

National NGO Forum

Review of work – 2006 to 2009



1. Background

1.1 Aim

The NGO Forum aims to be a key way for government and NGOs to discuss and develop public health policy.

1.2 Description

The NGO Forum is a membership organisation, funded by the Department of Health, which facilitates dialogue between national policy makers and NGOs on ways to improve public health and reduce health inequalities. As a champion of effective engagement with NGOs, the Forum has a significant role to play in helping with the delivery of the public health agenda.

1.3 Objectives

- Increase cross-government engagement with Forum members, by developing long-term/on-going relationships and acting as a vehicle for communications and consultation.
- Members to actively participate in NGO Forum events and engage fully with government consultations.
- To undertake future scanning to ensure members and key stakeholders are informed about public health issues arising from policy initiatives.
- To provide the impetus and draw together NGO resources to support government initiatives.

1.4 History

The Government's 1999 white paper 'Saving Lives: Our Healthier Nation' established the National Forum of Non-Governmental Public Health Organisations (subsequently known as the NGO Forum) as part of its developing public health strategy. Since its inception the NGO Forum has been involved with developing the 'Choosing Health' white paper (2004) and the Wanless report on 'Securing good health for the whole population' also published in 2004. Included in the Choosing Health White Paper are commitments to support and develop the voluntary and community sectors. In particular it stated that the NGO Forum will be strengthened the National Report on Social Marketing 'It's our health!' (2006) cited the NGO Forum as "the key vehicle for engaging key national NGOs in the planning and delivery of all future social marketing enhanced national programmes and campaigns."

The NGO Forum began with less than 30 members - national non-governmental organisations concerned with different aspects of public health. The member organisations now represent the wide range of facets that make up public health including housing, community development, physical activity, sustainable development as well as heart health, nutrition and sexual health. Those who focus on particular groups such as young people or black and minority ethnic groups are also represented.

The NGO Forum holds regular meetings and national conferences, covering various topics of interest and supporting government policy initiatives. For example, the NGO Forum coordinated an invite for the third sector to ensure their input into the development of the health trainers' programme, reaching the sector leaders better than the Department of Health had been able to without the NGO Forum's support.

The strategic direction for the NGO Forum is led by a small steering group of members, currently chaired by Professor Robert Pickard (also Chair of Which?).

The first chair of the Forum was Dr Pat Troop in her position as Deputy Chief Medical Officer, following which it was led by Professor Lindsey Davies, Director of Public Health for the North East. Prior to Professor Pickard's appointment as an independent chair the Forum was jointly chaired by Dr Fiona Adshead on behalf of the Dept. of Health and Ian Grey on behalf of the member organisations.

When the NGO Forum was set up it was under the management of the Health Development Agency. A manager was appointed to provide consistent management and provide a link between members and the Department of Health.

1.5 Move to Royal Society for Public Health

Following the closure of the Health Development Agency, the NGO Forum was transferred to the National Institute of Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE) along with all the other major functions of the Health Development Agency. Within six months of the transfer it became clear that the role of the Forum did not fit the NICE business model and it was agreed a new host organisation would need to be found. The role of managing the Forum was put out to tender amongst the existing members. Over twelve expressions of interest were received and after a short-listing procedure, interviews were held with two organisations, and the RSPH became the new host organisation in April 2006.

This move has been very positive for the NGO Forum and has enhanced connections with third sector organisations. As the RSPH Chief Executive and the Council are fully supportive, they are often act as ambassadors for the NGO Forum and have proven successful in recruiting several new members.

Another benefit of moving to the RSPH was that through sharing costs of recruitment and overheads, the Forum was able to take on a part-time administrator who also works on other RSPH areas. This has ensured the website and membership database are kept up-to-date, and that support for is provided events and dealing with queries when the manager is unavailable.

The move to a new host organisation provided an opportunity to look at the membership mix of the Forum. It was agreed to try and broaden the membership more widely into those sectors that don't have health in their name but whose work influences it, especially with regard to the social determinants of health.

“The health related third sector is a powerful group of organisations which, when working together, has the capability to influence policy and change practices across the world. There is no doubt that the only effective way to improve health standards is to involve people more in addressing their own health issues by providing education, support and encouragement. The NGO Forum is well placed to help in this.”

Personally I value greatly the relationship between the NGO Forum and the RSPH, and want to ensure the Royal Society's continuing support for, and promotion of, the Forum in reaching out to other voluntary groups and increasing international links; in this I know I have the full backing of my trustees."

