



2019

ANNUAL REPORT

YSAFE



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INTRODUCTION - YSAFE AFTER 2019

2019 was the year that YSAFE affirmed a real commitment to an intersectional feminist approach. In our work on sexual and gender-based violence, we have intensified our focus on groups that are most affected by it, winning our biggest grant yet to build a new toolkit for use by and with marginalized youth. We're collaborating with local and national organizations that represent and support young LGBTQIA* people and young Roma people to learn from each other and make YSAFE as relevant an ally to them as possible. We designed our 2019 advocacy skills-building project to let participants take ownership of their own learning in the way that made sense to their local context, however they defined it for themselves.

And we are paying increased attention to the safety, wellbeing and meaningful inclusion of all our members. We have welcomed the new safeguarding practices being rolled out across the whole IPPF federation which have made new tools available to us to promote safety and inclusivity. We have made positive changes to the line-up of the Steering Committee. This means that we head into the next decade with a leadership team that is representative of our membership and energetically committed to ensuring safer spaces wherever YSAFers come together.



YSAFE's new Steering Committee 2019-2020:
Ulukbek Batyrgaliev (Kyrgyzstan);
Maryna Honcharova (Chair, Ukraine);
Louise Withalissou (Vice-Chair, Sweden);
Muna Shukurova (Tajikistan);
Viktor Damjanovski (North Macedonia)

1. REPORTING AGAINST TARGETS

Outcome	Indicator	Objective	Indicator	Definitions	Target	Baseline for 2017	Target met in 2019?	How?
Outcome 1: Governments implement policies that increase young people's access to CSE and SRHR youth-friendly services	# of legislative changes to which YSAFE advocacy initiatives have contributed	1.1 Build strategic partnerships, including with non-SRHR organizations to jointly advocate for CSE and youth friendly SRHR services	The number of joint advocacy initiatives with SRHR and non SRHR organizations	Advocacy Initiative is a collaboration of YSAFE with other organizations on positive legislative changes in support or defense of sexual and reproductive health and rights and gender equality during the previous one-year period. They are usually counted on regional level, but also on national level if YSAFE have organized the initiative with MA/youth group.	SRH org: Y1:1 Y2:1 Y3:2 Non SRH org: Y1:1 Y2:1 Y3:2	<u>1</u> <i>Youth in Power</i> project with YSAFE, YouAct, Y-PEER, PETRI-Sofia, ASTRA Youth. A developed joint strategy for SRHR in Europe and Central Asia.	Yes	Participation in action with non-SRHR partners for European Week of the Girl, with both SRHR and non-SRHR partners drawing up a position paper on girls' rights and meeting MEPs to discuss commitments. Under the advocacy capacity building project, YSAFERS in MA France participated in an initiative with young UNICEF volunteers as part of their project action

							<p>plan on implementation of CSE legislation, joining them in a radio show.</p> <p>YSAFers in France were also part of the team in their MA running a youth side event to Women 7, a meeting of a coalition of NGOs around the G7 summit.</p> <p>YSAFE was invited to join the UNECE Steering Committee Meeting on Education for Sustainable Development</p>
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		1.2 Engage decision makers regarding young people's need for CSE and youth-friendly SRHR services	The number and profile of targeted decision makers who have taken a publicly supportive action	A publicly supportive action is an action taken by decision maker that is advancing SRHR and to which YSAFE engagement contributed.	Y1:0 Y2:1 Y3:2 Profile: -M(E)P -Central government -Local government	0	Yes	Actions taken by local government targets of 2 the advocacy capacity building project action plans, as reported by participants: Albania – Tirana officials pledge support to ensuring CSE access for youth living in community shelters Georgia – Four municipalities targeted have integrated youth SRHR in their strategy
Outcome 2: Young people are able to claim their SRR	# of young people who feel able to claim their SRR as a result of YSAFE information/programmes	1.3 Reach an increasing number of young people through a variety of online methods with evidence-based information on the all CSE components.	% increased of YP reached through online methods	Online media reach: Count the total number of people following the largest online channel.	Y1:%20 Y2:%30 Y3:50%	2496 Twitter followers FB 1858 likes	No	2506 Twitter followers (= +0.4%) FB 2152 likes (= +15%)

