



## **The United Nations recognizes UNOPS purchase of medicines in Mexico as the best procurement project globally in 2022**

*Mexico City, October 13, 2022.-* On the basis of the Framework Agreement signed in July 2020, between the Government of Mexico, through the Institute of Health for Wellbeing (INSABI), and the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), UNOPS informs the following:

### **UN Procurement Awards**

The United Nations (UN) is integrated by 193 member states, of which Mexico is part. In this context, the High-Level Committee on Management - Procurement Network (HLCM-PN), the highest authority in the UN in the topic, gathered today in The Hague, The Netherlands, has informed that the Project for the Purchase of Medicines and Medical Supplies, that UNOPS implements with INSABI since the end of 2020, has been recognized as the best UN procurement project in the world for 2022. This is the highest award in procurement and sustainability that the UN offers.

This public procurement initiative has been recognized with the first place for its excellence in acquisitions due to its impact, sustainability, timely implementation, benefits demonstrated through indicators, best practices, added value in favor of the environment, relevance in the lives of people, and contributions to achieve the Goals of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

### **Efficiency and compliance in public health purchases**

UNOPS is responsible for 28% of the total expenditure of the Mexican public health system for the purchase of medicines and medical supplies. In this context, this award recognizes that the Project has meant a pioneering process to contribute to public health. In just two years, an opening of the market was achieved, since at the moment 99 providers concentrate 80% of public spending, while in 2018 80% was concentrated in 18, that is, an increase of more than 500%. Currently 180 suppliers from 21 countries participate in this purchase.

UNOPS responsibility consists of making the purchase, payments to suppliers and delivery to the warehouses designated by INSABI in the Metropolitan Area of Mexico City, which are responsible for distribution to health centers throughout the country. To date, 99% of the codes contracted by UNOPS have been delivered to warehouses on time; and 96% of payments to suppliers have been made on time, which generates greater certainty in the production of inputs. This has been the result of transparent practices, since UNOPS maintains spaces for dialogue with the representatives of the main pharmaceutical associations and the National Chamber of the Pharmaceutical Industry.

As an example, UNOPS has developed an information system for suppliers, to monitor payments and deliveries, making the logistics and financial process more efficient, as well as providing prompt attention to avoid delays in deliveries.



### **UNOPS generated economic benefits for 10,000 million pesos to the government of Mexico**

International transparency standards allowed UNOPS to make purchases at fair and efficient prices, managing to generate savings of 10,000 million pesos (around 500 million USD), which is significantly higher than UNOPS operating costs. UNOPS does not pursue any profit in the development of its activities. The contribution for UNOPS services corresponds only to its operating costs.

### **Transparency and public information from the beginning of the purchase**

UNOPS operates under the principles of transparency and accountability. Since the first awards in June 2021, the website [www.proyectosaludmexico.org](http://www.proyectosaludmexico.org) has made transparent the list of suppliers, codes, pieces and unit prices of the codes purchased through international public tenders; UNOPS and INSABI joint communications and progress reports, calls for bids, photo galleries of deliveries, frequently asked questions, the UNOPS Procurement Manual, and free online courses on UNOPS processes, among others.

### **Strengthening public health institutions**

As reported by INSABI: *"the specific agreement with UNOPS includes an institutional strengthening component, so that our country could consolidate an international supply channel, which was achieved before the time established in the agreement with this international organization, which was 2024"* (translated from Spanish).

As part of its mandate, UNOPS has contributed to its objective to accompany its partners in strengthening capacities through international best practices. This project has strengthened the national health system and promoted the wellbeing of the Mexican population, within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda.

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More information: [www.proyectosaludmexico.org](http://www.proyectosaludmexico.org)

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