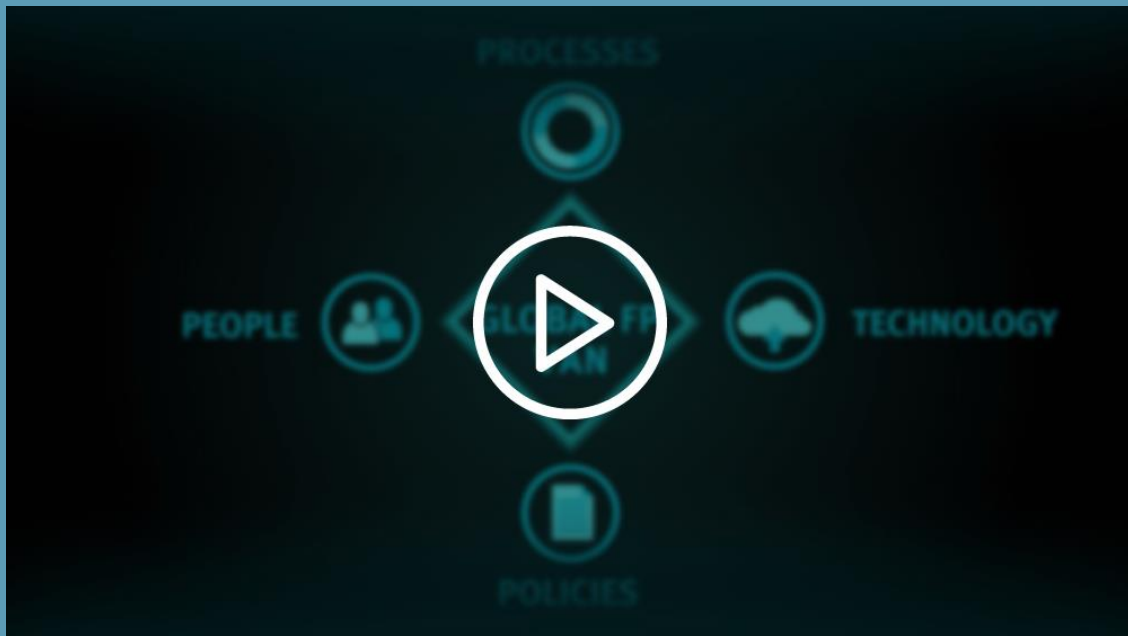


TOP STORY



Global FP VAN makes huge strides

Having come to consensus on scope, countries, manufacturers and product selection, the Global FP VAN Steering Committee recently issued a Request for Proposals to identify a technology solutions partner with the experience and ability to establish the [Global FP VAN platform](#). The committee has also identified pilot countries (Malawi and Nigeria), partners in the manufacturing sector (Bayer; Merck; Dahua; Mylan), and initial products (oral contraceptives; implants) for the Global FP VAN initiative. The committee has resolved to proceed in distinct phases: definition of system requirements from both the user and the technology perspective, selection of the technology solutions provider,

and finally, the launch of the Global FP VAN in pilot countries. For a better understanding of how Global FP VAN will work, watch this [5-minute video](#). For more information, please contact Julia White on jwhite@rhsupplies.org.

IN THE NEWS

Coalition's 2017-in-brief available online

If you missed our end-of-year greeting message containing a snapshot of the Coalition's progress, you can view it online to see why 2017 was [A Landmark Year](#) for us.

Workshop prompts manufacturers to register MH products

With support from the Innovation Fund, the Concept Foundation hosted a national-level workshop in Ethiopia which brought together representatives from the country's MOH Procurement Unit, the national regulatory authority, manufacturers, NGOs, maternal health (MH) providers, academics, and pharmacists to map an action plan to increase access to WHO prequalified MH medicines. The workshop examined the findings of a situational analysis Concept Foundation conducted to explore existing structures and processes for drug registration and procurement, as well as options for expediting registration and procurement. Five manufacturers have since taken steps to register their WHO prequalified MH products.

Packard Foundation award to fund youth and safe abortion work

A new award from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation will support a two-year initiative to increase youth access to RH supplies and will tackle factors that impede women's access to safe abortion supplies. This is Packard's second grant for the Coalition's youth work; it will support a new round of youth-focused Innovation Fund grants which will, for the first time, also build the capacity of youth-led organizations to develop competitive proposals. During the two-year initiative, the Coalition will also strengthen the new Safe Abortion Workstream's strategic outputs.

