Prepositioning emergency SRH supplies as part of humanitarian preparedness

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Dignity kit distribution, Myanmar
Why preposition supplies as part of preparedness?

Response = speed + scale + quality

Prepositioning improves quality and speed of response
Success stories: Philippines

**Marawi Crisis:** Having supplies prepositioned in Manila meant that when a request came through on Friday night they were on the ground in Iligan on Monday morning.

**Mount Mayon:** UNFPA has maternity tent sets that contain the tent and all the supplies that are needed to set up a basic maternity unit prepositioned. Jiassal Balatinsayo gave birth the day after a maternity tent set was erected following the eruption of Mount Mayon.

Left: Asni Omar, 17, delivered her first baby in a facility 45 minutes from Majad Rashida Evacuation Center (Ron Villas, UNFPA)
Right: The maternity tent set where Jiassal Balatinsayo gave birth following the eruption of Mount Mayon.
Success stories: Nepal earthquake

Prepositioned supplies were the only supplies UNFPA had on the ground for four weeks as Kathmandu’s single airstrip was used for all humanitarian supplies arriving in country.

Left: Devastation from the earthquake
Right: An 8 months pregnant woman with her kids, receives UNFPA dignity kit during response, Nepal
Success stories: **Cyclone Gita**

Two days after Cyclone Gita devastated Tonga supplies were on the ground from our regional hub in Brisbane; 36 hours later additional supplies arrived from Fiji. The cost of airfreighting supplies would have been more than double the value of the supplies and taken a minimum of ten additional days.
Lessons from prepositioning

• The type and quantity of prepositioned supplies must be carefully considered to ensure minimal wastage and manageable inventory management.

• Sufficient investment in humanitarian logistics capacity is needed to support prepositioning.

• Prepositioning supplies improves the quality of what is available at the onset of a disaster.

• Prepositioned supplies can be utilized immediately.

• Prepositioning saves lives.

Cyclone Winston response, Fiji
Preparedness saves lives!

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