

TOP STORY



ForoLAC alert prompts countries to act

Last month, we headlined SupplyInsider by calling attention to the worryingly long lead times for contraceptive procurement, referencing the plight of Latin America in particular. ForoLAC responded by sending out a call to governments and within days, the health ministries of Argentina, Ecuador, Guatemala, Perú and the Dominican Republic placed contraceptive orders. For more information, please contact Regional Advisor Milka Dinev at mdinev@rhsupplies.org.

IN THE NEWS



Blog calls for procurers and manufacturers to talk to each other

Pharmaceutical companies are certainly very much in the spotlight nowadays, as the world awaits the promise of new vaccines to combat COVID-19. But they haven't always enjoyed good press, and a new blog tackles age-old misperceptions of the manufacturing sector. "**Time to Leave the Hall of Mirrors**", the latest addition to RHSC's "Making It" series of blogs on manufacturing, debunks the prevalent preconception that manufacturers are awash in profits and can therefore afford to succumb to price squeezes and other demands. The piece was republished on the [CTI Exchange website](#).

New brief addresses supply chain needs in humanitarian settings

Actors in the humanitarian and development sectors must work together in order to keep supply chains running, both in times of crisis as well as stable times, says a **new advocacy brief** co-authored by the RHSC's A&A Working Group and IWAG, the Inter-Agency Working Group for Reproductive Health in Crises. The brief will be the subject of an upcoming **webinar**, with speakers from Women's Refugee Council, i+solutions, UNFPA Asia Pacific, and CARE.

GEMs calls it a day, but the global conversation continues

This November, the RHSC's GEMs Caucus will officially come to an end. GEMs, or the Generic Manufacturers for Reproductive Health Caucus, was formed in 2013 when seven manufacturers came together, under the leadership of the **Concept Foundation**, to share a commitment to achieving quality standards as a key step toward increasing contraceptive access. As the group ran its natural course, GEMs members joined other generics and innovators under the umbrella of the RHSC's **Manufacturers' Group**. The decision to disband the GEMs is in keeping with the Coalition's philosophy that working groups should function for

only as long as they serve their original purpose. The RHSC offers special thanks to the Concept Foundation for its leadership and continued contributions to RH supply security.

Argentina ups its engagement with the Coalition

The RHSC's decade-long relationship with Argentina has been further strengthened as the country's [National Directorate for Sexual and Reproductive Health](#) has become RHSC's latest member. It is the second department within the country's Ministry of Health to join, following in the footsteps of [Plan ENIA](#), whose work focuses on addressing the reproductive health needs of youth. The RHSC has enjoyed a fruitful partnership with its partners in Argentina, having funded the creation of the youth friendly app #Donde; the identification of barriers to registration of misoprostol; and the development of the business intelligence tool SEPREMI.



LAPTOP scholars make a difference in emergency situations

Two LAPTOP scholars, Clemence Matsika and Wadhah Hubaishi, have shared how they applied their training in humanitarian logistics to some of the world's most demanding disaster situations. Read how [Matsika](#) and [Hubaishi](#) helped design supply chain responses to sieged ports, cyclones, and COVID-19 in their native countries of Zimbabwe and Yemen respectively.

NEW MEMBERS

Colectiva por la Libre Información para las Mujeres in Peru operates a hotline and publishes podcasts to shine light on women's rights. The group provides free information to some 13,000 women.

In Argentina, The **Dirección Nacional de Salud Sexual y Reproductiva, Ministerio de Salud, Argentina** implements federal public policies and promotes sexual and reproductive rights in coordination with the country's 24 provinces. (See story above)

The US-based **Erik E. and Edith H. Bergstrom Foundation** focuses on expanding access to family planning and abortion services in Latin America, the Caribbean, United States and nine countries in East Africa.

Just a Cup Europe is a French NGO providing partner agencies all over the world with high quality reusable menstrual hygiene products at competitive prices.

IN THE CALENDAR

18th International Dialogue on Population and Sustainable Development

28-29 October 2020
Virtual Event

China Reproductive Health Industry Association
Reproductive Health EXPO

10-13 December 2020
Jinan City, China

Universal Health Coverage Day 2020

12 December 2020

European Development Days 2021

15-16 June 2021
Brussels, Belgium

16th European Society of Contraception Congress

1-4 September 2021
Ghent, Belgium

General Membership Meeting of the Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition

27-30 September 2021
Accra, Ghana

FIGO World Congress 2021

24-29 October 2021
Sydney, Australia

International Conference on Family Planning 2021

8-11 November 2021

Pattaya City, Thailand



Reproductive Health
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