

## Workshops descriptions

# RIGHTS AND REALITIES

## in promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights International Conference

10 and 11 November 2008, Rotterdam, the Netherlands

A two-day conference organised by  
World Population Foundation and Youth Incentives

### Plenary session

#### **Our rights-based approach... unzipped!**

During this plenary workshop the organisers of the conference - World Population Foundation and Youth Incentives - and 2 Dutch guest organisation will “go the full monty” on their ways of using a rights based approach in their work. The aim of this workshop is stimulate a lively debate of the practicalities of RBA and share opportunities, struggles, and strategies. This plenary session enables conference participants to probe Dutch Development Organisations on how they practice the rights-based approach. How does it, for example, affect partnerships, acquisition, programming and HR policies?

This plenary session promises to be an interesting and critical debate where the Rights and Realities, and the realities of rights will be unzipped.

### Parallel sessions

There will be four sessions with workshops during the conference. Each parallel session will consist of seven parallel workshops, and all workshop will be carried out twice. Please note that registration for the parallel workshops will be done on the first day of the conference.

The following fourteen workshops have been developed for this conference:

- Sexuality education in a Muslim culture:  
*Practical issues and solutions.*
- How to break the barriers: linking international advocacy to the grassroots level  
*Abortion and sexual and reproductive rights from a young woman's perspective*
- The (dis)ability to have sex?  
*SRHR of young people with physical disabilities/handicaps*
- Colour blind?  
*The grey areas of sexual abuse*
- Sexuality education programmes for juvenile (sex) offenders: a rights based approach
- World wide wonder: how to combine youth, sex and the rights-based approach
- Involvement of religious Institutions in promoting sexual and reproductive rights
- SRHR desires of adolescents perinatally infected with HIV  
*A right to sexuality information and services.*

- The Women's Protocol in the promotion of women's sexual and reproductive rights
- Challenges for sexual minorities  
*A rights-based approach to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues*
- Linking women's health to human rights  
*Using HeRWAI for the rights based approach*
- Counselling of male perpetrators of domestic violence: Men's versus women's rights?
- What about the sexual and reproductive rights of younger children?
- Let RAP rule! – The making of the RAP songs  
*Increasing youth empowerment and participation*

Below, you will find short descriptions of each of the workshops. More detailed information can be found on our websites.

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### **Sexuality Education in a Muslim Culture: *Practical Issues and Solutions.***

*Yuri S.A. Ohlrichs (the Netherlands), Consultant/Trainer NVVS-licensee (Society for Sexology), Youth Incentives, Rutgers Nisso Groep*

*Dr Qadeer Baig (Pakistan) Country Representative, World Population Foundation*

*Bilal Aurang Zeb (Pakistan), Erasmus Mundus Scholar, Central European University, Budapest, and former Programme Officer, World Population Foundation; and The Global Fund.*

Despite its extreme importance for children and young people, sexuality education is a tabooed and sensitive topic in most of the Muslim cultures. The reasons are more cultural than religious, and development NGOs face a number of problems in implementing projects that are focused around sexual and reproductive health and rights in general and sexuality education in particular.

The workshop brings together experts from the Netherlands and Pakistan who have hands-on experience of ground realities and challenges in implementing sexuality education in Muslim cultures, in particular in Pakistan and Somaliland. The workshop will be interactive and not limited only to facilitators' knowledge and experience. It is designed in such a way that all participants will get an opportunity to learn from each other by identifying issues, and sharing best practices and what works in real-life situations.

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### **How to break the barriers: linking international advocacy to the grassroots level *Abortion and sexual and reproductive rights from a young woman's perspective***

*Nadia Ribadeneira González (Ecuador), Founder member of Coalition for the abortion decriminalization Ecuador, and member Youth Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights (YCSRR)*

The central question of this workshop is how to break the barriers to ensure safe services for all women. The workshop will focus on this question from a youth perspective. We will discuss the challenges that we, as young women (activist or not), have to face when we live in countries where abortion is criminalized, and present ways in which we can advocate for our rights.

