



Share-Net International

The Knowledge Platform on
Sexual and Reproductive Health & Rights



What is Share-Net Netherlands?

Share-Net Netherlands is the Dutch knowledge platform for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and one of the country hubs of Share-Net International.

Our vision is that: *all people have the freedom of choice, are able to make informed decisions, can take action on their sexual and reproductive health and have access to quality care to meet their sexual and reproductive health needs and rights.* We work to achieve this vision by acting under the pillars of knowledge management, partner matchmaking and showcasing young researchers.

Share-Net Netherlands is hosted by the KIT Royal Tropical Institute and has 16 individual members and 36 organisational members from sectors including NGOs, universities, knowledge institutes, governmental and private sector which work in low- and middle- income countries with a focus on SRHR.

We operate a paid membership - based on the annual turnover of the organisations - and partnership model, but also rely on external investors for financial stability.

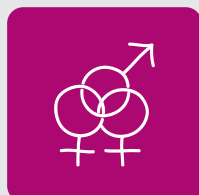
What does Share-Net Netherlands do?

Share-Net Netherlands disseminates knowledge via a bi-weekly newsletter, operates an online resource centre, sends mailings, and organises thematic meetings and knowledge sessions where the members interact and meet other international organisations working on that specific topic. Each year, several thematic meetings and knowledge sessions on prioritized themes are organised. For 2018 these themes are: Maternal Health of Refugees and Undocumented Migrants in the Netherlands, SRHR Messaging in Conservative Times, the Dutch launch of the Guttmacher-Lancet report on SRHR and a meeting on the UN guidelines on Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE).

As a network we try to respond to emerging SRHR issues, for example organising a thematic meeting when the US Government reinstated the Global Gag Rule in 2017, that provided inputs for our members on how they could deal with this.

Our Communities of Practice (CoPs)

The platform is made up of several Communities of Practice (CoPs) focusing on specific themes within SRHR. We organise other knowledge sharing activities, such as lectures, debriefings and consultations. Currently we have 15 CoP's: Child Marriage & Teenage Pregnancy, Comprehensive Sexuality Education, Sexual Diversity, Gender Based Violence, Contraception & Abortion, Youth Friendly Health Services, SRHR & HIV Integration, Private Sector Engagement, Infertility, Maternal Health, SRHR Messaging in Conservative Times, Student Action Group, Linking Research Policy and Practice, Operational Research and International Processes.



Our successes

The themes of the thematic meetings and knowledge sessions are chosen by the members and need to be relevant. The meetings are organised by a Community of Practice, by and for members. Some of the many examples are:

Launch of the Guttmacher-Lancet report 'Accelerating Progress – SRHR for All'

Ann Starrs, Chair of the Commission and CEO of the Guttmacher Institute, presented the key elements of the report, including the new definition of integrated SRHR and the package of services. In an interactive part of the event, barriers, approaches and how to move forward were discussed. The Guttmacher Lancet Commission has a roadshow of launches of the report throughout 2018 and will use these consultations for taking up discussions.

Infertility Round Table

As part of a bigger project around the topic of infertility, a Round Table was organised. The aim was to develop an Action Plan to put infertility higher on the SRHR agenda and to formulate concrete steps to integrate infertility in programmes and policies. There was a strong line-up of experts, including the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. A Share-Net Working Group on Infertility has been set up, which will elaborate the Plan of Action and stimulate its implementation.

The Youth Week

Interactive youth-centered event where the exchange of knowledge, practice, gaps, and research of Comprehensive Sexuality Education and Youth Friendly Health Services was conducted. Speakers and participants from over 40 organisations and universities engaged in: debates, interactive workshops, panel discussions, marketplaces and networking activities. Dr. Venkatraman Chandra-Mouli, scientist with the Department of Reproductive Health and Research, World Health Organisation (WHO) contributed as the key-note speaker.

"This week presents a unique opportunity to gather many implementers, activists and donors together and take stock of the state of the art of implementation science around Sexual and Reproductive Health."

- Douglas Call, Managing Director PSI/Europe

Future Plans

Share-Net Netherlands and its members see the urge and added value of organizing thematic meetings and knowledge sessions at moments when a certain theme is relevant. The Share-Net Netherlands secretariat plays a pivotal role in organising the activities and needs support in financing its running cost. We aim to continue organizing several events each year and to engaged all key players within the SRHR field in the Netherlands. By actively bringing together the knowledge and experience of these stakeholders in a series of events, new ideas and partnerships can be catalysed, allowing our good practices to become best practices. The estimated budget is €5,000 per event. The estimated running cost of the secretariat is around €90,000 per year. Share-Net Netherlands is actively looking for investment, media and knowledge partners to help ensure the success of its activities.

Join us!

and become part of the knowledge platform on SRHR as either a member or a sponsor. When joining Share-Net, you will not only be contributing to our mission and vision, but you will also be able to enjoy specific member benefits:

- Have free access to all the meetings that we organise. (Non-members participate at cost-price)
- Participate in our working groups or CoPs, which is exclusive for members. These groups are crucial for agenda setting, organising meetings and executing small research projects. For more information on the Share-Net Netherlands working groups and thematic groups please visit www.share-net.nl/working-groups.
- Be elected in one of our governing bodies, the Steering Committee of the Netherlands or the Board of Share-Net International. All members are invited to our annual business meeting.
- Be eligible for our yearly call for proposals for the Share-Net International Small Grants facility.

For more information about our work and how to get involved.

Please contact our Share-Net Netherlands Coordinator, Meike Stieglis M.Stieglis@kit.nl