



# Share-Net Netherlands

The Knowledge Platform on  
Sexual and Reproductive Health & Rights



## What is Share-Net Netherlands?

Share-Net Netherlands is the Dutch knowledge platform for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and one of the country hubs of Share-Net International.

Our vision is that all people have the freedom of choice, are able to make informed decisions, can take action on their sexual and reproductive health and have access to quality care to meet their sexual and reproductive health needs and rights. We work to achieve this vision by acting under the pillars of knowledge management, partner matchmaking and showcasing young researchers.

Share-Net Netherlands is hosted by the KIT Royal Tropical Institute and has 27 individual members, 6 students members and 38 organisational members from sectors including NGOs, universities, knowledge institutes, governmental and private sector which work in low- and middle- income countries with a focus on SRHR.

We operate a paid membership - based on the annual turnover of the organisations - and partnership model, but also rely on external investors for financial stability. To know more visit [www.share-net.nl/membership/](http://www.share-net.nl/membership/)

## What does Share-Net Netherlands do?

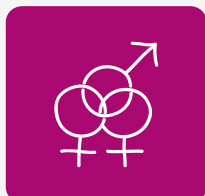
Share-Net Netherlands disseminates knowledge via a bi-weekly newsletter, operates an online resource centre, sends mailings and organises thematic meetings and knowledge sessions where the members interact and meet other international organisations working on that specific topic.

Every year, we organise several knowledge management activities such as thematic meetings, round tables and mappings to name but a few. These activities are suggested by our members. For 2020, some of these themes include: Climate Change, Sexual Pleasure, Infertility, CSW 64 / Beijing+25 and HIV & SRHR Integration.

As a network we try to respond to emerging SRHR issues, which are brought to the table by our members or that are topical at the moment.

## Our Communities of Practice (CoPs)

The platform is made up of several Communities of Practice (CoPs) focusing on specific themes within SRHR. We organise other knowledge sharing activities, such as lectures, debriefings and consultations. Currently we have 14 thematic CoPs: Child Marriage & Teenage Pregnancy, Comprehensive Sexuality Education, LGBTI Health, Gender Based Violence, the Global Financing Facility, Contraception & Abortion, SRHR & Disability, Youth Friendly Health Services, SRHR & HIV Integration, Infertility, Maternal Health, Sexual Pleasure, Engaging Men and Boys and Climate Change. We also have 7 cross-cutting CoPs: SRHR Messaging, Young Researchers, Linking Research Policy & Practice, Private Sector Engagement, Operational Research, Collaborative Approach, Multilateral Processes and SRHR Messaging.



# Highlights

Share-Net Netherlands members choose the topics of the knowledge management activities that are carried out throughout the year. The meetings are organised by a Community of Practice, by and for members. Some examples of successful knowledge management events that happened in 2019 are:

## Looking back at ICPD+25 and ahead to Beijing+25

Share-Net Netherlands and WO=MEN, in collaboration with Rutgers, Amref Flying Doctors, Dance4Life and Atria, organised a roundtable meeting which focused on strategising for the Beijing+25 process, taking into account the outcomes of the ICPD+25 and the start of the Beijing+25 process. With this in mind, the meeting touched on political developments and in particular dealing with current opposition regarding these events. The second half of the meeting entailed having a consultation session during which civil society recommendations were brainstormed for Beijing +25. This consultation session was the contribution of The Netherlands to the implementation of these agendas, relating to both national and international policies and financing of its implementation.

## Sexual Pleasure: Luxury or a Right?

It is only recently that SRHR organisations and professionals started to recognise the importance of sex positivity to effectively promote sexual health. More and more SRHR organisations are becoming inspired by the pleasure movement and Share-Net Netherlands took this opportunity to assess what work has been done and what the next steps forward are. This thematic meeting was organised by the newly formed Sexual Pleasure CoP and during this meeting, Share-Net members had the opportunity to come together to discuss how sexual pleasure can become more incorporated in the work that they do. We delved into what work currently exists around sexual pleasure, looked at the evidence which triumphs the success of including sexual pleasure into CSE programmes and looked at our own work to see how we can better *pleasure* up SRHR policies and practices.

## Annual Students Meeting

Every year students, practitioners, researchers and policy-makers come together in an interactive youth centred event focusing on the link between research, policy and practice. Students present their Master Thesis on SRHR. After the presentations, there is a speed dating session between students and NGOs, researchers and policy-makers. In 2019, we had a total of 14 Master's students presenting their research, 5 NGOs and 2 research institutes present. This event is organised annually by the CoP Linking Research, Policy and Practice.

## Future Plans

Share-Net Netherlands and its members see the importance and added value of organising thematic meetings and knowledge sessions in furthering the SRHR agenda. The Share-Net Netherlands secretariat plays a pivotal role in organising the activities and needs support in financing its running cost. We aim to continue organising several events each year and to engage all key players within the SRHR field in the Netherlands. By actively bringing together the knowledge and experience of these stakeholders in a series of events, new ideas and partnerships can be catalysed, allowing our good practices to become best practices. Share-Net Netherlands is actively looking for investment, media and knowledge partners to help ensure the success of its activities.

## Join us!

and become part of the knowledge platform on SRHR as either a member or a sponsor. When joining Share-Net, you will not only be contributing to our mission and vision, but you will also be able to enjoy specific member benefits:

- Have free access to all the meetings that we organise. (Non-members participate at cost-price)
- Participate in our Communities of Practice, which are exclusive for members. These groups are crucial for agenda setting, organising meetings and executing small research projects. For more information on the Share-Net Netherlands working groups and thematic groups please visit [www.share-net.nl/communities-of-practice/](http://www.share-net.nl/communities-of-practice/)
- Be elected in one of our governing bodies, the Steering Committee of the Netherlands or the Board of Share-Net International. All members are invited to our annual business meeting.
- Be eligible for our yearly call for proposals for the Share-Net International Small Grants facility.

For more information about our work and how to get involved. Please contact our Share-Net Netherlands Coordinator, **Meike Stieglis** [M.Stieglis@kit.nl](mailto:M.Stieglis@kit.nl)



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