



# Contents

**3**

**Message from the Chief Executive Officer**

**4**

**About US**

**5**

**Organizational Profile**

**6**

**Our Programs**

- Right Here Right Now(RHRN)
- MenstruAction
- YOUACCESS
- YOUACCESS ICPD+25
- No Shame to Bleed
- SAAF-YAAY
- Others
- Advocacy in regional and international forums
- Annual Review and Staff Retreat

**29**

**Publications**

**34**

**Our Supporters and donors**



# Message from the Chief Executive Officer

Hello World,

Only when the mid of July arrives, I realize that a whole 365 days of a fiscal year has been completed. It is hard to believe how quickly time passes when so much is going around. It's a ritual to prepare this report every year, but for me and my team, it is also an opportunity to ponder on what we have been able to achieve, what we have learned, how much we have grown.

July also comes with new hopes and energy - plans are updated, resources are analyzed and new expectations are set. This year also we tried some new things keeping up with Visim's spirit. At RHRN, our social media campaign to a new height, and our web series was a fresh bake that gained good media attention. We were able to yield the fruits of MenstruAction as the adolescents have established themselves as social champions, local government and schools are taking their initiatives on menstruation. At YouAccess, youth advocates at the provincial and national level have strongly put forth that youth SRHR cannot be compromised. We rocked the ICPD+25 process with meaningful engagement of diverse youth at the national and international levels. As youth focal point for FP2020, we are at the right spot now to build on our advocacy. New partnership with SAAF, UNFPA Nepal, SDG National Network, NNBN, She Decides began.

This year the biggest challenge was COVID-19. We understand that this is a pandemic affecting every corner of the globe and so amidst all the uncertainties and insecurities we have continued our work. Some activities were pushed, some digitalized, some dropped, but knowing that health becomes even more imperative for vulnerable groups at the time of crisis, we have continued to raise our voices. We always put employee welfare at the center, and our decisions have been dynamic to cater to the changing situation. The next year is not going to be easy either, as funding opportunities have declined, but now we have a better understanding of how to handle it, and we will utilize that to design important interventions.

As I write this message, I have already announced that I will be stepping down as CEO by August this year. The beauty of life is that it is dynamic, things might not go as planned. But, I know that no time could have been better for this decision than now and I am confident that it is going to an even efficient and hardworking hand, who is certainly going to take the organization to a newer height. I will still be leading the organization as the President, so this is not the end. I owe all that has been able to be achieved this year and my whole tenure to my competent team who have stood by the thick and thins, the executive committee who have always shown the right path, our interns, volunteers, friends, well-wishers. I look forward to your continued support in the coming days so that we can keep making you proud

Lastly, COVID is real, I hope you all are able to stay safe and we all reach the other side of the pandemic together.

Medha Sharma  
President



# About VIS

## Core approaches



Visim aims to empower women and girls holistically and unleash them as social champions.

### Women & Girls Championship



Visim aims to build the leadership of new generation, and prepare them as responsible citizens of the countries.

### New Generation Leadership



Realizing health as one of the core towards development, Visim aims to contribute to global health innovation.

### Global Health Innovation

## Cross cutting approaches



Digital  
Engagement



Research



Advocacy

## Vision

Visible Impact on the lives of Every girl,  
Every woman, Every youth

## Non-negotiable values

- 1) Human rights are always at the core.
- 2) Ensure and promote meaningful and inclusive youth participation
- 3) Feminist principles are always fulfilled and kept at the core.

