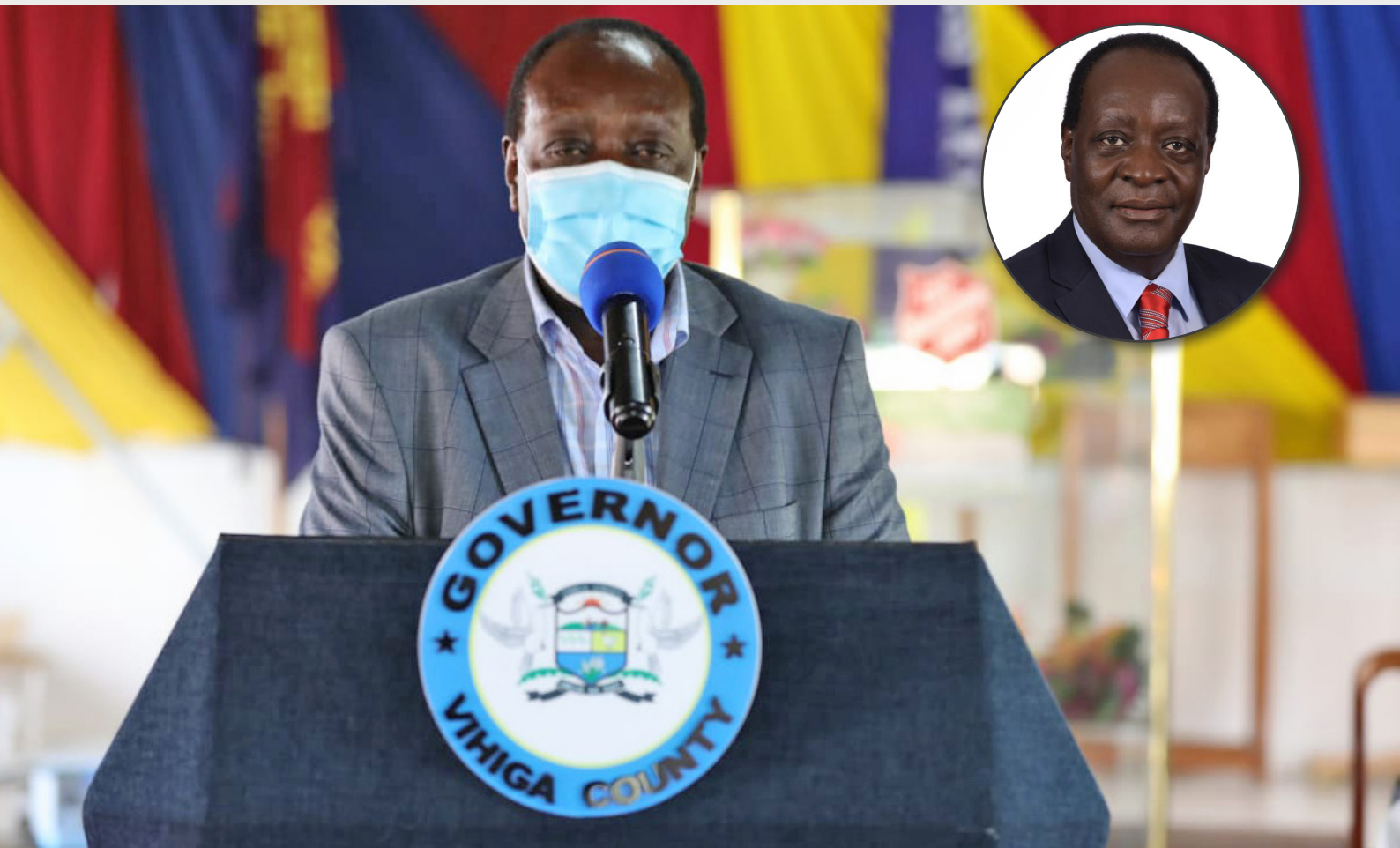


## Stronger Health Supply Chain Management leads to Quality Health Care



*“Making health supply chain system work at the devolved level, is the single most certainty of measuring if achieving Universal Health Coverage is on track.”*

