Overview of Youth Caucus activities since RHSC GMM in Seattle

Morillio Williams, co-chair of the Youth Caucus & Public Affairs Officer SRHR at Simavi
Youth featured during RHSC GMM in Seattle

- 11 youth delegates attended the meeting
- Youth Discussion Group met in-person for the first time
- First Youth plenary session
- Discussions with all members on what RHSC’s role around young people’s access to RH supplies could be

Created the basis for making the youth work more formally integrated in RHSC
Activities planned for 2017

1) After positive interaction with the other RHSC Working Groups around youth, starting the process to become a formal Youth Caucus

2) Explore the possibility to have a young person in the open chair at the RHSC Executive Committee (EC)

3) Develop key messages on youth and reproductive health supplies

4) Guarantee meaningful youth participation during next RHSC GMM via a mentorship system

5) Data collection on youth and what products they want

6) Follow closely the work done in the youth IF programs

7) Search for youth specific funding

8) Use technology, strong and adapted communication and new media to inform young people about reproductive health products and points of delivery
1. Becoming a formal Youth Caucus

- Define objectives
- Outline how the Youth Caucus could contribute to the fulfillment of the goals and objectives of the RHSC Strategy
- Describe how youth issues are inherent to the Coalition’s pillars: availability, equity, quality and choice
- Explored the added value of becoming a formal Implementing Mechanism

May 2017: RHSC Executive Committee approved request to become formal Youth Caucus
2. Explore the possibility of youth chair at the RHSC Executive Committee (EC)

As a formal RHSC implementing mechanism the Youth Caucus chairs are represented in the RHSC Council of Chairs

Youth Caucus decided this was sufficient for the moment and having a seat in the EC was not our priority anymore
3. Develop key messages on youth and reproductive health supplies

- Literature review on link between youth and RH supplies
- Consultations with young people
- Discussion with Youth Caucus members
- Discussions with RH supplies experts

Development of RHSC Youth Caucus key messages on young people’s RH supplies access
4. Guarantee meaningful youth participation during next RHSC GMM

2018 RHSC GMM in Brussels:
- 52 participants <30 years old
- 12 young participants are linked to a more seasoned RHSC member through the ‘Supplies Fellowship Scheme’
- First formal Youth Caucus meeting
- Plenary session on youth issues
- 3 parallel sessions specifically related to youth issues
- 5 youth related project presented during Innovations Expo
5. Collect data and inform members

- Held 3rd youth consultation during Ouagadougou Partnership Meeting

- Webinars:
  - 5 Youth Innovation Fund projects
  - Youth Family Planning Policy Scorecard
  - Rise Up Youth Champions Initiative (with Packard)
  - I.AM Innovation Accelerator (with UNFPA)
  - Safety of contraceptives for young people (with BMGF)
  - Youth Caucus key messages advocacy and communications handbook
6. Youth IF programs

5 Youth related IF projects were implemented with great outcomes:

- **MSI China** introduced 1st service delivery guidelines for youth access to post-abortion contraception
- **VillageReach** removed logistical and clinical barriers to contraceptives access by youth in pharmacies in Malawi
- **WoMena** tested 6 menstrual cup pricing and distribution models in rural and urban settings in Uganda
- **CEDES** developed #Donde, a new mobile app, that points youth to nearest point of access of RH supplies
- **JSI** developed the mobile Health Supply Chain Management game to help young health workers acquire or update their supply chain management skills
7. Search for youth specific funding

- RHSC received a new grant from the Packard Foundation to support youth and abortion related projects
- Two of the Youth related IF projects have leveraged sustainable funding to continue the project after the IF grant ended
- Continuously informing Youth Caucus members about relevant calls for proposals from funders
8. Use technology, communication and new media:

- Through IF grants:
  - #Donde app
  - JSI game on Supply chain management
- 15 youth related articles or RHSC website and social media
- 3 blogs from young people on RHSC Medium
- 3 young people interviewed for RHSC’s ‘Who’s holding up our pillars?’
The Youth Caucus today

- 167 members
- Representatives from 43 countries of which 34 are from low or middle income countries
- 20 calls
- 390 contributions on the listserv

Ready to identify new activities for 2018 and complete them as well!
Thank you!