





Automating health centers at refugee camps in Ethiopia as a means of strengthening commodity management.

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#### **Outline**

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# PART1 Background

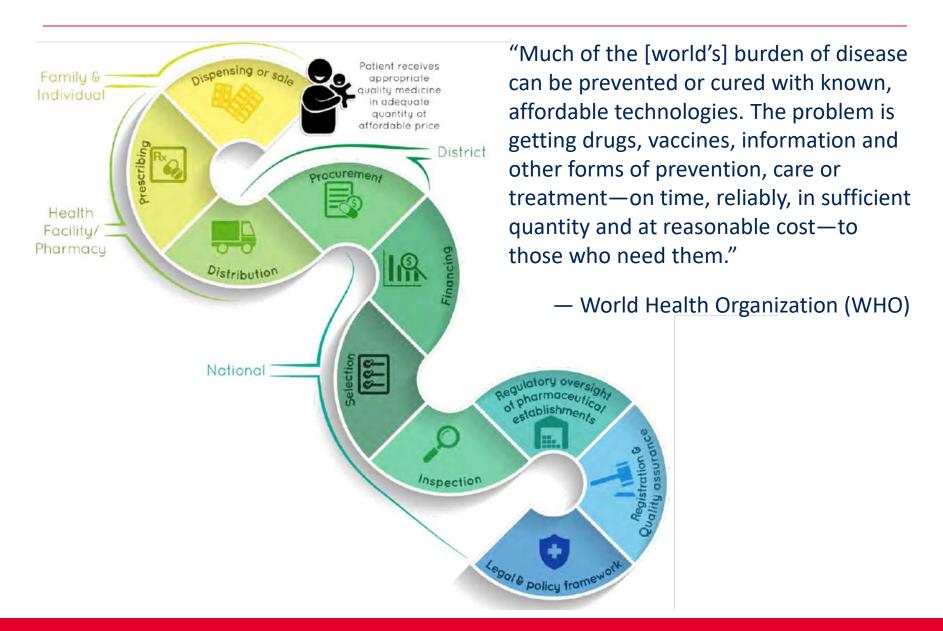
#### Background

 Ethiopia hosts more than 900,000 refugees in its 27 refugee camps spread across six regions in the country.

 Basic health care service including primary health care is one among the service package given to refugees

- Health care service requires sustainable supply and availability of essential health commodities in sustainable manner.
- The UNHCR has been supporting the operation and management of the camps, including health commodity management

#### The Challenge: Getting Products to People



#### The Challenge: Specific

- LMIS recording and reporting practices needs to be streamlined and standardized (manual and automation)
- Motivated and competent workforce to fulfill essential supply chain functions,
- Good store management practices needs to be enforced
- Inventory control policies to help to inform personnel when and how much to order and to maintain an appropriate stock level
- Increase of product demand at facilities requiring better management

## Solution: Support an Effective Health Supply Chain System by Strengthening Processes, People, and Tools

- John Snow, Inc. (JSI) AIDSFree, Ethiopia collaborated with ARRA and UNHCR to improve commodity management practices:
  - Leveraging systems and best practices in public health supply chain system
  - Capacity building through training, mentoring, supportive supervision, and
  - Optimize processes for commodity management using an automated inventory management information system (implementing Dagu)

#### **AIDSFree Ethiopia Overview**

AIDSFree is a 5-year cooperative agreement seeking to strengthen high-impact interventions for an AIDS-free generation. It is funded by USAID (Pop, MCH, PMI) and PEPFAR and managed by the USAID Office of HIV/AIDS and implemented by a consortium of implementing partners led by JSI.

#### **AIDSFree Ethiopia**

 In Ethiopia, AIDSFree seeks to improve health care outcomes by ensuring efficient supply chain systems

