles. To date, Zipline has flown more than 100 million autonomous kilometres and delivered millions of items, including over 22 million vaccine doses.

For more information, please visit www.flyzipline.com.