



Ethiopia's Supply Chain Strengthening Project

Quarterly Newsletter

October - December 2025

US Department of State–MOH Partnership Advances USD 14 Million Pipeline of Lifesaving Malaria Commodities for 5.7 Million Ethiopians



EPSS warehouse where supplies are delivered

A strong partnership between the U.S. Department of State (DOS) and the Ethiopian Ministry of Health (MOH) resulted in major progress in securing essential malaria commodities during FY26 Q1 (October to December 2025). Working closely with MOH and the Global Health Supply Chain – Procurement and Supply Management (GHSC-PSM), the USG Supply Chain Strengthening Project (SCS) generated six Requisition Orders (ROs) valued at **USD 13.95 million**, strengthening national efforts to reduce malaria-related illness and death.

The ROs—fully aligned with approved supply plans and national program priorities—include artemether/lumefantrine, artesunate, chloroquine, rapid diagnostic tests, microscopes, and **1.8 million long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs)**. Once delivered, these commodities are expected to:

- **Protect 3.6 million people through LLIN distribution**
- **Treat more than 250,000 malaria cases, including severe disease**
- **Expand and strengthen diagnostic capacity in health facilities nationwide**

This joint effort underscores the strength of the US DOS–MOH partnership in building a reliable malaria commodity pipeline. By translating U.S. Government investments into timely actions, Ethiopia's health system is better equipped to prevent malaria outbreaks, respond rapidly, and protect millions of lives.

US DOS Delivers USD 3.42M US-Funded HIV, Malaria Commodities to MOH/EPSS



During FY26 Q1 (October – December 2025), the USG SCS Project, in partnership with Ethiopian Pharmaceutical Supply Service (EPSS) and Ethiopian Food and Drug Authority, cleared 35 U.S.-funded shipments and delivered to EPSS and Project HOPE/SCS warehouses.

These shipments included HIV rapid test kits, Viral Load (VL) and Early Infant Diagnosis (EID) commodities, as well as antimalarial commodities artesunate and chloroquine.

These lifesaving commodities help sustain uninterrupted HIV and malaria services for millions of Ethiopians. The commodities delivered to EPSS are distributed to public health facilities. Those commodities from the Project Hope/SCS warehouse are destined to community partners.

Lifesaving Medicines Reach Conflict Affected Facilities in Three Regions Through USG, MOH Collaboration



Trucks en route to conflict affected areas in Amhara region carrying life saving supplies

During October–December 2025, the USG SCS Project—working closely with EPSS, Regional Health Bureaus (RHBs), and humanitarian partners, such as the World Food Program, —delivered USD 8.7 million worth of commodities to health facilities in Amhara, Oromia, and Benishangul Gumuz region. These commodities covered HIV, TB, malaria, immunization and maternal, neonatal, and child health (MNCH) as well as other essential medicines.

These commodities were delivered to 978 health facilities and woreda health offices in conflict affected areas. These supplies are expected to enable:

- 111,532 HIV patients to receive one month of ART
- 125,180 individuals to access HIV testing
- 3,857 TB clients to receive complete treatment
- More than 799,000 adults and children to receive antimalarial treatment
- 107,047 pregnant women to receive iron-folic acid supplements
- 180,926 children to receive treatment for diarrhea using Zinc-ORS co packs



A truck loads medical supplies at an EPSS warehouse for delivery to North Shewa in Amhara

This coordinated effort helped maintain continuity of care and strengthened supply chain resilience in areas facing insecurity and service disruption.



Staff of Gash Meda Health Center receive supplies of life saving drugs delivered to the facility.

Mr. Chanie Admasie, Pharmaceutical Supply Officer at the Amhara RHB, highlighted the significance of the joint effort:

“In areas where roads were blocked and government vehicles were targeted, the SCS Project mobilized private transporters who could navigate the volatile environment. These deliveries went far beyond moving trucks and boxes—they restored hope and saved lives in communities struggling to survive. Supply chains are lifelines, and the people who keep them running are heroes.”

Moreover, SCS supported long haul transport of an additional USD 6.8 million in medicines from EPSS central warehouses in Addis Ababa to the Bahir Dar and Gondar EPSS hubs in Amhara region to stabilize availability in hard to reach areas. Twenty five trucks, 17 from SCS and eight (8) from the WFP led Logistics Cluster, were used for this transport.

EPSS Strengthens Procurement Capacity Through Comprehensive Training in Adama

EPSS, in collaboration with the USG SCS Project, delivered a four-day Comprehensive Pharmaceutical Procurement Training in Adama from December 4–7, 2025. The training strengthened the capacity of 27 staff from Market Shaping, Tender, Contract, and Demand Management directorates, equipping them with standardized, modern procurement practices.

Key Focus Areas of the training

- Tender: Stronger bid evaluation and risk control.
- Market Shaping: Improved supplier analysis and price benchmarking.
- Contract Management: Better contract drafting and oversight of service level agreement.
- Demand: More accurate forecasting aligned with supply realities.

The training addressed the full procurement cycle and key challenges such as long lead times, weak supplier performance monitoring, and gaps in modern procurement practices.