## Theory of change

Innovative Approach + Beneficiary  
Engagement = Visible Impact

# Organizational Profile

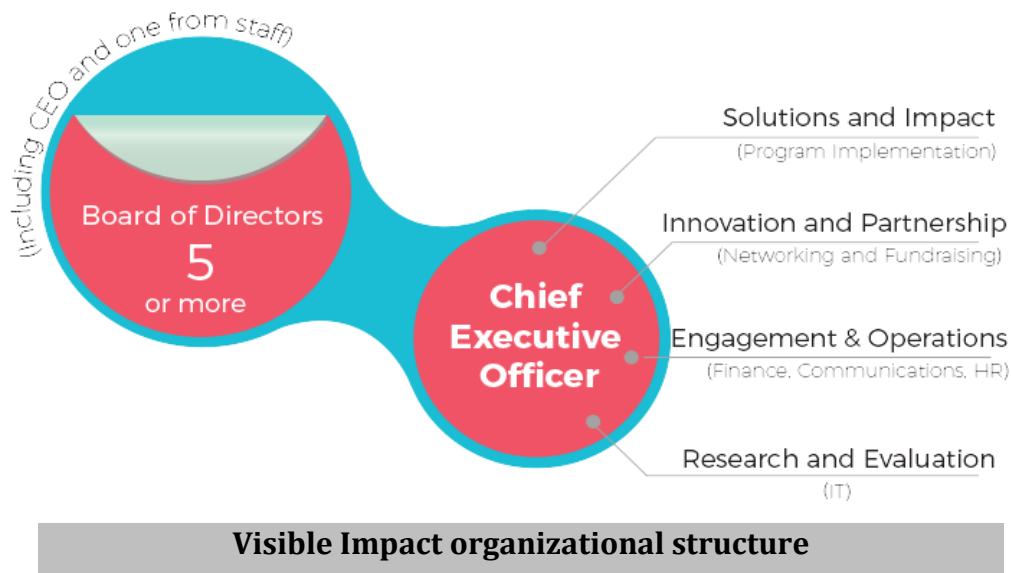
## Executive Board

To enhance the role of young people in decision-making, the Board of Directors is comprised mostly of passionate young people, with significant experience in the field of youth and girls programming. Our board of directors consists of 60% of women and 80% of youth. It is comprised of:

1. Ms. Medha Sharma
2. Mr. Shyam Sunder Sharma
3. Ms. Sadikshya Subedi
4. Mr. Ajay Uprety
5. Ms. Shilpa Lamichanne

## Staff

Visim had 9 permanent staffs and hosted 4 interns in 2019. Our staff consists of 71% female and 71% young people. Visim's organizational structure is shown in the image below.



# Our Programs



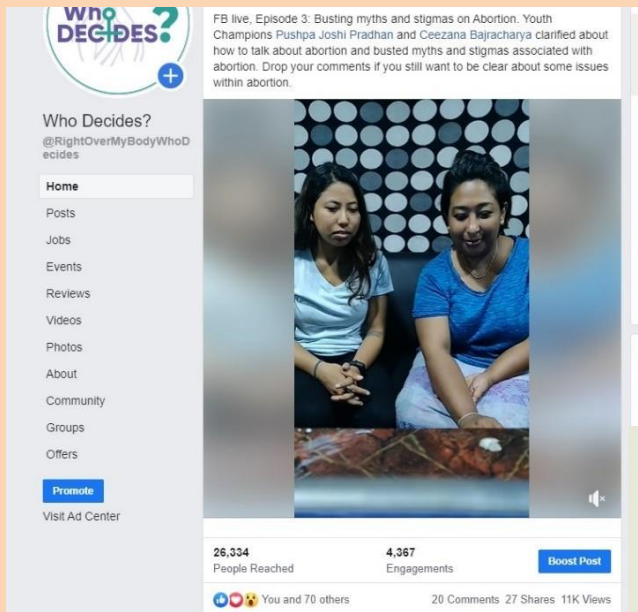
## RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW (RHRN)

Right Here Right Now (RHRN) Nepal platform is a strategic partnership between fifteen likeminded youth-led and youth-serving organizations that are advocating for enhanced experience of young people on sexual and reproductive health focused on three thematic areas - provision of age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education, legalization of marriage equality and provision of stigma-free, youth-friendly safe abortion services. Visible Impact is a partner organization of RHRN Nepal and works for provision of quality, stigma-free, accessible youth friendly safe abortion services in Nepal. During this period, Visible Impact under RHRN has majorly focused on value clarification of young people and generating public support through social media campaigns, celebrity engagement, organizing social events and activities. Our other activities included developing advocacy documents, engagement with media, capacity development of RHRN Nepal's platform members and participation in regional and international advocacy events.

## » ACTIVITIES

### ■ Generating Public Support and Value Clarification of Young People

Visible Impact has been conducting various social media activities via the page “Who Decides?”, a social media campaign on safe abortion which was launched on September 2018. The Facebook page currently has 12,996 followers and is expected to grow even more in the coming days. We have organized various social media competitions targeting young people through the campaign page. “Quote and Win”, “Speak up and write on safe abortion”, “Video competition”, and “Giveaway” were some of the competitions conducted during this period. Apart from this we also conducted Facebook live sessions which was considered pretty successful since the live videos had a huge reach and public views. One of the sessions was viewed by a total of 23,334 people. Visible Impact in collaboration with Youth Development Center also celebrated International Safe Abortion Day 2019 with various youth centered and youth friendly activities. A total of 228 people participated in the event where most of them were youth.



Facebook live session

Social media competition winner



**EVERY WOMAN HAS FUNDAMENTAL RIGHT TO HER BODILY INTEGRITY, LIBERTY AND PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS. SO IT IS ENTIRELY A WOMAN'S DECISION WHETHER TO ABORT OR NOT. SHE SHOULD NEVER BE FORCED, COERCED, OR TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF, INTO LIFE THREATENING CLANDESTINE ABORTION WITHOUT HER CONSENT**  
-BABITA PAHARI.

## ■ Celebrity Engagement

Dayahang Rai, one of the most popular actors of Nepal is RHRN Nepal's celebrity champion for safe abortion. Visible Impact has been responsible in involving him in various events and activities where he shows his support for safe, accessible, quality, stigma-free youth friendly safe abortion services. He participated in a radio talk program on abortion and women's rights for a very popular program i.e. khuldulee.com. While the celebrity remained busy for most of the time, he still continuously advocated for the issue via his social media.