*- H.E. Dr. Wilber Ottichillo*



**PEPFAR**

U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



**U.S. President's Malaria Initiative**



Jayne Waweru  
Chief of Party, Afya Ugavi

We are excited to share with you Issue 6 of the Afya Ugavi News, a publication that shares contribution of United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to the strengthening of health supply chain management system in Kenya. Afya Ugavi Activity is a five-year health system strengthening activity funded by USAID under the Global Health Supply Chain – Procurement and Supply Management contract implemented by Chemonics International.

In this issue, we share the positive effects of pooling together in emergency situations such as Covid-19 pandemic and recommendations for future preparedness. We acknowledge the Vihiga County leadership in incentivizing good performance, supporting the strengthening of county level supply chain management and the evident transformation within its health sector. We also share a piece from our very own Joseph Warero on reaping dividend of end-to-end visibility in supply chain data management.

Do enjoy the read including our memorable Kodak moments, and share your feedback as well as your stories for publishing ([kayodo@ghsc-psm.org](mailto:kayodo@ghsc-psm.org)) in subsequent editions.



*The Division of Health Products and Technologies team of the Ministry of Health and partners during a workshop to develop a consolidated documents dissemination package*

# Pooling together to fight Covid-19 pandemic



*100 bed capacity Isolation facility in Macalder Hospital, Migori County*

COVID-19 outbreak in Kenya brought a need for the country to collaborate with both local and international partners to address the pandemic threat. Afya Ugavi had supported Kenya to customize the emergency supply chain framework during the Ebola preparedness, and so channeled its experience to support the country in COVID-19 threat preparedness and response interventions. It focused its support to the national, and in three counties of Migori, Kakamega and Uasin Gishu for a period of 60 days.

The activities were jointly planned with the counties and United States Government (USG) service delivery implementing partners (IPs) including; HealthIT, Kenya Medical Supplies Authority Medical Commodities Program (KEMSA MCP), Afya Halisi and Tupime Kaunti.

These activities included the establishment and support to the county emergency response committees; determination of the health products and technologies (HPTs) requirements for quarantine and isolation centers; and support supervision to ensure their availability, accountability and improved supply chain indicator performance.

Afya Ugavi constituted a COVID-19 Response Technical Team to oversee the implementation of COVID-19 work plan. A baseline survey revealed a weak status of the counties' preparedness towards COVID-19 threat. There were no COVID-19 commodities data capture and reporting tools in isolation and treatment facilities, and no commodity and waste management standard operating procedures (SOPs) and guidelines. In addition,

# COVID Commodity Datasets

Data Entry 

AIC Ebenezer - July 20

Organisation Unit	<input type="text" value="AIC Ebenezer"/>
Data Set	<input type="text" value="MoH Facility Biomedical Equipment Data Report Form"/>
Period	<input type="text" value="July 2020"/> <input type="button" value="Prev year"/> <input type="button" value="Next year"/>

## Commodities

Filter in section	Qty Available	Qty Functional
1-Patient monitor, multiparametric w/o ECG, with accessories (Pieces)		
2-Pulse oximeter - fingertip (Pieces)		
3-Concentrator O2, 10 L, with accessories (Pieces)		
4-Oxygen Cylinder (11.5 kg cylinders)		
5-Flowmeter, Thorpe tube, for pipe oxygen 0-15L/min (Pieces)		
6-CPAP, for neonate, with accessories (Pieces)		
7-CPAP, for adult, with accessories (Pieces)		

Sample COVID-19 reporting dataset in KHIS

COVID-19 facilities were not adequately stocked with personal protective equipment (PPEs) and some counties lacked structured commodity oversight coordination mechanisms, and forecasting tool to determine COVID-19 commodity requirements.

### Key achievements

The collaboration with HealthIT and KEMSA has seen the development of COVID-19 commodities dashboard for analysis and visualization of commodity data. Afya Ugavi supported forecasting for COVID-19 commodities with DHPT, KEMSA at national level, and with the County Emergency Response Committees (CERCs) to determine requirements for medicines, personal protective equipment (PPE), lab items and biomedical commodities, including ventilator consumables. It also supported customization of COVID-19 commodity consumption data collection and reporting tools for the COVID-19 facilities at county level.

Challenges included delayed approval of COVID-19 commodity data sharing by partners against the fast pace of the expected response, and COVID-19 toll on health providers themselves.

### Recommendations

All COVID-19 threat prevention and response activities should be incorporated in all county commodity security technical working groups and other supply chain routine mechanism activities to ensure continuous monitoring and sustained interventions.

Emergency preparedness should be entrenched in the counties annual work plans, and county development plans with appropriate responsive and functional systems.

With the possible community transmission, counties that did not participate in the pilot COVID-19 activity implementations should be considered to ensure that they build their county level capacities to respond to emergencies.

# Vihiga County celebrates excellence in supply chain management



*H.E. Dr. Ottichillo leads Vihiga County in recognizing best performing health facilities.*

Supply chain systems thrive on quality assurance across the pipeline to optimize service delivery. In Kenya, US-AID's Afya Ugavi Activity provides technical and logistical support in strengthening health commodity supply chain systems for HIV/AIDS, Malaria, and FP/RM/NCACH programs at national and county levels.

Optimizing this process requires supportive supervision that ensure uninterrupted access and availability of health products at service delivery points. This is particularly important for county departments of health with the overall responsibility to ensure effective management of commodities within the county.

Afya Ugavi supported the County Government of Vihiga and sub-county teams to carry out support supervision and Supply chain audit using the scored integrated supportive supervision and supply chain audit tool to gauge performance of facilities. The tool looked at parameters such as resolution of previous action points, storage of health products, inventory management, availability and use of commodity management information system tools, verification of commodity data, guidelines and job aids, and accountability for commodities.

The County Government of Vihiga and partners held a recognition and reward ceremony based on perfor-



mance indicators for the best overall facility in supply chain management. The assessment reviewed an annual performance and created the following categories: top 3 health facilities per sub-county, top 3 health facilities in the county, most improved health facility, best sub-county in the county, and best county and or sub-county hospital. A total of 69 health facilities participated in the contest with Mbale Rural Health Training Centre becoming the overall best in the County.

Speaking at the ceremony, the Governor H.E. Dr. Wilber Ottichillo expressed his appreciation for the effort that health workers are putting in providing services to the communities. "We thank USAID's Afya Ugavi Project for improving our system to manage and distribute health commodities effectively," he said.

By carrying out the integrated supportive supervision and supply chain audit, the county will sustain the yearly award to build a competitive excellence in supply chain management, and motivate health workers to sustain good practice and introduce a culture of accountability that sustains access and availability of services.

Dr. Amos Kutwa the Committee Executive Member for Health for Vihiga County indicated that partnership with Afya Ugavi has brought sustainable improvement in supply chain management. "When systems work, we become accountable to the resources and to the communities we serve," he said.



