

## TOP STORY



**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
OF THE REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH  
SUPPLIES COALITION**

**19-22 OCTOBER 2020 / KEMPINSKI HOTEL / GHANA**

#RHSUPPLIES2020

Save-the-date

## Next General Membership Meeting

The Coalition's next General Membership Meeting will take place in Accra, Ghana from the 19<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October 2020. Please mark your calendars and watch this space for more information on the meeting's theme.

## IN THE NEWS

### FondSeconaf awards its inaugural grant

FondSeconaf, the small grants fund of the Coalition's regional forum for Francophone Africa SECONAF, has awarded its first grant to [Association Congolaise pour le Bien-Etre Familial](#), or ACBEF, in the Republic of the Congo. The grant will build ACBEF's

capacity to manage supply chains with a view to reducing stockouts in 20 last mile health facilities in rural Sangha and Lékoumou. ACBEF will also advocate with health authorities to create two distribution centers for essential medicines. For more information, please contact Charlotte Souлары at [csouлары@rhsupplies.org](mailto:csouлары@rhsupplies.org).

### **VAN statistics attest to its growing global coverage**

Coverage by the Global FP VAN reached new levels this quarter as the platform recorded 244 supply orders valued at more than \$40 million. They included 18 different types of contraceptives shipped across 48 countries.

The VAN also showed its effectiveness at joint problem solving. Eight supply-related alarm bells were sounded, three of which were resolved, thereby safeguarding over half a million dollars' worth of product. Work is still underway to address the remaining five, valued at nearly \$2.3 million.

### **SSWG tackles big questions at its recent annual meeting meets**

The Systems Strengthening Working Group (SSWG) tackled some big questions at its in-person meeting this month. Partners, both old and new, assembled from around the world to make connections, share results, identify synergies, and plan for the future. They heard Jhpiego draw attention to growing shortfalls in consumables that are severely undermining the delivery of implants and IUDS. IWAG addressed the challenges of getting products to the field at any cost while at the same time managing the often unexpected consequences of their success. The group also addressed sustainability. Village Reach/WDI cited the critical importance of tools for rapidly estimating cost data; AvenirHealth/Track20 linked insight into national budget allocations with better understanding of domestic supply spending; and People that Deliver stressed the importance of human resource development in supply chain management. For more information, please contact Greg Davidson on [gdaavidson@rhsupplies.org](mailto:gdaavidson@rhsupplies.org).

### **Blog, webinar series, look at early marriage in Latin America**

This month, the [LAC Forum](#) joined with PLAN International, UNFPA, INSAD and UNICEF to host three Spanish language webinars on the implications of child marriage and early unions for contraceptive access in the [Dominican Republic](#), [Peru](#) and [Mexico](#). Regional

Advisor Milka Dinev highlights this issue's particular relevance for Latin America in her [blog](#).

## UNFPA and Gates Foundation log in to the Global FP VAN

When the history of the Global FP VAN is written, one of its greatest achievements will undoubtedly be its single Terms of Use (TOU), an ingenious joint affirmation of mutual understanding and commitment that does away with the cumbersome multiple non-disclosure agreements that have for so long tied our hands as a community. This month saw two new signatories to the TOU: UNFPA and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, thereby providing each agency with access to the data they need. Today, 12 staff from UNFPA and two from the Foundation are actively using the platform.

## New additions to our online webinar hub

Donor support for RH supplies might be declining, but low-income countries are likely to remain highly dependent on donors for much of the coming decade, explained John Skibiak in his introduction to a recent webinar on the [2019 Family Planning Market Report](#), co-produced by CHAI and the Coalition. The webinar included speakers from FP2020 and CHAI. You can [hear it here](#). Other webinars include:

- [What Women Want Campaign](#)
- [Oral Antihypertensive Therapy: A Pathway to Efficiently Reduce Maternal Complications from Severe Hypertension in Low Resource Environment](#) (in Spanish)
- [She makes her safe choice](#) (in French)

## IN THE CALENDAR

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China Reproductive Health Industry Association Expo	<b>18-22 June</b> Jinan City, China
The General Membership Meeting of the Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition	<b>19-22 October</b> Accra, Ghana

[International Conference on Family Planning 2021](#)

**1-4 February 2021**

Pattaya City, Thailand



Reproductive Health  
**SUPPLIES COALITION**

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