Measurable Results

- Average pre and post test scores rose from 63.9% to 83.8%.
- 94.1% of participants would recommend the training.

Leadership Emphasis

Solomon Nigussie, Deputy Director General of EPSS, highlighted the need for faster, more coordinated procurement execution supported by cross functional collaboration and better use of institutional knowledge.

“The same capacity we demonstrated during the Marburg vaccine procurement can support all procurements when we work together,” he said.



Participants from EPSS attending the four-day Comprehensive Pharmaceutical Procurement Training in Adama.

MOH Advances National Supply Chain Reform Through Launch of the NSCPSA



H.E. Firehiwot Abebe delivering closing remarks during the NSCPSA data collectors training in Adama, flanked by Prof Mirkuzie Woldie, project manager for the assessment (left), and Edmealem Ejigu, Chief of Party, USG SCS Project.

In PY2 Q1 (October – December), the Ministry of Health (MOH), supported by the USG SCS Project and partners, launched the National Supply Chain and Pharmacy Services Assessment (NSCPSA) to advance the national supply chain reform. The assessment process is guided by the National Coordinating Platform for Supply Chain Maturity and a technical working group (TWG), ensuring strong governance, alignment, and national ownership.

Key preparatory milestones for the assessment included engaging an independent assessment firm, adapting the NSCA 2.0 model to Ethiopia’s context, incorporating pharmacy service and emergency supply chain modules into the assessment, adding key performance indicators (KPIs), selecting tracer commodities, configuring SurveyCTO data collection tool and pilot testing.

“This is more than an assessment - it is a commitment to building a resilient supply chain that serves every Ethiopian. independent data-driven insights will guide us toward a stronger, equitable health system.”

H.E. State Minister of Health Frehiwot Abebe.

A sample of 554 facilities and administrative entities were selected as nationally representative for the assessment.

MOH, Maturity TWG, USG SCS, and Fenot Associates conducted intensive training in Adama for 54 data collectors and supervisors, ensuring readiness for high quality data collection.

H.E. Firehiwot Abebe, State Minister of Health, underscored the assessment’s importance as a country-led effort to strengthen system resilience and improve reliable access to essential health services.

Once completed, the NSCPSA will deliver Ethiopia’s first national baseline of supply chain and pharmacy service maturity, guiding multi-year performance improvement plans and investment decisions by the government and donors.

“This assessment will help institutionalize a culture of continuous measurement and improvement in supply chain management.

Edmealem Ejigu, Chief of Party, USG SCS Project

MOH, USG SCS Advance Institutionalization of Maturity Based Supportive Supervision



Participants of the national TST orientation and establishment workshop held in Adama, November–December 2025

During PY2 Q1, the MOH Pharmaceutical and Medical Devices Lead Executive Office (PMDLEO), with support from the USG SCS Project, advanced the institutionalization of Targeted Support Teams (TSTs) as part of Ethiopia’s maturity based supportive supervision system for supply chain and pharmacy services.

Two national TST orientation and establishment workshops were held in Adama from November 24–26 and November 30–December 2, 2025, bringing together 181 participants from 13 RHBs, 53 Zonal Health Departments, PMD LEO, federal hospitals, and SCS.

The workshops established 37 federal and regional TSTs, clarified roles, and strengthened skills in data driven supervision, coaching, problem solving, and team-based performance improvement. Each region and PMDLEO also developed implementation plans and supervision routes for 402 health facilities supported by the USG SCS Project.

Starting from December 2025, the TSTs started baseline assessment at RHBs, ZHDs, WoHOs, hospitals, and health centers.

TSTs: Coaching over Inspection

The Old Way (Before TSTs)	The New Way (With TSTs)
Fragmented: Inconsistent visits and schedules.	Standardized: A unified national model.
Inspection-Focused: Punitive and “policing” style.	Coaching-Oriented: Focused on mentoring and growth.
Confusion: Multiple tools and clashing check-lists.	Streamlined: Integrated, maturity-based tools.
Weak Accountability: Little to no follow-up.	Strong Results: Structured accountability and support.

To learn more,
scan the QR code



Ethiopia’s Supply Chain Strengthening Project Newsletter is a publication of the United States Government funded Supply Chain Strengthening Project (SCS). SCS aims to support Ethiopia’s efforts to develop a more mature and sustainable supply chain that ensures access to, and promote the rational use of quality-assured, safe, effective and affordable medicines. The Project is led by Management Sciences for Health in partnership with alignAfrica, U³ Ethiopia, Deloitte TZ, and Mezzanine. It aims to strengthen the country’s capacity to effectively manage supply chain services at all levels of the health system from the Ministry of Health to individual facilities and communities. Through this integrated approach, the Project will help develop a more mature, integrated, sustainable supply chain that can provide consistent access to health products and pharmaceutical services to improve health outcomes for all Ethiopians and reach the national goal of achieving universal health coverage by 2030.

For comments or suggestions write to:
Ayenew Haileselassie, Communications and Knowledge Management Manager
ahaileselassie@msh.org

**USG Supply Chain Strengthening Project
Management Sciences for Health
Jomo Kenyatta St, Around Hayahulet
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

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