



TRANSFORMING SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT FOR HIV/AIDS

THE SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT (SCM) PROJECT

India's goals for HIV/AIDS epidemic control are aligned with the UNAIDS target framework (90% of people living with HIV know their status, 90% of people who know their status are on treatment and 90% of people on treatment have suppressed viral loads). The National AIDS Control Organisation (NACO) had initiated the SCM Project under the Global Fund grants to overcome the various SCM operational challenges and has outsourced the project through Plan International (India) to improve the availability of HIV/AIDS commodities all the way down to the health facility level.

Plan International (India) works closely with NACO and State AIDS Control Societies (SACS). SCM Project is oriented to the National AIDS Control Programme (NACP IV) for prevention and control of HIV/AIDS in the country. The Project was initiated in December 2018 in high burden states and is being implemented PAN India with the support of TCI Express and JSI R&T India Foundation.

The project effectively:

- Supports and strengthens NACO and SACS supply chain management
- Designs and manages effective access to high-quality ARVs and HIV test kits across India
- Ensures uninterrupted supply of medicines for a healthier future of patients



OBJECTIVES



SCM OPERATIONS

To implement and manage 3PL services to improve the delivery of ARV drugs and HIV test kits across the country.



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

To review and redesign the Standard Operating Procedures for NACO commodities and provide support for their quantification and pipeline visibility.



eLMIS SYSTEM

To strengthen the supply chain reporting and IMS usage to improve the visibility.



CAPACITY BUILDING

To build the supply chain skills of NACO and SACS staff through various TOT workshop.

- Improved delivery of ARV drugs and HIV test kits for the last mile.
- Prevented stock out of ARV drugs through emergency relocation between facilities and states.

- Developed Standard Operating Procedures for HIV/AIDS.
- Strengthened the system and processes to improve the quality of care and cost effectiveness.
- Improved quantification system for ARV drugs and HIV test kits.
- Provided PSM technical assistance to NACO, SACS and health facilities.

- Strengthened data visibility at national and state level for informed decision.
- Developed inventory management system for ARV drugs and HIV test kits.

- Built the capacity of SACS staff on supply chain management through various workshops.
- Developed strong coordination mechanism at national and state level through regional support.

OUTCOMES



Procurement Agent



CMSS Warehouse



SACS Warehouse/
SACS WIC



ARTC/
DAPCU/ICTC



SUCCESS STORIES

1 | SCM Project achieves more than 95% on-time delivery rate with 99% delivered in full

The SCM Project faced critical challenges in the early phases of its implementation, however, Plan India worked closely with 3PL provider and overcame these challenges. The project went on to exceed the targeted on-time delivery rate of 80% for ARV drugs and HIV test kits and reached over 95% on-time delivery rate by December 2019. Another highlight was achieving 99.99% of deliveries in full for all products. The on-time delivery and delivery in full are the most important metrics used by the SCM Project to measure 3PL performance. Accurate and timely delivery of HIV/AIDS commodities to all facilities are critical to ensure optimum stock and patient care. As observed in SACS Maharashtra, there was 78% reduction in the lead time which is shown in the table below. These factors bring significant cost efficiency and will continue to do so in the coming months. The overall project objective of maintaining a robust NACO health supply chain is met by ensuring that more people receive the HIV/AIDS commodities whenever and wherever they need them.

	Approval Process	Intimation to Transporter	Delivery Time	Overall Timelines
Before	15 days	08 days	35 days	58 days
	93% Reduction	88% Reduction	69% Reduction	78% Reduction
After	01 days	01 days	11 days	13 days

2 | Ensuring quality and standard storage practices for ARV drugs and HIV test kits

Proper storage conditions are vital to maintaining the quality of life-saving HIV/AIDS commodities. Storing and distribution of commodities demands a well-designed physical infrastructure and enabled human resources. SACS oversees the storage and distribution of commodities at all stages from receiving and delivering to the disposal of obsolete products. The SACS were faced with deteriorating condition of the warehouse infrastructure, putting at risk the quality of health commodities and thus the lives of patients who would use them. The SCM Project responded to the request of the SACS and conducted a survey to identify bottlenecks and problems that needed to be addressed.

The Project responded by conducting a thorough study of the commodities management practices and storage conditions in SACS warehouses. The results of the survey included the recommendation of a comprehensive package of measures required to bring these storage facilities up to date. The measures comprised designing storage facilities, renovating warehouses and procuring quality equipment for special storage conditions. It also included building the capacities of personnel receiving, arranging, managing stock and delivering the commodities to patients besides improving their workplace safety.

TESTIMONIALS

“ARV drugs/ICTC kits supply became on time and easier with SCM Project. The supply chain system became active and under one protocol. It is now more effective and easier for relocation between SACS, preventing stock-out situations.”

