

Regional Global
Fund Meeting,
Dakar:

Trip Report

Management Sciences for Health
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Jane Briggs

June 2005

Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus Regional Global Fund Meeting, Dakar: Trip Report

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June, 2005

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About RPM Plus

The Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus (RPM Plus) Program, funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (cooperative agreement HRN-A-00-00-00016-00), works in more than 20 developing countries to provide technical assistance to strengthen drug and health commodity management systems. The program offers technical guidance and assists in strategy development and program implementation both in improving the availability of health commodities—pharmaceuticals, vaccines, supplies, and basic medical equipment—of assured quality for maternal and child health, HIV/AIDS, infectious diseases, and family planning and in promoting the appropriate use of health commodities in the public and private sectors.

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Abstract

RPM Plus participated in a West Africa regional meeting for CCMs and PRs organized by the GFATM. Information was presented on the areas of TA that could be provided by RPM Plus to countries in pharmaceutical management of HIV, TB and malaria and on difficulties that the countries had encountered. Potential solutions for these countries and TA needs were discussed during the meeting.

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Key Words

Global Fund, Senegal, Country Coordinating Mechanisms (CCM)

Contents

Acronyms	v
Background	1
Purpose of Trip	1
Scope of Work	1
Activities	3
Collaborators and Partners	5
Adjustments to Planned Activities and/or Additional Activities	6
Next Steps	7
Immediate Follow-up Activities	7
Annex 1	9

Acronyms

AMDS	Aids Medicines and Diagnostic Services
ARV	Antiretroviral drug
AWARE	Action for West Africa
CAR	Central African Republic
CCM	Country Coordinating Mechanisms
CESAG	Centre Africain d'études supérieures en gestion
DPL	Direction de Pharmacie et laboratoire
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
ESTHER	Ensemble pour un Solidarité Thérapeutique Hospitalière en Réseau
FHI	Family Health International
GFATM	Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and malaria
GTZ	Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit
IRIN	Integrated Regional Information Networks
JSI	John Snow Inc.
MoH	Ministry of Health
MSH	Management Sciences for Health
PR	Principal Recipient
PSI	Population Services International
PSM	Procurement supply management
RBM	Roll Back Malaria
RPM Plus	Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus
TA	Technical assistance
TRIPS	Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WARP	West Africa Regional Program
WHO	World Health Organization

Background

RPM Plus's main objective is to improve the availability of quality pharmaceuticals, vaccines, supplies and equipment and to promote the appropriate use of these health commodities in both the public and private sectors. USAID/WARP has requested assistance from the Management Sciences for Health (MSH), Rational Pharmaceutical Management Plus (RPM Plus) Program in assessing and strengthening pharmaceutical management systems in support of HIV/AIDS programs within West African, in collaboration with the Action for West Africa (AWARE) – HIV/AIDS project, which is managed by Family Health International (FHI).

The Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) convened a sub regional workshop for 11 countries in Dakar, Senegal, with representatives of Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM) and Principal Recipients (PR).

The workshop aimed to accelerate the implementation process of programs with an emphasis on:

- Clarifying roles and responsibilities of the different partners and stakeholders involved at country level
- Discussing constraints or issues related to Procurement, Monitoring and Evaluation, and Technical Assistance

RPM Plus, at the request of USAID, was among the presenting organizations in the panel discussions on technical assistance for the procurement and supply management of GFATM programs.

Purpose of Trip

Jane Briggs traveled to Dakar, Senegal on 23 June 2005 to represent RPM Plus at the GFATM West and Central Africa workshop held on June 28-30, 2005.

Scope of Work

1. Brief and debrief with the Mission upon request
2. Participate in the GFATM workshop, specifically, in panel discussions and provide technical support in pharmaceutical management to USAID/WARP and AWARE-HIV.

Activities

Participate in the GFATM workshop, specifically, in panel discussions and provide technical support in pharmaceutical management to USAID/WARP and AWARE-HIV

The workshop on 28-30 June 2005 was attended by over one hundred participants including representatives of the CCMs and partners from Benin, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Ivory Coast, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Mali, Senegal, Togo; staff of the GFATM; and other partners from WHO, RBM, UNICEF, UNAIDS, UNDP, USAID, French Cooperation, GTZ, PSI, KPMG, Price Waterhouse Coopers and the Swiss Tropical Institute.