Dr Selwyn Hodge
Chair, Royal Society for Public Health

2 Achievements and outcomes

- 2.1 When the RSPH took over management of the NGO Forum, various undertakings were given. Firstly, the NGO Forum worked with members and the Department of Health to produce an agreement for working together. This was launched by the Minister for Public Health, Caroline Flint MP in March 2007.
- 2.2 The Forum manager worked to develop a new website, reflecting to the new organisational support. This project was cost-effective as it was undertaken by the company already providing IT support and web development for the RSPH and thereby a generous discount was negotiated.
- 2.3 With the agreement of the Department of Health the NGO Forum undertook to recruit an independent chair to help promote the role of the Forum and give guidance to the steering group. After a selection process Prof Robert Pickard was appointed in late February 2007. At this point it was agreed there would be an annual meeting to discuss the NGO Forum's achievements and priorities with the Minister of Public Health, to date this has not taken place.
- 2.4 The Forum membership has grown from just over 70 members in April 2006 to 103 as of March 2009. New members have been recruited via various routes including promotion of the NGO Forum by the Chief Executive and the Council of the RSPH, the Chair of the NGO Forum, steering group members, exhibiting at relevant conferences and the Forum manager's promotional efforts.

2.5 Workshops and conferences

Since April 2006 there have been three large national events and several smaller workshops and seminars. The first event was to mark the launch of the document 'Moving Forward to Improve Health: NGO Forum and Department of Health' held in March 2007. The next year in the spring there was an evening lecture and seminar panel where the guest speaker was Sir Michael Marmot, who spoke about the role of social determinants of health and links with obesity. In January 2009 the theme of social determinants was continued at a national conference attended by over 150 delegates, representing all sectors with an interest in public health and included overseas delegates.

Each national event has scored highly with delegates both for usefulness and overall satisfaction rates, with good and very good scores achieving over 95% of all responses.

Workshops have been held in London, the South West, the East of England and the North East, working with regional and local third sector organisations on ways in which they can address health inequalities.

There were also workshops for members to consult with them about proposals to change how the Dept of Health funds the third sector. The NGO Forum has provided support at events held by members included exhibiting and facilitating workshops.

The National Social Marketing Centre ran a workshop for NGO Forum members in 2006 to ensure the sector was informed about social marketing and how they might use the tools and techniques in their own work.

2.6 Monthly email news bulletin

The monthly email news bulletin is distributed to all NGO Forum members and also to a variety of other interested parties, including public health professionals in local third sector organisations, Primary Care Trusts, and universities. The news bulletin is distributed to over 200 key stakeholders.

2.7 London Public Health Teaching Network (LPHTN)

The NGO Forum has worked for the past two years with the London Public Health Network to assist with their programme for career development for public health practitioners in the third sector. This has included the initial workshop for third sector organisations to help the LPHTN develop strategies for how to engage with the Third Sector.

“The London Teaching Public Health Network has been working to build workforce capacity to deliver better health. Much of this work involves engaging with the Third Sector and we view the NGO as one of our key partners and an important network member, sharing a mutual interest in helping the sector understand its role as part of the public health workforce. We view the Forum as a valuable resource for our network, providing a ready made contact database for health charities as well as a trusted and supportive link, through its manager.

Through our work with the Forum, we have been able to connect with many of the main health charities with a wide range of public health interests, some of whom continue to help and advise with our workforce development research and projects. For example, following a workshop set up by the Forum to help us develop strategies on how to engage the Third Sector, we are now working in partnership with the National Healthy Living Alliance, training the workforce about childhood obesity in London. The Forum has provided assistance and support for our research into the public health skills and career development of the workforce in the Third Sector which has helped shape the recent consultation on the value of a Skills Passport in health and well-being. It continues to do so.

We are currently working with the Forum to collect careers data from the Third Sector workforce for a UK public health careers project, PHORCaST (Public Health Online Resource for Careers and Skills Training).”

