

## Updates on SSWG Workstreams

May 2015

- AccessRH/RHI
- Coordinated Assistance for Reproductive Health Supplies (CARhs)
- Learning and Professional Training Opportunities (LAPTOP)
- Pledge Guarantee for Health (PGH)
- Stockout Indicators
- Coordinated Supply Planning
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### ACCESSRH/RHI

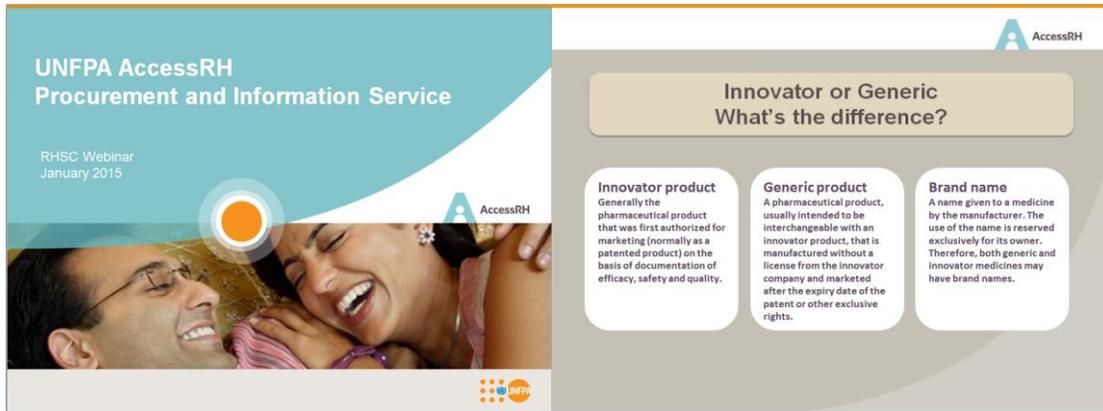
#### 2014 in review:

- UNFPA AccessRH has served 147 organizations in 93 countries from 2011-2014 for a total order value of US\$109 million. In 2014, 46 organizations returned to place orders, while 22 new clients partnered with AccessRH.
- The Client Satisfaction Survey sent to all organizations that procured supplies in 2014 shows that 89 percent of AccessRH customers are satisfied/very satisfied with the goods and services they received. All respondents are likely/very likely to order again and to recommend AccessRH to others. Access to safe, reliable, quality assured products is the top reason for procuring through AccessRH.



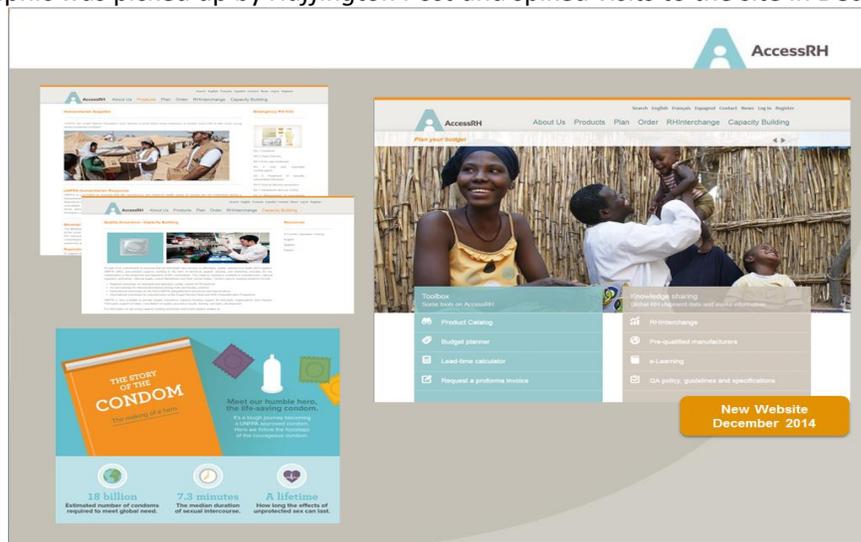
### AccessRH Catalog:

- Included in the AccessRH catalog are a number of generic hormonal contraceptives and other high-priority maternal health medicines that comply with international standards such as WHO Prequalification of Medicines. These standards assure the quality, efficacy, and safety of the medicines.
- In early 2015, the RHSC and UNFPA conducted webinars in English, French, and Spanish that shone the spotlight on the uptake of generic medicines by the RH community. The webinar series reached 103 participants from 30 countries.

