



POUR ELLE

BRUSSELS | 20-22 MARCH 2018

**18TH GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF THE
REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SUPPLIES COALITION**

RHSC Innovation Fund

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RHSC Innovation Fund: Catalyst and Visionary

The Innovation Fund is the Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition's flagship initiative for inspiring and financing new activities that further the Coalition's strategic goals and those of its Working Groups. Established in 2008, it has granted more than \$5M in 56 small awards, and has leveraged more than \$19.5M.

Next IF Launch: June 2018



INNOVATION FUND

Dear Coalition members,

I am excited to announce a new round of the Innovation Fund, the Coalition's flagship program for inspiring and financing new activities in the supplies space. This round will be an open call, which means any idea is eligible for consideration, providing that it furthers one or more strategic goals of the Coalition and your Implementing Mechanism (IM). To date, the Innovation Fund has made possible well over 50 new initiatives by providing more than \$5M in small grants to member organizations.



FONDO DE INNOVACIÓN

Estimados miembros de la Coalición,

Me complace sobremanera anunciarles una nueva ronda del Fondo de Innovación, el programa insignia de la Coalición orientado a inspirar y financiar nuevas actividades en el sector de insumos. Esta es una ronda de convocatoria abierta lo que significa que toda idea es elegible para ser considerada siempre y cuando adelante uno o más de los objetivos estratégicos de la Coalición y de sus Mecanismos de Implementación (MI). A la fecha, el Fondo de Innovación ha hecho posible unas 50 nuevas iniciativas al proporcionar más de 5 millones de dólares en pequeños convenios a nuestras organizaciones miembros.



FONDS POUR L'INNOVATION

Chers membres de la Coalition,

C'est avec plaisir que j'annonce un nouveau cycle du Fonds pour l'Innovation, le programme phare de la Coalition pour la promotion et le financement de nouvelles activités dans la sphère des produits. Ce cycle sera un appel ouvert, c'est-à-dire que toute proposition est admissible dans la mesure où elle promouvra un ou plusieurs objectifs stratégiques de la Coalition et de votre mécanisme d'exécution (ou Implementing Mechanism - IM). À ce jour, le Fonds pour l'Innovation a rendu possibles plus de 50 nouvelles initiatives pour une enveloppe totale de plus de 5 millions de dollars en petites subventions aux organisations membres.

Step 1: Idea Generation/clarification

RHSC Implementing Mechanisms discuss ideas central to supporting the work of the IM.

- Hold teleconferences
- Circulate ideas on the listserv
- Meet in small groups to discuss collaborative projects
- Solicit secretariat lead and Chair input early on!

Step 2: Concept Note Submission

Member organizations submit to Chairs and secretariat leads 250-word concept notes on their project idea.

The image shows a screenshot of a 'Concept Note Template' form. At the top left is the logo for the 'Reproductive Health SUPPLIES COALITION' and at the top right is the 'Innovation Fund' logo with the tagline 'Translating Ideas into action'. The title 'Concept Note Template' is centered in a blue header. Below the header is a blue box with white text: 'Please fill out the form below with the appropriate information, save it, and send it via e-mail to your IM Chair and corresponding secretariat lead.' The form is divided into sections: 'Contact Information' with fields for Name, E-mail, Organization, and Budget estimate; 'Implementing Mechanism:'; 'Concept note (maximum 200 words)' with a list of instructions: 'Please include: > The problem you have identified', '> How you propose to address this issue', and '> An estimate of total cost for the project.' At the bottom is a large, empty rectangular box for the concept note text.

Step 3: Concept Note Ideas selected

Chairs select a maximum of 2 concept notes for members to develop into a full proposal to be passed along to the Innovation Fund review committee.

Proposal development should involve the Chairs and secretariat lead throughout the process.

The image shows a two-page document. The left page is the 'Innovation Fund Application Template' with a blue header and the text 'Innovation Fund Application Template' in white. The right page is titled 'Instructions to applicants:' and contains detailed instructions for submitting an application, including contact information for the Innovation Fund review committee and a list of categories for which the application can be submitted. The categories are: Advocacy & Accountability Working Group, Market Development Approaches Working Group, Systems Strengthening Working Group, Generic Manufacturers for Reproductive Health Caucus, Maternal Health Supplies Caucus, New and Underused Reproductive Health Technologies Caucus, Youth Caucus, Foro Latinoamericano y del Caribe (FORO LAC), and Sécurité Contraceptive en Afrique Francophone (SECONAF).

Innovation Fund
Application Template

Instructions to applicants:

Use this form to describe and submit your application. Please limit its length to five pages (not including the cover page or the budget attachment). Use eleven-point font, one-inch margins, and single spacing. Applications must be submitted to the chair/leader of the sponsoring Implementing Mechanism (IM), with copy (cc) to info@ihf.org, Secretariat. Once approved by the Implementing Mechanism, the chair/leader will forward the application directly to the Innovation Fund review committee. For any questions, please contact innovation@ihf.org.

Date:
Project title:
Amount requested: US\$
Project start date:
Project end date:
Name of applicant organization/fiscal agent to receive funds:
Contact information (mailing address, telephone, and email):

Through which of the following IMs is this application being submitted? Please, select one only.

- Advocacy & Accountability Working Group
- Market Development Approaches Working Group
- Systems Strengthening Working Group
- Generic Manufacturers for Reproductive Health Caucus
- Maternal Health Supplies Caucus
- New and Underused Reproductive Health Technologies Caucus
- Youth Caucus
- Foro Latinoamericano y del Caribe (FORO LAC)
- Sécurité Contraceptive en Afrique Francophone (SECONAF)

* Starting dates should begin no earlier than two-and-a-half months after submission of the application—to account for the review process and notification, potential revisions, and finalization of grant paperwork.

INNOVATION FUND APPLICATION TEMPLATE

Step 4: IF review committee decision

The IF review committee meets to review proposals submitted from all Implementing Mechanisms.

The committee applies the review sheet criteria to rank the proposals, and as many projects are awarded as can be supported with the amount of funding dedicated per round (typically between 400K-500K).

Innovation Fund Review Criteria

1. Justification of the project (35 points)

- Do the authors make a convincing case that the proposed project promises to address or overcome a critical problem that impedes the achievement of one or more Coalition strategic goals?
- Is the project in line with the goals and priorities of the respective IM?
- Does the project include provisions for addressing the commodity needs of marginalized groups, and specifically product choice for populations such as the economically disadvantaged, rural populations, or young people?
- Does the project hold out reasonable promise of delivering on what it purports to do?

2. Well-defined (40 points)

- Clearly defined goal and objectives
- Realistic activities and milestones.
- Implementing organization(s) can carry out the proposed work and has experience carrying out similar work.
- Adequate monitoring and evaluation plan.

3. Utilization of results (15 points)

- Does the proposal set out a considered, well-articulated way forward for the dissemination and ultimately utilization of generalizable knowledge?

4. Budget plan (10 points)

- Clearly described.
- Appropriate for the work described.

5. Funding alternatives: (10 possible bonus points)

- Have other donors already been approached?
- Is co-funding available?
- Requested funding does not replace investment that would have been made.

