



Upcoming thematic meeting: Meaningful youth participation in SRHR research, policy and practice

Share-Net Netherlands kindly invites you for a thematic meeting on *meaningful youth participation in SRHR research, policy and practice*. This virtual meeting is organised by Share-Net Netherlands in collaboration with CHOICE for Youth & Sexuality (CHOICE).

Young people are frequently the target group in many sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) initiatives. Yet too often, such policies and programs are made about young people rather than with them, causing them to target perceived rather than actual needs. This mismatch has led to increased calls for meaningful youth participation (MYP).

MYP means that young people can participate on equal terms with adults, or work independently, in organisations as well as in all stages of programming and policy-making: design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. When participation of young people is truly meaningful, it benefits the young people, the program, policy or organisation, and society as a whole.

The aim of this meeting is twofold:

1. Improve the understanding of Share-Net members and the wider SRHR community around the concepts of meaningful youth participation, and youth-adult partnerships in particular.
2. Kick-start a discussion around how to engage young people more meaningfully within participants' working context and within Share-Net Netherlands.

Our intention is for everyone to walk away with context-relevant next steps to walk the talk of MYP inside participants' own organisations and the Share-Net network.

Furthermore, Share-Net Netherlands is looking for a young student, artist or researcher who would be interested in preparing a creative knowledge product highlighting the main outputs from this webinar (this could be a blog, visualisation, video, etc.). There is a lump sum of 250EUR available and you can apply via the [registration form](#) by 20th of September. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact Hannah Kabelka at h.kabelka@kit.nl!

Invitation and Programme

22 September 2020

14.00 – 15.30 CEST

Online via Zoom

Please RSVP via the following [link](#).



Programme

14.00 - 14.10 **Welcome**

Part 1: Key note talks

14.10 – 14.20 **Setting the scene: Introduction to MYP**

Presentation by Roos van Kreij (Programme coordinator at CHOICE)

CHOICE for Youth and Sexuality developed a tool to explain the concept and different forms of MYP: the Flower of Participation. Roos will provide a brief introduction on MYP using the Flower of Participation, and illustrate how this tool can be used to assess how meaningful young people's participation is in your organisation, and what you can do to improve MYP within your organisation.

14.20 – 14.30 **State of the Art: MYP within Share-Net**

Presentation by Carys Stirling (Share-Net International intern)

As an organisation committed to promoting evidence-based research, policy and practice in SRHR, Share-Net International saw a need to understand how (or whether) young people were being meaningfully involved in its work. This assessment was the purpose of Carys' internship. In this presentation, she will illustrate current strengths and gaps in Share-Net's work with regards to youth involvement, and discuss her recommendations for the organisation's future work.

14.30 – 14.40 **Identified challenges and best practices for Youth-Adult Partnerships**

Presentation by Filipa Oitavén (Social Researcher/Consultant for CHOICE)

A Youth-Adult Partnership (YAP) is a type of partnership in which both young people and adults are equally involved and share power. How does YAP look like in praxis and what concrete steps can we take for it to become closer to a two-way relationship? Filipa addresses these questions by exploring key insights from research conducted on behalf of CHOICE in late 2019, including interviews with staff members and volunteers of a handful of organisations.

Part 2: Group work

14.40 – 15.00 **Break-out in smaller groups**

To collect experiences and ideas about how to advance MYP within participants' organisation as well as formulating recommendations for Share-Net Netherlands

Part 3: Plenary Q&A session

15.00 – 15.20 **Follow up questions and discussion**

Moderated by Hannah Kabelka (SNNL CoP Facilitator)

Inspired by the key note talks and consequent reflection in smaller groups, participants can pose resulting questions to the speakers.

15.20 – 15.30 **Closing remarks**