



In Case You Missed It — June 2021 Edition

The USAID Global Health Supply Chain Program – Procurement and Supply Management (GHSC-PSM) project is implemented in Liberia by Chemonics International Inc. in collaboration with other partners. It is the USAID flagship health supply chain program designed to ensure uninterrupted supplies of health commodities to save lives and create a healthier future for all. The project purchases and delivers health commodities, offers comprehensive technical assistance to strengthen national supply chain systems and provides global supply chain leadership.

In Case You Missed It (ICYMI) is a bi-annual email news bulletin that seeks to highlight major accomplishments of GHSC-PSM that may have slipped partners and stakeholders attention as part of United States Government’s support to the Liberian people. It is also used to share available national and international resource materials developed with support of GHSC-PSM and other stakeholders to improve health outcomes in Liberia and other countries.



Participants during LMIS training in Gbarnga, Bong County. Photo credit: GHSC-PSM

GHSC-PSM Liberia Key Activities in FY 2021 (Oct 2020 to June 2021)

Prevention

- Distributed over 159,000 pcs of Long-Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLINs) to 535 health facilities across the country.
- Delivered about 200,000 pieces LLINs to General Services Agency (GSA) warehouse in Monrovia for routine distribution at antenatal care support at health facilities across the country.
- Supported the relocation of 104,300 pcs of LLINs from private temporary storage to the GSA warehouse.
- Distributed over 778,000 pcs of sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine (SP) tablets to support malaria prevention during pregnancy at health facilities across the country.



LLINs distribution across Liberia as GHSC-PSM continues its support to the Ministry of Health (MoH) to reach the last miles. Photo credit: GHSC-PSM



- Delivered over 1,000,000 SP tablets to the CMS Caldwell for malaria prevention support during pregnancy across the country.
- Delivered over 7,000,000 male condoms to support prevention of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and unwanted pregnancies.
- Delivered about 25,000 pcs of levonorgestrel 75 mg/rod w/ trocar, 3 years efficacy, 2 rod implants, (levoplant), and over 10,000 pcs of copper TCu380A intrauterine device, (IUD) to support prevention of pregnancies across the country.

Diagnostics

- Delivered about 1.7 million malaria rapid diagnostic tests (mRDTs) to the CMS Caldwell to support malaria testing at health facilities across the country.
- Distributed 727,125 malaria rapid diagnostic tests (mRDTs) to support malaria testing at SDPs across the country.
- Delivered over 1.5 million pcs microscope slides, and about 851,000 pcs giemsa stain solutions, 500 ml to the CMS for malaria diagnostics at health facilities across the country.

COVID-19 Support

- Delivered about 150,000 pcs of examination gloves, over 120,000 pcs of medical face masks, and about 490 pcs of calcium hypochlorite to support the fight against COVID-19 at health facilities across the country.

Treatment

- Delivered about 2.2 million artemisinin-based combination therapy (ACT) treatments to the CMS for distribution across the country.
- Distributed over 700,000 ACT treatments to support malaria treatment at health facilities across the country.
- Delivered about 1,400,000 quinine sulfate 300mg tablets to support malaria treatment at health facilities across the country.
- Delivered over 145,000 vials of artesunate injection to the CMS Caldwell for malaria treatment at health facilities across the country.
- Delivered about 35,000,000 pcs of paracetamol 500mg tablets to the CMS Caldwell for distribution to health facilities across the country.



Commodities distributed to CH Rennie Hospital Margibi County. Photo credit: GHSC-PSM

Technical Assistance

- Supported the County Health Teams across the country to increase the quarterly eLMIS reporting rate from 70% to 95% on an average.



- Supported supply chain technical working groups meetings in all 15 counties.
- Supported county depot inventories and stock status analyses in 13 counties.
- Between October 2020 to March 2021, GHSC-PSM conducted supportive supervision visits in 366 health facilities and provided mentorship to 637 healthcare workers across the country.
- Supported the delivery of 47 mini laptops provided by USAID to hospitals and depots to support increase in reporting rate and timeliness of reporting on the eLMIS.
- Completed two rounds of End User Verification (EUV) survey data collection and reporting covering all 15 counties to monitor availability and use of malaria, reproductive health, maternal, newborn and child health commodities.
- Completed the integrated distribution of health products for Q-3 2020, and 50% volume to account for Q-4 2020, and successfully implemented the Q-1 2021 distribution to county depots, hospitals, health centers and clinics in Margibi and Montserrado counties.
- Commenced the development of malaria commodities stockout reduction strategy in Liberia. The plan is to develop a 'Playbook' to illustrate methods by which there can be reduction in stockout of key malaria products in Liberia through targeted investment options by the United States Government through the U.S. President's Malaria Initiative (PMI).
- Completed the recruitment and deployment of four technical advisors that are embedded at the CMS under the Long Term Technical Assistance (LTTAs). The LTTA is implemented by Akesis Global Health Inc. to improve local capacity in warehousing and distribution management that will promote the Journey Toward Self-Reliance (J2SR).
- Supported minor upgrade of the warehouse facility that is used in storage of Long-Lasting Insecticidal Nets (LLINs) at the GSA, Monrovia.
- Facilitated capacity building for 94 hospital pharmacists, dispensers, and HIV focal persons on the Liberia Logistics Management Information System (LMIS) and the electronic LMIS to improve quality of the supply chain data from the service delivery points.



