In January 2020, SAFEMed produced a mid-pilot report that provided an overview of SAFEMed’s public-private partnership (PPP) pilot, including progress to date, preliminary results, lessons learned, and recommendations.

SAFEMed’s PPP logistics pilot began in December 2019 as an attempt at tackling Ukraine’s HIV epidemic by improving distribution and warehousing of antiretroviral and tuberculosis (TB) commodities.

**PROMOTING THE USE OF NEW PROCUREMENT INSTRUMENTS BY UKRAINE’S CENTRAL PROCUREMENT AGENCY**

Effective 2020, the Central Procurement Agency (CPA), also known as Medical Procurement of Ukraine (MPU), will start procuring select medicinal products from 14 central programs using public funds on behalf of the Ministry of Health (MOH).

In addition, CPA may hold tenders on behalf of its clients (public hospitals and other health care facilities), set up long-term framework agreements, and administer content and manage the medical e-catalogue through Prozorro Market.

In January 2020, SAFEMed worked side by side with CPA experts to develop an instructional “videobite” that showcases how health care facilities can purchase medicines and medical goods among several suppliers in a very convenient way by using the e-catalogue. This easy-to-use instrument operates as an online store and allows for simple and speedy below-threshold purchases at the best price without the need for tender procedures, qualification of suppliers, or verification of reasonable pricing.

The medical e-catalogue is already available on the Prozorro Market platform. The video will be presented and disseminated by CPA during upcoming regional training and learning events. SAFEMed will continue to support CPA in the further development of centralized procurement of pharmaceuticals under the ongoing medical reform in Ukraine.

**EARLY LESSONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT IN LOGISTICS**

In January 2020, SAFEMed produced a mid-pilot report that provided an overview of SAFEMed’s public-private partnership (PPP) pilot, including progress to date, preliminary results, lessons learned, and recommendations.

SAFEMed’s PPP logistics pilot began in December 2019 as an attempt at tackling Ukraine’s HIV epidemic by improving distribution and warehousing of antiretroviral and tuberculosis (TB) commodities.
After three months of pilot implementation, SAFEMed recommends the following to maximize the benefits of private sector engagement in logistics for Odessa pilot and beyond in order to improve access to medicines:

- **Bundling** TB and HIV “last mile” deliveries with other medicinal products procured centrally with public MOH funds. These can include, but are not limited to, vaccines, medicines, and lab commodities from other central programs. Greater volume will incentivize private sector participation and result in greater savings for the MOH because of economies of scale;

- **Repurposing delivery trucks** to bring back lab samples to the Odesa Regional AIDS Center in an effort to expedite HIV and TB testing services for a small fee. Engaging private sector companies in integrated sample transport systems offers potential for savings and reductions in turnaround times;

- **Considering expansion of the pilot** with additional medicinal products, lab samples, and service delivery points, including primary health care facilities, as needed, to generate a more robust evidence base.

To further stimulate the interest of private logistics companies and to better control costs, SAFEMed also recommends utilizing a fixed fee instead of calculating a percentages of values.

---

**SAVE THE DATE: THE 2nd NATIONAL HTA FORUM IN APRIL**

SAFEMed continues providing technical assistance to the Ministry of Health with the institutionalization of the health technology assessment (HTA) in Ukraine. With support from the project, the MOH is planning to conduct 2nd National HTA Forum. The main purpose of the event is to:

- Discuss progress made with the establishment of the HTA ecosystem following HTA roadmap development;
- Identify gaps and create an action plan to further advance HTA function in Ukraine;
- Review latest HTA international best practices and assess their applicability for Ukrainian settings;
- Foster further cooperation among key HTA stakeholders.

National HTA Forum will take place in Kyiv on April 3, 2020 at the Premier Palace Hotel and will capitalize on key learning from the Regional HTAi Conference that will precede National Forum. Regional HTAi Conference entitled “Integrating HTA into healthcare reforms in emerging settings” will bring together the representatives of more than 20 countries to Kyiv on April 1-2, to discuss the following key subjects:

- Towards Universal Health Coverage, unique challenges for emerging settings;
- Challenges and opportunities in integrating HTA into successful health reforms;
- HTA for technology access decisions: how to support the development of benefit packages and procurement process;
- What should stakeholders expect from HTA: can we work together for an integrated efficient system?

---

**Stay Tuned for the Next Digest**