JACARANDA HEALTH

Q1 IMPACT REPORT

Jacaranda Health
January - March 2024

Snapshot of Scale and Impact

The new year continued pace towards our ambitious scale targets. We brought 100,000+ new moms onto PROMPTS, upskilled 3,500+ providers through MENTORS (trained by a growing cohort of nurse mentors), and worked round-the-clock to harness - and supersede - rapid global developments in AI (p3).

But it also turned a fresh page for some deeper strategic thinking around how we deepen our impact, like further personalizing the PROMPTS experience for mums, expanding our training package for nurses (p2), and understanding the behavioral dynamics of how governments use and act on data (p4). We hope you enjoy reading.

Mercy Mwende, new mother and PROMPTS user, stands outside her home in Machakos County with her third child Sky Jaden. *Photo by Allan Gichigi.*

2,770,380
mums reached (100K+ new in Q1)

926
nurse mentors trained (18 new in Q1)

22
Kenyan partner counties

3
countries of operation

62%
average government cost share for MENTORS (15% for PROMPTS)

Jacaranda and Kenya's Ministry of Health deploy a newborn training package for frontline maternity nurses

> "As a county, we've identified capacity gaps as one of the biggest barriers to positive neonatal outcomes in facilities. This training is very timely as it offers a formal approach to upskill and mentor our NBU staff, which we've not had previously."

Dr. Steve Wandei,
*County Director of Health,
Kakamega County*

In-facility mentors simulate management of neonatal sepsis as part of a training of trainers day on the 19th March, which brought together frontline nurses and a multidisciplinary team of Kakamega County stakeholders, including pediatricians and other partners (eg. Nest360), to empower nurse 'champions' to cascade critical skills down to their peers in facilities. *Photo by Eugene Namusende.*

100% post-test scores in neonatal resuscitation among frontline nurse champions

Many Kenyan hospitals have specialized newborn units, yet lack the full suite of skills to maximize their use.

In March, Jacaranda and the Ministry of Health (MoH) piloted a newborn training package for frontline maternity nurses in Kakamega, aimed at high volume referral facilities. The content - which includes simulations on neonatal resuscitation, emergency management and infection prevention - was informed by MoH newborn care protocols and gaps identified in interviews conducted with frontline nurses.

