

TOP STORY



LAPTOP – the next generation

The Coalition has launched an updated, more user-friendly version of the LAPTOP course-finder. The database has increased three-fold the number of training opportunities in logistics and supply chain management. It also encompasses 80 countries and currently hosts 300 course-providers.

In addition to the course-finder, this month saw the announcement of a new round of LAPTOP Scholarships to help students and young professionals pursue training opportunities identified through LAPTOP. Both activities are part of a larger youth initiative, supported by the David

and Lucile Packard Foundation. For more information, and to apply, [look online](#). Applications close on 3rd March 2021.

[Apply now](#)

IN THE NEWS

Next General Membership Meeting put on hold

Given the ongoing spread of COVID-19 and delays in the global rollout of COVID vaccines, the Coalition's next General Membership Meeting, previously scheduled for September, has been put on hold until further notice. A new date will be set once the course of the pandemic becomes clearer. In the meantime, the Coalition is planning a virtual event and more details will follow shortly.

RHSC work in francophone Africa leverages \$2.6M

In December 2019, the RHSC called on its unique levers of change – its brain trust, its convening power and its neutral playing field – to co-organize a pioneering dialogue on safe abortion in Cotonou, Benin for some 80 government representatives, advocates, and donor organizations. What started as a germ of an idea took shape steadily and a year on, Le Centre ODAS has been unveiled. With joint funding of \$2.625M, from the Hewlett and Packard Foundations and the Foundation for a Just Society, the Centre's hosting agency, Ipas, will coordinate and catalyze the provision of safe abortion in the nine countries of the [Ouagadougou Partnership](#) as well as the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and address commodity security as one of its key strategic areas of focus.

Former PPMR countries begin mastering the VAN

Countries that once submitted contraceptive inventory data to the [PPMR](#) have begun a “virtual process” of learning how to access and use the [VAN](#). Once that process is complete, the country teams will be able to see more than just the data they entered. They will, for the first time, have access to upcoming orders/shipments and inventory data over time. This new visibility into current and incoming stocks lies at the heart of the VAN's aim to improve supply chain efficiency by better aligning shipments with actual country consumption. The onboarding process will continue until all 37 former PPMR countries have mastered the VAN. After that, the VAN will continue to expand to more countries and members. Read more in [English](#) or [French](#).

2020 FP Market Report webinar now online

Last month, we announced the [2020 Family Planning Market Report](#), jointly published by the RHSC and CHAI. This month, a [webinar](#) covered key market findings from the report, with commentary from John Skibiak (RHSC), Marie Chantale Lepine and Mary Grace Darmody (CHAI), and Martyn Smith (FP2020). For any questions, please write to Mary Grace Darmody (mgdarmody@clintonhealthaccess.org). To learn about broader family planning financing trends beyond procurement, including understanding donor, domestic, out-of-pocket, and total expenditures across the 69 FP2020 focus countries, view minutes 46:30-1:06:00 at this [link](#) for further information from FP2020. For any questions on these broader financing trends, please reach out to Martyn Smith at msmith@familyplanning2020.org.



New video highlights the side benefits of contraceptives

Last year, a few members of the MDA WG asked whether contraceptive methods offered benefits other than “just” preventing unintended pregnancy. A new four-minute video now answers that question. [Exploring potential ‘side benefits’ of contraceptive methods](#) was developed by FHI 360 and the John’s Hopkins Center for Communication Programs to explore the potential non-contraceptive benefits of family planning. It also explores how governments and partners can help expand awareness of these “side benefits” to contraceptive users. The video is also available in [French](#), [Spanish](#) and [Portuguese](#).

NEW WEBINARS



[Human-Centred Design](#) shed light on a postpartum haemorrhage reduction initiative in Nigeria.



[Solar Energy: An Alternative Solution](#) discussed the use of solar fridges to protect temperature sensitive drugs and vaccines, especially in remote areas.



[Concept Foundation](#) discussed a COGs (cost of goods sold) model for assessing the cost components and dynamics that lie behind the pricing of combi-packs.

NEW MEMBERS

[Fundacion Unimedicos](#) is a foundation in Colombia providing services in contraception, family medicine, gynaecology, safe abortion, and other reproductive health areas.

In Bolivia, [Observatorio de Mortalidad Materna y Neonatal](#) at La Paz's Universidad Mayor de San Andrés focuses on maternal health knowledge management and policy.

IN THE CALENDAR

[CCIH 2021: Cultivating Unity in Global Health](#)

11-27 May 2021

Virtual Event

[European Development Days 2021](#)

15-16 June 2021

Brussels, Belgium

[16th European Society of Contraception Congress](#)

1-4 September 2021

Ghent, Belgium

FIGO World Congress 2021

24-29 October 2021

Sydney, Australia

International Conference on Family Planning 2021

8-11 November 2021

Pattaya City, Thailand



Reproductive Health
SUPPLIES COALITION

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