IPPF
International
Planned Parenthood
Federation
South Asia Region

Mapping study of Organisations and Networks in South Asia

Volume 2 (Findings and Way Forward)

Who We Are

The International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) is a global service provider and a leading advocate of sexual and reproductive health and rights for all. We are a worldwide movement of national organizations working with and for communities and individuals in more than 170 countries. IPPF works towards a world where women, men and young people everywhere have control over their own bodies, and therefore their destinies. A world where they are free to choose parenthood or not; free to decide how many children they will have and when; free to pursue healthy sexual lives without fear of unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections, including HIV. A world where gender or sexuality are no longer a source of inequality or stigma. We will not retreat from doing everything we can to safeguard these important choices and rights for current and future generations.

Our Mission

To lead a locally-owned, globally connected civil society movement that provides and enables services and champions sexual and reproductive health and rights for all, especially the underserved.

Our Vision

All people are free to make choices about their sexuality and well-being, in a world without discrimination.

Acknowledgements

Foreword

18% of the population in South Asia are young people in the age group of 15- 24 years. These young people represent a demographic dividend with high aspirations and potential. Declarations such as the 2013 Global Thematic Consultation on Population Dynamics formally recognise that constructive and accountable leadership of young people in the future, including their active participation in economic, political and social life is only possible when governments and civil society invest in education and healthcare.

The specific initiatives that these investments should include are comprehensive sexuality education (life skills education) and access to sexual and reproductive health care, including family planning. These are very important considering illiteracy, forced child marriage and gender based violence that place young people in South Asia at very high risk of unintended pregnancies, complications resulting from unsafe abortions and violence. Equally important is that this change be led by young people, especially young people from marginalised communities and young women.

Through desk based reviews, interviews with key informants from local organisations and online surveys, this mapping report lists youth -led and youth- serving organisations, commonalities of programme portfolios and knowledge products that are mutually beneficial.

Previous mapping initiatives covered working groups, international NGOs, youth-friendly SRH services, faith based youth networks and SRHR thematic youth networks, culminating in recommendations for creating a youth networking strategy.

This mapping report broadly classifies and details the types and modes of youth programming. Specifically, classification based on the nature of interaction with young people and the primary model of programming as being either service delivery oriented and/or advocacy. It also includes a directory of innovative initiatives across South Asia, importantly, highlighting the potential and aspirations of organisations to transition from being youth serving to youth led.

The current mapping study has not only identified organisations/networks/individuals with programme portfolios that focus on young people but uniquely classify them based on the nature of their interaction with young people. This work can be classified as organisations (programmes) that work 'for' youth wherein the programmes are decided, designed and developed by adults; working 'through' youth wherein programmes assign young people a pre-decided role to reach a specific objective and working 'with' youth equally.

Organisations are further classified based on their work. Specifically, as being distinctly service delivery focused (youth friendly sexual and reproductive health services) or distinctly human rights focused with programming relating to identity, sexuality, bodily autonomy, consent, choice etc.

This report considers the direct and tangential programming that encompasses SRH work. Organisations directly working on SRH themes with specific departments for youth programming and engagement as well as those working on broader areas such as women's organisations, livelihoods and primary education with the potential to introduce young people to their programme portfolio are both included towards identifying collaborative opportunities between the two.

We hope the findings of the report and the directory of organisations will encourage our peers to partner with young people and provide clarity for measuring youth leadership. Importantly, we hope that it acknowledges the potential of young people and our collective inter-generational capacities to bring about change.

Anjali Sen
Regional Director
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About the Document

This document is the first part of a mapping study undertaken in nine countries in south Asia with an aim to address a few overarching questions: what is the nature of work happening in the region with respect to SRHR of young people, who are some of the key stakeholders, what kind of roles are young people playing in leading this work and what kind of work is needed to further strengthen the sexual and reproductive health work with and for youth.

The study was commissioned by International Planned Parenthood Foundation - South Asia Regional Office under its project with United Nations Population Fund, Asia Pacific Regional Office to enable organisations, networks and individuals (trainers and advocates) working for or with young people in the region to strengthen their work towards quality sexual and reproductive health services in the region.

This first of the document, besides presenting the findings in regard to the questions above and recommending the way forward, contains a section that provides a broad overview of the SRH of youth in South Asia.

The second part of the document contains a purposive sample of 68 organisations/networks working either on issues of SRHR, youth development and participation or both, with full recognition that the two are intrinsically linked. This includes the nine Member Associations of IPPF-SARO in South Asia.

Durba Ghose, Kavita Arora and Rita Mishra conducted the study including literature review, interviews, data collection, data analysis and report writing with inputs and advice from Jameel Zamir, Manish Mitra and Ryan Joseph Figueiredo of IPPF-SARO. Malavika Thirukode of IPPF-SARO provided continuous coordination and logistical support.

It is hoped that the document will support diverse stakeholders working with/for youth on SRHR and beyond, to gain relevant insights and information regarding different approaches, trends and methodologies, identify capacity building opportunities, and gain inspiration for replication and deepening their initiatives on the ground towards realizing sexual and reproductive health and rights of young people.

Executive Summary

Background

South Asia has an estimated 738 million youth between the ages of 15-24, constituting more than 18% of the region's population. Knowledge about sexually transmitted diseases and safe reproductive health practices is poor among youth in the region. Yet, young people are increasingly engaging in high risk behaviors.

The large number of sexually active young people and prevalence of early marriage, gender discrimination, and illiteracy in Asia heightens young people's risk of early pregnancy and childbirth, unsafe abortions and unhealthy sexual practices[1].

In various international agreements, nations have made critical commitments to young people with reference to sexual and reproductive health outcomes, which include delaying marriage beyond childhood and ensuring free and full choice in marriage-related decisions; exercise of the right to health, including access to friendly health services and counseling; access to health-promoting information; protection from gender-based violence; and socialisation in a supportive environment.

Today, as the world is celebrating the largest generation of youth ever, it is also recognizing their potential as harbinger of change and economic growth. In parallel, it is also acknowledging 'youth' as a unique constituent and recognizing the immense need for holistic engagement with youth. In 2010, The United Nations Framework Approach for the International Year of Youth called for focused dialogue and mutual understanding towards building participation and UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon deemed young people as the torch bearers of the SDGs. The 2013 Global Thematic Consultation on Population Dynamics declare the following:

"… Young people represent hopes and aspirations for the future. In least developed countries that continue to have a large and growing youth population, young people are expected to seize the demographic bonus … (the) expectations critically depend on the full participation of younger people in social, economic and political life…The considerable expectations of young people must be matched by adequate investment in young generations… Elements (of such investments) should include investment in education including… comprehensive sexuality education and the development of life skills, and access to adequate health care, including sexual and reproductive health care and family planning…Investment in young people must be coupled with the meaningful participation of young people themselves in decision-making processes at all levels, including the empowerment of women and girls and also those from traditionally marginalized communities[2]".

The International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) is a global service provider and a leading advocate of sexual and reproductive health and rights for all. IPPF is committed to a world where all young people are able to explore, experience and express their sexualities in healthy, positive, pleasurable and safe ways. In the South Asia Region, IPPF works as a federation with nine member associations located in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

In 2015, IPPF has formally partnered with UNFPA Asia Pacific Regional Office (UNFPA APRO) to implement a Regional Adolescents and Youth Programme. In line with diverse international recommendations, a specific aim of the IPPF-UNFPA partnership is to enable organisations, networks and individuals (trainers and advocates) working for or with young people in the region build on their strengths, identify commonalities

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1 www.k4health.org/toolkits/youthpolicy/asia-pacific
2 Population Dynamics in the Post-2015 Development Agenda: Report of the Global Thematic Consultation on Population Dynamics, UNFPA, UNDESA, UN-HABITAT, IOM (2013)

and areas of collaboration, as well as strengthen their work towards quality sexual and reproductive health services in the region.

Within the above context, this mapping study of networks, youth-led organisations, organisations that focus on youth development as well as youth-serving organizations has been conducted. A key aim of the study has been to bring these diverse organizations and networks on the same platform based on commonalities and also highlighting their strengths, so that through sharing of experiences, expertise and learning, SRHR with and for youth, including advocacy, can strengthen in the region.

The design of this study includes desk research, surveys, and interviews with key informants in order to bring forward the results of the specified objectives.

It is expected that the finding would support diverse stakeholders engaged with youth and/or SRHR work to strengthen their initiatives through meaningful collaborations and exchanges.

Findings

FOCUS ON WORKING WITH AND FOR YOUTH IS GROWING IN THE REGION

Many organisations and networks identify themselves as 'youth focused' and 'youth engaging.' Words such as 'youth-led' or 'founded by a group of youth' also find place in many of the organisation/ network descriptions. Given that responses were from organisations working on diverse issues, it becomes evident that along with a strengthening of youth-led work, youth as a constituency as well as specific needs of this heterogeneous group are being recognized in the region. The study also finds that the pace of growth of both youth work and SRHR work with/for youth varies substantially between countries.

SRHR OF YOUTH IS GAINING FOCUS

While an increasing number of youth organisations are looking at SRHR of youth, the degrees of focus on SRHR vary between different organisations. Many times SRHR programmes appear as one-off initiatives or occupy a very limited space in the gamut of work an organisation is undertaking. However, many organisations (for example, those working on education, livelihood etc) working primarily with youth are either not focusing or focusing in a very limited way on SRHR of youth despite having recognizable needs and potential to incorporate SRHR within their work in order to ensure better lives of their target groups.

An increasing number of feminist organisations, health and rights based organisations, even as they hold on to their primary identity, are also working towards strengthening their focus on youth engagement. However, a large number of SRHR focused organisations are not focusing on youth as a unique group and are approaching them through the same lens as they approach other stakeholders.

DIFFERENT APPROACHES TO YOUTH PARTICIPATION ARE EVIDENT

With a large number of organisations engaging with young people, youth participation is emerging as a significant approach and a discourse in the region. Programmatically, organisations are viewing youth participation in one of the following ways:

- Working 'for' youth is common. This kind of programmes are decided upon, designed and developed by adults, for the benefit of young people.
- Working 'through' youth is a trend where organisations pre-decide objectives, programme targets and roles for youth and engage with youth towards fulfilling these.
- Working 'with' youth equally, as partners and decision makers is limited.

DIFFERENT APPROACHES TO SRHR WORK WITH YOUTH IS EVIDENT

The study looks at SRHR work with youth from the angles of SRH and SRR and finds that the health focused approach and rights focused approach are distinguishable.

While many organisations and networks are engaging in SRHR work with youth from a primarily health perspective and running programmes and activities related to building awareness/sensitisation/advocacy as well providing services and care, many of them are engaging in work that is bordering on rights, such as providing sexuality education to adolescents through peer models, working to remove barriers to access health related information and services, advocating to prevent early marriage etc.

Also, a number of organisations are working on SRHR of youth from a fully rights based perspective. Many of these organisations are feminist in approach or are engaged with work related to identities. A few of these are also focused on issues of youth development and participation. These organisations/networks are working with deep focus on issues ranging from bodily integrity, consensual sexual relations, rights of LGBTQI groups, etc.

TRENDS ARE EVIDENT IN SRHR PROGRAMMES FOR YOUTH BASED ON THE DEGREE OF FOCUS ON SRHR AND YOUTH

For SRHR work with youth, specific youth programming models/approaches such as peer education, youth resource centres, using sports for life skills development as well as sexuality education are being quite widely adopted by diverse organisations in the region.

In terms of specific programming trends and characteristics, the following are identified:

- Organisations that have an equal focus on both youth and SRHR are not only looking at aspects of youth development and rights, but are also using youth-friendly approaches, programming or practices.

- Organisations working on SRHR of youth from the larger health perspective are addressing specific health related challenges of youth in diverse areas of drug use, menstrual hygiene, mental health more, facilitates referrals, counselling, etc.

- Organisations approaching SRHR from a Rights perspective are tending to design programmes that focus on issues of sexuality, bodily autonomy, consent, choice, identities etc. Work with, for and by LGBTQI groups and with other stakeholders such as parents, teachers, government, etc. are also emerging as a focus area of these organisations.

- In organisations that are primarily focusing on youth and also working on SRHR, a range of programmes and campaigns are found that promote youth development and participation through capacity building of youth for engaging with SRHR issues.

- A range of organisations that focus on youth as a primary group, such as organisations that work on livelihoods or primary education, have limited to no focus on SRHR. In the case of many women's organisations too, specific aspects of SRHR are focused upon under their work against gender violence, but they are not often explicitly looked at from the SRHR perspective.

COLLECTIVISATION AROUND SPECIFIC ISSUES IS EVIDENT

Efforts towards collectivization and collaborations find evidence in the sheer number of networks/ platforms/ alliances in the region including SRHR networks, youth networks, youth led networks, health networks, AIDS networks, youth led SRHR networks at all levels (local, national and regional). Further, diverse stakeholders are focusing on building networks of various scales.

Overall, facilitating exchanges and learning, strengthening stakeholder voice (including youth voice), participation and/or advocacy emerge as the key rationale for forming networks.

While the study could not discern the impact of the majority of networks, it could identify the value of networks in facilitating exchanges and learning, advocating for SRHR of youth as well as strengthening work on the ground.

'YOUTH-LED' IS A GRAY AREA

In the youth participation framework, 'youth-led' is understood as the highest level of participation where young people themselves make key decisions regarding issues that impact them, with or without adults. The study finds a recognition of this perspective among organisations and networks with many programmes seeking to build youth leadership, designing programmes that vest responsibilities on youth (e.g., peer model) or towards consolidating a youth voice.

However, the study also finds that an organisation's 'youth-led' identity has different interpretations. For example, some of them were started by young people, some of them have a young person holding the leadership position, while some of them have their youth programmes being led by young people. Also, different countries define 'youth' differently, and the self-identification of organisations as 'youth-led' often also relate to those definitions. Further, while the study could identify high youth engagement in many programmes, it could not discern indicators of how much decision making and leadership responsibilities actually lie with youth.

Desk research and interviews, especially with young informants, corroborate that youth participation and leadership is still a gray area, and there is an absence of sound mechanisms to both facilitate and assess it.