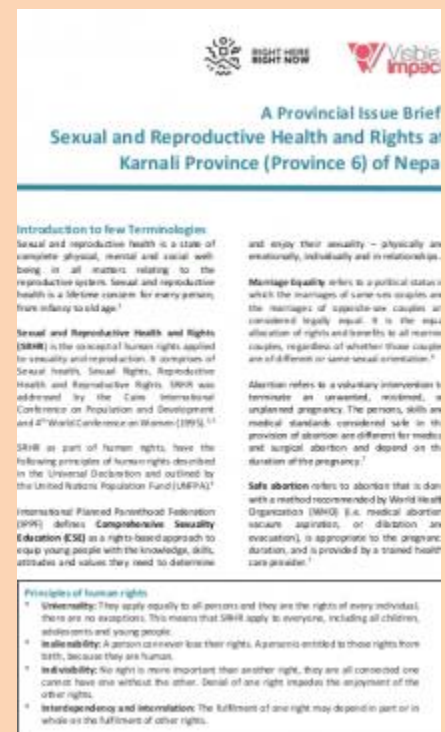
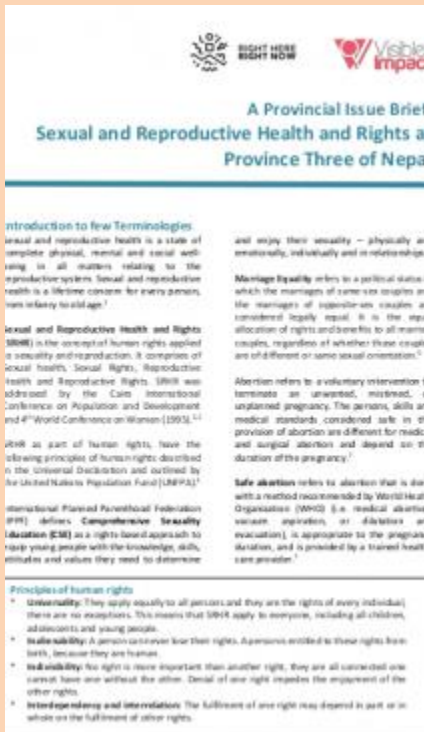
## ■ Capacity Development

RHRN Nepal platform provides the members with various workshops and training to equip them with skills and information that play a great role in achieving the advocacy objectives. The focal persons of Visible Impact for RHRN Nepal have participated in various capacity development workshops and have organized and conducted some of them. During this period, Visible Impact conducted three capacity development workshops for the members of RHRN Nepal platform. These included a two-day workshop on Gender Transformative Approaches, two-day workshop on Universal Periodic Review (UPR) process, and a one-day workshop on media campaigning.



## ■ Advocacy Documents

Since the initial phase of RHRN Nepal, Visible Impact has been engaged in developing various advocacy documents that help activists and advocates to put forward their advocacy agendas more strongly. During this period, Visible Impact has developed a “Reference document for policy makers to advocate for youth friendly safe abortion services”, Issue briefs on young people’s SRHR specific to province 1, 3, and 6, and also revised and translated the position papers which were developed in 2018.



## ■ Media Engagement

We have also been constantly engaging ourselves with media personnel. Visible Impact in collaboration with Association of Youth Organizations Nepal (AYON) and Yuwalaya conducted a media orientation and value clarification workshop for 35 media personnel from various media houses. The participants were oriented on the three thematic issues of RHRN Nepal namely Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE), Safe abortion and Marriage equality.



## ■ Production of Web Series and Audio Drama Series

As a part of the Who Decides? Campaign, Visible Impact has produced a web drama series on safe abortion which consisted of 6 episodes. The web series was uploaded in the YouTube channel of



Visible Impact. The web series is also available on NetTV, which is an online television streaming platform in Nepal. Currently, the first episode of the web series has 15,111 views.

The web series was also developed into Audio Drama Series by converting web series into radio compatible format. The audio drama series was aired on various radio stations of province 1, 3 and 6.

## ■ Media Monitoring



A yearlong media monitoring of popular national newspapers and online news portals was conducted for the year 2019. The monitoring was specifically done for news coverage done on abortion. The news articles were categorized into various themes and the progressiveness of the news articles published by the newspapers under the study was analyzed on the basis of the caption use, context, and picture used for the articles. As an outcome document a Media Monitoring Report was developed and published.



## MENSTRUATION

MenstruAction is a holistic approach to make menstruation safer and healthier for women and girls, by reaching out to key gatekeepers and decision makers in the community. The project was implemented from December 2018- November 2019 with support from GIZ Nepal - S2HSP in 30 schools (both public and private schools) of Bidur Municipality, Nuwakot district.

