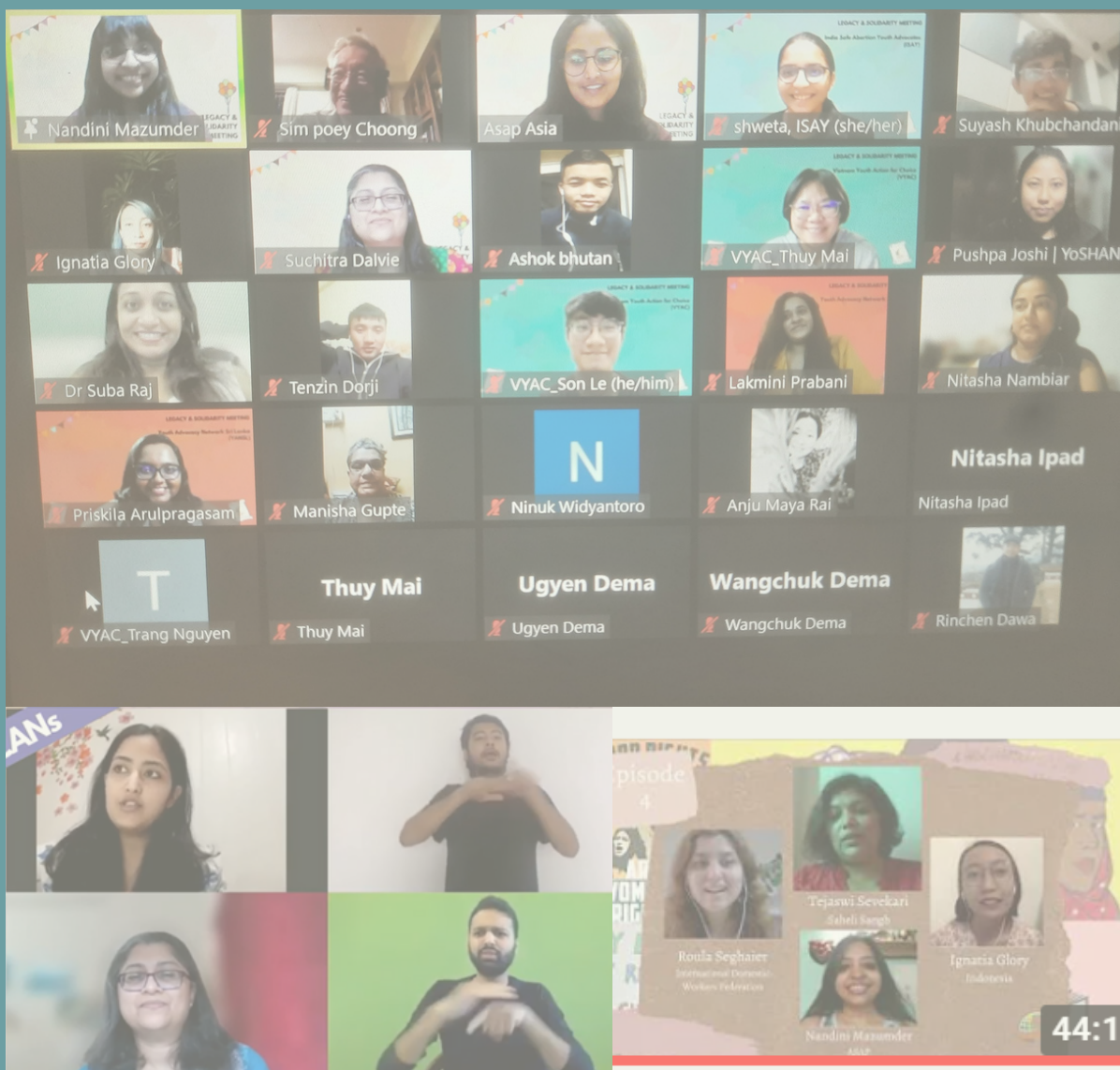


ASIA SAFE ABORTION PARTNERSHIP

ANNUAL REPORT

2021



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FROM THE COORDINATOR'S DESK

When the covid 19 pandemic took us by surprise and then brought us to our knees, 2020 was all about survival. When 2021 continued in a similar vein it became about resilience and adaptation.

As we face 2022 now, we are collectively moving into a phase of renewal. Those of us who have been fortunate enough to survive and adapt and make it through these difficult times are slowly allowing ourselves the cautious optimism that 2022 might be better!

In order to recognize, appreciate and even celebrate all our members and partners across the region and the globe—those who stood shoulder to shoulder with the entire SRHR community and showed up in their personal and professional commitments above and beyond the call of duty, those who stayed connected to the ground realities while also speaking truth to power, those who make us proud to be a part of this amazing ASAP family— we honour these efforts and energies and offer a record to you of the Annual Report 2021.

As we move forward, we remained mindful that any of our efforts geared towards 'rebuilding' the post pandemic world must be inclusive and just. As the past 2 years have shown us, it is always the most vulnerable; such as women, girls, young people, people living disabilities, non-binary persons and the poor, migrant, displaced persons who bear the maximum brunt of any natural or 'man-made' calamity.

FROM THE COORDINATOR'S DESK

We worked proactively towards finding synergies and developing solidarities between various human rights, sexual and reproductive rights, and social justice movements in order to encourage them to integrate safe abortion rights within their advocacy agenda and program strategies even as we include their issues within our work. Thus, we adopted 'Building Inclusive Movements' as our guiding principle for 2021.

Although we struggled through 2021 with a single minded resolve to just keep going, we can now look back on it and take a breath of gratitude and gladness that we made it.

Despite all the difficulties our Country Advocacy Networks and Youth Champions have found ways to connect and create solidarity--- not just holding the line but also creating avenues and portals for a better world post pandemic.

We want to honour the legacy of all of us who make history today so that tomorrow will look back on it with pride and awe and gratitude.

We hope that you enjoy reading this report. We thank you for your ongoing support and we look forward to working together in the coming years to build a safe abortion rights movement in the region that is truly inclusive!



ASAP ACTIVITIES

The Big Picture With ASAP

In 2020, with our video series ASAP Conversations During Covid, we connected with our members, partners and allies belonging to or working with communities facing specific challenges during this pandemic for safe abortion access. After these conversations which touched upon specific focused issues, whether it was lack of safe abortion access in Japan to the existence of FGM in India and marginalization of the queer community to the difficulties being faced by sex workers, we are back with our second series of more meta level conversations.

With this we hoped to bring to the forefront some core themes that need deeper reflection and some people who can shed a light on these complicated issues, unpack the controversial ones and enlighten us with their unique perspectives on old problems.

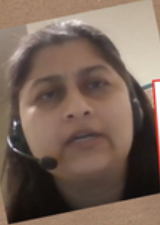
In this new series we looked at the Big Picture issues that affect each one of us at a personal as well as a political level in our struggle for sexual and reproductive rights. These are issues like gender, patriarchy, sexual and reproductive labour, neoliberalism, population policies, digital freedom, healthcare and medicine, sustainable development.

Watch all videos by clicking on the images below.

Ep1

Politics of Sex Selection

Episode 1
Politics of
Sex Selection



Some questions....

- Why do we want more women to be born?
- Is there a 'gender' ratio?
- Are we worried about less women? Or have many men?
- If more men than women is bad, is more women than men good?
- Is it because almost equal is 'natural' why do we assume it is good?
- Just because almost equal is 'natural' why do we assume it is good?
- If we find a way to get more women but none of them want to marry or are unable to have children, would we still want them?
- Can abortion ever be a right? If we decide on which reasons are valid and which pregnancies can be justified to be 'unwanted'?

Decides.

technology
service

Ep2

Politics of Beauty and Desire

Episode 2

affect:
wit



Dr Aparna Santhanam



with Dr Suchitra Dalvie

Ep3

Gender and Medicine

Episode 3



Rola Yasmine



Dr Ea Mulligan



Shweta Poduwal



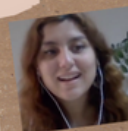
with Dr Suchitra Dalvie

Ep4

Politics of Labor & Reproductive Rights

Episode 4

WOM
RIG
MY
MY
MY



Roula Seghaier
International Domestic
Workers Federation



Tejaswi Sevekari
Saheli Sangh



Ignatia Glory
Indonesia



Nandini Mazumder
ASAP

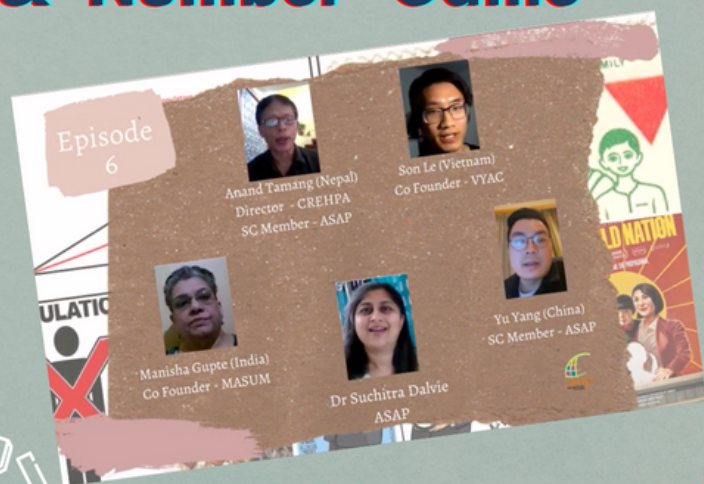
Ep5

Reproductive Rights of Domestic Workers



Ep6

Population Policies & 'Number' Game



[Watch Part 2 here.](#)

50 Years of MTP Act: Gaps, Gains and Goals | MASUM, ISAY & ASAP |

Social Media Awareness Campaign

Supported by ASAP, Mahila Survangeen Utkarsh Mandal (MASUM) had undertaken a rapid assessment 'Mapping women's "choices" in accessing abortion services' along with their partners from seven states of India. A national level consultation was held on 2nd March, 2020 in Delhi with policymakers and government officials and on 3rd March, 2020 with civil society partners in order to disseminate the findings and to create a community of advocacy around the key issues.

As a result of the lockdown declared in March 2020 in the country, further plans for sharing the study findings and advocacy work could not be carried out on ground.

In order to ensure that the testimonies and situation analysis obtained through the study were utilized in an optimal way given the difficult and unpredictable circumstances, we launched a series of online events in 2021 which will allow the partner organisations to create visibility on the specific issues affecting their community and constituency and allow us to create a dialogue and deliberation

50 years of the MTP Act
Gaps, Gains and Goals.



Richa Rastogi
Humsafar
Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

0:53 / 3:38

50 years of the MTP Act
Gaps, Gains and Goals.



Kiran Deshmukh
Sangram
Maharashtra

1:54

Members of Humsafar organization from [#UttarPradesh](#) [#India](#) are joining [IASUMI](#), [ISAY - India Safe Abortion Youth Advocates](#) and [ASAP](#) in our celebration & analysis of the [#50Years](#) the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act which completes 50 years in 2021.

[#abortionisawomansright](#) [#mtpbill2020](#) [#MTPActIndia](#)
[#abortioninindia](#) [#asiasafeabortion](#) [#abortion](#) [#safeabortion](#) [#prochoice](#) [#ASAP](#)
[#abortionasap](#)

50 years of the MTP Act



गर्भसमापन करवाना
कोई कलंक नहीं।

Gaps, Gains and Goals.

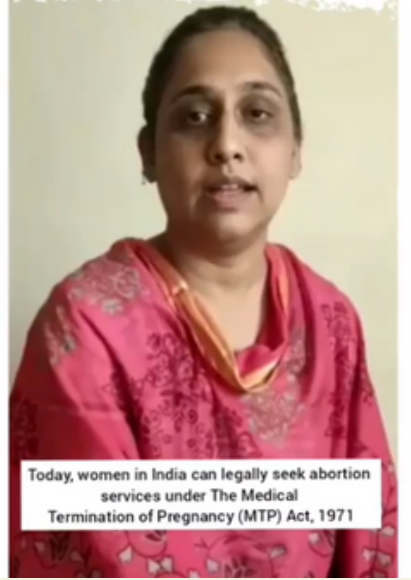
50 years of the MTP Act



Getting an
abortion
should not be
stigmatized.

Gaps, Gains and Goals.

50 years of the MTP Act




Today, women in India can legally seek abortion services under The Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP) Act, 1971

50 years of the MTP Act



मेडिकल अबॉर्शन पिल्स, गर्भ समापन के लिए सबसे सरल व प्रभावी तरीका है। यह हमारे पास के सरकारी अस्पताल में उपलब्ध होना हमारा अधिकार है।

Gaps, Gains and Goals.



The MTP Act needs to do better in terms of it being based on a pregnant person's decision (made in consultation with their doctor) rather than being doctor-centric

50 years of the MTP Act



गर्भसमापन कोई गुनाह नहीं बल्कि कानूनी तौर पर मान्यता प्राप्त स्वास्थ्य सेवा है

Gaps, Gains and Goals.

Supported by



“ The new avatar of the MTP Act falls very short of addressing the empowerment of women and to respect protect and fulfil their rights. It continues to see women as victims or protectorates of a benevolent paternalism. It is also able-ist without apology. ”




50 years of the MTP Act
Gaps, Gains and Goals

50 years of the MTP Act

Gaps, Gains and Goals.

Before 1971
Indian Penal Code, 1860



Formation of 'Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act' in India

Webinar – 50 Years of MTP Act: Gaps, Gains and Goals | MASUM, ISAY & ASAP | 9th April

The webinar titled, 'Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act : Gains and Gaps' was organised with key stakeholders to unpack the concerns around the current MTP Act and the proposed amendments. Partner organisations representing specific constituencies joined in to explain the usefulness of the Act and how it helped access safe abortion services, or the ground realities that kept access to safe abortions away from a vast majority, and the limitations of the recent amendments.. Throughout this year we talked about important issues with regards to accessing services under the law, with a series on online events such as webinars and photo campaigns.



The poster features the MASUM logo (a purple circle with a woman and child) and the ISAY logo (a purple grid with the letters I, S, A, Y) at the top. Below them is the ASAP logo (a green circle with a woman and child). The title '50 Years of the MTP Act- Gaps and Gains' is in large red text. The text 'Join us for this discussion as we attempt to map women's access to safe abortion services in India.' is in black. The date and time '9th April (Friday), 2021 from 2pm to 3pm.' are in black. The text 'Registration link in description' is in black. The text 'Supported by' is in red. There are two illustrations of women: one on the left in a yellow and red sari, and one on the right in a red and white polka-dot sari. There is also a green circle with the word 'online' and a blue circle with a video camera icon.

MASUM & **ISAY**
DEMYSIFYING ABORTION,
ONE DAY AT A TIME.

50 Years of the MTP Act- Gaps and Gains

**Join us for this discussion as we attempt to
map women's access to safe abortion
services in India.**

**9th April (Friday), 2021
from 2pm to 3pm.**

Registration link in description

Supported by

ASAP

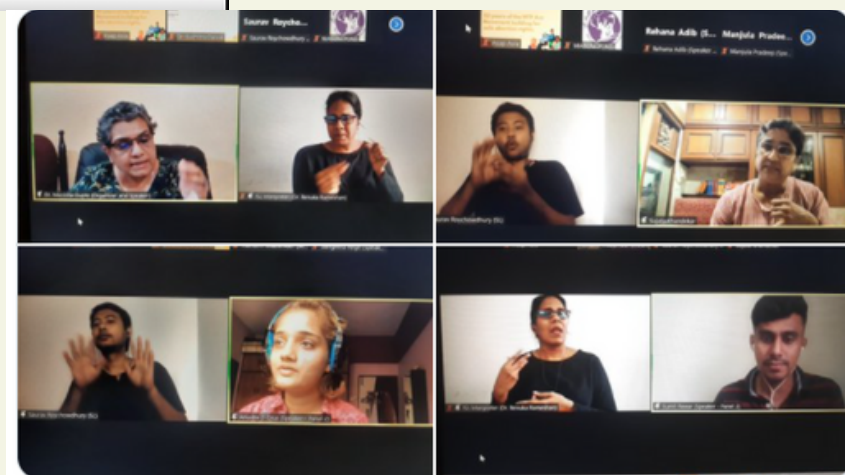
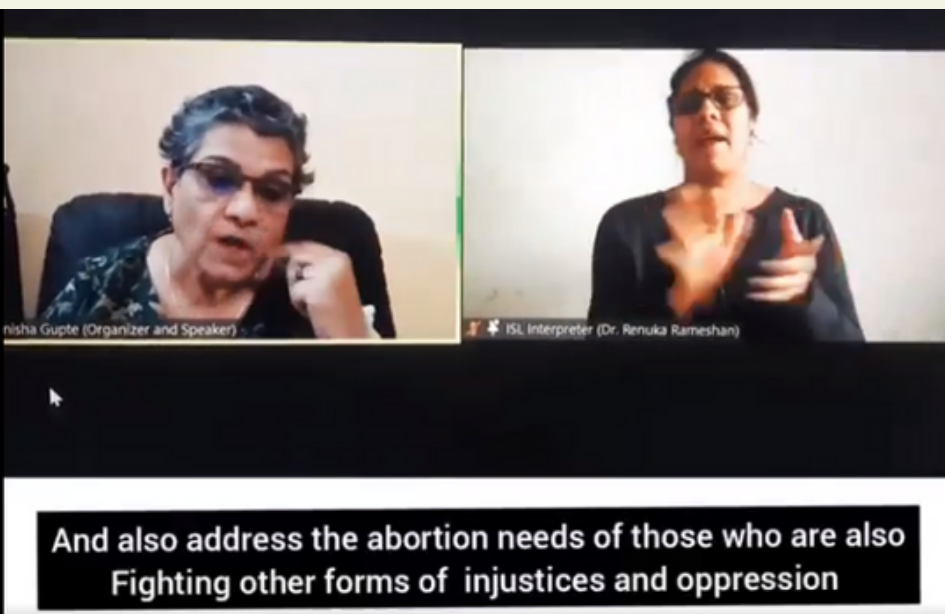
Webinar - 50 Years of MTP Act: Movement Building for Safe Abortion Rights | 3rd September

After the overwhelming response for our 1st webinar with MASUM & ISAY – India Safe Abortion Youth Advocates mapping the success & challenges of MTP Act in India , we organized the 2nd webinar in the series, where we discussed movement building for abortion rights & the way ahead.

