

YSAFE ANNUAL REPORT



Luise Ratwice

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1. THE NEW STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

In response to the 2017 YSAFE Review, a meeting was convened in January 2018 with YSAFE members and an external expert to facilitate the creation of a newly articulated mission and vision, and a new strategic framework. This was an important step in the development of YSAFE and its ambitions. The resulting three-year strategy, including a set of strategic indicators and targets against which all activities will be planned and measured, was voted in at the 2018 Annual Meeting.

The new framework has offered a structure for making decisions this year about which external activities to engage in and where to concentrate efforts in planning for the future. New areas of focus for the coming three years include building capacities in advocacy, increasing the reach of YSAFE projects and communications, and contributing to the IPPF EN-wide work on developing the Youth-Centred Approach (YCA) within the MAs.

In the table below, each strategic objective is laid out with the target for 2018 highlighted, and an explanation of how YSAFE has worked towards that target this year.

Outcome	Indicator	Objective	Indicator	Definitions	Target	Baseline for 2017	Target met in 2018?	How?
Outcome 1: Governments implement policies that increase young people's access to CSE and SRHR and 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	1 Youth in Power 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, drawing up a position paper on girls' rights and meeting MEPs to discuss commitments. Signatories to an oral statement for CSW 62 on youth SRHR with both SRH & non-SRHR partners
		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	N/A	N/A
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	2469 Twitter followers (= -1%) FB 1881 likes (= +1%)

Outcome	Indicator	Objective	Indicator	Definitions	Target	Baseline for 2017	Target met in 2018?	How?
		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 <u>include</u> 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	20 young people completed the Erasmus-funded YSAFE-led CSE Ambassadors project 23 young people completed the Council of Europe-funded Study Session on online violence
Outcome 3: YSAFE is an established, well-functioning, recognizable and inclusive SRHR youth network operating	% 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 <u>profile</u> 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	N/A	Yes	All 20 participants at the CSE Ambassadors completed follow-up actions at national level. At least 5 were from underserved populations. 12 further YSAFE members participated in the Study Session on online violence 2 further YSAFE members delivered an activity at VolFest 3 further YSAFE members delivered sessions at the World AIDS Conference
		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	No	No suitable funding opportunities for structural funding were identified.
		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	N/A	N/A	This target was written before changes were made to the ENRO-facilitated peer-to-peer MA support YCA project. The number of participating MAs was reduced to 9 in 2018. 8 have reported on a completed implementation plan.

2. STATUTORY ACTIVITIES

ANNUAL MEETING 2018

The YSAFE Annual Meeting (AM) 2018 was held between the 4th-6th of May 2018 in Brussels. 24 delegates representing the youth groups of their MAs attended, including the outgoing Steering Committee (SC). 22 exercised voting rights at the election of the new Steering Committee and all 24 exercised voting rights at the ratification of the new strategy and plan.

Online training was delivered for the AM participants before the face-to-face meeting in May. The participants received access to the online training two weeks prior to the meeting in Brussels. The online training provided basic knowledge on concepts within the field of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and Youth Centred Approach (YCA), as well as gave an introduction to YSAFE and the International Planned Parenthood Federation - European Network (IPPF EN). Participants also had chance to acknowledge themselves with main documents that would be used during the AM, e.g. the strategy, the review summary, the annual plan.

This year Annual Meeting was held later than usual, due to extensive work on the YSAFE Review of 2017, recommendations from which were presented and discussed during the AM. The new strategy was presented, discussed and approved in a vote.

This year's AM focused on deepening YSAFE members' knowledge on the YCA. A YCA training session was conducted and participants shared experiences of their IPPF EN Member Associations on YCA implementation.

Sessions were also held on reviewing the network's Rules and Regulations, and a task force was launched to carry out this work over the rest of the year (discussed further in the relevant section below). An 'Open Space' discussion session, in which delegates had the space to convene discussion on any topic that they wanted to explore with each other, was very popular. Delegates chose to talk to each other about fundraising issues, volunteer retention and recruitment in their individual organisations, and their national SRHR contexts.

New SC members were elected. Each SC nominee recorded a 3-minute video explaining their motivation and experience. The voting took place at the beginning of the meeting, so that all nominees had equal opportunity to make an impression on the YSAFE members.

