

Family Planning Supply Chain

Key Indicators

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Office of Population and Reproductive Health (PRH) strives to build the capacity of countries to “design, implement, and sustain high-performing supply chain systems for family planning (FP) and reproductive health (RH) services,” which contributes to the long-term availability of FP/RH commodities that clients can afford and trust (USAID, n.d.). The following high-impact interventions achieve this goal by stimulating supply chain development:

- Fostering policy and regulatory environments that cultivate a strong government commitment to supply chain and enhance coordination and collaboration at the local, national, regional, and global levels
- Mobilizing resources for FP commodities and the supply chain
- Making data available—to all stakeholders—that support evidence-based decision making
- Building local capacity for such supply chain functions as inventory and warehouse management, distribution, system monitoring, quantification, and support for logistics management information systems (LMIS)

Rigorous monitoring and evaluation (M&E) is essential to the success of FP programs. This resource outlines eight key supply chain indicators that USAID implementing partners can use to inform the M&E of FP programs supporting activities in the supply chain PRH priority area. Each indicator featured in this resource contains a definition as well as any calculations, suggested disaggregations, or reference periods.

No program or project should use all indicators presented here. For routine monitoring, program managers and evaluators should select a few relevant indicators that both are important to program objectives and easy to collect and interpret. The indicators may be supplemented or tailored to reflect a program’s unique context and objectives.



1. Percent of total spent on procurement of family planning commodities for public sector services by the national government, U.S. government, the United Nations Population Fund, or other sources

Definition: This indicator measures annual spending by various funders for the procurement of FP commodities for

All indicators in this brief were drawn from the USAID Global Health Supply Chain Program’s USAID Global Health Supply Chain Program Procurement and Supply Management IDIQ Project Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (2018). Though this resource cuts across health areas that include FP, maternal and child health, HIV, and malaria, it focuses these indicators on FP applications. Relevant indicators are also found in the supply chain section of MEASURE Evaluation’s Family Planning and Reproductive Health Indicators Database,¹ here: https://www.measureevaluation.org/prh/rh_indicators/health-systems/commodity-security-and-logistics

¹ MEASURE Evaluation’s Family Planning and Reproductive Health Indicators Database: https://www.measureevaluation.org/prh/rh_indicators

public sector services in a particular country. Resources should be expressed as a monetary value, either in local currency or U.S. dollars. This indicator can be disaggregated by country and funding source (e.g., government, U.S. government, United Nations Population Fund, or other sources). Though the amount spent is the preferred metric, expenditure data are not always available or accurate. Thus, the following modification to this indicator is appropriate: percent of total budgeted on procurement of FP commodities for public sector services by the national government, U.S. government, the United Nations Population Fund, or other sources.

Calculation: (Total spent on FP commodities by a specific stakeholder in a country/Total spent on FP commodities in a specific country) x 100

Complementary indicator: Percent of total expenditures on family planning commodities for public sector services by the national government, U.S. government, the United Nations Population Fund, or other sources.

2. Percent of program-supported countries that have a functional logistics coordination mechanism in place

Definition: The percent of countries supported by the program that have a functional logistics coordination mechanism in place. A “functional” logistics coordination mechanism is a committee, panel, or task force that: (1) includes the participation of the country’s relevant government agency, central medical store (or equivalent body), relevant donors, private sector entities, nongovernmental organizations, and civil society organizations; (2) holds a meeting at least biannually with good representation from the mechanism’s contributing actors; (3) develops policies, procedures, and action plans; and (4) shows evidence of adherence to policies and procedures, implements action plans, and follows up on and addresses issues raised at previous meetings. This indicator is assessed annually and must meet the criteria of being “functional” to report against the indicator. It can be disaggregated by country.

Calculation: (Number of countries with a functional logistics coordination mechanism in place as determined by a qualitative assessment/Total number of countries supported by the program for technical assistance [TA]) x 100

3. Percent of countries conducting annual forecasts

Definition: The percent of program-supported countries that conduct forecast reviews on an annual basis. This indicator is intended to measure the occurrence and consistency of forecasts. Forecasts are a key step in effective supply planning as well as medium-term procurement planning and resource mobilization. This indicator can be disaggregated by country and whether forecast reviews were received by program headquarters during the year.

Calculation: (Number of program-supported countries that conducted annual forecast reviews at the end of the reporting period/Total number of program-supported countries) x 100

4. Percent of previously program-supported supply chain functions currently conducted by national authorities without external assistance

Definition: This indicator is a measure of in-country capacity to conduct supply chain functions without external donor assistance (i.e., technical or financial). Illustrative supply chain functional areas include forecasting and supply planning, procurement, quality assurance, warehousing and inventory management, transportation and distribution, management information systems, governance and financing, human resources and capacity development, and M&E. This indicator can be disaggregated by country.

Calculation: (Number of initially program-supported supply chain functions that are implemented without external donor assistance/Total number of initially program-supported supply chain functions examined) x 100

5. Supply chain technical staff turnover rate

Definition: The percent of the health supply chain workforce that exited in the past year, disaggregated by country. This indicator may also be disaggregated by age and sex.

Calculation: Number of supply chain technical staff who

left the active health labor force in the past year/Total number of supply chain technical staff at the beginning of the past year

6. Percent of family planning stock status observations in storage sites where family planning commodities are stocked according to plan

Definition: The percent of stock status observations for an FP tracer product that are within the designated quantity of stock needed for that tracer product. This indicator should be disaggregated by FP tracer product, country, stock status (i.e., stocked according to the commodity plan for that product, overstocked, understocked, and stocked out), and level of the supply chain system (i.e., national warehouse and subnational stores).

Calculation: (Number of stock status observations for an FP tracer product that are within the designated minimum and maximum quantities at storage sites/Total number of stock status observations for an FP tracer product at storage sites) x 100

7. Service delivery point reporting rate to the logistics management information system

Definition: This indicator measures the completeness of reporting to the LMIS by service delivery points (SDPs), disaggregated by country, whether a region is supported by the program, and SDP type (i.e., public, nongovernmental organization [NGO], or commercial).

Calculation: (Number of SDPs that submitted the required LMIS report(s) or order form(s) during the previous reporting period/Total number of SDPs in country that should be reporting) x 100

Complementary indicator: Average rating of in-country data confidence (data are available, accurate, and timely) at the central, subnational, and SDP levels

8. Stockout rate at service delivery points

Definition: The number of SDPs that experience a stockout of a specific FP tracer product that the SDP is expected to provide, at any point, in a defined period (e.g., the past three, six, or twelve months). Occurrence of stockouts can be calculated for a single product or method. It can also be disaggregated by country, whether a region is supported by the program, and SDP type.

Calculation: (Number of SDPs that were stocked out of a specific FP tracer product according to the ending balance of the most recent logistics report [or on the day of site visit]/Total number of SDPs that reported or were visited in supported countries that offer the FP tracer product) x 100

References:

USAID Bureau of Global Health Office of Population and Reproductive Health. (n.d.). GH/PRH priorities for 2014–2020. Washington, DC: USAID.

United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Global Health Supply Chain Program. (2018). USAID global health supply chain program procurement and supply management IDIQ project monitoring and evaluation plan. Washington, DC, USA: Chemonics International Inc. Retrieved from https://www.ghsupplychain.org/sites/default/files/2018-02/2018_02_03%20MandE%20P