The study could identify, overall, that 'youth led' is emerging as an aspiration among organisations and networks, but much needs to change before a common understanding of 'youth participation' and 'youth led' emerges and youth participation moves towards maturity, despite the intentions. It could also find that despite focus and efforts, SRHR work with youth are being led mostly by adults in the region.

INNOVATIONS ARE EVIDENT IN POCKETS ACROSS THE REGION

The study finds many instances of creative, innovative models of SRHR work with youth, and identifies them as growing from intents of pro-actively removing barriers, building engagement, being youth friendly and non-threatening points of entry and dialog building on sensitive/taboo areas. For example, innovations using technology strategically and using multiple art forms including performing arts to engage youth, creating safe spaces for dialogue as well as to channel youth voice emerge as areas with potential of replication. The study also finds the existence of many innovative knowledge resources and products in the region.

However, innovations are still in pockets, with scaling and replication being guided by the capacity, reach and resources available with an organisation or network.

DIVERSE CHALLENGES AND CAPACITY NEEDS EXIST AT ALL LEVELS

The study finds evidence of a range of challenges and capacity needs in the region. These are described below:

- Capacities for designing process-driven programmes with/for youth and facilitation skills: Given that youth is a heterogeneous, transitioning and mobile constituency, with diverse needs and multiple interests, this includes capacities to consciously building into the programme design, elements for enhancing participation, addressing issues of diversity, mobility, interests and continuity. It also

includes specific capacities to design safe spaces for reflection and dialogue, of being youth-friendly, non-hierarchical, of being facilitative towards increasing youth participation.

- Capacities to address power inequalities and deep structures[3]: Given the personal and complex nature of SRHR work with/for youth, this includes building capacities of designers, practitioners, field workers and evaluators for self-reflection towards values clarification, challenging personal assumptions, stereotypes and biases, developing empathy, appreciating equality, equity and diversity. It also includes capacities for working with key stakeholders that influence and impact the life of youth across diversities and to share power and space with young people, with full recognition of them as equal partners.

- Capacities to evaluate youth participation: With full appreciation of its qualitative aspects, this not only requires capacities of stakeholders to develop evaluation frameworks, but also to examine the rationale, intent and integrity of such a framework. In the absence of any universally accepted framework to evaluate youth participation, this is a key area where much work is needed.

- Capacities of youth focused organisations/networks to work on SRHR of youth and of other 'non-youth' or 'part youth' organisations/networks to work with youth. This includes technical knowledge as well as specific skills.

There is recognition that sectoral capacity towards building youth participation needs strengthening

Organisations recognize that youth work requires the development of special skills and qualities among those who carry it out. In answering the question on what attracts young people to engage and contribute, the following were expressed by study participants:

- Non-judgmental, non-hierarchical and safe spaces where young people are treated as leaders or equal partners in addressing issues related to them.

- Spaces that align with the realities of a young person's life and context and support them in their personal searches for identity.

- Spaces that give young people a sense of purpose and being a part of something bigger.

- Meaningful and supportive youth adult partnerships that ensure spaces for them to lead and develop independent ideas on what is required.

- Use of non-threatening methodologies that engage young people fully and make the engagement deep yet open and fun. This includes methodologies such as street theatre, art, music, films, song and dance.

- Social networking sites, mobile applications and social media, which youth can access and navigate on their own terms, pace and time.

- Peer led spaces as demonstrated by peer-education models, youth resource centres, etc.

MUCH SCOPE EXISTS IN MAKING SRHR WORK 'YOUTH FRIENDLY'

Though at the regional level SRHR work has expanded manifold, youth friendly access to SRHR is still a challenge and what is 'youth friendly' again could be contested. Young respondents who participated in this study are unanimous in voicing that society still thinks sex and sexuality are 'bad things' and is not open to discussing sex unless people were married. They also share that they are sometimes pushed to unhealthy psychological states due to their relationship issues and excess information through media combined with a sense of taboo enforced by family and society confuses them. These confusions are dealt with by young

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3 'Deep structure' is a term used to describe the hidden layers within societies, organisations and movements where a number of unconscious or even conscious but hidden processes occur. Within the deep structure lie assumptions taken for granted ... These assumptions are below awareness level, and are therefore not talked about or challenged, but they determine how people think and act. Deep structures are the sites where all sorts of informal, invisible norms and rules operate, and from where formal processes are subverted. (Sources: Rao and Kelleher 2005; Srilatha Batliwala, BRIDGE e-discussion, March 2012)

people keeping silent about the issue. More than the questions, what disturbs young people are 'how will we be perceived for asking questions about sex?'; 'is it alright to seek guidance and from whom?' etc.

Way Forward: Recommendations by Organisations and KIs for Strengthening Sectoral Youth/SRHR Work

INCREASE INVESTMENT IN YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Much greater investment is needed on young people. They need to be recognised not just as individuals who need opportunities, services or mentoring, but as individuals who are equally capable of contributing and decision making. Much greater opportunities need to be created for young people to gain access to safe spaces, question and exchange ideas, get involved and contribute.

Also, there needs to be much greater investment in institutional spaces that enable young people to explore identities, undergo experiential learning journeys and self-reflection processes, acknowledge and celebrate diversities. Creative methodologies, which appeal to young people need to be used much more while working with them. These include sports, arts, theater, dance, comics, mobile apps and social media.

ADOPT AN AFFIRMATIVE, RIGHTS BASED APPROACH TO SRHR WORK WITH/FOR YOUTH

SRHR work with/for youth need to be empowering instead of staying limited within specific awareness, service and knowledge-oriented parameters. It needs to grow from a positive, affirmative and rights based approach.

On the ground, when working on young people's SRHR, appreciation of their feelings, apprehensions and desires should be a non-negotiable as is the focus on addressing stigma and stereotypes attached to sex, sexuality and identities. This is an area of work where much more robustness and strengthening is needed.

INTEGRATE SRHR INTO ALL WORK WITH AND FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Youth development and SRHR are not mutually exclusive. That sex and sexuality are integral to youthhood needs to be acknowledged by every stakeholder working with/for young people. Growing from this, the many different kinds of programmes with/for youth need to focus on the SRHR needs of their youth audiences and address these for empowering young people to take charge of their lives and make informed choices related to different aspects of their lives, including their SRHR.

EMPHASISE ON YOUTH PARTICIPATION AT ALL LEVELS

Young people should be at the centre of the development process as 'actors' rather than 'objects' of development. They need to be involved at all levels in youth programming, and through knowledge and skill building, exposure and leadership development, they should be encouraged and supported to take on leadership roles. Youth led organisations need to be supported and strengthened through long-term capacity building, mentorship and resources.

WORK WITH DIFFERENT STAKEHOLDERS THAT TOUCH THE LIVES OF YOUNG PEOPLE

While addressing issues of SRHR, all stakeholders that touch the lives of young people should be worked with. These could be parents, schools or communities. Boys and men need to be worked with as much as girls and women.

RESEARCH, DOCUMENT AND LEARN FROM GOOD PRACTICES

There needs to be much more research and documentation of good practices. There also needs to be a much stronger understanding of the needs and aspirations of young people in this rapidly evolving and socio-culturally diverse region.

ENSURE THAT ALLIANCES AND NETWORKS HAVE ADEQUATE INVESTMENT AS WELL AS REAL STAKES

Alliance building between like-minded organisations and youth leaders doing work with young people on SRHR is recommended. A resource pool could also be created that organisations could draw from. However, while forming these, care needs to be taken that there is long term investment, real participation and appropriate membership.

Conclusion

In recognition of the youth voices, the information shared by the diverse organisations and networks, the large movements in the region for ensuring SRHR of young people, evidences from the researches and consensus documents, the study highlights the following as areas that need focused efforts:

- To realize 'meaningful' youth participation in SRHR work with/for youth, youth development and participation need to be recognized as rights by both youth and adults. This understanding has to inform and be integrated into all aspects of SRHR programming with/for youth. Even as this is done, the thin line between 'youth development' and 'youth participation' needs to be recognized and then merged. Only then will the work build ownership and leadership, and will strengthen youth-led SRHR work as well as have long lasting impact on a young person's life.

- For participating meaningfully and leading the strengthening of SRHR work, young people need to understand power and its influence. This will empower them to recognize and negotiate power relations – not just in securing their SRH rights, but also to negotiate for their right to participate meaningfully. Therefore, understanding of patriarchy and power relations need to be central to all SRHR work with/for youth.

- Work that leads to shift in personal values and attitudes and development of capacities and skills in adults that work with/for youth needs to be prioritized. This is because an overarching challenge that has been identified in the sector, which is still largely led by adults, is how to walk the thin line – creating a comfort zone while pushing the members to move beyond the comfort zones; to be non-judgemental; to manage conflicts – within oneself and without – of values, views and stances. These challenges need to be addressed urgently if youth leadership for their SRHR is to be ensured. Therefore, capacities of adults need to be built to work with youth and create and share space and power. Also, investments in efforts to recognize deep structures and hidden inequalities need to be made.

In recognition of the youth voices, the information shared by the diverse organisations and networks, and evidences from the researches and consensus documents, the study concludes by highlighting that that despite the large movements in the region for ensuring SRHR of young people, there is immense work that is yet to be done.

Study Context

SRHR of Youth in South Asia

Youth (15–24 years) comprise about a third of the population of South Asia. Some of the critical commitments nations have made in international agreements to young people towards their successful transition to adulthood with reference to sexual and reproductive health outcomes include the following: Realisation of the right to education and attainment of a secondary school education; delaying marriage beyond childhood and ensuring free and full choice in marriage-related decisions; exercise of the right to health, including access to friendly health services and counselling; access to health-promoting information, including on sexual and reproductive matters; acquisition of protective assets and agency, particularly among girls and young women, and promotion of gender equitable roles and attitudes; protection from gender-based violence; and socialisation in a supportive environment.

While these are significant and marked historical progress in the global recognition of young people's human rights, including around sex, sexuality and SRHR, the sheer size and diversity of this population sub-group in South Asia coupled with dramatic socio-cultural transitions taking place in the region makes it an imperative for designing programs to address their special needs as well as to build their complete participation and ownership for the success of the programs.

Some of the consensus documents highlighting the importance of ensuring that SRH and HIV responses give priority to the needs and rights of young people include the following:

Regional

- The UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), *Fifth Asian and Pacific Population Conference Plan of Action on Population and Poverty* of 2002.
- The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) *Social Charter* of 2004.
- *The Pacific Policy Framework for Achieving Universal Access to Reproductive Health Services and Commodities, including Condoms 2008-2015.*
- The Pacific Regional Strategy on HIV and Other STIs 2009-2013.
- Resolutions of UN ESCAP on HIV and AIDS of 2010 and 2011.
- The Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Declaration of Commitment on HIV Declaration of Commitment on HIV of 2011, and the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration of 2012.

International

- The International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Programme of Action of 1994, ICPD+5, and ICPD+10.
- The Beijing Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women of 1995.
- The UN Millennium Development Goals of 2000.
- The UN General Assembly Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS of 2011

Source: Young People and the Law in the Asia and Pacific: A Review of Policies Affecting Young People's Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health and HIV Services

The growing global focus on youth and youth participation

Today, as the world is celebrating the largest generation of youth ever, it is also recognizing their potential as harbinger of change and economic growth. In parallel, it is also acknowledging 'youth' as a unique constituent and recognizing the immense need for holistic engagement with youth. This in particular has been a historically evolving area of focus, finding global support from earlier this millennium. Ban Ki-Moon, UN Secretary General, on International Youth Day 2007 declared:

"We must fulfil our obligations to youth... Governments must honour this commitment...It is high time that we stopped viewing our young people as part of the problem and started cultivating their promise and potential."

In 2010, The United Nations Framework Approach for the International Year of Youth[4] called for focused dialogue and mutual understanding towards building:

- commitment and investment in youth;
- youth participation and partnerships;
- intercultural understanding among youth.

More recently, youth work has received further impetus in the context of the newly framed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The document 'The Future We Want'[5] advocates for youth participation. UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon has again deemed young people as the torch bearers of the SDGs[6]. Almost all target groups that SDGs talk of addressing have a large proportion of youth as also, young people face most of the challenges addressed by the SDGs.

The 2013 Global Thematic Consultation on Population Dynamics encapsulates the above:

"In a world of 7 billion, there are currently about 1.8 billion adolescents and young men and women. Young people represent hopes and aspirations for the future… In least developed countries that continue to have a large and growing youth population, young people are expected to seize the demographic bonus; in more advanced countries which see a shrinking youth populations, they are expected to cater for an increasingly elderly population. Both expectations critically depend on the full participation of younger people in social, economic and political life…The considerable expectations of young people must be matched by adequate investment in young generations… Elements (of such investments) should include investment in education including the transfer of technical and vocational skills, comprehensive sexuality education and the development of life skills, and access to adequate health care, including sexual and reproductive health care and family planning… Investment in young people must be coupled with the meaningful participation of young people themselves in decision-making processes at all levels, including the empowerment of women and girls and also those from traditionally marginalized communities.[7]

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4 http://social.un.org/youthyear/unapproach.html

5 The Future We Want: Outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 20–22 June 2012

6 The Synthesis Report -The Road to Dignity by 2030

7 Population Dynamics in the Post-2015 Development Agenda: Report of the Global Thematic Consultation on Population Dynamics, UNFPA, UNDESA, UN-HABITAT, IOM (2013)

IPPF and its work on SRHR with and for youth

The International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) is a global service provider and a leading advocate of sexual and reproductive health and rights for all. IPPF is committed to a world where all people, regardless of age, gender and sexuality are free to exercise their rights.

In the context of youth, IPPF recognizes that young people are sexual beings. They have sexual needs, desires, fantasies and dreams. It is important for all young people around the world to be

> **SRHR of Youth: The Voice of IPPF in the Global Arena**
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> "Make sexuality education, voluntary family planning and youth-friendly services available to all young people. Young people lack information and access to family planning and sexual and reproductive health services for a variety of cultural and social reasons. Denying young people the information and means to protect themselves from unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections at this critical juncture can alter the course of their lives forever."
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> *Source: Population Dynamics in the Post-2015 Development Agenda: Report of the Global Thematic Consultation on Population Dynamics, 2013, UNFPA, UNDESA, UN-HABITAT, IOM*

able to explore, experience and express their sexualities in healthy, positive, pleasurable and safe ways. This can only happen when young people's sexual rights are guaranteed.

