Communities of Learning: Its critical role of country chapters in driving supply chain capacity development and professionalisation

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What is IAPHL?

The International Association of Public Health Logisticians was established in 2007 to promote the professionalization of the field of public health logistics through education and information sharing.

The association supports logisticians worldwide by providing a forum for members to network, exchange ideas, and improve skills. Members come from nearly 150 countries, a variety of professional backgrounds, and represent all levels of the supply chain.
Vision
A world where strong and well-run supply chains reach all people with life-saving health products.

Mission
To enable people working in public health supply chains, especially in the global south, to connect, learn, and succeed.
IAPHL Membership

Total current membership is 7700+, representing 150 countries

Membership continues to grow each year; there were 763 new members in 2021, more than 600 new members 2022 so far

Men represent 69% of members and women represent 31%

Key sectors represented include NGOs, public sector, private sector, and academia
Country Chapters

IAPHL Country Chapters continue to be an important aspect of the community, allowing members to form country-specific sub-communities.

Each national chapter is considered a “branch” of IAPHL and is led by a group of volunteers in that country.

There are currently 26 active IAPHL Country Chapters with anywhere from 4 to 342 members.

The IAPHL Secretariat supports each chapter to encourage face-to-face networking, professional development, information sharing, and peer mentorship at the country level.
Country Chapters

Established Chapters

- IAPHL Angola
- IAPHL Benin
- IAPHL Burundi
- IAPHL Cameroon
- IAPHL DRC
- IAPHL Ethiopia
- IAPHL Ghana
- IAPHL India
- IAPHL Ivory Coast
- IAPHL Kenya
- IAPHL Liberia
- IAPHL Mozambique
- IAPHL Nepal
- IAPHL Nigeria
- IAPHL Pakistan
- IAPHL Sierra Leone
- IAPHL South Africa
- IAPHL Tanzania
- IAPHL Togo
- IAPHL Uganda
- IAPHL Zambia
- IAPHL Zimbabwe
Country Chapters

**Fairly New Chapters**

- IAPHL Congo
- IAPHL Indonesia

**Newest Chapters**

- IAPHL Mali
- IAPHL Guinea
- IAPHL Chad
- IAPHL Burkina Faso
- IAPHL Senegal
- IAPHL Central African Republic

**Prospective Chapters**

- IAPHL Jordan
- IAPHL Senegal
- IAPHL Somalia
- IAPHL Comoros
- IAPHL Djibouti
- IAPHL Madagascar
Chapters and Capacity Building

- **IAPHL South Africa:** Engaged four local and international experts to share their specific expertise with members through webinars

- **IAPHL Nepal:** Working with two universities to include Public Health Supply Chain in the syllabus

- **IAPHL Tanzania:** Used webinars to educate its members on the basics of Tanzania’s vaccine supply chain

- **IAPHL Cameroon:** Launched a virtual game contest

- **IAPHL India:** Held a contest on Supply Chain Learnings in COVID times
Chapters and Capacity Building

- **IAPHL Nigeria:** Held a full day workshop targeting young chapter members
- **IAPHL Ethiopia:** Held workshop on Supply Chain and has posted the term of the day for members
- **IAPHL Benin:** Developing strategy for recognizing health SC workers
- **IAPHL Burundi:** Workshop on the impact of restrictive measures related to COVID-19 on the supply chain
- **IAPHL Zimbabwe:** Workshop and online training modules on warehousing and distribution good practices and has recently received an Advocacy Training for 15 of its members
- **Other Chapters:** Are putting efforts in to developing their communities and chapter strategies
Key Activities Implemented

• We pursued the regularization of our legal status in Ghana with the registrar general department of Ghana and we now a legally registered professional association in Ghana under company limited by guarantee.
• Through the support from the IAPHL Small Grant Program, we organized a massively attended workshop that saw participation of over 70 in-person participants and over 80 online participants as it was a hybrid program.
• We adopted our constitution that will guide our operations as an association in Ghana.
• We are also holding monthly meetings via Zoom
The workshop was on Sustaining Supply Chain Performance Improvement in the Public Health Sector of Ghana, was further broken down in to sub-units to make the delivery more comprehensible and also avoid ambiguities. Below are the sub-topics covered:

