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### **ASCM Foundation to Help Developing Countries in Africa with COVID-19 Response**

*Supply Chain Technical Support Made Possible Through Grant from Xylem Watermark*

**CHICAGO** (June 16, 2020) – The Association for Supply Chain Management (ASCM) Foundation announced today it has received a grant from Xylem Watermark, the corporate citizenship program of global water technology company Xylem Inc. (NYSE: XYL). The grant will be used for the ASCM Foundation’s Global Health Supply Chain Initiative to provide Ministries of Health in Senegal and Kenya with technical support to assist in developing and coordinating supply chain planning for critical care items such as personal protection equipment (PPE) and testing supplies that are needed to respond and manage COVID-19.

“There is dire need within developing countries in Africa to improve the capacity of both health care and supply chain personnel to cope with the rapidly changing supply chain issues and the challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic,” said ASCM Abe Eshkenazi, CSCP, CPA, CAE. “This grant from Xylem Watermark makes it possible for us to help the Ministries of Health improve their COVID-19 response, which will increase the number of lives saved in these areas by at least 90% due to better COVID-19 preparedness, response and recovery.”

This intervention will lead to an improvement in forecasting, increased availability of COVID-19 commodities at the point of care/use, rational use and a plan for reverse logistics during the recovery phase. ASCM Global Health Supply Chain teams on the ground in Senegal (West Africa), Nigeria, and Kenya (East Africa) are already working with the Ministries of Health and their COVID-19 Response teams to:

1. Identify high risk COVID-19 supply chain segments including home health to the general population, critical care to health workers, critical care to those with severe diagnoses, and education for the general population.
2. Provide the participants in the program with ASCM membership, which will allow them to use ASCM’s Supply Chain Learning Center with over 1,000 educational resources, webinars, and seminars, as well as the ASCM Corporate mentoring opportunities, and localized networking opportunities focused on COVID-19 response.
3. Leverage the ASCM’s Global Health Supply Chain Maturity model to assist response teams with quickly identifying supply risks.
4. Facilitate collaborative workshops with donor teams and local implementation partners to conduct risk mitigation activities.

“Xylem Watermark is deeply committed to working closely with local communities during extraordinary times like this,” said Jamie Saxe, Senior Director, Watermark and Corporate Social Responsibility program. “Our grant initiative reinforces the mission of Xylem Watermark- to impact communities and families facing water challenges, as well as disaster relief assistance and other essential needs.”

The ASCM Foundation’s Global Health Supply Chain Initiative helps developing markets improve supply chains and the lives they touch. The program’s strategy focuses on heightening the capability of leaders, professionals and the public health workforce to maximize proven programs in learning, development and organizational transformation.

For more information on ASCM and its Foundation and the work they’re doing to create a better world through supply chain visit <https://www.ascm.org/making-an-impact/>.

### **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).

### **About the ASCM Foundation**

As the philanthropic channel of the ASCM (Association for Supply Chain Management) – the global leader in supply chain organizational transformation, innovation and leadership – the Foundation was established in 2019 to take ambitious new actions to solve critical problems and maximize the extraordinary opportunity to create a better world through supply chain. With the support of ASCM, the Foundation collaborates with private foundations and public organizations to address pressing global challenges with a specific focus on building frontier and humanitarian supply chains, K-12 supply chain education, STEM and career awareness, workforce development, and diversity and inclusion initiatives. For more information on the ASCM Foundation and its work, visit <https://www.ascm.org/making-an-impact/>.

### **About Xylem**

Xylem (XYL) is a leading global water technology company committed to solving critical water and infrastructure challenges with technological innovation. Our more than 16,000 diverse employees delivered revenue of \$5.25 billion in 2019. We are creating a more sustainable world by enabling our customers to optimize water and resource management, and helping communities in more than 150 countries become water-secure. Join us at [www.xylem.com](http://www.xylem.com).

### **About Xylem Watermark**

The Company's corporate citizenship program, was initiated in 2008, with a focus on protecting and providing safe water resources around the world and also educating people on water-related issues. The global initiative, which encompasses employee and stakeholder engagement, provides access to clean drinking water and sanitation, and humanitarian emergency response to help communities become more water-secure and sustainable. The past 4 years, the program logged 170,000+ employee volunteer hours and engaged ~58 percent of the company's global employee base.

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