

Global Government Best Practices in Developing National PPE Stockpiles

Executive Summary

3M proudly supports
United Nations International Day
of Epidemic Preparedness

January 2021

Every life is precious. Governments worldwide are working hard to protect their citizens and their heroic health care workers, first responders, and essential workforce against the COVID-19 Global Pandemic. The COVID-19 pandemic has been a harsh test of the world's preparedness. Due to the global nature of the pandemic, the world has rushed to secure resources to fight COVID-19. This rush has created a massive spike in demand. In a world of just-in-time production and just-in-time consumption, little supply chain elasticity exists.

This poses a challenge when there are such dramatic spikes in demand. This is true in many critical categories including personal protective equipment (PPE). With COVID-19, the spikes in demand for PPE have been as high as 20x to 40x normal consumption levels. The entire industry capacity has not been enough to respond. Governments that were able to respond well had robust public policy frameworks and had implemented a national stockpile program for PPE and other essential supplies.

3M operates in over 70 countries working closely with governments and the private sector during the pandemic. 3M has worked with governments on stockpiling programs in many of these countries for nearly two decades. The purpose of this white paper is to share our experience and discuss global government best practices that we have observed for developing a robust, resilient, and sustainable national PPE stockpile.

We are eager to work with governments in the spirit of public-private partnership to serve the health needs of the public and that of other essential workers of the nation and to help protect heroic frontline health care workers and emergency responders in the fight against this COVID-19 pandemic and other future events.

In addition to stockpiling best practices, governments are well served when they:

- + Have the budgetary flexibility to procure what they need when they need it. These governments are not restricted to budget cycles for acquiring needed supplies.

- + Have the ability to authorize emergency use of appropriate PPE as part of their public health laws and regulations. This can facilitate rapid regulatory access to needed supplies beyond their borders.
- + Are resilient and can respond to a sudden spike in demand for PPE. They have access to a national stockpile of needed supplies. They can then assure frontline workers are equipped and protected.
- + Have "Emergency Supplies Stockpiling & Supply Chain Resilience" specified in their laws as a non-negotiable national requirement, which is supported with adequate funding.
- + Have legal and customs systems designed to fight product fraud and counterfeit.
- + Have PPE performance standards that are thoughtfully harmonized with other countries. This allows access to global supply chains. Unique and non-standard regulations make procurement even more difficult.
- + Allow for flow of goods through their borders. Countries that erect export restrictions may be able to secure short term PPE supplies quickly. However, this strategy often results in an overall reduction in longer term access to necessary supplies.
- + Enter into Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) with critical best-in-class suppliers. This PPP strategy has proven more effective than simple procurement agreements.

In our full white paper we describe in detail 11 global best practices to develop a robust, resilient, and sustainable stockpile program. We invite you to [download the full white paper](#).



1. The stockpile inventory must always be within its stated shelf life.



2. Streamlined stockpile product models simplify stockpile management.



3. Analytics to assist governments in developing a stockpile proportional in size to the minimum readiness levels expected in National Plans.



4. Stockpiles built using a range of high quality Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) that matches the intended purpose for use.



5. Personal protective equipment (PPE) stockpiles that fit a wide range of end-users.



6. Stockpiles sourced from a manufacturer(s) that can offer staggered procurement options, emergency use authorization experience, strategies to help manage product useful-life considerations, and other relevant advice.



7. Stockpiles sourced from a manufacturer(s) with a global footprint, production capacity, and sources of raw material, which can help mitigate potential export restrictions imposed by other nations.



8. Stockpiles sourced from a manufacturer(s) that has the capability to meet sporadic and modest spikes in demand.



9. Stockpiles sourced from a manufacturer(s) experienced and knowledgeable about pandemic preparedness.



10. Stockpiles sourced from a manufacturer prepared to be a partner with government health authorities rather than merely a supplier.



11. Stockpile demand planning tools allow for scenario planning and analytics by health authorities.

3M is eager to work with national and international governments and health authorities to help assure a long term robust, resilient, and sustainable stockpile program is developed based on sound public health policy foundations and global government best practices. We are ready to apply our science to helping protect lives in public-private partnership with governments and specially to support heroic health care workers and other essential frontline workers that continue to help our sick and keep our society functioning.