MHS Caucus message: "Buy quality oxytocin, keep it cold"

In Washington DC, in December, the Maternal Health Supplies Caucus forged a powerful advocacy-messaging framework for oxytocin, drawing from a technical consultation held in Geneva in October. The framework identifies key audiences and messengers, and exhorts country governments to purchase only oxytocin approved by a stringent regulatory authority or prequalified by the WHO. It should be labelled for storage at 2-8° C, and purchased in 10IU vials. Stressing that everyone has a role to play, the recommendations will target not only country governments but also donors, multilaterals, media and civil society. The core message: “Buy quality oxytocin, keep it cold”. For more details on an upcoming advocacy strategy, please contact Milka Dinev at mdinev@rhsupplies.org.

New database of contraceptive APIs launched

[CAPRI, the Contraceptive Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient Database](#) is a curated repository of information on 27 APIs drawn from the scientific literature, public databases, and pharmacopoeias. The database summarizes each API’s physical and chemical properties, along with its toxicology, pharmacology, metabolites, impurities, and use in marketed products. Developed by Coalition member FHI 360, CAPRI also sought input from partners including members of the Coalition’s [Generic Manufacturers Caucus](#). The first resource of its kind, CAPRI can be used by researchers, product developers, pharmaceutical manufacturers, product quality personnel and procurement agents. Read more [here](#) and send input or questions to cti_exchange@fhi360.org.

December additions to online webinar hub

The Coalition website saw four additions in December:

- [Safe Abortion Supplies Workstream](#) was organized by the RHSC NURHT Caucus’ Safe Abortion workstream and walks through the workstream and draft workplan; it also showcases results from the four Innovation Fund projects on Safe Abortion.
- [SALMI](#) (in Spanish) introduces a user-friendly logistic administration system for medicines and supplies developed for Bolivia through the USAID/JSI Inc/ Deliver Project.
- The Systems for Improved Access to Pharmaceuticals and Services program (SIAPS) has mapped the financial flows for MNCH commodities in the public sector

in four countries to identify major bottlenecks that adversely affect financing of those commodities. This webinar, [Financial Flows for MNCH Commodities in the Public Sector in Four Countries](#), presents a summary of the key findings

- [This webinar](#) walks through the 2017 Family Planning Report– jointly produced by the Clinton Health Access Initiative and the Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition – which suggests that a sharp market value decline from 2015 to 2016 in the public and social sectors of the 69 FP2020 focus countries was caused by a substantial decline in shipment volumes particularly among injectables and oral contraceptive pills.

NEW MEMBERS

[Amref Flying Doctors](#) in the Netherlands (known as Amref Flying Doctors elsewhere), is an international African not-for-profit organization founded and headquartered in Kenya, providing critical medical assistance to remote communities in Africa.

Netherlands-based [Avivia](#) is an independent specialized pharmaceutical development company engaged in drug repositioning, repurposing and reformulation.

Also based in the Netherlands, [CHOICE for Youth and Sexuality](#) advocates for the sexual and reproductive health and rights of young people worldwide.

[Emory University](#)'s Rollins School of Public Health ranked seventh among the nation's best schools of public health in the 2017 U.S. News & World Report's Best Colleges guidebook.

[Espoir de la famille](#) is a health and community development NGO created in Benin.

[GenBioPro, Inc.](#) is a US-based company with a specific focus on products related to

women's reproductive healthcare, including miscarriage, abortion, pregnancy and contraception.

Based in Switzerland, [Global Market Access Solutions](#) is a health economy and service research group developing an alternative financing framework for family planning programs.

Also in Switzerland, the [Implementing Best Practices](#) initiative is an international partnership scaling up what works in family planning and other areas of reproductive health, initiated in 1999 by WHO, USAID, UNFPA and nine cooperating agencies.

[Wuhu Snnda Medical Treatment Appliance Technology Co., Ltd.](#) is a Chinese company producing the suture-free ShangRing disposable male circumcision device which is WHO prequalified.

IN THE CALENDAR

[WHO/IBP Semi-Annual Consortium Meeting](#)

13-15 February

New Delhi, India

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

20-22 March

Brussels, Belgium

[10th Annual Conference on Health and Humanitarian Logistics](#)

25-27 July

Dubai, UAE

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

14-19 October

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

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

12-15 November

Kigali, Rwanda

[Women Deliver 2019 Conference](#)

3-6 June 2019

Vancouver, Canada



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