



Sharing learning from Polio SBC Misinformation, Social Data and Conflict

SBCC Summit side event organized by UNICEF

Session: Qualitative Research on Perceptions of Polio Vaccination in the Context of COVID-19 Vaccination (COVAX) Rollout in Cameroon and Ethiopia

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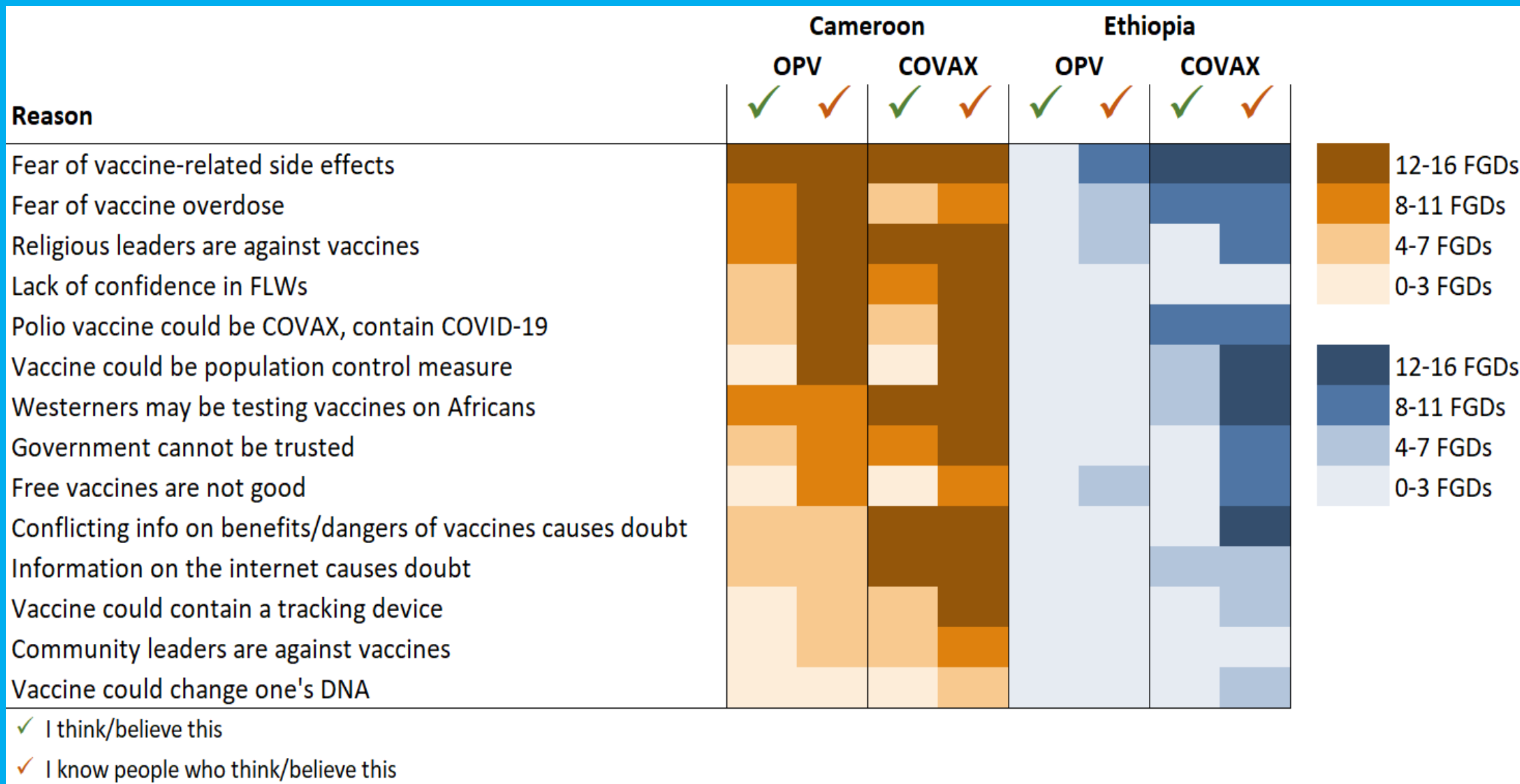


Your work: (Please enter below, in headline form, 5 key elements that outline and position your work related to the theme for this contribution – see agenda attached)

- 1. UNICEF conducted high-quality qualitative research in Addis and Adama in Ethiopia, and Yaoundé and Bafia in Cameroon**
- 2. The purpose of this work was to understand how the experience of Covid-19, and the introduction of Covid-19 vaccines, have affected community perceptions of polio vaccines and polio vaccination campaigns**
- 3. We conducted 16 Focus Groups and 24 in-depth interviews in each country**
- 4. These were conducted with caregivers of children under 5, polio frontline workers, healthcare practitioners, and social influencers**
- 5. This provides us with insights into how polio SBC strategies can be strengthened**

Your Learning: (Please enter below, in title and sub-title form, 3 key learnings from your work specific to the theme for this contribution - see agenda attached.)

- 1. Covid-19 has created very considerable hesitancy around polio vaccination in Cameroon, but very little in Ethiopia**
- 2. Community members expressed all kinds of misperceptions of polio vaccination in Cameroon, most prominently fears that the polio vaccine is a disguised Covid-19 vaccine or contains Covid-19 itself, opposition from religious leaders, and fears of side-effects**



Your Recommendations: (Please enter below, in paragraph form, based on the learning from your work, the 2 main recommendations you would make for consideration by others addressing similar issues in their contexts.)

A. Vaccination modalities should be considered from the perspective of target communities

B. Qualitative research is a fairly quick and effective way of gaining actionable insights into how caregivers perceive our activities

Thank you