

# SUPPLYINSIDER

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Photo: RHSC/Tobin Jones

## New merger to mainstream maternal health concerns

Two prominent maternal health supplies (MHS) working groups have joined forces under the auspices of the Coalition. The UN Commission on Life-Saving Commodities, which comprises eight expert groups or Technical Resource Teams (TRTs), is now coming to the end of its mandate. Its Maternal Health TRT, which has focused on increasing access to oxytocin, misoprostol and magnesium sulphate, will soon join forces with the Coalition's own [Maternal Health Caucus](#). A proposed joint leadership team will comprise Beth Yeager (Management Sciences for Health), Debbie Armbruster (USAID) and Kabir Ahmed (UNFPA). The merger heralds a new phase of work which promises to include new commodities such as anti-hypertensives, blood pressure cuffs to address pre-eclampsia and eclampsia, among others. For more information, please contact Milka Dinev at [mdinev@rhsupplies.org](mailto:mdinev@rhsupplies.org).

## What will reaching 120M by 2020 mean for commodities?

By 2020, the number of new contraceptive users is expected to rise dramatically. But what will be the commodity implications of achieving and sustaining that rise? How many women of reproductive age are likely to be using modern methods of contraception? How will that affect demand for the most popular contraceptive methods? And what will the costs be to meet that demand? To answer these questions, the Coalition has convened leading technical experts to produce the next best thing to a crystal ball: a complex analysis of increasing demand for contraceptive supplies across 130 low- and middle-

income countries. The RHSC is pooling the expertise and data resources of [Avenir Health](#), [CHAI](#), [Guttmacher Institute](#), [JSI](#), [NIDI](#), [UNFPA](#), and [UN Population Division](#) to produce a costed commodity gap analysis which will be presented at the Coalition's [membership meeting in Seattle](#). For more information, please contact [Nina Miller](#).

## China reforms RH procurement

The China Contraceptive Supply Administration (CCSA), has reformed its procurement mechanism for contraceptives and other reproductive health commodities. The reform builds on the 2003 Government Procurement Act, which introduced public bidding for the distribution of free family planning products. In February, the China National Health and Family Planning Commission convened a meeting to review and improve the current mechanism. In a bid for more transparency, invitations for bids are now published [online](#), to ensure equal opportunity to all suppliers. The improved process also mirrors recent changes at AccessRH, now renamed [UNFPA Procurement Services](#), whose online catalog lists the generic names for commodities, rather than brands.

## Coalition, Industry Association, meet with Chinese manufacturers

In June, 13 companies met with the [China Reproductive Health Industrial Association's](#) (CRHIA) Vice-President Ms. Li Yanqiu and Yonggang He, the Coalition's China representative, to explore the possible donation of medical equipment to countries in need. The meeting took place at China's [Wuhan Hi-tech Medical Devices Park](#), an industry incubator hosting more than 100 manufacturers of maternal health care products and equipment. The park is one of China's reproductive health industrial clusters and has a close and strong partnership with CRHIA. The meeting was in line with ongoing Coalition efforts to broker partnerships and connect potential donors and recipient countries. For more information, please contact [Dr. Yonggang He](#).

## New Youth webpage launched on Coalition website

Members of the Coalition's Youth Discussion Group now have a place to call home. It's a dedicated [webpage](#) on the Coalition's website that features publications, factsheet templates, and links to other parts of the website where youth-related material is posted. For example, SECONAF, the Coalition's Francophone African forum, is reporting on a newly completed study that suggests taboos and social pressure constitute the principle barriers to contraceptive access among rural youth in Senegal. The new page also links to the Innovation Fund's recent call for proposals to address RH supply needs of young people. And last but not least, the Women Deliver youth flashmob is receiving wide-reaching media coverage, including on America's National Public Radio (NPR). For more

information on any aspect of youth-related Coalition work, please contact Advocacy and Youth officer [Emilie Peeters](#).

## **SECONAF Executive Committee sets goals for next three years**

Four strategic goals have emerged from an intensive three-day planning workshop by SECONAF's newly-expanded Executive Committee. The goals call for better information sharing, reduced stockouts, greater youth involvement and a more active private sector. The process continues apace, focusing on the development of a strategic plan with clear indicators, activities, and a workplan. Guest participants from USAID and the Africa Research Center brought support and an external perspective to the planning session. An upcoming webinar (date and time to be announced) will share the full strategic plan and outline SECONAF's intentions to become a catalyst for contraceptive security in Francophone Africa. For more information contact the Regional Facilitator [Aminatou Sar](#).

## **USAID | DELIVER looks back at 13 years in LAC**

This month, reproductive health professionals from across Latin America and the Caribbean took stock of 13 years of USAID | DELIVER's presence in the region, a period captured in a new online timeline. Seven countries—the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay, and Peru—renewed their commitments to promoting reproductive health in a region shot through with the paradoxical “tyranny of averages”—where high living standards mask deep inequities and where marginalized groups remain disenfranchised and underserved. As USAID | DELIVER closes its activities in the region, ForoLAC will continue disseminating the tools developed by it, as well as sharing knowledge and best practices.

## **Webinar: Innovative approaches to promote national financing**

This month, advocates from Indonesia, Malawi and Uganda shared their experience at promoting greater national investment in family planning. In a webinar hosted by IPPF and the Coalition, participants heard from Dini Harati, of Yayasan Cipta Cara Padu (YCCP), who shared Advance Family Planning (AFP) Indonesia's advocacy experience in a decentralized context and explained how to translate national policy into action at district and community levels. Rowlands Kaotcha from The Hunger Project Malawi spoke about decreasing international donor dependency for condom procurement by increasing national investment. And Moses Muwonge from Samasha Medical Foundation, introduced [a new on-line tool](#) that Uganda's Ministry of Health intends to incorporate as part of its RMNCH resource tracking database. A recording of the webinar is available on the Coalition's [webinar](#).

## Coalition membership reaches 382 with 6 new members

- [Womena](#) is a Danish NGO that promotes reproductive health solutions in development contexts.
- [SAYWHAT](#) (Students and Youth Working on Reproductive Health Action Team) is a Zimbabwean CSO that encourages secondary and tertiary level students to advocate for their sexual and reproductive health and rights.
- [Réseau National des Pairs Educateurs du Mali](#) convenes peer educators to promote the reproductive health of young people aged 10 - 25 years.
- Asesorías Internacionales en Salud Integral y Desarrollo S.A. improves access to female condoms in Costa Rica.
- [Colectivo para Participación de la Infancia y Juventud](#) advocates for comprehensive sexuality education in schools across Guatemala.
- [Share-Net International](#) is a knowledge platform supported by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs that links research in sexual and reproductive health to policy and practice.

## In the calendar

<b>18-22 Jul</b>	<a href="#">International Aids Conference</a> , Durban, South Africa
<b>6-8 Sep</b>	LAC Conference on SRH Inequities, Cartagena de Indias, Columbia
<b>4-5 Oct</b>	<a href="#">The 2016 EuroNGOs Conferece</a> , Paris, France
<b>10-14 Oct</b>	<a href="#">17th General Membership Meeting of the Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition</a> , Seattle, USA
<b>10-12 Nov</b>	<a href="#">Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Conference</a> , Wellington, New Zealand
<b>27-30 Nov</b>	<a href="#">9th Asia Pacific Conference on Reproductive and Sexual Health and Rights</a> , Da Nang, Vietnam
<b>29 Oct- 4 Nov 2017</b>	<a href="#">28th International Population Conference of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population</a> , Cape Town, South Africa

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