### AIDSFree Ethiopia Goals

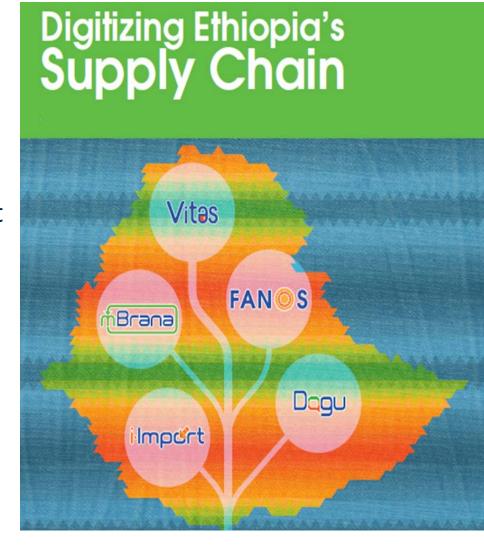
 AIDSFree Ethiopia goals focuses on improving commodity availability through enhanced: Data Visibility, Data Quality and Data Use

## AIDSFree Ethiopia Objectives

- 1) Increase data visibility and use for all levels of the supply chain to facilitate datadriven decision-making
- 2) Improve data quality (accuracy, completeness, timeliness) to catalyze increased data use and improved supply chain performance
- 3) Enhance the capacity of stakeholders to use data for improved supply chain decision-making
- 4) Increase the capacity of stakeholders to implement, support, and sustain the IPLS
- 5) Complete integration of rapid test kits and commodities for malaria and MCH into IPLS
- 6) Strengthen the ability of the pharmaceutical regulatory system to deliver quality medicines.

#### **Ethiopia: Supply Chain Management Information System**

- Manage 12,000+ unique health commodities and over 8,000+ issues and 100+ receipts daily at PFSA
- Support 4 import permits a day at FMHACA
- Over 180 Woredas using mobile technology for vaccine management with 750 health centers and hospitals using Dagu
- Manage a daily average of 44 million USD in commodities



# PART2 Supply Chain Performance Improvement Approach

## The Solution: Support an Effective System by Strengthening Processes, People, and Tools

- Building capacity through training and promoting data use, will ensure to have a more motivated and capacitated supply chain workforce supporting the system
- Supply chain process improvement ensures better; demand and supply planning, inventory and fleet management, and business process.
- Strengthening tools will help in addressing the existing supply chain bottle necks, including optimization of business processes.

#### **Strengthening People**

Building capacity through training and promoting data use, will ensure to have a more motivated and capacitated supply chain workforce supporting the system

#### **Activities**

- Total of 79 professionals were trained on basic inventory and LMIS to improve commodity and information flow.
- The same were trained on managing and use of data generated from the software solution
- Availability of data is empowering the Supply Chain workforce to make informed decisions and take actions.

#### **Results**

- Capacitated and motivated workforce supporting the system.
- Capacitated staff empowered with data to make informed decision

#### **Strengthening Processes**

Supply chain process improvement approach, which was proven on public health supply chain was adopted.

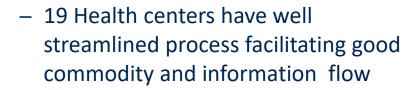
- The approach focuses on supply chain integration across programs and levels.
- The software solutions and tools that the project has developed and deployed were used as a conduit for process improvement.

#### **Strengthening Processes**

#### **Activities**

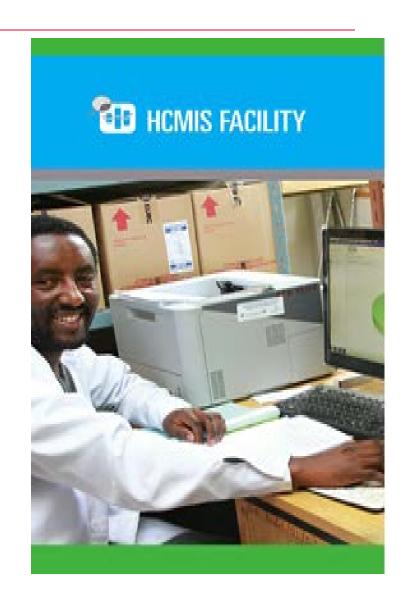
- Intensive field level
   implementation support through
   Supportive supervision and OJT
- Provide ongoing support to enhance use of data for decision making
- Enforce good internal resupply and store management process

#### **Results**



- The system is now being used to redistribute overstocked and near expiry items to other refugee camp health centers.
- Good inventory management practices helping a lot in minimizing wastage and maintaining efficiency

- AIDSFree employs an agile software development approach
- Software solutions and tools developed are designed and deployed to address existing supply chain bottle necks, including optimization of business processes.
- Dagu is one of the pharmaceutical inventory management system developed to optimize facility business processes and operations
  - Inventory management, transactional tool, and logistics decision making



#### Objectives of implementing the system at the facility set up will be:



# Improving and optimizing internal business process

 Facilitate the use of SOPs including issue and receipts, 'first to expire, first out', and batch/expiry tracking.



