

SRHR:

The Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights of young people



Problem

Why invest in young people's SRHR?

A quarter of the world population is aged between 10 and 24. This is about 1.8 billion young people. Childhood and adolescence are decisive for someone's sexual and reproductive health and well-being.

16 million



Every year about 16 million girls aged between 15 and 19 have a baby. That is almost 11% of all births worldwide.

14%



of all unsafe abortions in low and medium income countries involve teenage girls

40%



More than 40% of the new HIV infections occur in young people. AIDS is the second most important cause of death in young populations worldwide.

3 million



Every year 3 million girls, the majority of which is younger than 15, run the risk of undergoing genital mutilation.

When the SRH needs and rights of young people are met, they are more capable of:



using educational and labour opportunities, as well as other opportunities of social-economic development,



improving well-being and health and protecting themselves and their partners against sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV.



understanding and questioning certain standards, values and practices in relation to gender, sexuality and reproduction.



Toolkit: What can you do?

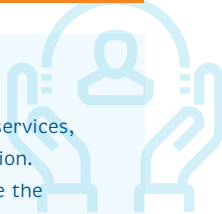
Do you want to find out



For more information, see the corresponding factsheet: <https://diplomatie.belgium.be/sites/default/files/downloads/srhr-2017-infociche-young-people-en.pdf>

You can learn more about SRHR via the unique online e-tutorial with useful videos and questions on www.bodyandrights.be

Support




Support programmes for SRHR of young people such as access to youth-friendly services, relational and sexual education, access to family planning services and safe abortion. Ministries which play a key role in the promotion of SRHR of young people include the ministry of public health, education, youth, gender equality and justice.



Promotion

Promote SRHR of young people during the policy dialogue with the development partner.

Transversal approach



Support SRHR interventions within and outside the healthcare sector and also by integrating SRHR in different phases of a programme cycle.



Analysis

Analyse and evaluate the national policy and handle the barriers for SRHR of young people.

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This information sheet is intended to help stakeholders of Belgian development cooperation such as diplomats, BTC staff and representatives of NGOs better understand the relation between SRHR and gender, to promote a gender-oriented approach in the policy dialogue about SRHR and in the programme cycle and to identify the needs and good practice examples. This publication was developed by the SRHR Work Group of the Be-cause Health platform, with the support of the FGD Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation.