Improving Availability of RH supplies in Humanitarian Settings

What can we learn from 10+ years of global coordination for routine family planning supplies?

Maggie Murphy, JSI
Ellen T. Tompsett, GHSC-PSM
Alexis Heaton, JSI
Sarah Kozlen, RHSC

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Presentation Objectives

• To inform the Inter-Agency Working Group on Reproductive Health in Crises (IAWG) about the family planning product data visibility and coordination mechanisms that have been established through the Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition (RHSC).

• To spark discussion on how lessons learned from these efforts can be applied or leveraged in crisis-affected settings to improve access to SRH supplies.
Presentation Outline

• Introduction to the Systems Strengthening Working Group (SSWG) of RHSC
• History of increased data visibility
• People: Who are key actors in the workstreams?
• Policies: How is data shared?
• Deep Dive on Processes and Technology
  o Country data collection platform
  o Coordination mechanism to address unexpected supply crises
  o Coordination mechanism to ensure medium-term supply availability
• Success Factors/Lessons learned
• Looking to the future: The Global Family Planning Visibility and Analytics Network
• Discussion
Systems Strengthening Working Group (SSWG)

- Aims to strengthen the global, regional, and country systems needed to ensure reliable and predictable reproductive health supplies.
- Ensure that these systems are better aligned, more data-driven, and more coordinated

The two main workstreams of this group will be discussed today.
**History of Increased Data Visibility**

**Firm Orders and Shipments**

- Launch of online platform (RHInterchange) collecting data on contraceptive shipments and orders for over 140 countries

**Country Supply Data**

- Launch of standardized reporting form (Procurement Planning and Monitoring Report – PPMR) to collect contraceptive supply data from countries

**Procurement Planning and Monitoring Report – PPMR converted to an online system**

**Full Procurement Visibility**

- Proof of concept to show value of bringing data into one tool for coordinated decision making (CSP Online Tool)

**Launch of Global Family Planning Visibility and Analytics Network Pilot**

- Limited number of manufacturers provide monthly reports for all firm orders and offers

**End to End Visibility**

- Launch of standardized reporting form (Procurement Planning and Monitoring Report – PPMR) to collect contraceptive supply data from countries
People: Who are the key actors in the workstreams?

Global
- UNFPA (CSB, PSB)
- USAID
- GHSC-PSM

Regional
- JSI
- CHAI
- RHSC
- West African Health Organization (WAHO)

Country
- Ministries of Health (MOH)
- UNFPA Country Offices
- USAID Missions
- GHSC-PSM Field Offices
- NGOs (MSI, IPPF, PSI)

Key Supporters
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, DFID, FP2020
Policies: How is data shared?

• Data sharing policies vary from very formal (such as non-disclosure agreements with manufacturers) to general principles established as part of the terms of reference of the workstream.

• For broader community - Each online data platform (PPMR, RHInterchange, etc.) has it’s own requirements for gaining access. Access to detailed data requires a verified username and password.
Deep Dive on Processes and Technology

Country data collection and coordination to address unexpected supply crises

Ellen T. Tompsett, GHSC-PSM
Processes and Technology: Country Data Collection

Procurement Planning and Monitoring Report (PPMR)

- Managed by GHSC-PSM
- Captures information on contraceptive stock and shipment statuses, and other contraceptive security issues, from family planning programs
- Updated monthly or quarterly depending on program
- Primarily reflects stock situation at central level warehouse, though some programs report for multiple levels of the supply chain
- Provides an opportunity for individual programs in each country (MOH, MSI, PSI, etc.) to communicate requests for urgent action to global level partners to:
  - Expedite existing orders
  - Delay/cancel existing orders
  - Create new orders
  - Have support with transferring overstocked products to another country
Processes and Technology: Country Data Collection

Procurement Planning and Monitoring Report (PPMR)

