
SUPPLYINSIDER

NOVEMBER 2022

TOP STORY



New grant seeks to increase access to postpartum hemorrhage medicines

MSD for Mothers has granted \$1.25M over two years to the RHSC to jointly create and manage a small grants fund which will support country preparatory activities toward the introduction and scale-up of new and lesser used medicines for the prevention and treatment of postpartum hemorrhage (NLUM-PPH) — the leading cause of

maternal mortality. Up to seven initiatives in low- and lower-middle-income countries (LMICs) seeking to facilitate access to NLUM-PPH will receive help from this fund and lessons learned will be disseminated widely. The Fund will follow the existing granting model of the Catalytic Opportunity Funds (COF) and the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) will be a key collaborator in this effort. Other donors, such as FCDO, will leverage their support to this initiative. Projects will be led by local entities working to reduce maternal mortality in LMICs. This program is supported by funding from MSD, through MSD for Mothers, the company's global initiative to help create a world where no woman has to die while giving life. MSD for Mothers is an initiative of Merck & Co., Inc., Rahway, NJ, USA.

IN THE NEWS

Donors renew support for work in Latin America

The RHSC has received renewed financial support from current donors for work in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC). Funding from the USAID LAC Bureau will sustain Latin American countries' engagement with the business intelligence platform SEPREMI and scale it up in the English-speaking Caribbean; support the documentation of the successful [RIAMA midwife network](#); provide a round of 10 [LAPTOP](#) scholarships for young health logisticians; and raise awareness around adolescent pregnancy in Central America and the Dominican Republic. A second grant from a Washington-DC based philanthropic donor will see governments apply tools and strategies to reduce prices; support the private sector to expand its contribution to contraceptive procurement financing; and address reproductive health care for two marginalized populations: adolescents and migrant women and girls in Central America.



RHSC team puts supplies under the spotlight @ICFP2022

A small team from the RHSC made a strong representation at the recent International Conference on Family Planning (ICFP2022), steering the conversation on reproductive health commodity security in a wide range of events including panel sessions, a live stage event, poster sessions, and bilateral meetings. Partnerships were the byword: Director Martyn Smith moderated [The Future State of SRH Commodity Financing & Procurement](#), a session co-hosted by [SEMA](#) and the RHSC, and also participated in a live conversation on [Family Planning Partnerships](#). RHSC team members spoke on [Strengthening supply chains for SRH through collaboration in the humanitarian-development nexus](#) and rich offerings around the VAN and data visibility included a panel on [Demystifying the control tower concept](#). The RHSC team included country-based partners from the [West African Health Organization](#), as well as the health ministries of Ghana and Malawi. For links to several sessions, please visit our [online guide](#).

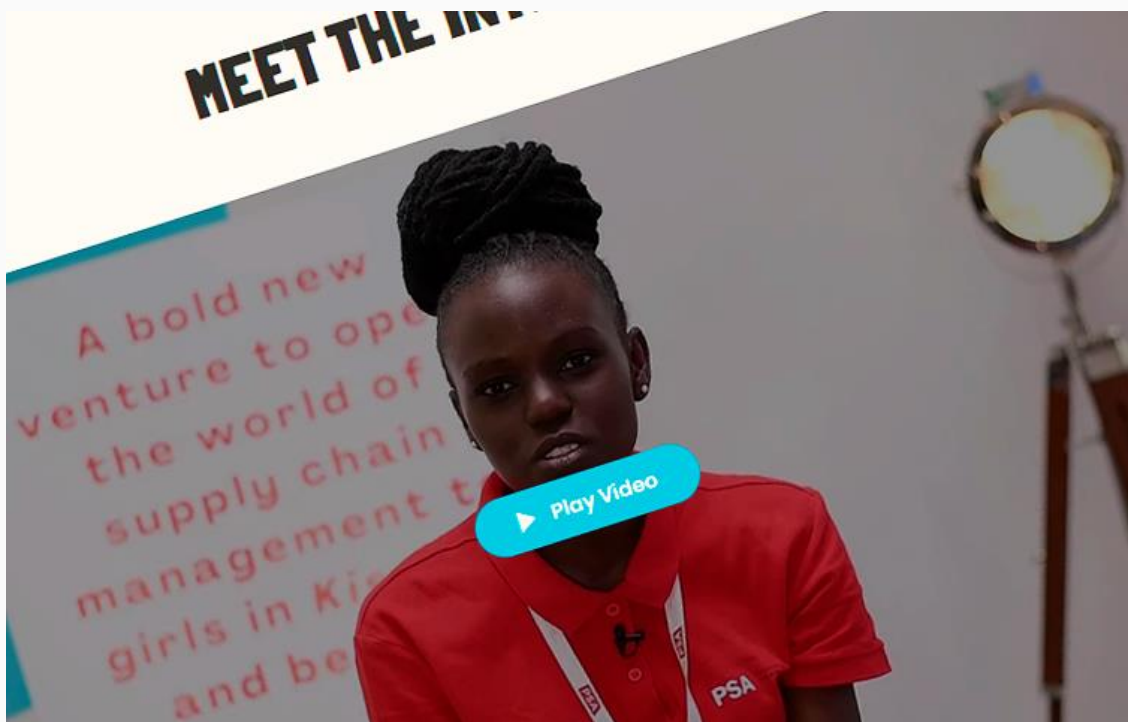
VAN marks 100th member

The VAN celebrated a milestone this month welcoming its [100th member](#) on board. Pfizer Inc. is the latest partner, and the fourth pharmaceutical manufacturer to join the data visibility network. They can use the platform to better plan for production capacities and bridging stocks. "We welcome the growing private sector representation in the VAN," said RHSC Director Martyn Smith. "The VAN offers data-sharing manufacturers robust product-specific forecasts that represent the total public sector demand for many low- and middle-income countries."



Contraceptive market declined, FP market report finds

The value of the public-sector contraceptive market contracted by eight percent from 2020 to 2021 due to COVID-19 and funding challenges, the latest Family Planning Market Report has found. Released by The Clinton Health Access Initiative and the RHSC, the report shows that specific methods have remained resilient growth in the share of implant and hormonal IUD CYPs shipped across 83 LMICs. Read the report [here](#) and catch a recording of the webinar [here](#).



Girls on the Move tell their own stories

Since its launch in May, an internship program in Kisumu County has gone from strength to strength. Originally designed to introduce 30 young women to career opportunities in the supply chain sector in Kisumu County, Kenya, the program managed by Pamela Steele Associates expanded to accommodate six additional candidates and has seen several interns secure employment successfully. You can hear from some of the young women themselves in a [new website](#) which also features a blog and other news.

RHSC Secretariat welcomes two new staff members

Marisa Peters and Laura Meyer have joined the RHSC team. Ms. Peters will provide finance and administrative support across a range of functions and Ms. Meyer will manage the grant from MSD for Mothers detailed in our lead story above. We wish them both a long and happy stay at the Coalition.

New Chair for MHS Caucus

Dr. Metin Gulmezoglu, Executive Director of the Concept Foundation, was recently elected as the new Chair of the Maternal Health Supplies Caucus for the 2022-2024 period. We welcome him on board and extend special thanks to his predecessor Emma Clark who held the position for four years and succeeded in maintaining the commitment and interest

of Caucus members, ensuring that the maternal supplies agenda remained a global priority.

NEW MEMBER

[Shree Venkatesh International Ltd.](#) is a pharmaceutical company in India dealing in the export of both commercial and generic medicines.

IN THE CALENDAR

[Women Deliver 2023](#)

July 2023

Kigali, Rwanda