



**THE UNFPA SUPPLIES COMPACT OF COMMITMENT**  
**Sustainable financing for SRH commodities in Zambia**



# About Zambia



Zambia's estimated total contraceptive prevalence rate (modern methods) is 36 percent and for women who are married or in union it is estimated at 51 percent. Unmet need for family planning among married women is estimated at 18 percent. Unmet need for family planning remains high especially among women and young people in the lowest income quintile in rural areas.

Adolescent fertility rate is among the highest in the Sub Saharan Africa region at 135 births per 1,000 women, with only 30.1 percent of sexually active adolescent girls aged 15-19 using modern contraception. Family planning that delivers rights and choices to everyone transforms the lives of individuals, and their families, communities and countries. Among other ends, it can help lower poverty, improve nutrition, advance gender equality, keep more girls in school, accelerate economic growth and improve resilience to climate change, all core elements of the global Sustainable Development Goals.

As the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency, UNFPA recognizes the scale of the challenge and remains committed to delivering a world where every pregnancy is intended through support in procuring quality-assured Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH) commodities for quality services, along with health systems strengthening. This is done through the UNFPA Supplies partnership. UNFPA Supplies Partnership is a multilateral, multi-donor, UNFPA-managed thematic trust fund.

It is one of the world's largest providers of donated contraceptives and supports countries to strengthen health systems. UNFPA launched the Supplies programme in 2007 as the UNFPA global programme for reproductive health commodity security (GPRHCS); which was re-named during its second phase as UNFPA Supplies. The UNFPA Supplies Partnership (2021-2030) is the third phase of the Program.

# Pillars of the Partnership

Phase III will see several strategic shifts which aim to maximize impact and improve sustainability. Sustainable financing mechanisms are a key feature of the phase three program and are crucial to the success of the initiative. This includes advocating for increased domestic funding for SRH supplies and exploring innovative financing models to ensure long-term sustainability. One such modality is the Compact of commitment and the associated Match fund.



## Availability and Choices

Increase availability of quality-assured reproductive health services



## Strengthened supply chains

Ensure that supplies for reproductive health reach the last mile and promote integration of supply chains



## Increased Government Commitment

Country financial contributions to quality reproductive health services are increased. Family Planning is prioritized as core element of sustainable development



## Operational efficiency and effectiveness

Demonstrate robust and accountable program performance and oversight

# The Compact

The UNFPA Supplies Partnership is an accountability mechanism supporting the new UNFPA Strategy for Family Planning (2022-2030), which sets out a bold new vision for the organization's work in family planning. The strategy sets out a roadmap for working with governments to gradually increase domestic financing for reproductive health commodities.

In Zambia the Compact (MoU as per government requirement) was signed in January 2023 by the Minister of Finance, Minister of Health, Director General at Zambia Medicines and Medical Supplies Agency (ZAMMSA) and UNFPA. This followed stakeholder consultations that led to the crafting of the wording in the Compact and clearance by the Ministry of Justice. Since then the government of Zambia has disbursed more than USD 7.1 million from the treasury for Third Party Procurement of RH Commodities. USD 2.7 Million was disbursed in August 2023 and by December 2024, USD 4.1 million was released making the total of 7.1 million highlighted above.

Launched in 2022, the UNFPA Supplies Match Fund is a financing mechanism to match additional government contributions for procurement of contraceptives. In 2023, the Match fund was capped at \$1,500,000 and Zambia qualified for the full amount. In 2024, UNFPA matched domestically raised resources on a 1:2 ratio capped at \$2,000,000.



## Progress

In August 2023, the first Third Party Procurement (TPP) orders were placed using the \$2.7 million USD transferred from the government to the UN for the procurement of specific commodities listed in the table below.

