

STRENGTHENING UGANDA'S SYSTEMS FOR TREATING AIDS NATIONALLY

KEY INTERVENTIONS

Strengthening Supply Chain Management Systems for Drugs and other Health Commodities

Improving supply chain and commodity management systems to enable hospitals to effectively leverage supplies and drugs available through the national public system

In coordination with the Ministry of Health (MOH) Pharmacy Division and National Medical Stores (NMS), the USAID Strengthening Uganda's Systems for Treating AIDS Nationally (SUSTAIN) project works with selected hospitals to improve availability of commodities and supplies for providing quality healthcare and HIV services.

Product Selection and Quantification

USAID/SUSTAIN works with selected hospitals to ensure appropriate product selection and supply by:

- ◆ Establishing hospital medicine and therapeutic committees to develop and track product lists for each hospital
- ◆ Promoting and building capacity for effective use of dispensing and product usage logs to accurately quantify needs

On-time and Accurate Ordering and Reporting

Simple, low-cost interventions to improve ordering and reporting rates allow hospitals to optimally leverage commodities and supplies available through the national system. These interventions include:

- ◆ Identifying focal persons responsible for submitting orders
- ◆ Developing order checklists to coordinate submission of reports for HIV-related and general commodities
- ◆ Sending mobile phone text message reminders to respective hospital order focal persons one week before order deadlines
- ◆ Providing hospital-based coaching and training in logistics/commodity management, good storage practices and quality improvement



Promoting Data Utilisation through:

Activities for improving hospital storage management practices include:

- ◆ Supporting the MOH directive for coordinating supply chain management for anti-retroviral drugs, in collaboration with the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the Global Fund
- ◆ Collaborating with NMS to obtain feedback on timelines and order accuracy
- ◆ Reporting improvement efforts at SUSTAIN project-supported hospitals
- ◆ Supervising and assessing performance through support supervision exercises conducted by MOH Regional Pharmacists and Medicines Management Supervisors, using the routine storage management monitoring tool and developing improvement plans with hospital teams
- ◆ Building competencies among storage and pharmacy personnel for logistics and for stock information management systems
- ◆ Collaborating with NMS to provide storage personnel with practical training in good storage practices