		1.4 Build capacity of young people in the region to advocate and educate on CSE.	Number of YP who completed YSAFE programme	YSAFE programme could include: online or offline training, educational session, on CSE or advocacy conducted by YSAFE.	Y1:30 Y2:50 Y3:50	25 Annual meeting “Being an SRHR Advocate” 20 CSE Ambassadors	Yes	<p>9 young people were trained in the advocacy capacity building project</p> <p>77 young people have been reported as secondary participants at national level in the advocacy project.</p> <p>18 young people participated in the Erasmus+ project “Safe from SGBV”</p> <p>1 young person completed training under EWAG</p> <p>At least 1 volunteer in each of 15 MAs trained in YCA MA to MA Coaching</p> <p>Total: 120</p>
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<u>Outcome 3:</u> <u>YSAFE is an established, well-functioning, recognizable and inclusive SRHR youth network operating</u>	% of key stakeholders who recognize YSAFE as one of the 5 most effective organizations working to promote young people's SRR	1.5 Increase the number of active volunteers in a growing YSAFE network, with a strong focus on underserved populations.	The number and profile of members who are involved in specific YSAFE activities	Calculation: Members who have taken an action organized by YSAFE both on regional or national level. Underserved members of YSAFE will be counted separately.	Y1:20 Y2:30 Y3:50 Y1YUP :5 Y1YUP2:10 Y1YUP3:20	?	Yes overall. Not enough data to report against young underserved populations targets. This was not routinely asked. Applicants to the SfSGBV project were invited to report confidentially if they were a member of an underserved group but none did.	8 direct participants of the advocacy capacity building project Each involved an average of a further 5 young people, total 40, in national level actions 18 young people participated in the YSAFE project "Safe from SGBV" Totalling 66 (Plus 1 more person who completed advocacy capacity training but then pulled out before action plan phase)
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		1.6 Strengthen the operational effectiveness and sustainability of YSAFE.	% increased of structural funding	Calculation: the targets are measuring proportional increase of structural funding. In a sense this will indicate improvement of operational effectiveness.	Y1:%30 Y2:%50 Y3:%100	0	Yes	Restricted project raised €8000 funding for staff costs for YSAFE coordination plus an additional €12,000 funding for support for activities engaging YSAFEs across 3 MAs
		1.7 Mainstream the Youth Centered Approach within IPPF's European network.	The number of MAs which implemented the Plan for Youth Centered Approach with involvement of YSAFE	The activity on ensuring YCP will be implemented by the Youth unit and YSAFE	Y1:16 Y2:12 Y3:10 YCA project targets were adjusted before it began, reflecting changes in YSAFE membership, and this was not reflected in YSAFE strategic targets. Adjusted targets: Y1: 8 Coach MAs Y2: 4 Coach MAs	N/A	Yes.	9 MAs completed action plans in 2019 Many achievements were made nationally under the YCA action plans, which are reported separately under that project. 116 young people were involved in MA action plans in 2019.



2. ANNUAL MEETING AND THE NEW RULES AND REGULATIONS 2019

Between the 1st and 3rd of March 2019 the whole steering committee participated and hosted the 2019 Annual Meeting in Brussels. Delegates from 24 countries including the SC and two REC youth representatives participated in a meeting with the theme of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV).

Online training was provided a couple of weeks prior to the meeting which included explanations and introductions to this year's AM theme, as well as to YSAFE and IPPF. The delegates also got the chance to read through the rules and regulations and the proposed amendments to the document.

After a very engaging discussion in plenary the Annual Meeting voted to accept the 2019 amendments to the Rules and Regulations of the network. These modernising amendments were many months in the making. One of the most visible changes to the network functioning is the new rule that members of the SC are no longer the voting national representatives of their national organizations. This means that an MA with a member currently on the SC can now also send a second person to the Annual Meeting to be the delegate. We are delighted to have made this change, making the organization more democratic and easier to access.

Other changes in the new Rules and Regulations include formal provision for the engagement of YSAFE alumni in YSAFE work. This will enable alumni to maintain their connection with YSAFE and continue sharing their expertise to the network's benefit, ensuring that institutional memory is well maintained.

All delegates had prepared a presentation on their separate organisations' best practices on working with SGBV. This was a long session which was very appreciated by the delegates. Other sessions were held on communications, reviewing 2018, dreaming about 2019, brainstorming on the upcoming EU elections, digital safety, advocacy, sharing ideas and skills on project management as well as strengthening and expanding the national youth groups.

An emerging focus in work on young people's wellbeing is the increased dangers of being active online. As part of our commitment to increasing the safety of our members, we held a session on digital safety delivered by the Brussels based organization Protection International.

3. RC/RMM

The YSAFE Steering Committee and several YSAFers within national MA delegations participated at the Regional Council and Regional Management Meeting, which took place on 15-16 of June in Tallinn, Estonia. The theme mainstreamed throughout the meeting was “What Opportunities and Challenges does Digitalization bring for IPPF and its MAs?” with a keynote speaker, Robert Cover, Associate Professor, University of Western Australia, treating the way young people capitalize on the possibilities for creating new sexual and gendered identities in a speech on “Imagining the Digital Future”.

YSAFers presented the work of young people in their MAs in parallel sessions on offering sexuality education and signposting to youth-friendly SRH services online. As usual, YSAFers also contributed to RC/RMM discussions around IPPF governance, resource allocation system, and membership.

