Global Health Supply Chain Technical Assistance - Tanzania

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The USAID Global Health Supply Chain Technical Assistance - Tanzania Program (GHSC TA-TZ) was launched in June 2016. The program provides technical assistance to the government of Tanzania to support the development of agile, robust and sustainable health supply chains, including strategic planning, in-country logistics, capacity building, and strengthening enabling environments.

ALIGNMENT TO USAID & UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS

The Global Health Supply Chain strongly aligns to The United States President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), The U.S. President’s Malaria Initiative (PMI), the U.S. Government’s Global Health Initiative (GHI), and Family Planning 2020 (FP2020) objectives, as well as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

- Directly contributes to improving health outcomes of Tanzanians
- Focuses on improving medicine availability across the supply chain, reducing stock outs, and ensuring clinics and hospitals have necessary medicines and health commodities
- Supports women, children, vulnerable or hard to reach populations and the larger South African public by improving medicine availability for all
- Aligns with supporting epidemic control, sustainability, and strengthening transparency and accountability; many project activities directly support 90 – 90 – 90 goals
**COUNTRY CONTEXT**

With a population of 56 million, adult HIV prevalence in Tanzania is estimated at 4.5 percent with a total of 1.5 million [1.3-1.6] Tanzanians estimated to be living with HIV (UNAIDS 2017). An estimated 65,000 new infections and 32,000 AIDS-related deaths occur in Tanzania annually (UNAIDS 2017). Tanzania is in the top 20 high tuberculosis burden countries by estimated absolute number. Largely preventable and treatable diseases such as malaria, pneumonia and diarrhea cause the death of 270 children under 5 years of age every day (UNICEF 2018). Finally, antimicrobial resistance to some first-line antibiotics has reached 90% (WHO 2017).

On behalf of USAID, the Global Health Supply Chain program works in partnership with the Government of Tanzania and a wide range of implementing partners. This work includes providing strategic planning and implementation assistance to the government, improving delivery of health commodities in service sites, broadening stakeholders’ understanding and engagement of the supply chain system and creating an enabling environment to improve supply chain performance. The program seeks to apply leading industry approaches and practices and other Health Systems Strengthening interventions to strengthen the Tanzania public health supply chain by fundamentally improving medicine availability.

**TREMENDOUS PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN ACHIEVING HEALTH OUTCOMES**

| Family Planning | 1. Modern contraceptive rate has increased by 5% in past 5 years |
| HIV | 2. 91% of those aware of HIV status are receiving therapy |
| Malaria | 3. 60% of children under 5 receiving ACTs within 24 hours of fever |
| Tuberculosis | 4. Number of new cases has dropped 40% in past 10 years |

**MEDICINE SUPPLY VALUE CHAIN & GLOBAL HEALTH SUPPLY CHAIN ACTIVITIES**

1. MoHCGDGE and PO-RALG develop strategic plans and guide and oversee implementation activities
2. The electronic Logistics Management Information System (eLMS) provides visibility to end-to-end supply chain performance and improves delivery of commodities to service sites
3. The Logistics Management Unit (LMU) performs critical logistics data management tasks that inform data for decision making
4. Stakeholders across all levels coordinate and share information to maximize outcomes and improve service delivery for the patients

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PROVIDING STRATEGIC PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION ASSISTANCE

• Provided leadership in planning, designing, and carrying out a holistic review of the supply chain with the Government of Tanzania in prioritization and alignment on seven strategic, high-impact recommendations to be put in place within 18 months.

• Facilitated development of a Costed Implementation Plan to align stakeholders on action and resources required to implement the recommendations from the holistic supply chain review.

• Developed key performance indicators to improve governance and oversight of the supply chain.

• Aligned stakeholders on process and approach to redesign the health commodity supply chain.

IMPROVING DELIVERY OF HEALTH COMMODITIES AT SERVICE SITES

• Clarified and facilitated consensus on eLMIS roles and responsibilities to set the stage for transition to the Government.

• Built capacity of Government staff on eLMIS maintaining timely and complete reporting at 95% to improve demand planning and supply.

• Contributed to improved data quality by resolving 5,542 quality issues on health facility reporting forms to improve the accuracy of inventory and usage data.

• The Logistics Management Unit (LMU) was established by the Government of Tanzania (GoT), USAID and the Global Fund to coordinate supply chain activities of different programs under one unit. The Global Health Supply Chain is facilitating transition of LMU operational support from the U.S. Government to GoT by elevating skills related to data analytics and decision making and transferring responsibility for reviewing facility level data and performing supportive supervision to Regional/Council Health Management Teams (R/CHMTs).

• Built staff capacity and advocated for country ownership and governance for quantification to develop forecasts and supply plans for key commodities.
Spotlight On Zanzibar

The IMPACT Team Network is a data-driven, quality improvement approach to enhance supply chain performance by focusing on quality, efficiency and customer service. The Global Health Supply Chain has established two IMPACT teams in Zanzibar that routinely meet to analyze key performance indicators (i.e. number of stockouts), conduct root cause analysis, and develop action plans to address root causes. The IMPACT team design in mainland Tanzania has also been completed.

Results Based Financing

links financing to predetermined results, with payment made only upon verification that the agreed-upon results have actually been delivered.

STRENGTHENING ENABLING ENVIRONMENT TO IMPROVE SUPPLY CHAIN PERFORMANCE

• Facilitated dialogue between Government of Tanzania Medical Stores Department (MSD), President’s Office for Regional Management and Local Government Authority (PO-RALG), and Ministry of Community Development, Gender and Children (MoHCDGEC) on supply chain issues resulting in improvements such as average cycle time reduction from 15 days to 6 days for delivery of health commodities to service sites.

• Encouraged sharing and use of information through coordination groups to promote learning and performance improvement.

• Collaborated with MSD and MOHCDGEC to refine the initial Results Based Financing design which is used to improve the quality and utilization of health services in primary care facilities.

• Led a study with the Government of Tanzania to define the health commodity financing needs for health facilities and any unmet needs to improve direct health facility financing and identify innovative financing mechanisms.

GHSC POINTS OF CONTACT

The Global Health Supply Chain Technical Assistance in Tanzania team is led by Guidehouse and includes John Snow, Inc. (JSI), Abt Associates, VillageReach, the University of Dar es Salaam, and Pharmaceutical Systems Africa.

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