The aim of the workshop was to strengthen the capacity of the Country Coordinating Mechanisms (CCMs) and to speed up implementation of programs funded by the GFATM. The agenda over 3 days consisted of plenary sessions and working groups, with presentations by GFATM staff during the first day opening sessions. Themes included GFATM policies, representation and participation in the CCMs and the role of CCMs in program implementation, partnership and technical assistance with presentations from:

- ESTHER (Ensemble pour un Solidarité Thérapeutique Hospitalière en Réseau).
- GTZ
- IRIN
- RBM
- UNAIDS
- UNDP
- UNICEF
- USAID
- WHO

On the final day, three parallel clinical sessions were held on:

- Procurement and supply management
- Financial management of programs
- Monitoring and evaluation

The session on procurement and supply management was facilitated by Paul Dowling (JSI DELIVER), Françoise Renaud Théry (AMDS, WHO, Geneva), Thomas Lapnet-Moustapha (WHO AFRO), Jane Briggs (MSH, RPM Plus) and James Browder (USAID West Africa).

Countries participating in the session included: Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Togo, Mali, RCA, Gabon, DRC, Senegal, Côte d'Ivoire and Benin.

The objectives of the session were to identify the difficulties in the procurement and supply management of medicines in the programs funded by GFATM of those countries present in the session and also to discuss technical solutions and requirements for TA.

As an introduction, the steps of pharmaceutical management cycle were presented to guide discussions. These included:

- Pharmaceutical policy
- Selection
- Quantification
- Procurement
- Stock management and distribution
- Quality assurance
- Rational use

Jane Briggs then presented areas where MSH/RPM Plus could provide TA in the domains of HIV, TB and malaria, specifically mentioning the following areas:

- Drug management information systems
- Standard operating procedures
- Quantification and procurement assistance
- Distributions systems
- Store management (including training and software)
- Rational use of medicines (e.g.: drug and therapeutics committees, standard treatment guidelines, patient information, prepackaging)
- Pharmacovigilance
- Policy issues related to registration and treatment policy change
- Evaluations including aspects of lab activities
- Commodity tracking
- Specifics to GFATM proposals in partnership:
 - Proposal writing
 - Reprogramming
 - Needs assessment
 - PSM plans
 - Implementations plans

Difficulties encountered by countries in procurement and supply management:

The countries participating in the session expressed these main difficulties:

- The need to work on storage conditions and capacity to make them conform to what is needed for ARVs for example (Guinée -Bissau)
- Delays in procurements of medicines between 6 to 9 months, which then caused delays in implementing the program (Guinea, CAR, Mali)
- Access to information on price and quality of drugs and ways to assure the quality of drugs in the whole distribution chain.
- The mistrust of the quality of generic ARVs by prescribers (Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal)
- The need to define conditions for the purchasing plan and storage in Mali
- The need to exchange information between countries on prices and quality control in order to reduce the length of purchase and planning procedures
- Scarcity of certain drugs on a global level (Malaria, HIV) (all countries)
- The lack of comprehension on the impact of the TRIPS agreement on the purchase of medicines (Gabon)

- The differences between the conditions of the short term budget planning of the GFATM programs and the actual time for implementation of programs. Delays in procurement were again cited as causing delays of several months in implementation (all countries).
- The lack of information shared by the GFATM on PSM plans developed by different countries. This would facilitate development of new plans.
- The lack of information shared on stock levels of certain medicines between countries. This would allow use of over stocked medicines and would help to avoid stock outs.

Solutions and requirements for technical assistance.

- Facilitate access to strategic information in countries (website AMDS with information on prices, patents, registration, procurement delays etc.)
- Encourage the participation in the CCM of national and regional experts (using the regional networks that exist) and of partners in procurement supply management
- Integrate strengthening structures and national procurement and supply management capacity into planning and/or reprogramming
- Include a budget for logistics and staff in GFATM proposals
- Assure distribution of medicines to peripheral levels to avoid stock outs
- Focus on quantification of medicines and materials
- Encourage national coordination of partners involved in procurement and supply management
- Request technical assistance on specific issues such as procurement, intellectual property rights, quantification, storage conditions and distribution
- Use the results of pharmaceutical sector assessment, which was conducted by GFATM and other partners, to identify strengths and weaknesses and to develop specific proposals for TA needs

Collaborators and Partners

Jamie Browder, USAID/WARP/HIV/AIDS, Ghana
 Fatimata SY, AWARE/HIV/AIDS, Ghana
 Jeanne Rideout, AWARE/RH
 Paul Dowling, JSI Arlington
 Francoise Renaud Théry, AMDS, WHO, Geneva
 Thomas Lapnet-Moustapha, WHO AFRO
 Marcel Braun, Swiss Tropical Institute
 Ian Hopwood, UNICEF
 Tom Hurley, UNDP
 Lori Lee, UNDP