LPHTN Lead, Third Sector Engagement

2.8 Consultations and campaigns

As part of the news bulletin service, members are alerted to key relevant consultations being undertaken by government bodies and other public health organisations. The Forum has submitted responses on several of these including:

- Department of Health's response to proposed European Commission communication on health inequalities
- The future of tobacco control (Dept of Health)
- Social determinants of health interim report (WHO)
- Written evidence to the Health Select Committee enquiry into health inequalities.
- Accrediting producers of guidance (NICE)

The NGO Forum has promoted numerous campaigns for various member organisations including the Men's Health Forum, British Heart Foundation, Sustrans, and Ash amongst others. Many of these campaigns have been designed to support and underpin government public health priorities. This has increased the scope and reach of their work and enabled them to reach other organisations who they would not have directly contacted without the assistance of the NGO Forum.

2.9 National NGO Action Plan for Health (Obesity)

One of the ideas submitted by the RSPH when bidding to host the Forum was to develop a national plan for obesity. During 2007/2008 a mapping process was undertaken to look at what actions were currently taking place amongst the membership. This snap shot was completed in September 2008 and since then a plan has been drafted.

There is already a vast amount of action among NGO Forum members at national, regional and local level that could have a positive effect on climate change, health inequities and obesity. While there are degrees of cooperation and coordination within specific policy areas, such as marketing food to children, promotion of active travel and action on reducing poverty, there is no one working to coordinate the NGO sector across all three agendas.

The advantage of such coordination would be the ability to evaluate action continuously and direct funding towards those initiatives that had a positive impact on tackling climate change, health inequalities and obesity. The NGO Forum could draw up criteria for accreditation in some form that could be awarded to members whose initiatives achieved positive results. The long-term goal would be a comprehensive audit of evaluated initiatives tackling climate change, inequalities and obesity across all sections of society, thereby fulfilling the DH's request to develop a national plan for NGOs to work together.

2.9 Health inequalities resource for third sector

During 2008/2009 the NGO Forum will develop a health inequalities resource for third sector organisations. A literature review was conducted during the spring of

2008, and a first draft completed by January 2009. This will be tested with NGO Forum members and via their links with local organisations. The draft resource is being tested with local third sector organisations. It is expected that the final toolkit will be ready by late Spring 2009.

The resource is being developed primarily for Community and Voluntary Sector (CVS) organisations with links to tackling inequalities in health. The resource is designed to equip the CVS working on health inequalities with the necessary information and tools to meet and address the challenges of tackling health inequalities. The ideas presented in the resource can be used according to their own assessment of local needs; as such the resource should be used as a starting point and not the end point. It has been developed to reflect a wide range of interests and views from NGO membership and key partners working in the area of health inequalities.

3. Financial report

The RSPH year is from January to December and this overview reflects those accounting periods.

Expenditure	2006 £75k (funding)	2007 £100k (funding)	2008 £100k (funding)
Salary & support costs	£56k	£60k	£70k
Marketing	£6k	£6k	£4k
Workshops and conferences	£5k	£22k (national conference)	£10k
Website (06 includes new site development costs)	£4k	£1k	£1k
Project development	£4k	£11k	£15k

4. Feedback from members

The following comments reflect the views of NGO Forum members and both the positive and negative are included. The negative comments come from those organisations which have been less engaged with NGO Forum activities and are in the minority of comments received.

“Just want to provide some positive feedback on the newsletter. The resources, initiatives and conference dates are invaluable to me - especially as I don’t have much time to read around and find these things out for myself.” (non-member subscriber)

“This is a brilliant service - thank you. Really useful.” (Institute of Rural Health)

"It is immensely useful to be able to use the NGO Forum bulletin to publicise our work, especially publications and events, to a wide and important audience. Because we are a relatively small NGO, this support adds disproportionately to our capacity to disseminate our work. The bulletin also provides a very useful and unique insight into the work of other NGOs."
Men's Health Forum

The above quotes were received in response to news bulletins.

"We benefit from NGO Forum membership in the following ways:

- Receipt of your regular update which is valuable to us in terms of the news items, notification of events and funding opportunities.*
- The presence of a Forum representative at high profile events and seminars etc - your helpful presence at our national conference in March 2009 is a good example of this."* (ContinYou)

"There has never been enough on your meeting agendas to justify my time in attending. Accident prevention is very much the Cinderella of public health as witnessed by how few staff DH invests in it and the fact RoSPA has had to find the funds to promote the reintroduction of data collection. Your news bulletins are wide ranging but usually tell me about consultations I have heard about from other sources. I keep an eye on what you are doing but really don't feel very involved any more. Our agenda is being serviced more by DCSF than DH these days and we are heavily involved in their committees and activities But that still leaves a lot of work to be done with older people which doesn't seem to fit anywhere. Several recent reports have said that the Government needs a much more co-ordinated approach to accident prevention but not a lot seems to be happening." (RoSPA)

