Supplies Fellows Scheme
Outcomes and evaluation

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Supplies Fellows Scheme

WHAT?
The Scheme pairs young and more seasoned RHSC GMM attendees to have an equal exchange of experience and knowledge and provide learning opportunities.

GOAL?
To nurture the next generation of RH supplies leaders and voices by supporting meaningful youth participation in the 2018 RHSC GMM in Brussels, and promote resilient professional and interpersonal relationships between young and more seasoned RHSC members.

OBJECTIVES?
1. Create time and space for networking and relationship building among young and seasoned members. Fellow-pairs gain new insights, new contacts, and identify areas of collaboration.
2. Foster better understanding of youth priorities related to RH supplies by enabling information sharing between seasoned and young members.
3. Pave the way for a more long-term fellow scheme within RHSC.
Target Groups

YOUNG FELLOWS:
RHSC members under the age of 35 that were planning to attend the GMM in Brussels were approached to submit their candidacy if they had interest in participating.
14 young members registered.

MORE SEASONED FELLOWS:
The RHSC secretariat reached out to more seasoned RHSC attendees that have participated in RHSC GMM in the past, are active in the Coalition's IMS and know the internal structure of the network well.
14 more seasoned members agreed to participate.
Supplies Fellows Scheme Evaluation
Participation

28 fellows (or 14 pairs) initially registered for the Fellows Scheme. Due to travel issues 24 Fellows (or 12 pairs) were present at the meeting.

An electronic survey was send to all 24 Fellows that comprised 11 questions. We received 15 responses, 8 from Young Fellows and 7 from More Seasoned Fellows. The survey was anonymous.
Why did you originally agree to take part in this Scheme?

- I thought I could support my Fellow in some way: 30
- I was eager to learn from my Fellow: 60
- I needed help navigating the meeting: 5
“It can’t always be the same people around the table trying to brainstorm an innovative approach to solving the same problem. If we don’t extend welcoming hands and provide specific inroads into the community we’re not going to get there.”
Meetings between Fellows

How many times did you meet?

- We didn't meet
- We met just once
- We met a couple of times

How did you experience that?

- Could have been more
- It was too much, it was a waste of time
- It was just fine
What did the you learn from your Fellow?

Young Fellows:
- Insights on specific projects
- Introduction to relevant contacts/donors
- Learned details about RHSC and its strategy
- Career guidance
- Upcoming opportunities for my work

More Seasoned Fellows:
- Young fellow’s eagerness to learn and be exposed to new ideas/people
- Introduction to other participants at the meeting than the once I already know
- Made me think outside my usual ‘routine’
- Realizing the potential youth could play in improving access to RH commodities
- Introduction to youth related grassroots work
What did you bring to your Fellow?

Young Fellows:
- Access to a network of young people
- Show opportunities to pursue relevant projects with youth
- Give advise on how to reach young people

More Seasoned Fellows:
- Technical assistance on RH supplies
- Introduced young Fellow to relevant people for her/his work
- Gave background information when we joined sessions together
- Encouragement when she/he had to do a presentation
- Career information
- Insights into the Coalition and how to get your topics/ideas taken up
- Future support if he/she continues work on supplies
“This scheme is a wonderful idea - most people at conferences work on their own, but here we are working together.”
Did the Scheme bring added value to your presence in Brussels?

All of them responded that they would join the Supplies Fellows Scheme again if organized during the RHSC 2019 GMM.
How did you consider the support/activities set up by the RHSC Secretariat?

- It was too much. I wasn’t able to make time for all of them.
- It was just enough. More fixed activities would have made it impossible for me to take part.
- It was too little. I would have preferred to have more structure/activities led by the RHSC Secretariat to guide us.

Graph showing responses:

- Young Members
- More Seasoned Members
“It’s an opportunity for us to listen, because when you are older you spend a lot of time talking.”
Will you follow up with your Fellow now that the meeting is over?

- Yes, we have already been in touch
- Yes, I’m planning to contact my Fellow to talk again
- Not sure, it will depend if an opportunity comes up
- No, I don’t see the added value of it
Suggestions?

- Organise 1 or 2 informal/optional meeting/lunch/dinner/drinks for Fellows to meet that are planned very early on
- Make time in the program for networking for the fellows to meet. It is difficult to include it into the already very pact agenda.
- List indications of how Fellows can support each other
- Include a panel in the program with all the Fellows
- More scheduled meetings between the two Fellows prior to the GMM.
- Work on a simple action plan for the GMM which can be evaluated together after the meeting.
- Exchange what meetings you are speaking/attending beforehand so Fellows can try to attend sessions together.
- Organise a breakout session on nurturing new professionals with the Fellows
- Expand the Fellow Scheme outside of the GMM so that partners not able to join the GMM can also join the scheme.
- Ask very senior people as more seasoned Fellows, this will have more impact
- Try to repeat participation of both young and more seasoned Fellows in the upcoming GMM’s because continuation over time will reap more benefits.