We have found, repeatedly, in studies done across decades that those from marginalized and vulnerable communities often get left behind, even when the law itself aims to be inclusive and supportive.

Therefore this discussion was a step towards changing that and encouraging people in cross movement dialogues in order to find ways to work together in synergy so as to strengthen the visibility and reach of all the social justice and rights issues as a whole.

The webinar had sign language interpretation and Hindi-English translators, to reach out to as many people as possible.



Building Inclusive Movements | ASAP with CANs |

22nd April 2021

This year we are working towards finding synergies and developing solidarities between various human rights, sexual and reproductive rights, and social justice movements in order to encourage to integrate safe abortion rights within their advocacy agenda and program strategies. At the same time, we are also encouraging our members and partners in the safe abortion rights movement to step up as a strong ally for the various marginalized groups and be more inclusive of their issues and concerns. We will work together to create synergies for developing a powerful collective voice to demand freedom, equality, and rights, including the right to choose.

Objectives:

1. To work closely with People with Disabilities (PWD) in order to be more inclusive with our information, capacity building and advocacy programmes.
2. To engage with the LGBTQIA+ movement and proactively create spaces for trans sensitive issues around safe abortion rights and access.
3. To strengthen the partnership with the sex workers' rights movements for ensuring that their voices and issues are included in all relevant advocacy agenda and program strategy.



#1 Reproductive Rights by Vietnam Youth Action for Choice

ASAP x CANs



it is also about our autonomy in sexual and reproductive decision

Building Inclusive
Movements

#2 Feminism by DRUK Youth Initiative for Sexual Advocacy

ASAP x CANs



Building Inclusive
Movements

#3 Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) by India Safe Abortion Youth Advocates

ASAP x CANs



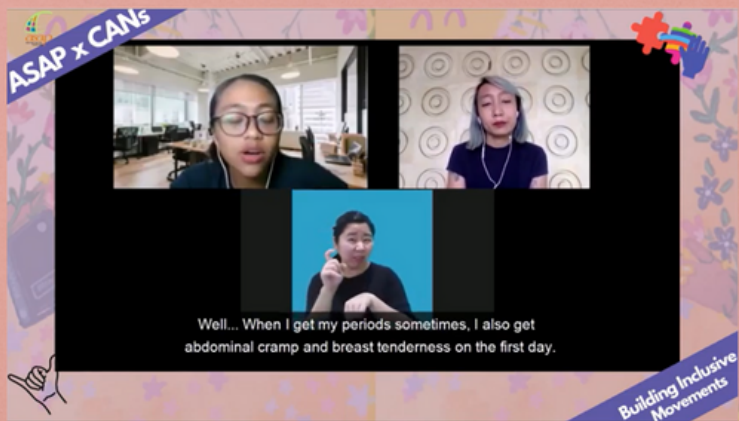
It stands for Sexual and Reproductive Health

Building Inclusive
Movements

#4 Patriarchy by Pakistan Advcoacy Network



#5 Menstrual Cycle by Youth Network Indonesia



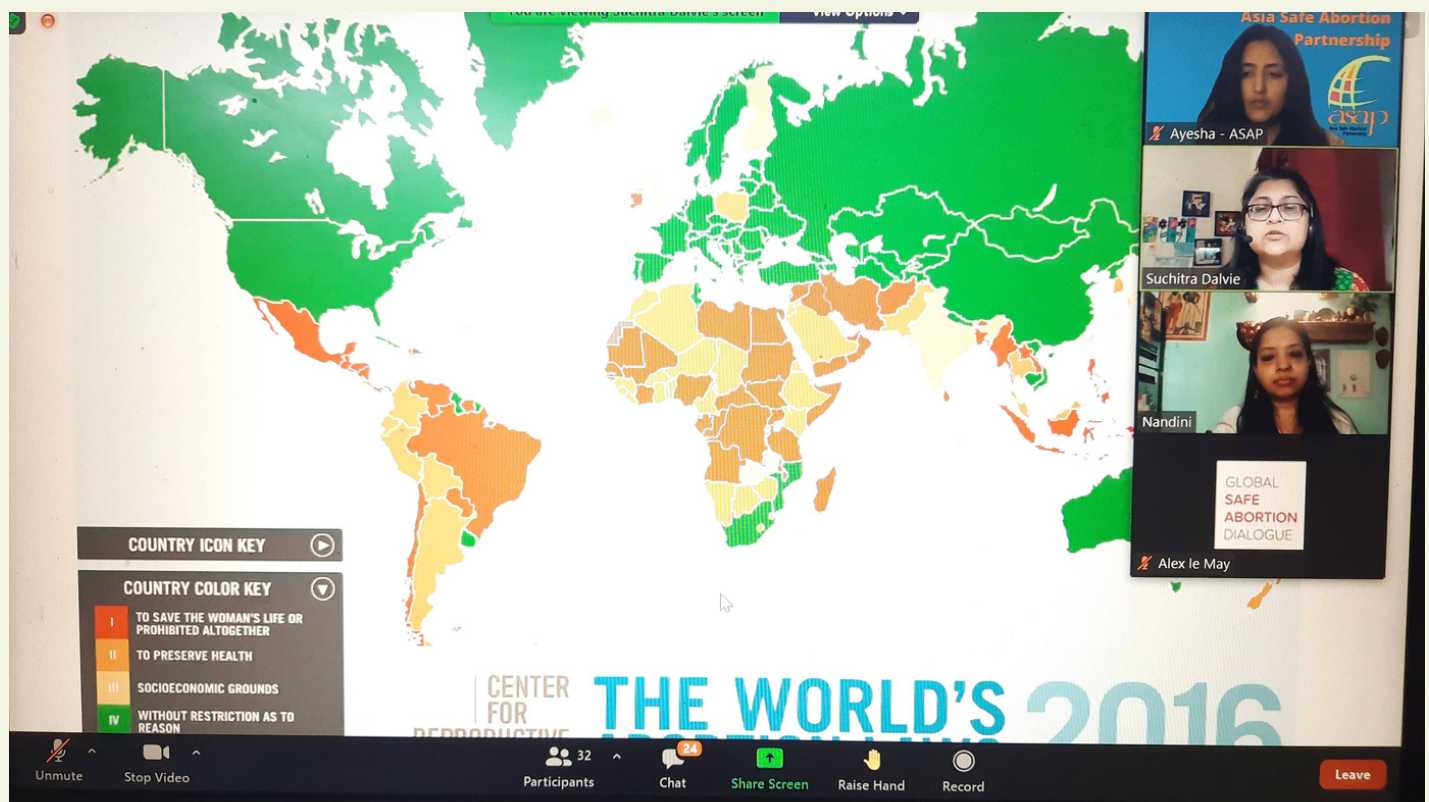
#6 Pro Choice by Youth Advocacy Network Sri Lanka



Global Safe Abortion Dialogues : Youth leadership: The future of the safe abortion rights movement. | 23rd April 2021

The third Global Safe Abortion Dialogue was a gathering of frontline activists, service providers, implementing partners, policy makers, funders and other stakeholders from across the world who came together to share their strategies and perspectives on how best to strengthen national and global movements for safe abortion. The Dialogue took place virtually from April 15-29th 2021, organised by AmplifyChange, Ipas, MSI Reproductive Choices, Sida, and Trust for Indigenous Culture and Health.

ASAP led the dialogue on adolescent health and youth led advocacy, with panelists from our Country Advocacy Networks – Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.



Safe Abortion Dialogues Asia (SADA): Adolescent Access and Youth Led Efforts | Session by ASAP & CANs | 18th June 2021

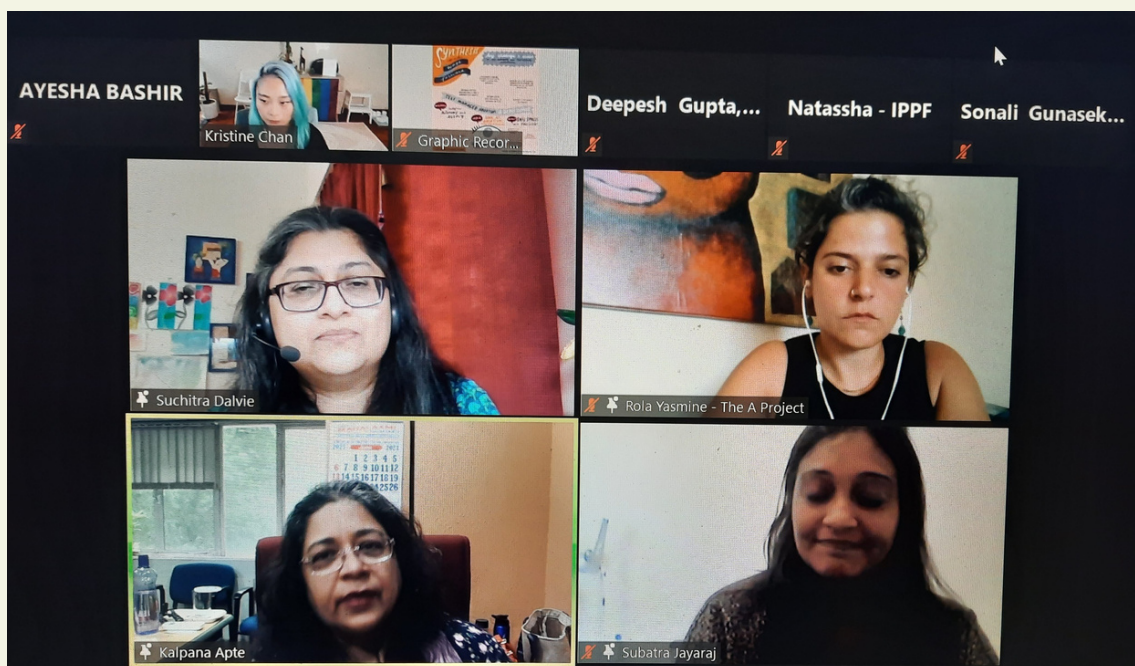
As a part of the Safe Abortion Dialogues Asia (SADA), Asia Safe Abortion Partnership hosted the 3rd session on Adolescent Access and Youth Led Efforts, with the help of our CAN representatives and partners from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Pakistan, Philippines, Nepal and Sri Lanka and Thailand.

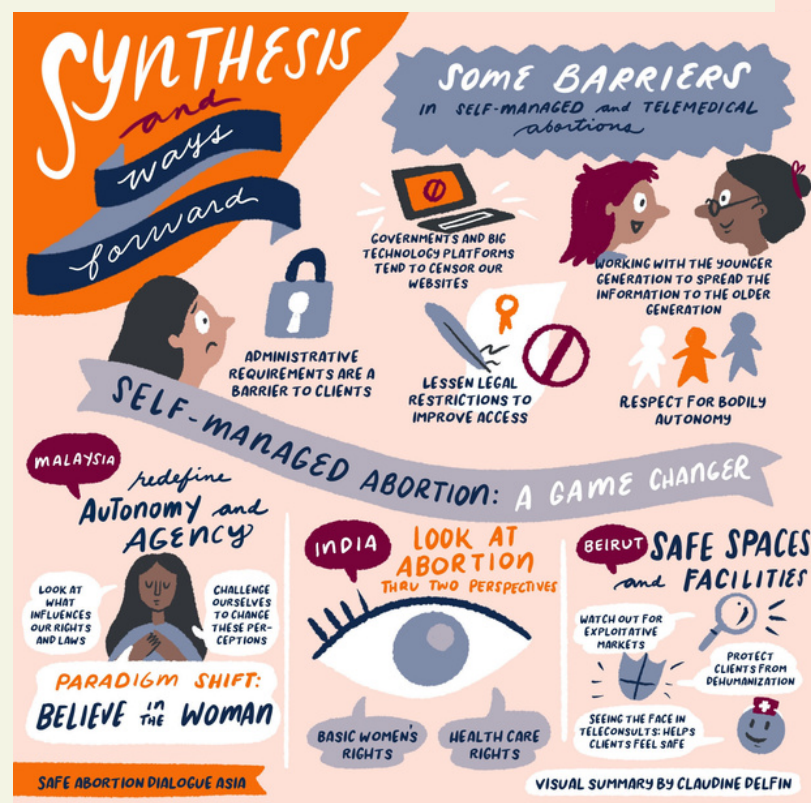
The objective of the session was to help the participants understand the potential and importance of youth led advocacy as well as recognizing the challenges faced by young people in safe abortion access and how they can be managed.

SADA: Self-managed and telemedicine abortion | ASAP and IPPF | 25th June 2021

ASAP along with IPPF hosted the second session of SADA focussing on the context of self-managed and telemedicine abortions within the larger political shifts in bodily autonomy and agency.

The aim was to recognize the challenges and identify strategies for integration of self-managed and telemedicine abortion within existing systems of healthcare. Through this discussion we also hoped to understand the policy and program investments required for rights-based, gender transformative safe, quality abortion care provision. which is provided within a gender and rights framework.





ASAP wins the SM4E Award | ASAP & FII

Along with Feminism in India, we won the Social Media for Empowerment Award, for our campaign from 2019; #AbortionMeraHaq / #AbortionMyRight where we used social media to raise awareness regarding safe abortion rights and laws in India. The category was Communication, Advocacy & Development Activism.



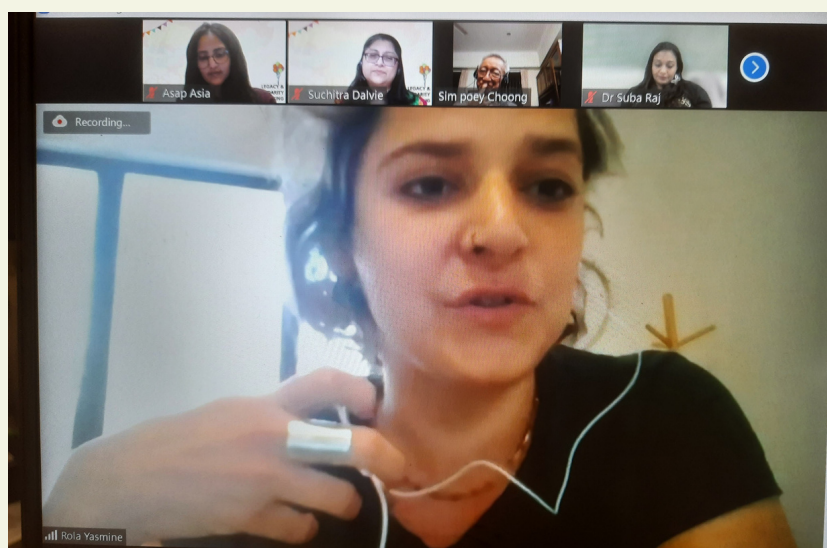
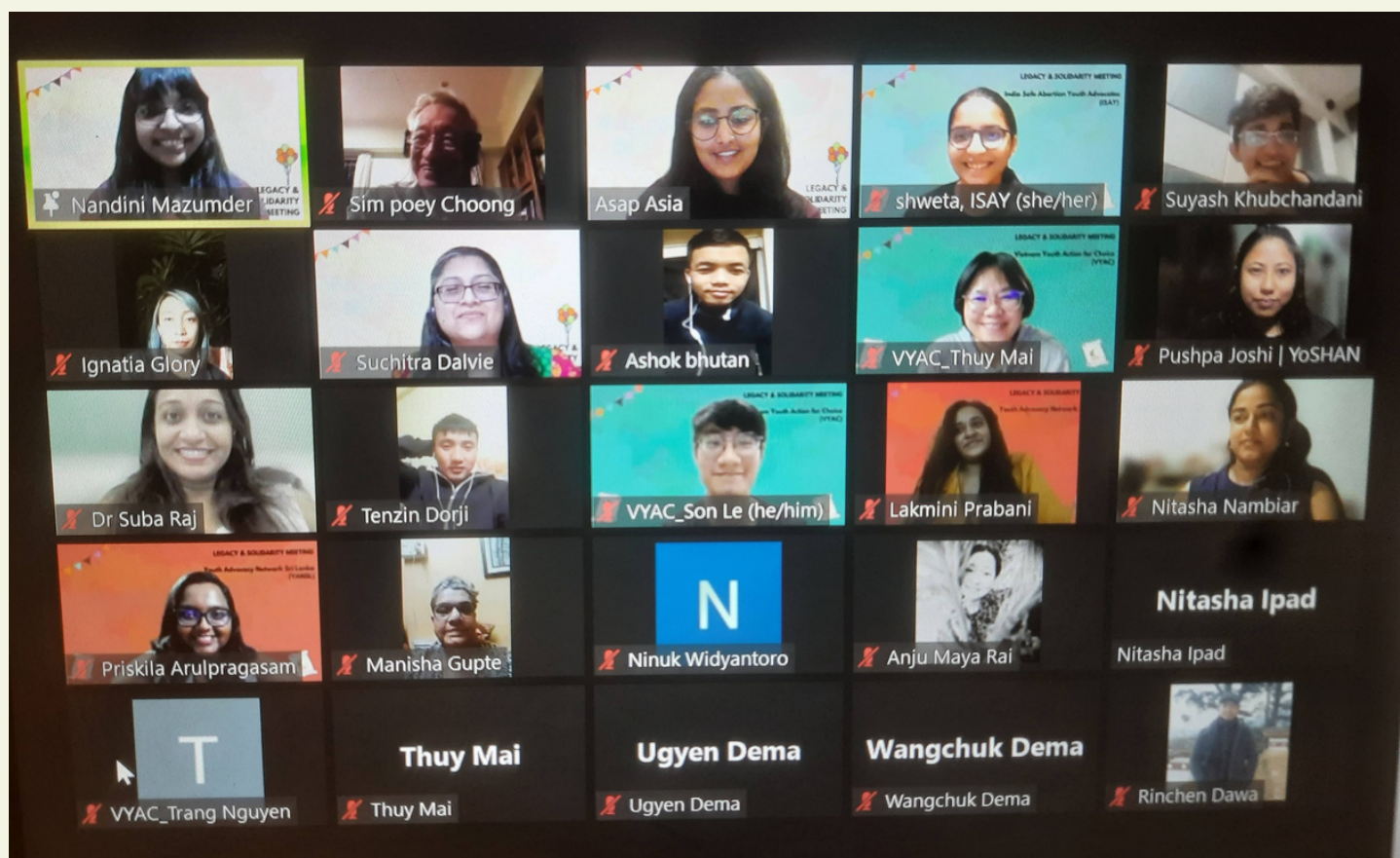
Online Youth Advocacy Refresher

Online Youth Advocacy Refresher ASAP held its first YAR since COVID, which saw participation from Youth Champions who attended our Youth Advocacy Institutes, conducted online in 2020-2021

ASAP Legacy and Solidarity Meeting | 27th - 28th Nov

We organised a 2 day meeting with our founding partners, Alumni Youth Champions and the entire ASAP family to not only look back at our journey but also take inspiration as we move forward in 2022 with bigger milestones and goals. We also wanted to learn from the experiences, challenges and successes of the co-founders and understand their perspective on how they have seen the network evolve and grow.

