



Saving Lives Through Improved Access to Contraceptives in Senegal

Senegal's Pharmacie National d'Approvisionnement¹ (PNA) strategic development plan (2021-2025) aims to ensure the availability and accessibility of high-quality medicines and other essential health commodities nationwide. The plan focuses on four objectives: 1) consolidate PNA's core business of regularly supplying health facilities with essential health commodities, 2) optimize the contribution of support functions for performance and high-quality service, 3) implement major reforms, and 4) introduce major innovations adapted to the local context. The Global Health Supply Chain Technical Assistance (GHSC-TA) Francophone Task Order (TO) supported health programs and three institutions of the Senegalese supply chain system — Direction de la Pharmacie et du Médicament² (DPM), Laboratoire National de Contrôle des Médicaments³, and the PNA — to meet these objectives.

The project partnered with Senegal's government to improve commodity security and strengthen the supply chain system, in line with the PNA's strategic development plan. To achieve these goals, the project supported the country in three areas: 1) improving policy, governance, strategy, and coordination; 2) optimizing forecasting and procurement processes; and 3) improving monitoring and evaluation through enhanced data visibility and stock monitoring.

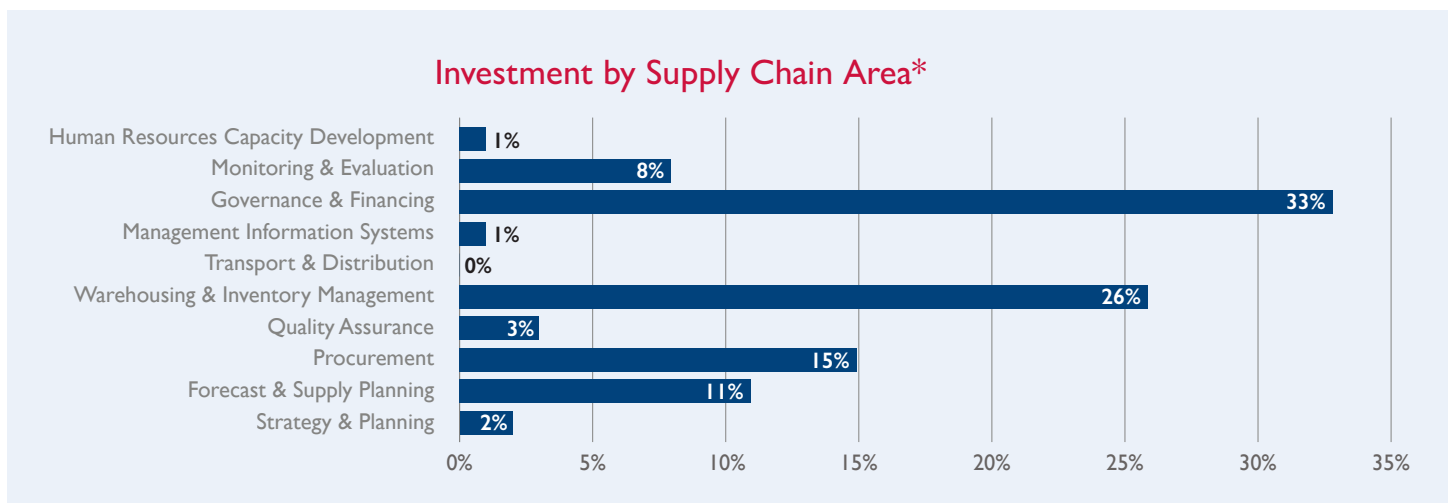
USAID Investment

By the end of fiscal year (FY) 2022, USAID had provided technical assistance valued at \$943,228, in partnership with Senegal's government, to support family planning. These investments resulted in the successful transfer of technical knowledge and skills in key forecasting and supply planning activities, improved governance and coordination, and improved data visibility for informed decision-making.

