

USAID COVID-19 Vaccine Technical Assistance Implementing Partners Forum

Leveraging Private Sector Engagement to Enhance COVID-19 Vaccination Coverage in Indonesia

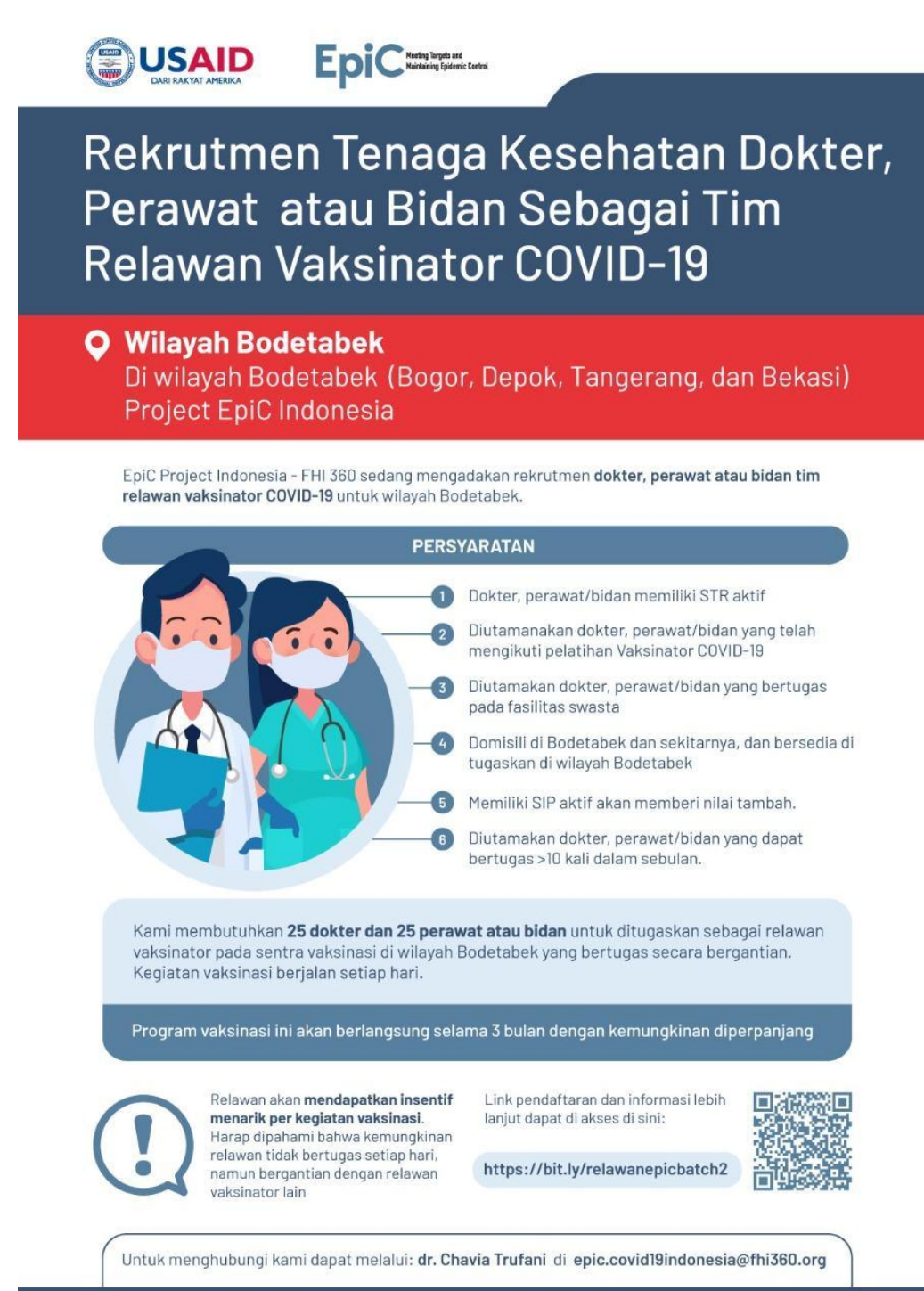
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1. FHI 360 Indonesia

Reaching the hard-to-reach and priority populations

CHALLENGE

Indonesia emerged as an epicenter of the COVID-19 pandemic, with 57,000 daily new cases recorded in mid-July 2021.¹ Sky rocketing COVID-19 infections placed severe risks to front-line health care workers and the put the entire healthcare system at risk. In response, USAID mobilized the Meeting Targets and Maintaining Epidemic Control (EpiC) project in Indonesia to rapidly expand vaccination coverage in targeted high burden provinces. EpiC sought support from the private sector and issued a call for voluntary assistance from doctors, nurses, and healthcare professionals through WhatsApp and Telegram. The response was overwhelming, with over 3,500 individuals applying to help.



Social media advertisement for private sector vaccination personnel



A private sector vaccination volunteer preparing a COVID-19 vaccination dose. Photo by EpiC Indonesia

RESULTS/OUTCOMES

Between August 2021 and April 2022, these private sector volunteers organized 9,917 vaccination events, administering 1,743,926 vaccine doses across Indonesia. Their contributions expanded vaccination coverage and alleviated the burden on front-line public-sector health workers.



Vaccinating commuters at a Jakarta train station. Photo by EpiC Indonesia.