Ministry of Health

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Product</th>
<th>No New Data</th>
<th>Date Stock Data Reported</th>
<th>Min</th>
<th>Max</th>
<th>MOS</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Quantity On Hand</th>
<th>AMC</th>
<th>Data Source</th>
<th>Receipt Date of Next Shipment</th>
<th>Supplier of Next Shipment</th>
<th>Comment</th>
<th>Action Recommended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CT380A IUD</td>
<td></td>
<td>31-03-2018</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Central</td>
<td>9,390</td>
<td>850</td>
<td>Warehouse Report</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>Adequate stock level. We are expecting for the year 2018: 15,500 units from UNFPA.</td>
<td>No CAR hs action recommended</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Currently 38 countries reporting and 60 programs
Processes and Technology: Responding to Unexpected Supply Crises

Coordinated Assistance for Reproductive Health Supplies (CARhs) Group

- Formed in 2004 to respond to imminent FP commodity stock imbalances (stockouts, shortages, and overstocks) projected to occur in next 0-6 months.
- PPMR was created to support the work of this group.
- CARhs relies on requests for action that are communicated by countries/programs via the PPMR to populate its agenda.
- CARhs meets monthly to review requests, decide on actions, and respond to country request as possible.
- RHSC is facilitator of group.
Processes and Technology: Responding to Unexpected Supply Crises

**CARhs Group in action Ex. 1**

**Sept. 2016**
Country A reports significant overstock; requests help to transfer

**Oct. 2016**
UNFPA agrees product can be transferred; WAHO to fund transport

**Jan. 2017**
Country B identified to receive transfer falls through

**Feb. 2017**
Country C identified as having shortage of product; wants to receive transfer

**Jul. 2017**
Country C receives transferred products

**CARhs Group in action Ex. 2**

**Nov. 2017**
Country X reports they are projecting stockout of COCs in 6 months; requests support for new order as no order underway

**Mar. 2018**
USAID agrees to provide $15K in emergency funding support for the requested order

**Jun. 2018**
Country X expected to receive new order
Deep Dive on Processes and Technology

Coordination to ensure medium-term supply availability

Alexis Heaton, JSI
Processes and Technology: Ensuring Medium-Term Supply Availability

Coordinated Supply Planning Group (CSP)

• Formed in 2012 to identify and make recommendations to prevent family planning product stock imbalances over the next 6-15 months (medium-term)

• Leverages increased data visibility to support shared supply chain data and information across two institutional procurers (UNFPA and USAID) and strengthened coordination to meet country supply needs in resource constrained environment.

• Monthly meetings to review individual country stock issues; discuss solutions to market-level production constraints; discuss country funding gaps; and plan for annual product forecasts.

• JSI is facilitator of group
Processes and Technology: Ensuring Medium-Term Supply Availability

Coordinated Supply Planning Group (CSP) Online Tool

Brings country and shipment data together in one tool
Processes and Technology: Ensuring Medium-Term Supply Availability

**CSP Group in action Ex. 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 2017</td>
<td>CSP works with Country A to estimate ~$5M FP commodity funding gap for 2017; shares with UNFPA, USAID, FP2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 2017</td>
<td>UNFPA and USAID mobilize ~$1.9M in additional funding for Country A to avoid stockouts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 2018</td>
<td>Country A receives new shipments; stockouts averted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CSP Group in action Ex. 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 2016</td>
<td>CSP has been monitoring a significant overstock of 2-rod implants in Country B. CSP flags that a USAID order to arrive in May 2017 will exacerbate existing overstock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 2017</td>
<td>USAID confers with Mission and order is cancelled; saving approximately $590K</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CSP Group in action
Key Success Factors

- **Dedicated Human Resources**
  - UNFPA and USAID: Participation in groups is part of high-level strategy
  - JSI, CHAI, GHSC-PSM: Donors have provided funding to support data collection, analytics, and technical support roles that these partners play for both groups
- Work is recognized by the community as under the RHSC umbrella
- **MOH buy-in** is key to ensuring sustainability of reporting and engagement
- Individuals at global level are assigned to monitor countries based on language abilities/previous experience
- **Formalized processes and standard operating procedures** - process continues even if people change
- **Commitment to open data sharing, dialogue, and trust** between procurers to meet both organization’s ultimate goal of maintaining FP product availability
Lessons Learned

• Process grew organically over time within many constraints; as stakeholders seek to replicate, suggest engaging in a strategic planning process with short, medium, and long-term goals.

