



A member of the Drugs and Supplies Unit of the NTP uses QuantTB to quantify the medicine and supply needs of the program, which will then be presented to the Drugs and Supplies Management Working Group

Building Leadership and Governance in Supply Chain Management for the National TB Control Program of the Philippines



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SIAPS
Systems for Improved Access
to Pharmaceuticals and Services

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The National TB Control Program (NTP) in the Philippines is continuously scaling up its operations in the diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis (TB) to achieve the results and deliverables described in the 2010–2016 Philippine Plan of Action to Control Tuberculosis.

Findings from the 2013 joint program review showed gaps in the supply management system of the TB program, including procurement, forecasting, storage capacity, and management practices.

To address the increased work load, supply chain activities, and identified gaps, the NTP recognized the need for a Drugs and Supplies Management Working Group, which was established in 2014. This group aims to discuss issues and challenges in the supply chain management of TB medicines and laboratory and other health-related supplies. It also helps to coordinate and strengthen NTP efforts to address challenges in medicine management.

Medicine supply chain management is complex and requires the coordination and collaboration of multiple stakeholders. Good governance requires appropriate structures, systems, regulations, and procedures to provide quality services and oversight. The ultimate purpose is to ensure that patients receive the right medicines at the right time.

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SIAPS ACTIVITIES

The US Agency for International Development-funded Systems for Improved Access to Pharmaceuticals and Services (SIAPS) Program is supporting the NTP in its effort to increase the capacity of various aspects of supply chain management, including leadership and governance. SIAPS supported the NTP in establishing the Drugs and Supplies Management Working Group by developing the terms of reference and facilitating regular meetings with partners and stakeholders. The purpose of the group is to:

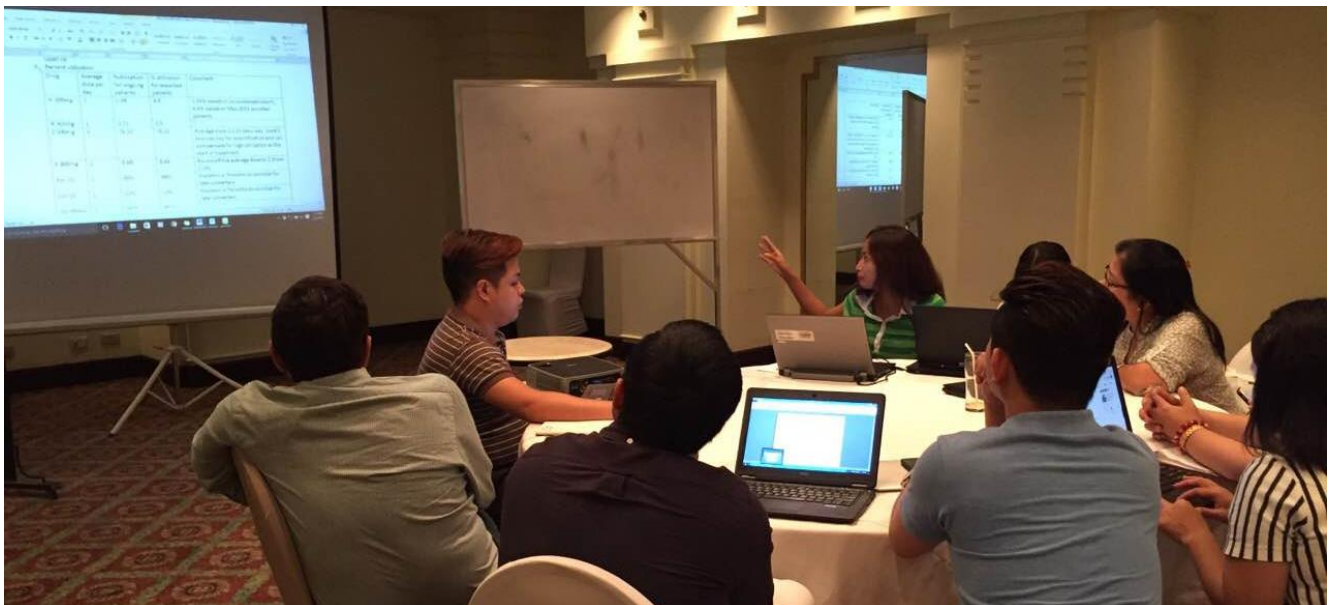
- Provide a platform to discuss, review, and validate decisions surrounding the management of TB medicines and laboratory and health-related commodities
- Ensure good governance, management, and adherence to treatment protocols
- Contribute to ensuring transparent and accountable medicine management services and systems

