

# TERMS OF REREFERENCE NATIONAL COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE ON SRHR FOR ADOLESCENTS AND YOUTH

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# **INTRODUCTION**

In 2020, Share-Net International (SNI) will organise its second International Co-creation Conference (CCC), "Engaging in Knowledge Translation Together", together with its country hubs. This will be a working conference – either in person or online – where participants will work together to create concrete knowledge products that will be used for influencing policy and practice at country, region or global level. All participants, including researchers, practitioners and policy makers will engage in dialogues and are part of the creation process of these knowledge products. During the final sessions of the CCC, SNI will launch the call for small grants to finalise these knowledge products. This year's conference will take online. Due to the circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic, the dates and form of the conference are still under consideration.

### AIM AND OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE

The conference **aims** to **translate knowledge and evidence** into products that members of SNI and other participants can use **to improve policy and practice** around one or more specific SRHR themes.

### The specific objectives of the CCC are to:

- present state-of-the-art knowledge and evidence around SRHR for adolescents and youth;
- identify areas where change is needed, and the kind of products and processes needed to improve policies and/or programmes;
- develop products and outputs jointly with content experts, professional writers, media specialists and visual designers;
- analyse the framing of the messages and language used in the products, checking the potential for reaching the target audience;
- develop concrete knowledge products for different countries and settings on how to influence the change processes;
- launch the SNI small grants round that will focus on implementation of these knowledge products; and
- offer the opportunity to learn, exchange and network between and with international actors on SRHR.

### Expected outputs of the entire process are:

- a list of key stakeholders involved in SRHR for Adolescents and Youth globally;
- narrative review of the thematic track;
- evidence brief of the thematic track;
- a long list of possible knowledge products based on deliberative dialogues;
- actual knowledge products developed during and after the CCC to influence policy and/or practice;
- action plans to implement the knowledge products developed; and
- feedback to SNI members on the process and achievements.

**Expected outcome:** The action plans are executed to achieve breakthrough improvements in policy and/or practice.

## FOCUS OF THE TRACK ON SRHR FOR ADOLESCENTS AND YOUTH

Adolescents (10 to 19 years old) and young people (20 to 30 years old) consistently lack access to sexual and reproductive health (SRH) information and services. Adolescents and young women have the same right to control

over their bodies as adults, and need to receive information, counselling and access to the full range of modern contraceptive options. The adolescent SRH challenges are currently recognised through Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) number 3, which aims to eradicate HIV infections and provide universal access to SRH services as well as incorporating such services into national strategies.

According to UNICEF, the number of adolescents (10 to 19 years old) in the world today is 1.2 billion, making up 16% of the world population. It is important to integrate adolescents and youth in the SRHR programmes in a participatory way so that they are able to take decisions and act accordingly having the right information. According to UNICEF, globally around 21% of young women were married before their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. Youth-friendly SRH services and information therefore are essential conditions to reduce teenage pregnancies and related maternal mortality. Also, risky sexual behaviour of adolescents, correct information about SRHR through social media and youth clubs, child marriage, sexual orientation, equal opportunities, menstrual health management (MHM), use of media for communication, helpdesks could be the underlying issues of this track.

# WHAT WE ASK FROM THE COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

An **national Community of Practice (CoP)** will be established to ensure that the evidence, information and real challenges experienced in the field are addressed during the entire CCC process and that practical solutions are developed that can be implemented after the conference. During the conference, national CoP members can facilitate different parts of the programme.

### NATIONAL COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

In each of the country hubs, **national CoPs** will be set up in which different members, including researchers, policymakers, implementers, the media and the private sector, working on SRHR for Adolescents and Youth are represented. The main **objective** of the national CoPs is to ensure that the evidence, information and real challenges experienced in the field are addressed during the entire CCC process and that practical solutions are developed that can be implemented after the conference. The CoP should be large enough to ensure room for good discussions but not exceed nine people. The Chair of the national CoP is represented in the iCoP and can be replaced by the Deputy Chair. The CoPs are expected to several times in the run-up to the CCC and guide implementation of the action plans after the conference. The CoP will also collectively decide who will represent the national CoP at the CCC. The national CoP representative who attends the CCC will be responsible for presenting the work of the national CoP during the conference.

### The national CoPs are responsible for:

- liaising with the iCoPs on a regular basis;
- identifying the main information sources, literature and key experts in the country;
- identifying policymakers or others who can influence the uptake of products from the conference;
- discussing and reviewing the selected SRHR topic: a) reviewing what is known in the country (evidence);
  b) what the key challenges in addressing the topic are; c) what sub-topics of SRHR for Adolescents and Youth should be prioritized at country-level; and d) what is already available in terms of interventions, tools and strategies for that topic;
- identifying potential key users of the products to be developed;

- all of the above should result in: a) a national stakeholder mapping; and b) national recommendations about the selected topic, suggested knowledge products to be developed, including priority areas and at least one case study<sup>1</sup> (max. 20 pages);
- suggesting people to attend the CCC; and
- guiding different actors in the implementation of the action plans developed during the CCC on how to influence the change processes in policy and practice at a national level after the CCC.

### The Chair of the national CoP is responsible for:

- leading the CoP on the selected SRHR topic and committing to attend all meetings;
- participating in the iCoP and coordinating with the SNI country coordinator and the coordinator of the organising secretariat;
- facilitating the development of the national stakeholder mapping and narrative review; and
- encouraging members and partners to implement the action plans at country level.

Next to developing the deliverables above, the iCoP and national CoP members should be available for deliberative dialogues with the consultant, and to accommodate their information needs.

### The following timeline is foreseen for the deliverables:

Output/Deliverables	Timeline/Deadline	
Deliverable 1: National stakeholder mapping	2 <sup>nd</sup> 2020	November
Deliverable 2: National recommendations about the selected topic, suggested knowledge products to be developed, including priority areas and at least a case study	16 <sup>th</sup> 2020	November
Deliverable 3: List of potential guests and speakers	16 <sup>th</sup> 2020	November

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A case study is defined as an up-close, in-depth, and detailed examination to illustrate the situation of SRHR for Adolescents and Youth in the respective country.