

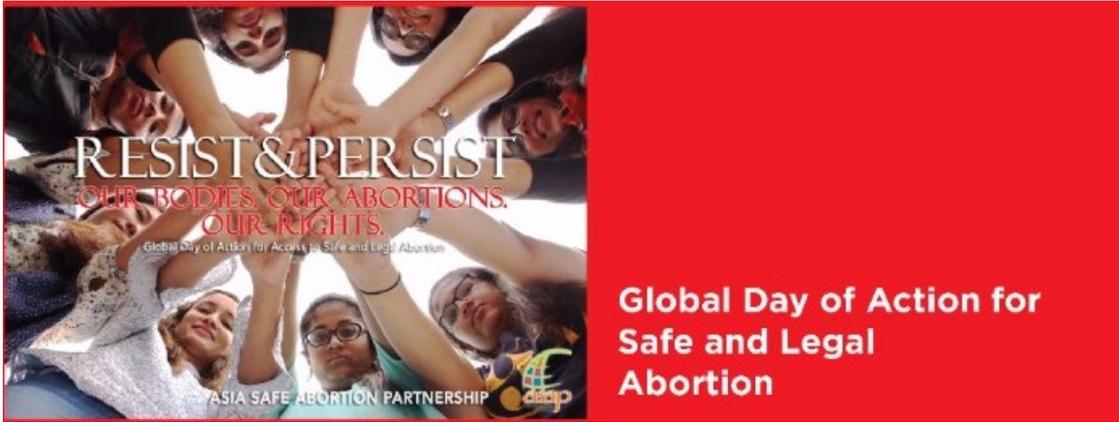


Here is what we were doing in July, August, September 2017!



We were joined by a dynamic group of Youth Champions from Bhutan, India, Nepal and Thailand. The Institute was held from 7th to 9th September in Mumbai.

The objective of the Institute was to refresh our knowledge on contraception and safe abortion and to also dive deeper into relevant issues such as sexuality and its connection with abortion stigma, to reflect on the history of medicine and the misogyny it engenders, to understand the different ethical positions around abortion and to explore alliances with those working on community theatre, multimedia and the feminist internet.



Global Day of Action for Safe and Legal Abortion

As co-founders ASAP has always been active in promoting and supporting the International Campaign for Women’s Right to Safe and Legal Abortion. We launched a photo campaign on 28th September with the themes:

#iresistwepersist

#leavenononebehind

Please find the pictures [here](#).





Webinar
 ASAP collaborated on a Webinar with Inroads, Abortion Conversations Project and CONNECT, hosted on 28th August 2017 and addressing Difficult Conversations Around Abortion.



Film Festival
 Throughout September we also showcased a series of short films and videos made by ASAP and members to highlight the difficulties women and girls face in obtaining a safe abortion across our region. See them [here](#).

Here are the online films that you can watch:

From Unwanted Pregnancies to Unsafe Abortion	Tainted (Philippines)
Women for Women (A Documentary on Abortion in Nepal)	Let's Talk About Abortion
Women's Voices: India	Every Woman, Every Country
The Drop (Bangladesh)	Let's Talk About Abortion
It's Her Right (Sri Lanka)	Youth Champion Nepal videos
	and more!

Articles Published

Right to Safe Abortion

Coordinator ASAP was invited to write a commentary in the Economic and Political Weekly of India, on a 10 year old denied an abortion by the Supreme Court of India. Read the article [here](#).

Realizing the Bombay High Court's Judgment on The Right to Medical Termination of Pregnancy: Next Steps for Implementation and Extending the Positive Jurisprudence

“The case of the 10 year old victim of rape who is pregnant and awaiting delivery after being denied permission to abort by the courts is an urgent indication that all stakeholders must come together and find a solution for unwanted pregnancies which present after 20 weeks.”

ARROW for Change – SRHR in the Era of the SDGs

Coordinator ASAP was invited to contribute to the ARROW For Change Publication. Read the article [here](#).

Why are women still dying of unsafe abortions ?

“For women to fulfil their potential as human beings in society, they need to be able to control their fertility. Since the pregnancy is borne by a woman within her body, risking health and sometimes life, she should be able to take a decision whether to be pregnant or not, and whether to continue a pregnancy or not.”

Dr Shilpa Shroff represented ASAP at a consultation meeting organized by the Tata Institute of Social Science, in collaboration with Centre for Reproductive Rights to discuss the implementation of the Mumbai HC judgement given on September 19 2016.

The landmark judgment ruled that imprisoned pregnant women should have complete right to make motherhood choices and should not be treated any differently from other pregnant women.

The meeting was to determine the way forward to develop a strategy to expand and implement this judgement to other women with vulnerabilities in custodial settings.

Activities by Youth Networks

The Country Advocacy Networks led by the Youth Champions have been doing some excellent work!

YouthCAN, Nepal



YouthCAN, Nepal, conducted their second Youth Advocacy Institute (14-16 September) with some wonderful young people.

They also hosted their second Country Seminar (17 September) on ‘**Safe Abortion Through Gender Lens**’. This was attended by Dr Kiran Regmi, Director, Department of Health Services, Ministry of Health, Nepal. Two participants from the YouthCAN Female Community Health Visitors programme also composed and sang a song about safe abortion as a women’s right. [Know more.](#)

VYAC Vietnam



VYAC, Vietnam conducted a summer camp from 25 – 27 September, on network and youth engagement strategy to strengthen the network and provide core members with advanced knowledge on sexuality, communication and leadership skills.

Using sports to demonstrate and emphasize the message on safer sex is one of the unique learning from Mr Cong (FFAV). The ball is consider as our effort which is supporting women's health and choices, to kick the ball into the goal, young people and activists struggles a lot of difficulties and barriers, only having strategy, plan and good leadership can help us unite and make the goals come true.

In 2 days, VYAC members also gained more skills on communication and how to use Facebook effectively to make change. In addition, Mai Thuy and Mrs Bich Thuy also conveyed amazingly the leadership skills session which helped all members have a productive discussion on country network strategy.

YouthAID, Bangladesh

YouthAID released a short film of their Youth Advocacy Institute for Development. [Know more.](#)

Safe Abortion Working Group, Indonesia

The Safe Abortion Working Group, Jakarta, Indonesia, held a discussion meeting to develop a strategic plan and guidelines for the network going forward. The plan was designed around the Group's commitment to fostering sustainable grassroots movements for SRHR, and particularly, youth action for access to safe abortion services for all.



YANSL, Sri Lanka

YANSL, Sri Lanka conducted their first Youth Advocacy Refresher Institute in Colombo on 22-24 Sept.



Want even more?? Then join our fortnightly listserve by writing to us at coordinator@asap-asia.org and we will add you in!