

## Zorgniotti Fund 2024 – Summary proposed project ISSWSH

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### SMSNA Regional Interest Groups

#### Background:

Currently ISSWSH has 71 members outside of North America. This is just over 5% of membership (1162 members from the US and 61 members from Canada).

It is the goal of this program to create an infrastructure that we are calling the International Leadership Champion Program intended to build an international community and to expand our educational outreach to new global audiences.

This program is in-line with our strategic plan (24-28) as it supports our strategic focus areas of fostering community and engagement, improving communication and ISSWSH's global visibility, enhancing our collaborations and partnerships internationally and expanding ISSWSH education.

The program will be structured in the following way (detail outlined in Section 4).

1. We will first identify 1 international leadership champion among our members for each of these regions: Africa, Asia, Australia/New Zealand/Pacific Islands, Europe, Latin America/the Caribbean, and the Middle East.
2. Next, we will support these leaders by bringing the content of ISSWSH's very popular Fall Course to these newly identified international audiences.
3. We anticipate this program will introduce new international communities to our Annual Scientific Meeting that perfectly aligns with our joint scientific meeting with ISSM in Atlanta, GA February 27-March 2, 2025 as well as future meetings.
4. Finally, we will provide on-going engagement of champions and new members throughout 2025 and beyond.

Through this program we hope to increase membership and engagement in ISSWSH, expose a new audience to ISSWSH education, and create a vibrant international community. All of this supports our vision for a "Thriving Sexuality for Every Body."