YSAFE SC updated the RC/RMM on YSAFE’s work in 2018-2019 and upcoming projects.





4. GENERAL ASSEMBLY, YOUTH MANIFESTO AND IPPF REFORMS

From November 28th to December 1st in New Delhi, India, IPPF held a General Assembly with participants from all regions of IPPF. The GA was held in order to reflect on what has been happening with IPPF globally and communicate the much needed reforms in order to move forward. Right before the GA, all youth delegates had the opportunity to attend the Global Youth Forum (GYF), where young people representing all regions and many countries discussed the challenges of being young and what we can do to strengthen our role in IPPF. The youth representatives also got a chance to view the Youth Manifesto, the result of a year-long collaboration between the young people from all regions.

The Youth Manifesto, first written in 1998, a call to action that tells the world what young people want and need from their health care, emphasises their right to make free, informed choices about their sexual and reproductive lives, and demands that they are meaningfully engaged in all decisions that affect them. The Youth Manifesto was a landmark in building the Youth Centred Approach across the Federation.

As mentioned previously, the GA had the task to work out how we want IPPF to change, what are some of the aspects of IPPF's work that need to change and how can we achieve that. For this goal, all participants were divided into two groups, the first group debated on changes related to government, and the second group debated on changes to our resource allocation model. The proposed changes were then presented to all participants, where after a lengthy debate, a consensus was reached and the proposed changes were accepted. This meant a huge deal for IPPF and our existence in the future. Some of the changes that were accepted were: dissolving the Regional Executive Committees, Regional Council and Regional Management meetings in their current form, and reimagining them as a way of sharing experiences among the countries in a region. Next, the Governing Council was dissolved and its place was taken by a newly formed Board of Trustees which now has a governing task. The new resource allocation model reflects better on the current economic climate and the needs of the MAs.

Young people were in the center of these reforms, and continue to be among IPPF's top priorities in every region and in every country.

5. STEERING COMMITTEE

In July the YSAFE membership voted to appoint existing YSAFE Steering Committee members Maryna Honcharova (formerly Vice-Chair, Ukraine) and Louise Withalissou (Sweden) as the new Chair and Vice-Chair respectively. The membership also elected a new Ordinary Member, Uluk Batyrgaliev (Kyrgyzstan).

Besides regular Skype calls, the YSAFE Steering Committee annual autumn meeting took place on 9-10 of November, 2019 in Brussels. All five YSAFE SC members and both the Lead and the Programme Advisor from the IPPF ENRO Youth Unit participated. The meeting started from the review of targets for 2019, discussion of successes and identification of gaps. The SC had a session with REC to discuss reforms and the General Assembly in India as well as going through ideas for RC/RMM 2020. Plans for 2020 were defined as 2020 Annual Plan was reviewed and discussed. Annual Meeting 2020 agenda was drafted. SC election in accordance with new Rules and Regulations are to take place during the AM 2020, which for the first time in the history of YSAFE was planned take place outside Belgium - in Kyiv, Ukraine. Majority of the time was spent on resource mobilisation: unpacking ideas and drafting possible outlines of activities.





6. ADVOCACY CAPACITY BUILDING PROJECT

As a part of the wider YSAFE Strategy 2018-2020, YSAFE have set to fulfil its advocacy target for 2019 by providing training to increase the capacity of young people to advocate on CSE related issues. We therefore ran a capacity-building project in the later half of 2019.

For this an open call was announced and 9 people were chosen from 9 MAs. These core participants came to Brussels for a 5-day capacity-building training on advocacy, delivered at the IPPF EN Regional Office in May 2019. The programme included specifics on sustaining advocacy at national levels, sharing existing advocacy work from their countries on CSE, messaging, reframing and other advocacy skills. During the meeting, participants created their own advocacy project to run with a small team of young people from their MA, at local or national level, till the end of 2019. They were then responsible for sharing their learning with members of their national youth groups back at home.

The participants designed and carried out a wide range of activities on their action plans, with the freedom to design their own plan to contribute something new to their MA's efforts towards a change related to sexuality education provision. They ranged from organising petitions to make sexuality education training mandatory for all trainee schoolteachers at one university, to hosting national parliamentarians at a conference on CSE. In two countries, the teams reported decision-maker making a public commitment to change on the basis of the intervention carried out by the YSAFE team: in Albania, officials in Tirana pledged support to ensuring CSE access for youth living in community shelters, and in Georgia four municipalities targeted by the YSAFE project participants have integrated youth SRHR in their strategy as a result.



