

Moving the Needle

Harmonizing LMICs Supply Chains for Injection Drug Use Harm Reduction

The Partnership for Supply Chain Management

Dr. Timothy Meehan, Sr. Laboratory Technical Advisor | Xuan-Mai Hua Hurpy, Sr. Sourcing & Category Specialist

Background



Injection drug use for harm reduction encompasses the use of products and strategies to help mitigate the health consequences of drug use.



Part of a public health approach to harm reduction enables access to products which reduce the transmission of blood borne diseases such as HIV and viral hepatitis.



The products which are appropriate for harm reduction are highly specific to the particular user community. Therefore, close coordination with groups who serve these communities is required to provide access to the correct harm reduction products.



PFSCM's approach to supporting harm reduction

- PFSCM takes a holistic approach to enable access to appropriate harm reduction commodities, especially in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs).
- PFSCM works in collaboration with stakeholders across the harm reduction spectrum to obtain the localized insight needed to provide the best products for a range of communities and settings in LMICs.
- PFSCM is developing a portfolio of quality-assured harm reduction commodities which is aligned with localized acceptance criteria and responsive to dynamic preferences.
- PFSCM is working with harm reduction suppliers through a stringent vetting process to ensure reliable access to high-quality products at LMIC-appropriate price points.
- PFSCM enables streamlined supply chains and cost savings for programs through pooled-procurement mechanisms and optimized logistics. This in turn can drive demand for appropriate harm reduction commodities, enabling increased supply chain efficiencies and more accurate quantification and forecasting.

Problem

- Historically, there has been poor coordination between the groups who serve injection drug use communities and the agencies who procure the commodities to support harm reduction. This has led to the procurement of inappropriate products which had poor acceptabilities with user communities.
- Procurement data, which can guide sourcing and procurement choices, are limited.
- The lack of universally acknowledged quality assurance guidelines for (non-pharmaceutical) harm reduction products presents challenges for the selection of high-quality products which are appropriately aligned with user preferences.
- Many high-quality harm reduction products are not price competitive in LMICs.
- Nascent harm reduction programs may procure at small volume via non-optimized procurement and logistics channels resulting in high costs.

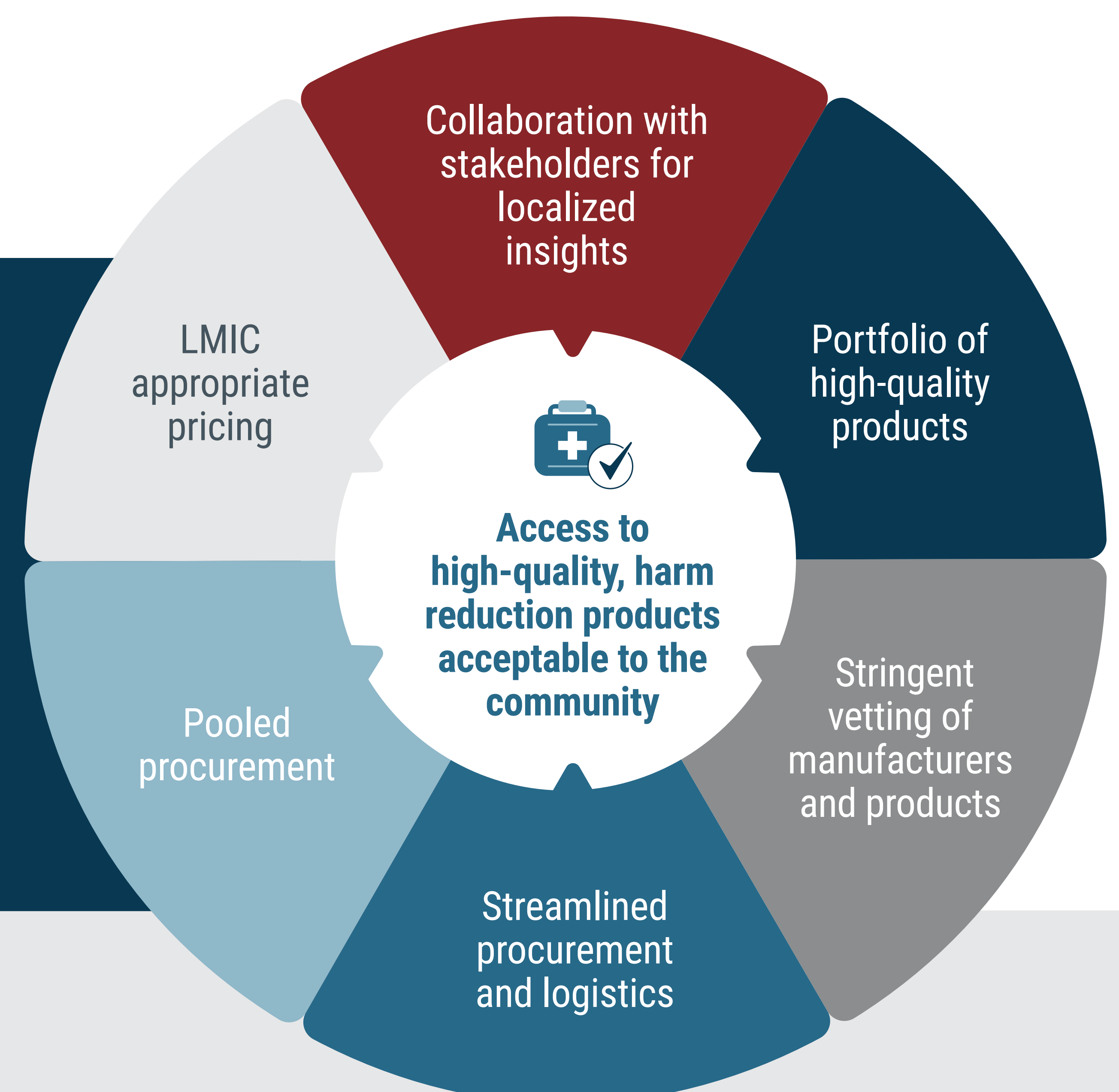


PFSCM's portfolio of harm reduction products

- 1 Needles and syringes including:**
 - A range of gauges, lengths, and volumes.
 - Low Dead Space (LDS) syringes.
 - Needles in fixed and detachable formats.
- 2 Drug preparation cookers**
- 3 Filters**
- 4 Acidifiers**
- 5 Water for injection**
- 6 Disinfectant swabs**

Key Takeaways

PFSCM is harmonizing the supply chain to increase access to high-quality harm reduction products appropriate to the unique preferences of the user community. This will provide cost-savings to programs, alleviate supply-chain challenges, help stakeholders streamline ordering, and assure the delivery of reliable products which are aligned with user preferences.



About PFSCM

- PFSCM is a nonprofit, diversified supply chain solutions provider and procurement services agent providing sourcing, procurement, and logistics of health commodities for LMICs.
- PFSCM offers complete strategic sourcing-, supply chain, and 4PL solutions including forecasting, demand planning, product quality assurance and quality control testing, upstream and last-mile logistics, end-to-end shipment tracking, and storage and warehousing.
- PFSCM is an affiliate of JSI Research & Training Institute, Inc. (JSI), one of the leading international health consultancy organizations in the United States.
- PFSCM is leveraging our expertise building health care capacity, providing technical support, and strengthening supply chains to ensure greater access to commodities for harm reduction for injection drug users.