Moments



Memorable



# Reaping dividends of end-to-end visibility for strengthened supply chain management

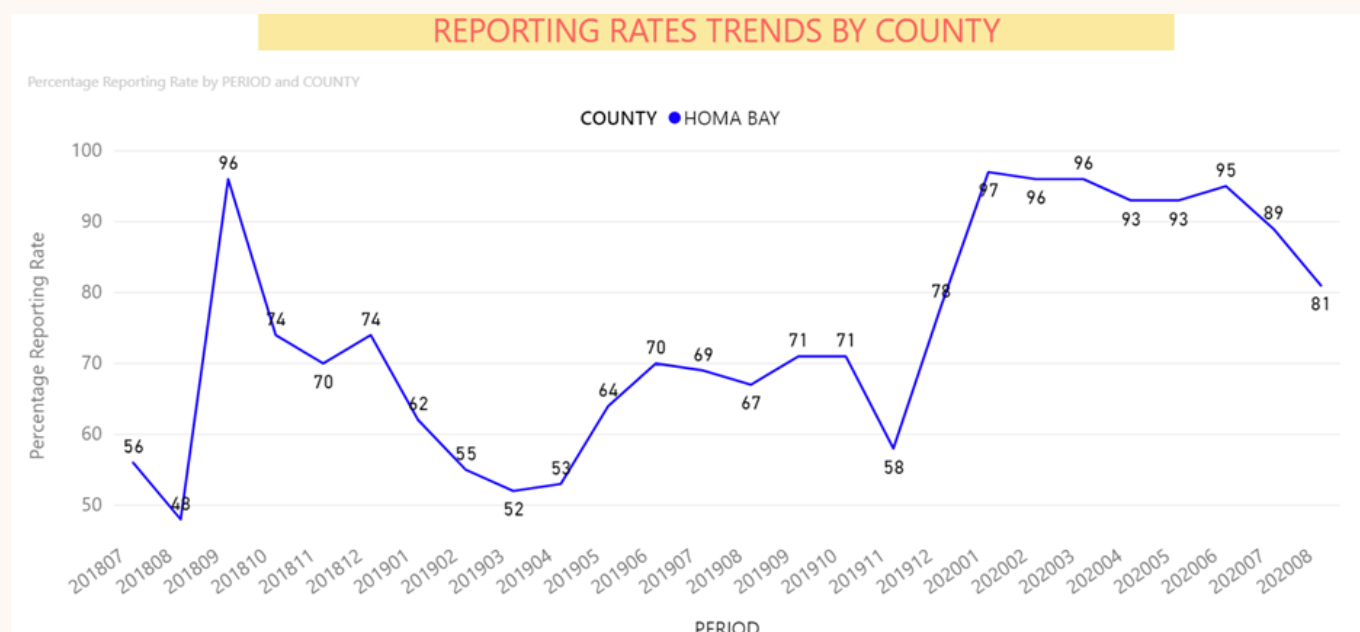
By Joseph Warero, Afya Ugavi

Eliminating Malaria, HIV, Family Planning and TB has been a focus of government and development partners. These efforts have seen the rapid and progressive development of the supply chain for the related commodities using data for decision making, and inform quantification and pipeline monitoring. However, essential medicines and medical supplies (EMMS), has had limited support and data visibility inhibiting planning for these commodities even though EMMS presents the greatest patient drug and operational needs including for non-pharmaceuticals.

Kenya's Ministry of Health has had limited visibility over EMMS data management. There is need for an integrated supply chain management that consolidates and sustains gains to other health products and technologies available at the health facility where implementation occurs, and a holistic view of the supply chain across all health products. When patients visit a health facility, they may need care across different segments of HPTs. In rural and hard to reach areas, increase in patients seeking care at health facilities has been associated with sighting of KEMSA delivery trucks.

