

Innovation Fund

Emilie Peeters

AAWG meeting

Tuesday 11, October 2016



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

of the

**REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH
SUPPLIES COALITION**

10-14 OCTOBER 2016

#RHSUPPLIES2016



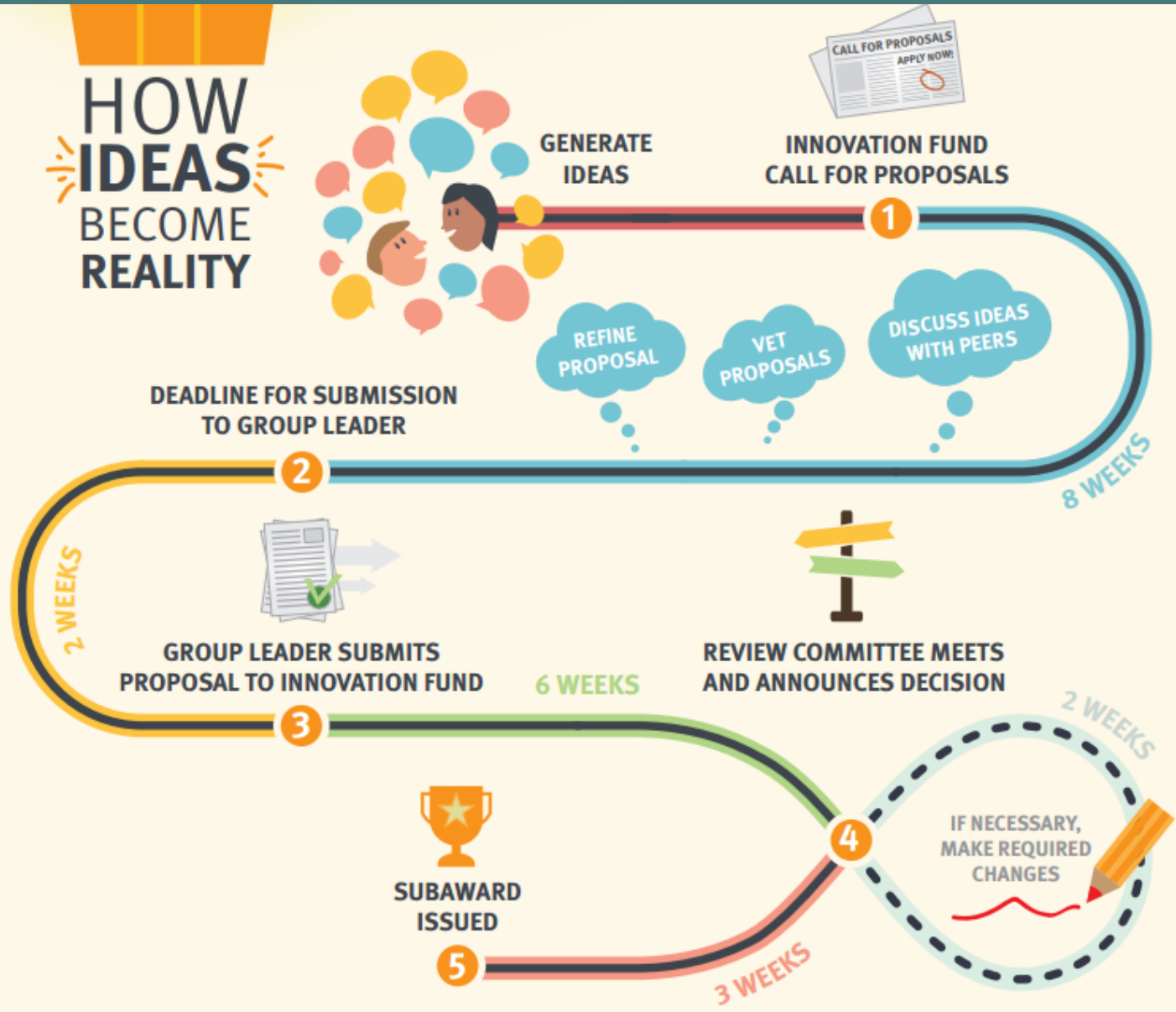
Ideas behind the IF

- Inspiring and financing new activities that further the Coalition's strategic goals and those of its Working Groups.
- Ensure that all of the Coalition's working groups had equal access to the funds needed to carry out their objectives
- Catalyst for bridging all the sectors—advocacy, technical, commercial—that make up the Coalition's large and diverse membership.
- Bring about positive change:
 - No radical departure from previous practice but rather new approaches to existing processes.
 - Can apply to systems or processes and the generation of new knowledge.
 - Apply an existing strategy in a new context for the first time, thereby shedding light on how best to replicate and scale-up new approaches at the country level

Eligibility

- Member of the Coalition
- Active participants of an Implementing Mechanism (IM):
 - Advocacy & Accountability, Market Development Approaches, and Systems Strengthening Working Groups
 - the Regional Forums SECONAF and ForoLAC
 - the Generic Manufacturers for Reproductive Health, Maternal Health Supplies, and New and Underused Reproductive Health Technologies Caucuses.
- They should make a convincing case that the proposed activity increases access to affordable, quality health supplies in one or more countries
- Preference is given to implementing organizations based in low- and middle income countries.
- To avoid delays before contracting and funding of the activity, research proposals requiring approval by an ethical review board are not eligible

HOW IDEAS BECOME REALITY



Consequences of an expansion of the Coalition

- Proposals do not always focus on carrying out the objectives of the Coalition's IMs
 - Themed Innovation Fund calls make direct link with IMs not always possible
 - Application process has become longer and more complicated
 - High burden of work for IM Chairs/RHSC staff
- Need to update the IF process

Suggested changes

- Notify chairs earlier when IF call is coming up so they are better prepared
- Inform IM Chairs better about the objective of the IF and the process when they become a chair
- Pair the announcement of the IF call for proposals with a webinar on what ‘innovation’ means
- Clarify the responsibilities of the IM chairs vs the secretariat leads
- Clarify what membership exactly means (e.g. being on a listserv is not enough)

Suggested changes

- Strengthen the role of IMs and IM chairs in the process:
 - submit one-page concept note to their IM chair (2 weeks)
 - Chairs start conversations with applicants and collect feedback from IM chairs (2 weeks)
 - The IM selects 3 ideas to be developed into a full proposal
 - Applicants send official proposal to IM Chair (2 weeks). Dialogue should continue during this period so the proposal is very familiar to the chair and the IM as a whole.
 - Chair works with applicant on final changes and translation and submits to IF manager (1 week)

Suggestions?

- How to relate the IF back to the IMs?
- Division of labor between IM Chairs/RHSC staff/Review Committee
- How to make the process more user-friendly?
- How to link themed IF calls to the IMs?