

TOP STORY



Uganda menstrual cup project tests novel distribution models

More than 700 young women have registered as community distributors in return for a menstrual cup – and a goat. This deal is just one innovative distribution model being tested by Innovation Fund-recipient Womena, which has, in its first quarter, leveraged an additional €2,600, professional *pro-bono* advertising and design services, and a donation of 1,164 menstrual cups.

Photo: Lady Comfort, a local artist, performing the Menstrual Cups song as part of a sensitization/social marketing event

[Read more](#)

IN THE NEWS

Handheld health: new mobile technology locates RH services

Cellphones have become indispensable for everything from booking holidays to ordering pizza. Now, Argentinians can use theirs to find a wide range of reproductive health services without having to download an app or program with [#Dónde](#), an open-source platform helping users locate lifesaving RH services. [Read more](#)

Mobile calculators help estimate supply needs in Nigeria

Using a new mobile health (mHealth) app piloted with Innovation Fund support, healthcare providers in Nigeria have been able to plan for continuous availability of safe abortion commodities on their premises. Based on positive results, the app is now being used in Kenya to calculate supply needs during facility site visits. [Read more](#)

Transfer saves 3,000 IUDs from possible expiry and non-use

Three thousand intra-uterine devices (IUDs) have been saved from possible expiry and non-use—yielding more than \$2,000 in cost savings and in human terms, averting an estimated 1,993 unwanted pregnancies. [Read more](#)



The importance of skilled supply chain managers

It was the Indian Ocean tsunami at the end of 2004, and the resulting supply chain chaos, that led Pamela Steele to start up Pamela Steele Associates (PSA), a consulting, research and training company dedicated to improving supply chain management (SCM) in health and humanitarian sectors. In this [latest addition](#) to the *Who's Holding Up Our Pillars?* profile series, Pamela speaks passionately on the need to improve supply chain management skills in order to save lives.

All about the CSP, now in French

Last year, the CSP group (Coordinated Supply Planning) helped meet the needs of 14 countries. They did so by:

- Delaying or canceled shipments of 515,000 implants, avoiding overstocks;
- Reallocating or expediting shipments of 637,000 implants to avoid shortages and stockouts;
- Mobilizing UNFPA, USAID, and DFID to procure of an additional 900,000 implants, thereby providing over 3 million couple years of protection (CYPs) and potentially averting over one million unintended pregnancies.

The group's rationale and achievements are presented in a handy [fact sheet](#), now available in [French](#).

Webinar walks through Commodity Gap Analysis 2016

What kind of funding gap are we likely to confront by 2020? The recently-published [Global Contraceptive Commodity Gap Analysis](#) addresses this and other key questions around contraceptive use and costs, and projects a \$233M funding gap for contraceptive supplies in 2020 alone. 82 participants attended a [webinar](#) presented by RHSC Director John Skibiak, Michelle Weinberger from Avenir Health, and CHAI's Mindy Scibilia; the webinar makes the latest addition to the RHSC's repository of 52 webinar recordings.

Coalition reaches 413 with the addition of three new members

- [Mann Global Health](#) is a US-based company working in social marketing, social franchising, and market research and designs market development approaches for RH commodities.
- Based in the Netherlands, [RNW Media](#) is an NGO working with young people 15-30 using online tools to reach millions of young people in China, Sub-Saharan Africa, and the Middle East and North Africa region with information about how to make choices around their bodies.
- The [Radha Paudel Foundation](#) takes on superstitions and taboos in rural Nepal that lead to violence against women, the banishment of menstruating women to cowsheds, and barriers to children's education. It was founded by Coalition supporter Radha Paudel who attends Coalition events regularly.

IN THE CALENDAR

[2nd Health & Humanitarian Supply Chain Summit](#)

7 July

Nairobi, Kenya

[CCIH 31st Annual Conference: Strengthening Global Health, Faith at the Center](#)

13-15 July

Baltimore, USA

Joint WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA meeting with pharmaceutical, condom, IUD, vaccine and diagnostics manufacturers and suppliers

18-21 September
Copenhagen, Denmark

[EuroNGO's Annual General Meeting and Conference](#)

26-28 September
Brussels, Belgium

[Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition 18th General Membership Meeting](#)

23-27 October
Dakar, Senegal

[Fourth Global Forum on Human Resources for Health](#)

13-17 November
Dublin, Ireland

[3rd Biennial Scientific Conference: Sustaining the Momentum for Regulatory Harmonization in Africa](#)

27-29 November
Abidjan, Ivory Coast

[9th Asia Pacific Conference on Reproductive and Sexual Health and Rights](#)

27-30 November
Hanoi, Vietnam

[XXII FIGO World Congress of Gynecology and Obstetrics](#)

14-19 October 2018
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

[5th International Conference on Family Planning](#)

12-15 November 2018
Kigali, Rwanda

[Women Deliver 2019 Conference](#)

3-6 June 2019
Vancouver, Canada



Reproductive Health
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