The Steering Committee elected for 2018-2020 are:

Simon Herteleer (Belgium), chair

Maryna Honcharova (Ukraine), vice-chair

Louise Withalisson (Sweden)

Muna Shukurova (Tajikistan)

Viktor Damjanovski (North Macedonia)

REGIONAL COUNCIL/ REGIONAL MANAGEMENT MEETING

The YSAFE Steering Committee participated at the Regional Council and Regional Management Meeting which for the second time was held on the same days. In 2018 the RC/RMM was on 15-16 of June in Bruges, Belgium. The theme mainstreamed throughout the meeting was “Building Bridges and Connecting Through Values”. For the first time, the YSAFE SC delivered two sessions during the RE/RMM: “Involving young people in the work of the MAs” and “YSAFE’s work in 2017 and plans for 2018” and moderated a panel discussion on the Youth-Centred Approach.

STEERING COMMITTEE AUTUMN MEETING

The YSAFE Steering Committee annual autumn meeting took place on 23-25 November, 2018 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 recap of the YSAFE activities in 2018. Simon shared results of the Rules and Regulation task force; Viktor reported on the work of the Advocacy task force. A complete draft for the Annual Meeting 2019 agenda was prepared. Plans for 2019 were defined together with upcoming big deadlines and responsibilities for each SC member. The principles of the communication plan were agreed on.

Two sessions were held together with the Regional Executive Committee: exploring the way forward on issues related to youth and governance and brainstorming for the RC/RMM in 2019. The important takeaway from these sessions was feedback from REC on some issues regarding the new draft of YSAFE Rules and Regulations.

RESOURCE MOBILISATION

Two new funding applications were made: one for a Council of Europe Study Session, and one for an Erasmus+ KA2 Strategic Partnerships project. Neither of these applications was ultimately successful. However, the feedback received for both of them was meaningfully positive, suggesting strongly that the plans were on the right track and offering constructive ideas for further development. This means that the work done for these 2018 resource mobilization activities can be reworked for new submissions immediately in 2019. Early work has been done to turn the Erasmus+ application around ready to try again for the KA2 deadline in February 2019.

ACCREDITATION VISITS

In November, Muna Shukurova joined the IPPF EN accreditation assessment process with the member in Kazakhstan, and in December, Viktor Damjanovski joined the process in Switzerland. These visits are part of the five-yearly governance review that all IPPF EN members undertake. During the visits the two YSAFE members were given the opportunity to discuss some of the challenges that the MAs face and their main achievements, especially in the youth department, as well as to meet the youth representative on the boards.

YOUTH-CENTRED APPROACH

Muna Shukurova, Maryna Honcharova and Simon Herteleer attended YCA training session in July at IPPF ENRO. The aim of the session was to provide input for the YCA toolkit that would be used by 4 MAs to support youth-centred approach in other IPPF EN MAs during autumn-winter. The training also highlighted the challenges and opportunities faced by IPPF EN and the MA's in ensuring a youth centered approach. Besides contributions to the Toolkit, YSAFE conducted a session "Being part of an international movement: YSAFE" and presented the "YCA survey of IPPF EN MAs" to ensure that all MAs are updated on the opportunities YSAFE can present their volunteers with and inform about the current situation with YCA in IPPF EN Member Associations.

ADVOCACY TASK FORCE

A task force was set up at the Annual Meeting, for work on advocacy. The original scope of this task force was quite ambitious and included developing an advocacy strategy, but it became apparent that more time would be needed to build capacities in the network. For this reason plans were laid for a capacity building project to do this in 2019. In the meantime the advocacy task force focused in the latter half of 2018 on developing YSAFE's first position paper, on CSE.

RULES AND REGULATIONS REVISION

A task force of eight members, set up at the 2018 Annual Meeting and including both active YSAFE members and alumni, worked on a set of updates to the Rules and Regulations over the rest of the year. Terms of Reference were agreed with the Youth Unit, who provided feedback and coordinated input from the IPPF EN governance team.

Key areas interest explored were age limits and a two tier membership system:

- Age limits: to explore the ways in which YSAFE could increase membership and improve institutional memory, by either increasing the age limit or alternatively broadening the ways in which alumni could be engaged;
- Two-tier membership system: to explore if all youth volunteers in IPPF EN MAs could be declared automatically members of YSAFE and have a 'first tier' of members who then became active in programmes

The drafted Rules and Regulations document would be presented at the 2019 Annual Meeting for discussion and voting by the delegates.

COMMUNICATIONS

YSAFE communications were chiefly run by Louise Withalisson with the support of various other members. They have been covering all external events and trying to get more regular on the posting online in YSAFE presence.

We have also tried to be more consistent in what we post, and have been mostly posting on Facebook and for events also on Twitter. We have started the Instagram account but with that said it is still something that we need to work more on in order to meet the communications growth targets in 2019. Support has been provided by the IPPF EN Regional Office communications staff to plan a strategy.