7. ERASMUS+ PROJECT - “SAFE FROM SGBV”

“Safe from SGBV” is YSAFE’s second Erasmus+ project, and its funding is the largest single award that YSAFE has won to date. It addresses the increasing identification of sexual and gender-based violence as an issue impacting social exclusion, especially among Europe’s most vulnerable populations. Through this project, we are working to

- (1) raise the capacities of 18 young youth workers to train young people from particular vulnerable groups to protect themselves from SGBV
- (2) develop, pilot and disseminate a non-formal education toolkit on SGBV safety based on the needs of young people at risk of marginalization. This toolkit will include thorough background theory on the dynamics of SGBV and the way that intersecting personal and social identities impact the experience and risk of it, as well as a curriculum of workshops that lay out how to work through these ideas with vulnerable young people.

YSAFERS in Portugal, Serbia and Romania are working on this project in collaboration with an external grassroots organisation in each of the countries. They are *rede ex aequo* (Portugal), working with young LGBTQI* people to tackle homophobia, transphobia and interphobia; the Regional Youth Center in Niš (Serbia), working to support young Roma people; and Filia (Romania), working with women and girls. These groups of people are among those who are disproportionately affected by sexual and gender-based violence.

The project’s methodology is innovative for YSAFE in terms of the collaboration with other organisations on the creation of a joint toolkit.

The first meeting project took place on 25-27 of October. The session brought together the 18 peer educators from Serbia, Portugal and Romania who will be working throughout the project. This first meeting was dedicated to sharing their experiences and devising an outline for the new toolkit. By the end of 2019 the result was a first draft of a toolkit that builds on our existing practices, accommodates educators who work with different communities at risk of marginalization, and embodies a user-friendly structure. The toolkit will be piloted by the YSAFERS and other young participants in their three respective countries later in 2020.

8. COMMUNICATIONS

YSAFE Communications were run by Louise Withalisson with the help of the communications task force which was launched at the AM 2019. Focusing on events, international days and youthful posting YSAFE communications has been brought to a new level. YSAFE are engaging people on Facebook, twitter and Instagram and has improved the amounts of followers on all of these platforms. During the spring and summer we had a campaign to show off all our competent members. We have also started posting content that people are likely to repost and like, such as simple statements and funny pictures and videos.

The small but effective communications task force also created videos as we realized moving content is sometimes more effective than non-moving content. We have also taken the possibility to work more with the IPPFEN office and use the tools available such as Canva.

At the end of 2019, the YSAFE website was the target of a hacking attack which effectively destroyed it. While of course it was not ideal to have the website offline, we are using the chance to redesign and update it completely, and look forward to launching it fresh in 2020.

SEXUAL HEALTH IS
A HUMAN RIGHT



ABORTION IS
HEALTHCARE





9. EXTERNAL RELATIONS: A SELECTION OF EVENTS ATTENDED

9 A. EWAG

The The European Week of Action for Girls is an initiative run in partnership between a coalition of civil society organisations including IPPF EN, and has been supported by the European Institutions and UN Agencies. It brings young advocates for girls' rights together in Brussels for a series of events and activities around the International Day of the Girl Child (11 October). Since 2012, EWAG has been pushing for the rights of girls to be better protected and championed by the EU, in particular through its external action.

This year's edition took place from 8 - 11 October 2019 and YSAFE member Camille Beau was selected as a YSAFE representative to bring the fight reproductive rights in front of member of the European Parliament. During the week's advocacy training workshops participants collaboratively devised key messages on four topics : economic empowerment, education, ending gender based violence, equal political participation. Camille delivered these messages at a public event in the European Parliament to MEPs of different political parties and directly to Mara Marinaki, Principal Advisor on Gender for the European External Action Service of the European Union.

9 B. YOUTH PROCESS OF COUNCIL OF INGOs

YSAFE member Mathilde Chanfreau was one of only five young delegates from European civil society selected by the Council of Europe's Council of INGOs for their "youth process." This meant that YSAFE was a lead participant in a year-long process of reflection and constructive criticism about increasing youth participation. Mathilde was present at two sittings of the Council of INGOs, participating in a working group on gender equality and sharing the work of creating a checklist of youth involvement during the intervening months which the Council will implement at every sitting in the future.

9 C. INSPIRE CONFERENCE

The Inspire conference (formally known as EuroNGO) took place in Athens from the 30th of September to the 2nd of October. During the conference YSAFE representatives had the opportunity to network with other SRHR organizations across Europe and share good practices and experiences. We talked about the attack on gender, feminism and religion, theatre based education and much more. Unfortunately, this was the last conference for the foreseeable future, as Inspire was dissolved due to financial troubles. Nevertheless, the connections made during the conference will continue to help us go forward.

9 D. THE UNECE REGIONAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

YSAFE was expressly invited to attend this UNECE Forum to provide input into the discussions around the achievement of SDG 4 on inclusive education. Our participation meant that comprehensive sexuality education was included in the two strands of discussion of this year's forum, on how to collect data and measure progress on the achievement of the goal, and how technology and digitalization will impact it.