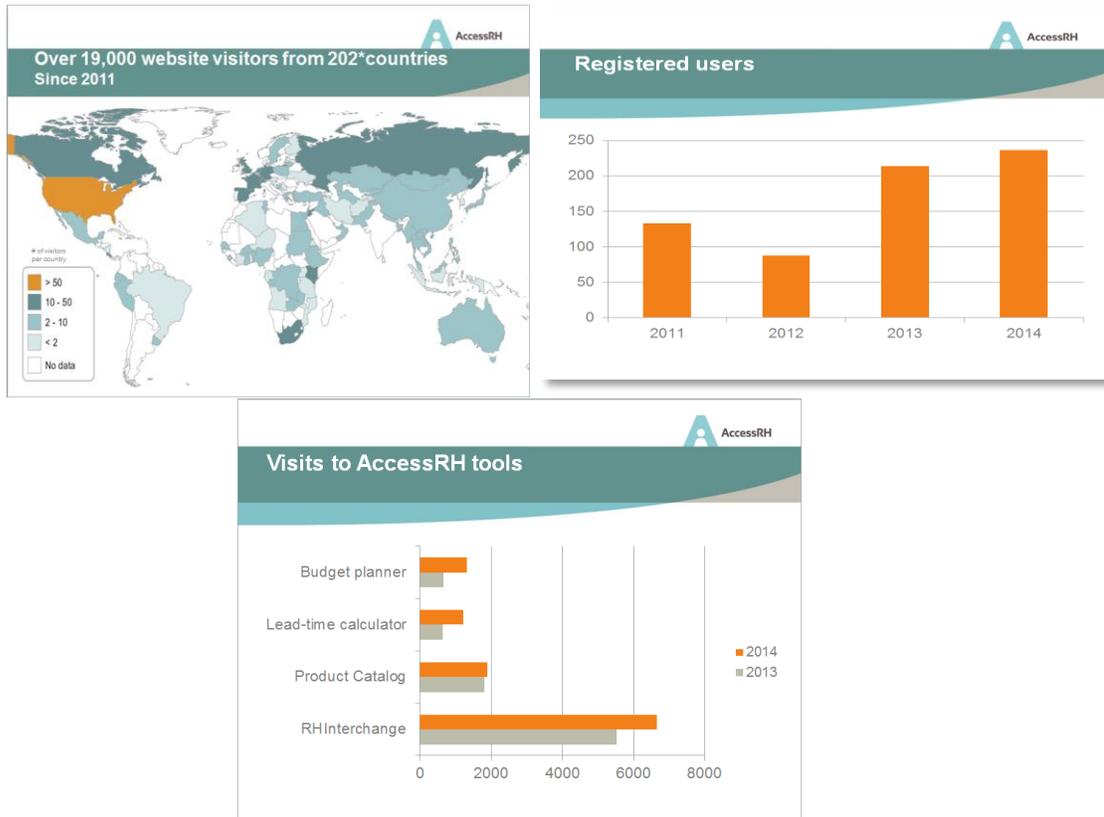


### AccessRH web portal:

- A new web portal was launched in December 2014. The redesign features a new look and structure, with sections dedicated to humanitarian supplies and capacity building. It also features easy-to-navigate menus and interactive tools including the Lead-time Calculator, Budget Planner Tool, the Product Catalog, and the RHInterchange.
- The site has been translated into English, French, and Spanish. Product pages feature a new, expandable vendor list to provide users with a more comprehensive view of items available from multiple vendors.
- As part of the launch, the infographic "The Story of the Condom" was released on the portal. The infographic was picked up by *Huffington Post* and spiked visits to the site in December.