However, IPPF also recognizes that young people's rights are often neglected, ignored or misunderstood and that to secure and promote young people's sexual rights, there is need to first develop a clear understanding about what sexual rights are and how they relate to young people. Towards this, in 2007 IPPF undertook a pioneering effort to set out a framework for understanding how human rights apply to young people's sexuality. This took the form of EXCLAIM! Young People's Guide to Sexual Rights: An IPPF Declaration. Developed by a panel of experts and internationally recognized leaders in the field of sexual and reproductive health and rights, Exclaim! explores what sexual rights are and how they relate to young people. It also examines strategies to translate sexual rights into actions for and by young people around the world through youth-friendly services, programmes and policies as well as calls on leaders and societies to value young people's opinions and decisions in light of their evolving capacities[8].

In the South Asia Region, IPPF works as a federation with nine member associations – Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. During 2000s, the Federation formalised and provided direction to youth programming. Two reviews of IPPF's youth programming were conducted during the periods 2004 and between 2006 and 2009, which guided and gave direction towards maturing of IPPF's youth work.

The New Strategic Framework of IPPF (2016 – 2022) has committed to continue efforts to ensure that the momentum gained thus far is channeled in order to complete the transition from 'no refusal' to that of 'rights' that is inclusive of the young voice. In the current Strategic Framework (2016- 2022) young people are at the centre of two key outcomes.

In 2015, IPPF has formally partnered with UNFPA Asia Pacific Regional Office (UNFPA APRO) to implement a Regional Adolescents and Youth Programme. To be implemented over a course of three years, the specific expected outcomes of this programme are the following:

- Strengthen collaboration and cooperation of a range of youth organisations working on SRH of young people in the region.
- Enhance capacity of a pool of young SRHR advocates and national level local organisations to conduct evidence-based advocacy.
- Increase access of young people to accurate information on SRHR.

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8 Excerpts: EXCLAIM! Young People's Guide to Sexual Rights: an IPPF Declaration, IPPF (2011)

- Strengthen knowledge management and south-south cooperation on CSE for out of school young people.

- Strengthen knowledge management and evidence-based advocacy on legal and political barriers to access SRH/HIV services.

In line with diverse international recommendations, a specific aim of the IPPF-UNFPA partnership is to enable organisations, networks and individuals (trainers and advocates) working for or with young people in the region build on their strengths, identify commonalities and areas of collaboration, as well as strengthen their work towards quality sexual and reproductive health services in the region. This mapping study has been conducted within this context.

It is expected that the finding would support diverse stakeholders engaged with youth and/or SRHR work to strengthen their initiatives through meaningful collaborations and exchanges.

An overview of SRH of youth in the South Asia

South Asia has an estimated 738 million youth between the ages of 15-24, constituting more than 18% of the region's population. In Bangladesh alone, young people ages 10-24 represent one third of the total population, and 50% of Bangladesh's population is under 24 years of age. The large number of sexually active young people and prevalence of early marriage, gender discrimination, and illiteracy in Asia heightens young people's risk of early pregnancy and childbirth, unsafe abortions and unhealthy sexual practices[9].

Table 1: Youth Population in South Asia

Country	Youth Ages 10-24, % (millions) 2013	Youth Ages 10-24, % of Total Population 2013	Youth Ages 10-24 (millions) 2050	Youth Ages 10-24 (millions) % of Total Population 2050
Afghanistan	11.8	34	22	29
Bangladesh (2004)	46.7	30	34	17
Bhutan	0.2	29	0.2	17
India	362.0	28	340.9	20
Iran	19.2	25	11.6	14
Maldives	0.1	31	0.1	13
Nepal	10.6	33	9.6	21
Pakistan	58.5	32	59.4	22
Sri Lanka	4.8	22	4.2	18

Source: The World's Youth Datasheet, The Population Reference Bureau, 2013

Knowledge about sexually transmitted diseases and safe reproductive health practices is poor among youth in the region. Yet, young people are increasingly engaging in high risk behaviors.

40% report having unprotected sex.

Half of all abortions are performed in unsafe conditions.

50% of HIV infections are believed to be in the 15-24 age group.

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9 www.k4health.org/toolkits/youthpolicy/asia-pacific

Young women face additional problems.

Social pressures force young women into early marriage and child bearing.

Teen mothers are twice as likely as older women to die of pregnancy-related causes. Their children are at higher risk of illness and death.

Girls and young women are increasingly becoming victims of human trafficking and sexual exploitation. Girls in rural areas are especially vulnerable. They come from poor households and from communities where the knowledge about the trade in humans is not widespread. Little is known about the extent of this problem and its social and economic costs.

Following is a set of statistics that presents the regional environment within which all SRHR work with/for young people takes place:

Table 2: Gender Inequality Index and its Indicators

Country	Gender Inequality Index		MMR	AFR	% of women in national parliament	% of female population with at least secondary education	% of male population with a least secondary education	% of female labour force participation	% of male labour force participation
	Rank	Value							
Afghanistan	147	0.712	460	99.6	27.6	5.8	34.0	15.7	80.3
Bangladesh	111	0.518	240	68.2	19.7	30.8	39.3	57.2	84.3
Bhutan	92	0.464	180	44.9	13.9	34.0	34.5	65.8	76.5
Sri Lanka	75	0.402	35	22.1	5.8	72.6	75.5	34.7	76.3
Maldives	64	0.357	60	10.2	6.5	20.7	30.1	55.7	76.8
Nepal	102	0.485	170	86.2	33.2	17.9	39.9	80.4	87.6
Pakistan	123	0.567	260	28.1	21.1	18.3	43.1	22.7	83.3
India	132	0.610	200	74.7	10.9	26.6	50.4	29.0	80.7

Source: Reclaiming and Redefining Rights: ICPD+20: Status of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Asia Pacific, 2013 Asian-Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women (ARROW)

Table 3: Status of Laws against Domestic Violence

Afghanistan	Law on Elimination of Violence Against Women 2009
Bangladesh	Domestic Violence Act 2010
Bhutan	Draft Domestic Violence Bill 2010
Sri Lanka	Prevention of Domestic Violence Act (No. 34 of 2005)
Maldives	Prevention of Domestic Violence Act 2012
Nepal	2009 Domestic Violence (offence and punishment) Act 2066
Pakistan	National Commission on the Status of Women Bill 2012 Draft Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Bill 2009
India	Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2006

Source: Reclaiming and Redefining Rights: ICPD+20: Status of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Asia Pacific, 2013 Asian-Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women (ARROW)

Table 4: Status of Abortion Laws

Country	To save women's life	To preserve physical health of the woman	To preserve mental health of the woman	Rape of incest	Foetal impairment	Economic or Social Reasons	On request
Afghanistan	x	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bangladesh	x	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bhutan	x	x	x	x	-	-	-
India	x	x	x	x	x	x	-
Sri Lanka	x	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maldives	x	x	-	-	-	-	-
Nepal	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Pakistan	x	x	x	-	-	-	-

*Source: Reclaiming and Redefining Rights: ICPD+20: Status of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Asia Pacific, 2013
Asian-Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women (ARROW)*

Table 5: Anti Marital Rape Laws

Country	
Afghanistan	
Bangladesh (2004)	
Bhutan	
India	Within The Domestic Violence Act (2005)
Iran	
Maldives	No minimum legal age for marriage. An individual can enter into marriage once puberty has been reached, however, government policy strictly discourages marriages under the age of 16
Nepal (2003)	
Pakistan (2007)	
Sri Lanka	

*Source: Reclaiming and Redefining Rights: ICPD+20: Status of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Asia Pacific, 2013
Asian-Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women (ARROW)*

Table 6: Anti Sexual Harassment Laws

Country	
Afghanistan	Law on Elimination of Violence against Women (2009)
Bangladesh (2004)	Labor Code 2006
Bhutan	Constitution (2008) Labor and Employment Act (2007 National Action Plan on Gender (2008-2013)
India	Indian Penal Code (1860), Prevention of Workplace Sexual Harassment Act (2013)
Iran	
Maldives	National Gender Equality Policy (2009)
Nepal (2003)	Constitutional Provision (2007) Act For Gender Equality 2006
Pakistan (2007)	Protection against Harassment of Women at the Workplace Act 2010
Sri Lanka	Act No. 22 amending the Penal Code in 1995 (1995)

*Source: Reclaiming and Redefining Rights: ICPD+20: Status of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Asia Pacific, 2013
Asian-Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women (ARROW)*

Table 7: Anti Trafficking Law

Country	
Afghanistan	
Bangladesh (2004)	Suppression of Violence Against Women And Children Act (2000)
Bhutan	Constitution 2008 (2008) Draft Legislation on Trafficking (2003 National Action Plan on Gender (2008-2013) Women and Child Protection Unit (2007)
India	Article 23 of The Constitution Anti-Trafficking Law (1956)
Iran	
Maldives	
Nepal (2003)	Human Trafficking Control Act (2007)
Pakistan (2007)	Prevention and Control of Human Trafficking Ordinance (2002)
Sri Lanka	Act No. 22 Amending The Penal Code In 1995 (1995)

Source: Reclaiming and Redefining Rights: ICPD+20: Status of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Asia Pacific, 2013
Asian-Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women (ARROW)

Table 8: Legality of Adult Sex Work

Country	Sex work in private	Soliciting	Brothel-keeping
Afghanistan	Illegal	Illegal	Illegal
Bangladesh	Legal	Illegal	Illegal
Bhutan	Illegal	Illegal	Illegal
India	Legal	Illegal	Illegal
Maldives	Illegal	Illegal	Illegal
Nepal	Legal	Illegal	Not Illegal
Pakistan	Illegal	Illegal	Illegal
Sri Lanka	Legal	Illegal	Illegal

Source: Reclaiming and Redefining Rights: ICPD+20: Status of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Asia Pacific, 2013
Asian-Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women (ARROW)

Table 9: Adolescent Birth Rate

Name of the Country	Adolescent birth rate per 1000 girls aged 15-19
Afghanistan	90.0 (2008)
Bangladesh	133.4
Bhutan	59.0
India	38.5
Maldives	15
Nepal	81.0
Pakistan	16.1
Sri Lanka	24.3

Source: Reclaiming and Redefining Rights: ICPD+20: Status of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Asia Pacific, 2013
Asian-Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women (ARROW)

Table 10. Marriage, fertility, unmet need for family planning and contraceptive prevalence rate

Country	% Women Ages 20-24 –Married by age 15 2013	% Women Ages 20-24 –Married by age 18 2013	Adolescent fertility rate, Births per 1,000 women, age 15-19, 2010	Adolescent fertility rate, Births per 1,000 women, age 15-19, 2013
Afghanistan	15	40	16	98
Bangladesh (2004)	29	65	18	67
Bhutan	6	26	18	44
India	13	45	18	73
Iran	-	-		25
Maldives		4	18	10
Nepal	10	41	20	84
Pakistan	7	24	16	28
Sri Lanka	2	12	18	22

Source: The World's Youth Datasheet, The Population Reference Bureau, 2013

Table 11: Legal age and median age at marriage

Country	Women	Men	Median Age at Marriage for Women (Age Group 25-49)	Remarks
Afghanistan	16	18	17.7	
Bangladesh (2004)	18	21	15	
Bhutan	18	18		
India	18	21	17.4	
Iran				
Maldives	18	18	19	No minimum legal age for marriage. An individual can enter into marriage once puberty has been reached, however, government policy strictly discourages marriages under the age of 16
Nepal (2003)	20	20	17	18-requires parental consent
Pakistan (2007)	16	18	19.1	
Sri Lanka	18	18	22.4	Does not apply to Muslim population

Source: Reclaiming and Redefining Rights: ICPD+20: Status of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Asia Pacific, 2013
Asian-Pacific Resource & Research Centre for Women (ARROW)

Table 12: Prevalence of HIV (% ages 15-24)

	Female		Male	
	2011	**2013**	**2011**	**2013**
Afghanistan	<0.1	0.1	<0.1	0.1
Bhutan	0.2	-	0.3	-
Bangladesh	<0.1	0.1	<0.1	0.1
India	-	-	-	-
Iran, Islamic Rep.	<0.1	0.1	<0.1	0.1
Nepal	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Pakistan	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Maldives	<0.1	-	<0.1	-
Sri Lanka	<0.1	0.1	<0.1	0.1

Source: The World's Youth Datasheet, The Population Reference Bureau, 2013

Table 13: Contraception Use

Country	% Women using modern contraception 2005/2011	% Women using modern contraception 2005/2011
	Ages 15-19	**Ages 20-24**
Afghanistan	6	13
Bangladesh (2004)	42	53
Bhutan	30	56
India	7	26
Iran		
Maldives	10	17
Nepal	14	24
Pakistan	4	11
Sri Lanka	45	50

Source: The World's Youth Datasheet, The Population Reference Bureau, 2013

Table 14: Health Risk and Behaviour

Country	Tobacco Use Among Adolescents Ages 13-15 (%) 2005/2011		% Ages 15-24 With Comprehensive Knowledge of HIV/AIDS 2005/11		HIV/AIDS Prevalence, Ages 15-24 2011		Attitude Towards Wife Beating Among Young Women (% who agree under certain circumstances) 2005-2011	
	Female	**Male**	**Female**	**Male**	**Female**	**Male**	**Ages 15-19**	**Ages 20-24**
Afghanistan	-	-	2	-	<0.1	<0.1	84	90
Bangladesh	5	9	12	14	<0.1	<0.1	33	32
Bhutan	13	34	21	-	0.2	0.3	70	70
India	9	17	20	36	-	-	53	53
Iran	20	33	-	-	<0.1	<0.1	-	-
Maldives	7	15	35	-	<0.1	<0.1	41	31
Nepal	16	25	26	34	0.1	0.1	24	22
Pakistan	-	-	3	-	0.1	0.1	-	-
Sri Lanka	5	16	-	-	<0.1	<0.1	54	56

Source: The World's Youth Datasheet, The Population Reference Bureau, 2013

Study Process

Objectives

This study is being conducted with an aim to address a few overarching questions: what is the nature of work happening in the region with in respect to SRHR of young people, who are some of the key stakeholders, what kind of role are young people playing in leading this work and what kind of work is needed to further strengthen the sexual and reproductive health work with and for youth in the region.