This project unleashed adolescents as “**social champions**” for sustainable development through the introduction of reusable sanitary products to the girls and development of a sense of responsibility in the girls and the gatekeepers towards their environment, communities and school. Realizing how concerted efforts are needed to identify MHM needs, this project also aims to incorporate the voices of adolescent girls and boys in ways most appropriate to their respective engagement channels and specific challenges to transformative gender in schools.

What made this approach unique was that adolescents were part of decision making and able to influence gatekeepers and decision makers as they were members of the MenstruAction Committee. Also, instead of a blanket approach, menstrual health management needs of each school were evaluated and action plans were developed that were specific to the needs of the particular school. MenstruAction brought together all relevant stakeholders ward leader, school management, teacher and adolescents to take decisions for menstrual health management.

## » ACTIVITIES

### ■ Unleashing adolescents as social champions

A 4 days residential training was conducted in 2 batches for 60 adolescent boys and girls from 30 different schools in Bidur. The training focused on developing technical skills (knowledge on menstrual health management, local governance), advocacy skills and dialogue session conduction skill. The social champions then conducted activism and advocacy activities for a whole year in their school and community.



### ■ Building ownership of the school

As part of the initiative, MenstruAction Committee was formed in each of the 30 schools comprising of the School Management Committee members, ward representatives, school teachers and an adolescent girl and a boy identified by the schools themselves who were then oriented on their roles and responsibilities.

### ■ Conduction of peer and community dialogue sessions

The social champions conducted a total of 60 peer dialogue sessions and 54 community dialogue sessions among their peers and members of the community on topics of changes during puberty, physiology of menstruation, products to be used for menstrual health management and menstrual health friendly school. The main aim of the dialogue sessions was to initiate discussions on menstruation and break the silence around the topic.

### ■ Joint Action of students and school management

In each school, the social champions jointly identified the menstrual health friendliness score of their school, and the major gaps, on the basis of which they jointly prioritized actions tailored to their school.

An emergency stock of MHM management items listed by the committee was distributed to each school and a seed grant to implement their prioritized action was provided. This included improving infrastructures like installing fixing door locks, water tanks, basin, dress changing facility, waste disposal facilities; increasing capacity for pad making; stocking of items like sanitary pads, dress to change in case of stain, medications, pain management, percolators, mattress and blankets

etc. To enhance informed choice, reusable sanitary pads, tampons and menstrual cups were introduced. School also conducted day celebrations and contests on the theme to promote discussions about MHM.

Sharing meetings within MHM Committee in each school, among various schools, and with ward and municipal leaders were organized regularly to enhance learning.

### **Our Impact**

Through 60 peer dialogue sessions and 54 community dialogue sessions, a total of 2765 people were reached (males: 1091 and females: 1674) and conversations on menstruation were initiated with them. The peer dialogue sessions conducted among the students in the schools focused on creating awareness on menstruation process, products available in the market and also starting conversations on the importance of a menstrual health friendly school. The community dialogue sessions conducted with parents, teachers, ward leaders were done to understand how two generations viewed menstruation and also to find a common ground to overcome menstrual stigma and discrimination.

The menstrual health friendliness of schools had improved by 22% after the completion of the project activities. 40% of the schools had used the seed grant for water supply management which includes installation of taps, maintenance of basins, installation of basins, 20% had focused on repair and maintenance of the existing facilities such as locks on the doors, 46.67% had focused on cleanliness management such as purchase of cleaning materials, installation of dustbins while 10% had focused on creating a resting room space which had hot water bag, blanket, hot water.



## YOUACCESS

Visible Impact has been advocating for provision of inclusive and youth friendly family planning services in Nepal through the grant received from Champions of Global Reproductive Rights (PAI). YOUAccess project aims at advocacy to ensure that the Government of Nepal fulfills its FP2020 commitments while leaving no one behind.

## » ACTIVITIES

### ■ Unleashing advocates

Visim conducted a 3-days residential training with 10 young people in Sunsari and 10 young people with disability Kathmandu district to develop young people as youth advocates on family planning. The training focused on SRHR, highlighted on technical aspects of family planning and developed their personal skills as well. Through the training, the youth champions were enriched with the skill set and knowledge to advocate for youth friendly SRHR and FP policies that highlighted on leaving no one behind especially young people with disabilities.



### ■ Advocacy journey of youth advocates

After the training, youth champions in Itahari have been advocating with parliamentarians, Ministry of Social Development for development of RH Directive that highlights the needs of young people. They have also been creating awareness among their peers and community members. The youth champions in Kathmandu have been building allies through meetings with Disabled People's organization and meeting with FP 2020 advisor.

Young people with disabilities have been working to build allies by contacting various Disabled People's organizations and advocating with focal points of FP 2020: USAID, DFID, Nepal CRS.

Youth advocates have also been engaging in various online media advocacy by organizing various competitions like essay, quiz, art competition and games such as "Never Have I Ever" game. The main agenda behind these activities was to generate awareness on sexual and reproductive health and rights, family planning and give a push to the advocacy momentum.