[Watch some highlights from the meeting here!](#)





Recording...

shweta, ISAY (she/her) Asap Asia Nandini Mazumder VYAC_Thuy Mai

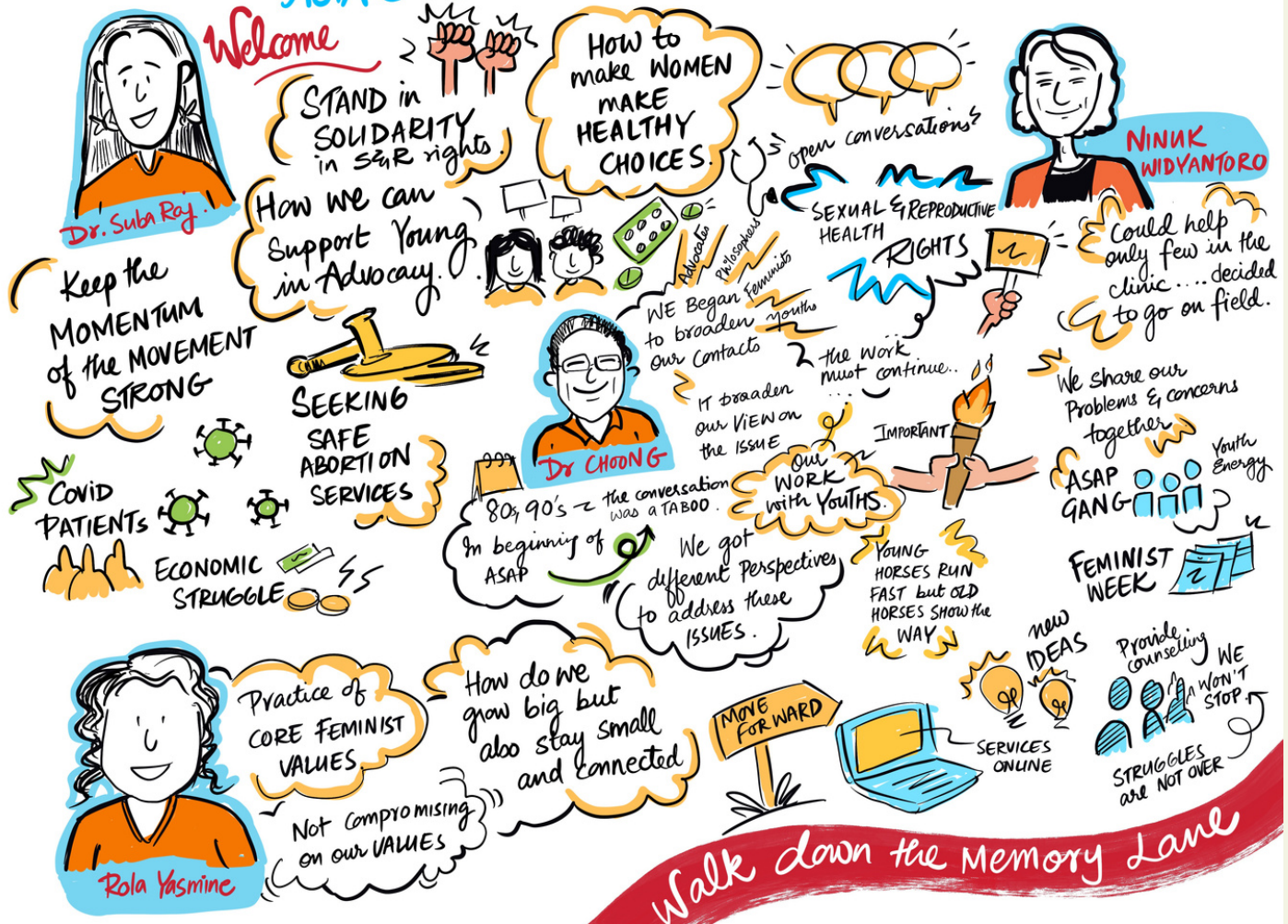
WHAT WE DO

THE ABORTION CURRICULUM

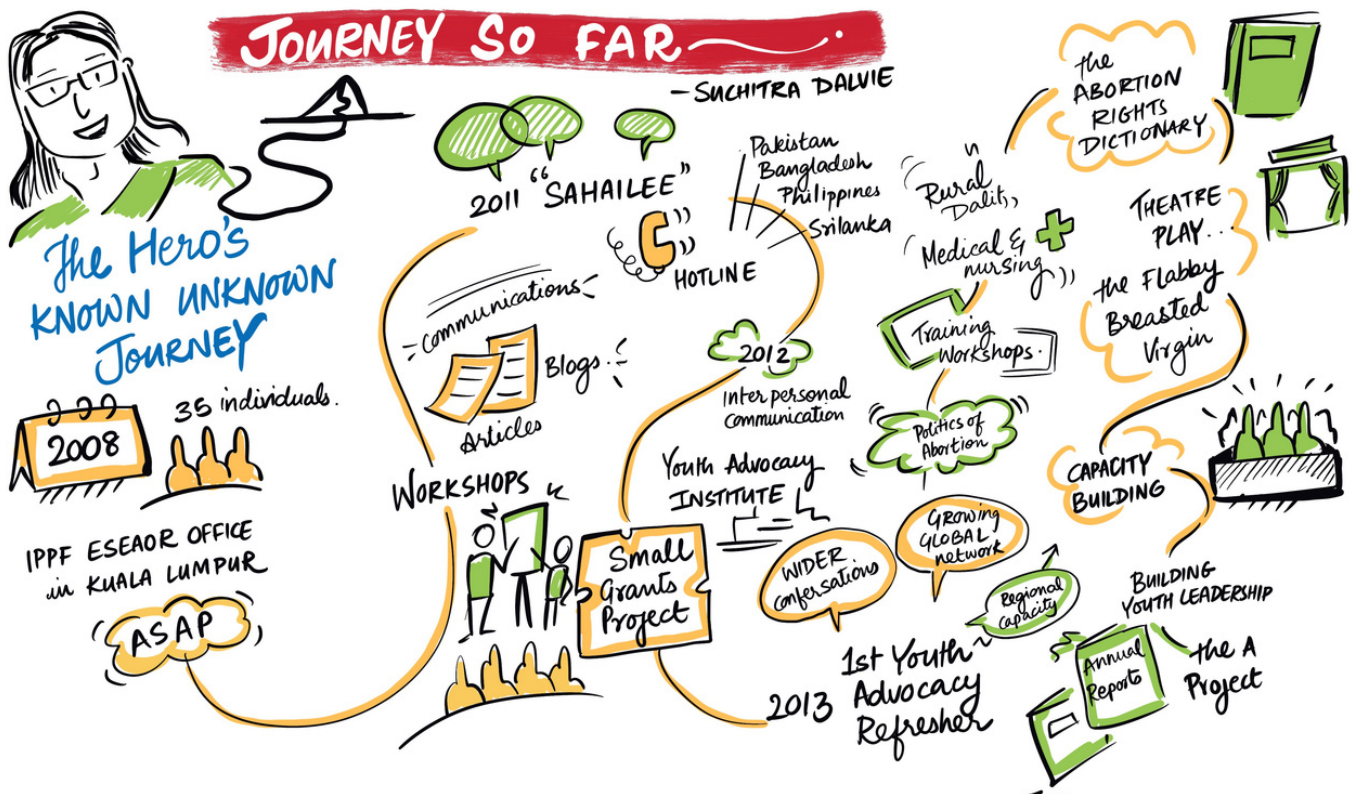
TAC incorporates a continual learning model, where participants of the workshops would remain as a community of alumni, with opportunities for peer training, further workshops and other avenues towards contributing as the collective work of our organization.

THE ABORTION CURRICULUM TOOLKIT
A Medical Student's Guide to Safe Abortion Advocacy

ASIA SAFE ABORTION PARTNERSHIP

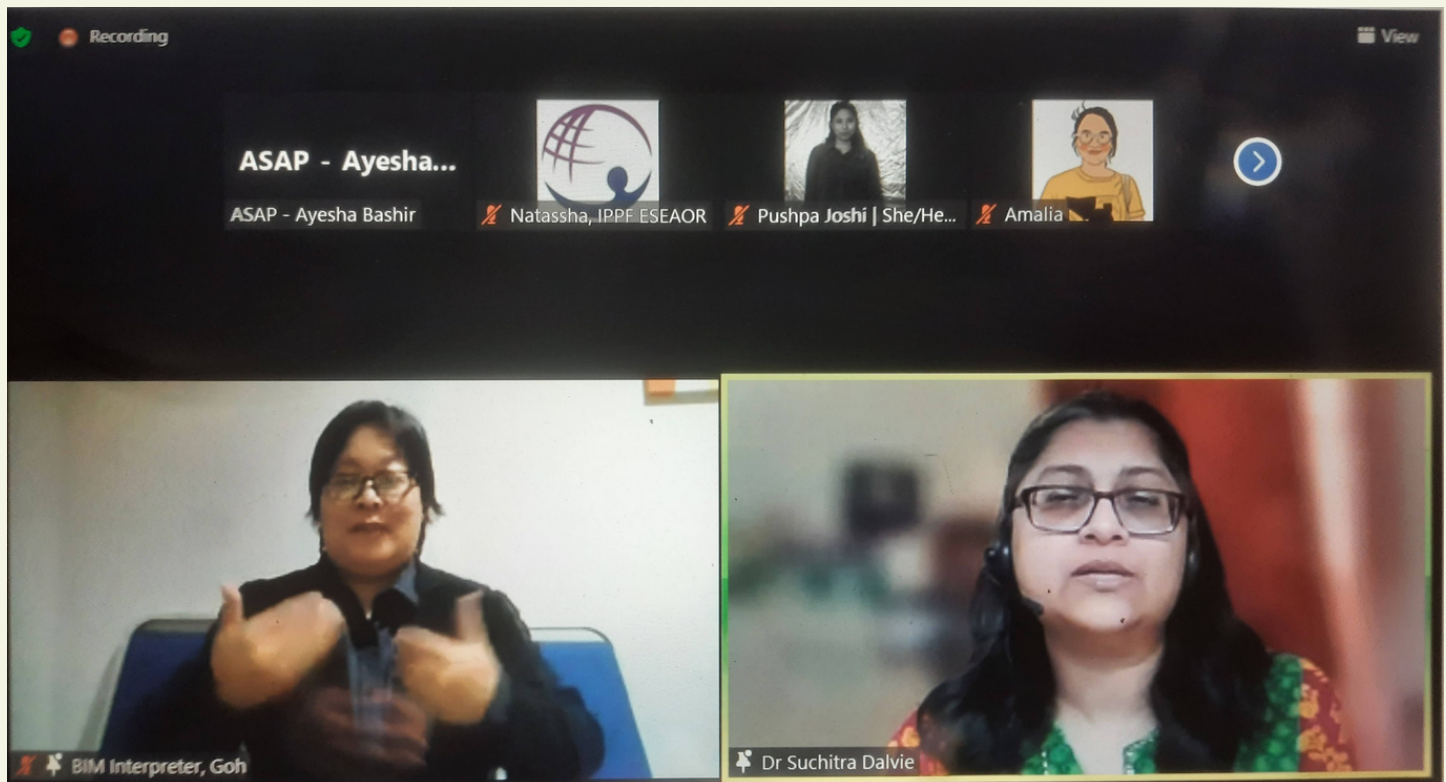


JOURNEY SO FAR



Transforming Tech and Tackling Taboos | ASAP & IPPF | 10th December

The internet provides a sense of community and knowledge however it is also a space that perpetuates violence. ASAP and IPPF came together to find answers to important questions like How can women, girls and non-binary people feel empowered when digital spaces are a threat to them? Our panel of sexual and reproductive health and rights advocates and activists, and experts from the digital rights movement shared their perspectives about the culture of violence and what can help us feel safe in digital spaces.



Medical Abortion Factsheet

After publishing our MAF in English, Hindi, Japanese and Vietnamese, we're glad to share with you that now it's available in Mandarin and as an audio version also.

All our resources regarding accessing safe abortion can be accessed [here](#).



MANDARIN with China Youth Network



HINDI with India Safe Abortion Youth Advocates



**मैं फॉलो अप
कब करूँ?**

यदि आप चिकित्सा (मेडिकल) देखरेख में हैं, तो कृपया फॉलो अप के लिए दवा लेने के 14 दिनों के बाद अपने स्वास्थ्य सेवा प्रदाता के पास वापस जाएँ। स्वास्थ्य सेवा प्रदाता पुष्टि करेंगे कि आपका गर्भ समापन सफल हो गया है और आपको और इलाज / उपचार की आवश्यकता है या नहीं।

Audio Version of



**MEDICAL
ABORTION
FACTSHEET**

ASAP COVID RESPONSE

COVID Prevention, Management and Vaccine FAQs

In order to handle the acute phase of the second wave in India and many other countries, ASAP collated and shared evidence based relevant information on diagnosis and management of COVID as well as information on the vaccines, on social media platforms and the website for the benefit of members and partners.

Covid Relief - Donation

We collated a list of organizations looking for funding to support marginalized groups affected by COVID. We shared this list with our network personally, through website and social media. You can access the list [here](#).



ASAP Social Media Campaigns

Gynopedia It | 8th March Women's Day

In order to make information more accessible to people looking for safe abortion services ASAP, Stories to Action led by alumni Youth Champion Iris Pi and Gynopedia ran an Asia wide campaign. The aim was to update the Gynopedia country pages and raise awareness about this crowdsourced platform, while also increasing the visibility of Country Advocacy Networks and other regional organizations working on SRHR and safe abortion access. As part of the campaign, we also held a Tweet-a-thon and a Gynopedia Editing training with our CAN leaders.

ASAP @asapasia · Mar 25

Follow this [#Tweetathon](#) to make a note of some brilliant organizations working on ground in their respective countries on raising awareness and making services more accessible to people.

[#GynopediaIt](#) [@StoriestoAction](#) [@gynopedia](#) [#abortionrights](#) [#abortionjustice](#)

For Youth Initiative Kuala Lumpur #GugurkanStigma @... · Mar 25

Replying to [@asapasia](#) [@gynopedia](#) and 6 others

We glad we have [@RRAAMalaysia](#), an NGO that believe women have the right to access legal, safe, and affordable contraceptive and abortion services, both as women's reproductive right to decide on reproductive matters and as the right to health.

ASAP @asapasia · Mar 25

A reality for many former colonies. Ironical how many countries in SA continue with the 'British Penal Codes and Laws' even today! We must [#decriminalize](#) abortions everywhere! [#GynopediaIt](#) [#Tweetathon](#) [@gynopedia](#) [@StoriestoAction](#)

Youth Advocacy Network Sri Lanka @YANSriLanka · Mar 25

Replying to [@YANSriLanka](#) [@asapasia](#) and 7 others

This law was made by the British, during their colonial rule of Ceylon, and has not been amended since. Ironically, in the UK, abortions were legalized in 1967. Clandestine abortion services are, however, available and quite accessible.

ASAP @asapasia · Mar 25

Accessing information related to ones sexual and reproductive health, is a human right, one which shouldnt lead to people risking their lives and relying on Internet, once they dont find any support from the govt, school or family.

[#GynopediaIt](#) [#reproductivehealth](#)

Haiyya @Haiyya_Act · Mar 25

Replying to [@asapasia](#) [@StoriestoAction](#) and 5 others

Owing to the idea or sexual and reproductive health care being taboo, internet is the main source of information, even though it is not the most reliable or credible source at times.

ASAP @asapasia · Mar 25

Huge shout out to [@info_samsara](#) for doing the work they do❤️ Please follow them to know more about their work

[#abortionrights](#) [#GynopediaIt](#) [#Tweetathon](#) [#Indonesia](#)

ikaayu @kayuka · Mar 25

Replying to [@asapasia](#) [@gynopedia](#) and 7 others

most ppl who need abortion dont know where to go; stigma and fear of criminalization is too strong, also too many false information could trap ppl and make their situation worse; in Indonesia if you need info, call/chat [@info_samsara](#) to do counseling or just share ur story

#GYNOPEDIAIT

Share your knowledge on sexual and reproductive rights and services where you live!

JOIN THE 2021 GYNOPEDIA EDIT-A-THON

Register at: bit.ly/3cpqw1d



Instagram Story Challenge | 28th May International Day of Action for Women's Health

Like each year, this year too ASAP interacted with the Youth Champions, Country Advocacy Networks and partners across Asia, to amplify the voices of the community with regards to safe abortion access. We received a great response as a lot of women raised their concerns with the abortion laws in their respective countries. This year we held an 'Instagram Story Challenge' which received a great response from across Asia and gave an important insight into some common & some bizarre misconceptions with regards to abortion across the region!

You can read all responses [here](#).