Nadia Ribadeneira González will present the work that the YCSR is doing around the world to ensure safe abortion services for young people as an example of the role that young people can (and should!) play in abortion advocacy. To emphasise the importance of linking international safe abortion advocacy to the grassroots level, we will also discuss the work and the campaign that the Coalition for the Abortion Decriminalization is carrying out in Ecuador.

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### **The (dis)ability to have sex? SRHR of young people with physical disabilities/handicaps**

*Paulien van Haastrecht (the Netherlands), Manager Intervention Development & Implementation, Rutger Nisso Groep*

*Annelies Kuyper (the Netherlands), Senior Consultant, Rutger Nisso Groep*

*Pham Hong Hanh (Vietnam), Project Manager "Talking about Sex with your hands", World Population Foundation Vietnam*

*Jessica de Ruijter (the Netherlands), Advocacy Officer HIV & Disability, VSO Nederland*

*Anke Huijboom (the Netherlands), Manager, Dutch Coalition on Disability and Development (DCDD)*

Sexual and reproductive rights of young people with physical disabilities are not automatically guaranteed. Care providers, parents, or society in general do not always find it self-evident that people with a disability may want intimate and sexual relationships and even may want children. In this workshop we will look at several initiatives specifically targeting young people with physical handicaps and their SRHR and discuss the usability of various elements of these initiatives to be used elsewhere.

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### **Colour blind? The grey area's of sexual abuse**

*Teun Visser (the Netherlands), senior consultant, Youth Incentives, Rutger Nisso Groep*

*Laura van Lee (the Netherlands), consultant and researcher, Rutger Nisso Groep*

*Anthony Mkinga (Tanzania), Field Assistant Sexuality Education in School, Youth incentives Trust Fund, and Member, Youth Action Movement on Sexual Reproductive Health*

Sexual violence happens in all societies. Its various manifestations are often not recognised as such. They can range from leers and looks, name calling, teasing, unwanted stroking, up to pressure to get married, to assault and to forced intercourse. Many, if not most of these behaviours, are regarded as a common or everyday experience, a fact of life, and are hardly understood as acts of violence.

Therefore this workshop will address these grey areas of sexual violence. We will start with visualizing positive and negative sexual practices towards and among young people in a personal lifeline. We will discuss the impact of being a victim or an offender, and strategies to create a safe and supportive environment focussing on young people's rights.

## **Sexuality education programmes for juvenile (sex) offenders: a rights based approach**

*Marianne Jonker (the Netherlands), project manager for juvenile sex offenders, Rutgers Nisso Groep*

*Vera Ersi (Indonesia) project manager "Boys in Prison Program", World Population Foundation Indonesia*

The disciplinary educational courses offered by the Rutgers Nisso Groep are meant for young people who have performed a sexual offence for the first time. Through educational sessions on sexuality and life skills, the trainers of the Youth and Sexual Offender projects aim to correct the behaviour of the young people involved.

SERU! Is a programme implemented by World Population Foundation Indonesia. It combines IT skills and creative expression with sexual health and rights education. The curriculum is designed for boys in Juvenile Correctional Institutions and their teachers (staffs of jails) and youth workers.

During this workshop, these rights-based interventions concerning sexual and reproductive health for juvenile offenders will be presented. In a plenary discussion participants will be able to discuss the challenges or constraints within these programmes and identify elements that could be used in their own local situation.

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## **World wide wonder, how to combine youth, sex and the rights-based approach**

*Sille Jansen / Bart Koenders (the Netherlands), Members of CHOICE for youth and sexuality*  
*Omary Muhani (Tanzania), Youth Advisory Group, Youth Incentives, Rutger Nisso Groep*  
*Maria Eugenia Miranda (Argentina), co-chair, Moverte and member and co-chair of the Abortion Task Force, Youth Coalition*  
*Representative (Nepal), Youth Action Nepal (YOAC)*

Young people are often ignored with respect to sexual and reproductive health and rights, and these rights are often even violated. Even though a growing number of youth organisations are becoming active in the field of SRHR, these organisations encounter many challenges and constraints in being acknowledged as indispensable partners in decision-making processes and development.