## Generate reports for decision making

- Expand data visibility through timely reporting
- Improve data quality through requisition automation

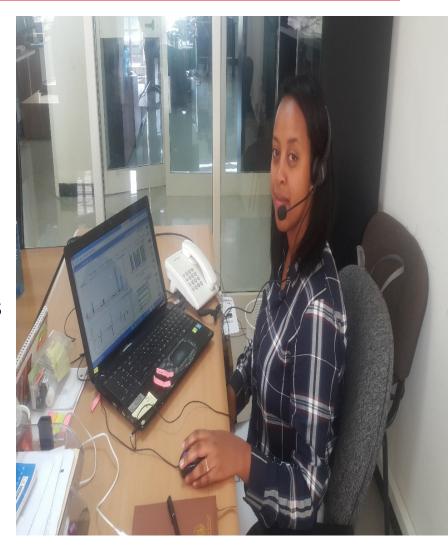


## Improve performance/output:

- Shorten
   requisition
   submission and
   fulfillment times,
- Reduce wastage
- Improve availability

- AIDSFree, ARRA, UNHCR and USAID collaborated to implement the system in 24 refugee camp health centers in the refugee camps.
- AIDSFree supported Dagu implementation, customization of the facility drug list, identifying of dispensing units, setting the minimum/maximum of dispensing units and health center training.
- After training, each facility received on-site support every two
  weeks for the first three months and every month thereafter for
  three months to ensure, ability to fully self-sustain system.

- In addition, the project provided remote support through call center (8773 )using toll-free line
  - 90% of challenges solved at the time of call
  - Reduced downtimes and saved costs
  - Categorize and prioritize challenges for future support

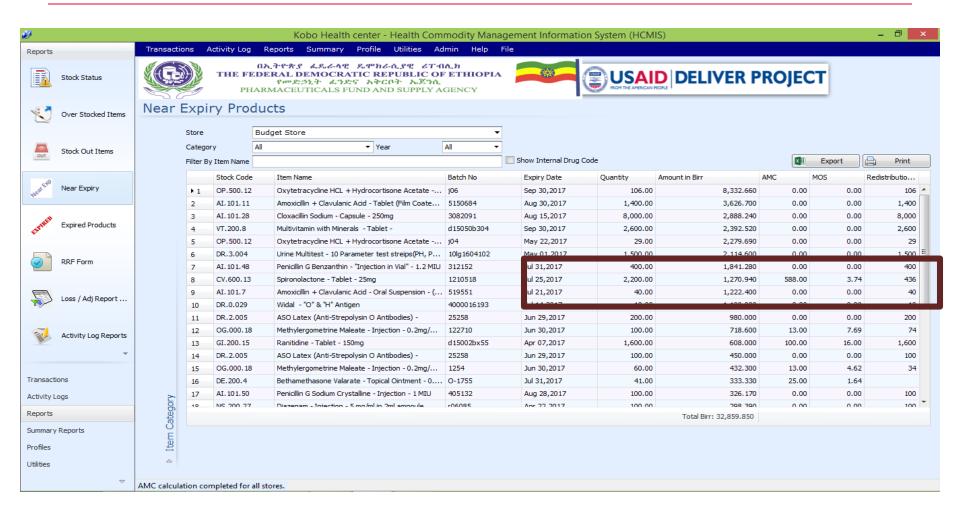


#### **Activities**

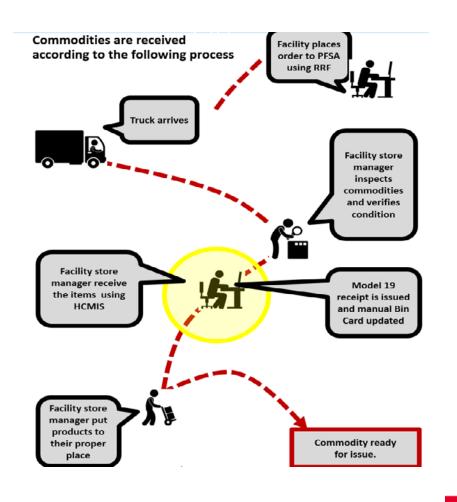
- Enhancing and customizing software product features as needed
- Improving order management systems
- Supporting the efforts to improve visibility for all priority commodities
- Internal business process optimization
- Enhancing use of system generated data for decision making