GFATM portfolio managers:

Mabingue Ngom (Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Togo)
 Mark Willis (Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Liberia, Nigeria)
 Hans Zweschper (DRC, Gambia, Sierra Leone)
 Blerta Maliqi (CAR, Ghana, Sao Tome & Principe)
 Cyrille Dubois (Benin, Guinea Bissau, Mali)

Marguerite Samba-Maliavo (Burkina Faso, Guinea Conakry, Senegal)

Adjustments to Planned Activities and/or Additional Activities

The Mission decided that a briefing and a debriefing for USAID Senegal about the workshop was not necessary as Rama Dioume of USAID participated in the workshop and was not possible to coordinate a meeting.

A side meeting was held between UNDP, James Browder of USAID West Africa, Paul Dowling (JSI) and Jane Briggs to discuss how MSH and JSI could support UNDP in countries where they are principal recipients (PR) of GFATM money. Areas of technical assistance provided by both MSH and JSI were discussed, as well as potential funding mechanisms (e.g.: reprogramming of grant to purchase TA). The importance of strengthening regional institutions was also discussed (e.g.: CESAG in Senegal). No next steps were determined; the meeting was a useful exchange of information for further follow-up between organizations as necessary.

As this meeting was in Senegal, Jane Briggs took advantage of the time to move forward with some other activities in Senegal. These activities included:

- A discussion of the results of the HIV, TB and malaria survey with the survey team and planning of the results dissemination. First drafts of the handout documents, slides and working group themes were produced and discussed. Dates were fixed for the workshop also.
- The training of private pharmacy counter assistants was discussed. A meeting was held with the syndicate of private pharmacists and the DPL to plan as well as to establish a supervisory mechanism. The DPL will provide certificates of participation while the supervision will be conducted by the regional syndicate bodies. Initial funding for the supervision will be through RPM. The syndicate and DPL will work to find alternative funding sources to continue the activity.
- A meeting was held in MSH to discuss potential mechanisms for supervision of public health facilities and collaboration between MSH and RPM Plus. The formative supervision, conducted by MSH on an annual basis, is not a substitute for regular supervision and monitoring, and it should be of an integrative nature. The importance of including pharmaceutical management components was emphasized. It was agreed to discuss with the DSSP and other sections of the MoH how to re-dynamise regular supervision at district level, possibly linking it with the accreditation scheme. Some form of a checklist, adapted from the formative supervision, could be used with rotating monthly themes.
- The issue of integrating contraceptive supplies into the regular pharmaceutical distribution system was raised. The protocol for the planned evaluation by MSH of the contraceptive distribution was shared with RPM Plus for review.

Next Steps

Immediate Follow-up Activities

RPM Plus will organize and participate in the French-speaking GFATM PSM workshop to be held in Dakar.

Follow- up with UNDP to see what TA could be provided by MSH/RPM Plus and in which countries.

Annex 1.

Atelier Sous-Regional pour le Renforcement des Capacités des Instances de Coordination Nationale (CCM) et l'Accélération des Programmes Financés par le Fonds Mondial 28 – 30 Juin 2005, Novotel – Dakar (Sénégal)

Projet de Programme

Lundi, 27 Juin

- 19.00 – 19.30 : Mot de bienvenue du Fonds Mondial & Ouverture par le pays hôte
Présentation des Participants
- 19.30 – 21.30 : Cocktail de Bienvenue offert par le pays hôte

Mardi, 28 Juin

Jour 1 - Rapporteurs : Cyrille Dubois / Mark Willis

08.00 – 08.30 : **Inscription des participants**

Président de Séance : Ministre de la Santé Publique du Sénégal

8.30 -8.45 Introduction, Méthodologie et Objectifs de l'Atelier
Mabingue Ngom / Doris D'Cruz Grote – Fonds Mondial

08.45 – 09.45 : **Session 1 : Quelques rappels sur les politiques du Fonds Mondial**

Présentation 1 : Fonds mondial: Rappel des principes et Récents développements
Mabingue Ngom, Chef Division Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre – Fonds Mondial

Présentation 2 : Rôle des CCMs durant les différentes étapes du cycle du Programme
Doris D'Cruz Grote, Coordinateur CCM – Fonds Mondial

Discussions

09.45 – 10.15 : **Pause-café**

Président de Séance : Dr. Meskerem Gruniztky Bekele - Directeur, ONUSIDA Equipe Régionale d'appui pour l'Afrique de l'Ouest et du Centre

