

Coalition partners hold up FP lens to proposed financing facility

At our recent General Membership Meeting, few topics generated as much attention as the proposed Global Financing Facility (GFF). This facility, still under development, seeks to streamline the financing architecture for support to reproductive, maternal, neonatal, child and adolescent health.

By standing at the centre of so many different sectors and communication channels, the Coalition is well-placed to act as a conduit, delivering relevant information on the GFF to the broader RH community and channelling the input of that community back into key GFF decision making processes. This month, as a key component of that effort, the Coalition launched a series of communiqués called '[Connecting the Dots](#)'. The communiqués aim to inform our membership of GFF developments with a special focus on the implications for family planning.

Also this month, the Advocacy and Accountability (A&A) Working Group circulated a position paper, calling upon the broader RH community to make their voices heard and raise the visibility of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and family planning. To date, the paper has secured more than 260 signatories, representing 162 organizations from 56 countries. Results of the outreach effort will feed into the GFF consultation, due to end on 12 December. For more information contact [Lou Compennolle](#).

LAPTOP scholars hail from seven countries

Seven promising supply chain stalwarts have been selected out of more than 60 applications to receive study funds under the second round of LAPTOP scholarships. Financed through a generous grant from Bayer HealthCare Pharmaceuticals, the scholarship programme is designed help health professionals in developing countries secure the resources they need to pursue a course of study in supply chain management. To date, scholarships have been awarded to nationals of Burkina Faso, Malawi, Afghanistan, Yemen, Zimbabwe, Cote d'Ivoire and Cameroon. Watch this space for the names and profiles of this month's scholarship winners.

Concept Foundation publishes white paper

The Concept Foundation recently released '[In Focus: The Quality of Reproductive Health Medicines Programme](#)', a white paper highlighting the key milestones and lessons learnt under its Quality of Reproductive Health Medicines programme. The programme was launched in 2009 under the auspices of the Coalition. The white paper, which draws together information from project findings, literature reviews, and in-depth interviews, spells out what will be required to sustain the quality agenda and expand access to affordable, quality-assured reproductive health medicines.

SSWG finalizes stockout indicators

The Coalition's Systems Strengthening Working Group (SSWG) has finalized a suite of indicators that promises to harmonize the way our community measures stockouts. Developed through an iterative, consultative process involving field-tests in Bangladesh and Zambia, the suite includes four primary indicators for each of four categories. These include products/methods offered, range of methods available, point-in-time stockouts, and frequency and duration of stockouts over time. In addition to a set of secondary indicators, the Working Group has also developed a single universal indicator that it hopes will be used by all organizations measuring contraceptive stockouts. Discussions are now underway with the PMA (Performance Monitoring and Accountability) Working Group of FP2020 to coordinate metrics and monitoring efforts, thereby setting the stage for the next phase of this work, which will involve rallying the broader community around this set of indicators. For more information, please contact Ellen Tompsett at etompsett@rhsupplies.org.

Madagascar becomes 30th country to contribute stock data to PPMR

The Procurement Planning and Monitoring Report (PPMR) database, which was developed in 2008 to support the work of the CARhs, has received its first report from Marie Stopes Madagascar, making that country the 30th to be reporting into the tool. In addition to offering greater visibility into national stock levels, participation in the PPMR is itself seen to be strongly associated with declines in stockouts at central level. A recent analysis by JSI suggests that since the PPMR was launched, countries reporting into it have witnessed fewer stockouts—from 14% of reports in 2008, to 8% of reports in

2014. Moreover, the trend has been continuous, despite a tripling in the number of countries reporting. By offering the CARhs greater visibility into contraceptive stock levels, Madagascar's participation in the PPMR will allow it to benefit from CARhs support, but also to incentivize more proactive stock management in-country.

Please share

If you haven't yet seen it, please view our [2014 Holiday Greetings](#), and share with your partners. The greeting expresses a sentiment whose relevance goes beyond the holiday period, and inspires all our work and commitment.

18-19 December [3rd Annual Meeting of the Ouagadougou Partnership](#), Paris, France

16-17 April 2015 International Parliamentarians' Conference on Population and Development, Berlin, Germany

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