

‘Workforce excellence is essential for sustainable health supply chains’

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Professionalization in the Public Sector Health Supply Chain Management: IAPHL’s Present and Future Contribution

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Background

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- In the 1990s, supply chain management was neither recognized as a unique profession nor institutionalized under ministries of health.
- To respond to this increasing need for global dialogue regarding health supply chain experience, skills, and best practices, the International Association of Public Health Logisticians (IAPHL) was created in 2007.

IAPHL's Mission

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- To support the professionalization of supply chain managers and others working in the field of public health logistics and commodity security, with particular focus on developing countries
- To provide professional development opportunities to public health logisticians and to promote the use of local and regional expertise, continuous learning, and the exchange of ideas and best practices

Method

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- A free membership association for logisticians to support one another by sharing information, experiences, and resources through an online listserv and resources on the website
- The opportunity to participate in online discussions and in the annual Global Health Supply Chain Summit conference

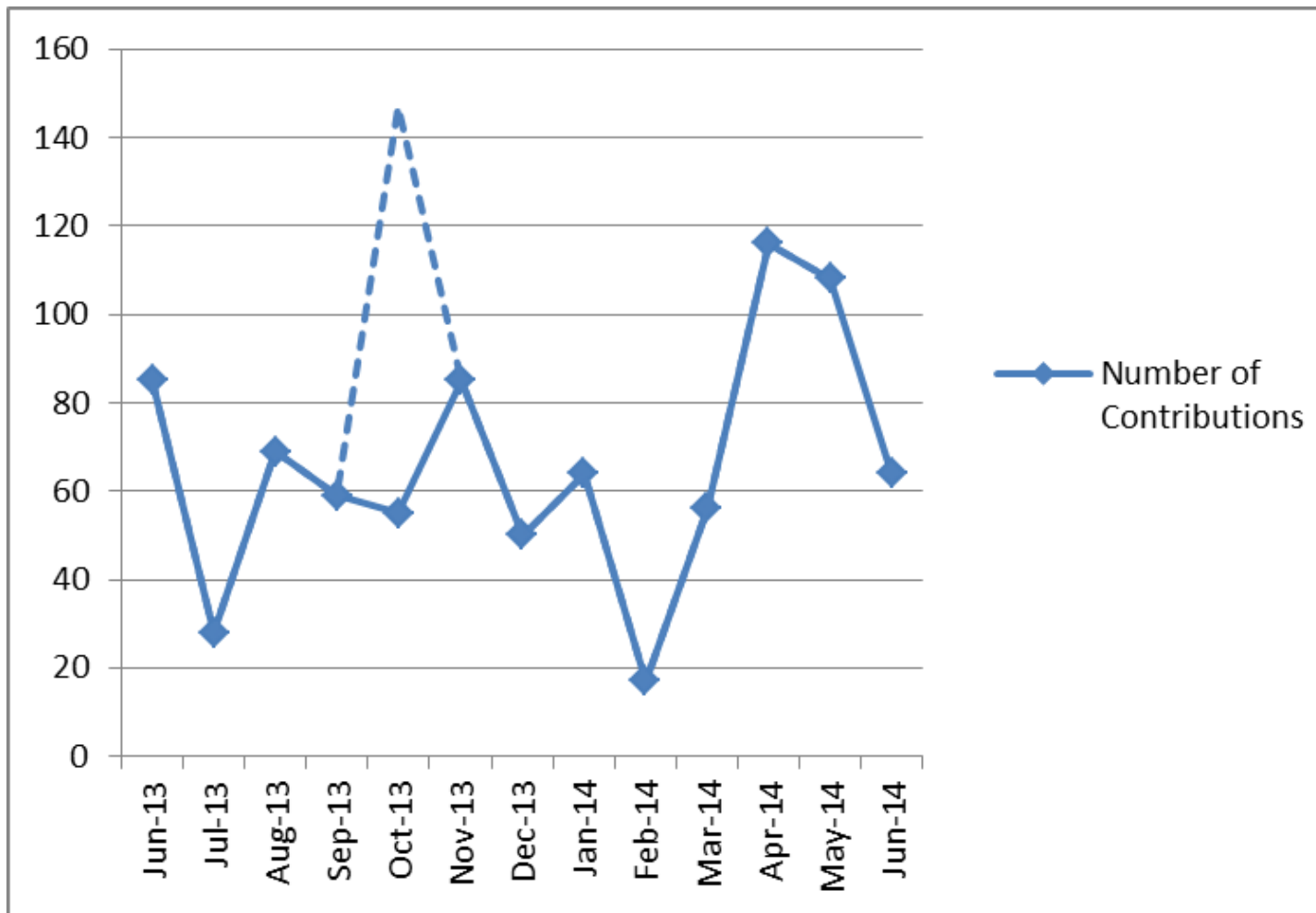
Results

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Results

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Recent Forum Topics

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- Implementing VMI informed push distribution models
- Health Care Waste Management, including infectious waste from Ebola.
- Improving Immunization Supply Chains
- Supply Chain Asset Management
- Human Resources for Supply Chain Management

Lessons Learned

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- Professional associations such as IAPHL can be great vehicles for—
 - promoting the professionalization of public sector health supply chain personnel
 - building the professional capacity to improve supply chain performance in countries.

Next Steps

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- Ensure sustainability of the association.
- Increase the value of membership.
- Strengthen coalition building by expanding the membership pool and advocating for professionalization of supply chain management in the public sector.

Thank you!

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