WhatsMyCrime | 28th September International Safe Abortion Day

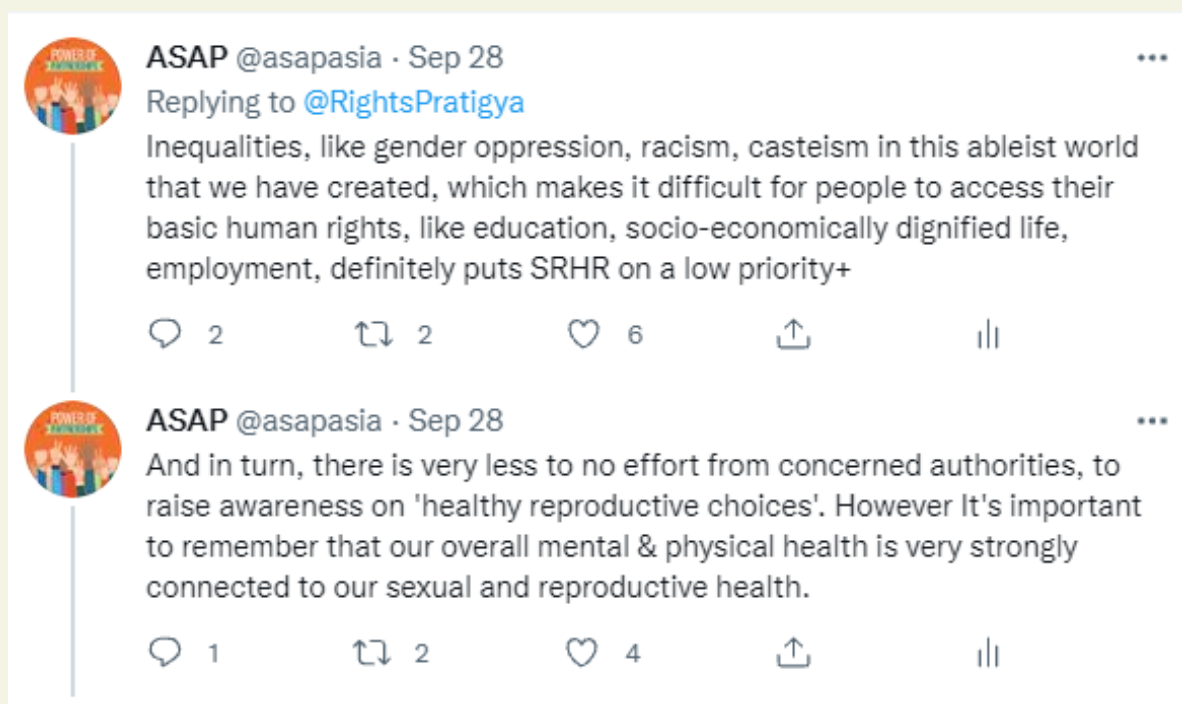
On Safe Abortion Day, ASAP along with our Youth Champions raised important questions around criminalization of safe abortion, in many countries in Asia. We asked questions about why terminating an unwanted pregnancy is considered a criminal act in many countries, when unsafe abortions still remain one of the biggest reasons for maternal mortality. Throughout the day, we shared quotes and images, that focussed on highlighting an individual's perspective to 'de-criminalizing safe abortion' as opposed to just having technical conversations that often alienate people from the politics of why it's so important.

You can see all images [here](#).



International Safe Abortion Day Tweetathon with Pratigya Campaign | 28th May

ASAP also participated in a Tweetathon organized by Pratigya Campaign from India, to highlight the need for 'Safe Abortion For Everyone' and how can we overcome the multiple challenges that marginalized people face, in accessing safe abortion services. You can read the full conversation [here](#).



ASAP AS PANELLIST

Paucity of Data on SRHR | [Rangeen Khidki](#) | Menstrual Hygiene Day, 28th May


Rangeen Khidki, an organization working on reproductive health of marginalized women in India brought together field narratives around menstruation, contraception, abortions across India, which they collated and shared with their followers on 28th May. As part of this report launch, alumni Youth Champion and Co-Founder of RK, invited Assistant Coordinator Nandini Mazumder for a panel to know more about her experiences while working in the space of menstruation and/or contraception and abortions and how we at ASAP navigated this paucity of data to ensure that your programs actually create impact.



ASAP AS PANELLIST

Session on Menstrual Health for Feminism in India Members | 24th July

Coordinator was invited to facilitate a learning session for the Feminism in India staff team. A session on understanding menstruation, contraception and related gender and rights issues was held on Sat 24 th July.



DR SUCHITRA DALVIE, MD MRCOG
CO-FOUNDER AND COORDINATOR,
ASIA SAFE ABORTION PARTNERSHIP

Join FII this month for a session on **Menstrual Health**, physiology and problems with Dr Suchitra Dalvie!

 July 24, 2021
 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

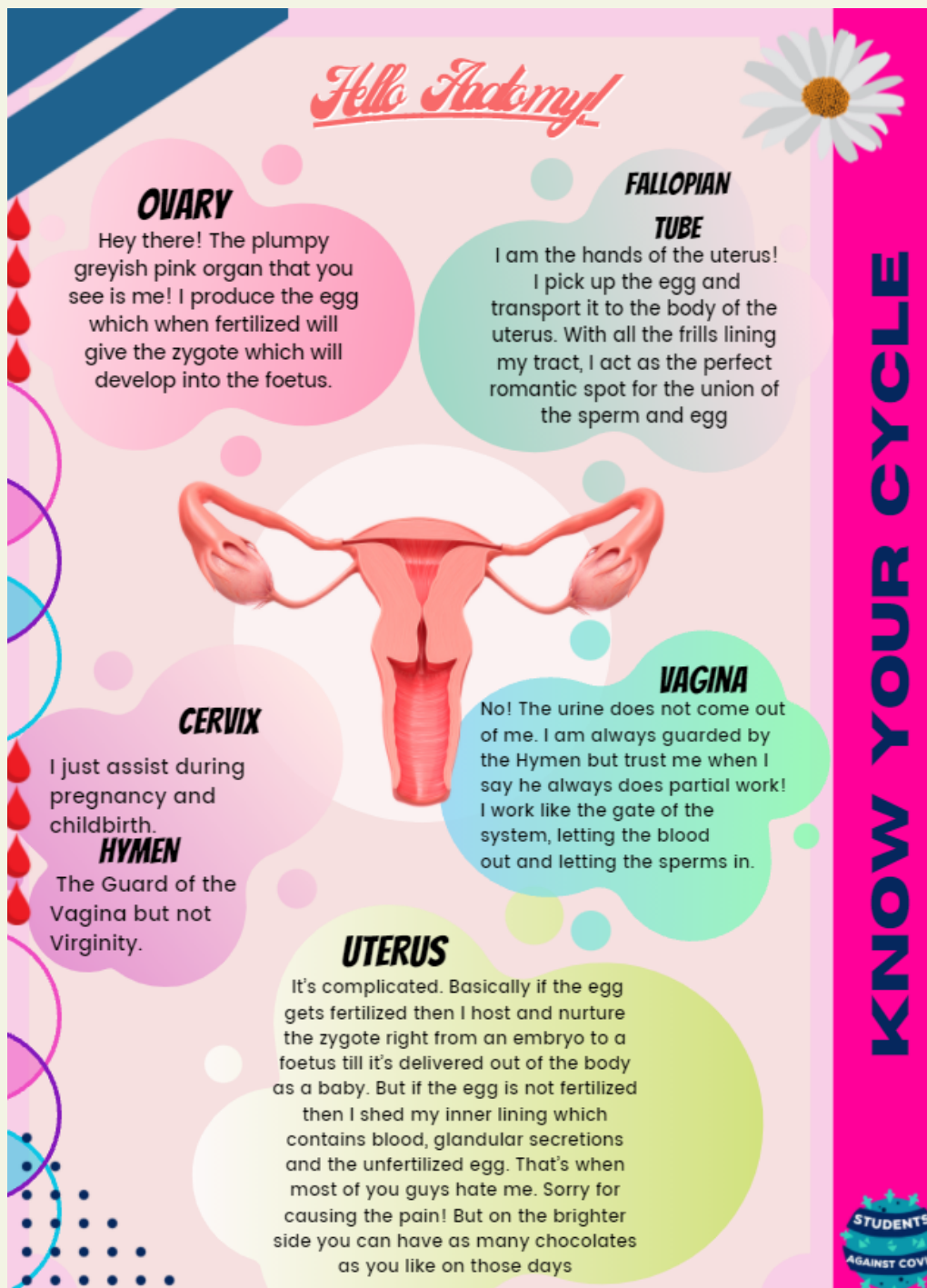
***Open to FII Members only!**

Launch of report and panel discussion -Legal Barriers to Accessing Abortion Services in India: A Fact Finding Study | 16th August

Coordinator Dr Suchitra Dalvie was invited as a panelist to speak at this launch of the fact finding study conducted by Center for Reproductive Rights, National Law University, Delhi & National Law School of India University, Bengaluru.

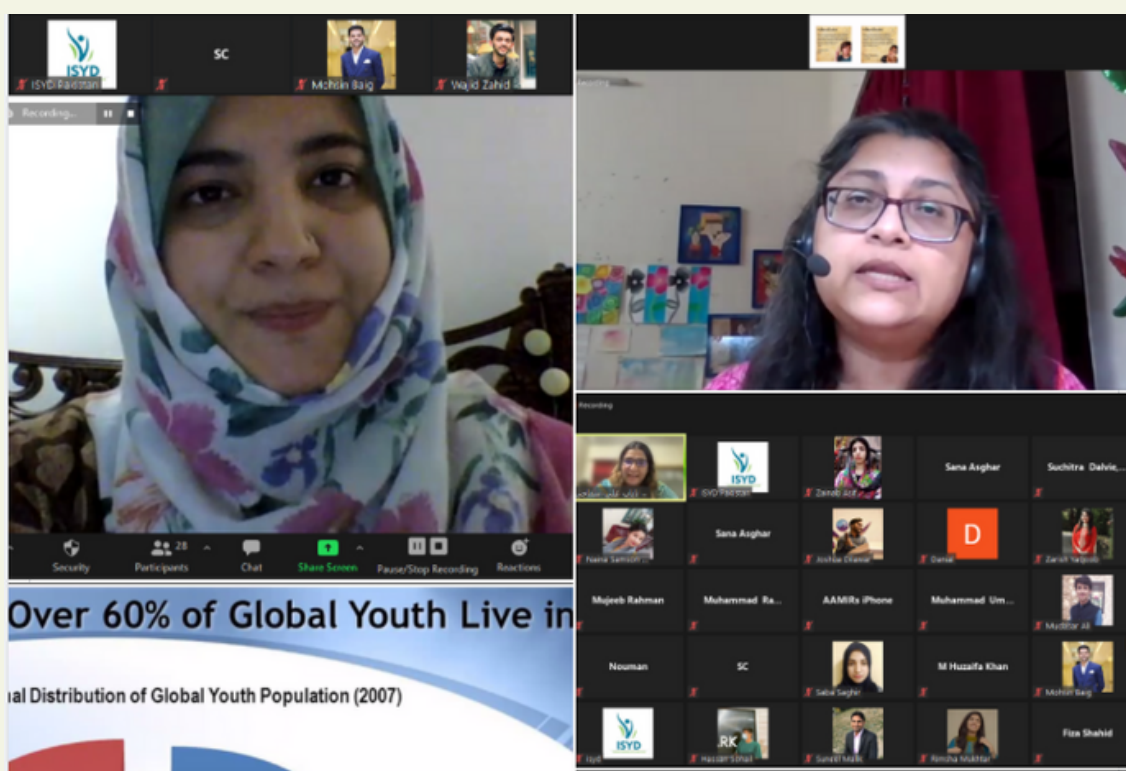
“Pandora: Unboxing Crimson Hope” |1st August

Dr Suchitra Davie was invited as a speaker at the inaugural event of the launch of Students Against Covid, by a Youth Champion Nikita. SAC – Students Against COVID is a global community with volunteers from 99+ countries and recently launched their women's health and rights team with this first event “Pandora: Unboxing Crimson Hope”. This campaign is aimed to improve the knowledge of sexual and reproductive health across the world, through the sharing of carefully moderated webinars, debates, and safe-space discussion sessions.



Panel Discussion on World Population Day in Pakistan | 20th July

Institute for Social and Youth Development – ISYD and Pakistan Advocacy Network – PAN in collaboration with Mashal, Ethan Consultants Private Limited and The Unknown Ability conducted an online awareness session to celebrate the World Population Day and to spread awareness on Reproductive Health and Rights with young people from different corners of Pakistan including young people who are differently abled and transgender community.



New Media, New Narratives: Harnessing the Power of Media for SRH Advocacy' | IPPF | 24th November

ASAP was invited by IPPF SARO to share their experience of continuing to raise awareness regarding SRHR and safe abortion rights of women in Asia, even during the times of COVID19. Communications and Network Officer, Ayesha Bashir represented ASAP and spoke about our initiative in collaboration with CANs to work closely with the deaf and hard of hearing community, to make information on SRHR more accessible. We also spoke about our COVID relief work and translation of Medical Abortion Factsheets in over 6 languages.

ASAP BLOGS



ASAP 
Jan 8 • 5 min

The Year of MAGA: Making Abortions Great Again. By Dr Suchitra Dalvie

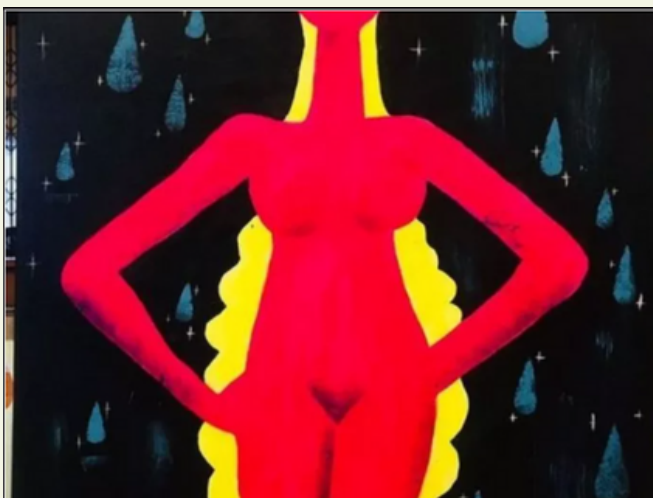
Ok..... so now that we have your attention :) we wanted to take this opportunity to remind all of us working on safe abortion rights...



ASAP 
Jan 26 • 3 min

Rape Culture & Glorification of the Vagina. By Manoj Kumar...

Women have always been represented as the 'honor' of a family in patriarchal societies. Mothers, daughters, sisters, wives and women in...



ASAP 
Feb 4 • 2 min

'Her Choice' by Lirisha Tuladhar

She felt tears pour her pretty face
She felt her heart
calming down
She could feel her nerves staying put
She could feel her mind no more...

ASAP BLOGS



ASAP
Feb 23 • 4 min



'Obvious Child' Normalises Abortion, And I'm Glad For It. Review by...

I saw Obvious Child for the first time around three years ago. But the Jenny Slate starrer wasn't exactly a popular film when it came...

24 views 0 comments



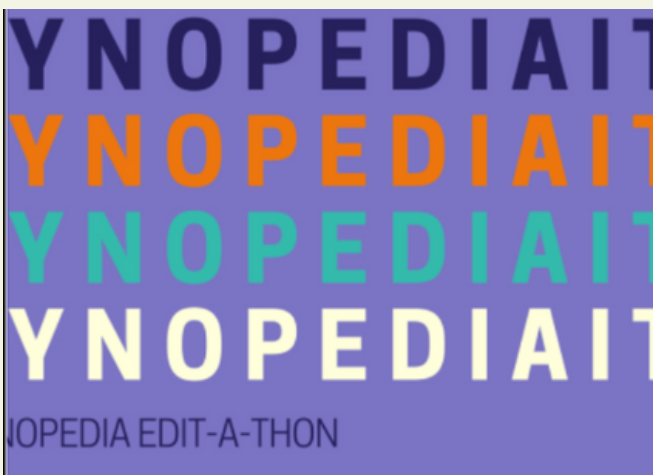
ASAP
Mar 6 • 8 min



New Pandemic, Old Issues: 'ASAP Conversation During...

Our guest today is Dr. Manisha Gupte who has been a part of the Indian feminist movement since the mid- 70s. In 1987 after living in a...

4 views 0 comments



ASAP
Mar 30 • 3 min



#Gynopedialt: Safe Abortion, Contraception, and your Health

We have teamed up with Asia Safe Abortion Partnership and Gynopedia, and invite anyone with internet access and a computer or mobile...

4 views 0 comments



ASAP BLOGS



ASAP 
Apr 7 • 4 min



50 Years of MTP Act: Gaps, Gains and Goals – Dr Suchitra Dalvie

The MTP Act Amendment Bill 2020 was passed by the Lower House of Parliament (Lok Sabha) on 17th March 2020 and by the Upper House (Rajya...



ASAP 
May 20 • 10 min



Palestinians: fighting oppression and covid-19

As part of our series ASAP Conversations Nandini Mazumder spoke to our member M from Palestine who is a citizen of Israel. This...




ASAP 
Apr 22 • 6 min



Unheard before, continue to struggle battling COVID19: Voices from...

Our guest today is Laxmi Chetri from The ANT, Assam in conversation with Nandini Mazumder, Assistant Coordinator, ASAP. These are the...



ASAP  May 13 • 4 min

'The Dawn of the Pro Choice Movement in Bhutan.' By Wangchuk...

When I first started out as an advocate for sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) eight years ago, I had no idea how...



ASAP  Jun 15 • 4 min

'An Independent Man- the need of the hour' by Saraswati Palnitkar

For countless centuries, women were bound by gender roles that were made to restrict and suppress their dreams. As women's rights were...



ASAP  Jun 23 • 2 min

Managing Abortions during COVID19 in Philippines- Experience ...

M began her experience in harm-reduction counseling after attending a training about it in the early 2000s. Since then, she has been...



...

Albert Einstein once said 'You can't use an old map to explore a new world' And who are we to argue with geniuses?! This new world that...



...

These are the highlights of an episode from the ASAP Covid19 conversation series where we invite guests to have conversations with us...

46 views 0 comments



...


As I worked to translate the State of World Population 2021 into Japanese, I was curious about the data from Japan. What I found was...

23 views 0 comments



ASAP BLOGS



ASAP 
Oct 1, 2021 • 7 min

'Social Solidarity in times of Social Isolation' with Anudari, Co Founder...

This blog is part of a series of Covid conversations held in 2020 with members and partners to understand the impact of the pandemic on...