ITEM DESCRIPTION	UOM	QUANTITY	VALUE
Cu T IUD 380A	Set	44,500	17,755.50
Medroxyprogesterone Acetate 150mg/ml, IM Injection	Each	1,620,200	1,231,352.00
Medroxyprogesterone Acetate 104mg/0.65ml, IM Injection	Each	910,000	773,500.00
Levonorgestrel 75mg Implant	Set	29,200	248,200.00
Etonogestrel 68mg Implant	Set	29,603	251,625.00

All these commodities have since been received by ZAMMSA, with the final item, Etonogestrel 68mg, delivered on 14th May 2024. Additionally, ZAMMSA has signed-off another invoice for \$3.8 million, and receipt of these funds has been confirmed by the Supply Chain Management Unit (SCMU).

The UNFPA employs a Last Mile Assurance (LMA) process to evaluate the management of supplies provided. This process tracks products from their handover to to the ZAMMSA Central Warehouse to the service delivery points (SDPs) where women access them. Insights from mapping, assessments, and reports—particularly those highlighting weak supply chain management, logistics information systems, and commodity quantification errors—help UNFPA and the government identify where Health Systems Strengthening funds can be most impactful.





# Priority Capacity Intervention Areas



**1. Enhancing Geographic and Infrastructure Access:** Improve transportation networks and logistics to ensure reliable delivery of supplies to rural and hard-to-reach areas. Invest in infrastructure development, including building and maintaining road networks and expanding storage facilities at service delivery points to support efficient supply management.

**2. Strengthening Inventory Management:** Develop and implement comprehensive inventory management systems to ensure accurate and timely tracking of supplies. Provide training and resources to ensure complete and proper use of inventory management tools, such as stock control cards, to prevent stockouts and overstocking.

**3. Integrating Data Systems:** Promote the integration and interoperability of data systems to enable seamless tracking of supplies from central warehouses to the last mile. Enhance access to and adoption of modern technology and digital tools for supply chain management, such as ensuring all facilities are connected to and using the facility edition of the electronic Logistics Management Information System (eLMIS). Work towards making the facility edition of eLMIS and the Central Warehouse Management Information System (CWMIS) interoperable to prevent loss of information and enable real-time data availability for better decision-making and timely replenishment.

**4. Expanding Training and Capacity Building:** Increase training and capacity-building initiatives to ensure that logistics and supply chain functions are managed effectively, particularly at service delivery points. Focus on developing the skills and knowledge of personnel to handle logistics and supply chain operations proficiently. **5. Securing Adequate Funding:** Advocate for and secure sufficient financial resources dedicated to last-mile logistics. Allocate budgets to improve transportation, storage facilities, and human resources, ensuring that supply chain improvements for sexual and reproductive health (SRH) are prioritized within the health sector. **6. Boosting Awareness and Demand Generation:** Implement community awareness programs to increase understanding and demand for family planning options. Ensure consistent utilization of available supplies by educating the community about the benefits and availability of family planning services, thereby supporting sustained demand and effective supply chain management.

By utilizing these diverse financing mechanisms, the UNFPA Supplies Partnership aims to create a resilient and sustainable funding landscape that can support the ongoing availability and accessibility of family planning and SRH supplies in low- and middle-income countries.

Addressing these challenges requires a multi-faceted approach that includes infrastructure investment, capacity building, among improved data systems, enhanced coordination among stakeholders, sustained political and financial commitment.

## Contact

---

### **Mr. Seth Broekman**

Country Representative

Email: [broekman@unfpa.org](mailto:broekman@unfpa.org)

Phone: +260967323632

### **Ms. Anna Holmstrom**

Deputy Country Representative

Email: [holmstrom@unfpa.org](mailto:holmstrom@unfpa.org)

Phone: +260762173117

### **Dr. Wezi Kaonga**

Sexual and Reproductive Health Specialist

Email: [wkaonga@unfpa.org](mailto:wkaonga@unfpa.org)

Phone: +260969435199





United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)  
UN House, Alick Nkhata Road,  
PO Box 31966, Lusaka, Zambia  
Tel: +260 (211) 256383  
Web: <http://zambia.unfpa.org>

 @UNFPAZambia

 UNFPA Zambia