

Share-Net  
International

The Knowledge Platform on  
Sexual and Reproductive Health & Rights



2018-2022

FIVE YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

# THEORY *of* CHANGE

THE KNOWLEDGE PLATFORM ON SRHR



# THEORY OF CHANGE OF THE KNOWLEDGE PLATFORM ON SRHR

Share-Net International is the Knowledge Platform on SRHR that is organised in hubs (country or regional) and every hub constitutes of communities of practice (CoPs). The communities of practice are involved in knowledge management and matchmaking.

The Theory of Change of Share-Net International shows how the Knowledge Platform on SRHR aims to achieve impact and outcomes across the 4 pathways of Knowledge Management. Additionally, it shows the importance of the development of the network itself in Communities of Practice. The assumptions provide insights in the underlying thinking process of the logic.

Share Net International's Knowledge Management strategies contribute to the different outcomes through the following pathways:



**Knowledge generation:** addressing priority knowledge gaps through research and further analysis and synthesis of existing data



**Knowledge sharing:** dissemination through a wide range of channels and tools of both new and existing knowledge, as available research findings are often not known by those who should use them



**Knowledge translation:** ensuring evidence is presented in formats appropriate for the intended audience so that they can be accessed, understood and used by advocates, policymakers, programme managers,

practitioners, the private sector, users, the media and researchers



**Promotion of knowledge use:** promotion of the use of knowledge products and formats by policymakers and practitioners for improving policy and practice



**Network development and matchmaking:** creating national Communities of Practice (CoPs) and links with international level (partners); and matching the needs of certain members with the services that our partners can offer (*ie between our members and the private sector and between young researchers and NGOs in need of research*)

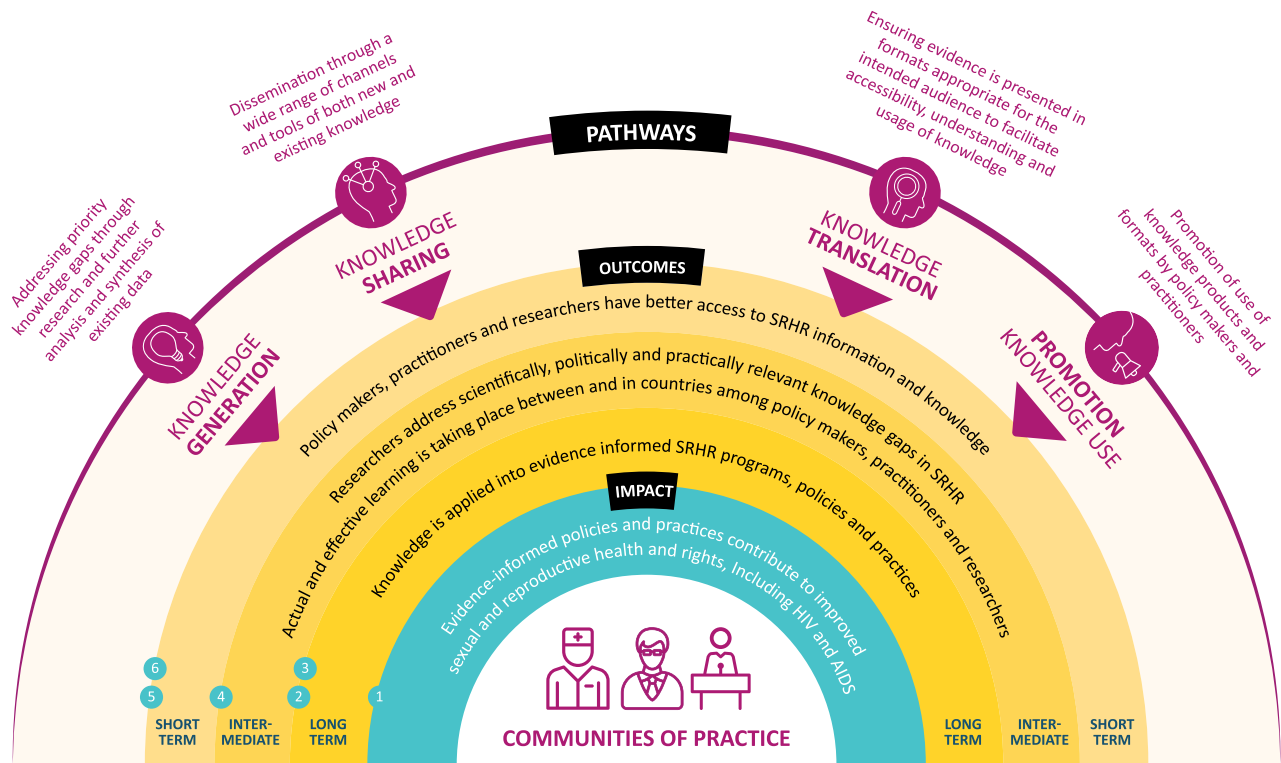
The **Vision** of the Share-Net Knowledge Platform on SRHR is that

**“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”.**

At impact level, SNI strives for: Evidence-informed policies and practices contributing to improved Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights.