The specific objectives of the project include:

- Developing a purposive sample of organizations and networks working with/for youth and/or Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) in the nine countries of south Asia where IPPF-SARO works.

- Showcasing programmatic and technical capacities of the organizations working with youth and SRHR in the region.

- Identifying the scope of strengthening youth-led SRHR work in the region through a comparative analysis of the strengths, innovations and capacity needs emerging regionally from the exercise.

- Contributing towards strengthening coordination and cooperation among organisations working on SRH of young people in the region by acting as an information guide/ready reference material.

Scope

The project is both explicitly and implicitly organised around the idea that to strengthen SRHR work with and for youth in the region, it is an imperative to take on board diverse stakeholders. This is especially critical because organisations adopt specific identities based on their goals, primary objectives, and body of work and do not always explicitly recognize the interconnections between youth work and SRHR work. It is often observed that youth development organizations have a stronger focus on self development of youth and limit their focus to areas of citizenship/participation, leadership, soft skills etc. On the other hand, a range of other organisations (e.g., livelihoods, health, SRHR, community development organisations or organisations addressing issues of identities and exclusion), while they may be engaging with youth, do not disaggregate their groups based on age, and therefore do not adopt a youth perspective, have specific programs with/for youth or have any emphasis on building youth participation.

Youth-led organizations, whether they work with/for youth or SRHR, is a significant stakeholder group in the region, given its youth bulge and increasing youth participation.

Finally, networks can facilitate exchanges, learning, collaborations and many networks of different kinds exist in the region.

Based on all of the above, the effort of the project has been towards studying youth-led organisations, organisations that focus on youth development as well as youth-serving organizations through the same lens. This is with the aim to bring them on the same platform based on commonalities and also highlighting their strengths, so that through sharing of experiences, expertise and learning, SRHR with and for youth, including advocacy, can strengthen in the region.

Overall, therefore, the following groups form the scope of the mapping exercise:

1. Youth/youth-led/youth-serving organisations/ networks that work/have the potential to work on SRH of young people.

2. Organisations/networks working on SRH of young people.

3. Organisations/networks working on and possessing strong technical expertise for working on relevant issues of gender, health, SRH etc. that have the scope of adopting a youth perspective.

4. Youth/SRH advocates and youth/SRH trainers who could contribute towards strengthening youth-SRH work in the region.

Youth/youth-led/youth-serving organisations/networks that work/have the potential to work on SRH of young people.

Non-youth-centric gender/health/SRH organisations that have the scope of adopting a youth perspective.

Organisations/networks working on SRH of young people

Individuals, specifically youth/SRH advocates and youth/SRH trainers who could contribute towards strengthening youth-SRH work in the region.
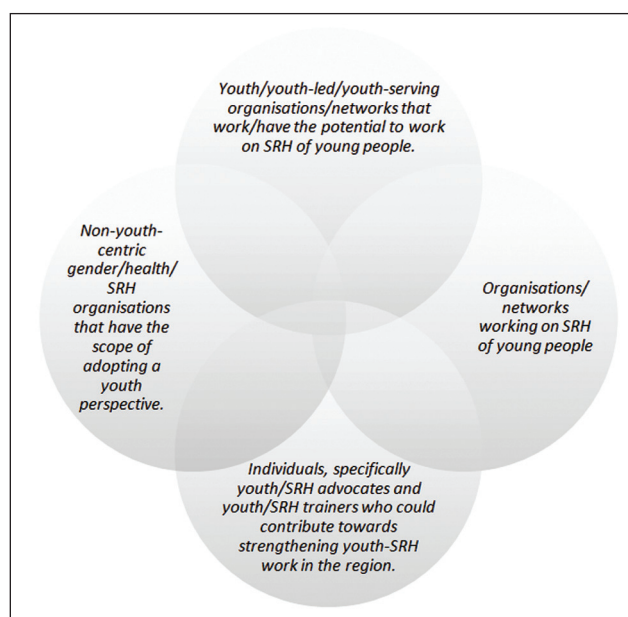
Design

The design and approach adopted for conducting the mapping exercise has been informed by literature review and a series of deliberations based on experiential as well as conventional knowledge of the trends pertaining to youth and SRHR work in the region.

For this mapping exercise, a cross-sectional descriptive design has been adopted. It includes desk research, surveys, meetings, telephone conversations and interviews with key informants in order to bring forward the results of the specified objectives.

To facilitate the comparison of information shared and opinions expressed from the viewpoint of the respondents, two sets of coordinates have been considered for the mapping exercise:

• Extent and nature of engagement with youth. With conscious support to youth potential and to promote cooperation and coordination towards youth-led change in the region, the study has placed a positive bias on youth development and participation. "Youth development shifts the emphasis from a dual focus on youth being problem-free and fully prepared, to a triadic focus for youth being problem-free, fully prepared and engaged partners" (Small and Memmo, 2004). The Ladder of Participation model (Roger Heart, 1992) and the Continuum of Youth Participation (IPPF: 2008[10]) are also based on the notion that young people are partners in change and their "participation should not be seen as different from their personal development" (IPPF: 2008, p. 9)

• Extent and nature of engagement with SRHR. The study has approached SRHR, placing it within the framework of the World Health Organization's (WHO) definition of health as a "state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity." It has also sought to distinguish between SRH and Rights by understanding SRH to include intervention programmes as well as programmes and services for access to safe, effective, affordable and acceptable methods of birth control, voluntary counselling and testing and anti-retroviral therapy. It has understood Rights to include access to sexual and reproductive healthcare services, information in relation to sexuality; sexuality education; respect for bodily integrity; choice of partner; decisions to be sexually active or not; consensual sexual relations; consensual marriage; decisions on whether or not, and when to have children; and choices to pursue a satisfying, safe and pleasurable sexual life.

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10 Participate: The voice of young people in programmes and policies, IPPF: 2008

Within the above framework, mapping and analysis on the following has been done:

- Innovation in approach and/or methodology. This has been done in order to build knowledge on impactful work that has already been undertaken, and to promote replication of specific models and inspire collaborations between organisations/ networks to strengthen the impact of their efforts/ initiatives.

- Technical expertise, strengths/existing capacities. This has been done to create opportunities for skill/ expertise sharing towards strengthening SRHR work with/for/by youth.

- Capacity needs. This has been done to inform areas for investing energies and resources for strengthening the sector.

- Current needs/wants of youth and if/how they are being addressed. This has been done in order to bring evidence and give direction to formulation of strategies, plans and programmes not only to donors and planners, but to individual organizations/networks for strengthening SRHR work with/for youth.

Methodology

SURVEYS

(a) Organisations and networks

In order to conduct the study, a search through existing literature, websites and networks was undertaken to identify 250 organizations and networks that are working at local, national and regional scales with/for youth and/or SRHR, gender, sexual minority groups in the following countries: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka. These organisations were invited through emails to participate in the study.

Primary data was received from 94 organizations as a response to the invitation and these were studied. About 30 other identified organizations were studied through their websites, available reports and other literature.

(b) Youth

To understand the youth perspective, over 100 youth in the nine countries were invited to share information on the kinds of access they have to information and support/services related to sex and sexuality and the challenges they face towards accessing these. They were invited to share their views on what could be done to address these challenges as well as what kind of work they would like to see happening in this area.

Primary data received from 64 youth in the region and these were analysed.

Interviews

To substantiate the findings and for an understanding of what would strengthen SRHR work with/for/by youth in the region, 15 key informant interviews were conducted over 25 hours with the following experts/ practitioners/ activists:

	Name	Profile	Country
1	Amit Timlisina	Project Coordinator, YUWA	Nepal
2	Arushi Singh	Pleasure Project	India
3	Ashraf Patel	Director-CYC, Co-Founder Pravah	India
4	Azin	Family Health Association Iran	Iran
5	Hilla Obaidullah	Program Officer - Youth/Adolescent, AFGA	Afghanistan

	Name	Profile	Country
6	Indrani Bhattacharya	Assistant Director, Adolescent Resource Centre, CINI	India
7	Ishita Chaudhry	Ashoka Fellow, Founding Trustee, The YP Foundation	India
8	Jeeja Ghosh	Head-Advocacy, India Institute for Cerebral Palsy	India
9	Kamla Bhasin	Feminist Activist	India
10	Kaushiki Chakraborty	State Consultant, UNICEF Maharashtra	India
11	Manak Matiyani	ED, The YP Foundation	India
12	Nalini Paul	Country Director, Restless Development	India
13	Niluka Perera	Coordinator, Youth Voices Count	South Asia
14	Pramada Menon	Queer Feminist Activist, Co-founder CREA	India
15	Shaleen Rakesh	ED, VSO-India, Queer poet, Gay Rights Activist	India

Desk Research

For contextualizing the study within south Asia, as well as to understand the work taking place in the area of SRHR of youth, the following databases, journals, gray literature and publications were studied:

- Databases: PubMed, World Bank, Guttmacher Institute, Biomed Centre, USAid

- Journals: Elsevier Journal of Adolescent Health, Global Public Health (Taylor Francis Journal), International Journal of Gynaecology and Obstetrics, Reproductive Health Matters.

- Additional publications, official reports of United Nations (UN), World Bank, meta-analyses of laws, policies, declarations, recommendations. Search Timeframe: 2000–2016.

- Gray literature through Google and Google Scholar including websites, Facebook pages, blogs, etc.

Limitations

- A sample size cannot always represent the whole population.

- Desk research, KIIs and self-declaration/evaluation of respondents form the only sources of information for the mapping exercise. The consultants did not visit any location due to time and resource constraints and visit projects or interview respondents face to face or hold FGDs. This may have resulted in information loss, especially of qualitative information.

- As the questionnaires were filled online, information provided by organizations may not have been valid or may have been incomplete or unsubstantial.

- Only English language responses and reports could be studied.

- Information may have been missing, dated or invalid in the gray literature studied.

- Fine details of original articles may have been missed in the study meta-analysis articles and Published reports. Reports may not have captured all aspects of the issue/discussion

Findings

Findings

FOCUS ON WORKING WITH AND FOR YOUTH IS GROWING IN THE REGION

69 of the respondents to the survey identify themselves as 'youth focused' and 'youth engaging.' Words such as 'youth', 'youth-led' or 'founded by a group of youth' also find place in many of the organization/ network descriptions. Given
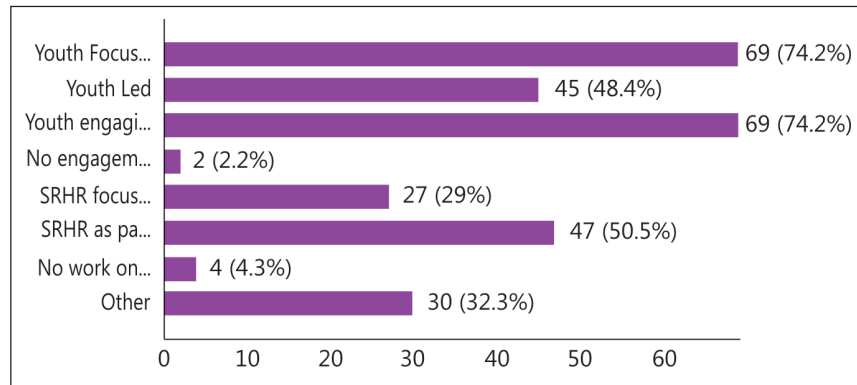
that responses were from organisations working on diverse issues, it becomes evident that along with a strengthening of youth-led work, youth as a constituency as well as specific needs of this heterogeneous group are being recognized in the region. This rising focus could be attributed to multiple factors such as the youth bulge and the fact that most of the countries now have a youth policy. However, the study also finds that the pace of growth of youth work varies substantially between countries. For instance, it appears to be beginning in Bhutan while it is well established in India or Nepal. Current socio-political conditions, histories and traditions and country priorities are responsible for this variance, despite the firm global commitment and world-wide focus on youth as a constituency.

SRHR OF YOUTH IS GAINING FOCUS

The study was based on the assumption that ensuring SRHR of youth requires the focus and efforts of organizations across the spectrum and it finds that an increasing focus on SRHR of young people is emerging in the region with diverse organizations working on SRHR of youth in multiple ways. This increase is in alignment with international recommendations, and can be seen as a recognition of intersectionality or as a result of strong global commitment and investments.

The study finds that while an increasing number of youth organizations are looking at SRHR of youth, the degrees of focus on SRHR vary between different orgnizations. Many times SRHR programs appear as one-off initiatives or occupy a very limited space in the gamut of work an organization is undertaking. On the other hand, an increasing number of feminist organisations, and rights based organisations, even as they hold on to their primary identity, are working towards strengthening their focus on youth engagement.

However, a third of the organisations working with youth as their primary focus are not focusing or focusing in a very limited way on SRHR of youth. Many of these are organisations working in key areas of environment, livelihoods, education, etc. This is a large proportion, and they do have recognizable needs and potential to incorporate SRHR in order to ensure better lives of their target groups, in terms of better working conditions, empowerment or for preventing gender violence and promoting diversity appreciation. Similarly, a large number of SRHR focused organisations are also not focusing on youth as a unique group and are approaching them with the same lens as they approach other stakeholders.

Examples of Sexuality Education programming: Aahung, Pakistan- Aahung develops the capacity of public and private school teachers to integrate quality life skills based education (LSBE) into the school curriculum. Aahung's LSBE curriculum covers a range of issues including pubertal changes, gender discrimination, HIV / AIDS, protection from violence, peer pressure, rights within the Nikah Nama (Islamic marriage contract), positive health seeking behaviours and the importance of planning a family.

Centre for Catalyzing Change (CCC), India- CCC's YouthLIFE (Life Skills, Information and New Technologies, and Education) programme enhances adolescent girls' and boys' knowledge and guides informed decisions and healthy behavior choices around their reproductive health. It combines Life Skills and Reproductive Health curriculum, incorporates classroom and computer learning, peer discussions and sharing of information through use of new technology platforms.

Family Planning Association of India (FPA India)- Movement Youth-to-Youth Project, involved over 150 Maulvis (religious teachers) working in 65 Madrasas (Muslim religions schools) to help in providing reproductive health education to adolescents studying in these schools.