5 views 0 comments

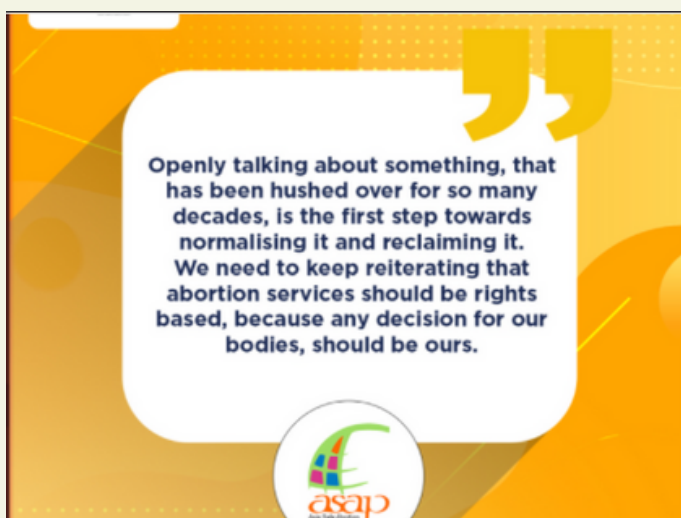


ASAP 
Oct 11, 2021 • 7 min

A Wolf in Sheep's Clothing: Restricting Abortion Access in the Name of...

We need more girls to be born, they say. We need to stop the gendercide that is taking place across the world, they say. For social...

14 views 0 comments



ASAP 
Nov 5, 2021 • 3 min

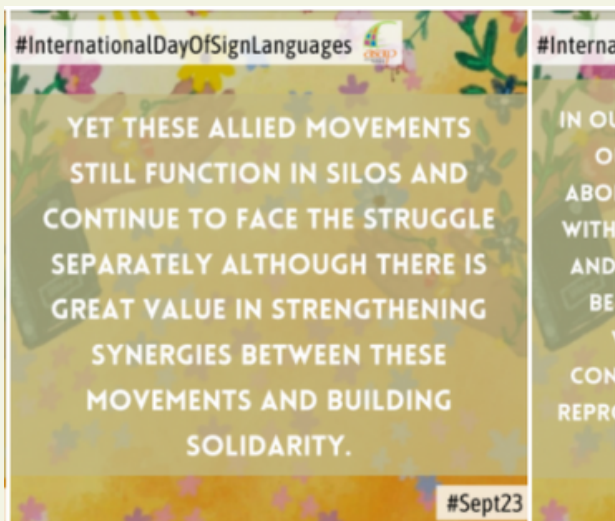
Safe Abortion for Everyone - A challenge amidst our 'multiple issu...

This is a compilation of a Tweetathon conducted by Pratigya Campaign in India with Asia Safe Abortion Partnership, to mark the...

16 views 0 comments



ASAP BLOGS



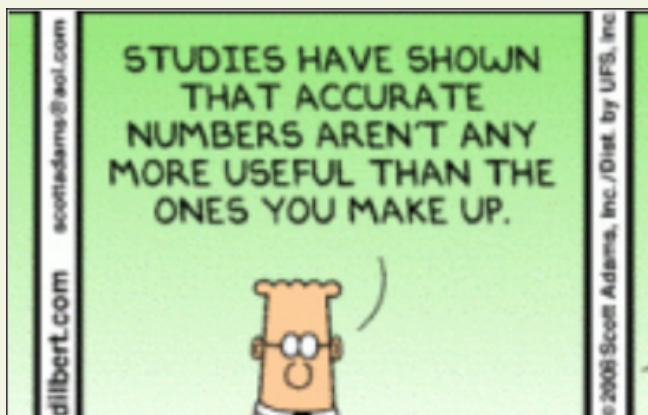
ASAP 
Nov 11, 2021 • 5 min



Deaf community engagement: A Sign of the changing times -...

As we work towards building an inclusive safe abortion rights movement, ASAP has been working closely with the deaf community and sign...

142 views 0 comments



ASAP 
Dec 22, 2021 • 4 min



The story of Data: From a Feminist Lens. By Nandini Mazumder

"Big Brother is Watching You." — George Orwell, 1984 What comes to mind when we think of data? Maybe scales, statistics, or stories?...

PUBLICATIONS

iS. IndiaSpend

CORONA COVERAGE

EARTHCHECK

EDUCATION CHECK

FACTCHECKER

SPECIALS ▾

WEB STORIES

Home / Specials / GenderCheck

Amended Abortion Law Still Gives Doctors, Not Women, The Final Say

The amended abortion law has allowed termination of pregnancy up to 24 weeks but only for special categories of vulnerable women. Abortion is still not available on demand and a woman's agency is not recognised


By Akshita Nagpal | 27 April, 2021



Common menstrual problems and when you should see a doctor

By - SPOTLIGHT | Created: Jun 11, 2021, 13:51 IST

[f FACEBOOK](#)[t TWITTER](#)[p PINTREST](#)



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Ranjan Chandel's journey to Bollywood



Times Alternative Career Survey: East Zone



Decoding ovarian

PUBLICATIONS



MAKERS India

Dr Suchitra Dalvie: On Being A Feminist Gynecologist In A Patriarchal World Of Medicine

When Dr Dalvie started her journey as a medical practitioner, initially she didn't have the language to adequately grasp or articulate the patriarchal frameworks and sexist biases that inform institutionalize...

Jun 13



MAKERS India

Dr Suchitra Dalvie: How The Pandemic Hindered Access To Safe Abortions

The pandemic has hit several healthcare services making people turn to online platforms seeking vital information and emergency resources to sail through the difficult times. Amid this ongoing crisis, Dr...

Jun 11

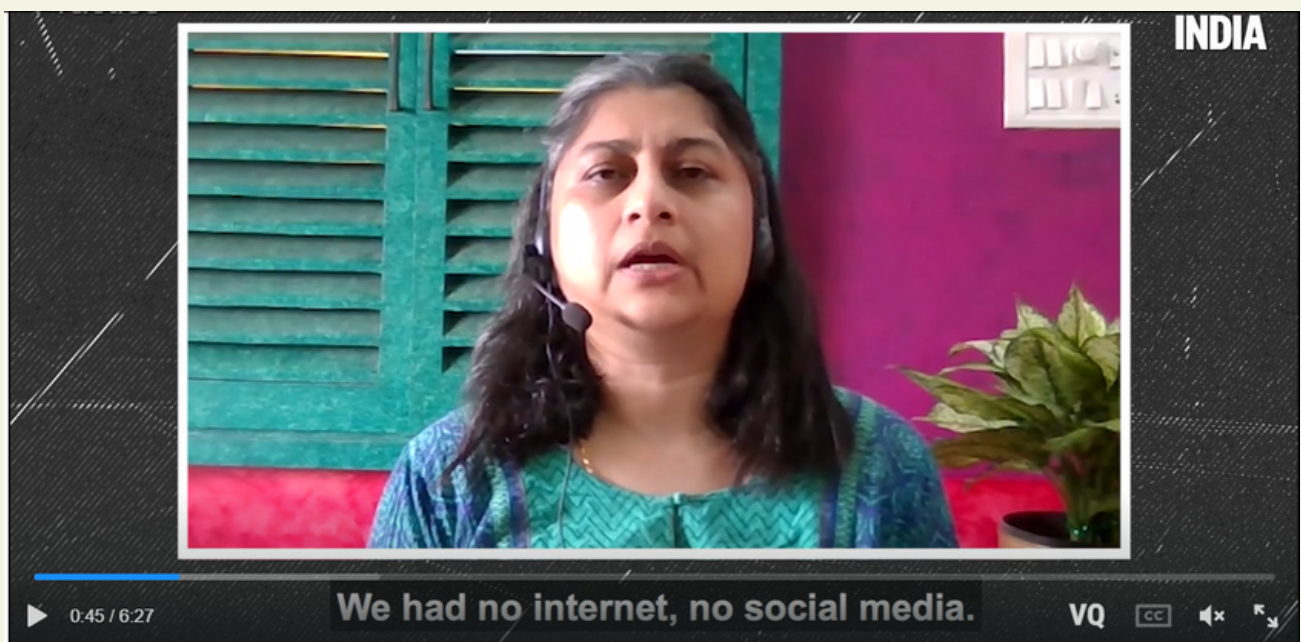


MAKERS India

Dr Suchitra Dalvie: Role Of Youth Leadership In Advocating Rights-Based Approach To Healthcare

Dr Dalvie believes that the youth are the leaders of tomorrow and have the imagination to create. Most of her initiatives have been towards enabling safe spaces for the youth. She runs a dedicated program...

Jun 09



Dr Suchitra Dalvie: Understanding Patriarchy And Misogyny In The Medical Practice

MAKERS • 4 June 2021

489 views

PUBLICATIONS

COVID Changed the Way We Bleed: Women Call for Research on Impact

Women across the globe are sharing anecdotes on how the coronavirus has disrupted their menstrual cycles.

MYTHREYEE RAMESH

Published: 01 Jul 2021, 4:55 PM IST

GENDER

5 min read



CAN ACTIVITIES

Bhutan -Druk - Youth Initiative of Sexual Advocacy (D-YISA)



Sensitization Program on Safe Abortion for Sex Workers | 1st May 2021

D-YISA conducted this session with an aim to create awareness among sex workers, regarding the existing safe abortion laws in Bhutan. They not only debunked myths associated with abortion, but also engaged with them to know their opinion on safe abortion access. Though the session started with some hesitancy, by the end, many participants were convinced for the need of having a rights based abortion law in the country and sessions



Online Sensitization Programme | 8th May

D-YISA conducted their first online sensitization program on Safe Abortion Rights in Bhutan for first year students of Khesar Gyalpo University of Medical Studies. There were 18 participants some of whom had already attended similar programs on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) conducted by Y-PEER (youth peer education network) which is supported by the Government on raising awareness regarding SRHR.



Sensitization Programme for LGBTQIA+ Youth | 26th June

D-YISA conducted an awareness session with 26 members of the community. Most of the participants were young but for almost all of them this was their first session on issues related to abortion rights.

While everyone knew about abortion, there were some different viewpoints with regards to the 'morality' of terminated an unwanted pregnancy, often propagated by normalizing phrases like 'throwing out the baby'. These myths and stigmas associated with abortion in Bhutan were busted by D-YISA and the participants felt encouraged to be more open about their reproductive and sexual health and rights.



International Day of Action for Women's Health |

28TH May

D-YISA members came together to run an awareness campaign called 'abortion myths busted'. They had 6 young people from Khesar Gyalpo University of Medical Studies (KGUMS) who participated in the campaign to bust most common misconceptions related to abortion in the country.



India - India Safe Abortion Youth Advocates (ISAY)



50 Years of MTP Act - Gaps and Gains | MASUM, ISAY & ASAP | 9th April

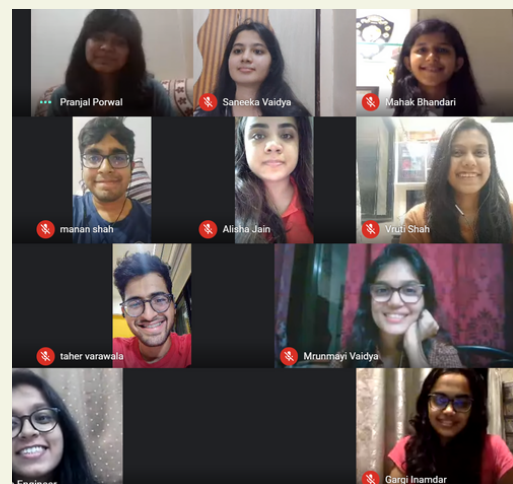
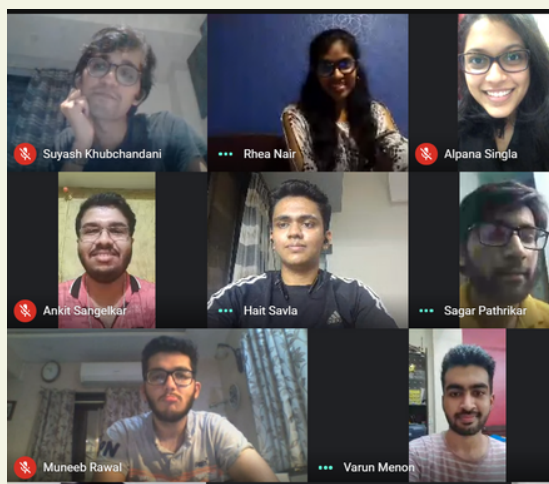
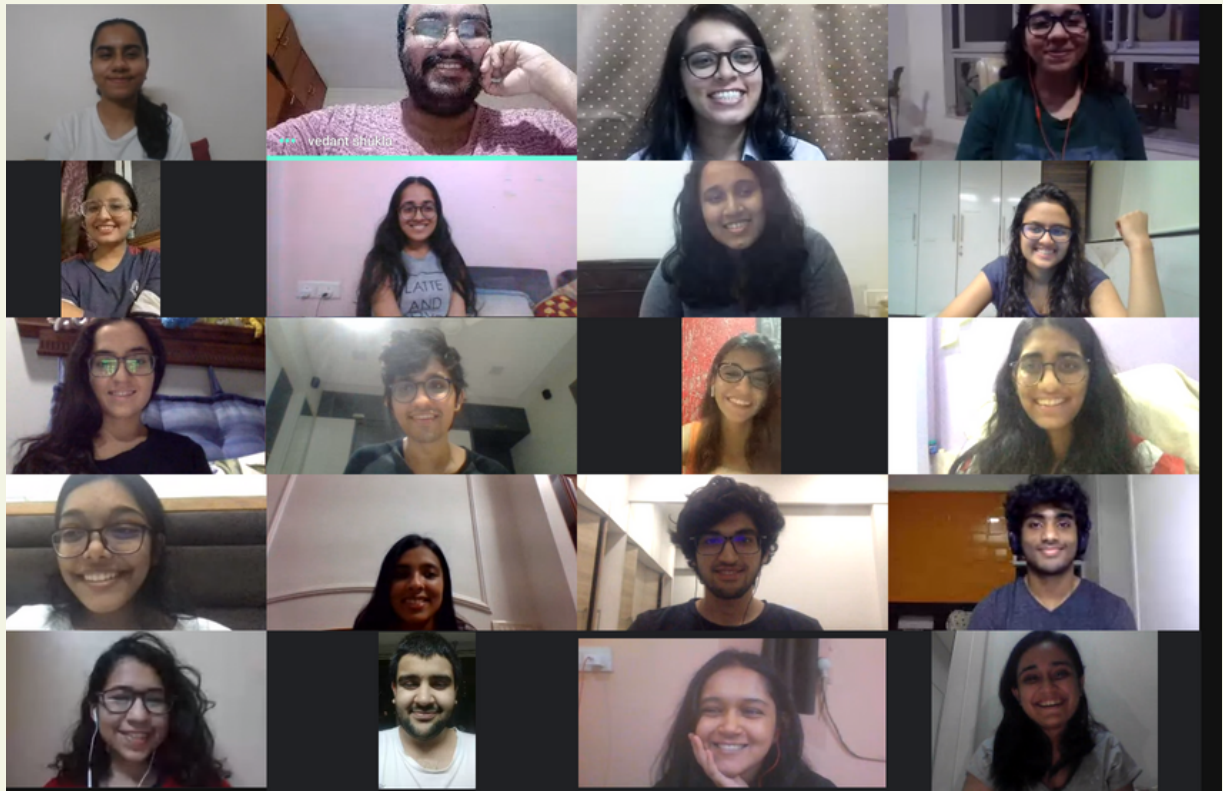
ISAY partnered with MASUM and ASAP for a national webinar called '50 Years of MTP Act-Gaps and Gains' to discuss the nuances of the policies regarding abortions in India. Suyash Khubchandani briefly detailed the work done by ISAY and how our partnership with MASUM led to collaborations for workshops and many other activities.

Gynopedia | Online | ASAP, Stories to Action and Gynopedia | 12th March

Shwetangi Shinde participated in the making of a reel for promotion of Gynopaedia in association with ASAP.

The Abortion Curriculum | Ongoing

Members of the ISAY team worked for the creation of a toolkit for medical students as a guide for an abortion sensitization workshop. It includes a detailed account of every session and resource material that would be required to conduct a basic SOGIESC and abortion advocacy workshop



NEPAL - YOUTH LED SRHR ADVOCACY NEPAL (YO-SHAN)

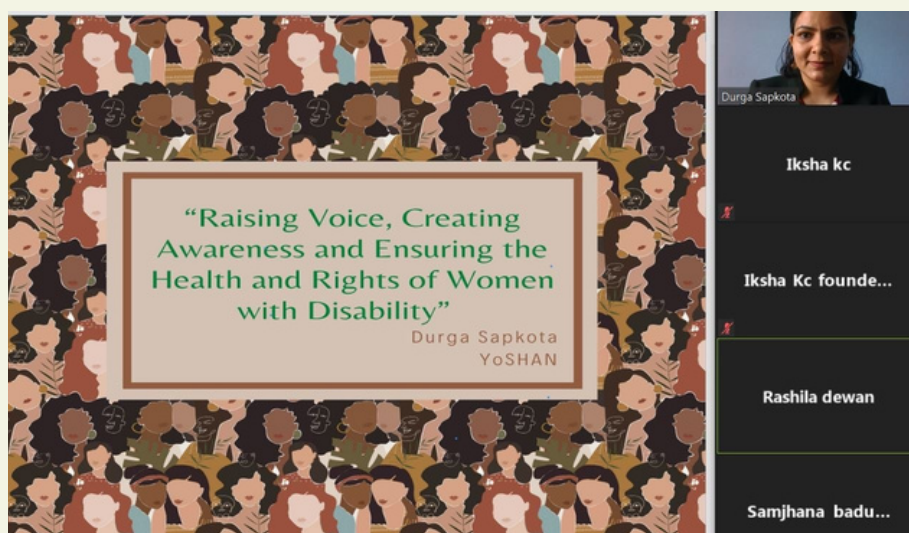


Safe Abortion Rights and Legal Provisions in Nepal | 20th January

Youth Champion Nir Shrestha conducted a virtual session on the topic with Blind Youth Association Nepal.

Session on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights | Pahichan Nepal & YoSHAN

The organizations collaborated to , conduct an interactive session where women with disabilities from all the provinces actively showed up to share their lived experiences related to sexual and reproductive health. The session was facilitated by Durga Sapkota.