# THEORY OF CHANGE

## SHARE-NET INTERNATIONAL



**VISION**  
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 reproductive health needs and rights

**LONG TERM**  
National, sustainable and empowered communities of practice on SRHR are established and operational

**SHORT TERM**  
A network of SRHR Communities of Practice is operational, enabling members and strategic partners to connect, discuss and share, translate and co-create SRHR knowledge

**ASSUMPTIONS**  
Assumptions 1 - 7 correspond to the assumptions described in the narrative ToC document on page 5



### NETWORK DEVELOPMENT



Networking at national (CoPs) and international level (partners)

### PRODUCTS & SERVICES



#### KNOWLEDGE GENERATION

- SRHR Research agendas are established in focus countries.
- (NWO-WOTRO) research projects are based on SRHR research agendas
- Small Grants for research are carried out by SNI members
- Tacit knowledge is documented
- Desk reviews and policy analysis are conducted



#### KNOWLEDGE SHARING

- (Monthly) newsletters are disseminated among members of SNI, by each knowledge node
- Websites are maintained with up to date information
- New knowledge is identified and shared through social media
- Working Groups are established for specific thematic areas of interest
- Thematic sessions are organised for policy makers, researchers and practitioners



#### KNOWLEDGE USE TRANSLATION

- Knowledge products are developed: such as policy briefs, films, documentaries, factsheets, tools, articles, manuals, guidelines, infographics, social media campaigns, IEC materials etc.



#### PROMOTION KNOWLEDGE USE

- SNI's rapid improvement model is used as joint learning process
- Critical dialogues with policy makers and practitioners using knowledge products are organised
- Action plans are developed to stimulate knowledge use



#### NETWORK DEVELOPMENT

- Organisations, universities, ministries and individuals are registered as members of Share-Net International
- (New) national and regional partnerships are established and strengthened
- New CoPs are set up in additional focus countries
- Capacity of members in all focus countries is developed
- Fundraising opportunities are explored and successful

Two strategic long-term outcomes will logically lead to this impact, being:

**1. National, sustainable and empowered communities of practice on SRHR are established and operational**

**Rationale:** communities of practice<sup>a</sup> (CoPs) are at the heart of SNI; they can be operating at country, regional and international level and can also be topic based; by establishing CoPs, SNI aims to create common ground and inspire CoP members (researchers, policymakers, practitioners, the media and private sector). SNI acts as a matchmaker promoting interactions between the members of the CoPs and encouraging them to share knowledge to facilitate learning and ultimately using knowledge for improving policy and practice<sup>b</sup>.

**2. Knowledge is applied to evidence-informed SRHR programmes, policies and practices**

**Rationale:** SRHR programmes, policies and practices can be improved if knowledge (insights, new research, co-created, lessons learned and/or best practices) is used and applied in a better way by SNI members through the interactions in the COPs.

**The underlying assumptions are that:**

1. Evidence-informed policies and practices are used in line with the actual and context-specific SRHR needs of individuals, and take their perspectives and rights into account.
2. Established CoPs are able to agree on common values and similar goals with regard to SRHR.
3. Improved SRHR knowledge of policymakers, practitioners and researchers leads to better SRHR research, policy and practice such as societally relevant research and use of evidence-informed laws, policies and programmes<sup>c, d</sup>.

The Intermediate outcomes leading to the long-term outcomes show what needs to be done effectively in the CoPs:

**a)** Actual and effective learning is taking place between and in countries among researchers, policymakers, practitioners and optional the media and private sector

**b)** Researchers address scientifically, politically and practically relevant knowledge gaps in SRHR .

**The underlying assumption is that:**

4. CoPs are able to agree on existing political and societal knowledge gaps in SRHR and priority research agendas<sup>e, f</sup> and are able to identify SRHR priorities and the best conditions for joint learning.

The Short-term outcomes highlight the role of the network and hubs and to where the interactions in CoPs will lead:

**a)** A network of SRHR CoPs is operational, enabling members and strategic partners to connect, discuss and share, translate and jointly create SRHR knowledge

**b)** Policymakers, practitioners and researchers have better access to SRHR information and knowledge

**The underlying assumptions are:**

5. Active participation (engaging in dialogues where best practices and lessons learned are openly shared) of CoP members from the fields of research, policy and practice removes barriers and contributes to strengthened linkages between these fields<sup>g, h, i, j</sup>.
6. Members have better access to SRHR knowledge and information that is generated, shared, translated and promoted through and by SNI and through active participation in network activities<sup>k, l</sup>.
7. Share-Net secretariats have the means and capacity to facilitate CoPs and their knowledge management activities<sup>m</sup>.

## The outputs and activities of the Knowledge Platform on SRHR focus on:



### A. Knowledge generation <sup>n</sup>

Addressing priority knowledge gaps through research and further analysis and synthesis of existing data.

