



UN COMMISSION ON  
LIFE-SAVING COMMODITIES  
FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Commissioners' Report  
September 2012



# THE UN COMMISSION ON LIFE-SAVING COMMODITIES FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN

**The Maternal Health Technical Resource Team**

**Transition to Maternal Health Caucus**

RHSC Annual Meeting, October 2016



# Key Achievements Phase I and II

## Availability of Quality Maternal Health Products [AQMHP]

- 4 products were pre-qualified, 1 ERP, 3 submitted for PQ, 3 receiving support
  - **Misoprostol** – 2 products PQed (Cipla/India & Acme/India); 1 ERP approved (China Resources Zizhu Pharm./China), 2 receiving support
  - **Oxytocin**- 1 product PQed (Grindeks/Latvia), 1 submitted for PQ, 1 receiving support
  - **Magnesium Sulfate**: 1 product PQed (Inresa Arzneimittel GmbH/Germany), 2 products submitted for PQ

# Key Achievements Phase I and II

- File submitted and accepted to modify WHO EML of MgSO<sub>4</sub>
  - "For injection: 0.5g/ mL in 2 mL ampoule; 0.5g/ mL in 10 mL ampoule (50% w/v)
- Storage conditions for oxytocin: a brief overview document
- Quality Procurement workshop successfully held in Kampala (9/2015) & Tunis (7/2016)
  - Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe attended Kampala workshop. Tunisia, Niger, Congo, Cameroon, Benin, Burkina Faso and Senegal attended Tunis workshop. Both workshops included procurement decision makers, regulators & MOH program staff.
  - Quantification and other tools were disseminated

# Key Achievements Phase I and II

## Essential Medicines List

- Inclusion of life-saving commodities (misoprostol) in national EMLs: DRC, Sierra Leone
- Development of [EML Search](#) a searchable database of national EMLs
- Advocacy resource guide developed with information on the process of updating and revising national EMLs : Updating National EMLs: A Step-by-Step Advocacy Guide
- Information packages on each commodity in final stages of development

# Key Achievements Phase I and II

## **Oxytocin in the Cold Chain**

- Facilitated development and dissemination of UNICEF/WHO Joint statement: Temperature Sensitive Health Products in the EPI Cold Chain
- Options Analysis and case studies completed in Ghana and Mali for inclusion of oxytocin in cold chain
- Ghana govt has committed to putting oxytocin in the cold chain. Mali in process but stalled
- Brief developed with guidance on how to integrate oxytocin in cold chain

# Key Achievements Phase I and II

## **Commodity Security**

- **MH Commodity Security (MHCS) Framework and White Paper developed**
- **Validation exercises with multiple relevant stakeholders conducted in 3 countries (Tanzania, Ethiopia, and Nigeria)**
- **MHCS brief developed, incorporating country feedback**
- **Developed webinar materials (slide deck and script) applying the MHCS framework to a fictional country case study and conducted webinar**
- **Translated webinar materials into Spanish and French to be adapted for use**

# Key Achievements Phase I and II

## **Innovation**

- 3 pill pack of misoprostol produced by manufacturer
- Research on rectal MgSO<sub>4</sub> conducted and determined non-viable option
- Study on use of Temperature Time Indicator (TTI) on oxytocin in Ghana completed by 10/2016

# Key Achievements Phase I and II

## **Guideline development and dissemination**

- Developed a protocol, applied and adapted in 3 countries (Ethiopia, Tanzania and Uganda)
  - Identified strategies with stakeholders to overcome barriers to implement guidelines
  - Prioritized feasible implementation strategies
  - Technical and logistical support provided by WHO and GREAT Network to facilitate guidelines implementation at the country level



# Key Achievements Phase I and II

## **Guideline development and dissemination**

- Provided continuous support to strengthen local research capacity in the science and practice of knowledge translation (KT) and implementation research (IR) – through GREAT Network seed grants
- Developed and offered online Practicing Knowledge Translation (PKT) course to in-country partners in collaboration with experts in KT and IR

# Dissemination Activities

- **Uganda and Tunis Quality Procurement Workshop** was an opportunity to disseminate various tools and resources of the MHTRT, including quantification guidance
- Presented **MHTRT panels** at **GMNH conference in Mexico City** and **RHSC annual membership meeting**
- **Flash drives** with **tools and resources** from **multiple TRTs** distributed during workshop, conference and meeting
- **Tools and resources** uploaded on [lifesavingcommodities.org](http://lifesavingcommodities.org) and partners' websites
- Newly prequalified products (Cipla's misoprostol and Grindeks' oxytocin) were announced through the RHSC platform