



SUPPLYINSIDER

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Uganda Health Minister responds to HEPS stockout advocacy

The Ugandan government gets it—that if stockouts of contraceptive commodities were eradicated, four million unplanned pregnancies, half a million unsafe abortions, and 6,000 maternal deaths could be averted by 2020. Uganda’s State Minister of Health for General Duties, Sarah Opendi, [announced this month](#) that the government had allocated \$2M for the procurement of contraceptives. “No country has ever attained economic development without tackling its fertility rate,” Ms. Opendi said. She was responding to the findings of a project implemented by [HEPS](#), with financial support from the Coalition. The project engaged community members, health providers, and local government officials in applying a social accountability tool to reduce contraceptive stockouts. HEPS used the results of that work to address the Ministry of Health, National Medical Store and other national-level partners in order to generate the political will needed to resolve them. For more information, please contact Denis Kibira at dkibira@heps.or.ug or Veronique Dupont at vdupont@rhsupplies.org.

RHSC supports UNFPA to digitize country-level data collection

UNFPA and the IT solutions firm, Systmapp, have embarked on a joint initiative to digitize the collection, storage and analysis of Country Questionnaires and Health Facility Surveys conducted annually by UNFPA Supplies in the 46 countries where it operates. The effort aims to enhance data collection and transfer, improve data analysis and reporting, and make possible more informed decisions by UNFPA staff. The new IT solution will also include an external portal, making it possible to access and download country datasets on

RH commodity stocks, and the status of key service-delivery markers.

This initiative is supported by a grant to the Coalition by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. For more information please contact Julia White at jwhite@rhsupplies.org.

Farewell to SECONAF president, Dr Méba Kagoné

Dr Méba Kagoné has stepped down at the completion of his term as president of SECONAF. During his tenure, he played a key role in forging the regional forum's strategic plan, building on his more than 30 years' experience in reproductive health. SECONAF extends its gratitude to him for his founding work, and wishes him the very best in his future. The nomination and election process for a new president is underway and should be completed by early 2017. For more information please contact Aminatou Sar at asar@rhsupplies.org.

Two Chinese partners receive positive product ratings from WHO

This month, Beijing's Zizhu Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. received WHO prequalification of its misoprostol 200µg, the second Zizhu product to receive that coveted status in as many months. This month also saw Coalition member Shanghai Dahua Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd, obtain the highest rating from the WHO Expert Review Panel for its two-rod sub-dermal implant, Sino-implant (II), which the firm intends to market under the global brand name Levoplant. Both awards represent a significant milestone in the global supply of high-quality reproductive health products.

UNFPA screens Coalition video on stockouts

Participants at this month's semi-annual meeting of UNFPA Supply Partners were treated to a repeat performance of the Coalition's video on last mile supply chain struggles, which was first screened in Seattle at the Coalition's general membership meeting. Some 50 participants including donors, the private sector, and civil society, watched the three-minute film calling partners to work together, as "no single agency can do it alone". The film can be viewed [here](#).

Ghent University conference showcases Innovation Fund work

Ghent University hosted to a lecture on the results of an Innovation Fund-supported initiative that linked staff motivation and good supply management in 15 primary health care facilities in Mozambique. The research, carried out by the university's International Centre for Reproductive Health, explored how—and to what extent—the motivation of providers can be optimized to reduce the frequency of stockouts. The lecture took place at a meeting of the recently-established Academic Network for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Policy (ANSER), which is an alliance of international universities

designed to be a global resource for SRHR policy research, education and service delivery. A [report](#) of the findings and a [policy brief](#) based on the findings are online.

Recent webinar on drones now available online

USAID, JSI and ForoLAC recently co-hosted a Spanish-language webinar, describing the experience of companies that use unmanned aerial vehicles – or drones -- to deliver medical supplies in countries as diverse as the Dominican Republic, Rwanda, Papua New Guinea and Madagascar. A recording of the event is [available](#) on the Coalition's hub, which now hosts 42 webinars in all.

Coalition membership reaches 397 with 7 new members

- [Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences](#) is Australia's largest and most experienced group of pharmaceutical scientists, with more than 240 scientists and 180 PhD students.
- The [International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research](#), based in Bangladesh, develops and delivers low-cost, scalable solutions to major health problems and has trained more than 31,000 health professionals from more than 87 countries.
- The [Panagora Group](#) is a US-based technical support agency which administers the [PPMR](#) on behalf of USAID's Global Health Supply Chain Program Procurement and Supply Management project.
- [Global Impact Advisors](#) is a US-based company providing wide-ranging services to support population health and environment programs.
- The [Women's Refugee Commission](#) is a US-based technical support agency that works to protect and empower refugee women and girls.
- [Fundación Oriéntame](#) works in Colombia with a special focus on the prevention and comprehensive management of unwanted pregnancy.
- [Alliance Nationale des Jeunes pour la Santé de la Reproduction et la Planification Familiale](#) is a Senegalese network of young people, youth organizations, and communities supporting sexual health service provision for young people.

In the calendar

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| 3-7 April | Joint WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA meeting with pharmaceutical, condom, IUD, vaccine and diagnostics manufacturers and suppliers, Copenhagen, Denmark |
| 27-30 Nov | 9th Asia Pacific Conference on Reproductive and Sexual Health and Rights , Da Nang, Vietnam |

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