



## **ASCM LAUNCHES AFRICAN LEADERSHIP FORUMS AIMED AT STRENGTHENING PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMANITARIAN SUPPLY CHAINS**

*Forums will encourage the adoption of methods to improve health supply delivery for underserved communities*

CHICAGO, IL – March 12, 2019 – The Association for Supply Chain Management (ASCM) today announced the launch of a series of one-day leadership forums, that will bring together supply chain executives from multi-national companies in Africa in order to foster regional supply chain solutions. ASCM is the recipient of a three-year grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and through this initiative ASCM will help build sustainable supply chains in Africa that improve delivery of food, medicine and other critical supplies.

A series of leadership forums will be held throughout the year in Dakar, Senegal, Lagos, Nigeria and Nairobi, Kenya. The programming will continue in 2020 along with a series of regional conferences. Forum participants will help establish and nurture sustainable supply chains in these critical markets, using the ASCM operating model as a guide, and create lasting community support through ongoing meetings and discussions.

“Improved supply chains improve lives, especially when it comes to underserved markets,” said ASCM CEO Abe Eshkenazi, CSCP, CPA, CAE. “Our hope is for this series to spark communication and ingenuity among the talented leaders within these regional communities. Through the generosity of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, ASCM will introduce globally recognized and locally adapted methods that improve last-mile availability in public health supply chains and create a better future for those impacted.”

The forums will help solve critical public health supply chain challenges such as weak distribution systems and a lack of reliable monitoring and data-collection mechanisms. In addition, these forums will help decrease the knowledge gap between commercial, public health and humanitarian supply chains, which will ultimately encourage healthier families and communities. Country-specific plans will be developed and implemented to elevate the maturity of local supply chain communities that directly impact supply chain reliability.

For more information, visit [www.ascm.org/making-an-impact/gates-foundation/ASCM-Africa/](http://www.ascm.org/making-an-impact/gates-foundation/ASCM-Africa/).

### **ABOUT ASCM**

**The Association for Supply Chain Management (ASCM)** is the global leader in supply chain organizational transformation, innovation and leadership. As the largest nonprofit association for supply chain, ASCM is an unbiased partner, connecting companies around the world to the newest thought leadership on all aspects of supply chain. ASCM is built on a foundation of APICS certification and training spanning 60 years. Now, ASCM is driving innovation in the industry with new products, services and partnerships that enable companies to further optimize their supply chains, secure their competitive advantage and positively influence their bottom lines. For more information, visit [ascm.org](http://ascm.org).

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