The combination of national endorsement and strong county buy-in for the package is a strong indication of its early adoption and long-term sustainability within a wider national mentorship package over the coming months.
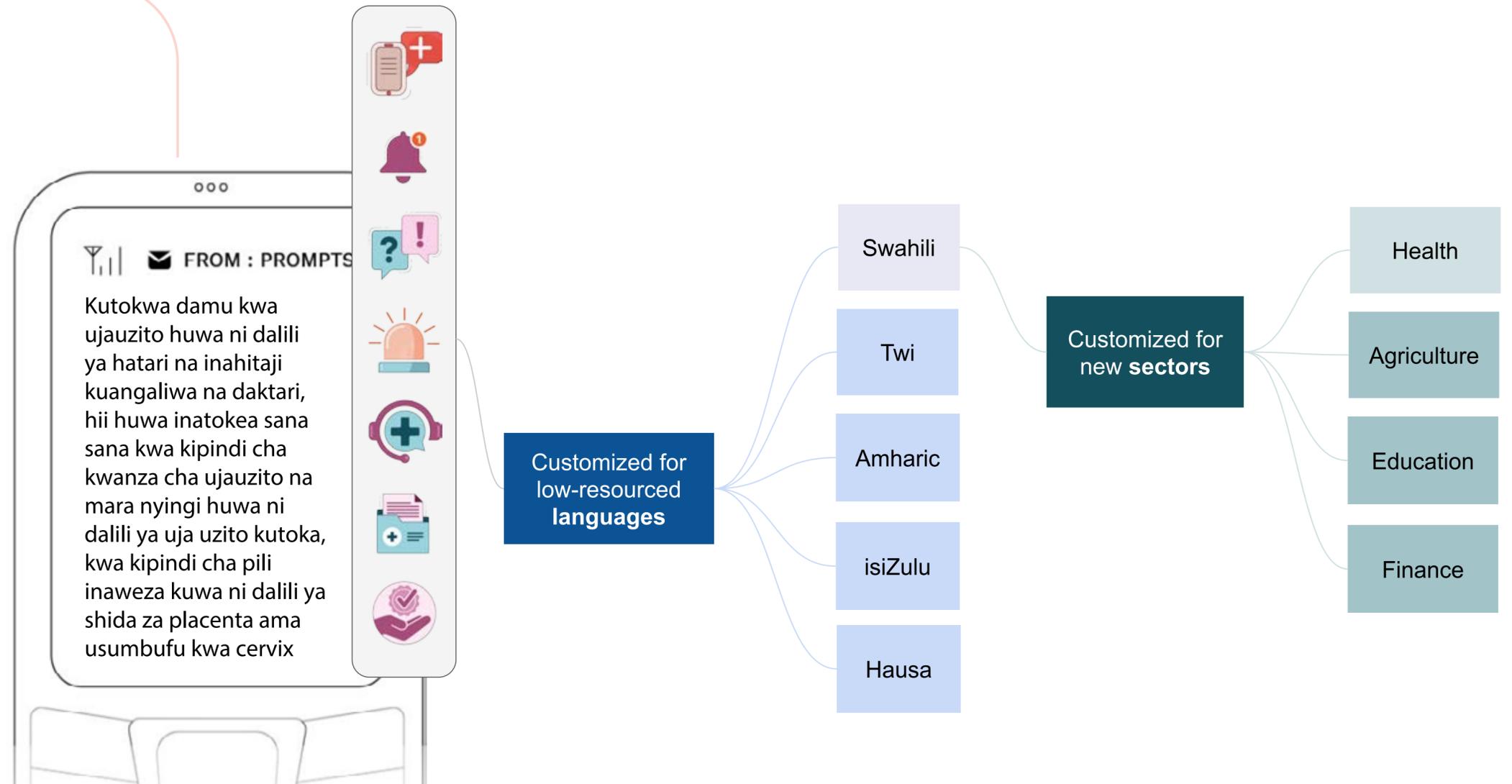
→ Read more

Localizing GenAI for multiple new languages and sectors

AI has become ubiquitous, but commercially-available models lack customizations to effectively work in low-resourced settings. Our tech team spent the early part of this year figuring out how to bridge this gap.

Our team is currently testing how to deliver our Swahili-speaking Large Language Model, UlizaLlama, in multiple low-resourced languages, like Twi, Amharic, and Hausa. Our hope is that other African innovators will be able to use UlizaLlama to expand AI-driven support in different languages and sectors, like education, finance, and agriculture.

→ Check out our toolkit for implementers

FROM : PROMPTS

Kutokwa damu kwa ujauzito huwa ni dalili ya hatari na inahitaji kuangaliwa na daktari, hii huwa inatokea sana sana kwa kipindi cha kwanza cha ujauzito na mara nyingi huwa ni dalili ya uja uzito kutoka, kwa kipindi cha pili inaweza kuwa ni dalili ya shida za placenta ama usumbufu kwa cervix