- Introduction to health supply chain: Global, National, regional, district and service deliver points perspectives
- Key Interventions Driving Health Sector Supply Chain Performance in Ghana
- Health Sector Supply Chain Monitoring & Evaluation Framework
- Prioritized Key Supply Chain Performance Indicators
- Sustaining Supply Chain Gains
Capacity RELATED ACTIVITIES 2022

- The workshop was extremely important for all public and private health supply chain practitioners and managers of health commodities within the public and private sectors at the national, regional or district levels.
- Policymakers and program managers, service providers, logistics managers/supply officers, from public and private sectors, technical assistance providers, as well as students who wanted to learn more about the current tools and techniques used in health procurement of medical equipment.
- The Workshop provided a practical definition to Value-Based Procurement, Value Based Procurement Rationale, Value-Based Procurement process/cycle, Differences between Value-Based Procurement and traditional procurement.
- A case study of the 37 Military Hospital was shared as to how they conduct value-based procurement of Medical Equipment for healthcare interventions.
Capacity RELATED ACTIVITIES 2022

• This was a workshop with our key partner CARISCA.
• The facilitators also supported the Chapter by representing the chapter at our partner engagements on varying issues of Public Health Supply Chain Management, a benefit to the Ghana members.
Two Day Workshop was on Hospital Service Management

- Defined Customer Service
- Common Patient Complaints in Service Management
- Importance and Objectives of Customer Service
- Health Service Quality Dimensions
- Barriers to Effective Quality Service
- Strategies for Improving Customer Service
- Developing a Hospital Customer Service Plan
Professionalisation RELATED ACTIVITIES 2022

- Stakeholder engagement with the Pharmacy Council of Ghana for collaboration and accreditation for CPD training provider for Pharmacist in Ghana who will be credited with the needed points for their license renewal when they attend IAPHL events.

- Approval has given and relevant subscription and fees payment for 2023 to be done.

- Stakeholder engagement with the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (UK) Ghana Branch for collaboration and accreditation for CPD training provider for Logistics and Supply Chain Professionals in Ghana who will be credited with the needed points for their membership renewal when they attend IAPHL events.

- Stakeholder engagement with the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply for collaboration and accreditation for CPD training provider for Procurement and Supply Chain Management Professionals in Ghana who will be credited with the needed points for their membership renewal when they attend IAPHL events.

1. Link to the Grant Implementation Photos: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ufdsmVZU9X0hMAklyi4yl81e0mcUJ3v

2. Google Drive Link to the Workshop Recording: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1v5Xl9PsSwxqaeO6u1cAsjsVQufp2-hG

3. Zoom Cloud link to the workshop recording: https://zoom.us/rec/share/hOpl4I3RkbyyR6osJPbgNschiM5JrTrE4W8MdlMwkc0lEcxV52Bzb8KitB7HkCw.G3yiIQx3SHRkEE CQ. Access Passcode: 0V9qfIV=
CURRENT STATUS OF THE GHANA CHAPTER

• We are a legally registered professional association in Ghana
• We have 275 registered members (out of our target of 300 for the year 2022) due to the support from the Small Grant Program, which promoted our activities largely across the professional divide.
• Organized two major webinars that received national as well as global participation.
• Next webinar on quantification and demand planning of public health commodities is still work in progress before end of, 2022.
• We are working on the next project: targeted mentoring and training students in health-related disciplines on several IT interventions for managing public health logistics in Ghana.
• Signed an MOU with the Centre for Applied Research and Innovation in Supply Chain Africa (CARISCA) a USAID funded project, for collaborative research, training and promotion of supply chain practice in Africa mainly in health (our focus) and agricultural supply chains.
• Awaiting to complete the formal processes for collaboration with the Pharmacy Council of Ghana, CIPS, CILT and other professional bodies.
• Have an advisory group for decisions and also still working to get members active on IAPHL leadership and activities which is currently our main challenge post covid-19.
• Our biggest challenge was funding to operationalize our action plan set for 2022 coupled with the limitation of mobility and physical meetings impacted by Covid-19.
Potential for Chapters

*Chapters are the future of IAPHL*

Represent **all levels** of the supply chain, including below the central level. They offer one of the best opportunities for local capacity building and professionalization.

Potentially have “**a seat at the table**” with Ministries of Health and important stakeholders – whether during national strategy discussions or other key decisions.

Have the potential to **advocate** for the supply chain profession in their countries.
Questions & Answers