NAZ Foundation (India) Trust – The 'Goal' programme uses the sport of netball and life skills education and focusses on educating young women on topics including health, rights, communication, financial literacy and teamwork.

Society for Nutrition Education and Health Action (SNEHA), India - The Empowerment, Health & Sexuality Amongst Adolescents (EHSAS) programme includes classroom based sessions on health and life skills education, field visits, community events using art, theatre / street plays and sports activities and vocational training.

TARSHI, India - TARSHI developed one of the first eLearning programmes on SRHRwhich provides nearly 50 hours of self-learning for students and professionals working in the fields of SRHR, education, health etc.

Note: For more examples, refer to Directory of Organisations (Part 2 of the study)

The table below maps the distribution of organizations studied, based on their levels of focus on youth and SRHR[11,12] :

	Key Focus on SRHR	Also Focus on SRHR	Low/No Focus on SRHR
Key Focus on Youth	**Category 1** **Total: 14** **Youth-led: 6**	**Category 3** **Total: 25** **Youth-led: 13**	**Category 4** **Total: 17** **Youth-led: 8**
	India: 8	India: 18	Bangladesh: 1
	Pakistan: 2	Iran: 2	Bhutan: 1
	Sri Lanka: 2	Nepal 4	India: 12
	Regional networks: 2	Pakistan: 1	Maldives: 1
			Nepal: 2
	Category 2 **Total: 34** **Youth-led: 9**	**Category 5** **Total: 15** **Youth-led: 3**	**Category 6** **Total: 10** **Youth-led: 5**
Also Work with youth	Afghanistan: 1	India: 9	India: 10
	Bangladesh: 4	Iran: 1	
	Bhutan: 2	Pakistan: 2	
	India: 17	Sri Lanka: 3	
	Iran: 1		
	Maldives: 2		
	Nepal: 4		
	Pakistan: 2		
	Sri Lanka: 1		
	Regional networks: 1		

11   List of organisations/networks in each category is available in Annexure.

12   For further details of work of several organisations/networks, including all IPPF-SARO MAs, refer to Part 2 of the study (Directory of Organisations).

Different approaches to youth participation are evident

With a large number of organisations engaging with young people, youth participation is also emerging as a significant approach and a discourse in the region. In terms of programmatic approach, organizations are viewing youth participation in one of the following three ways:

- Working 'for' youth: is common. This kind of programmes are decided upon, designed and developed by adults, for the benefit of young people.

- Working 'through' youth is a trend where organizations pre-decide objectives, programme targets and roles for youth and engage with youth towards fulfilling these.

- Working 'with' youth equally, as partners and decision makers is limited.

It was also found that most programs are looking at very specific needs of youth and are designing programmes to address those. Overall, the study found little evidence of organizations and networks looking at the many different and unique needs and challenges of 'youthhood' holistically and therefore adopting an approach of 'youth development.' Evidence of genuine youth participation is a challenge that has been especially highlighted by many of the stakeholders interviewed.

Different approaches to SRHR work with youth is evident

The study looks at SRHR work with youth from the angles of sexual and reproductive health and rights[13] and finds significant evidence of programmes with youth in both the areas in the region. It also finds that while many organisations and networks are engaging in SRHR work with youth from a primarily health perspective and developing programmes to primarily meet the health related needs of youth and engaging in activities related to building awareness/sensitization/advocacy as well providing services and care, many of them are engaging in work that is bordering on rights, such as providing sexuality education to adolescents through peer models, working to remove barriers to access health related information and services, advocating to prevent early marriage etc.

The study also finds a number of organisations working on SRHR of youth from a fully rights based perspective. Many of these organisations are feminist in approach or are engaged with work related to identities. A few of these are also focused on issues of youth development and participation. These organisations/networks are working with deep focus on issues ranging from bodily integrity, consensual sexual relations, rights of LGBTQI groups, etc. The Pleasure Project in India, for example, as it is working to promote safe sex, is also building dialog towards addressing taboos related to pleasure in sex. The YP Foundation, a youth led organisation in India, is advocating for the sexual rights of young people.

Overall, the study finds that even as work in SRH and R of youth is evident, the health focused approach and rights focused approach are clearly distinguishable.

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13   Distinctions between SRH and R

Within the framework of the World Health Organization's (WHO) definition of health as a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity, Sexual and Reproductive Health addresses the reproductive processes, sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and HIV and AIDS. It includes receiving accurate HIV/AIDS and STD information as well as being adequately and timely informed about contraceptive options. It includes intervention programmes as well as programmes for access to safe, effective, affordable and acceptable methods of birth control, voluntary counselling and testing and anti-retroviral therapy, and integration of sexual and reproductive health services with HIV and AIDS services.

Sexual rights embrace human rights that are already recognized in national laws, international human rights documents and other consensus documents. These include the rights of all persons, free of coercion, discrimination and violence, to the highest attainable standard of health in relation to sexuality, including access to sexual and reproductive healthcare services; seek, receive and impart information in relation to sexuality, sexuality education; respect for bodily integrity; choice of partner; decide to be sexually active or not; consensual sexual relations; consensual marriage; decide whether or not, and when to have children; and pursue a satisfying, safe and pleasurable sexual life. (WHO working definition)

Source: various

Examples of SRHR programming: **CHSJ, India -** The IVRS or Interactive Voice Response System, a communication platform for adolescents allows a person to call a toll-free number and listen to a recording of information on issues of gender equality, body literacy, health etc.

DEIHERM, Sri Lanka - DEIHERM implements awareness building workshops with beach boys, three wheel drivers and other at-risk groups which focuses on providing information on STI/HIV/AIDS, safe sex behaviours and practices, correct condom use and motivating participants for VCT.

FPA Sri Lanka - The Light to Life Project provides SRH services to the physically handicapped army soldiers along with advocacy/awareness programs and counselling services.

NEEDS, India - NEEDS applies the multimedia capabilities of common mobile phones to reach out to the young people and sharing educative video clippings to enhance their knowledge, skill and information so that they can make informed choices.

Milaan - Be The Change, India - Milaan's Making Schools Menstrual Friendly initiative maps infrastructural deficiencies and the level of awareness in the public schools to take necessary action and fill critical gaps with the help of relevant stakeholders. The initiative also focuses on enabling the rightful space for adolescent girls to engage in a healthy conversation on several aspects of menstruation and menstrual hygiene management.

The YP Foundation, India - Know Your Body, Know Your Rights (KYBKYR) programme builds young people's technical capacities to access unbiased, evidence-based information on gender, sexuality, health and rights, enabling them to negotiate cultural and political barriers faced at both community and policy levels. KYBKYR also strengthens platforms for young people to advocate with decision makers for CSE through dialogue and monitoring and evaluation processes at local, state, national and international levels.

Note: For more examples, refer to Directory of Organisations (Part 2 of the study)

Trends are evident in SRHR programmes for youth based on the degree of focus on SRHR and youth.

The study could identify trends in the design of SRHR programmes with youth in the region. While specific youth programming models/approaches such as Peer Education, Youth Resource Centres as well as Sexuality Education are quite widely adopted by organisations across the spectrum, using sports for life skills development, gender sensitization, personality development etc. are also quite evident. However, certain programming characteristics, which are described below, could be identified in the different kinds of organisations/networks studied, despite instances of overlaps.

In organisations that have an **equal focus on both youth and SRHR,** there is evidence of programmes that are not only looking at aspects of youth development and rights, but of also using a range of youth-friendly approaches, programming or practices. Love Matters, for example, is an online platform that seeks to provide information and news on sexuality and sexual health to youth in India and elsewhere as well as create a virtual safe space to build dialog on love, sex, pleasure and relationships from a rights perspective. The 'Auntyji' section in Love Matters (India) is adapted from the 'Agony Aunt' model, where an older, wise, comforting voice provides unbiased and objective responses to questions young people are 'reluctant to ask.' Love Matters also is recognized as the first ever such platform developed in Hindi in an effort to facilitate access.
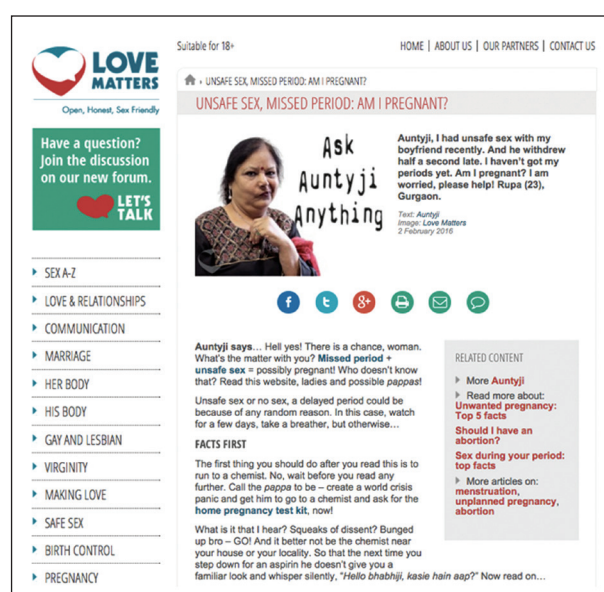
In organisations that have a **strong focus on SRHR and also work with/for youth,** two trends are visible. Organisations that work on SRHR of youth from the larger health perspective, address specific health related challenges of youth in diverse areas of drug use, menstrual hygiene, mental health more, facilitates referrals, counselling, etc. Many organisations also work to make government schemes and programmes accessible to youth and focus on developing infrastructure. Afghan Family Guidance Association (AFGA) for instance, which had established youth information centres as far back as in 2006, for the first time in Afghanistan, has established two youth health corners in 2015. It has also established a youth helpline in 2012 with 10 active counsellors towards providing educacy services and counselling to its callers. The helpline has handled 75000 active calls in 2015 alone.

On the other hand, organisations that approach SRHR from a Rights perspective, tend to design programmes that focus on issues of sexuality, bodily autonomy, consent, choice, or pleasure. For example, It's My Body, a programme of CREA (India), uses sports as a way to not only break gender stereotypes around who can and should play sports, but also as an effective and fun medium to initiate conversations with girls about sensitive yet important topics of mobility, bodily autonomy, choice, consent, and pleasure. The programme's goal is to empower adolescent girls and enable them to make and exercise their own decisions regarding their bodies, health and lives. "These decisions can range from something as ordinary and simple such as the decision to play a sport or what clothing to wear, to something more significant such as the decision to pursue higher education or choosing when and whom to marry[14]."

Capacity building programs and sensitization campaigns targeting as well as engaging youth, research, policy advocacy at varying scales are evidenced across this groups of organisations/networks as is work with, for and by LGBTQI groups and with other stakeholders such as parents, teachers, government, etc. Trainings, courses and workshops to build capacities of diverse stakeholders to work on SRHR of youth also emerges as a focus area of this groups of organisations.

In organisations that have their **primary focus on youth and also work on SRHR,** the focus on SRHR finds justification in the recognition of interconnections between different aspects of a young person's life. A range of information focused programmes and campaigns that grow around SRHR issues can be found within this group of organizations and processes for capacity building of youth for engaging with SRHR issues is also evident towards promoting youth development and participation.

Overall, what emerges in the study is that more work on SRHR is happening in youth focused organisations than before, even though many times these programs are one-off or time-bound.

The study could find a range of organisations that focus on **youth as a primary group, has limited to no focus on SRHR**. Many organisations with primary focus on livelihoods, education and skill building feature in this group as do many women's organisations. Youth programmes here grow around the recognition of a particular need of youth, to further a particular cause or build youth capacity on a specific issue, and other needs and challenges of youthhood, including SRHR, remain outside the ambit of these programmes. Anando in Bangladesh, for example, recognizes youth as a primary group and is working to improve their abilities towards economic empowerment in order to enhance their living status. Therefore the primary youth programmes of Anando are focused on vocational training and skill development, with no evident focus on youth development beyond the scope of the specific projects.

In the case of women's organisations, specific aspects of SRHR are focused upon/addressed in a number of programmes and campaigns against gender violence, but they are not often explicitly looked at from the SRHR perspective. A few women's organisations declined the invitation to participate in this study because they did not have any SRHR work, even while acknowledging that they work with youth in a concerted manner.

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14   It's My Body (Note), CREA (2015)

"Sexuality, sex, bodily changes are major in that age group. Avoiding that is avoiding a big part of their development. It would be really good to cover a component of that. Many organisations don't have the expertise though" - Nalini Paul, Country Director, Restless Development, India

Collectivisation around specific issues is evident

Efforts towards collectivization and collaborations find evidence in the sheer number of networks/ platforms/ alliances in the region. The study could identify many kinds of networks - SRHR networks, youth networks, youth led networks, health networks, AIDS networks, youth led SRHR networks, and at all levels – local, national and regional. It also finds that diverse stakeholders are focusing on building networks of various scales. For instance, while Commutiny – The Youth Collective is investing immense energy in building a strong platform of young social entrepreneurs in India and advocating for youth development, participation as well as addressing issues of diversity and inclusion with them, STI/AIDS Network in Bangladesh is bringing organizations together towards strengthening advocacy. Based in Thailand, Youth Voices Count, on the other hand, is working to strengthen youth led SRHR work in Asia Pacific through facilitating exchanges among MSM and transgender youth activists and leaders including anchoring a regional programme for strengthening youth leadership towards SRHR advocacy.

"Coalitions have to work nationally, then regionally and then globally. This is often not the case. It works globally first…Coalitions have to be owned, otherwise it is very hard to keep it going. People who are a part of coalitions need to have real stakes. It works only if the person representing an organization or a group is also able to take decisions on behalf of it." – Pramada Menon, Queer Feminist Activist and co-founder CREA.

Overall, facilitating exchanges and learning, strengthening stakeholder voice (including youth voice), participation and/or advocacy emerge as the key rationale for forming networks. Further, while the study could not, discern the impact of the majority of networks, it could identify the value of networks in facilitating exchanges and learning, advocating for SRHR of youth as well as strengthening work on the ground.

'Youth-led' is a gray area

In the youth participation framework, 'youth-led' is understood as the highest level of participation where young people themselves make key decisions regarding issues that impact them, with or without adults. This is a growing area of global focus, with high commitment and investment.