Table 1. Procurement Parameters Managed by the Drugs and Supplies Management Working Group

Parameters	2014	2015	2016
Total value of procurement	\$4,026,447	\$2,503,205	\$1,927,248
Number of accelerated deliveries	1	0	3
Number of accelerated orders	0	0	2

Note: All prices are in US dollars.

To strengthen the capacity of the working group, SIAPS provided an orientation on quantification and forecasting, including the use of QuanTB and other tools. SIAPS also provided technical assistance and mentoring on data quality reviews and actual forecasting and quantification.



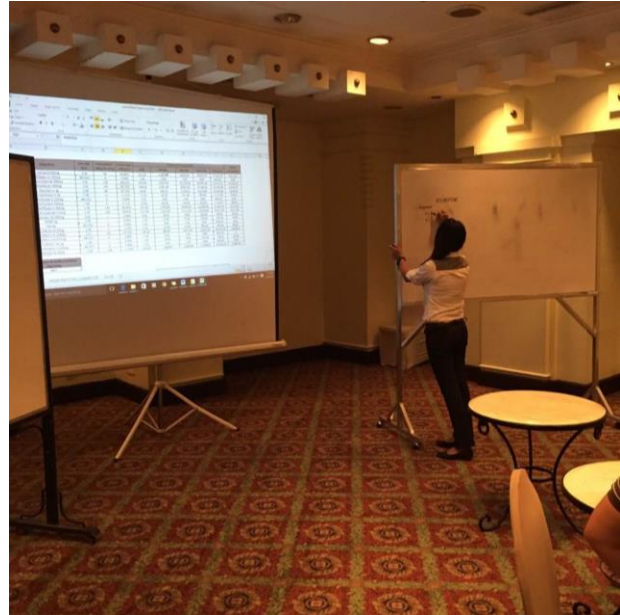
Sample presentation at the Results and Discussion Workshop with the Drugs and Supplies Management Working Group

RESULTS

Regular forecasting and quantification exercises and working group meetings helped the NTP ensure the uninterrupted supply of second-line TB medicines for programmatic management of drug-resistant TB and to address several issues related to the overall medicine and supply management.

Since the working group was established in 2014, it has:

- Approved six delivery plans and procurement orders to ensure a continuous supply of second-line TB medicines valued at approximately USD 8,456,900
- Accelerated four shipments and two procurement orders to prevent impending stock-outs
- Held or reduced deliveries to prevent overstock
- Averted wastage of medicines due to expiration by redistributing and donating stock
- Initiated the development of guidelines and job aids on proper waste management and laboratory supplies management
- Made programmatic decisions relevant to medicine use and supply, such as a memorandum on the use of capreomycin instead of kanamycin as the primary injectable agent during a global shortage
- Improved the capacity of members on data review and analysis for forecasting and quantification by mentoring staff and providing technical input during regular meetings



Sample presentation at the Results and Discussion Workshop with the Drugs and Supplies Management Working Group

CONCLUSION

By supporting the organization of the technical working group and building capacity at the central level, SIAPS has strengthened the TB program's leadership and governance in supply chain management. The NTP now oversees forecasting and quantification and manages the working group, while SIAPS provides technical assistance as needed. Significant improvements are attributed to the creation of the working group, and it is highly recommended that it be replicated at the regional level.

ABOUT SIAPS | The Systems for Improved Access to Pharmaceuticals and Services (SIAPS) program works to assure access to quality pharmaceutical products and effective pharmaceutical services through systems-strengthening approaches to achieve positive and lasting health outcomes. SIAPS is funded by the US Agency for International Development (USAID) and is implemented by Management Sciences for Health.

The information provided does not reflect or represent the position or views of the US Agency for International Development or the US Government.



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