2. YSAFE PROJECTS

CONCLUSION OF CSE AMBASSADORS (E+)

2018 saw the concluding phase of YSAFE's Erasmus+ KA1 'CSE Ambassadors' project, during which the 20 young YSAFE participants from seven countries delivered their follow-up activities nationally. During this follow-up phase, participants applied their newly gained knowledge and competencies as well as tools developed at the 2017 trainings (activity implementation plans and a CSE training manual) to adapt them in their respective national contexts, disseminating learnings and good practice for other CSE advocates and trainers locally and internationally. The activities they implemented included both direct delivery of CSE and activities advocating locally and nationally for its wider promotion.

COE STUDY SESSION ON ONLINE DISCRIMINATION

The study session 'Youth Against Online Discrimination' was held at the Youth Centre in Strasbourg in March 2018. It was a result of a collaboration between YSAFE, IGLYO, the Digital Leadership Institute and the Youth Department of the Council of Europe. The session brought together 23 young people coming from 16 countries from in Europe and Central Asia. These young activists represented several youth networks (YSAFE, IGLYO, You Act, YPEER, YPEER Petri) and many civil society organizations. All this contributed in to creating a platform for dialogue and for the exchange of different experiences, examples of good practices and challenges relating to online discrimination amongst a diverse group of young SRHR and LGBTI activists. They developed action plans for implementing and sharing their acquired knowledge in their countries or regionally.

3. EXTERNAL RELATIONS

EUROPEAN YOUTH EVENT

Following its successful involvement with the European Youth Forum (EYF) over the past two years, YSAFE lobbied for the inclusion of three separate SRHR related activities at the European Youth Event (EYE) held in Strasbourg in June; this included the 'Youth Across the Globe' photo exhibition – equally held at the European Development Days – a sex jeopardy quiz game and a workshop on digital security and activism. We received extremely positive feedback from participants and were in touch with the European Youth Forum members extensively who greatly appreciated our work and with whom we had a discussion on YSAFE application to the EYF as members.

EUROPEAN WEEK OF ACTION FOR GIRLS

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 - 12 October 2018.

YSAFE Steering Committee member Louise Withalisson joined a group of girl and young women advocates from all over the world. First they participated in a day of capacity-building on the European Union, particularly on what the Parliament can and should do to empower girls to enjoy their rights around the world. This informed and supported their meetings with a number of MEPs from various political groups. Louise was able to meet with Swedish MEPs Soraya Post and Malin Björk, to stress the importance of considering SRHR as a fundamental facet of girls' rights.

ICPD+25

In October Viktor Damjanovski attended the International Conference for Population and Development. During the youth pre-conference he had the opportunity to give input in creating the youth statement, introduce the theme of lifetime sexual and reproductive health at the CSO preconference and attend and respond to the country statements at the UN headquarters.

AIDS CONFERENCE 2018

YSAFE participated in the two-yearly AIDS conference in Amsterdam with the attendance of Lina Danevska from Macedonia and Marisa Moreira from Portugal. During the conference they ran several workshop activities in collaboration with the member organizations of the EECA Youth Alliance, exploring the impact of good CSE on health-seeking behaviours and presenting the specific needs of young people living with HIV in the European and Central Asia region today.

GENDER EQUALITY CONFERENCE OF THE AUSTRIAN PRESIDENCY OF THE EU

The YSAFE chair was invited to give inputs at this conference, aiming to culminate a process jointly led by Austria, Estonia and Bulgaria who wanted to focus their presidency on gender equality and young people. A big focus was put on the participatory process that led to the event. The conference revolved on receiving input on 6 major topics and the direct link / impact on gender equality from all participants. The topics were labour market + the economy, relationships & sexuality, violence & power imbalance, education & training, Politics and media. The meeting was held side-by-side with an informal meeting of ministerial and government representatives working on gender equality.

UNICEF ADOLESCENT AND YOUNG KEY POPULATIONS (AYKP) ONLINE TOOLKIT

In the last quarter of 2018, YSAFE was approached by UNICEF to join the preparation an online toolkit to tackle the HIV epidemic with input from a variety of key stakeholders, including young people. The YSAFE chair contributed to the development of the tools on multi-sectorial approaches and equally provided feedback to the remainder of the toolkit, providing a needed youth perspective.

EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT DAYS

Following our successful participation in 2017, YSAFE once again participated in the European Development Days (EDDs). This year the format was slightly different – hosting a youth corner in collaboration with 7 different organizations – rather than separate booths. YSAFE members in attendance ran a variety of interactive games and activities intending to raise the EDD attendees' awareness of SRHR as a key consideration in development settings and relevance to SDGs 3, 4, 5 and 10.