### ■ **Development of position paper on young people with disabilities and SRHR**

Visim in partnership with BYAN (Blind Youth Association Nepal) developed a position paper to highlight the sexual and reproductive health and rights needs of young people with disabilities. The paper highlights the overall scenario of disability and SRHR in Nepal and also provides specific recommendations for the way forward. The position paper was developed through validation workshop with various CSO's, young people and disabled people's organization.

### **Our Impact**

We are working with 10 young people with disabilities and developing them as advocates which has enabled them to bring issues of people with disability at the forefront of discussions. Also, all the 20 advocacy champions have enhanced their personal skills and now can speak up for youth SRHR issues with decision makers.



## YOUACCESS ICPD +25

Visible Impact has been advocating for highlighting the SRHR needs of young people and influencing the Government of Nepal's commitments to ICPD+25 at the Nairobi Summit in November 2019 and documenting the process and outcomes following the Summit. The objective of the project is to advocate for Nepal's young people's enhanced role in ICPD+25 process and Nairobi summit, and incorporate recommendations from national youth consultation conducted with diverse young people and young key population in the national commitments.

## » ACTIVITIES

### ■ Development of national youth recommendations for ICPD+25

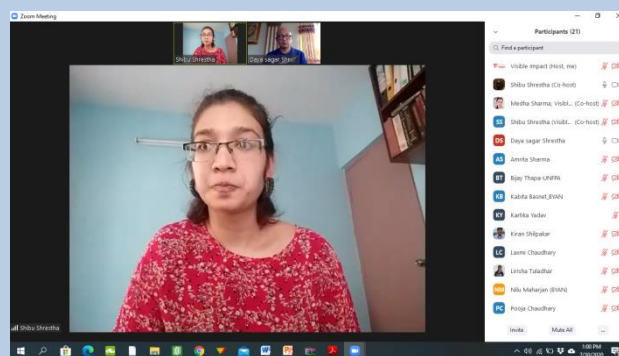
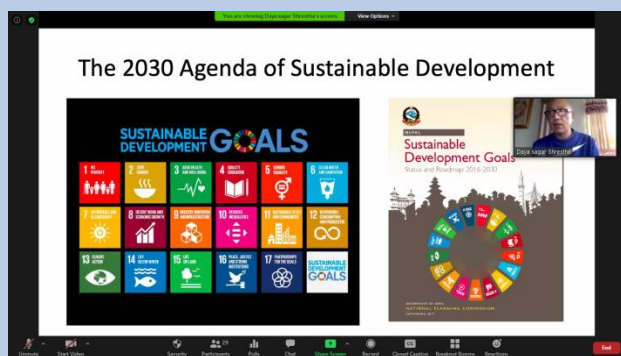
Visible Impact collaborated with UNFPA Nepal, RHRN Nepal, BBC Nepal and Y-PEER Nepal to develop a document entitled “**National Youth Recommendations for Nepal’s National Commitments at Nairobi Summit**” which has been circulated with stakeholders, decision makers and CSO’s to be used as an advocacy tool. The National Youth Recommendation has been drafted upon consultation with 50 young people of Nepal, representing diversity of geography, education, age, sexual orientation and gender identity, physical ability, HIV status, ethnicity and indigeneity, etc. The young people of Nepal recommend the Government of Nepal to realize the impertinent role that young people play in effective implementation and accountability of Program of Action of ICPD and National Commitments made during Nairobi Summit, and so promote their meaningful and inclusive participation in decision making at all governance levels.

### ■ CSO Representative at ICPD+25 Summit in Nairobi, Kenya

Visible Impact advocated with Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizens at Nairobi for inclusion of youth agenda in the national commitments at ICPD +25, and was actively involved in CSO consultations and activism in Nepal and in Nairobi. .

### ■ Webinar on linking ICPD and SDG’s

A webinar was organized through open call to help young people and CSO’s understand more about ICPD, SDG’s, their inter-linkages and the progress made in Nepal. Ms. Medha Sharma started the webinar by diving into the details of ICPD and highlighted the commitments made by Nepal. Mr. Bijay Thapa, Assistant Country Representative of UNFPA Nepal then shared remarks on the progress made on ICPD in Nepal and the way forward for young people. Mr. Daya Sagar Shrestha from SDG National Network Nepal then elaborated on the VNR process of Nepal and linked SDG’s to ICPD. There were around 45 participants who had actively participated in the discussion.



### ■ E-course for young people

A series of workshop comprising of 5 sessions on advocacy, international advocacy spaces, digital security was conducted for 30 young people. The workshops were organized through Zoom meeting platform. The workshops focused on strengthening the advocacy skills of youth advocates by helping them align the knowledge they had with real time experiences. The facilitators also shared their personal experiences

### **Our Impact**

After continuous advocacy, the national commitments presented by the Government of Nepal at Nairobi highlighted on investing in youth and CSE. Visim aspires to aware youth at provincial level on ICPD and hold provincial consultations to get more insights on what can be the way forward for young people in Nepal with regards to ICPD +25.