Customized for low-resourced **languages**

Swahili

Twi

Amharic

isiZulu

Hausa

Customized for new **sectors**
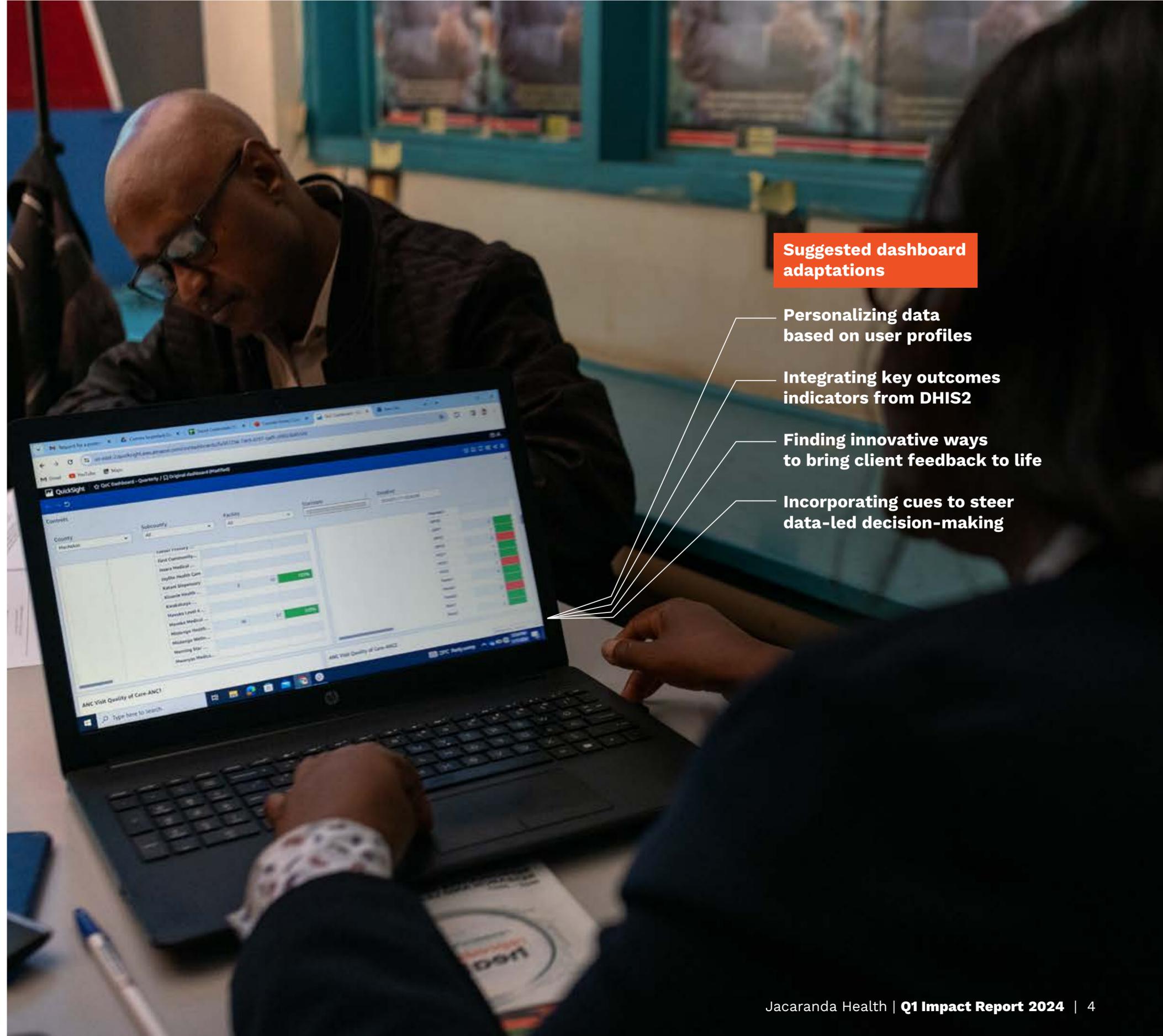
Health

Agriculture

Education

Finance

Dashboard co-design: What are we learning about how governments use and act on data?

Evidence-based decision-making is a cornerstone for quality in public health systems. Yet, despite masses of available data, organizations globally are wrestling with the same question: **how can we capture and share data in a way that governments can interpret and act on?**

Early this year, Jacaranda and Ideas42 interviewed 50 government stakeholders to understand how they perceive, review, and act on data. Discussions confirmed our assumption that our dashboards were valuable, but identified concrete opportunities – aesthetic and content-related – to better meet their needs.

The willingness of our government partners to engage in this process is encouraging, and we are excited to roll-out an improved version of our dashboards in the coming months.

→ Our approach to data co-design

Suggested dashboard adaptations

Personalizing data based on user profiles

Integrating key outcomes indicators from DHIS2

Finding innovative ways to bring client feedback to life

Incorporating cues to steer data-led decision-making

Can PROMPTS offer effective digital support for mothers living in informal settlements?

