

## TOP STORY



## LAPTOP announces its latest scholars and the launch of its next scholarship round

Eight young people from Bolivia, Colombia, Haiti, Nicaragua, and Peru have been awarded LAPTOP Scholarships to further their studies in supply chain management. Read about them [here](#). LAPTOP has also just announced its next round of scholarships, which will help at least five students defray the cost of pursuing a course of study in supply chain management. Please find the application form and guidelines [online](#).

## IN THE NEWS

### **Custom Reports offer bespoke data on supply needs and costs**

Last September, the RHSC launched the LEAP Analysis to assess the growth in demand for reproductive health supplies and the costs that will likely be required to meet that demand in all low- and middle-income countries. Now, a set of [Custom Reports](#) for each health area—family planning, maternal health, safe abortion/post abortion care, menstrual health—allows users to dive deeper into individual countries or regions, or into a particular category of supplies. They also make it possible to compare results across countries or regions. The LEAP Custom Reports offer a smooth, intuitive experience on a streamlined interface. LEAP author Michelle Weinberger walks through the reports [in this webinar](#).

### **RHSC's 'Very High Performer' status in global health index**

[The Global Health 50/50 Gender and Health Index](#) was published this month, ranking the RHSC amongst the [Very High Performers](#) comprising the top 10 percent of all 198 participating organizations. Organisations were ranked for their performance in 11 areas, including public commitment to gender equality, workplace gender equality policies, and workplace diversity and inclusion policies. The accompanying fifth annual [Global Health 50/50 report, Boards for all?](#) presents a first-ever analysis of the gender and geography of who governs global health.

### **2021 saw the VAN make record strides**

Last year, the VAN increased six-fold the number of governments, procurers, and suppliers able to directly access the wealth of data within it. Its data coverage also expanded to encompass more than 6,000 shipments and 5,000 orders across all contraceptive products in 136 countries. [Read more](#) about the VAN's landmark year.

### **ForoLAC member can now purchase directly from manufacturers**

With support from ForoLAC, Argentine NGO [FUSA](#) has successfully secured authorization to purchase misoprostol, hormonal IUDs, and other medicines directly from manufacturers

and wholesale distributors. This now provides FUSA with the means to sidestep expensive intermediaries, and pass along cost savings to the vulnerable populations they serve.

## **Menstruation management options now available online**

A new tool "[Managing Menstruation: Know Your Options](#)" has just been put online, offering readers a full range of safe self-care options for managing menstrual bleeding, addressing pain management, and understanding the interaction of contraception and menstruation. Developed by Lucy Wilson of the [Menstrual Health Workstream](#), the tool will shortly be available in Spanish and French. For more information, contact Lucy Wilson at [lucy.wilson@gmail.com](mailto:lucy.wilson@gmail.com).

## **Video: The role of women in supply chain management**

Only 37% of the global supply chain workforce is female and women hold only 14% of executive roles within it. This [third episode of the LAPTOP video series](#) asks “Why?” and “What can be done to address this imbalance?” Veterans in the field offer insights into the workplace and practical strategies to help women to thrive in it. This four-part series is supported by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation and designed to support young people in furthering their careers in supply chain management.

## **New webinar addresses the benefits of harmonized labeling**

Harmonizing pharmaceutical product labeling across multiple countries can yield dramatic cost and time savings. [In this webinar](#) co-hosted by the RHSC, the Contraceptive Technology Innovation Exchange, and the Hormonal IUD Access Group, participants explore options for balancing the efficiencies of harmonized labelling with the needs of procurers, regulators, and healthcare providers.

### **NEW MEMBERS**

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## **Our newest member – MERQ Consultancy**

This month, the RHSC welcomes its newest member organization, [MERQ Consultancy PLC](#) – an Ethiopian consulting firm that works to improve health care quality through feasibility studies as well as operations and other health systems research.

#### IN THE CALENDAR

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[16th European Society of Contraception Congress](#)

**25-28 May**

Ghent, Belgium

[People that Deliver Global Indaba](#)

**12-13 October**

Lusaka, Zambia

[International Conference on Family Planning 2022](#)

**14-17 November**

Pattaya City, Thailand

[Women Deliver 2023](#)

**July 2023**

Kigali, Rwanda



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