

**STRENGTHENING  
HEALTH  
SYSTEMS**

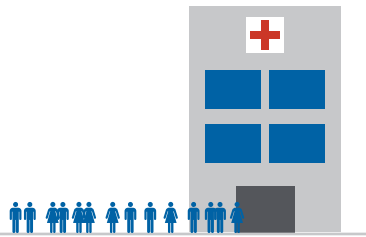


IMPROVING  
ACCESS TO  
MEDICINES

## The Capacity Building and Access to Medicines (CBAM)

project in Afghanistan was one of HPIC's most ambitious and successful initiatives.

By increasing people's access to good quality medicines and supplies, HPIC worked to improve the quality of life for all Afghans, especially women and children.



## WHAT PREVENTS PEOPLE FROM ACCESSING MEDICINES?

### COST

Households in Afghanistan spend between **9 and 26% of their income on health.**

Lower income households generally spend more than higher income households.



### MEDICINE SHORTAGES

Public hospitals in Kabul face acute shortages in medicine. The government can only meet approximately **10% of the needs.**

Afghanistan produces **less than 5% of the medicine** it consumes.



# 98%

of Afghan medicines are **imported.**



## COUNTERFEIT AND SMUGGLED MEDICINES



As much as **80% of medicines sold in Afghanistan are smuggled** into the country due to the porous border.



Counterfeit medicines are often of very low quality, with little or no active ingredients.

## STORAGE AND DISPOSAL

Medicines stored in very hot environments or freezing temperatures become unsafe to use.

Pests also contribute to medicine wastage, as well as poor medicine management that cause pharmaceuticals to expire and not reach those people that need it most.



## IN AFGHANISTAN, MATERNAL AND CHILD MORTALITY ARE GREATER HEALTH THREATS THAN CONFLICT

### 3,026

men, women, and children were killed in 2011 as a result of Afghanistan's long-standing conflict.



### 18,000

Afghan women died in childbirth in 2011.

### 1 IN 10

Afghan children die before their 10<sup>th</sup> birthday every year. In the majority of these cases, treatable illnesses, such as malnutrition, influenza, or bacterial infections, are to blame.

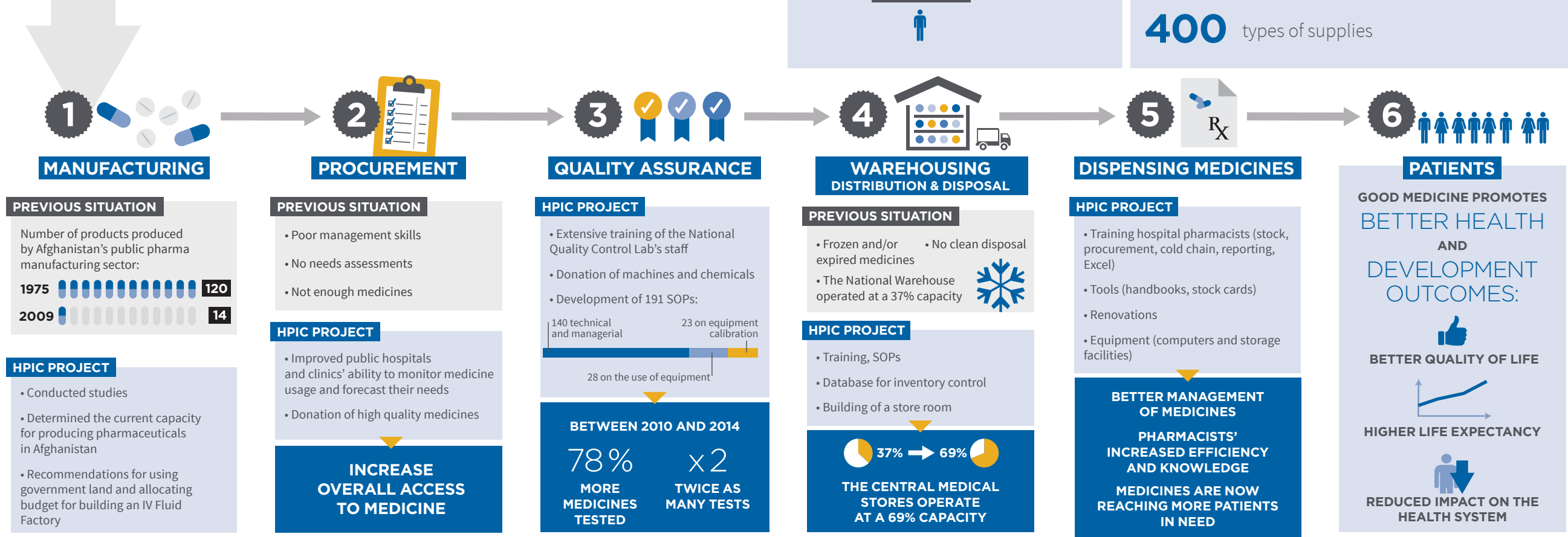


# HOW CAN WE IMPROVE ACCESS TO MEDICINE?

HPIC's Capacity Building and Access to Medicines (CBAM) project was implemented with two key strategies.

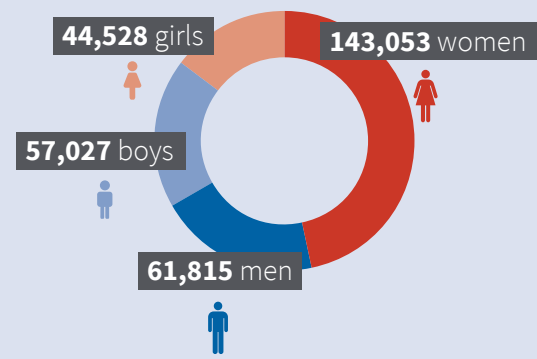
The first was to **deliver quality medicines** to public hospitals in Kabul. These donations were a humanitarian response to answer the hospitals' pressing needs.

The second strategy was to **improve the long-term access to medicine** by working on Afghanistan's pharmaceutical supply chain. After decades of conflict, the supply chain needed a lot of work and investment to become fully functional again. The CBAM project worked with the Afghan Ministry of Public Health to improve their institutions and their ability to manufacture, procure, test, store, distribute, monitor, and manage medicines and medical supplies. Here's how.



## OVER THE COURSE OF THE PROJECT, HPIC PROVIDED

**306,423** treatments



**\$4,826,876 CAD**

worth of medicines to public hospitals and clinics in Kabul

**150** types of medicines

**67.5** tonnes of medicines and supplies

**400** types of supplies

# THANKYOU

HPIC is a not-for-profit relief and development organization that delivers health and hope to the world's most vulnerable people. We are dedicated to increasing access to medicine and improving health in the developing world without discrimination through the provision of essential medicines and medical supplies, pharmaceutical management and logistics, and capacity building projects.

The Capacity Building and Access Medicines (CBAM) project was made possible through collaboration with the Afghan Ministry of Public Health and funding from the Canadian Government.



Learn more on our website: [www.hpicanada.ca](http://www.hpicanada.ca)



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