Key Activities and Achievements

Through the project, USAID invested in family planning and reproductive health (FP/RH) commodities and strengthened the supply chain to help Senegalese meet their contraceptive needs. USAID, in partnership with the government of Senegal, achieved the following results with this investment:

- **Optimizing inventory management through the Comprehensive Supply Chain Management Standard Operating Procedures Compendium.** The project strengthened national supply chain leadership by supporting several initiatives, including supporting the PNA's efforts toward optimizing supply chain coordination and developing a strategic plan for 2021-2025; fostering collaboration between private and public supply chain actors to monitor commodity stocks; and collaborating with the DPM to finalize the Senegal Medicines Supply Management Standard Operating Procedures Compendium.



*Knowledge management, program management, and office operations costs are allocated across technical subcategories based on the proportion of funding spent in each technical subcategory.

¹ Senegal's national supply pharmacy.

² Senegal's national pharmaceutical regulation authority.

³ Senegal's national control laboratory responsible for quality assurance of pharmaceuticals.



50

Percentage point reduction in central warehouse overstock rate



21

Health districts with improved data visibility



29



23

Health workforce trained on forecasting and supply planning

This work culminated in a national-level workshop that validated the compendium. Developed in collaboration with Senegalese supply chain stakeholders, the Senegal Medicines Supply Management Standard Operating Procedures Compendium is a valuable tool that provides guidance on drug management and on the validation of drug management tool concepts, approaches, and procedures to produce measurable inventory management improvements. This compendium serves as the basis for the Direction de la Santé, de la Mère et de l'Enfant's FP/MCH commodity inventory management guide.

- **52 Ministry of Health staff trained on forecasting and quantification over the life of the project, leading to surpassed forecast accuracy target five years in a row.**

The project trained 52 Ministry of Health staff, including 29 women, in forecasting and supply planning. By the time the project office closed at the end of FY21, the Procurement and Supply Management Department of the Family Planning Program achieved technical independence⁴ in the skills and competencies needed to develop and update supply plans and monitor the commodities pipeline. The project provided support in quantification, including forecasting and supply planning for commodities, a key step in optimizing stock availability, preventing stockouts and ensuring availability of needed commodities for service delivery. From project startup in FY17 to closeout in FY21, the forecast accuracy for FP/RH tracer commodities surpassed set targets, reaching 100% in FY18. By conducting these activities, the project mitigated overstock risks (noting a 50% reduction in overstocked commodities from FY17 to FY21), wastage, and product expiries, effectively avoiding loss.

- **Improved visibility for 21 health districts connected to the Enterprise Resource Planning X3 software (ERPX3).** Through the use of the ERPX3 (SAGE software), the project helped improve data visibility between the central and regional medical stores and 21 health districts in Dakar and Thiès. This expansion allowed district computers to link directly to data collected on tablets at the service delivery point, thus enabling faster and easier data transfer upstream with fewer human errors. This link also enhances the central medical store's visibility down the supply chain, helping improve access to logistic data and the decision-making process.

Future Investment Opportunities

In collaboration with the Senegalese government, the project has made significant strides in policy, governance, strategy and coordination, forecasting and procurement processes, and data visibility and stock monitoring. Future investment opportunities could include 1) developing job aids based on the compendium for service delivery points that simplify and streamline peripheral-level standard operating procedures; 2) organizing regional quantification committees and training them on forecasting and quantification practices, including on the use of the Quantification Analytics Tool⁵; and 3) conducting an evaluation of the pilot of ERPX3 in Dakar and Thiès to inform the rollout in the remaining 12 regions in Senegal, which would position the government to meet citizens' FP/RH choices.

Contact Us

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SCAN to watch video on functional infrastructure



WWW.USAID.GOV

WWW.GHSUPPLYCHAIN.ORG

⁴Technical independence is a project indicator that documents and measures the GHSC-TA Francophone TO's impact in transferring technical capacity to supply chain institutions within the countries we work. The indicator measures the percentage of targeted supply chain activities in which the host country entity has achieved technical independence with project support.

⁵QAT is the first open-source, program-agnostic, customizable global health forecasting and supply planning tool that can link enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems to program managers' forecasts and supply plans. QAT enables program managers to optimize commodity procurement and delivery schedules, monitor stock status and share data with external platforms and key stakeholders.