APPLICATION TO ROUTINE IMMUNIZATION OR PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

This success underscores the transformative potential of private sector engagement in public health emergencies. The collaboration between EpiC and private sector healthcare professionals serves as a powerful example of an approach to rapidly scale up vaccination coverage. By leveraging social media and innovative management systems, EpiC harnessed the commitment and expertise of private sector volunteers, playing a pivotal role in mitigating the COVID-19 crisis in Indonesia. EpiC is currently working with the MOH to utilize the roster of private sector vaccinators for other public sector efforts such as routine immunization efforts.

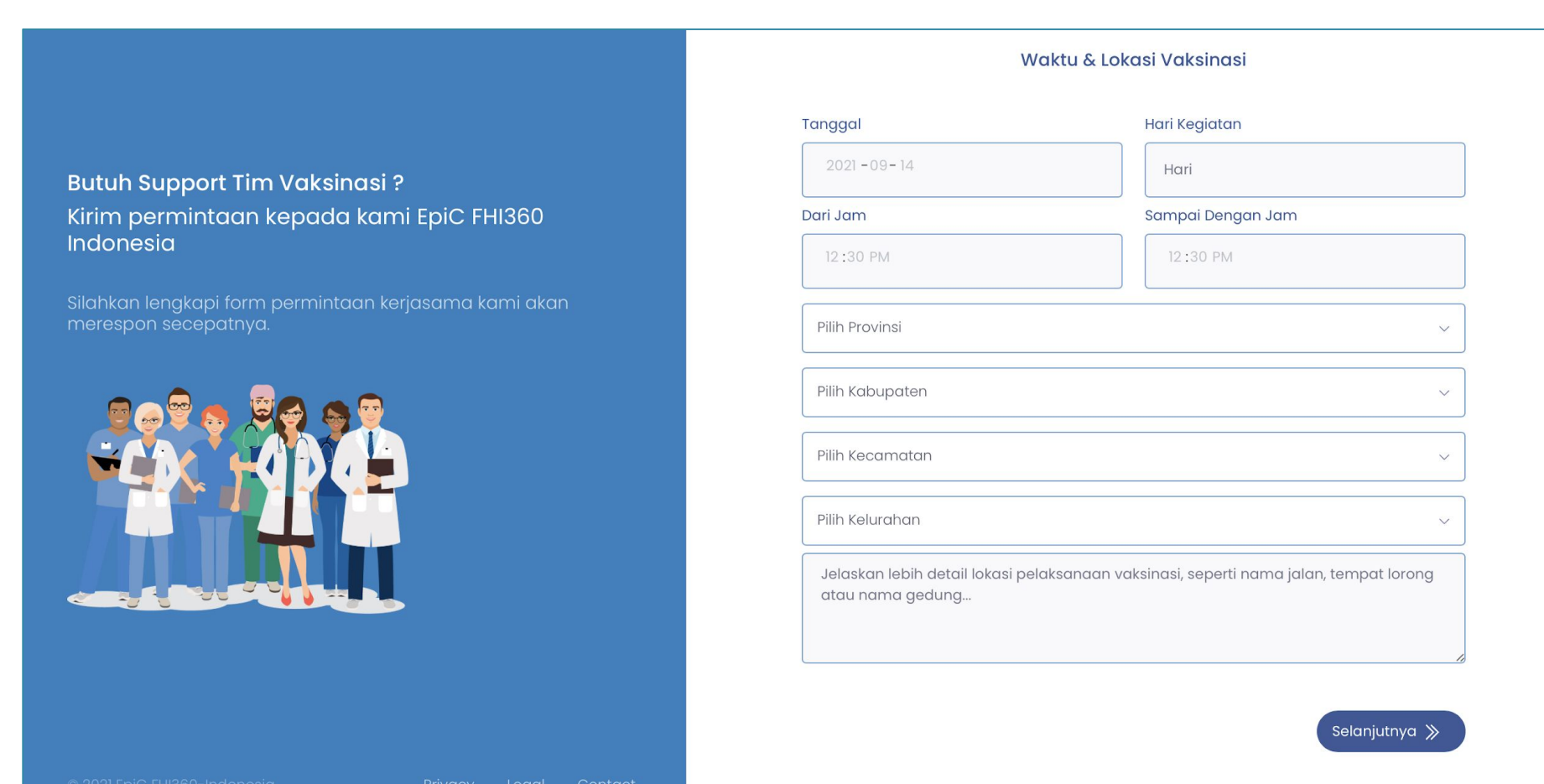


A student receives his COVID-19 vaccination, with support from EpiC Indonesia. Photo by EpiC Indonesia.

INNOVATION

Through a rigorous selection process based on registration, vaccination certification, and licensing, EpiC enlisted 3,446 trained providers from the private sector. To optimize their deployment, EpiC developed an electronic volunteer and vaccination management system. This innovative system facilitated the swift deployment of healthcare providers to challenging locations, including villages, neighborhoods, hamlets, and slum areas in Jakarta, Banten, West Java, Yogyakarta, and Central Java, where the Ministry of Health prioritized EpiC assistance.

EpiC Indonesia's electronic volunteer and vaccination management system



Conducting mobile vaccination events in remote areas. Photo by EpiC Indonesia.

References: 1) Abdurachman F., Paddock, R.C., and Suhartono, M., "The Pandemic has a New Epicenter: Indonesia." New York Times, 17 July 2021, <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/07/17/world/asia/indonesia-covid.html>

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