In September 2016, the Reproductive Health Supplies Coalition kicked off four unique projects designed to increase young people’s access to reproductive health supplies. Support for these projects came from a special youth-specific round of the Innovation Fund, the Coalition’s flagship initiative for inspiring and financing new activities. The call for proposals yielded 35 grant applications. Four were chosen to receive one-year grants.

**JUST YOUTH**
Outcomes of the Innovation Fund’s special round for young people

1. **Introduced first service delivery guidelines for youth access to post-abortion contraception**
   *Marie Stopes International China (MSI-China)*
   - **CONTEXT**
     - 13M abortions take place in China every year
     - 47% abortions are among women under 26 years old
     - 56% frequency of repeat abortions among young women
     - No LARC use among unmarried youth
     - Young people choose condoms, withdrawal, & calendar methods
   - **THE PROJECT**
     - Developed first guidelines on youth access to contraceptives in the country
     - Introduced guidelines in 6 hospitals
   - **RESULTS**
     - 4,000 young people learned about LARCs through outreach
     - 64% of abortion care patients under 25 years opted for a LARC method
     - Guidelines will become part of China’s National Guidelines for Post-Abortion Contraception
     - Supplementary funding received for research on acceptance of LARCs

2. **Removed logistical and clinical barriers to contraceptive access by youth**
   *VillageReach, Malawi*
   - **CONTEXT**
     - Adolescent pregnancy and birth rates among highest in the world
     - 43 live births per 1,000 girls aged 15-19 each year
     - 25% of married 15-19-year-olds and 30% of unmarried girls use contraception
     - Key barriers to youth access include contraceptive stockouts, judgemental provider attitudes, and poor clinical standards and procedures
   - **THE PROJECT**
     - Set up a mentorship program for pharmacy assistant
     - Pharmacy assistants trained health facility staff to improve commodity availability.
   - **RESULTS**
     - Youth friendly pharmacy standards have been incorporated in trainings and national protocols
     - 12 health facilities benefitted from mentorship programme
     - $6M awarded to VillageReach to expand project’s scope and impact
3

Tested menstrual cup pricing and distribution models in rural and urban settings
WoMena, Uganda

**CONTEXT**

>50% percentage of girls in Uganda miss school due to menstrual hygiene management challenges

5-10 YEARS average duration of menstrual cup

**THE PROJECT**

6 novel distribution models tested:

- "Goat and Cup for work"
- Savings Groups
- "Marie Stopes Ladies"

**RESULTS**

1,227 Menstrual cups distributed during life of project

**IMPORT DUTIES**

The project successfully advocated for the removal of import duties on the Ruby Cup®

4

#Donde, a new mobile app, points youth to nearest RH facility
Centro de Estudios de Estado y Sociedad, Argentina

**CONTEXT**

Adolescent fertility in Argentina among highest in the world

69.6 live births per 1,000 Argentinian girls aged 15-19 each year

70% of adolescents giving birth reported not using contraceptives

**THE PROJECT**

- New mobile app #Donde allows youth in Argentina to find contraceptives and safe, legal abortion counselling
- #Donde designed to give information discreetly and privately
- Users can feed data into the platform and rate quality of care received at service delivery
- Data collected through #Donde applied to advocate for better quality facilities with youth access to RH commodities.

**RESULTS**

8,000 Number of RH distribution outlets geo-referenced by #Donde

15,045 current users of #Donde