



## Saving Lives Through Improved Access to Contraceptives in Togo

Togo's Integrated Strategic Plan for Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health (2018 to 2022) sought to ensure access to quality health services for Togolese families<sup>1</sup>. The strategic plan aimed to 1) strengthen dialogue, multi-sector coordination, and integration of maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health (MNCAH)/reproductive health (RH) interventions; 2) scale up essential maternal and newborn health interventions; 3) strengthen family planning (FP); 4) strengthen essential interventions to combat infant and child mortality; 5) strengthen specific health interventions for adolescents and young people; 6) strengthen the supply system for essential medicines, labile blood products, and medical devices; and 7) improve financial, geographical, and cultural access to MNCAH/RH care and services, with priority given to the most vulnerable populations<sup>2</sup>. Since fiscal year (FY) 2017, the USAID-funded Global Health Supply Chain – Technical Assistance (GHSC-TA) Francophone Task Order (TO) project has provided systems strengthening and commodity security assistance to Togo, supporting the country's Direction de la Santé de la Mère et de l'Enfant (DSME) — and specifically the Division de la Santé Maternelle et Infantile et de la Planification Familiale (DSMIPF).

The project partnered with Togo's government to improve commodity security by strengthening the supply chain system for essential medicines and improving FP/RH commodities. To achieve these goals, the project supported the country in three key areas: 1) improving best practices for distribution, warehousing, and logistics; 2) optimizing forecasting and procurement processes; and 3) improving monitoring and evaluation through enhanced data visibility and stock monitoring.

### USAID Investment

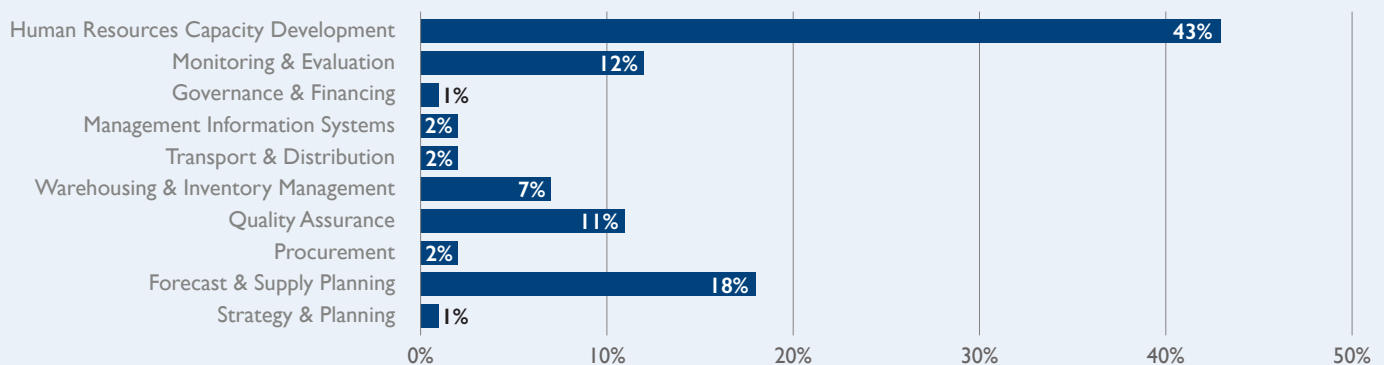
By the end of FY22, USAID had provided health supply chain technical assistance to Togo totaling \$559,482<sup>3</sup>. To this end, the project has supported the Ministry of Health in gaining the technical knowledge and skills to independently carry out activities in governance, forecasting and supply planning, workforce development, and management information systems.

### Key Activities and Achievements

Through the project, USAID has invested in FP/RH commodities and strengthened the supply chain to help Togolese meet their contraceptive needs. Through this investment, USAID, in partnership with the government of Togo, achieved the following results:

- **131 health workers trained in inventory management and supportive supervision increase inventory accuracy by 64%.** The project trained 131 government health workers in the use of the inventory management assessment tool (IMAT) and in conducting supportive supervision visits to provide coaching and mentoring to staff in the Grand Lomé, Maritime, Plateaux, and Centrale regions. As a result, staff at the central medical store reduced stock imbalances, improved record-keeping performance, and increased inventory accuracy rate from 56% to 92% — a 64% improvement — over the course of FY21. Improved stock management and data quality

### Investment by Supply Chain Area\*



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

<sup>1</sup> Plan Stratégique Intégré de la Santé Génésique, Santé de la Mère, du Nouveau-Né, de l'Enfant et de l'Adolescent 2018-2022 du Togo.

<sup>2</sup> Plan Stratégique Intégré de la Santé Génésique, Santé de la Mère, du Nouveau-Né, de l'enfant et de l'adolescent 2018-2022 du Togo.

<sup>3</sup> From FY17 to FY22, the project received funding directly from the USAID West Africa Regional Office. In FY21, in addition to USAID/West Africa Regional Office funds, the project began receiving bilateral funds from USAID/Togo. The noted amount reflects allocations from both missions.



59%

Reduction in service delivery point stockout rate



190%

Improvement in forecast accuracy for FP/RH commodities



59



72

Health workforce trained on IMAT and Supportive Supervision

are critical for high-quality, data-based decision-making and ensuring the availability of all methods of contraception.

- **190% improvement in FP/RH commodity forecasting from improved supply chain governance.** The project supported Togo in strengthening the Commodity Security Committee (CSC) since FY18. This committee gained the technical skills necessary to successfully manage a family planning logistics management committee, develop annual forecasts, and revise commodity supply plans independently in FY21 and FY22<sup>4</sup>. These skills enabled the CSC to successfully manage FP/RH commodities, maintaining stockout rates below the project target of 8% at the central level for the last two fiscal years, FY21 and FY22, ensuring that regional warehouses and health centers have access to FP/RH commodities to respond to client demands.
- **Weekly stock monitoring system contributes a 59% reduction in stockout rates of FP/RH commodities at service delivery points.** In Togo, the project supported the Weekly Stock Monitoring System (WSMS) roadmap development. WSMS development included integration with District Health Information Software (DHIS2) in collaboration with the DSMIPF, UNFPA, Association Togolaise pour le Marketing Social, Association Togolaise pour le Bien-Etre Familial, AmplifyPF, National Pharmacy Department, and National Health Information System Department. Togo's Ministry of Health implemented the WSMS via a national FP/RH WhatsApp group. This collaborative effort produced data on FP/RH commodity availability from the service delivery point to the central level. In turn, the project, with the FP/RH department, created a WSMS dashboard

for decision-making. With the assistance of these new monitoring tools, the DSMIPF prevented stockouts of FP/RH commodities in two health regions (Lomé Commune and Maritime) in the initial months and achieved a 59% reduction in stockouts of FP/RH commodities.

## Future Investment Opportunities

In collaboration with the Togolese government, the project has made significant improvements to the supply chain of FP/RH commodities. To maintain progress, stakeholders may focus future investment opportunities on several key areas for growth related to digitizing the logistics information systems (LMIS). Activities may include improving data quality through an electronic LMIS (eLMIS), providing workforce development of stock managers and service delivery point staff on the eLMIS, and increasing its data use for decision-making.



Inventory Management Assessment in June 2023. Photo Credit: Mr. Amah

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<sup>4</sup>This refers to the project's technical independence indicator that documents and measures the GHSC-TA Francophone TO's ability to transfer 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.