- SRHR research agendas are established in country hubs
- NWO-WOTRO and other research projects are based on SRHR research agendas
- Small grants are used by SNI members to carry out research
- Tacit knowledge is documented
- Desk reviews and policy analysis are conducted



### B. Knowledge sharing

Dissemination through a wide range of channels and tools, of both new and existing knowledge, as available research findings are often not known by those who should use them. Relevant and up-to-date knowledge products are shared among members and stakeholders through newsletters, websites, social media, thematic meetings, events and Working Groups:

- *(Monthly)* newsletters and magazines *(quarterly/half yearly)* are disseminated among SNI members, by each knowledge node
- Websites are maintained with up-to-date information
- New knowledge is identified and shared through social media
- Working Groups are established for specific thematic areas of interest
- Thematic sessions are organized for policymakers, researchers, practitioners and optionally by the private sector and media



### C. Knowledge translation

Ensuring evidence is presented in formats appropriate for the intended audience so they can be accessed, understood, and used by advocates, policymakers, programme managers, practitioners, users, researchers, and representatives of the private and the media sectors.

- Knowledge products are developed: such as policy briefs, films, documentaries, factsheets, tools, articles, manuals, guidelines, infographics, social media campaigns, IEC materials etc.
- Small grants are used by SNI members to translate research into knowledge products



### D. Promotion of knowledge use

Promoting use of knowledge products and formats by policymakers and practitioners for improving policy and practice.

- SNI's rapid improvement model is used for imparting change in policy and practice
- Critical dialogues with policymakers and practitioners using knowledge products are organized
- Action plans are developed to stimulate knowledge use
- Small grants are used by SNI members to promote use of knowledge
- Awareness and advocacy campaigns by the hubs and members



## F. Network development

Creating national communities of practice and links with international level (partners); and matching the needs of certain members with the services our partners can offer (for example, between our members and the private sector and between young researchers and NGOs in need of research).

- Organisations, universities, ministries and individuals are registered as members of SNI
- New (inter)national and regional partnerships and collaborations are established and strengthened
- New CoPs are set up in additional focus countries
- The capacities of members in all focus countries are developed
- Fundraising opportunities are explored and successfully undertaken
- Members are matched with relevant private sector or other actors in need of their services through the matchmaking platform
- Young researchers are linked to NGOs in need of research through are young researchers' matchmaking platform

- 
- a. SNI internal document: KM strategy of share-net International.
  - b. Wenger, Etienne; McDermott, Richard; Snyder, William M. (2002). *Cultivating Communities of Practice*. Harvard Business Press; 1 edition. ISBN 978-1-57851-330-7
  - c. IOB. *NGOs in action : IOB Study A study of activities in sexual and reproductive*. The Hague; 2013.
  - d. Villa-Torres L, Svanemyr J. Ensuring youth's right to participation and promotion of youth leadership in the development of sexual and reproductive health policies and programs. *J Adolesc Heal* [Internet]. 2015;56(1):S51–7. Available from: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jadohealth.2014.07.022>
  - e. Lammers E, De Winter D. *The Gold Standard Exploring the added value of*. Amsterdam; 2017.
  - f. De Haas B. *Perspectives on strengthening linkages between research, policy and practice, working paper*. Amsterdam; 2016.
  - g. McDavitt B, Bogart LM, Mutchler MG, Wagner GJ, Green HD, Lawrence SJ, et al. Dissemination as Dialogue: Building Trust and Sharing Research Findings Through Community Engagement. *Prev Chronic Dis* [Internet]. 2016;13:E38. Available from: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26986541><http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/articlerender.fcgi?artid=PMC4797478>
  - h. Manohar TMSJ. Adolescent sexual and reproductive health programs in humanitarian settings: An in-depth look at family planning services [Internet]. 2012. Available from: <http://www.womensrefugeecommission.org/component/content/article/2-uncategorised/1651-an-in-depth-look-at-family-planning-services?>
  - i. Kwaak A Van Der, Ormel H, Eds AR. *Capacity-building for knowledge generation: Experiences in the context of health and development*. Amsterdam; 2012
  - j. Davis JP, Granovetter M, Katila R, Henderson R, Fernandez R, Obstfeld D, et al. *Agency and Knowledge Problems in Network Dynamics: Brokers and Bridges in Innovative Interorganizational Relationships*. Cambridge; 2010.
  - k. UNDP. *Access to Information, Practice note*. New York; 2003.
  - l. Agency for healthcare research and quality. *Communication and Dissemination Strategies to Facilitate the use of Health and health care evidence* [Internet]. Rockville; 2014. Available from: <https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/research/research-translation>
  - m. Share-Net International. *Proposal for Extension of KIT hosting the Knowledge Platform on SRHR*. Amsterdam; 2017.
  - n. *Generating knowledge involves academic research, best practices and lessons learned on selected SRHR themes* (5).



Mauritskade 63  
1092 AD Amsterdam  
The Netherlands

P.O. Box 95001  
1090 HA Amsterdam

T : +31 (0) 20 56 88 701  
E: [info@share-netinternational.org](mailto:info@share-netinternational.org)  
E: [info@share-net.nl](mailto:info@share-net.nl)

[www.share-netinternational.org](http://www.share-netinternational.org)