Ankan Saha, Store Officer, WBSAP&CS

“The SCM project does a really good job. It has made easier and efficient supply chain of ARV drugs and HIV test kits by maintaining good quality during transportation.”

Mithilesh Kumar Pandey, Assistant Director-ICTC cum Incharge Store, Bihar State AIDS Control Society

“During winters, it was always a challenge to get the supply of ARV drugs and HIV test kits as the region remains cut off from the rest of the state for 4 to 5 months due to heavy snowfall. We are thankful to the SCM Project, jointly run by Plan India and NACO, which has ensured uninterrupted supply of drugs to the patients.”

Stanzin Dolma, Counsellor ICTC/LAC, SNM hospital, Leh Ladakh

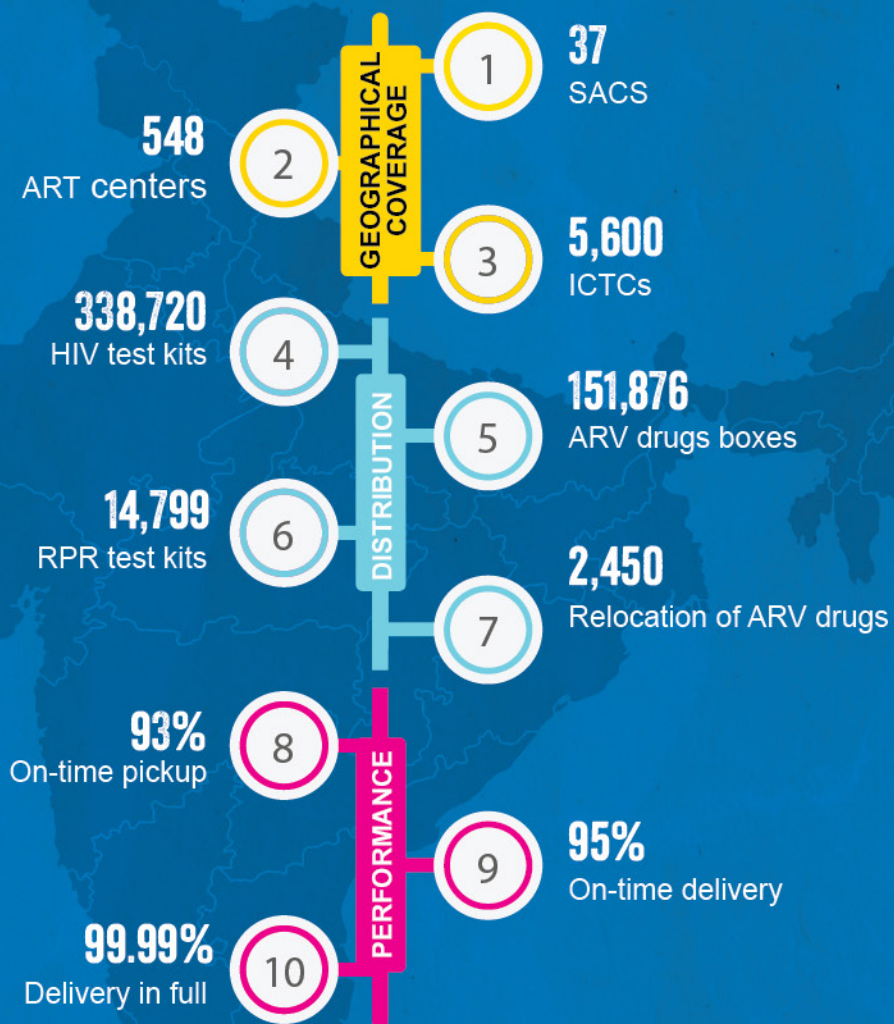
*ARTC - Antiretroviral Treatment Centre

*CMSS - Central Medical Services Society

*DAPCU - District AIDS Prevention and Control Unit

*eLMIS - Electronics Logistics Management Information System

HIGHLIGHTS



*ICTC - Integrated Counselling and Testing Centre
*RPR - Rapid Plasma Reagin

ABOUT PLAN INDIA

Plan India is a nationally registered not for profit organisation striving to advance children's rights and equality for girls, thus creating a lasting impact in the lives of vulnerable and excluded children and their communities.

Since 1979, Plan India and its partners have improved the lives of millions of children and young people by enabling them access to protection, quality education and healthcare services, a healthy environment, livelihood opportunities and participation in decisions which affect their lives.

Plan India is a member of the Plan International Federation, an independent development and humanitarian organisation that advances children's rights and equality for girls. Plan International is active in more than 70 countries.



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