60% of Nairobi's population live in informal settlements, where the maternal mortality rate is twice the national average. Last year, we set up a USAID-supported pre-post study to understand if PROMPTS could help mothers in these areas better navigate their fragile health systems.

Context-sensitive messages were crafted via human-centered design to meet women's preferences on timing, terminology and content. The results were encouraging. We saw high overall engagement (87%) with the platform, and notable shifts in care seeking and knowledge of complications.

→ Read more in BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth

PROMPTS mothers in the two informal settlements were found to be...

2.28x
more likely to attend ANC care

2.20x
more likely to recognize any pregnancy danger signs

2.21x
more likely to recognize any newborn danger signs

4.20x
more likely to report their babies and 1.52x more likely to be checked by a nurse post-delivery

Disclaimer: These figures do not imply causation by PROMPTS enrolment, only association.
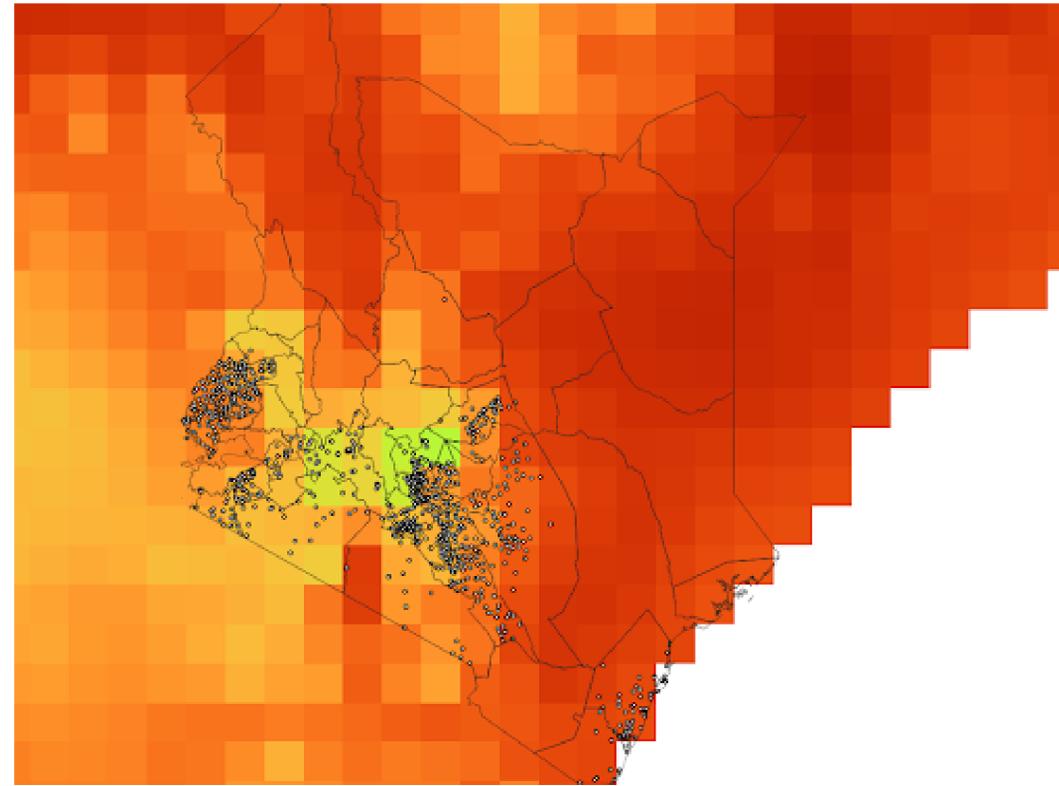
What can PROMPTS tell us about how mothers experience extreme heat?

