BACKGROUND

VIETNAM YOUTH ACTION FOR CHOICE (VYAC, Vietnamese: Thanh niên hành động vì sự lựa chọn) is a country advocacy network in Vietnam which has been established since November in 2016 with mainly support from Asia Safe Abortion Partnership. VYAC gathers diverse and youthful young people nation wide who commit to promote freedom of choice to sexual and reproductive health and rights in national and regional level for all.

VISION

A society in which Vietnamese youth have rights to freedom of choice in sexual and reproductive health and rights.

GOAL

To develop nuclear members to become a diverse and strong network for an enabling environment of sexual and reproductive health and rights.
Network of VYAC
COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Training course on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights at Da Nang University of Medical Technology and Pharmacy

18 – 19/03/2017, Da Nang

- **Partner:** Da Nang University of Medical Technology and Pharmacy (DUMTP)
- **Sponsors:** IRIS English Center, ASAP
- **Participants:** 20 medical students

The second training course of VYAC was more effective than the first course in Thua Thien Hue province. Participants had more hands-on experience on community facilitating and were introduced new updated knowledge such as the gender unicorn or the acceptance of patch as a contraceptive method in Vietnam National Guideline on Sexual and Reproductive Health in the new version of 2016.

Summer Camp: Youth Engagement Strategy

When VYAC reached its first anniversary, all network members were together gathering to reflect the achievements and difficulties after a year of establishment as a new young national network on SRHR. Once again, two and a half days of direct mentorship and intensive hands-on training on community facilitating, leadership and communication including social media skills were conducted with a lot of enthusiasm of participants.

We spent one full day to re-structure and enhance our network strategies, developed the theory of change and launched operational methodologies for VYAC. It was a great opportunity for all core member to be united and engaged in building their own network in order to boost the SRHR’s solution forwards.
COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

VYAC Talk: “Birth control: as easy as pie”

31/08/2017, Thua Thien Hue

Participants were introduced 4-step “From Safe Sex to Safe Abortion” strategy in order to have open-mindset while talking about contraception and safe abortion. Participants got the real experience on female and male condom training models and Q&A about contraceptive methods shared by Dr. Mai Doan To Thuy – SRHR Technical Coordinator of VYAC.

HIV event for S.O.S Children’s Village.

26/11/2017
Thua Thien Hue

Partner: Football for all in Vietnam
Number of participation:
56 children aged 6-11

Through the painting time and ball game activities, children were learnt about the meaning of red ribbon and awareness of ending the HIV discrimination.
COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Vychoice Scholars – Towards the 9APCRSHR Conference.

With the small grant of ASAP, VYAC was able to organize a competition with 2 rounds, and selected 6 Vychoice Scholars to attend the 9th Asia Pacific Conference on Reproductive and Sexual Health and Rights (APCRSHR) which was held in Vietnam on November 27th – 30th 2017.

One month before the conference, 6 excellent Vychoice Scholars were given an intensive mentorship program by VYAC management board. The program was included three lessons about ICPD and how APCRSHR started; Gender, sex, and related issues; Human Rights. Besides, with the support from VYAC leader board, 6 Vychoice Scholars produced a video named: Towards Sexual and Reproductive Justice to introduce everyone especially young people around Asia Pacific Region the 9APCRSHR Conference.

At the ASAP Booth, VYCHOICE scholars team had chances to introduce ASAP and VYAC to more than 200 visitors. In additions, the conference delegations also received gifts (ASAP key chains, pen, and safe abortion messages stickers) after joining our games such as SRHR quizzes, allies mapping, photo booth. Impressively, VYAC team members led some youth activities about safe abortion, and SRHR along with international youth delegations of the ASAP’s Youth Champions. After the Conference Vychoice Scholars shared their thoughts and 9APCRSHR memory video to motivate other VYAC members as well.

#Valentine’s Day: 4-safe-step strategy

We proposed the 4-step strategy: From Safer Sex to Safe Abortion on 14/02 to raise public awareness of having a safe day together.
#Coloryournails: International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia:

With the message “Love makes a family”, VYAC conducted the Color Your Nails campaign in which LGBTQ supporters painted their nails in 6 colors as in LGBTQ’s flag. We got actively response from 3 cities Hanoi, Hue, and Da Nang.

#MAY28: International Day of Action for Women’s Health

In order to emphasize women’s health, we encourage people to share their thoughts and we got messages on gender-based violence, safe abortion, gender equality, and contraception.
#October20: Vietnamese Women’s Day

VYAC conducted a small survey by asking many people from different walk of life: Who does the housework in their families? Then we got a video filmed the survey and messages from husbands who stands for the equal sharing of household work.

#September28: International Safe Abortion Day

“Resist and Persist” was a theme of our storytelling competition aiming to share abortion’s stories.