

# USAID Global Health Supply Chain Program

Procurement and Supply Management

## HEALTH SYSTEMS STRENGTHENING Global Standards and Traceability

### Our Vision

To enable identification, data capture, and data sharing of every item procured at every point in the supply chain, from manufacturer to dispensary to the end user/patient to provide security and efficiency in the supply chain from sourcing to service delivery.

### Our Technical Approach

- **Identify and implement supply chain efficiencies** through implementing consistent product labeling with standardized identification and data capture (barcode) technology and enabling automation in master, transaction, and event data exchange across suppliers, donors, and countries
- **Enable end-to-end data visibility** through leveraging globally unique item and location identification numbers; streamlining master data management through use of the Global Data Synchronization Network (GDSN); and enabling improved interoperability between ARTMIS, the electronic Logistics Management Information System (eLMIS), and country systems
- **Ensure supply chain security** through preparing GHSC-PSM's global supply chain and country programs to oversee chain-of-ownership or chain-of-custody, event-based data management that supports stronger identification and mitigation of risks and incidents of product loss, expiry, and diversion
- **Increase patient safety** through leveraging these standards to develop solutions that implement controls against substandard and falsified medicines

### Outcomes

Successful global standards and traceability implementations enable us to:

- **Address** falsified or stolen products detected in the legitimate supply chain or that are obtained by the patient/end user, and address theft or diversion of products from the legitimate supply chain
- **Improve** accuracy and efficiency of procurement operations, efficiency of 'reverse' logistics processes (e.g. returns, recalls), visibility of product 'status' (e.g. expiry, recalls), efficiency of inventory management and distribution, and efficiency of payment/payment monitoring processes
- **Enhance** visibility of product location within the supply chain, visibility to decrease or eliminate reimbursement fraud, and harmonize trade/customs clearance procedures



Photo credit: GHSC-PSM/Farmhouse

### About Us

GHSC-PSM connects technical solutions, experts, and proven commercial processes to promote efficient and cost-effective health supply chains worldwide. Our goal is to ensure uninterrupted supplies of health commodities to save lives and to create a healthier future for all.

### For more information about GS1 Global Standards and Traceability

### Email

HSS Global Standards Team  
[globalstandards@ghsc-psm.org](mailto:globalstandards@ghsc-psm.org)

### Website

[ghsupplychain.org/globalstandards](http://ghsupplychain.org/globalstandards)

## Menu of Activities

- **Build education and awareness of global standards across the global health community** by investing in key stakeholders to provide a baseline understanding of global standards, traceability, and what it takes to implement it.
  - a. Host trainings and workshops, where possible, in partnership with local GS1 member organizations
  - b. Support attendance at global conferences, webinars, and workshops to keep abreast of new developments, lessons learned, and emerging good practices
- **Implement global standards and traceability in the USAID Global Health Supply Chain** through the implementation and use of standardized product identification, labeling, and data capture (barcode) technology; streamlining master data management; and supporting implementation of automation in master, data, and transaction data exchange.
- **Support strategy development at the global level through strategic engagement with global partners.**
  - a. Engage with global partners, such as organizations in the donor community, to harmonize and drive forward the community's approach to implementing global standards.
  - b. Support development of policies that enable implementation of global standards and traceability across the entire global healthcare supply chain.
- **Support global standards and traceability strategy and policy development at a country level through engagement with country-based stakeholders.**
  - a. Design, co-host, and facilitate in-country workshops with representatives from key stakeholder groups to develop a national vision and strategy for traceability implementation
  - b. Support development of policies that enable implementation of national visions and provide guidance and strategic considerations for national policymakers in support of regulatory and procurement reform to support traceability initiatives.
- **Provide technical assistance to support the assessment and design of data and systems architecture** to enable implementation of a given traceability vision.
  - a. Formalize master data management (MDM) as a technical discipline in the global health community through developing approaches to implement more rigorous MDM in USAID-supported countries
  - b. Work with implementing countries to conduct systems landscape assessments to map their current IT landscape and determine opportunities to leverage existing systems or integrate new technologies
- **Support and provide guidance to ongoing traceability implementations** through short-term technical support as well as development of management tools that detail the critical strategic steps, milestones, and resources required.

## Available Resources

[Presentation: Implementation Guidance for Pharmaceutical Traceability Leveraging GSI Global Standards](#)

[Report: Global Standards in LLMICs: Policy Design Considerations to Address Domestic Manufacturer Needs](#)

[Tutorial: Global Standards for Supply Chain Visibility](#)

[Presentation: The GDSN Opportunity for Global Health](#)

[Report: Business Case for the Implementation of Global Standards](#)

[Guideline: GHSC-PSM Global Standards Technical Implementation Guide](#)