This workshop discusses the challenges young people face in applying a rights-based approach to all levels of decision-making, ranging from a community to an international level. We will take you with us on a trip around the world to explore what the local and universal problems concerning youth and the RBA are and what the solutions might be.

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## **The involvement of religious institutions in promoting Sexual and Reproductive Rights**

*Emmanuel Erratu (Uganda), programme assistant/musician, Catholic Education Research and Development*

*Martha Momanyi (Kenya), planning director and coordinator, Child Education Support & Dev. (CESaD)/Anti FGM Project, ADRA*

*Martijn Marijnjs (the Netherlands), coordinator, Educaids*

In many parts of the world religious institutions have a big impact on SRHR. The Pope does not allow condom use, homosexuality is regarded as a sin and abortion can not even be mentioned. From a western perspective it is easy to criticize the role of religious leaders, but looking at local realities a more nuanced picture emerges. During the workshop our guests from Kenya and Uganda will share their personal motivations to work for religious organisations that fight for stopping the further spread of HIV/AIDS and the dilemmas they face. They will also give us some insight into the activities that do work, e.g. by performing a number of songs focusing on sexual health.

Participants will realise that it will be a difficult if not impossible task to guarantee sexual reproductive rights without involving religious institutions.

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### **The Women's Protocol in the promotion of women's sexual and reproductive rights**

*Rose Gaway, Regional Gender Advisor, Oxfam Novib, Southern Africa*  
*Rosemary Muganda Onyando (Kenya), director of Centre of Study for Adolescence (CSA)*

As part of its strategy to promote gender equality and women's empowerment, Oxfam GB Southern Africa supports a number of partner organisations to advocate for the universal ratification, popularisation, domestication, implementation, and monitoring of the Africa Women's Protocol.

Particular focus will be on:

- Article 5, prohibiting and condemning all forms of harmful practices which negatively affect human rights and which are contrary to international standard;
- Article 14, calling on States Parties to ensure that women's rights to health, including sexual and reproductive health, is respected and promoted.

The workshop will highlight key issues related to sexual and reproductive health rights based on Oxfam's policy research in Southern Africa on the Africa Women's Protocol.

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### **SRHR desires of adolescents perinatally infected with HIV A right to sexuality information and services.**

*Hannington Nkayivu (Uganda), Training Manager, TASO*  
*Harriet Birungi (Kenya), Associate, Population Council*  
*Mr Raoul Fransen (the Netherlands), International Coordinator, Young Positives*  
*Anke van der Kwaak (the Netherlands), Senior Advisor, Royal Tropical Institute*  
*Jo Reinders (the Netherlands), Technical Advisor Youth and Sexual Health, World Population Foundation*

Nowadays, the perinatally HIV infected children on antiretrovirals are able to survive into adolescence. Their desire to explore their sexuality has posed a big challenge to their guardians and service providers. The service providers for instance are convinced that HIV positive adolescents should not engage in sexual activity. The existing HIV prevention programmes hardly address the sexuality needs of this rapidly growing population. Although the treatment, care and support programmes have attempted to encourage adolescents living with HIV to postpone sexual initiation, this strategy does not consider their human desire for relationships, dating, sex, love and parenthood. The dilemma is how to support HIV positive adolescents to live a responsible life without compromising their human rights.

## **Challenges for sexual minorities**

### ***A rights-based approach to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender issues***

*Liesbeth Daniëls (the Netherlands), Senior Programme Officer, Schorer foundation*

*Björn van Roozendaal (the Netherlands), International Advocacy Officer, Federation of Dutch associations for the integration of homosexuality (COC)*

*Blessed Busingye (Uganda), Member, Integrity Uganda and Support Officer, Sunrise*

This workshop will give an insight in human rights violations that are often experienced by Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals and Transgenders (LGBTs). While focusing on sexual and reproductive rights we will discuss everyday realities of community members and explore how to bring about successful advocacy. The Yogyakarta Principles will be presented as an instrument to realise a rights-based approach.