• Process very focused on “first kilometer” of supply chain; significant work still needed in-country to ensure availability at the “last kilometer.”

• Data visibility tools built on separate platforms and managed by different partners; ideal would be to have one platform that collects and analyzes all available data in a meaningful way.

• OK to start with “low-tech” tools; once processes are in place, explore more sophisticated technology.

• Not enough to have the right organizations in the room – need to have the right people from each organization (decision-makers, direct access to data needed).

• With more data visibility comes more issues! Be prepared to “find” problems that were hidden.

• Processes very manual and time-intensive; constrained in # of countries and products can monitor.

• Separation between short- and medium-term is somewhat arbitrary in our context; Looking to streamline CARhs and CSP to one workflow to avoid duplication and best utilize available resources.
Looking to the Future

Global Family Planning Visibility and Analytics Network

Sarah Kozlen, RHSC
Looking to the Future: What is the Global FP VAN?

A virtual collaborative space where the FP community uses the same data to make supply chain decisions together.

“You cannot manage what you cannot see”
Looking to the Future: Global FP VAN Conceptual Framework
## Looking to the Future: Global FP VAN Pilot

| Timeframe          | Pilot will last 12 months: May 2018-May 2019
|                   | Currently in the contracting phase with the technology vendor |
| Countries          | Two countries selected by Steering Committee to participate in pilot: Malawi and Nigeria |
| Products           | Pilot will cover 2 FP product categories: Oral Contraceptives and Implants |
|                   | 4 Manufacturers: Bayer, Mylan, Merck, Shanghai Dahua |
| Partners           | USAID, UNFPA, GHSC-PSM, JSI, CHAI, MOHs, Manufacturers |
Looking to the Future: Expectations for Global FP VAN Pilot

- Improved end-to-end and simultaneous data visibility for procurers, manufacturers, countries, planners and analysts
- Increased country in-bound visibility into shipments, orders and lead time.
- Improved manufacturer visibility to country and donor data to identify trends to respond to demand and make better operational plans
- Reduced manual data flow and overlap in data management
- Efficiencies and visibility allow:
  - Transformation of processes between CSP/CARhs, countries, suppliers;
  - Expanded product and country coverage
- Successes could be replicated for other FP products/health areas, leading to more timely and cost-effective delivery of commodities to countries
Thank you!

Contact us at:
maggie_murphy@jsi.com
etompsett@ghsc-psm.org
alexis_heaton@jsi.com
skozlen@rhsupplies.org
CARhs Outcomes January - Dec 2017

- 3 New shipment created
- 9 Shipment expedited
- 6 Refer to Coordinated Supply Planning (CSP)
- 8 Product transferred
- 4 Shipment postponed
- 2 Shipment canceled
CSP’s 2017 Action Summary

Through the identification and review of 102 unique issues for 34 countries in 2017, CSP:

• Helped provide countries with an additional 7 million couple years of protection (CYPs)

• Helped place additional orders to avert shortages and stockouts worth $12.4 M for 14 countries across 10 products in 2017

• CSP recommended canceling or reducing orders that were not needed, valued at $1.8 M

• CSP recommended delaying orders to prevent potential overstocks worth $1.0 M

• CSP helped facilitate a transfer worth $369k, potentially averting expiries
Global FP VAN Partnership & Governance

Steering Committee
- Resolve conflicting priorities and handle escalations
- Set direction
- Define scope and approach

Management Unit
- Accept scope and approach
- Manage project and implementation
- Provide feedback and recommendations

Task Forces
- Provide technical input to design and implementation
- Gather and refine requirements

Super Users: Process
Data Sharing: Policy
Data Mgmt: Structure
Tech Mgmt: System