

Improving Family Planning Commodity Management

This approach ensures availability of a range of contraceptive choices by minimizing stock outs and missed opportunities in meeting family planning clients' needs. It allows clients to choose, obtain and use affordable, high quality contraceptives.

Key Outcomes of Commodity Management

- Improved data reporting, which can support commodity redistribution
- Seamless flow of FP commodities in the supply chain
- Accurate reporting on commodity stocks at facility level

Steps at City and Facility Level

1

Build the capacity of health providers

on Reproductive Health Commodity Management (RHCM) using the national trainers' curriculum. Continuous mentorship is recommended to reinforce the skills of the health workers.

(Tip: Train CHWs/VHTs and CHAs in basic commodity management to support community-based distribution.)

2

Monitor and review commodity and FP service data

on a monthly basis in line with the MOH structures. Offer supportive supervision to strengthen supply chain systems and ensure sustained delivery of a broad range of reproductive health supplies that meet users' needs and demands.

(Tip: Redistribute commodities to minimize excess stock and reduce stock outs. Supply chain management tools such as ILS Gateway in Tanzania can improve data for decision-making in reproductive health commodity security.)

Steps at National Level

1

National-level forecasting and supply planning

by the Ministry of Health department with partner support coordinates family planning. Monthly update reports including commodity estimations and costing are generated and circulated to stakeholders to provide strategic information for decision-making at the national, county, district, and municipality levels.

2

Advocate at national and regional levels

for increased family planning financing, resource mobilization and supply chain management. The advocacy aims to increase budgetary allocation by government/counties and donor commitments and can occur through technical working groups and inter-agency coordinating committees.

Useful Tips

- Decisively address supply-side barriers that inhibit utilization of sexual and reproductive health services by scaling up successful practices e.g. task-shifting and community health workers.
- Strengthen Health Management Information Systems (HMIS) to improve completeness and accuracy of data for decision-making.