This workshop will zoom in on the situation in Uganda as an example. It is still very common that gay Ugandans are put under arrest, evicted from their homes, abused, isolated, listed in the media as society's black sheep, denied employment or fired because of their sexual orientation. The workshop will discuss experiences of the umbrella organization called Sexual Minorities Uganda (SMUG), which is bringing together organisations advocating for the rights of the LGBT community in Uganda

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## **Linking women's health to Human Rights**

### ***Using HeRWAI for the rights based approach***

*Dr Raana Zahid (Pakistan), independent consultant, former employee of WPF Pakistan*

*Marije Nederveen (the Netherlands), Programme Officer Women's human rights, Aim for human rights*

HeRWAI is a strategic tool to enhance lobbying activities for better implementation of women's health rights. A HeRWAI analysis links everyday reality with what should happen according to human rights. With this analysis in mind recommendations can be made to governments to improve their policy or its implementations. This workshop will discuss HeRWAI cases that contribute to a rights based approach to the work of an organization. Dr Raana Zahid of Pakistan will share her experiences with the instrument with the audience.

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## **Counselling of male perpetrators of domestic violence: Men's versus Women's Rights?**

*Marieta de Vos, (South Africa), director, Mosaic*

*Nur Hasyim (Indonesia), male counsellor, Rifka Annisa*

*Nathalie Kollmann (Indonesia), Country Director, World Population Foundation Indonesia*

*Rachel Ploem (the Netherlands), programme manager, World Population Foundation*

Since mainly women fall victim to domestic violence, they are the ones that need support. But, men are also a product of a system which emphasizes male aggressiveness. Involvement of male partners is crucial to break the circle of violence. Educational and counselling services are offered, but how dedicated should one be to implementation of programmes aimed at men in a country where 4 to 6 women get killed per day by their partner?

In close collaboration, WPF, Mosaic (South Africa), Rifka Annisa and BCC Bengkulu (Indonesia) will present a counselling tool for male abusers (individual and groups) in order to stop the violence in intimate relationships.

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### **What about the Sexual and Reproductive Rights of younger children?**

*Sanderijn van der Doef (the Netherlands), Technical Advisor Sexual Health, Children and Youth, World Population Foundation*

*Warren B. Tukwasibwe (Uganda), Coordinator of "The World Starts With Me" for Primary Schools, Save the Children*

*Ninin Suhertin (Indonesia), pre-school teacher and programme officer at the East Kalimantan Office (Balikpapan) of the Indonesian Planned Parenthood Association*

That adolescents have the right to get information about sexual health, is by now clear and agreed by most people. But what about that right on information for younger children? Younger than 12 years old? Even 4 years old?

Starting sexuality and reproductive health education during adolescence could be too, as some children will have been confronted with sexual problems (like sexual abuse) at a younger age. Most topics of SRH education may be taught in primary schools, even in kindergarten, but the language and topics' approach should be adapted to their specific age. In this workshop we will look at some SRH programmes for young children and will discuss the usability of these programmes in different cultures.

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### **Let RAP rule! - The making of the RAP songs Increasing youth empowerment and participation**

*Barbara van Ginneken (the Netherlands), Consultant International, Youth Incentives, Rutger Nisso Groep*

*Representatives of the Youth Advisory Group, Youth Incentives, Rutger Nisso Groep*

From 28 March till 5th of April a large group of (77) young people from 5 African and Asian countries performed in the Netherlands in the RAP-Song event. During this event, they presented songs produced in their home countries to demand attention for pressing reproductive health and rights issues of young people in their local context. The making of the songs, the shared experiences in the Netherlands and the stage performances during the RAP-song event have been captured in a documentary. During the workshop, this film will be shown and young people from the involved countries will discuss their experiences in Holland and in their home countries. They will touch upon the following topics: Has the experience empowered us? Are we able to implement what we learned within our own context? Has this been successful strategy to enhance youth participation? What impact did this experience have on our personal lives.