



**KATHMANDU**

25-28 MARCH 2019 / KATHMANDU, NEPAL

**19<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF THE  
REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SUPPLIES COALITION**



# Innovation Fund Update: Unpacking the Complex Issue of Consumable and Equipment Availability

Shannon Egan, Jhpiego

Megan Christofield, Jhpiego

26 March 2019



## PROJECT GOAL

To examine the extent to which essential reproductive health *equipment* and *consumable* insecurity impedes the achievement of national and global family planning goals.

Reliable point-of-service availability of essential reproductive health equipment and consumables - including forceps, specula, cotton, antiseptic, and gloves - is critical for high-quality, comprehensive family planning service delivery. We aim to gain a deeper understanding of reproductive health supply challenges, as they relate to equipment and consumables, *and to prioritize opportunities for strategic action.*

# PROJECT OBJECTIVES





## Methods

### Uganda and Nepal

- For both consultations, we convened roughly 30 supply chain experts - from national government, district health offices, public and private procurement bodies, and implementing partners.
- We focused on characterizing the existing supply chain for family planning equipment and consumables and exploring subnational and point-of-service diversity in quantification, procurement, distribution, acquisition, and monitoring through discussion and systems mapping exercises.
- We collaboratively identified strengths, weaknesses and opportunities within the existing equipment and consumable reproductive health and family planning supply chain using a human-centered design approach.
- We defined strategic opportunities to support sustainable equipment and consumable security within facilities providing an expanded method mix and/or serving a growing family planning user-base.

## IDENTIFIED BARRIERS

Uganda	Nepal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a lack of standardization of equipment (brand/model) resulting in barriers to uniformity, quality, training, logistics management, and product maintenance</li> <li>• The disposal of obsolete equipment and medical waste is poorly managed and unfunded</li> <li>• Partner procured equipment and consumables are not consistently inventoried</li> <li>• Facilities have an incomprehensive understanding of their needs and therefore struggle to plan and forecast for equipment and consumable needs</li> <li>• Some facilities are concerned about the negative impact that equipment and consumable procurement may have on their credit lines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consequences of relatively recent health system decentralization are not yet clearly understood</li> <li>• There are no complete standards or specifications for the procurement of equipment and consumables</li> <li>• Guidance for HCWM has been developed but has not been adequately disseminated to local level authorities and subsequently enforced</li> <li>• There is inadequate local level storage infrastructure</li> <li>• Forecasting and costing are not common competencies, especially where most necessary within local level government units</li> </ul>

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXPLORATION

Uganda	Nepal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop, disseminate, and enforce a harmonized national list of essential family planning equipment and consumables</li> <li>• Evaluate and align budget to accommodate lifetime cost of equipment and consumables - including operation, maintenance, processing and sanitization, and disposal</li> <li>• Require implementation partners to follow national equipment and consumable guidance</li> <li>• Build district- and facility-level capacity to quantify, plan, and forecast equipment and consumable needs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore potential procurement efficiencies for high-cost and high-volume equipment</li> <li>• Investigate opportunities to introduce facility committee funding outside of Nepal to hasten local procurement</li> <li>• Generate national short-list of preferred suppliers for quality assurance</li> <li>• Invest in locally managed storage infrastructure</li> <li>• HCWM capacity building for facilities and local-level government units</li> <li>• Standardize skill-set and competencies for store management</li> </ul>



*Come check out our parallel session!*

Opportunities to address equipment and consumable shortages in reproductive health service provision

Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>

15:00-15:50

Crystal Room



**Thank you**