Gardening workshop | One Billion Rising (OBR), Sangat Nepal and CECI Nepal

YoSHAN participated in this workshop where different seeds and plants were planted on the feminist farm provided by Yogashala Nepal. There was enormous space to learn and share with each other. YoSHAN Youth Champion Kamala Bista took part in the program representing YoSHAN.



Amendment of Safe Motherhood and Reproductive Health Act 2018 | Reproductive Health Rights Working Group (RHRWG) | Ongoing

YoSHAN as part of RHRWG along with other organizations has been engaging in creating a more inclusive law in the country, which can ensure women's health and rights.

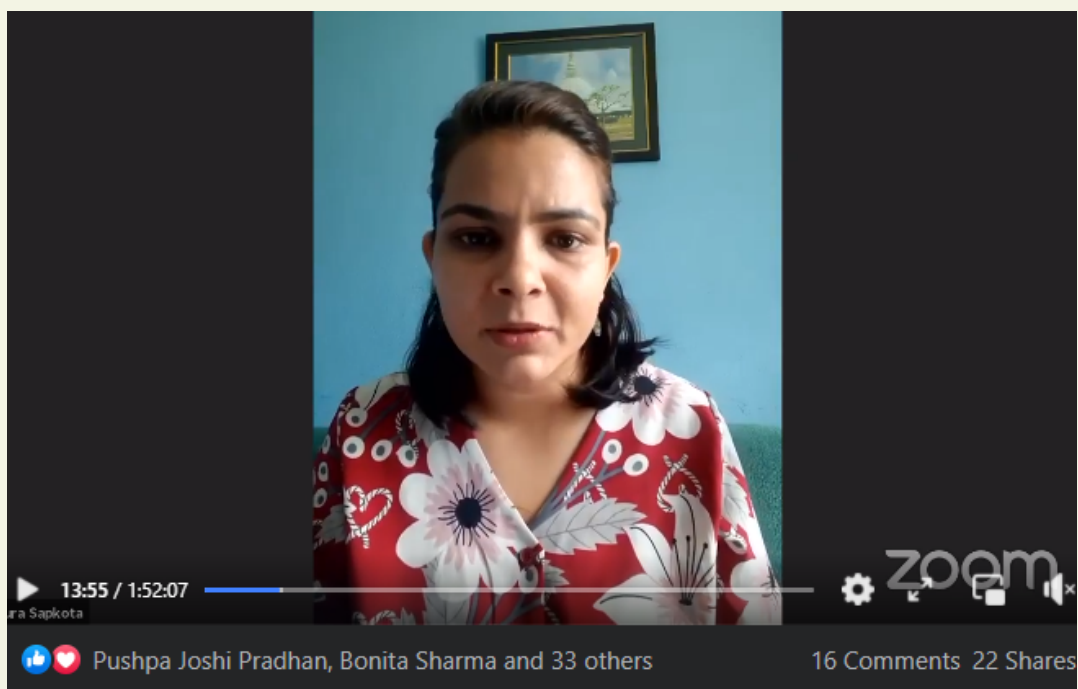
Guff4youth (G4U) | YoSHAN | 19th March

This session was organized on Mental health and SRHR and was facilitated by Pushpa Joshi and a psychological counselor Shraddha Pradhan. In the session, the interlinkages between SRHR and mental health were explored and they also discussed self-care practices.



Milijuli talk series with the representatives of the 'Covid special nurse group'

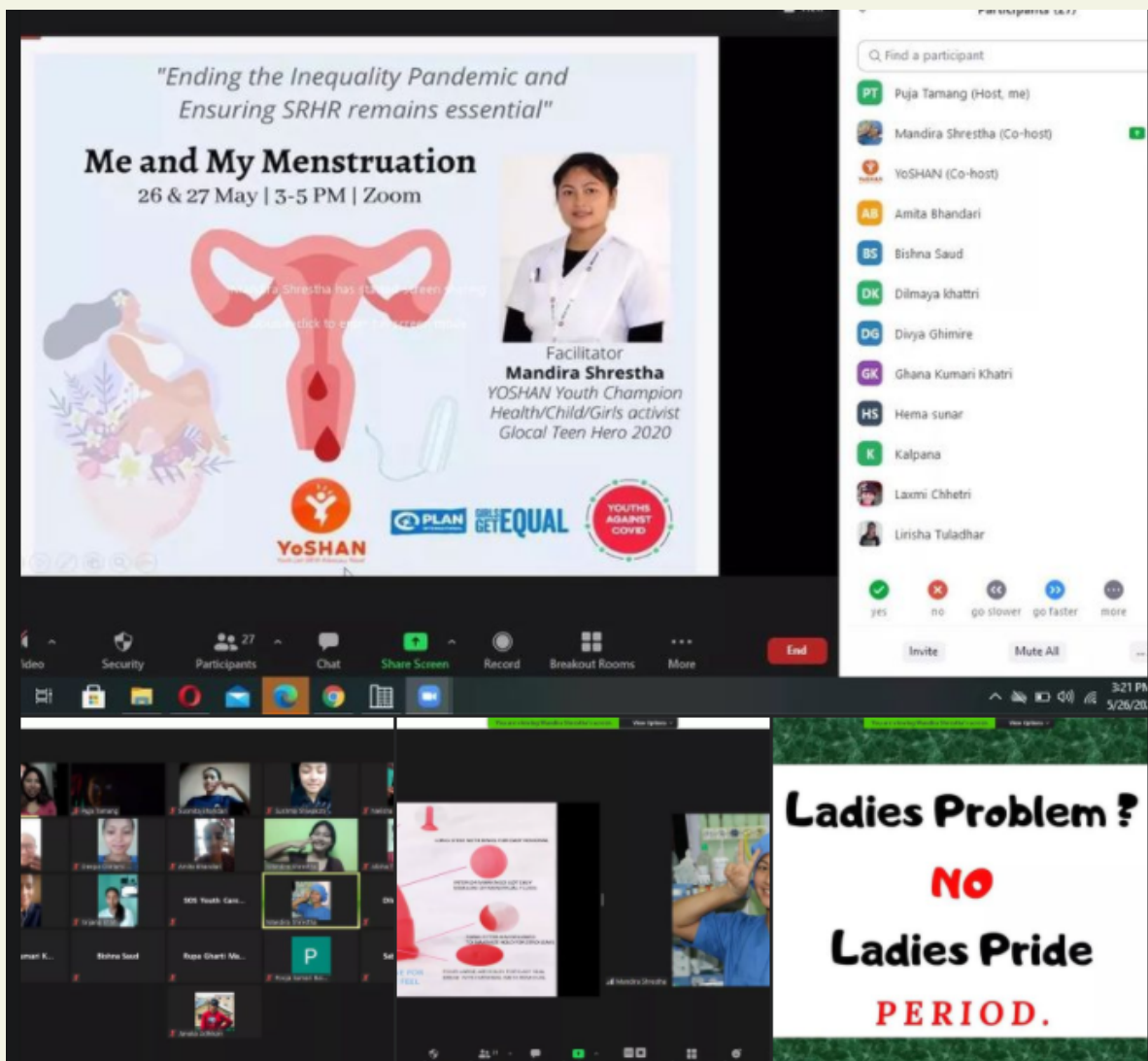
On the occasion of International nurses day, YoSHAN in collaboration with Network of Youths against COVID organized Milijuli talk series with the representatives of the 'Covid special nurse group' to honor the initiatives of nurses in Nepal who have been providing counseling and other health services to people during this difficult time of the covid pandemic.



'Me and my menstruation' | 26th & 27th May

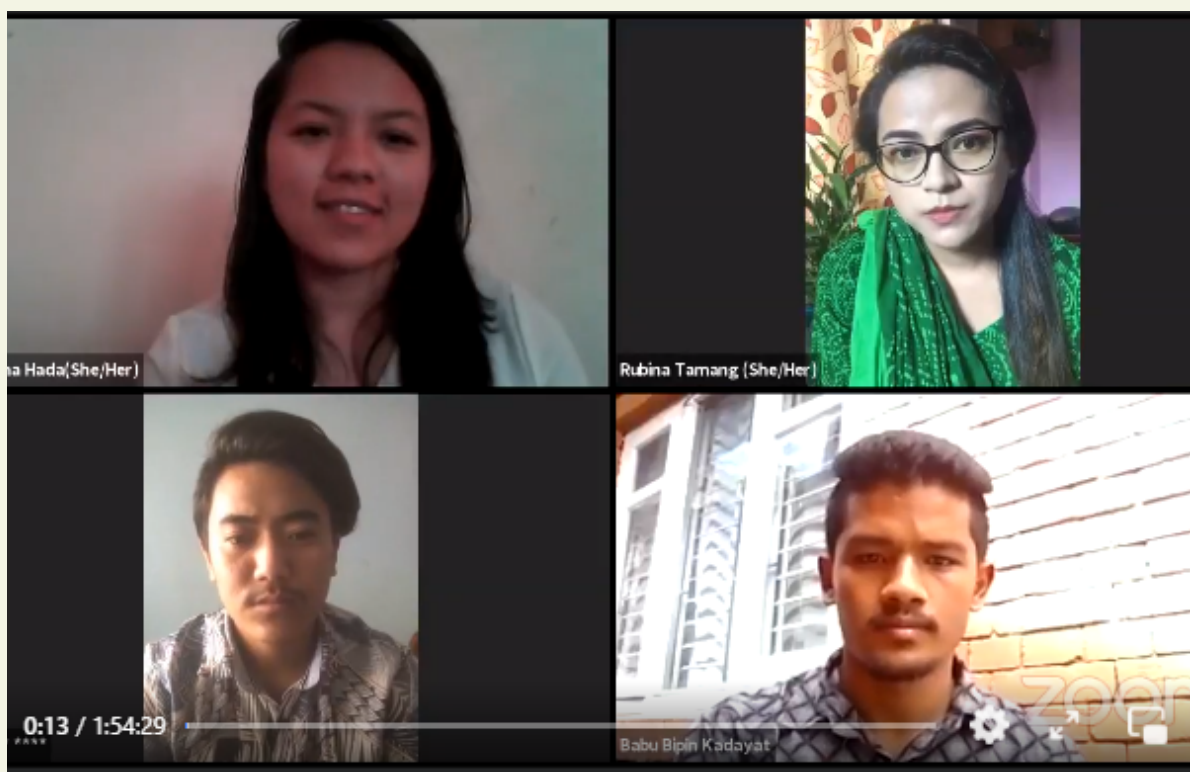
YoSHAN held a comprehensive discussion on the topic where more than 30 young participants joined in. Some of the topics covered during the workshop are as follows:

- Menstruation
- Hygiene during menstruation
- Pain management
- Nutrition during menstruation
- Myths and misconceptions/ harmful practices
- Menstruation during the time of covid



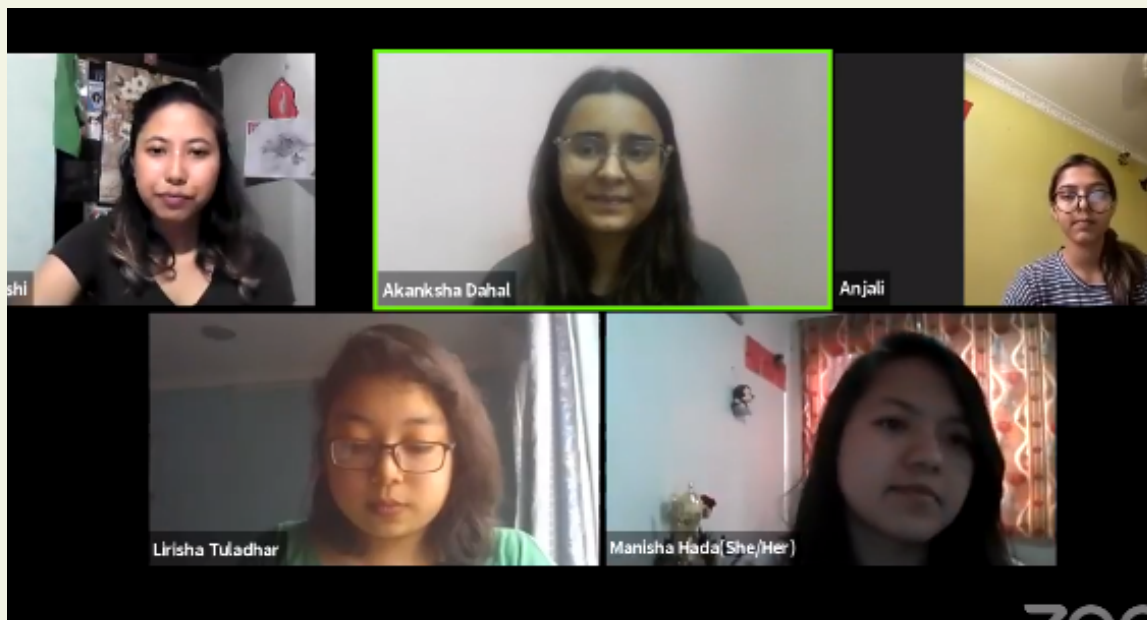
Milijuli Talk Series on Sexual and Reproductive Health of Queer Individuals

YoSHAN organized Milijuli talk series on sexual and reproductive health rights of queer individuals which was live streamed on the Facebook. The discussion was moderated by YoSHAN youth champions Manisha Hada and Safal Lama; one of them is also a queer individual active in the queer movement. The guest speakers were Rubina Tamang (Transwoman activist), Bipin Kadayat (Intersex activist) and Pratik Thapa (Transman Activist). In the session, all the guest speakers shared their own experience of discrimination while accessing SRH services in health service centers in Nepal and also emphasized on queer friendly health service centers and providers. The discussion reached more than 1200 people via Facebook live.



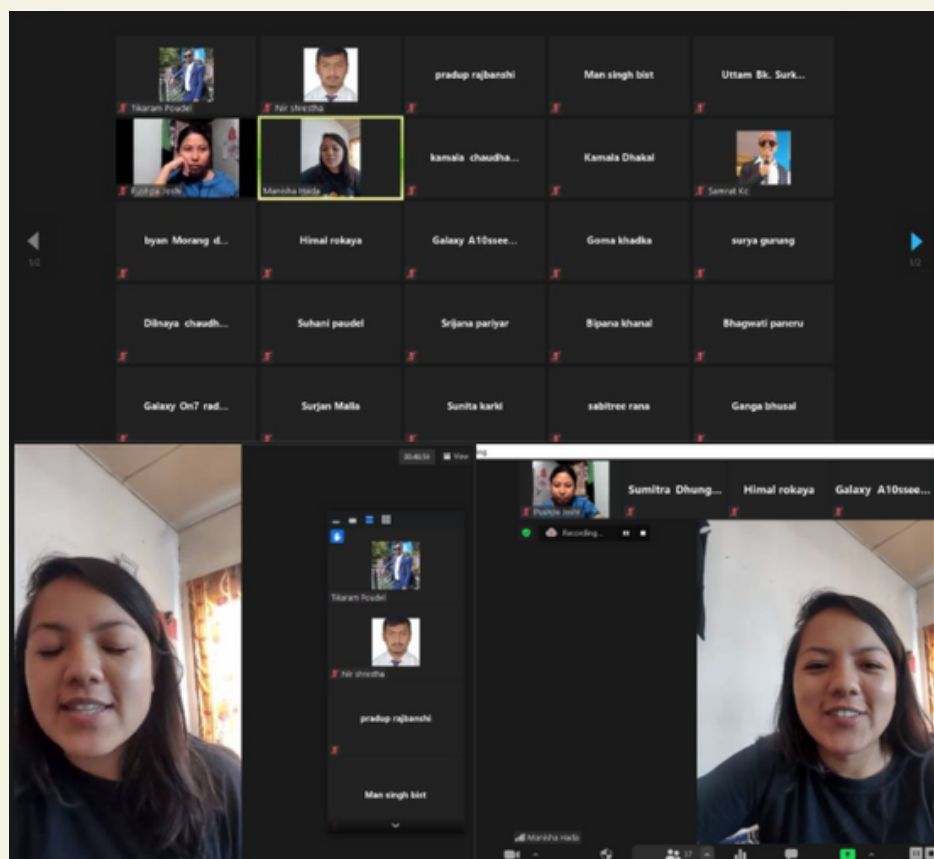
Guff4youth on women's health | 23rd June

YoSHAN organized Guff4youth, an informal youth-friendly discussion program on women's health issues including safe abortion rights on 23rd June. The discussion took place between the youth champions Lirisha Tuladhar, Pushpa Joshi, Akansha Dahal, Anjali Tiwari and Manisha Hada and other participants were also encouraged to contribute.



Orientation program on safe abortion rights for young people with visual impairment

YoSHAN in collaboration with Blind Youth Association Nepal-BYAN organized an orientation program on safe abortion rights for young people with visual impairment. Youth champion Nir Shrestha coordinated, while Manisha Hada and Pushpa Joshi Pradhan facilitated the event.



Clubhouse discussion | 11th July | Visible Impact

YoSHAN attended a clubhouse discussion as Panelists on “Pandemic World: Putting SRHR of youth at the centre of health” which was organised by Visible Impact. They presented their views on ongoing SRHR issues during the pandemic along with other activists.