## NO SHAME TO BLEED

Since the launch of No Shame to bleed project in 2016, Visible Impact has been advocating for safer and healthier menstruation by enhancing knowledge, skills and participation of young girls on menstrual health, and promoting the role of gatekeepers such as male students, school authority and parents. We have been advocating with the government stakeholders for formulating and implementing relevant policies to eliminate all forms of discrimination experienced by girls and women during menstruation. Since 2016, Visible Impact has been organizing ToTs (Training of trainers) session for a group of ten youths every year. Trainers trained go on to train school students on Menstrual Health Management using tested and proven youth friendly and interactive measures. We started this initiative with the objective of providing the girls with appropriate knowledge and skills to maintain their menstrual health including boys to highlight their responsibility towards better menstrual health for their girl colleagues, and advocating for the importance of menstrual health friendly school facilities.

## » ACTIVITIES

### ■ School based workshops on MHM

Visible Impact is conducting school based workshop on Menstrual Health Management through its Sarathi program. “Sarathi” is a group of young people who are trained to deliver workshops on Menstrual Health Management. Sarathis conduct school based workshops on MHM with both boys and girls using interactive and youthful tool which focuses on understanding physiological changes to tackling the existing social construct around menstruation. The third cohort of Sarathis have successfully conducted 39 workshops and reached out to more than 1000 adolescent young boys and girls. These workshops were mostly centered in Kathmandu valley with only three workshops conducted in Solukhumbu district.



### ■ Graduation of third cohort of Sarathis

To mark the end of the journey of Sarathi Cohort III, the members were invited to take part in a graduation ceremony on 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 where they were awarded with souvenirs and certificates. On the basis of final evaluation and scores two Sarathis Manisha Hada and Puja Rai were awarded with cash prize of 2500 each for attaining highest scores.

### ■ Recruitment of fourth cohort of Sarathis



Visible Impact recruited fourth cohort of Sarathis for the year 2019/2020. They were provided a 3 day Training of Trainers before they embarked on their journey as Sarathis. This batch has conducted workshops outside Kathmandu district. Two workshops have already been conducted in Dang valley of Province-5.

No Shame to bleed has not only helped young boys and girls receive knowledge and skills on menstrual health management that can be translated into every day skills, but also help them understand menstrual health as a right, so that they can act on and advocate about menstrual health. Having girls and boys together in the workshop ensures that they perceive menstruation as a natural process rather than a taboo, and boys who otherwise would not have any other platform to discuss about menstrual health, get a platform too.

## ■ Blogging

Sarathis have been writing and sharing their stories about concurrent issues to their first menstruation experience. These are published as blogs in the organizations website and shared in our social media accounts.

## ■ Learning Circle

Visible Impact has established a system of learning through sharing within the organization. Sarathis have been provided learning circles on Digital storytelling , Gender and Sexuality, SPSS , Epi-info to enrich their academic as well as professional skills.

## ■ Celebration of SheDecides/ International Woman's day



Visible Impact celebrated SheDecides and International Woman's day on 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2020. Marking the theme of creating "**The New Normal through Generation Equality**" an event was organized with participation of young people, young people with disabilities and from LGBTIQ communities. It focused on understanding the global SheDecides Movement and orientating young people about gender and sexuality. Anuj Rai Peter, Program Officer at Blue Diamond Society was one of the speakers who used story telling effectively to highlight the issues of sexual and gender minorities of Nepal. It created a space to talk openly about issues on gender and sexuality for it fostered discussions around diverse youth groups.

# गर्भपतनबारे मैले के के जान्न जरूरी छ ?



## SAAF YAAY (Youth for Access to abortion for youths)

Visible Impact has been implementing Youth for Access to abortion for youths (YAAY) an advocacy program to advocate for stigma free and youth friendly safe abortion services at national and provincial level with support from SAAF (Safe Abortion Action Fund) since January, 2020. Despite legalization of abortion, more than half of the abortion is still unsafe in Nepal, and young people are often the most marginalized, mostly due to related stigma. Considering young people as beneficiaries and change agents for attitudes toward SRHR and reducing stigma about abortion, this project targets young people. The aim of YAAY is to unleash young people as champions for youth friendly safe abortion services, by shifting negative attitudes of community regarding abortion and enhancing awareness among young people regarding availability of safe and legal abortion for free in Nepal; through capacity building, youth friendly activities and evidence generation. YAAY will use participatory approach to include young people in designing activities tailored to their province, so that their role is not limited to mere beneficiaries.