The study finds a recognition of this perspective among organisations and networks with the words 'youth participation' or 'youth-led' occurring more commonly and many programs seeking to build youth leadership through working on rights of self determination, choice and consent, designing programs that vest responsibilities on youth (e.g., peer model) or towards consolidating a youth voice.

But what is being understood as 'youth led'? This is a gray area that emerges in the course of the study. Many of the organisations/networks that participated in the survey identified themselves as youth-led and in the course of analysis, it was discovered that different organisations are interpreting 'youth-led' in different ways. Some of them were started by young people, some of them were started by people when they were young. Some of them have a young person holding the leadership position in the organisation, while some of them have their youth programmes being led by young people.

And who is a 'Youth'? Governments in India, Bangladesh, Iran and Sri Lanka define youth as those between 15-29 years of age, in Nepal, 16-40 years, in Bangladesh a youth is between 18-35 years while in Afghanistan a youth is one between 18 and 35 years.

Moreover, how does one understand whether an organization/programme/ network is actually youth led? The study could identify high youth engagement/participation in many programs, but could not discern its degree of participation because it could not find clear indicators of how much decision making and leadership responsibilities actually lie with youth. Therefore, where in the youth participation continuum/ ladder to place an organisation even as the organization identifies itself as youth led?

Desk research and interviews, especially with young informants also corroborate that youth participation is still a gray area, and there is an absence of sound mechanisms to both facilitate and assess it. Therefore, beyond identifying evidence of youth engagement, the study could not assess youth participation. What the study could identify, however, is that 'youth led' is slowly emerging as an aspiration among organisations and networks, that there is some effort happening to hear what young people have to say, and some investment happening in building youth coalitions. It could, also identify that there is much that needs to change before a common

> ## Youth participation...a song and dance?
>
> It was quite interesting to note that there were no youth speakers identified at the official opening ceremony of the main conference to speak alongside the bigwigs and high-level personnel. I was told this was due to young people having their own plenary a few days later.
>
> Fast forward to the youth plenary and it was nowhere nearly as well advertised, let alone well attended, as the opening plenary. Some of the young people I had spoken to felt a bit lost, overwhelmed or disconnected from the larger 'youth group' as it was their first time in a setting like this.
>
> The other trend I noticed was that young people would mostly attend the sessions on youth and adolescents or in which a fellow young person from the larger youth group was speaking. When it came to sessions on financing, SDGs indicators, parliamentary engagement and religion, young people were hardly present in the room.
>
> Where are the young people?! The young advocates who will go back to their countries and constituencies and demand that their governments make efforts towards securing an SDG indicator on comprehensive sexuality education? The young advocates who will go back to their health ministries and demand to know how much of the national health budget is being allocated towards family planning?
>
> The straw that broke the camel's back for me was at the closing plenary when the young people were afforded the opportunity to present the outcomes of their 2- day youth pre- conference deliberations. Rather than delivering a statement on behalf of the young people at the conference (the largest youth delegation in ICFP history), 'meaningful youth participation' turned into a high school musical sequel and a song and dance was presented.
>
> Critical as I may sound, I do appreciate the enthusiasm, creativity and freshness of this cohort of young people at ICFP, but I'm also quite tired of hearing from the older generation that this is what should be expected from us - song, dance and protest? In order for truly meaningful youth participation to be realized and achieved, we need to be able to participate and engage at an equal footing. We're striving to be recognized as stakeholders and partners in the development of a better world, as activists and advocates for change, not entertainers.

understanding of 'youth participation' and 'youth led' emerges and youth participation moves towards maturity, despite the intentions. The blog excerpt[15] (see box) resonates this.

Finally, the study could find that despite focus and efforts, SRHR work with youth are being led mostly by adults in the region.

"Young people should be empowered to run the entire project – from planning to budget to implementation, review and evaluation" Manak Matiyani (CEO, The YP Foundation, India)

Innovations are evident in pockets across the region

The study finds many instances of creative, innovative models of SRHR work with youth, and identifies them as growing from intents of pro-actively removing barriers, building engagement, being youth friendly and non-threatening points of entry and dialog building on sensitive/taboo areas. Innovations using technology strategically and using multiple art forms including performing arts or comics to engage youth, create safe spaces for dialog as well as to channel youth voice emerge as areas with potential of replication.

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15 Blog source: arrow.org.my; Author: Levi Singh, a 21 year old SRHR advocate from Durban, South Africa. He serves as a regional youth advisor to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and as the Secretary General of the African Youth & Adolescents Network on Population and Development (AfriYAN); Blog posted on February 11, 2016 by ARROW with the introduction "Levi Singh

Innovations Snapshot

- Mobile app for women's safety – People for Parity (India)
- Mobile based videos (Mobi-sodes) for information to youth, pregnant mothers regardless of education levels - NEEDS, Reach India, SRHR Alliance (India)
- Mobile app to reach out to young people – Restless Development (India)
- Technology based lifeskills curriculum – Centre for Catalysing Change (India)
- Virtual safe and youth friendly spaces to talk sex and sexuality, get correct information -CREA, CYC, Love Matters, TARSHI (India)
- First youth helpline for counselling, educacy – AFGA (Afghanistan), Rozan (Pakistan)
- Toll free IVRS to retain privacy and get correct information –CHSJ, TARSHI (India)
- Online/distance, local language CSE course for youth and youth workers – Centre for Catalysing Change, CINI, Samvada, Patang (India)
- Main Kucch Bhi Kar Sakti Hun, a local language TV soap addressing SRHR issues - Population Foundation of India (India)
- Talking sexuality and rights through girls football - ANT, CEQUIN, CREA (India)
- Media Literacy workshops – STEP (India)
- Use of multiple art forms: Magic, dance, forum theater, music for mobilization, dialog, capacity building – Mittika, The Ant (India)
- Multi-disciplinary team to address cases of child sexual abuse in hospital in collaboration with the government and UNICEF - Enfold (India)
- Burnout prevention of care-givers – TARSHI (India)
- Refugee rights incorporation into the GBV training manual – Shirakat (Pakistan)
- Women centered hospital offering alternative system of treatment, information, services, counselling – RUWSEC (India)
- Knowledge products development/translation in local language

Innovations in interpreting and contextualizing established models of peer education and using sports or in customizing sexuality education or life skills curriculum and in design of leadership programs could also be noted.

The study also finds the existence of many innovative knowledge resources and products in the region, many of which have been developed to facilitate replication and scaling of successful initiatives of organisations.

However, innovations are still in pockets, with scaling and replication being guided by the capacity, reach and resources available with an organization or network.

Diverse challenges and capacity needs exist at all levels

As an area of enquiry, the survey had sought information on challenges and capacity needs of organisations and networks in regard to strengthening SRHR work with/for young people. Analysis of the responses make it evident that a range of challenges and capacity needs exist in the region. While the various challenges and capacity needs are listed (see box), an analysis of these lead to the identification of select areas where critical capacity needs exist. These areas are informed by the full recognition that building youth leadership is the highest form of youth participation and that SRHR work with/for youth in the region is evolving and while it is being led by adults at present, processes need to be in place for enabling youth across diversities, to own and lead it fully.

- Capacities for designing process-driven programmes with/for youth, given that youth is a heterogenous, transitioning and mobile constituency, with diverse needs and multiple interests. This requires capacity building of stakeholders in programme as well as instruction design and facilitation skills.

> **Snapshot of Reported Challenges:**
> - SRHR work with youth more activity-based/ short term, not process-based/intensive/ long term.
> - Insufficient funding
> - Capacities or robust approach lacking.
> - Need for special spaces.
> - Mobile population. Short term. Mentoring needed.
> - Little support of other stakeholders (government, educational institutions).
> - Absence of evaluation framework, impact evaluation and longitudinal studies of youth participation in SRHR work.
> - Addressing conservatism, taboos: Educational institutions, educators, government, practitioners.
> - Building Dialogue with communities on SRHR.
> - Address diversity of youth and their needs.
> - Multilingual and diverse audience within a small community.

This includes capacities to consciously build into the design, elements for enhancing participation, addressing issues of diversity, mobility, interests and continuity. It also includes specific capacities to design safe spaces for reflection and dialog, of being youth-friendly, non-hierarchical, of being facilitative towards increasing youth participation.

- Capacities to address power inequalities structures[16], given the personal and complex nature of SRHR work with/for youth. This includes building capacities of designers, practitioners, field workers and evaluators for self reflection towards values clarification, challenging personal assumptions, stereotypes and biases, developing empathy towards appreciating equality, equity and diversity. It also includes capacities to identify and challenge taboos and social barriers and for working with key stakeholders that influence and impact the life of youth across diversities. And most importantly, capacities to share power and share space with young people, with full recognition of them as equal partners.

- Capacities to evaluate youth participation, with full appreciation of its qualitative aspects. This not only requires capacities of stakeholders to develop evaluation frameworks, but also to examine the rationale, intent and integrity of such a framework. In the absence of any universally accepted framework to evaluate youth participation, this is a key area where much work is needed.

- Capacities of youth focused organisations/networks to work on SRHR of youth and of other 'non-youth' or 'part youth' organisations/networks to work with youth. This includes technical knowledge as well as specific skills.

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16 Deep structure' is a term used to describe the hidden layers within societies, organisations and movements where a number of unconscious or even conscious but hidden processes occur. Within the deep structure lie assumptions taken for granted ... These assumptions are below awareness level, and are therefore not talked about or challenged, but they determine how people think and act. Deep structures are the sites where all sorts of informal, invisible norms and rules operate, and from where formal processes are subverted. (Sources: Rao and Kelleher 2005; Srilatha Batliwala, BRIDGE e-discussion, March 2012)

Snapshot of Capacity Building Needs:

How to:

- Design interesting activities
- Facilitate
- Go beyond the short term, activity based approach?
- Address youth mobililty and engage with this constituency
- Build dialogue on sensitive issues with youth, communities
- Interpret youth engagement (volunteers, peer groups, etc.)
- Work with 'different' groups: different sexual orientations, youth with disability, migrant youth, youth in conflict areas, etc.
- Work with Government, educational institutions
- Use technology
- Get updated on SRHR issues: policy, research and discourse
- Mobilise funds
- Measure impact of youth and SRHR work.
- Build support of other stakeholders (parents, government, educational institutions)
- Work with/on religious and cultural norms and practices
- Address conservatism, taboos: Educational institutions, educators, government, practitioners
- Address diversity of youth and their needs
- Work with multilingual and diverse audience within a small community
- Research and Advocate

There is recognition that sectoral capacity towards building youth participation needs strengthening

The analysis of the responses from organisations makes it clear that there is recognition the youth work requires the development of special skills and qualities among those who carry it out. In answering the question on what attracts young people to engage and contribute, most recognise that it is non-judgmental, non-hierarchical and safe spaces. In other words, it is informally serious spaces; spaces that are informal while being structured, spaces where young people can be themselves and find the space to discover or hone their potentials as equal partners in change, spaces where young people can learn and build confidence as leaders of change at their own pace. Use of non-threatening methodologies that supports young people to engage fully – heart, head and hands – find support. This includes methodologies such as street theatre, art, music, campaign, films, song and dance that make the space open, fun.

Social networking sites, mobile applications and social media guided by the above principles are also things that attract youth. Young people get drawn to spaces which align with the realities of a young person's life and context. The success of peer-education models, youth resource centres are testimony to the fact that youth like peer-led spaces. Personal search for identity, sense of purpose and being part of something big are other things that draw young people.

The study also finds a general recognition that young people need to be treated as leaders or equal partners in addressing issues related to them and value meaningful and supportive youth adult partnerships that ensure space for them to lead and develop independent ideas on what is required.

Much scope exists in making SRHR work 'youth friendly'

While the study points towards the steadily emerging work on SRHR with and for youth in the region, it also finds that it is still in pockets. As evident from the analysis of young respondents who participated in this study, they find that talking about sex and sexuality openly is still a taboo. While they spend a significant amount of time in schools, colleges and at home, these spaces are by far the most difficult spaces where they can have a conversation about SRHR issues. Young people recognise that the chapters in the Biology textbooks (though it is not a practice in all the countries studied) can be an entry point but that is not what they want to discuss. More than the questions what disturbs young people are 'How will we be perceived for asking questions about sex', 'Is it alright to seek guidance and from whom' etc. Excess information through media combined with a sense of taboo enforced by family and society confuses the youth. These confusions are dealt with by young people by keeping silent about the issue. Many articulated their frustration by sharing that there was nobody to tell children that they were perfect the way they were. Careful analysis of the responses suggest that though at the regional level though SRHR work has expanded manifold but there is a huge issue of youth friendly access to SRHR and what is 'youth friendly' again could be contested. Young people are unanimous in voicing that society still thinks sex and sexuality are bad things and is not open to discussing sex unless people were married. Young people also share that they are sometimes pushed to unhealthy psychological states due to their relationship issues.

"So often we remain silent and find more anonymous ways of answering our questions" - Youth survey respondent, India

"Internet and other media have 'artificialised' the idea of sex" - – Youth survey respondent, India

Way Forward: Recommendations by Organisations and KIs for Strengthening Sectoral Youth/SRHR work

The study sought recommendations from the youth and organizational respondents as well as the 15 key informants it interviewed towards sectoral strengthening of SRHR work with/for youth. Compiled below are the key recommendations.

Increase investment in youth development

Much greater investment is needed in young people. They need to be recognised not just as individuals who need opportunities, services or mentoring, but as individuals who are equally capable of contributing and decision making. Much greater opportunities need to be created for young people to gain access to safe spaces, question and exchange ideas, get involved and contribute.

Also, there needs to be much greater investment in institutional spaces that enable young people to explore identities, undergo experiential learning journeys and self reflection processes, learn from experiences, as well as to understand, acknowledge and celebrate diversities. Creative methodologies, which appeal to young people need to be used much more while working with them. These include sports, arts, theater, dance, comics, mobile apps and social media. Peer learning approach is also recommended.

