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BEFORE & AFTER

Solving Storage Challenges in Amhara Region

Ethiopian zonal warehouse dejunking in Woldiya adds storage space, solves critical electrical and moisture problems, and supports solid inventory management practices.

Located 520 km northwest of Addis Ababa in North Wollo zone, Woldiya is supplied by five zonal warehouses:

- *two warehouses store drugs and related health commodities (e.g., syringes)*
- *two warehouses store light and large medical equipment and supplies*
- *one cold chain warehouse stores different drugs.*

This publication was produced for review by the U.S. Agency for International Development. It was prepared by the USAID | DELIVER PROJECT, Task Order 1.

U.S. Agency for International Development
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Photo: Negash Milky, warehouse and distribution specialist

BEFORE Haphazard, littered storage conditions made tracking and moving health commodities very difficult; the result—damaged and expired products. Untrained workers struggled to manage storage and inventory. Products that expired in 2003 were mixed in with usable key commodities. Electrical power problems in cold storage damaged valuable equipment. Water drainage was inadequate. To improve conditions, the zonal health bureau asked the USAID | DELIVER PROJECT for help with a dejunking.



Photo: Negash Milky, warehouse and distribution specialist

AFTER After 15 days of dejunking, including three disposal days, ample storage is now available, including aisles and spaces between stacks and walls. In all, workers disposed of 116 types of expired and damaged health commodities. Water drainage was enhanced when areas outside the warehouse were cleaned. A new power line in cold storage, including backup devices, now protects the equipment. Reorganized stock ensures the quick identification of products. The dejunking also laid a solid base for logistics data collection. Prior logistics information was of little use in decision making. Costing no more than U.S.\$2,000, high-impact improvements were made, including identification and removal of damaged and expired commodities. To help the zonal health bureau maintain the new system, the project provided warehouse equipment—pallets, aluminum ladders, manual trolleys, and ventilators.

The authors' views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

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