- Between 2011 and 2014, the portal was visited by over 19,000 people from 202 countries and territories. Since the launch of the interactive tools (Online Catalogue, Lead-Time Calculator, Budget Planner) in 2013, there has been a 143 percent increase in the number of registered users. Visitors must sign in (<http://www.myaccessrh.org/login>) or register (<http://www.myaccessrh.org/register>) to gain access to these tools.



**Future:**

- A new order management system that will enable clients to place and monitor their AccessRH orders online is under development and is scheduled to launch in August 2015.

*Update provided by Vivian Cintron, UNFPA.*

**COORDINATED ASSISTANCE FOR REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SUPPLIES (CARhs)**

**Background:**

- CARhs provides a platform for global procurers and country partners to coordinate and share information, promote transparency and country ownership of supply management, generate evidence-based decisions, and take effective action to balance contraceptive supply when unexpected situations occur. For more background information, please refer to the CARhs [Fact Sheet](#).

**2014 Progress Report:**

- Please refer to the [2014 CARhs](#) progress report for an update on statistics and trends for calendar year 2014.

**2015 Update (January to March):**

- For calendar year 2015, CARhs resolved 50 unique issues to-date. Of these, 21 were action items. CARhs was able to add value in 14 instances. Specifically:
  - 6 shipments created
  - 6 shipments expedited
  - 1 shipment postponed
  - 1 shipment cancelled
- Of the 29 information issues resolved by CARhs, valuable information was provided in 19 instances.
- The products most frequently cited for issues during this period were Jadelle, male condoms (generic, no logo), Depo-Provera, and IUDs.
- The top six countries with the most number of supply issues discussed by CARhs are Gambia, Zambia, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, and Chad.

*Updated provided by Trisha Long, USAID/DELIVER PROJECT.*

**LEARNING AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES (LAPTOP)****Background:**

- LAPTOP is an online database of logistics courses and professional development opportunities and is located at <http://www.rhsupplies.org/resources-tools/LAPTOP>. It has been live on the RHSC's website since March 2012.
- The success of LAPTOP largely depends on its course listings staying up-to-date. Links for course providers to provide updated course information on LAPTOP are provided to ensure that the course content remains current.

**Updates:**

- Between September 2014 and February 2015, 12 new courses were added to the LAPTOP database.
- During that same period, information was updated for nine existing LAPTOP courses.

**Website Statistics (October 2014-April 2015):**

- Pageviews: 2,898
- Unique pageviews: 2,111
- Bounce rate: 52%
- Average time on webpage: 00:01:39
- Exit rate: 22%

*Update provided by Rebecca Alban, JSI and Hannah Pandian, RHSC.*

**PLEDGE GUARANTEE FOR HEALTH (PGH)****Background:**

PGH is an innovative financing mechanism that aims to improve the speed and efficiency of donor aid for health commodities.

**Update:**

In addition to recently signed credit facilities totaling US\$50 million with Ecobank International and Calvert Foundation, PGH is undergoing final credit review to execute an additional US\$50 million facility under additional banking partners. This will expand PGH's ability to execute platform-level financing transactions with major donors and procurement agents and ultimately drive more value-for-money from donor funding for health. Further, additional discussions are ongoing to expand PGH's footprint further into Asia, Eastern Europe, and Latin America.

The PGH team continues to focus on direct outreach to donors and implementers, with meetings in Geneva, The Hague, London, Marrakech, Mexico City, and Toronto since the last update. PGH is also continuing conversations with UNFPA's Global Programme for Reproductive Health Commodity Security and considering flexible deal structures to continue adapting PGH to the ever-changing market.

*Update provided by Paige Robson, PGH/Financing for Development.*

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**STOCKOUT INDICATORS**

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**Background:**

The RHSC Stockout Indicators workstream was launched with the broad directive to get the RH supplies community to "speak the same language" about stockouts by increasing uniformity in the way stockouts are measured. To do this, an Advisory Group was established with representatives from the key players and experts from across the RH community including supply chain, research, advocacy, and FP2020. Currently, there is a draft suite comprising 12 indicators across four categories: methods offered, range of methods available, point-in-time stockouts, and frequency and duration of stockouts over time.