Logistics Management Advisor mentoring health workers on the LMIS tools in Grand Bassa. Photo credit: GHSC-PSM



Facility visit by the Logistics Management Advisor (LMA) in Bong County. Photo credit: GHSC-PSM



Featured Publications

- Through close collaboration with the Liberia MoH, GHSC-PSM helped [elevate HIV/AIDS data quality through mentorship and supportive supervision](#).
- GHSC-PSM [trained the MoH supply chain department to develop supply plans with PipeLine](#), a supply planning database and software that allows users to see inventory, forecasts, and procurements in one place and continuously monitors supply levels.
- GHSC-PSM standardized the End-User Verification (EUV) survey sampling approach and report to provide reliable data for improved decision making. These changes culminated in the [launch of an EUV toolkit in 2020](#) for country offices. The [EUV survey champions collaboration](#) between partners.
- Through the Project, [PMI supports countries to maintain supply of LLINs for mass distribution campaigns, where millions of people receive or replace their nets](#) at the same time, and for continuous distribution during antenatal visits for pregnant women.
- By [adapting to remote support for COVID-19, GHSC-PSM was able to continue providing trainings and workforce development](#) opportunities to health workers.
- How can the supply chain [impact newborn and child health commodities availability?](#) Take a look at what the Project learned in Liberia and Mali.
- GHSC-PSM conducted an assessment on the [Availability of Quality Newborn and Child Health Commodities](#) in Liberia.
- The MoH partnered with GHSC-PSM to reduce maternal deaths by [integrating oxytocin into the vaccine cold chain, and expanding the use of misoprostol for PPH](#) in settings without available cold storage options.
- GHSC-PSM used [mentorship to improve data visibility](#) across the country.

Highlights from the Web

- U.S. Ambassador to Liberia Michael A. McCarthy visited the warehouse where mosquito nets are stored for the MoH. See live [Tweet](#) and [LinkedIn post](#).
- Traveling overland through difficult terrain, GHSC-PSM drivers [delivered 15,900 LLINs to Montserrado and Bong](#) health facilities to aid anti-malaria efforts.
- Despite COVID-19, GHSC-PSM redistributed PPEs for health workers using existing transport mechanisms, and continued [LLIN deliveries during COVID-19](#), and also replaced in-person health facility visits with phone calls to continually engage about supply chain needs.
- GHSC-PSM worked with the MoH to develop an LMIS training-of-trainers (ToT) curriculum. 24 in-country staff received [remote training during COVID-19](#) on how to implement the curriculum nationwide.



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Procurement and Supply Management

- GHSC-PSM [welcoming Dr. Raj Panjabi as the new head of PMI](#). Dr. Panjabi spent part of his childhood in Liberia.
- Dual active ingredient (dual AI) mosquito nets are the next generation of protection versus malaria in Liberia, where insecticide resistance is increasing. See dual AI nets on the move on [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).
- USAID handed over a [large shipment of essential medicines for newborn and child health](#) (NBCH) to Liberia's CMS.

Tools and Other Resources

- GHSC-PSM supported PMI to [establish the TraceNet working group](#) in 2019 to discuss the benefits, opportunities, and challenges of implementing standardized LLIN identifiers, data carriers (barcodes), and data-sharing mechanisms for the products.
- What is the new Quantifications Analytics Tool or QAT? [Check out the video to learn more!](#)
- GHSC-PSM's recently published [Contracting for Transportation of Public Health Commodities to the Private Sector](#) guidance which discusses working with the private sector and more.
- [Emergency supply chain resources](#) available from GHSC-PSM can assist countries and organizations prepare for and respond to infectious disease outbreaks including COVID-19.
- And take a look at [Recovery Strategies for Public Health Supply Chains Post-Black Swan Event](#), recently published by GHSC-PSM.

Beyond GHSC-PSM

- The World Health Organization's [new aide memoire](#) provides mask guidance for community outreach interventions.
- Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, provides regular news updates about COVID-19 vaccines on its [COVAX webpage](#).
- Samantha Power, USAID administrator, wants to restore U.S. prestige by getting American-made vaccines ["into arms" around the world](#).