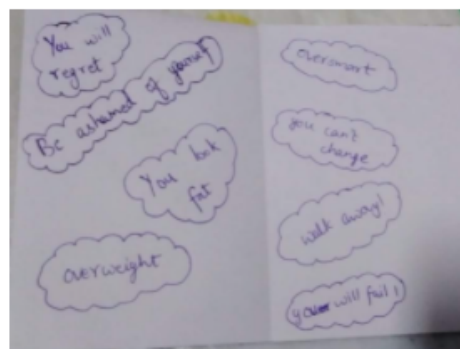
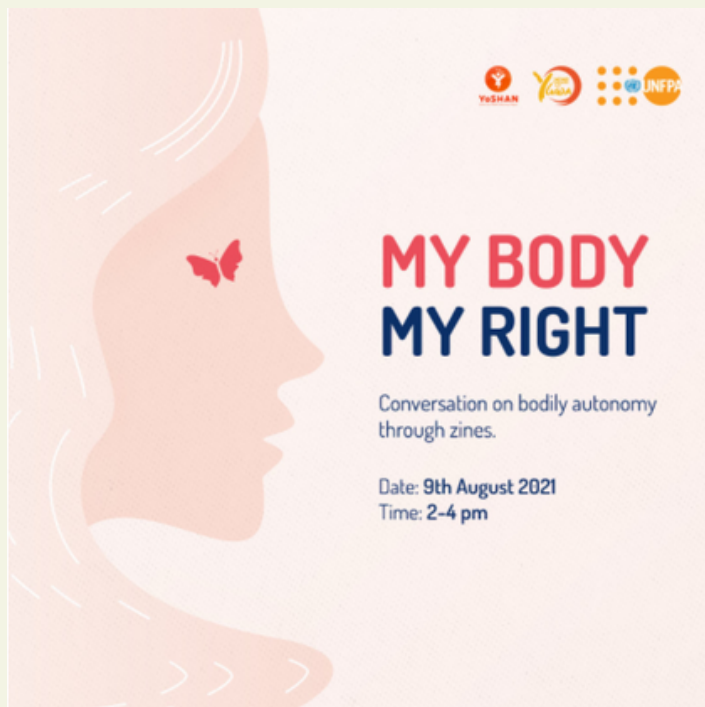
Clubhouse discussion | 8th August

YoSHAN organized a clubhouse discussion on the topic “Let’s talk about Sex” on August 8th. The discussion was organized through the club called ‘Young Nepali Feminist’ opened by YoSHAN. The YoSHAN team along with other participants had a healthy discussion on the topic and related issues.



Workshop on bodily autonomy| 9th August

Pushpa Joshi from YoSHAN facilitated a workshop on bodily autonomy titled “My Body, My Rights” which was followed by Zine making exercises. The zine is a self-published magazine that includes texts, images and artworks. In the workshop, participants explored bodily autonomy and experiences related to the same. The workshop was the side event of the Youth Summit in celebration of International Youth Day, 2021 which was organised by YUWA with support of UNFPA.



Zine by one of the participant of the program.

Radio Program

Lirisha Tuladhar; Youth champion of YoSHAN Nepal, presented YoSHAN in a Radio Program "Man ko Chautari" which was aired through Radio Audio FM. The discussion program was focused on Breastfeeding as a shared responsibility and other affecting factors.



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Zoom session on gender and sexuality | 17th August

YoSHAN in collaboration with Leo club of Kathmandu Aananda Bhairav and with support from SDGs National Network Nepal organized a ZOOM session on "Understanding Gender and Sexuality" which was facilitated by Leo Mandira Shrestha who is also a YoSHAN youth champion. The session took place on zoom on 17th August.

3rd Local Youth Advocacy Institute (YAI) on Safe Abortion Rights Advocacy

YoSHAN
Youth Led SRHR Advocacy Nepal

August 24 to 28, 2021

ZOOM Online

DEADLINE AUGUST 17, 2021

'Let's talk' series

YoSHAN collaborated with Yatra Creatives for the Let's Talk series. Their theme for this season was “Understanding Social Norms” on different issues. Pushpa Joshi from YoSHAN is the director and scriptwriter for this video podcast and YoSHAN youth champions have been moderating the episodes. Four episodes have been released on the youtube channel of Let's Talk till September. The episodes of the Let's talk web series are as follows:

- First Episode: Motherhood and Breastfeeding
- Second Episode: Body Image
- Third Episode: Safe Abortion Rights
- Fourth Episode: Disability and SRHR



YoSHAN at the Global South Conversation on Safe Abortion | 24th September | WGNRR

On September 24, YoSHAN cofounder Pushpa Joshi talked at the global south conversation on safe abortion, about barriers diverse young people face while accessing safe abortion service and how can we #makeunsafeabortionhistory . The event was organized by the Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights (WGNRR).

What young people want to

#MakeUnsafeAbortionHistory

→ Barriers to safe abortion and way forward



Pushpa Joshi

Co-founder
YoSHAN





**Pushpa Joshi
Pradhan**

Young People's Call to Action
and Initiatives to
#MakeUnsafeAbortionHistory

**#MakeUnsafe
AbortionHistory**

A Global South Online Conversation on Safe Abortion

September 24, 2021 via Zoom

Pushpa is the co-founder of Yo SHAN, a youth led organization in Nepal that aims to promote, protect and advance SRHR of women & girls in Nepal, by advocating for access to comprehensive SRHR services including safe abortion. She is also a Youth Champion of Asia Safe Abortion Partnership and Young Leader of Women Deliver.



Program on Dignified Menstruation | 25th September

YoSHAN in collaboration with Radha Poudel Foundation and Global South Coalition for dignified menstruation completed the program on dignified menstruation on 25th Bhadra, Friday in Lalitpur. The program was fun and engaging where the participants and facilitators talked about Dignified Menstruation. Youth Champion Mandira Shrestha coordinated and facilitated the program

Zoom session | 28th September

On September 28, Durga Sapkota one of the co-founders of YoSHAN, shared her views at Martin Chautari on the topic “Experiences on Sexual and reproductive health of women with disabilities residing in Kathmandu Valley”. The discussion happened at zoom and was also aired through Facebook live.

Experiences on Sexual and Reproductive Health of Women with Disabilities Residing in Kathmandu Valley

zoom f LIVE
www.fb.com/martinchautari

Date, Time and Venue
Tuesday, September 28, 2021 (असोज १२, २०७८)
03:00 – 04:30 PM
ZOOM Online Platform

Register in Advance
<https://bit.ly/3nsEPcu>



Durga Sapkota
RN/Co-founder, Youth-Led SRHR Advocacy Nepal

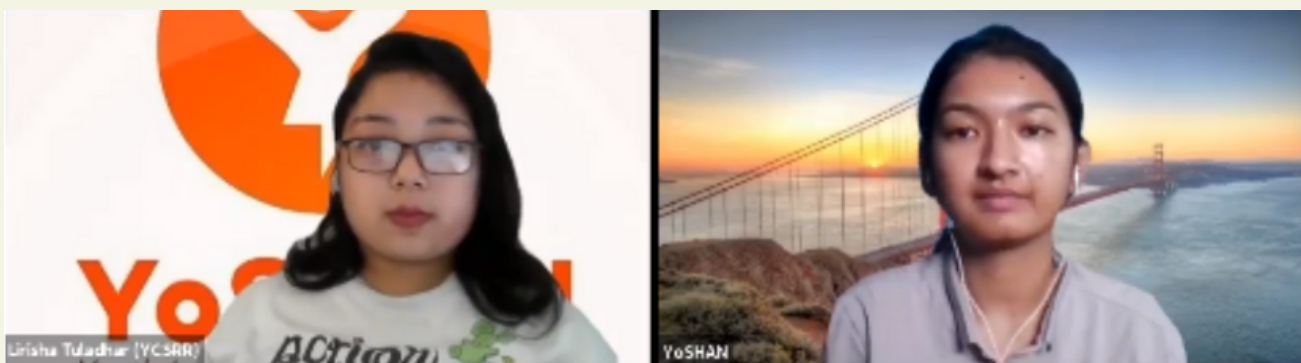
Strategic planning meeting

YoSHAN organised a three day long organizational strategic planning meeting in the month of September. The core team and working committee members of YoSHAN attended the strategic planning and it was facilitated by Sumera Shrestha.



Facebook live on Safe abortion

Anjila Thapa and Lirisha Tuladhar from YoSHAN along with YUWA Nepal, delivered a Facebook live session on the basics of Safe abortion in collaboration . The live session happened through Facebook page of 'My Abortion My Choice' and focused on safe abortion services, myths associated with it and the legal aspects in Nepal.



Sri Lanka - Youth Advocacy Network Sri Lanka (YANSL)



Annual General Meeting 2020

One of the milestones of the first quarter of the year 2021 for YANSL was the Annual General Meeting for the year 2020 held on the 21st of February 2021 from 9.30 am to 1.30

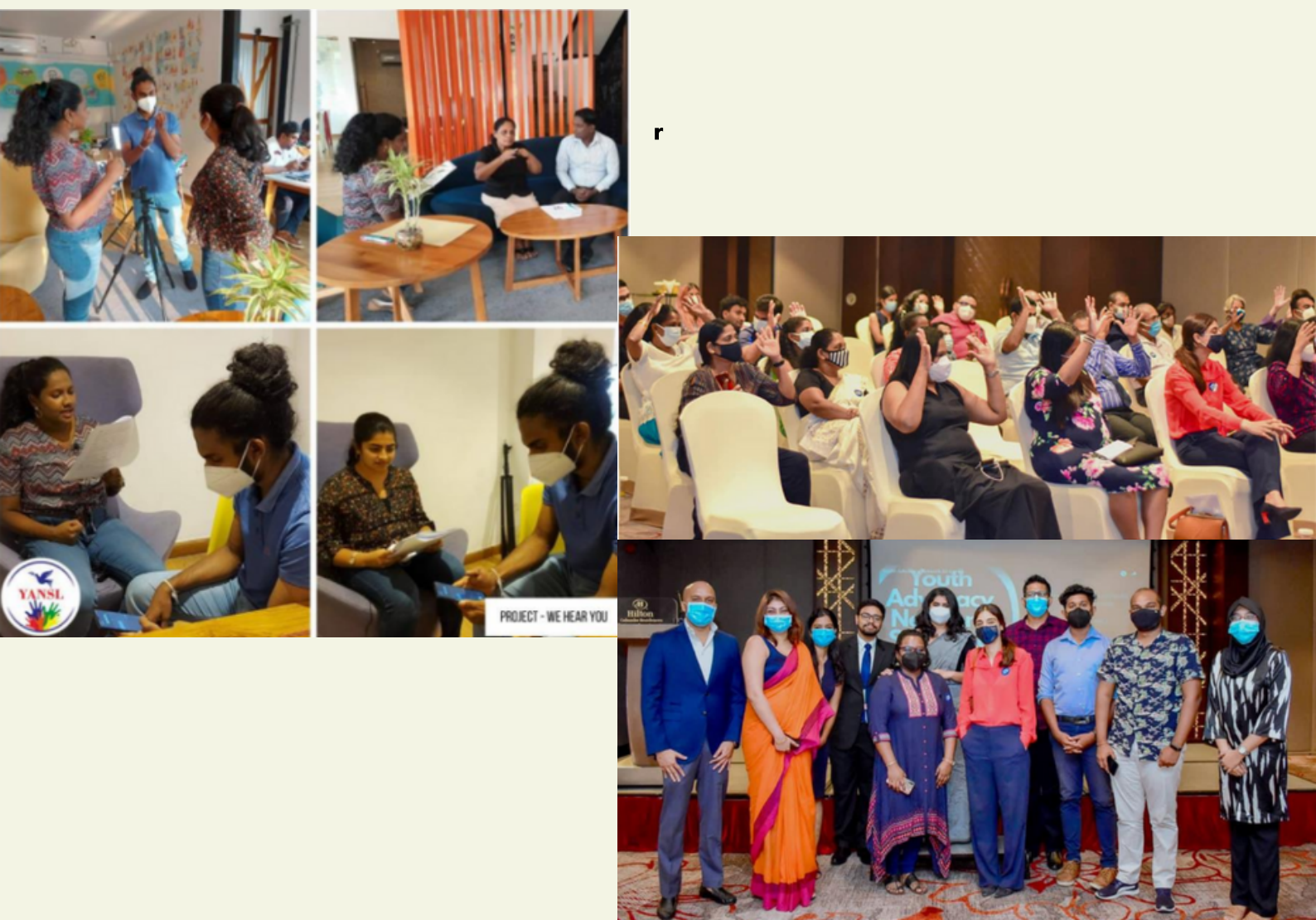
pm at Enclave, Colombo. The AGM brought together members of YANSL from its inception and was followed by a fellowship session. Apart from the presentation of the Annual Report, another key event was the change of the Board of Directors.



WE HEAR YOU Phase 2

The 2nd Phase of We Hear You (WHY) reached its culmination in the first quarter of 2021. Several video documentaries were produced capturing the SRHR needs of people living with hearing disabilities and the developing of a sign language glossary on SRHR by featuring interviews with stakeholders who were engaged in this initiative from the beginning and documentary content of conducting educational and awareness-raising sessions with the Rathmalana School for the Deaf with the support of the Sri Lanka Central Federation for the Deaf (SLCFD).

The project reached its pinnacle with the launch of a disability friendly website on SRHR named 'We Hear You' featuring information extracted from the SRHR Booklet of FAQs also put together by YANSL, and also videos with sign language interpretations.

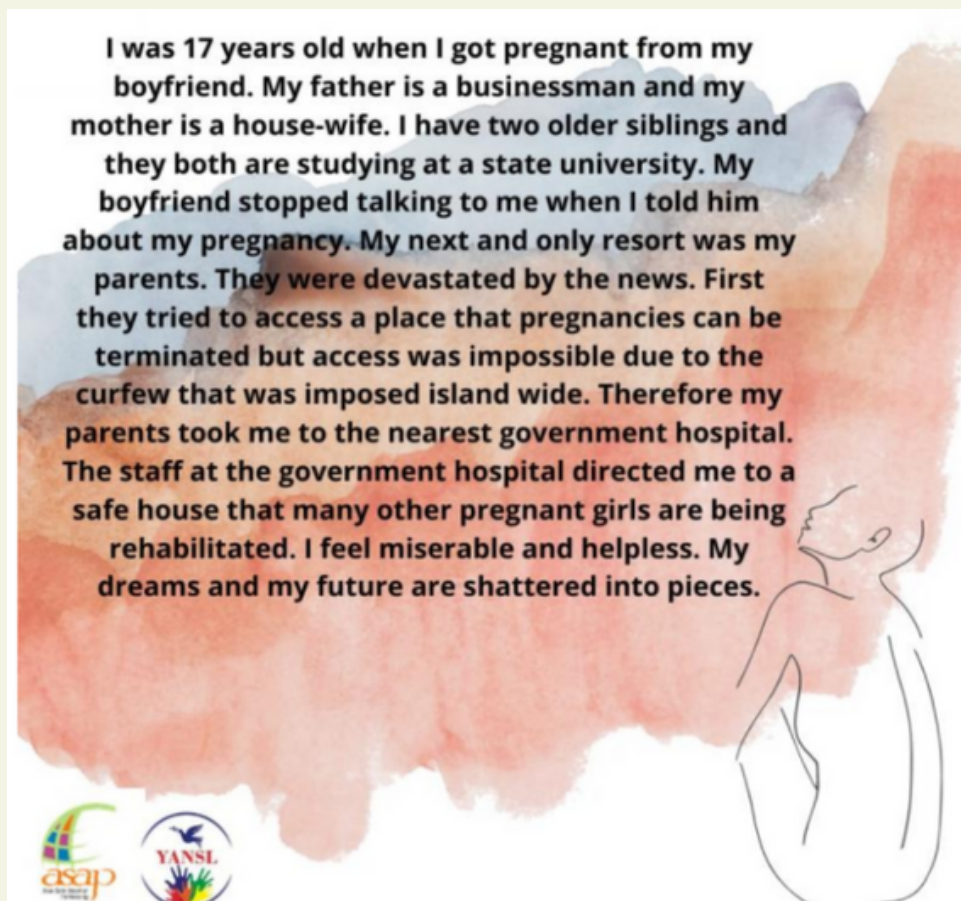


Amplify change phase 2

Due to constraints posed by Covid 19 and limitations of physical accessibility, the 2nd phase of Amplify Change Project was re-strategized to conducting a small research targeting law students and legal practitioners named 'Suggestions for Changes in Laws Related to SRHR'. During the first quarter of 2021, the research was conducted through online surveys and telephone calls and the research report was drafted with the assistance of Shelani Palihawadane. The research is currently under review and will be edited and put to print soon. A policy brief is also being formulated.

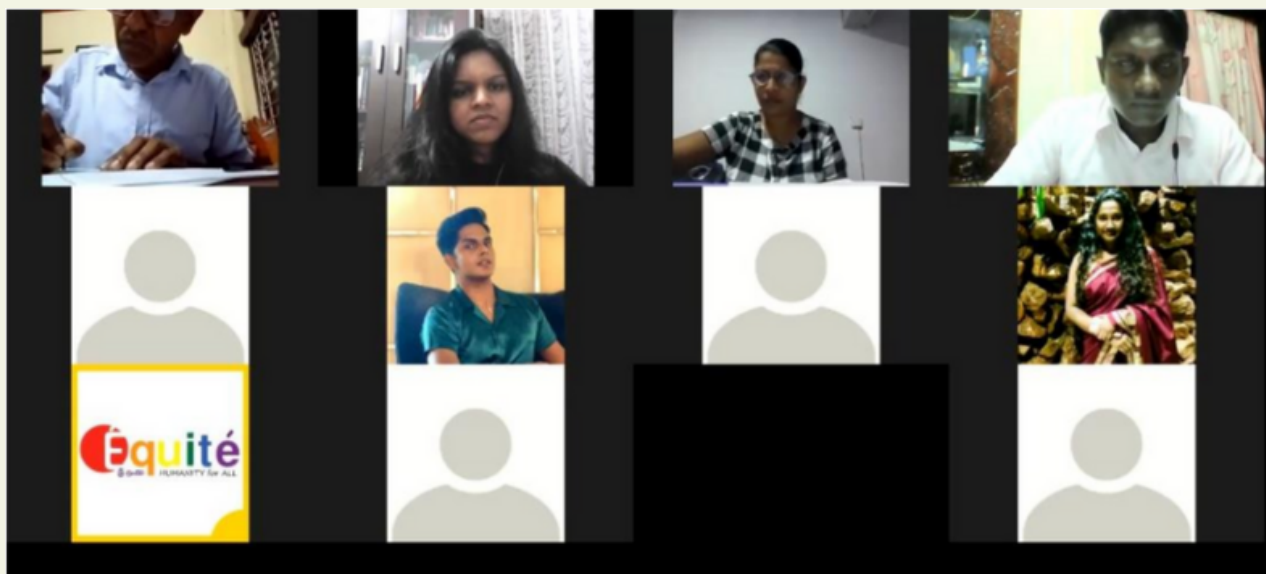
ASAP Small grants project

Desaree Soysa and Tharindi Devadurendra, the Small Grants Recipients from Asia Safe Abortion Partnership (ASAP) continued the second phase of their project, which is to collect stories of women and girls who have faced difficulties in accessing SRHR services during the Covid-19 pandemic induced lockdown and share them in the form of blog articles, animated videos and posts on social media pages of YANSL.



