

### Questions and Answers

#### Questions:

Questions were asked via the Q&A textbox. Due to time constraints, the final question asked by Sean Donato was posted, and answered directly and discussed further on the VPPN (see link below).

1	How can we manage price variations and stock out situations in the market in the period of crisis?	Khinenyein Chan
2	<p>Bonjour! C'est très intéressant l'adaptation de la planification et du programme de vaccination du a la pandémie. Merci pour cette présentation. Est-ce que on a prévu d'adapter le programme, par exemple pour assurer la sécurité des administrateurs de vaccins, et donc besoin d'avoir des produits PPE et adapter la planification en fonction de cela?</p> <p>Hello! It is very interesting to adapt the planning and the vaccination program due to the pandemic. Thank you for this presentation. Have plans been made to adapt the program, for example to ensure the safety of vaccine administrators, and therefore need to have PPE products and adapt the planning accordingly?</p>	Fulvia Bellingeri
3	What was the contingency and/or mitigation measures planned in response to both, sub-normal and normal vaccination before and during the COVID-19?	Jorge Mazuze
4	Once an infant misses the immunization schedule in current Covid-19 situation; how are you planning to cover up for missed immunization schedule?	Vishal Gajwani
5	The data inputs used for forecasting in Morocco were well described in the presentation. Can you give more background on the data sources and how they are managed? For instance do some of the inputs come from a national HMIS, etc.	Sean Donato

#### Answers:

Please note: All comments identified below by Abdelkrim Tanouti and Benazzouz Mohammad are the French to English translations provided by Loic Sanchez during the live knowledge sharing session.

*Q: Jorge Mazuze*

*What was the contingency and/or mitigation measures planned in response to both, sub-normal and normal vaccination before and during the COVID-19?*

*Benazzouz Mohammad (Loic translating):* And I just wanted to supplement to my presentation by saying that we really try to implement a dynamic forecasting process by reevaluating the current stock and the needs, and to calibrate the forecast according to those evaluations that are happening as we go. We initiated this process back in 2014 and the main outcome of this dynamic process was that we

were able to avoid any stock outs or overstock, and this process has helped us to avoid any last minute requests to UNICEF to provide urgently vaccines. So, it was all beneficial. While coping with the COVID-19 situation, we have embarked on a two-stream approach. The first one was to look at the programmatic activities and the current consumption while keeping an eye on the current stock of vaccines. So this helps us to find a balance and to avoid any issues in this sense. We have been agile and flexible considering the current situation. [For example], we were supposed to introduce the HPV campaign as school resumed in October, but then considering the current situation, we swiftly decided to postpone the vaccination campaign a later stage and plan better for it.

*Q: Fulvia Bellingeri*

*Hello! It is very interesting to adapt the planning and the vaccination program due to the pandemic. Thank you for this presentation. Have plans been made to adapt the program, for example to ensure the safety of vaccine administrators, and therefore need to have PPE products and adapt the planning accordingly?*

*A: Benazzouz Mohammad (Loic translating):* From the start of the upcoming situation there was there was some safety issues and people were scared of sending their children to be vaccinated. At the same time as the health workers felt they were not fully protected against the disease. Throughout the situation we have followed WHO guidance. As we launched a communication campaign to inform the population on the rules and the new the guidance that has to be followed and at the same time are equipping the health workers, i.e., the frontline workers. We tried to communicate to the population so they felt comfortable with the new situation, and we were agile and swift in the setting up and the organization around those new practices.

*Q: Khinenyein Chan*

*How can we manage price variations and stock out situations in the market in the period of crisis?*

*A: Gemma Orta-Martinez*

I am a little bit surprised and I actually wanted to, maybe, but I didn't know how to ask a follow up question on the Q &A in relation to the price variations. Specifically: Are you finding price variations in the vaccine market and is it related to maybe a surge of unscheduled orders or cancellations? I just wanted to hear a little bit more on the context in which these price variations have been found, or whether they are related to actually the transportation of the vaccines? Because it is the situation of the crisis of COVID, which has created problems essentially with transportation, right? So, if one has the contract with, for instance Incoterms, where the supplier takes care of the transportation it could be that the price variations are linked to that transportation piece of the price? But if you are buying and transporting yourself then unless there is an emergency order that you have placed, then I am a little bit surprised by the price variations, because the vaccine market producers the pharmaceuticals in themselves have not been so largely impacted for now because their vaccines were already produced at the time when you are ready to buy them. So I wanted to hear, a little bit more on the price variations that you have found in terms of the stock out situations. I think it has been highlighted also but maybe I will just mention it as well. In the case of Morocco, where they did this rapid assessment of the stocks and they did the rapid assessment of the most recent intake and consumption of the vaccines so that they could do this re-arrangements and postponement, or even cancellation of

procurement orders (well, that would be for overstocking), but then the assessment, the physical stock they mentioned, as well that they did a physical stock count to assess how much was available and plan it in advance. So a stock out situation, I think, may be linked to these transportation challenges that have been found where, because of the vaccines are, many times, transported in passenger flights and passenger flights have been cancelled because people are not travelling then there has been a situation where it is very difficult to transport the vaccines? So, I just wanted to maybe before we give a full answer and just having given this few pointers to maybe hear a little bit more time if you can develop a little bit more your question. If that is alright?

*Abdelkrim Tanouti (Loic translating):* So regarding stock outs and overstock we anticipated on this as I fully explained during my presentation: through the fine tuning of the process and thorough evaluation and looking at the current consumption, we managed to avoid any stock outs and overstock. When it comes to the variation of prices all of the contracts were already settled by the beginning of 2020, so before the COVID situation, and so we didn't experience any variation in price. The price was already agreed on by then. And so we managed to land on the normal situation by following the objective of our national coverage goals. So this was the main objective and we managed to achieve that. So, in the sense we didn't experience an overstock of the vaccines as was as planned. The situation is almost back to normal.

*Q: Vishal Gajwani*

*Once an infant misses the immunization schedule in current Covid-19 situation; how are you planning to cover up for missed immunization schedule?*

*A: Benazzouz Mohammad (Loic translating):* We started by doing a head count of the children that were supposed to be vaccinated, so we conducted an evaluation and listed the names of the children that were supposed to be vaccinated. And based on that, we will start planning catch up campaigns on vaccination that could not be performed at the planned schedule.

*Q: Sean Donato*

*The data inputs used for forecasting in Morocco were well described in the presentation. Can you give more background on the data sources and how they are managed? For instance do some of the inputs come from a national HMIS, etc.*

*A: Abdelkrim Tanouti:* <https://www.technet-21.org/en/network/groups/468-vaccine-procurement-practitioner-network/30-discussions/item/874-vppn-forecasting-knowledge-session-follow-up-from-the-questions-and-answers>