



**Venture
Philanthropy**

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LGT Venture Philanthropy partners with Muso to extend its effective, affordable model for reducing maternal and child deaths to Côte d'Ivoire

Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, 4 November 2021 – LGT Venture Philanthropy Foundation (LGT VP) announces a new engagement with Muso, to support the organization's expansion in Côte d'Ivoire. LGT VP's non-programmatic funding will support Muso to launch service delivery to new sites across the country and reinforce its technical assistance to the Ivorian Ministry of Health as they work towards the global SDG targets of reducing the under-five mortality rate to 25 per 1'000 live births and the maternal mortality rate to fewer than 70 per 100'000 live births by 2030.

Well-positioned to address the fatal consequences of delayed care in sub-Saharan Africa

Muso was founded in 2005 in Bamako, Mali by a team of Malians and Americans who witnessed the country's fragile health care system firsthand. Over the last 16 years, Muso has worked with its government partners to develop Proactive Care, a model focused on ultra-rapid delivery of health care, led by Community Health Workers (CHWs). Proactive Care is based on the simple premise that early access to health care can avert nearly all maternal and under-five child deaths. Muso trains, supervises and supports CHWs to identify patients through door-to-door visits, provide them with essential doorstep care and facilitate referrals to reinforced primary health centers without fees.

A 2018 study in BMJ Global Health found that the communities Muso serves in Mali, which previously had some of the world's highest child death rates, have now achieved a child death rate of seven per 1000, the lowest documented in sub-Saharan Africa. Today, the organization provides health services to 350,000 patients across ten sites and has grown its team to over 500 staff in Mali and Côte d'Ivoire. In addition to providing direct care at the community level, Muso also provides technical assistance to Ministries of Health as they scale national CHW programs; through this evidence-to-policy work they expect to impact up to four million people by 2023. Beyond the West Africa region, Muso advocates with global institutions to change global community health policy and practice.

An exciting, complementary addition to LGT VP's health portfolio

Muso's work is complementary to other organizations in LGT VP's health care portfolio such as Last Mile Health and mothers2mothers, all focused on different aspects of last mile health delivery through innovative community health care models. "Throughout our diligence we were humbled by Muso's data-driven approach and commitment to working hand-in-hand with community members, health care workers, supervisors and local and national governments across the continent," says Nava Anvari, Investment Manager at LGT VP and Muso deal lead. "Their deep commitment to improving their speed of quality care delivery and sharing this knowledge with the global community in an evidence-based way is inspiring."

Dr. Ari Johnson, CEO and co-founder of Muso echoes this sentiment: “We are honored to partner with LGT Venture Philanthropy and work together to cure one of our world's greatest injustices: delayed health care. LGT VP, through their extensive diligence, took the time to get to know our team and built a deep familiarity with Muso’s work. This is the kind of rigor and commitment that our patients need and deserve. A solution, a new way of reaching every patient early, is within our reach, and we’re grateful to be accompanied by LGT VP on this mission.”

To find out more about LGT VP’s health strategy, click [here](#).

***Muso** is a non-profit organization that works with government and academic institutions to design and test proactive health care systems that improve outcomes by reaching patients early and that cure delay. Muso delivers care to patients, serves national governments in redesigning community-based health care delivery and conducts rigorous operational research to test strategies for advancing universal health care, maternal health and child survival. For more information, please visit <https://www.musohealth.org/>.*

***LGT Venture Philanthropy** is an independent charitable foundation established in 2007 with teams in Switzerland, Sub-Saharan Africa and India. The foundation strives to improve the quality of life of disadvantaged people, contribute to healthy ecosystems and build resilient, inclusive and prosperous communities. LGT VP deploys philanthropic capital to organizations with effective, innovative and scalable solutions to social and environmental challenges, thus directly contributing to the Sustainable Development Goals. For more information, please visit www.lgtvp.com.*

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