WOMEN'S FUND ASIA Project

Having secured the grant 'Claiming our Voices: Beijing+25 Follow Up and Review' by Women's Fund Asia, a project was launched as an evidence building project on access to SRHR services before and during Covid-19 focusing on women and girls in marginalized communities (ex. disability community) and the LGBTQ+ community in January 2021. In partnership with Care Consortium, a concept note for the entire project setting out its objectives was finalized during the month of February and discussions of how to create the videos including the terms of reference for videographers were finalized by the beginning of March. Focus Group discussions were held online towards the end of March with the participation of about 10 participants and their input has been taken for the conceptualization of the video scripts and finding respondents. Currently, the project team headed by Harini Fernando is finalizing the video producers for the project and identifying individuals as Respondents to be featured in the videos.



International Day of education

YANSL posted several posts and stories over different Social Media Forums on the importance of Sexuality Education targeting the International Day of Education. A conversation was also held on Comprehensive Sexuality Education in Sri Lanka featuring Paba Deshapriya, Director of The Grassrooted Trust Sri Lanka and moderated by Dakshitha Wickremarathne as the 5th Episode of the Catalyst Programme (an online series of educational sessions conducted by YANSL on various topics related to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, and broadly on Gender and Gender Equality).



'Me' to 'we' | YANSL & Rotaract Club of The Faculty of Law

In collaboration with the Rotaract Club of the Faculty of Law, University of Colombo, an online campaign and series of webinars on raising awareness on the rights of the LGBTQ+ Community named 'Me' to 'We' was conducted by YANSL where resourced persons from within the organization like Desaree Soysa and Tharindi Devasurendra spoke of same sex relationships, contraceptives, and law reforms that are required to uphold rights of LGBTQ+ community.



'Sex Ed 101

Continuing the initiative conducted in partnership with the Rotaract Club of Panadura, another webinar of SexEd101 was conducted on the topic of 'Myths surrounding Virginity' by Nishadhi Gunathilake, yet another Youth Champion. The presentation called good engagement and meaningful discussion among the participants.

FEM FORCE

A couple more webinars were conducted on Sexual and Reproductive Health related topics in partnership with the Leo Club of the Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo.

YANSL member Sanduni Hettigoda conducted a session in Sinhala language attracting a wide group of participants on the topic of 'Myths on Menstruation' while another member of YANSL Nishadhi Gunathilake spoke on laws and regulations surrounding LGBTQ+ community in Sri Lanka.



South East Asia Youth Advocacy Network (SYAN)

YANSL became a partner organization in the South East Asia Youth Advocacy Network (SYAN), which is a network which aims to bring youth focused, adolescent focused groups together and create a network in the region and create knowledgeable advocacy resources based on a module already developed through an online course.

Generation Equality Forum

Sanjana Ravi and Harini Fernando participated in the Generation Equality Forum from 29th of 31st of March representing YANSL.

Youth camps | FPA Sri Lanka

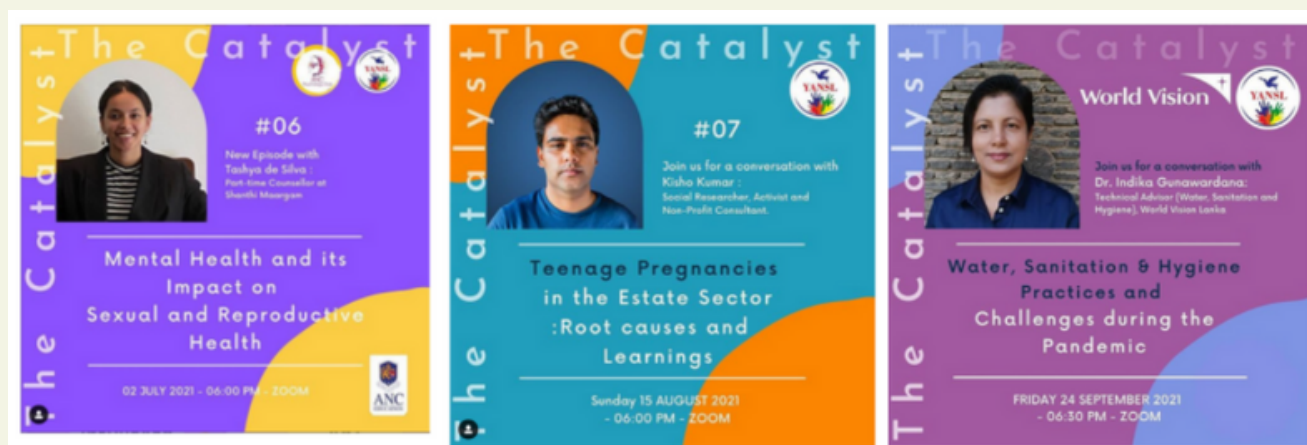
Dakshitha Wickremarathne and Priskila Arulpragasam rendered their services as resource persons by developing training modules and training manual to conduct trainings for Youth Camps organized by the Family Planning Association of Sri Lanka in the three official languages – English, Sinhala and Tamil. Dakshitha and Nishadhi conducted the pilot training in the Youth Camp held in Galle and Nishadhi again conducted a second training held in Galle.



Catalyst Episodes

Three Catalyst Episodes were conducted during the Third Quarter of the year.

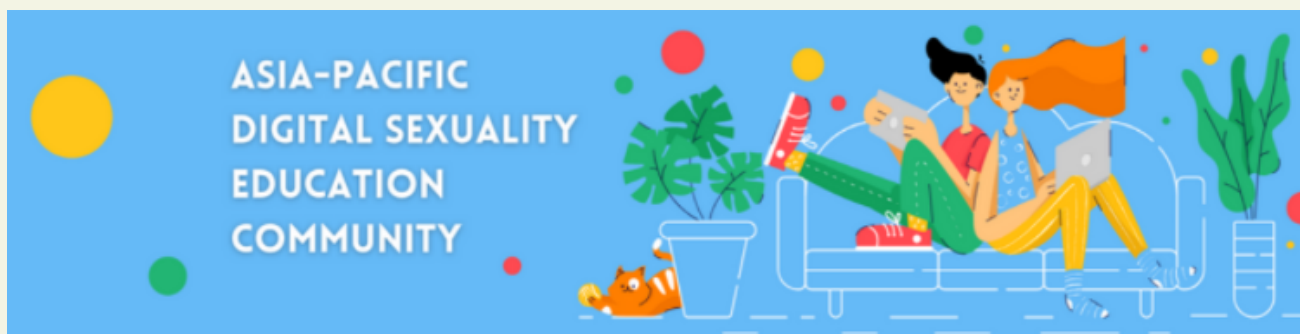
1. Mental Health and its Impact on Sexual and Reproductive Health by Tashya de Silva (Counsellor at Shanthi Margam) moderated by Dulmani Atapattu
2. Teenage Pregnancies in the Estate Sector: Root Causes and Learnings by Kisho Kumar (Social Researcher, Activist and Non-Profit Consultant) moderated by Priskila Arulpragasam
3. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Practices and Challenges during the Pandemic conducted by Dr. Indika Gunawardana (Technical Advisor of World Vision Lanka) moderated by Harini Fernando.



Asia Pacific Digital Sexuality Education Community

UNFPA, UNICEF, and UNESCO at the Asia-Pacific Regional level have been building and providing support to a community of digital sexuality education (DSE) app developers, content creators, vloggers, and online sex educators in response to the rapid increase in the use of digital technology and internet access by young people across Asia-Pacific (referred to as DSE community members). Henry Mitchel represents YANSL in the DSE community, where he collaborates and plans digital events and projects that will be carried out near future.

DSE is a topic that this community debates and shares best practices on with the goal of improving access to comprehensive, high-quality DSE for young people.



World Sexual Health Day | 4th September

September 4th is World Sexual Health Day. "Physical, mental and social well-being in connection to sexuality" are the terms used by the WHO to describe sexual health. While avoiding sexually transmitted illnesses is an important element of maintaining good sexual health, it's not the only consideration. A crucial part of sexual wellness is understanding issues like consent and abuse.

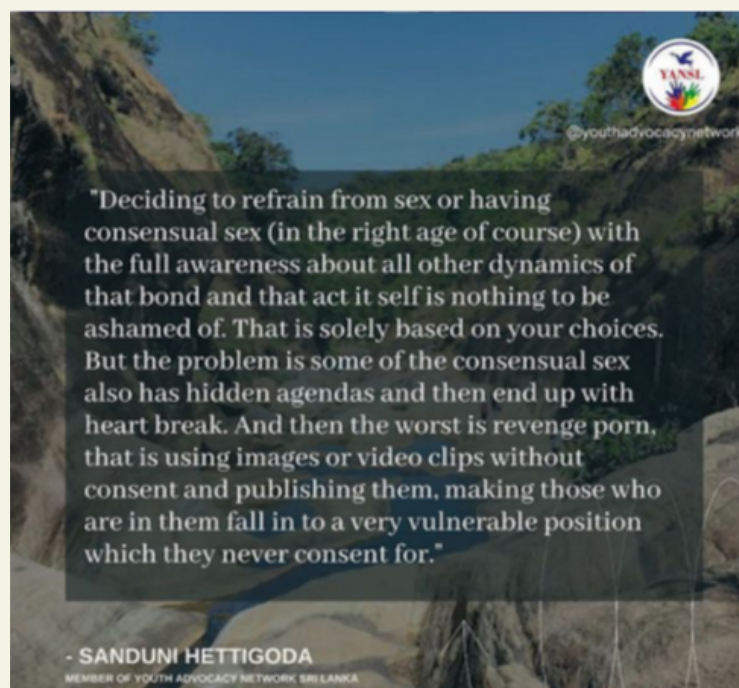
Sex and sexual education are taboo subjects in many cultures around the world including Sri Lanka. To commemorate World Sexual Health Day, YANSL created a small poster campaign that aims to educate people about their sexual and reproductive health and rights. The campaign was a success.



"Pahanthudawa Incident" and the poster campaign

Beautiful Pahanthudawa waterfall is located in Belihuloya, Ratnapura and is called for a clay oil light that once stood there. Even if it happened in secret, the small fall has gained exceptional fame as a result of the iconic pornographic film, which is sure to cause discussion in Sri Lanka. The Criminal Inquiry Department (CID) initiated an investigation to apprehend those responsible for the video's production and publication on a commercial pornography website.

When it came to finding the people who had posted and circulated the files, CID's Cyber Crimes Division was there to help. Through their combined efforts, the police managed to apprehend and release the suspect couple within three days after their first detention. The Pahanthudawa event has given us a unique opportunity to delve deeper into issues around sex and sexuality in Sri Lanka. Despite the fact that some believe there are more pressing issues facing the country, it is important to remember that sex and sexuality are integral parts of both public and private life. Some have even argued that a society's stance on sex is a good barometer of civility and maturity as a whole. Without engaging a survivor of sexual violence, an incident of this magnitude that exposes our society's attitudes on sex and sexuality will be rare for a long time. Some related news also shows that the media in Sri Lanka cannot be relied upon to provide accurate reporting or analysis. Social media sites' roles, community norms, and where they locate individuals who can stumble into sexual or 'sensitive' information are all raised



World Contraception Day | 26th September

The 26th of September is designated as World Contraception Day. The goal is to increase awareness of all contraceptive options available to young people and to empower them to make educated decisions about their sexual and reproductive health and well-being. The result was an informational poster campaign about contraception facts, as well as a Clubhouse session, to raise awareness about the benefits of contraception among young people.

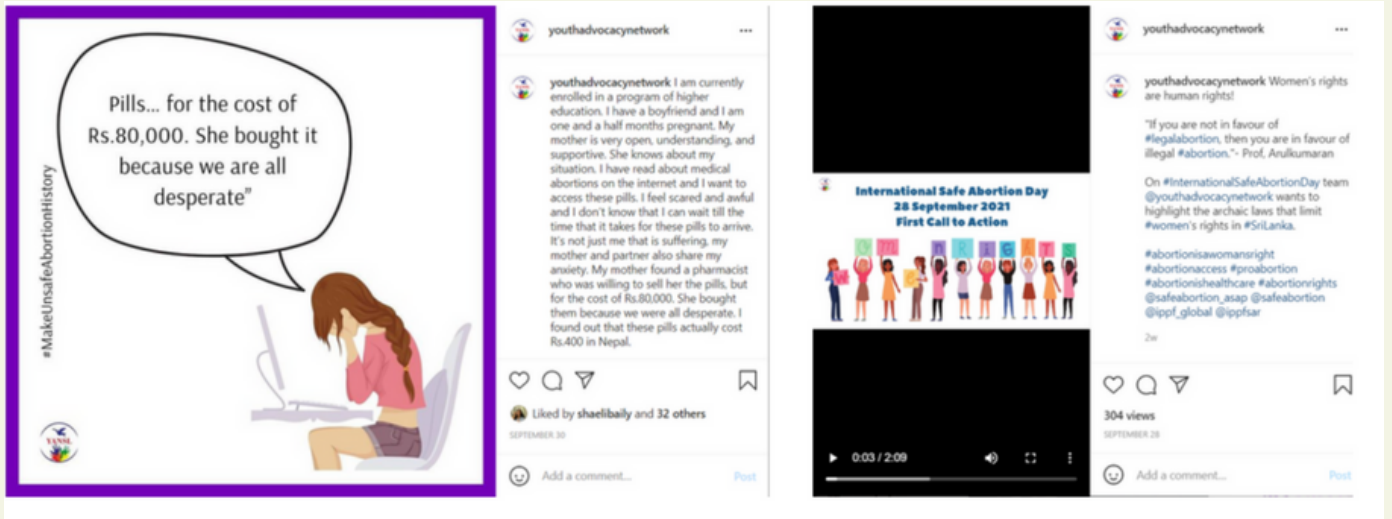


International Safe Abortion Day | 28th September

Abortion is a fundamental right that is inherent in the right to have control over one's own body, and it should be protected as such. In order to achieve gender equality, it must be possible to exercise this right in conditions of safety, respect, and dignity that are satisfactory to the person exercising it. Because of the failure to respect this right, some women are forced to resort to so called illegal abortions, which are performed in dangerous situations.

According to some international reports, these abortions account for more than ten percent of all maternal deaths in some parts of the world. As part of the campaign, YANSL organized a massive digital campaign that included a club house session with out standing speakers, a short informative video, abortion stories from Sri Lanka, and Unsafe Abortion facts. This campaign reaffirms the organization's commitment to the rights of women and girls, which is at the heart of its feminist diplomacy. The goal of the campaign was to increase access to safe abortions in Sri Lanka while also assisting the authorities in identifying the risk of unsafe abortions around the country.





SRHR Advocacy on Social Media by Aisha Nazim | 17th August

Former Communications Manager of YANSL, Ms. Aisha Nasim conducted a session on SRHR Advocacy on Social Media on the 17th of August for the YANSL members discussing Social Media etiquette, confidentiality and sensitization. The meeting was recorded and will be used as an educational tool for YANSL members in future.

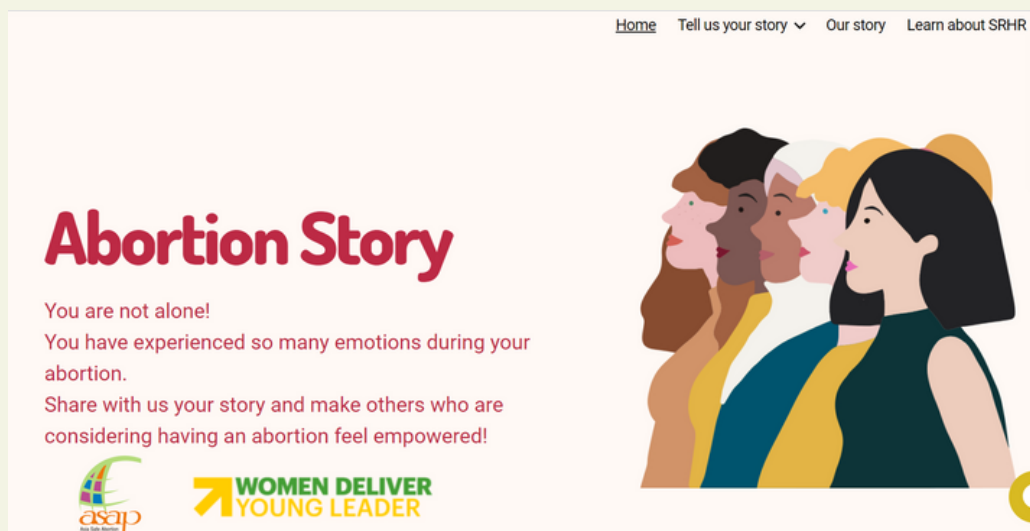


Vietnam - Vietnam Youth Action for Choice (VYAC)



Launch of Abortion Story Website

An initiatives taken by the leaders of VYAC and developed with financial aids from ASAP and Women Deliver Alumni Grants. The website includes tools to collect stories from people who experienced abortion. With abortion stories shared via the website, we expect to intervene in the mainstream discourse to diversify the abortion experiences and to combat abortion stigma.



Understanding Feminism with Sign Language Interpreters

As an extension from the networking business with Nang Moi Sign Language Interpreter Service in Ho Chi Minh City, Son was invited to be a trainer for the Sign Language interpreters team to talk about Understanding Feminisms.



SRHR Training

BVYAC co-founders organised the SRHR training for young members of the "Easy things to say" youth-led project. The training was delivered online and consists of three main parts (which can be seen as a mini Youth Advocacy Institute) which are

- (1) Understanding gender, sex, and sexuality;
- (2) Family planning and abortion;
- (3) Understanding Reproductive and Sexual Rights and Right-based Approach.



FindMyMethod.com Vietnam Country Profile | VYAC

Thuy has led the initiative to collaborate with FindMyMethod to develop Country Profile (Vietnamese and English) for its global website. A document in dual language (VIE and ENG) has been submitted to FindMyMethod for the reviewing and publishing process

THANK YOU!

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