"The meeting held by the NGO Forum on a forthcoming WHO report on the social determinants of health gave stakeholders a good understanding about the role they could play in reducing global health inequities. This was particularly relevant to the World Cancer Research Fund as it was itself in the process of producing a global report detailing the evidence linking food, nutrition, physical activity and the prevention of cancer, as well as recommending policy actions required to reduce cancer risk." (WCRF)

"We do find the NGO Forum useful, although I don't think we use it as much as we might, which is a shame. We find the bulletin really useful, both to share information about our own initiatives, and to find out about what else is going on. We don't make as much use of Forum events as we would like, these look to have been good seminars that we would have wanted to be at if we had been able to make the dates, etc." (MIND)

5. Benefits to Department of Health

A key benefit for the Dept. of Health is having a route by which they can communicate with a large proportion of the third sector concerned with public health.

By having a collaborative and engaged partnership with the NGO Forum members it is possible to have real and constructive conversations and consultation about policy development.

By funding the NGO Forum, the Dept. of Health has given the members a focal point via which their opinions and views can be expressed clearly. The Forum can act as a critical friend providing a clear response on behalf of all Forum members allowing the Dept of Health to understand and learn about the key issues in the third sector.

The NGO Forum provides the Dept. of Health with a method for making rapid contact with a wide range of diverse organisations that all have a professional interest in health and well-being. With current staffing levels, the NGO Forum is able to co-ordinate responses and delivers a coherent response to requests for consultations on a wide variety of topics.

The NGO Forum includes in its membership four the new Dept. of Health National Strategic Partners and the Forum provides an opportunity to underpin their work and ensure that the Strategic Partners reach key stakeholders in the areas of health inequalities in the Third Sector.

In response to a request for information and feedback from members coordinated by NGO Forum Manager, a Dept. of Health manager said:

“The response you have sent through is very useful:

- 1) to identify areas which we may have over-looked*
- 2) to identify potential areas where there might be stronger support than we realised*
- 3) to identify possible areas of divergence*

It also helps to know the positions that NGOs individually and collectively might be taking, to think about how we work with other Member States.

Can I therefore thank you for the timely and helpful response.”

6. Benefits to members

The Forum gives members:

- Access to Dept. of Health policy makers
- Opportunities to be involved in consultations that without the Forum they would not have the capacity
- A network that introduces them to other organisations with similar interests which they might not have come across within their own area of interest
- The Forum is able to respond to member requests and provide a coordinated approach to shared issues and topics
- Opportunities to promote campaigns and activities to a much wider audience of third sector organisations
- A news service that provides timely items about a wide variety of topics.

7. Conclusions

The NGO Forum has grown rapidly over the past three years. This has led to more opportunities for networking, though this has mainly been electronically. The level of

responses to consultations has resulted in some high quality and comprehensive feedback on in a variety of areas of public health concern.

The email news bulletin is a popular feature and continues to receive positive feedback and proves a useful resource for NGO Forum members.

As the reputation of the Forum grows, it becomes a popular way of reaching a large number of third sector organisations with an interest in public health. Successes include being asked to contribute to ContinYou's conference on inequalities and education. The Forum has also been approached by a major London grant foundation to provide a keynote on health inequalities and the role of the Third Sector at their AGM.

The NGO Forum has been less successful in engaging with any other government departments beyond the Dept. of Health. Even engaging with different sections with the Dept. of Health has proved problematic at times; some of this is due to the internal changes within the Department.

8. Vision for the future

The NGO Plan for Health is a very ambitious strategy to pull together a large number of third sector organisations. If the first aim of addressing the problems of obesity and overweight prove successful it would be possible to use the template to expand to other areas of concern, such as mental or sexual health.

The NGO Forum should become more embedded into DH strategy as a key way of engaging with the Third Sector. The Forum must also find ways to make contacts with other government departments, starting with the Department for Children, Families and Schools.

Reflecting on comments received, the NGO Forum is well placed to help promote the work of, and coordinate action between, disparate organisations with only one or two areas of common interest, such as accident prevention. This is an area that has received little attention but could be of interest to both children's charities and those working with the elderly.