"Ability to articulate feeling is something we need to invest in even before the young person reaches the SRHR space. Absence of enough work on that creates a challenge to do SRH work" Ashraf Patel, Convenor, CYC

"Many organisations implementing modules on SRHR have now started working through art theatre or sports as their entry points." Koushiki Banerjee, UNICEF

Use of creative means such as comics, theater, sports etc. has huge potential in drawing out and involving a large number of youth in a greater and more meaningful leadership role – Reach India Trust

Adopt an affirmative, rights based approach to SRHR work with/ for youth

SRHR work with/for youth need to go beyond focusing only on the functional aspects and needs to be empowering instead of staying limited within specific awareness and knowledge -oriented parameters. It needs to grow from a positive, affirmative and rights based approach.

On the ground, when working on young people's SRHR, appreciation of their feelings, apprehensions and desires should be a non-negotiable as is the focus on addressing stigma and stereotypes attached to sex, sexuality and identities. This is an area of work where much more robustness and strengthening is needed. It is also strongly recommended that processes are developed such that young people themselves are involved in decisions pertaining to their SRHR.

"There is immense need to talk about sexuality and rights. When you look at rights, it's a hugely underserved need" - Shaleen Rakesh, Activist, Executive Director, VSO-India

"Create an environment for healthy discussion regarding sex and sexual issues in our society most importantly in our families, where people can freely discuss about sex without feeling awkward. It will enable teenagers, young adults to approach family members for guidance." – Youth survey respondent, India

"SRHR should build feminist leadership." Ishita Chowdhury (Ashoka Fellow, Founder Trustee, The YP Foundation, India)

"Youth friendly services are never non judgemental." – Pramada Menon, Queer Feminist Activist and co-founder CREA.

There is a need to ….focus on reproductive rights, sexual health and sexual rights. Rights need to be accorded to people not based on how economically (re)productive they are but because they deserve certain inalienable rights as human beings. – Nazariya: A Queer Feminist Resource Group.

Integrate SRHR into all work with and for young people

Youth development and SRHR are not mutually exclusive. That sex and sexuality are integral to youthhood needs to acknowledged by every stakeholder working with/for young people. Growing from this, the many different kinds of programmes with/for youth need to focus on the SRHR needs of their groups and address these for empowering young people to take charge of their lives and make informed choices related to different aspects of their lives, including their SRHR.

"Everything in a person's life is related to sexuality and health" - Kamala Bhasin, Feminist, Activist

"Include gender and sexuality education in school/ colleges curriculum and appoint trained teachers in school, colleges and institutions". – Youth survey respondent, India

"There has to be an integrated approach. For example, SRH and livelihoods, SRH and migration, etc." – Pramada Menon, Queer Feminist Activist and co-founder CREA

The first and foremost need is to address the stigma and the stereotypes that are attached to sex. A more positive approach to sex and sexuality has to be developed by sessions with youth. Sex has to become more than a chore, a compulsory part of marriage, a man's domain, or a means of reproduction. - Samvada

Emphasise on youth participation at all levels

Young people need to be involved at all levels in youth programming – from visioning, planning, implementation to decision and policy making. Through knowledge and skill building, exposure and leadership development, they should be encouraged to take on leadership roles. Young people should be at the centre of the development process as 'actors' rather than 'objects' of development. Youth led organisations need to be supported and strengthened through long-term capacity building, mentorship and resources.

"Youth are not given space; their issues are handled by 'overage' people where young people are unable to talk about their issues. Young people need space, and opportunities to learn and work." - Amit Timlisina, Coordinator, YUWA, Nepal

Give space to youth to imagine and to do mistakes, they will learn from it. Do not give them manual to fix things but ask them to create their own questions and then encourage to find their answers. – PUKAR

Ensuring meaningful youth leadership in policy and program development within the CSO and government systems. – The YP Foundation

"… we as a peer educator, has to take full responsibility in creating awareness of how important our health is over those societal norms. As I do in the far place possible, I share the sources and documents available about the sex and reproduction starting from very small groups of people such as my families, friends and co-workers. I found that very productive though I sometimes fail financially. So it is really very important for the peer educators to share what we eloquently at the farest we could". – Youth survey respondent, Bhutan

Work with different stakeholders that touch the lives of young people

While addressing issues of SRHR, all stakeholders that touch the lives of young people should be worked with.. These could be parents, schools or communities. This is important for acceptability, retention, non-contradictory messages going to young people, for providing a support system for them and building an enabling environment. Boys and men need to be worked with as much as girls and women.

"One key thing is to target parents also when working with adolescents and youth. This would build common knowledge and ownership" Koushiki Banerjee, State Consultant, UNICEF, Bengaluru.

"Starting from school - learning to accept and understand sex and sexuality. Also, parents must be educated on how to handle their children. Children are curious and most parents are unsure of how to handle situations". – Youth survey respondent, India

"SRHR is looked at as a vertical. There is a huge lack of space where young people can integrate and appreciate it as part of their lives" Ishita Chowdhury (Ashoka Fellow, India)

"Sensitize bureaucrats and key policy makers regarding SRHR of young people." – UNFPA, Bangladesh

Research, document and learn from good practices

There needs to be much more research and documentation of good practices. There also needs to be a much stronger understanding of the needs and aspirations of young people in this rapidly evolving and socio-culturally diverse region. These need to be consolidated towards highlighting gap areas as well as to offer learning for strengthening approach, strategies, design, delivery and evaluation of SRHR interventions with/for youth.

"What do young people want? There is no uniform ask." – Pramada Menon, Queer Feminist Activist and co-founder CREA.

Creating an interface for learning and sharing of good practices for all key stakeholders in the sector - IGSSS

We need to see the good practices which the world has used in the past and learn from them – ALFA Education Society

Ensure that alliances and networks have adequate investment as well as real stakes

Alliance building between like-minded organisations and youth leaders doing work with young people on SRHR is recommended as a powerful approach to strengthen SRHR work with/for youth in the region. This would foster learning, sharing and supporting. A resource pool could also be created that organisations could draw from. However, while forming these, care needs to be taken that there is long term investment, real participation and appropriate membership.

"Local grassroot organisations should be facilitated to make networks" – Kamla Bhasin, Feminist Activist

"There is a huge need for youth coalitions. We are living in a start-up phase, of entrepreneurs. Youth confidence is higher now. So coalitions are more feasible" Shaleen Rakesh, Executive Director, VSO India

"When a network for youth is floated. It has to be owned by youth" - Ishita Chowdhury (Ashoka Fellow, India)

Build network with like-minded organisations to advocate for Adolescents SRHR issues at State and National levels. – CINI

Alliance building between like minded organisations doing the work with young people with a focus on comprehensive sexuality education is currently a gap and needs to be fostered. – CREA

Conclusion

"Many international organizations and agencies concur that youth participation should not be regarded solely as a component that will improve the health or development outcomes of a given program or intervention but, rather, as a human right…Some UN documents define participation as seeking information, expressing ideas, taking an active role in different steps of the process of creating a policy or program, being informed and consulted on decisions concerning public interest, analyzing situations and even making personal choices. Hart describes participation as the core characteristic of civic life, as a process of "… sharing decisions which affect one's life and the life of the community in which one lives."

…Various conceptual frameworks have been developed to better understand youth participation… (they) have, as a common intention, the establishment and adoption of processes for shared decision making and power between the holder of the adult role and the young person, through the recognition of young people's contributions, individually and/or collectively. According to Cook, giving decision-making power to young people and integrating them in all aspects of program development are vital components of meaningful involvement processes, beyond tokenism and decoration" [17]

"(Youth) participation should not be seen as different from their personal development." [18] *(IPPF: 2008, p. 9)*

With the above as a premise, and in recognition of the youth voices, the information shared by the diverse organisations and networks, the large movements in the region for ensuring SRHR of young people, evidences from the researches and consensus documents, the study highlights the following as areas that need focused efforts:

- Youth development and participation need to be recognized as rights by both youth and adults: To realize 'meaningful' youth participation, all stakeholders working with/for youth need to recognize it as a right. This understanding has to inform and be integrated into all aspects of any programming with/for youth, especially in SRHR programming. Even as this is done, the thin line between 'youth development' and 'youth participation' need be recognized and then merged. Only then will the work build ownership and leadership, and will have long lasting impact on a young person's life. Only this will lead to genuine investment into building youth leadership.

- Understanding of patriarchy and power relations need to be central to all SRHR work with/for youth: For participating meaningfully and leading the strengthening of SRHR work, young people need to understand power and its influence. This will empower them to recognize and negotiate power relations – not just in securing their SRH rights, but also to negotiate for their right to participate meaningfully. Understanding of patriarchy and power relations therefore need to be central to all SRHR work with/for youth.

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17   Villa-Torres, L., Svanemyr, J. (2015). Ensuring Youth's Right to Participation and Promotion of Youth Leadership in the Development of Sexual and Reproductive Health Policies and Programs. Journal of Adolescent Health 56 (2015) S51-S57

18   Participate: The voice of young people in programmes and policies, IPPF: 2008

- Capacities of adults need to be built to work with youth and create and share space and power: An overarching challenge that has been identified in the sector, which is still largely led by adults, is how to walk the thin line – creating a comfort zone while pushing the members to move beyond the comfort zones. To facilitate and mentor and not teach and impose. To share power and create space. To be non-judgemental, in fact, appreciative of different views and voices. To manage conflicts – within oneself and without – on values, views and stances. To let go and yet remain responsible. These challenges need to be addressed urgently if youth leadership is to be ensured. Therefore, investments in efforts to recognize deep structures[19] and hidden inequalities need to be made. Work that lead to shift in personal values and attitudes and development of capacities and skills in adults that work with/for youth need to be prioritized.

In recognition of the youth voices, the information shared by the diverse organisations and networks, and evidences from the researches and consensus documents, the study concludes by highlighting that that despite the large movements in the region for ensuring SRHR of young people, there is an immense work that is yet to be done.

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19 'Deep structure' is a term used to describe the hidden layers within societies, organisations and movements where a number of unconscious or even conscious but hidden processes occur. Within the deep structure lie assumptions taken for granted ... These assumptions are below awareness level, and are therefore not talked about or challenged, but they determine how people think and act. Deep structures are the sites where all sorts of informal, invisible norms and rules operate, and from where formal processes are subverted. (Sources: Rao and Kelleher 2005; Srilatha Batliwala, BRIDGE e-discussion, March 2012)

Annexure

Annexure 1: Distribution of Organisations and Networks by Country and Category

	Key Focus on SRHR	Also Focus on SRHR	Low/No Focus on SRHR
Key Focus on Youth	**Category 1** **Total: 14** **Youth-led: 6**	**Category 3** **Total: 25** **Youth-led: 13**	**Category 4** **Total: 17** **Youth-led: 8**
	India: 8	India: 18	Bangladesh: 1
	Pakistan: 2	Iran: 2	Bhutan: 1
	Sri Lanka: 2	Nepal 4	India: 12
	Regional networks: 2	Pakistan: 1	Maldives: 1
			Nepal: 2
	Category 2 **Total: 34** **Youth-led: 9**	**Category 5** **Total: 15** **Youth-led: 3**	**Category 6** **Total: 10** **Youth-led: 5**
Also Work with youth	Afghanistan: 1	India: 9	India: 10
	Bangladesh: 4	Iran: 1	
	Bhutan: 2	Pakistan: 2	
	India: 17	Sri Lanka: 3	
	Iran: 1		
	Maldives: 2		
	Nepal: 4		
	Pakistan: 2		
	Sri Lanka: 1		
	Regional network: 1		

Annexure 2: Profile Map of Organisations and Networks

	List of Organisations/ Networks	Country	Identity	Outreach (Based on online survey response)	Leadership (Based on online survey response)	Category*
	117					
	Afghanistan					
1	Afghan Family Guidance Association (AFGA)	Afghanistan	Organisation	National		2
	BANGLADESH					
1	Anando	Bangladesh	Organisation	National		4
2	Bandhu Social Welfare Society (BSWS)	Bangladesh	Organisation	National		2
3	Family Planning Association of Bangladesh (FPAB)	Bangladesh	Organisation	National	Youth-led	2
4	STI/AIDS Network of Bangladesh (SANB)	Bangladesh	Network	National		2
5	UNFPA Bangladesh	Bangladesh	Organisation	International		2
	Bhutan					
1	Bhutan Youth Development Fund	Bhutan	Organisation	National		4
2	Lhak Sam + LGBT Bhutan	Bhutan	Network	State Level	Youth-led	2
3	Respect, Educate, Nurture and Empower Women (RENEW)	Bhutan	Organisation	National		2
	India					
1	Aaina	India	Organisation	State Level		5
2	Action For Autism	India	Organisation	International		5
3	Akshara	India	Organisation	National		2
4	Alfa Educational Society	India	Organisation	State Level	Youth-led	3
5	Anhad Pravah	India	Organisation	State Level	Youth-led	4
6	Ankur	India	Organisation			1
7	Association of People with Disability (APD)	India	Organisation	State Level		4
8	Audacious Dreams Foundation (ADF)	India	Organisation	International	Youth-led	4
9	Bhumi	India	Organisation	National	Youth-led	6
10	Breakthrough	India	Organisation	International		5
11	Center for Catalysing Change (CCC)	India	Organisation	National		1
12	Centre for Equity and Inclusion (CEQUIN)	India	Organisation	National		5
13	Chetana	India	Organisation			1
14	Child in Need Institute (CINI)	India	Organisation	National	Youth-led	1
15	Centre for Health and Social Justice (CHSJ)	India	Organisation	International		2

	List of Organisations/ Networks	Country	Identity	Outreach (Based on online survey response)	Leadership (Based on online survey response)	Category*
16	Community Development Foundation	India	Organisation		Youth-led	6
17	ComMutiny- The Youth Collective (CYC)	India	Organisation	National	Youth-led	3
18	CREA	India	Organisation	International	Youth-led	2
19	Dasra	India	Organisation	National		6
20	Dhriiti – The Courage Within	India	Organisation	National	Youth-led	6
21	Diksha Foundation	India	Organisation	Regional		6
22	Dream a Dream	India	Organisation	National		4
23	Enfold Proactive Health Trust	India	Organisation	National		2
24	Expressions India	India	Organisation	National		3
25	Family Planning Association of India (FPA India)	India	Organisation	National	Youth-led	2
26	Doosra Dashak Foundation for Education and Development (FED)	India	Organisation	National		3
27	Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy (IICP)	India	Organisation	International		6
28	Indo-Global Social Service Society (IGSSS)	India	Organisation	National		3
29	InSIDE-North East (Integrated Social & Institutional Devt. For Empowerment	India	Organisation	State Level	Youth-led	3
30	Jagori	India	Organisation	National		5
31	Jan Adhikar Kendra	India	Organisation		Youth-led	6
32	Janvikas	India	Organisation	State Level		4
33	Kat-Katha	India	Organisation	National	Youth-led	5
34	Kherwadi Social Welfare Association	India	Organisation	National		4
35	Love Matters	India	Organisation			1
36	Milaan – Be The Change	India	Organisation	National	Youth-led	3
37	Mittika	India	Organisation	Regional		3
38	National Foundation for India (NFI)	India	Organisation	National		5
39	Naz Foundation	India	Organisation			2
40	Nazariya: A Queer Feminist Resource Group	India	Organisation	National	Youth-led	2
41	Network for Enterprise Enhancement and Development Support (NEEDS)	India	Organisation	International		2
42	Nirantar	India	Organisation	National		5