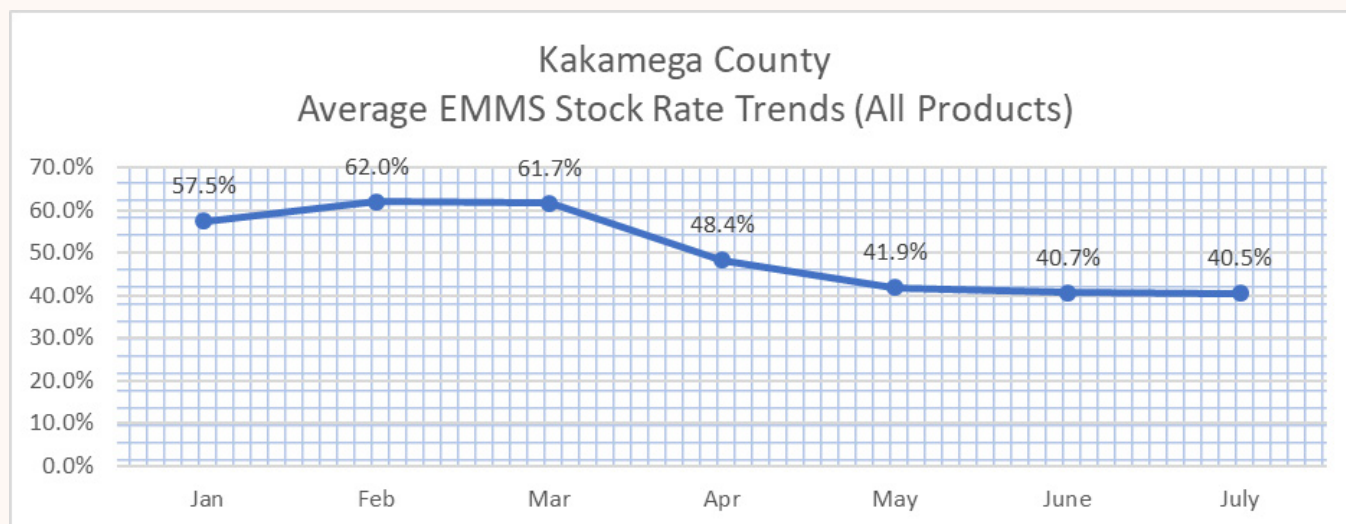
Afya Ugavi has been progressively working towards enabling the visibility of data for EMMS in its focus counties. The data is reported monthly, aggregated, analyzed and visualized. Because of this, counties can see what the facilities are holding, identify those that are overstocked, understocked and stocked out, and enable commodity redistribution. Initially, a facility would be stocked out of a particular commodity, while a neighboring facility would be overstocked. Homa Bay County for example has used data visibility to quickly respond to incidences of stock shortages thus enabling access to critical lifesaving drugs to patients, as well as ensure that health workers have the necessary medical supplies to do their work.

The counties have the flexibility to define their list of tracer products in the tool, and then actively manage and report on those HPTs. With EMMS forming the bulk of health products used in a health facility, Homa Bay county is now able to better plan and manage its supplies. This wasn't possible before.



Trends in reporting rates for EMMS for Homa Bay County

In using the EMMS visibility tool, Kakamega county, has registered a steady decline in stock out rates for EMMS as shown below.



Average Product Stock Out Rate Trends. The graph shows how stock out rates for EMMS has progressively reduced for Kakamega County, since starting the reporting in Jan 2020

### Scaling Up the Intervention

Riding on this success and as part of Afya Ugavi’s technical approach for sustainability, USAID is supporting the Division of Health Products and Technologies (DHPT), to adopt and scale up reporting of EMMS across the country. The DHPT has drawn a tracer list of HPTs cutting across medicines, medical supplies, laboratory and some radiology health products and developed a reporting tool. The data for the EMMS will be reported in Kenya Health Information System, which is the primary reporting platform for the country. More than 6,000 reporting registers have been printed to kick start EMMS reporting process across the country alongside a planned sensitization.

Overall, the EMMS data visualization provides Ministry of Health with a unified platform that makes management of HPTs possible, effective and efficient.



Commodity warehouse



# Memorable

# Moments



# Moments



# Memorable



Health Products and Technology Strategy review workshop team pose for a photo moment



**"Our partnership with USAID's Afya Ugavi Activity has brought sustainable improvement in Supply Chain Management System. When systems work, we become accountable to the resources and to the community that we serve."**

**DR. AMOS KUTWA**  
County Executive Committee Member

*This publication is made possible by the generous support of the American people through the USAID. The contents are the responsibility of the Afya Ugavi Activity and do NOT necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.*