Although electronic networking has been successful, it is important for the NGO Forum to provide its members with more opportunities to meet and attend events as well as give members more ways to talk directly to public health experts and policy leads both within government departments and other key stakeholders.

The NGO Forum would like to improve its capacity to engage with members by using new web based technologies and will be actively exploring the capabilities, drawing on the support of the RSPH and using tools already developed for the RSPH website, which will significantly save on costs.

The NGO Forum will work closely with Forum members to identify areas of interest and look to provide support for events that will offer them opportunities to learn about key issues in addressing health inequalities.

"We would welcome more topic specific networking events in the future."
(NGO Forum member)

The NGO Forum will seek to find a more diverse funding mix including working with the Dept. of Health to identify appropriate tendering and commissioning opportunities

that will support policy development and benefit NGO members. This will include opportunities to produce joint bids with Forum members and seeking funding from other sources outside the Dept. of Health.

March 2009
Karen Bollan
Manager – NGO Forum

Acknowledgements

Thanks to all the NGO Forum and steering group members who took time out of their busy schedules to participate in this review.

Appendix A

National NGO Forum membership

March 2009

	Organisation	Website
1	Action for Blind People	www.actionforblindpeople.org.uk
2	Action on Smoking and Health (ASH)	www.ash.org.uk
3	African HIV Policy Network (AHPN)	www.ahpn.org
4	Age Concern	www.ageconcern.org.uk
5	Alcohol Concern	www.alcoholconcern.org.uk
6	Association for the Study of Obesity (ASO)	www.aso.org.uk
7	Association of Directors of Adult Social Services	www.adass.org.uk
8	Association of Directors of Public Health	www.adph.org.uk
9	Asthma UK	www.asthma.org.uk
10	Barnardo's	www.barnardos.org.uk
11	Black Health Agency	www.blackhealthagency.org.uk
12	British Dental Association	www.bda-dentistry.org.uk
13	British Dental Health Foundation	www.dentalhelpline.org.uk
14	British Dietetic Association	www.bda.uk.com
15	British Fluoridation Society	www.bfsweb.org
16	British Heart Foundation (BHF)	www.bhf.org.uk
17	British Medical Association (BMA)	www.bma.org.uk
18	British Nutrition Foundation (BNF)	www.nutrition.org.uk
19	Brook Centres	www.brook.org.uk
20	BTCV	www.btcv.org.uk
21	Cancer Research UK	www.cancerresearchuk.org
22	Cancer UK	www.cancerindex.org/clinks44.htm
23	The Caroline Walker Trust	www.cwt.org.uk
24	Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH)	www.cieh.org.uk
25	Child Poverty Action Group	www.cpag.org.uk
26	Clubs for Young People	www.clubsforyoungpeople.org.uk
27	Community Action Network	www.can-online.org.uk
28	Community Development Exchange (CDX)	www.cdx.org.uk
29	Community Health Improvement & Empowerment Foundation	www.chiefcic.com
30	Community Service Volunteers (CSV)	www.csv.org.uk
31	Consensus Action on Salt and Health (CASH)	www.actiononsalt.co.uk
32	ContinYou	www.continyou.org.uk

33	Council of Ethnic Minority Voluntary Sector Organisations	www.cemvo.org.uk
34	Diabetes UK	www.diabetes.org.uk
35	Drug Scope	www.drugscope.org.uk
36	Equalities National Council	www.encweb.org.uk
37	Faculty of Public Health (FPH)	www.fph.org.uk
38	Faithworks	www.faithworks.info
39	Food Commission	www.foodcomm.org.uk
40	Forum for the Future	www.forumforthefuture.org.uk
41	Foyer Federation	www.giveusavoice.net
42	fpa (Formerly known as Family Planning Association)	www.fpa.org.uk
43	Heart of Mersey	www.heartofmersey.org.uk
44	Help the Aged	www.helptheaged.org.uk
45	Homeless Link	www.homeless.org.uk
46	Institute of Rural Health	www.rural-health.ac.uk
47	International Institute of Risk and Safety Management (IIRSM)	www.iirsm.org
48	Joint Council for Welfare of Immigrants	www.jcwi.org.uk
49	Kids' Cookery School	www.thekidscookeryschool.co.uk
50	Kings Fund	www.kingsfund.org.uk
51	Lesbian & Gay Foundation	www.lgf.org.uk
52	Local Government Association	www.lga.gov.uk
53	Medical Foundation for AIDS & Sexual Health (MedFASH)	www.medfash.org.uk
54	Meningitis Trust	www.meningitis-trust.org
55	Men's Health Forum	www.menshealthforum.org.uk
56	Mental Health Providers Forum	www.mhpf.org.uk
57	MIND	www.mind.org.uk
58	MKC Trust	www.rokocancer.org
59	Muslim Council of Great Britain	www.mcb.org.uk
60	National Aids Trust	www.nat.org.uk
61	National Children's Bureau (NCB)	www.ncb.org.uk
62	National Energy Action	www.nea.org.uk
63	National Healthy Living Alliance	www.healthylivingalliance.org
64	National Heart Forum	www.heartforum.org.uk
65	National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC)	www.nspcc.org.uk
66	National Voices	www.nationalvoices.org.uk
67	NHS Confederation	www.nhsconfed.net
68	No Smoking Day	www.nosmokingday.org.uk
69	Nuffield Trust	www.nuffieldtrust.org.uk