	List of Organisations/ Networks	Country	Identity	Outreach (Based on online survey response)	Leadership (Based on online survey response)	Category*
43	Partners For Urban Knowledge, Action And Research (PUKAR)	India	Organisation	State Level	Youth-led	3
44	Patang	India	Organisation	National	Youth-led	3
45	People for Parity Foundation (PPF)	India	Organisation	National	Youth-led	2
46	Population Foundation of India (PFI)	India	Organisation	National		2
47	Professional Assistance for Development Action (PRADAN)	India	Organisation	International		6
48	Prantakatha	India	Organisation	National	Youth-led	3
49	Pravah	India	Organisation	National	Youth-led	3
50	Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD)	India	Organisation	National	Youth-led	3
51	Reach India Trust	India	Organisation	National	Youth-led	2
52	Restless Development (India)	India	Organisation	National	Youth-led	1
53	Rubaroo	India	Organisation	State Level	Youth-led	4
54	Rupantaran Foundation	India	Organisation	State Level		3
55	Rural Women's Social Education Centre (RUWSEC)	India	Organisation	National		2
56	Samvada	India	Organisation	Regional	Youth-led	3
57	Sangama	India	Organisation	Regional		2
58	Sarvodaya	India	Organisation			4
59	Save the Children India	India	Organisation	International	Youth-led	6
60	Society for Nutrition Education and Health Action (SNEHA)	India	Organisation	Regional		2
61	SRHR Alliance India	India	Organisation	International	Youth-led	2
62	Srijanatmak Manushi Sansthan (SMS)	India	Organisation	State Level		3
63	Standing Together to Enable Peace Trust (STEP)	India	Organisation	National	Youth-led	5
64	Swasti	India	Organisation	International		2
65	Synergy Sansthan	India	Organisation	State Level	Youth-led	3
66	Talking About Reproductive and Sexual Health Issues (TARSHI)	India	Organisation	Regional		2
67	The Ant	India	Organisation	State Level		4
68	The Blue Ribbon Movement (BRM)	India	Organisation	Regional	Youth-led	4
69	The YP Foundation (TYPF)	India	Organisation	International	Youth-led	1

	List of Organisations/ Networks	Country	Identity	Outreach (Based on online survey response)	Leadership (Based on online survey response)	Category*
70	Thoughtshop Foundation (TF)	India	Organisation	International	Youth-led	1
71	United Nations Volunteers (UNV)	India	Organisation	National		6
72	Vayali Folklore Group	India	Organisation	Regional	Youth-led	4
73	Youth Ki Awaaz (YKA)	India	Organisation	International	Youth-led	4
74	Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action (YUVA)	India	Organisation	National		3
	Iran					
1	Family Health Association, Iran (FHAI)	Iran	Organisation	National		2
2	Hamyaran Mosbat- The Mashhad Positive Club	Iran	Organisation			3
3	Institute for Growth of Young Seedling	Iran	Organisation			None
4	Iran Family Association of the Deaf	Iran	Organisation			None
5	Iranian Health Education and Promotion Association	Iran	Organisation	Regional		5
6	Simaye Sabz Rahayie Harm Reduction Institute	Iran	Organisation	State Level	Youth-led	3
	Maldives					
1	Dhi Youth Movement (DYM)	Maldives	Organisation	National	Youth-led	4
2	Society For Health Education (SHE)	Maldives	Organisation	National		2
	Nepal					
1	Association of Youth Organisations (AYON)	Nepal	Network	National		3
2	Family Planning Association of Nepal (FPAN)	Nepal	Organisation	National	Youth-led	2
3	Institute of Human Rights Communication Nepal (IHRICON)	Nepal	Organisation	National		2
4	National NGOs Network Against AIDS, Nepal (NANGAN)	Nepal	Network	National		2
5	Raksha Nepal	Nepal	Organisation	National		2
6	We for Change	Nepal	Organisation	National		3
7	Youth Action Nepal (YOAC)	Nepal	Organisation	National		4
8	Youth Initiative	Nepal	Organisation	National		4
9	YUWA	Nepal	Organisation	National	Youth-led	3
	Pakistan					
1	Aahung	Pakistan	Organisation	National		1

	List of Organisations/ Networks	Country	Identity	Outreach (Based on online survey response)	Leadership (Based on online survey response)	Category*
2	Aware Girls	Pakistan	Organisation			3
3	Rahnuma Family Planning Association of Pakistan (Rahnuma FPAP)	Pakistan	Organisation	National		2
4	Rozan	Pakistan	Organisation	Regional		2
5	Shirakat – Partnership for Development	Pakistan	Organisation	National		5
6	United Girls Development Organisation	Pakistan	Organisation	Regional		5
7	Youth Advocacy Network (YAN)	Pakistan	Network	National	Youth-led	1
	Sri Lanka					
1	Development Education Institute for Human and Envioronment Resource Management (DEIHERM)	Sri Lanka	Organisation	National	Youth-led	5
2	Family Planning Association of Sri Lanka (FPA-SL)	Sri Lanka	Organisation	National		2
3	Heart 2 Heart Lanka organization (H2HLO)	Sri Lanka	Organisation	State Level		1
4	National Youth Coalition of Sri Lanka (NYCSL)	Sri Lanka	Network	National		1
5	Plantation Human Development Trust (PHDT)	Sri Lanka	Organisation	State Level		5
6	Pratibha Media Network	Sri Lanka	Organisation	State Level		5
	Regional					
1	Asian Pacific Research and Resource Centre for Women (ARROW)	Several	Network	Regional		2
2	Youth Peer Education Network (Y-Peer Network)	Several	Network	Regional	Youth-led	1
3	Youth Voices Count (YVC)	Several	Network	Regional	Youth-led	1

Category 1
Equal focus on youth and SRHR
Category 2
Primary focus on SRHR, also works with youth
Category 3
Primary focus on youth, also works on SRHR
Category 4
Primary focus on youth, limited/no focus on SRHR
Category 5
Some work with both youth and SRHR, but not primary focus areas
Category 6
Some work with youth, limited/no work on SRHR

Annexure 3: Alphabetic and Category-Wise Listing of Organisations and Networks

	List of Organisations/ Networks	Country	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 4	Category 5	Category 6	Uncategorized
			Equal focus on youth and SRHR	Primary focus on SRHR, also works with youth	Primary focus on youth, also works on SRHR	Primary focus on youth, limited/ no focus on SRHR	Some work with both youth and SRHR, but not primary focus areas	Some work with youth, limited/ no work on SRHR	
	116		**14**	**34**	**24**	**17**	**15**	**10**	**2**
1	Aahung	Pakistan	X						
2	Aaina	India					X		
3	Action For Autism	India					X		
4	Afghan Family Guidance Association (AFGA)	Afghanistan	X						
5	Akshara	India	X						
6	Alfa Educational Society	India			X				
7	Anando	Bangladesh				X			
8	Anhad Pravah	India				X			
9	Ankur	India	X						
10	Association of People with Disability (APD)	India				X			
11	Asian Pacific Research and Resource Centre for Women (ARROW)	Several		X					
12	Audacious Dreams Foundation (ADF)	India				X			
13	Aware Girls	Pakistan			X				
14	Association of Youth Organisations (AYON)	Nepal			X				
15	Bandhu Social Welfare Society (BSWS)	Bangladesh		X					
16	Bhumi	India						X	
17	Bhutan Youth Development Fund	Bhutan				X			
18	Breakthrough	India					X		
19	Center for Catalysing Change (CCC)	India	X						

	List of Organisations/ Networks	Country	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 4	Category 5	Category 6	Uncategorized
20	Centre for Equity and Inclusion (CEQUIN)	India					▮		
21	Chetana	India	▮						
22	Child in Need Institute (CINI)	India	▮						
23	Centre for Health and Social Justice (CHSJ)	India		▮					
24	Community Development Foundation	India						▮	
25	ComMutiny-The Youth Collective (CYC)	India			▮				
26	CREA	India		▮					
27	Dasra	India						▮	
28	Development Education Institute for Human and Envioronment Resource Management (DEIHERM)	Sri Lanka					▮		
29	Dhi Youth Movement (DYM)	Maldives				▮			
30	Dhriiti - The Courage Within	India						▮	
31	Diksha Foundation	India						▮	
32	Dream a Dream	India		▮		▮			
33	Enfold Proactive Health Trust	India			▮				
34	Expressions India	India		▮					
35	Family Health Association, Iran (FHAI)	Iran		▮					
36	Family Planning Association of Bangladesh (FPAB)	Bangladesh		▮					
37	Family Planning Association of India (FPA India)	India		▮					
38	Family Planning Association of Nepal (FPAN)	Nepal		▮					
39	Family Planning Association of Sri Lanka (FPA-SL)	Sri Lanka		▮					

	List of Organisations/ Networks	Country	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 4	Category 5	Category 6	Uncategorized
40	Doosra Dashak Foundation for Education and Development (FED)	India			■				
41	Hamyaran Mosbat- The Mashhad Positive Club	Iran			■				
42	Heart 2 Heart Lanka organization (H2HLO)	Sri Lanka	■						
43	Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy (IICP)	India						■	
44	Indo-Global Social Service Society (IGSSS)	India			■				
45	InSIDE-North East (Integrated Social & Institutional Devt. for Empowerment	India			■				
46	Institute of Human Rights Communication Nepal (IHRICON)	Nepal		■					
47	Institute for Growth of Young Seedling	Iran							■
48	Iran Family Association of the Deaf	Iran							■
49	Iranian Health Education and Promotion Association	Iran					■		
50	Jagori	India					■		
51	Jan Adhikar Kendra	India						■	
52	Janvikas	India				■			
53	Kat-Katha	India					■		
54	Kherwadi Social Welfare Association	India				■			
55	Lhak Sam + LGBT Bhutan	Bhutan		■					
56	Love Matters	India	■						
57	Milaan - Be The Change	India			■				
58	Mittika	India			■				
59	National Youth Coalition of Sri Lanka (NYCSL)	Sri Lanka			■				

	List of Organisations/ Networks	Country	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 4	Category 5	Category 6	Uncategorized
60	National Foundation for India (NFI)	India					■		
61	National NGOs Network Against AIDS, Nepal (NANGAN)	Nepal		■					
62	Naz Foundation	India		■					
63	Nazariya: A Queer Feminist Resource Group	India		■					
64	Network for Enterprise Enhancement and Development Support (NEEDS)	India		■					
65	Nirantar	India					■		
66	Partners For Urban Knowledge, Action And Research (PUKAR)	India			■				
67	Patang	India			■				
68	People for Parity Foundation (PPF)	India		■					
69	Plantation Human Development Trust (PHDT)	Sri Lanka					■		
70	Population Foundation of India (PFI)	India		■					
71	Professional Assistance for Development Action (PRADAN)	India						■	
72	Prantakatha	India			■				
73	Pratibha Media Network	Sri Lanka					■		
74	Pravah	India			■				
75	Rahnuma Family Planning Association of Pakistan (Rahnuma FPAP)	Pakistan		■					
76	Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD)	India			■				
77	Raksha Nepal	Nepal		■					

	List of Organisations/ Networks	Country	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 4	Category 5	Category 6	Uncategorized
78	Reach India Trust	India		■					
79	Respect, Educate, Nurture and Empower Women (RENEW)	Bhutan		■					
80	Restless Development (India)	India		■					
81	Rozan	Pakistan		■					
82	Rubaroo	India				■			
83	Rupantaran Foundation	India			■				
84	Rural Women's Social Education Centre (RUWSEC)	India		■					
85	Samvada	India			■				
86	Sangama	India		■					
87	Sarvodaya	India				■			
88	Save the Children India	India						■	
89	Shirakat - Partnership for Development	Pakistan					■		
90	Simaye Sabz Rahayie Harm Reduction Institute	Iran			■				
91	Society for Nutrition Education and Health Action (SNEHA)	India		■					
92	Society For Health Education (SHE)	Maldives		■					
93	SRHR Alliance India	India		■					
94	Srijanatmak Manushi Sansthan (SMS)	India			■				
95	Standing Together to Enable Peace Trust (STEP)	India					■		
96	STI/AIDS Network of Bangladesh (SANB)	Bangladesh		■					
97	Swasti	India		■					
98	Synergy Sansthan	India			■				

	List of Organisations/ Networks	Country	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 4	Category 5	Category 6	Uncategorized
99	Talking About Reproductive and Sexual Health Issues (TARSHI)	India		■					
100	The Ant	India				■			
101	The Blue Ribbon Movement (BRM)	India				■			
102	The YP Foundation (TYPF)	India	■						
103	Thoughtshop Foundation (TF)	India	■						
104	UNFPA Bangladesh	Bangladesh		■					
105	United Girls Development Organisation	Pakistan					■		
106	United Nations Volunteers (UNV)	India						■	
107	Vayali Folklore Group	India				■			
108	We for Change	Nepal			■				
109	Youth Peer Education Network (Y-Peer Network)	Several	■						
110	Youth Action Nepal (YOAC)	Nepal				■			
111	Youth Advocacy Network (YAN)	Pakistan	■						
112	Youth Initiative	Nepal				■			
113	Youth Ki Awaaz (YKA)	India				■			
114	Youth Voices Count (YVC)	Several	■						
115	Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action (YUVA)	India			■				
116	YUWA	Nepal			■				