10.15– 11.15 : **Session 2 : Représentation et participation des constituants/membres au sein des CCMs, ainsi que leur rôle dans la mise en oeuvre des programmes**

Présentation 1 : Processus de sélection/élection des membres du CCM incluant des Représentants résidant en dehors des capitales : Expérience du Mali

Présentation 2 : Processus de Participation de la Société Civile et du Secteur Privé au sein du CCM et pendant la mise en oeuvre : Expérience du Togo

Présentation 3 : Processus de Participation des personnes vivant avec la maladie au sein du CCM : Expérience de la Cote d'Ivoire

11.15 – 12.45 : **Travaux en groupe**

12.45 – 13.45 : **Déjeuner**

Président de Séance : *Ministre de la Santé Publique de la Cote d'Ivoire*

13.45 – 14.45 : **Restitution en Plénière**

Session 3 :

14.45 - 15.15 **Présentation 1** : Développement des propositions y compris sélection du Bénéficiaire Principal et du Sous Bénéficiaire : Expérience du Sénégal

Présentation 2 : Supervision de la mise en œuvre : Expérience de la Centrafrique

15.15 -15.30 **Pause – café**

15.30 – 17.00 : **Travaux en groupe**

Président de Séance : *Dr. Magda R. Coerreia e Silva, Conseiller Regional, Contrôle du Malaria – Bureau OMS régional*

17.00 – 18.00 : **Restitution en Plénière**

18.00 – 18.30 : **Rencontre entre Gestionnaires Portefeuilles et délégations des pays**

Mercredi 29 Juin

Jour 2 - Rapporteurs : *Nathalie le Guillouzic Zorzi / Marguerite Samba-Maliavo*

Président de Séance : *M. Fodé Drame, Président du CCM, Guinée Conakry*

09.00 – 09.30 : **Session 4 : Phase 2**

Présentation 1 : Rôle du CCM dans le passage à la Phase 2 : Expérience du Congo

Présentation 2: Rôle du CCM dans le passage à la Phase 2 : Expérience du Bénin

09.30 – 11.00 : **Travaux en groupe**

11.00 – 11.15: **Pause - café**

11.15 – 12.30 : **Restitution en Plénière**

12.30 – 14.00 : **Déjeuner**

Président de Séance : *Dr Awa Marie Coll-Seck, Secrétaire Exécutif, RBM*

14.00 – 15.00 : **Session 5:**

Partenariat et Assistance Technique : Initiatives pour l'accélération des programmes : Présentations et discussions en panel :

**ESTHER/Bénin – Présentation
GTZ Back-UP**

RBM
UNAIDS/Présentation
UNDP/Gabon – Présentation
USAID
WHO/Présentation

14.45 – 16.00 : **Travaux en groupe**

16.00 – 16.30 : **Pause – café**

Président de Séance : *Dr.Paboung Yankalbe, représentant de l’OMS au Sénégal*

16.30 – 18.00 : **Restitution en Plénière**

18.00 – 18.30 : **Rencontre entre Gestionnaires Portefeuilles et Délégation Pays**

19.00 : **Cocktail offert par « Ensemble pour une Solidarité Thérapeutique Hospitalière en Réseau » (ESTHER)**

Jeudi 30 Juin

Jour 3 - Rapporteurs : *Marquerite Samba-Maliavo / Blerta Maliqi*

08.30 – 10.30 : **Session 6 : Sessions Cliniques**
Les approvisionnements /P. Dowling/USAID & J. Briggs/USAID & F. Renaud-Thery /WHO
Le Suivi et l’Evaluation / Nathalie le Guillouzic Zorzi, Conseiller en Suivi & Evaluation/TGF
La Gestion Financière des programmes / Eric Boa/PWC & Mabingue Ngom/TGF

10.30 – 11.00 : **Pause - café**

11.00 – 13.00 : **Session 7: Développement de plans d’actions par les pays**

Travaux en groupe (par pays)

13.00 – 14.30 : **Déjeuner**

14.30 – 15.45: **Travaux en groupe - suite**

15.45 – 16.00: **Pause – café**

Président de Séance : *Alberic Kacou, Representant Resident, PNUD*

16.00 – 17.30: **Restitution en Session Plénière**

Président de Séance : *Dr Catherine Bonnaud – Chargée de mission pour la lutte contre le Sida
Coopération Française*

17.30 – 18.30 **Conclusions et clôture**

18.30 – 19.00 **Rencontre entre Gestionnaires Portefeuilles et Délégation Pays**