



# Commonwealth Telecommunications Organization Forum, 14-16<sup>th</sup> September 2015

## eLearning for Improved Laboratory Commodity Management

14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> September 2015  
Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi

# Introduction

- IntraHealth International
- In Kenya USAID|FUNZOKenya & USAID|Capacity Bridge Projects
- FUNZOKenya project domiciled in MOH Directorate of Human Resources Development (HRD)
- Work with MOH, Counties, MEDS, Medical training colleges and Regulatory bodies

# Introduction

## FUNZOKenya project goals

Improve access to and quality of health workforce training by:

- Supporting an increased number of new health workers trained
- Supporting current health worker training needs
- Strengthening the capacity of training institutions (MEDS)
- Strengthening regulatory bodies to enhance training demand

# The problem

- Training needs assessment conducted in 2012 identified key areas where health workers require training
- Less than 12% of health workers had received regular continuing professional development. Busia case...24 children affected
- Commodity management identified as one of the priorities (vaccines & drugs in general).
- With counties, shift from a push to a pull system in commodity management
- Cadres that manage commodities not trained in commodity management as part of their basic training
- Shrinking training budgets. How do you train hundreds of health workers

# Our Health Workers – A Survey

- n = 362
- 43.1% male and 56.1% female (57% Nurses)
- 76.7% under 40 years of age
- 60.2% are diploma holders
- 76.8% access the Internet daily & 21.8% weekly
- 15.5% (Desktop), 58.8% (Laptop), 29.6% (Tablet) & 95.3% (Mobile Phone)

# Approach

- Built capacity of MEDS to offer eLearning courses
- Identified the approved government curriculum
- Developed eLearning modules and evaluation mechanisms
- Established learning management systems
- Together with counties, identified 1<sup>st</sup> cohort of learners (47 learners, 1 from each county)
- Appointed tutors and rolled out the course
- Learner support - WhatsApp Web, phone and email

Username  Password  Login

Lost password

### Home page

Welcome to the Mission for Essential Drugs and Supplies (MEDS) online learning platform. Login using the user provided. The Platform hosts the MEDS self learning courses. If you encounter any issues while using the system #Learning@meds.or.ke for assistance.

## Module 1: Overview of Laboratory Services



### Challenges of Managing Laboratory Commodity Services

Medical laboratory services have existed for many years in Kenya. However the sector has been faced with tremendous challenges:

- Inadequate allocation of resources
- Inadequate infrastructure
- Staffing (HR)- inadequate numbers and skills
- Value of the laboratory in supporting diagnosis and management of patients is generally overlooked
- Limited capacity of facility laboratories to meet the increased demand for laboratory services
- Limited capacity to deal with emerging and re-emerging diseases and cross-border health concerns
- Inadequate capacity to address surveillance in a coordinated manner



Department of Pharmacy



# MEDS LCMC

# Results & Discussion

- 80% of the health workers started the course
- 74% completed the course in an average of 15 hours
- 39% of those that completed were from marginalized areas and amongst the first to complete the course
- 37% increase in knowledge
- General disdain towards 'free' courses. Instituted application mechanism
- Health workers feel less isolated



# Challenges

- Unreliable web host. Moved system to KENET which resolved issues
- Learners complained of high cost of Internet access

# Conclusion

- Health workers are keen on using technology for learning
- Speed up universal access (USF)
- Reliable and affordable Internet access

# Thank You



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