**Update:**

In November 2014, the Advisory Group reviewed analysis from the field test of the indicators and approved the final suite. After close discussions and coordination, the Performance Monitoring and Evidence Working Group of FP2020 adopted two stockout indicators recommended by the RHSC, including the designated "universal indicator." With this last piece put in place in April 2015, the reference sheets for the suite are now close to being finalized. The effort to engage organizations to adopt these indicators is being taken up by the Coalition's new campaign, *Take Stock*, which will be launched in the coming weeks.

*Updated provided by Ellen T. Tompsett, RHSC.*

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**COORDINATED SUPPLY PLANNING**

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**Background:**

The Coordinated Supply Planning (CSP) group is a collaborative effort to share data and develop common tools to track forecasts, orders, and shipments for UNFPA and USAID as well as prioritize allocation of products with limited production capacity.

**Update (October 2014 to May 2015):**

The CSP group includes members from USAID's Commodity Security and Logistics Division (CSL), UNFPA's Procurement Services Branch (PSB), UNFPA's Commodity Security Branch (CSB), JSI (USAID | DELIVER PROJECT and Implants Access Initiative), Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI), William Davidson Institute (WDI), and RHSC. The group's objectives are to improve allocation of commodities to

countries, foresee potential stock imbalances, and address these imbalances before they become emergency issues. The group is focusing initial efforts on forecasts and supply planning for implants and DMPA. In the past six months, the group has focused on finalizing the first round of forecasts for implants and DMPA, piloting the joint supply planning tools that the group developed, and creating a process for regular monitoring of country supply plans.

The group has also worked together to:

- Review the UNFPA 2015 GPRHCS requests for implants and DMPA and make recommendations for approval or adjustments based on available information about country need and other orders.
- Recommend reallocation or delay of implants shipments based on prioritized country need.
- Mobilize additional support for DMPA from USAID for six countries to allow countries to use their UNFPA GPRHCS funds for other commodities.

CSP plans to update the forecasts again in July and assess forecast accuracy. CSP is also piloting a tool that will help more easily identify potential stock imbalances within a 6- to 15-month timeframe so that the group can better foresee and try to resolve these issues before they become emergencies.

*Update provided by Alexis Heaton, JSI.*

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## **SUPPLY CHAIN DESIGN BRIEF**

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### **Background:**

In discussions at the SSWG meeting in June 2013, members noted that while much attention is on relatively near-term goals (e.g., FP2020), there is growing interest in and a need to address longer-term, once-in-a-generation "end games" (e.g., to 2035) as well as post-2015 MDGs. The supply systems of today need to prepare themselves to take advantage of future trends and opportunities. The next generation will see a number of changes—both known and unknown—that will not only challenge the ability of public health supply systems to function effectively as they are currently designed but also create opportunities for increased efficiency. The message in this paper is that the people responsible for public health supply systems must change or expand their perspectives of their own roles as well as the mission and composition of the supply systems they oversee or support. In making this shift in perspective, there are three important guiding principles to keep in mind:

1. A government's role is one of stewardship in achieving common development goals.
2. Recognize the multiplicity of players and diversity of supply chain options that can now contribute to meeting improved public health outcomes.
3. Understand the broader public health outcomes that supply chains should be designed to support.

The paper final paper was released in July 2014 and can be downloaded [here](#). A shorter version of the paper was also submitted to the *Global Health Science and Practice Journal*.

### **Update (October 2014-May 2015):**

Authors Alan Bornbusch and Carolyn Hart conducted a seminar on the principles described in the paper at the March 2015 Global Health Mini-University held in Washington, DC. An abstract of the paper was submitted for consideration to the International Conference on Family Planning.

*Updated provided by Ellen T. Tompsett, RHSC.*