## » ACTIVITIES

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### ■ **Selection of Youth Champions across the seven provinces in Nepal**

In coordination with organizations working on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, Visible Impact selected 21 young people from across the seven provinces in Nepal to advocate for youth friendly and stigma free safe abortion services at the local and provincial level. Youth Development Center from Province 1, Sano Paila from Province 2, Aarambha Foundation from Province 4, Seto Guras from Province 5, Youth for Change from Province 6 and Youth Initiative from Province 7 were approached for selection of these young people. They then referred the names of suitable young people and 3 young people from each of the 7 provinces were finally selected upon review of their application form and CV. These young people will now be trained as youth champions for advocating on Safe Abortion.

### ■ **Development of Information Booklet on Safe Abortion**

Reaching diverse young people at diverse spaces with information on Safe Abortion is one of the major objectives of YAAY. Visim has developed an IEC booklet in both English and Nepali which talks about the basics of safe abortion, its legal aspects and also links them to further information by providing web links and toll free numbers to seek help when needed.

## » Others

### ■ FP2020

Visible Impact is Family Planning 2020 youth focal point in Nepal. As an FP2020 youth focal point, we are serving as a key representative of the FP2020 movement in the country and particularly of the youth voice in family planning. Visim is coordinating with other focal points, the government, other partners and stakeholders and the FP2020 secretariat to drive progress on country's family planning goals.

### ■ World Population Day Celebration

Around 11 July, 2020, World Population Day, Visible Impact along with six organizations in collaboration with United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA Nepal) joined hands to raise awareness about the sexual and reproductive health needs and vulnerabilities of young people including women and girls during the crisis of COVID-19 pandemic. With the theme of **"Putting the Breaks on COVID-19: How to Safeguard the Health and Rights of Women and Girls Now?"** Visible Impact organized a web meet bringing together more than



80 participants representing different sectors including governments, CSOs, young people using the platform of ZOOM software. Through caption writing and sign language interpretation, the program was able to bring in people with disabilities as well. It was live broadcasted to YouTube channel of UNFPA Nepal reaching out to about one thousand and five hundred views. The program focused on discussing the impacts of COVID-19 by safeguarding the health and rights of women and girls.

### ■ Youth Dialogue with United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Executive Director

Dr. Natalia Kanem, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) - Executive Director made her first official visit to Nepal on October, 2019. UNFPA Nepal organized a youth dialogue on ICPD25 "Accelerating the Promise" with diverse young people from Nepal with the Executive Director.

The youth dialogue was moderated by the CEO of Visible Impact Ms. Medha Sharma and Program Officer at Visible Impact Ms. Sabina Pokhrel also participated as a panelist in the discussion along with Fura Sherpa National Coordinator for Youth Peer Education Network Nepal (Y-PEER), Ms. Surakshya Giri Branch Youth Committee Member of the Family Planning Association of Nepal (FPAN) Palpa, Mr. Aaditya Rai, a gay activist and Program Officer at Blue Diamond Society (BDS). The dialogue was attended by the then Minister of Health and Population Mr. Upendra Yadav where Ms. Natalia Kanem praised the Government of Nepal for achieving momentous strides under the ICPD Programme of Action but urged the government to urgently address the unfinished business of ICPD and work towards: Zero maternal deaths, zero unmet need for family planning and zero gender-based violence and other harmful practices such as child marriage.

# Advocacy in Regional and International Forums

Visible Impact represented youth SRHR voices at several regional and international advocacy forums and their national processes in 2019

## ■ Women Deliver Conference, 2019

The Women Deliver 2019 Conference took place on 3-6 June 2019 in Vancouver, Canada. One of the largest conferences on gender equality and the health, rights and wellbeing of girls and women in the 21<sup>st</sup> century was attended by more than 8000 people from 169 countries. Our Program Officer Ms. Sabina Pokhrel participated in the conference and was a speaker at two of the side events Right Here Right Now- Sharing Stories on Youth Leadership on 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 2019 and another side event Power in Speaking up and Standing up on 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2019. She presented the existing challenges regarding Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights of young people and also underlined the roles of young people on challenging power and creating progress and change.



## ■ Asia Pacific ICPD25 Youth Consultation (23-24 September) and ICPD 25 Flagship Event (25 September)



A youth consultation was organized by UNFPA Asia Pacific Regional Office in Thailand on 23-24 September, 2019 to strengthen young people's understanding of the linkages between the ICPD and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and develop strong recommendation focusing on the theme accelerating the promise of ICPD to be taken forward to Nairobi. The event was followed up by ICPD25 Flagship Event: Accelerated action for ICPD - Taking forward the Asian Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development on 25<sup>th</sup> of September. Our Program Officers Laxman Bhattarai and Sabina Pokhrel took part in both of the events and handed over the youth recommendations of Nepal for

the Nairobi summit to Mr. Bjorn Andersson, UNFPA Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific.

## ■ Asia Regional Youth Festival

Program officer Mr. Laxman Bhattarai participated in the Asia Regional Youth Festival 2019 from 9-13 September held at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The platform was for young participants to gain deeper knowledge of SRHR issues and foster learning of best practices through cross country sharing. The youth festival mainly focused on building the next generation of youth champions who will contribute to the realization of ICPD PoA, Beijing PoA, and the SDGs in the region. A total of 50 young people participated in the festival. The participants were from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Malaysia, and Myanmar.



