



Summary Report of First Public Health Supply Chain Management Short Certificate Course

**With the Technical Assistance of
USAID Global Health Supply Chain
Procurement & Supply Management Program**

I. Overview of UHS and USAID GHSC-PSM Program Collaboration

University of Health Sciences is a non-profit public-sector university located in Lahore, Pakistan. It offers both graduate and undergraduate programs in the field of health sciences. Recently, in collaboration with the USAID GHSC-PSM Project, UHS Lahore launched a Short Certificate course on Supply Chain Management (SCM) of Health Commodities. This course is primarily designed to train Government and Non-Government Officials who are already working on SCM in their relevant fields. The aim of this course is to enhance the skill set and build competencies of the workforce, in order to cope up with the growing demands of the public health supply chain domain.

UHS and GHSC-PSM's collaboration process dates back to May 2017, during when a series of consultative and advocacy meetings were conducted with the Vice Chancellor of University of Health Sciences, the Director Monitoring and Evaluation USAID GHSC-PSM program, the Provincial Minister for Special Education and Tertiary Health Care, and the Government of Punjab. During these consultative meetings, a consensus emerged which proposed that UHS may initiate a short SCM course for enhancing the workforce capacity of public and private sector organizations, and USAID would facilitate them by providing technical support. This would not only lead towards the strengthening of the workforce but also the sustainability of the Public Health Supply Chain in Pakistan.

2. LOU Background

On July 12, 2017, the University of Health Sciences (UHS) with GHSC-PSM's support, conducted a National Symposium on the introduction of a 3-Credit Supply Chain Management (SCM) course to the wider academic and public health community at UHS, Lahore. The symposium, under the chairmanship of the Punjab Health Minister for Specialized Healthcare and Medical Education, was attended by the Federal Secretary of the Ministry of Health Services, Regulations and Coordination, the Provincial Secretary of the Punjab Population Welfare Department, the Vice Chancellor of UHS, UHS faculty members and course participants, representatives from affiliated medical colleges, vice chancellors of other universities, and officials from the Punjab government's Departments of Health and Population Welfare.

A Letter of Understanding (LoU) was also signed between UHS and the GHSC-PSM Project during the event, with the SCM curriculum handed over to UHS's Department of Public Health by the USAID GHSC-PSM team. Training of Trainers (ToT) was also conducted by the GHSC-PSM team for UHS faculty, in order to enable them to independently implement the three-credit course, as well as short courses. Moreover, UHS and GHSC-PSM have also agreed to further continue their collaboration to develop supply chain and degree courses (Master's and PhD) over two to three years. GHSC-PSM plans to replicate similar initiatives in other provinces as well.

3. Overview of First Certificate Course Preparation

The course outline, handouts and presentation slides were prepared in consultation with UHS faculty and with USAID GHSC-PSM's technical assistance. The course outline covered the overall public health supply chain management content that would be delivered during the SCM course.

4. Background of Participants

Most of the participants who attended the training course were from public and private sector supply chain institutions, including the Punjab Department of Health, Green Star Social Marketing, Rural Support Program Network, as well as participants from academia.

5. Overall Course Schedule

The overall schedule of course was designed in chronological order in order to accurately convey the fundamentals of logistics management and the relationship between supply chain logistics and commodity security to participants. Day 1 comprised of an introduction to the Course, Commodity Security, Introduction to Health Logistics Systems, as well as Logistics Management Information Systems.

Day 2 included topics such as Health Commodity Storage & Distribution, Assessing Stock Status and Maximum-Minimum Inventory Control Systems; while Day 3 covered Mid-Course Evaluation, Assessing Stock Status at Any Level, Analysis of LMIS Data, Assessing Logistics Systems, and Quantification of Health Commodities.

Day 4's sessions comprised of Procurement, Introduction to Cold Chain, Monitoring & Evaluation, and Commodity Security Vignettes and Review of Commodity Security. The final Day 5 included a Site Visit and Course Conclusion, including final assignments and certificate distribution ceremony.

6. Participants Feedback

The participants deemed the training session to be appropriate, well-rounded and intensive and instilled them with elementary and core concepts relating to Supply Chain of health commodities. A majority of participants indicated that the course was imparted in a clear and concise manner, and that course duration and location were also appropriate. Participants indicated that the course imparted them with concepts that are essential to managing an effective, efficient, and robust Supply Chain for health commodities, and would also help them improve future supply chain practices.

7. Event Photographs



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