How does changing climate affect our health? We were curious to answer this question for millions of mums on PROMPTS.
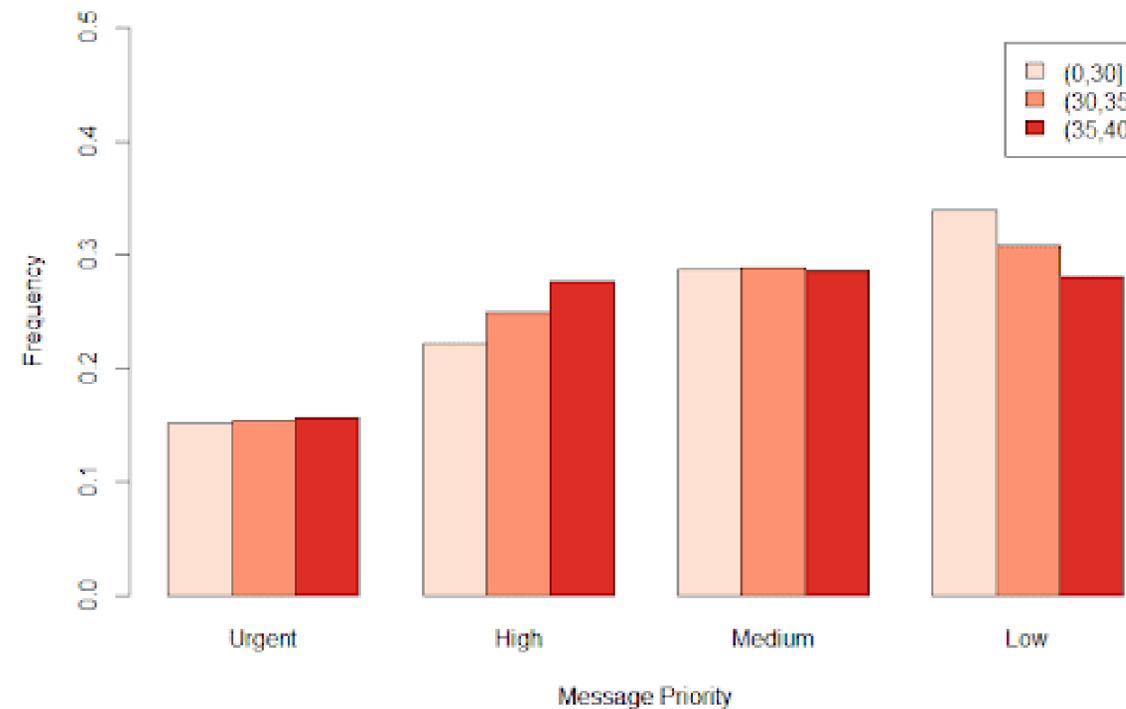
Each day, PROMPTS receives ~5,000 questions from mums in geographically diverse parts of Kenya. We realized that by looking at user conversations we could begin to detect trends in health concerns based on temperature: concerningly, in hotter areas we saw an increase in reported danger signs.

We have work to do to validate these insights, but they do indicate practical ideas for support, like proactively reaching out to mums during heatwaves, or advising facilities on how to support clients during extreme heat (eg. rethinking clinic hours around cooler parts of the day).

→ What we're learning

A map of Kenya where boxes show colors representing temperatures and dots indicating coordinates of PROMPTS partner facilities.

Frequencies of intent priorities within temperature bins (represented by different shades of red (legend). Each intent has an associated priority level, and the frequency of clusters of intents is represented by the bar. For example, the frequency of high priority intents increases as temperature increases.

Heard and seen at...

ICT4D: Jacaranda's Rachael Alldian and Cephas Avoka spoke to the potential of localized GenAI and digital risk screening across two panels at this year's ICT4D in Ghana.
→ Read

Lanfrica: Jacaranda's Director of Technology Jay Patel unpacks the how and why of developing the world's first Swahili-speaking LLM, and its potential application in other sectors.
→ Watch

Meta: Meta's President of Global Affairs Nick Clegg spotlights Jacaranda's journey with AI, and its potential for transformative impact in low-resourced settings.
→ Read

BBC: The BBC spotlight our partnered work around AI-assisted ultrasound, and how it could revolutionize prenatal care for underserved women across Kenya.
→ Listen   → Watch

JACARANDA HEALTH

**Improving quality
of care and outcomes
for every mother and
every newborn**

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PROMPTS user Monica Nzembi
stands outside her home in
Machakos County. She enrolled in
the platform at her local hospital
at the start of her pregnancy five
months ago. *Photo by Allan Gichigi.*