Unmanned Aerial Systems and Supply Chain Management

TechNet 15, Cascais, Portugal
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Judith Sherman, UNICEF
A drone snapshot

• Do drones fit into health supply chain management systems?

• What should governments, donors, implementing partners consider before implementing drone activities?

• Can the global health community influence this leapfrog technology?
Immunization Coverage

- Est. 2-3 million deaths averted per year
- Global vaccination coverage stalled at 86%
- An additional estimated 1.2 million deaths could be averted *with increased coverage*
‘Internet for All’
Google Balloon & Facebook Drone

facebook Aquila Drone
Malawi: Feasibility and cost of using drones to transport laboratory samples for early infant diagnosis of HIV (2016)

unicef
2017: Cargo Drones in Health

- Laboratory samples
- Vaccines
- Essential meds
- Contraceptives
- On-demand of unpredictable items:
  - Safe blood for transfusion
  - Anti-venom serum
  - Rabies shots
Drones – Do they contribute to your objectives?

- Availability
- Quality
- Efficiency
- Cost-effectiveness
Drone – Is your country ready?

Feasibility:
• Drone technology

Eco-system:
• National support and regulations
• National expertise
• Infrastructure
• Community engagement
To learn more:
Sala XII – 11:00

• A screening tool for countries to use to:
  – consider drones for their context
  – prioritize potential use cases
  – estimate relative costs and potential benefits

• Donors, NGOs, academics, manufacturers & others discussing the development, advancement & application of drones in health supply chain systems
Vanuatu – vaccine delivery challenge
“The fastest growth opportunity (for drones) comes from businesses and civil governments...we expect they'll spend $13 billion on drones between now and 2020.”

- Goldman Sachs, 2017
Building an Efficient, Cost-Effective Business Model

Donor-funded public health commodity procurement ~ $4.2 billion (2015)

• Can development partners and governments align and leverage resources to increase impact of using drones?

• Can the health sector partner with the drone industry for cost-effective solutions that save lives?