70	Nutrition Society	www.nutritionociety.org
71	One Parent Families	www.oneparentfamilies.org.uk
72	Patient information Forum (PiF)	www.pifonline.org.uk
73	Patients' Association	www.patients-association.com
74	Pharmacy HealthLink	www.pharmacyhealthlink.org.uk
75	Refugee Council	www.refugeecouncil.org.uk
76	Rethink	www.rethink.org
77	Royal College of General Practitioners	www.rcgp.org.uk
78	Royal College of Midwives (RCM)	www.rcm.org.uk
79	Royal College of Nursing (RCN)	www.rcn.org.uk
80	Royal College of Physicians (RCP)	www.rcplondon.ac.uk
81	Royal National Institute for Deaf People (RNID)	www.rnid.org.uk
82	Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain (RPSGB)	www.rpsgb.org.uk
83	Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH)	www.rsph.org.uk
84	Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (ROSPA)	www.rosipa.org.uk
85	Save the Children Fund UK	www.scfuk.org.uk
86	Scarman Trust	www.thescarmantrust.org
87	Seamen's Hospital Society	www.seahospital.org.uk
88	Society for Health Education & Promotion Specialists (SHEPS)	www.promotinghealth.org.uk
89	Society of Local Authority Chief Executives and Senior Managers (SOLACE)	www.solace.org.uk
90	South Asian Health Foundation (SAHF)	www.sahf.org.uk
91	Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Society (SANDS)	www.uk-sands.org
92	Stroke Association	www.stroke.org.uk
93	SUSTAIN (Alliance for Better Food & Farming)	www.sustainweb.org
94	Sustrans	www.sustrans.org.uk
95	Terence Higgins Trust (THT)	www.tht.org.uk
96	The Day Care Trust	www.daycaretrust.org.uk
97	Trading Standards Institute (TSI)	www.tradingstandards.gov.uk
98	UKPHA (United Kingdom Public Health Association)	www.ukpha.org.uk
99	Unite the Union	www.amicustheunion.org
100	Which?	www.which.co.uk
101	Womens' Institute	www.womens-institute.org.uk
102	World Cancer Research Fund (WCRF)	www.wcrf.org.uk
103	YMCA England	www.ymca.org.uk

Appendix B

Sample of evaluations from NGO Forum events 2006 – 2009

Three different events were randomly chosen (2006 workshop, 2007 seminar, 2008 national conference) for auditing purposes. The responses were added together and are summarised below.

Questions always asked:

Overall how would you rate this event?

- 97% rated the events as excellent or good.

Content usefulness?

- 98.6% rated the content as very useful/relevant or useful/relevant.

How easy was it for you to contribute?

- 98% stated it was very easy or easy to contribute to the event.

Overall how would you rate the presentations?

- 99% rated the presentation as excellent or good.

Selection of feedback received:

“Very well facilitated, panel discussion was a refreshing format”

“Good discussion groups”

“Debate was excellently chaired, good mix of NGO’s/DH representatives”

“Speakers could have been more mixed”

“About right range of participants from wide variety of organisations made it experimental and interesting”

“Too general in the morning but afternoon sessions were excellent”

“Great presentations, interesting and well presented”

“Interactive approach was very welcome”

“Lack of NGO input, as if we know nothing” (re: speakers)

“Range of comment was magnificent and especially the view of the final panel”