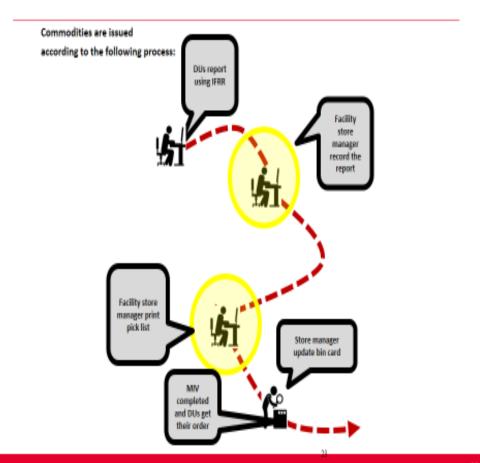
#### **Results**

- Customized tool and software solutions supporting facility's data needs to monitor and improve supply chain performance
- Requisition submission time went down from two days to an average of 90 minutes.
- Used the system to redistribute overstocked and near expiry items to other refugee camp health centers.



The system has helped a lot in streamlining the internal facility business processes as follows:





# PART 3 Result Summary

#### **Result Summary**

- The partners supported the training and intensive field level and remote telephone support to all 24 refugee camp health centers.
- Dagu is currently up and running in all the 24 refugee camp health centers, which are located all around Ethiopia.
  - Of those deployments, 11 facilities are using the system regularly, without any project support to assess stock levels and place necessary order to maintain continuous commodity availability.
- The near expiry and stock status report and decision support functionalities are among the most frequently used reports in all facilities

#### **Result Summary**

- The system has proven useful for resupply and regulatory bodies who constantly need to track pharmaceuticals throughout the entire supply chain from import to distribution.
- The same system with is now planned to be implemented at ARRA central warehouse to optimize warehouse operation and resupply.
- The refugee health centers are also using the system to redistribute overstocked and near expiry items to other refugee camp health centers.
- The trained store managers are now generating quality reports and requisition forms (RRF), a bimonthly report for resupply in an average of 90 minutes, as opposed to the two days it took them to do so manually.

# PART4 Conclusion

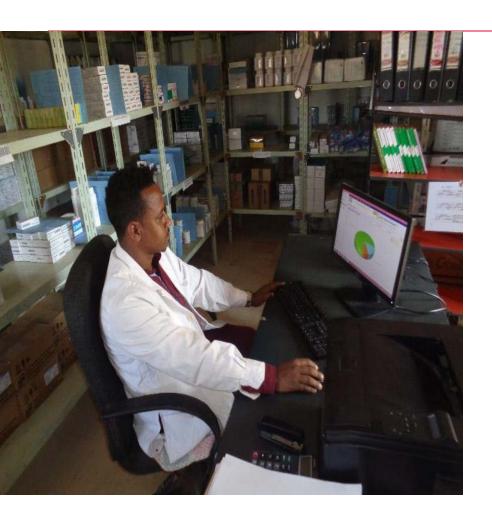
#### **Conclusion**

- With consistent use, Dagu is revolutionizing supply chain management at refugee camps by
  - Minimizing commodity shortages and overages,
  - o Improving stock management (maintaining inventory levels between minimum and maximum), and
  - o Increasing access to and accuracy of information for upstream resupply planning.
- These have contributed to improved health and well-being of refugees in the camps.

#### Conclusion

According to Berihu, store manager from one of the Health Centers,

- The system is helping a lot in saving time and manage work and clients properly.
- They can now easily know stock status and access to consumption reports easily.
- The system has also helped in redistributing overstocked and near expiry items to other refugee camp health centers.



"I can easily and quickly generate quality reports and requisition forms (RRF), a bimonthly report for PFSA to supply program items, and that used to take longer in the earlier manual system"

says Berihu, Store Manager from one of the Health Centers.

### **THANK YOU**