

Meeting tackles Big Questions about global contraceptive access

- How far have we come since the 2012 London Family Planning Summit?
- What will contraceptive demand be in 2020?
- How much will we need to spend on contraceptives in 2020, and what funding gap do we face?

17th General Membership Meeting of the Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition.
Westin Hotel, Seattle, 13-14 October 2016

The Promises

2012 was a watershed year for reproductive health. The global community at the London Summit on Family Planning pledged that 120 additional women in the world's poorest 69 countries, by 2020, access the reproductive health supplies and contraception they need. A global partnership called [FP2020](#) emerged to ensure that these promises were kept. 2016 marks the halfway point of this undertaking; FP2020's 4th annual report – to be published Nov. 1 – will provide partnership progress updates and identify outstanding challenges for the next four years. Findings from the soon-to-be-released report will inform key parts of the upcoming [General Membership Meeting of the Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition in Seattle, 10-14 October](#), and FP2020 experts will share challenges and solutions from around the world.

The Future: what will contraceptive demand be in 2020?

This growing demand for family planning among women places - and will continue to place - pressure on the need for contraceptive supplies. What will it take to meet the need for contraceptive supplies in the year 2020? Can donors, manufacturers, procurement agencies, and advocates predict - and prepare for - unprecedented levels of demand? The Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition brought together leading technical experts to posit three scenarios of growth between now and the 2020, and to answer the following questions:

- *How many women of reproductive age will use each method of contraception?*
- *What volume of contraceptive commodities will these users consume?*
- *What will these supplies cost, and how does this cost compare to the amount currently spent on contraceptive supplies?*

- *What share of the additional cost will be borne by donors, by domestic governments, and by individual users of contraception themselves?*

Results of this ground-breaking analysis will be inform the Global Contraceptive Commodity Gap Analysis report, to be released at the upcoming Seattle Meeting.

Getting Supplies Home: Why is “The Last Mile” so important?

The supply chain taking products to women who need them is a lifeline that should be protected and strengthened. Unfortunately, supply chains are vulnerable, and they are most at risk in the “Last Mile”, the critical final link between a warehouse and a community-based health outlet, or the hands of the woman who has walked half a day to get her medication. October’s Seattle Meeting will bring together more than 300 supplies experts – donors, governments, manufacturers, researchers, advocates and youth activists – to share strategies on strengthening the Last Mile, with special lessons from Malawi and Myanmar.

The Need

Worldwide, 225 million women who want to avoid pregnancy are not using safe and effective family planning methods, for reasons ranging from lack of access to information or services, to lack of support from partners or communities. Most women with an unmet need for contraceptives live in 69 of the poorest countries on earth.

Unplanned and unwanted pregnancies arising from unmet need can result in:

- Higher infant mortality
- More infant illnesses and undernourished children
- Unsafe abortion
- Abandonment of unwanted children
- Fewer educational and development opportunities for women

Special Treatment: Why are Young People’s Needs Different?

Young people’s access to commodities is hampered by restrictive policies, hostility from providers, cultural taboos, and financial vulnerability. The Meeting hears about age-specific barriers and strategies to overcome them – from young people themselves.



17TH GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF THE REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SUPPLIES COALITION

10-14 OCTOBER 2016

Expert speakers at the Meeting

Speaker	Experience and Expertise
Lauren Acoba, Sr. Supply Chain Planning Manager, Starbucks	
Samson Fanta, Sr. Manager, Supply Chain, Microsoft	Supply chain issues in private industry; lessons for developing countries
Angela Hession, HoloLens Principal Program Manager, Microsoft	
Lisa Cohen, Executive Director, Washington Global Health Alliance	A leading voice on organizational collaboration and network building, Lisa Cohen leads the Washington Global Health Alliance, which fosters time-saving collaboration, builds trust, and limits redundancy, increasing the impact of global health organizations.
Katja Iversen, President and CEO of Women Deliver	Katja Iversen has long championed sexual and reproductive rights, not least of young people and speaks about the barriers they face in the 21 st century
Fannie Kachale, Director, Reproductive Health Unit, Malawi Ministry of Health	Previously a chief nursing officer, and Chair, Malawi Family Planning Association Board, Mrs. Kachale advocates for maternal & neonatal health
Young Representatives	
Génesis Luigi, Venezuela, Youth Network Coordinator, International Planned Parenthood Federation Western Hemisphere	Conducts research on sexuality and disability at the Central University of Venezuela. Vlogs on “La Pastilla” – the pill – about sexuality & gender issues she wishes she had learned about in school
S M Shaikat, Executive Director, SERAC-Bangladesh	SERAC-Bangladesh is a national youth-led NGO in Bangladesh. Shaikat has set up a national youth network on dowry and child marriage prevention in Bangladesh, in which currently more than 2000 young people are actively involved.
Dr. Hnin Hnin Lwin, Deputy Director, Myanmar Health Ministry	Strengthening the Last Mile in Myanmar

#RHSUPPLIES2016



17TH GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF THE REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SUPPLIES COALITION

10-14 OCTOBER 2016

**Beth Schlachter, Executive Director,
FP2020**

In advance of FP2020's 4th progress report launch in early November, a comment on trends, lessons learned and recommendations for the next four years

**Emily Sonneveldt, Director, Center
for M&E and Advocacy, Avenir Health**

What might contraceptive prevalence look like in the year 2020, and what supplies – and funding – will be required? The Global Contraceptive Commodity Gap Analysis estimates the volume and cost of the supplies needed to meet 2020 demand, and the gap between the funding required and current spend.

**Michelle Weinberger, Senior
Associate, Avenir Health**

**Dr. Desalegn Tigabu, Director, Clinical
Service Directorate, Federal Ministry
of Health, Ethiopia**

Using data to increase contraceptive rates in Ethiopia

**Matthew Ziba, Project Manager,
Supply Chain, VillageReach**

Oversees VillageReach's Pharmacy Assistant Training Program in Malawi which has led to significant improvement in supply chain and pharmaceutical practice at the last mile.

What is the Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition?

It's the largest network of reproductive health organisations in the world with nearly 400 members from the public, commercial, and not-for-profit sectors. The Coalition convenes and catalyzes members' intellect and energies to ensure that all people are able to access and use affordable and quality supplies, including a broad choice of contraceptive methods.

Contact

Hannah Pandian | Senior Communications Officer
Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition
Rue Marie-Thérèse 21 | Brussels | Belgium
hpandian@rhsupplies.org | +32 (0)2 210 02 23

Media Kit

Badges, tweets and hashtags at <http://www.rhsupplies.org/news-events/general-membership-meetings/seventeenth-meeting-seattle-2016/media/>

#RHSUPPLIES2016