## ■ Nairobi Summit

From 12-14 November, the governments of Kenya and Denmark and UNFPA co-convened the Nairobi Summit on ICPD+25, a high level conference to mobilize political will and financial commitments to finally and fully implement the ICPD Programme of Action. Visible Impact had an influencing presence at the summit with the CEO Ms. Medha Sharma, two Program Officers- Ms. Sabina Pokhrel and Ms. Shibu Shrestha representing Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights issues of young people necessary for pushing the agenda of ICPD+25. Ms. Sabina Pokhrel also spoke at in a courtyard session on "Ending Unsafe Abortion by 2030: How do we get there?" on 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2019.





## Annual review and Staff Retreat

Visible Impact organizes its annual review every year to discuss the achievement, shortcomings and future opportunities and to explore how the performance of the organization could be further improved and the leanings could be implemented in future. In 2019, Annual review which was followed by staff retreat was organized on 13-14 January, 2020 at Tapes Resort, Budhanilkantha, Kathmandu. During the review, we had a semi-formal program during the day which included reflection on the year 2019, followed by the 360 degree appraisal of each staffs and setting roles for 2020. The review was followed by staff retreat to celebrate the togetherness and friendship we had.

Based on the capacity development need of staffs as identified during the annual review, financial management training was organized for the staffs to better understand the financial aspects of the programs and to maintain proper finance systems.



# PUBLICATIONS



## Report on “Experience of young people, sexual and gender minorities and people with disabilities with family planning services in Nepal”

The study aimed to explore the experience and barriers of young people, LGBT people and people with disabilities while accessing family planning related services and information.



## Position Paper: Provision of quality, stigma free and youth friendly safe abortion services in Nepal (English & Nepali)

This paper highlights the situation of safe abortion, legal provisions, and stigma faced by young people; and calls all the concerned stakeholders to promote safe abortion services in a right-based approach, and ensure quality, stigma-free, and youth friendly safe abortion services for all women.



## POSITION PAPER: Provision of Comprehensive Sexuality Education to all young people in Nepal (English & Nepali)

This is a revised and updated version of the position paper published in June 2020. This paper aims at highlighting the importance and current gaps in addressing comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) for young people, and to call the Government to fulfill the needs, and other stakeholders to support the Government in doing so. This paper will serve as a basis for evidence-based advocacy for all the advocates and activists of CSE.



## Position Paper: Provision of Marriage Equality, Key to establishing human rights of young sexual and gender minorities in Nepal ( English & Nepali)

This paper urges the stakeholders to legalize marriage equality in Nepal at all levels, amend the discriminatory laws, develop the capacity of the Government to implement and correctly interpret the legal provisions for human rights of sexual and gender minorities.



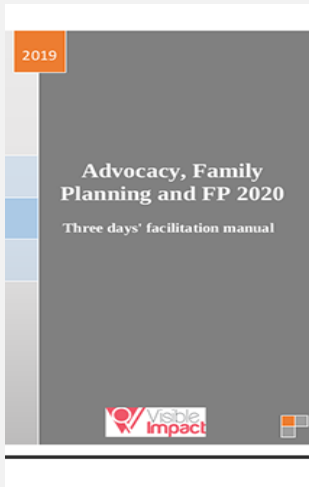
## A Reference Document for Policy Makers for Supporting advocacy on quality, stigma free and youth friendly safe abortion services in Nepal (Nepali)

This is a reference document for any policymaker who wants to support the advocacy on young people's access to quality, stigma free and youth friendly safe abortion services



## E-paper and online journalism Media Monitoring

This report analyzes the content on safe abortion published on different news portals. It also analyses the youth friendliness of the language used, appropriateness of the image along with stigma.



## Advocacy, Family Planning and FP 2020: Three days' facilitation manual

Three days' training manual on Advocacy, Family Planning and FP 2020 aims to develop young people's understanding on family planning, and unleash them as advocate to localize the commitment of FP 2020 at federal, provincial and local level.



## National Youth Recommendations for Nepal's National Commitments at Nairobi Summit

This National Youth Recommendation was drafted upon consultation with 50 diverse young people of Nepal, to highlight the impertinent role that young people play in effective implementation and accountability of Program of Action of ICPD and National Commitments made during Nairobi Summit.



## Joint Submission of the Young People: Call to Action to reaffirm to the Program of Action of International Conference on Population and Development, for the 25th Year review and appraisal of CPD, 2019

This paper aims to highlight some of the pressing issues faced by young people in Nepal with respect to violations of their rights to participation, bodily rights and autonomy, and reflect on the key issues identified by International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD).

**A Provincial Issue Brief:  
Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights at  
Karnali Province (Province 6) of Nepa**

**Introduction to few Terminologies**  
Sexual and reproductive health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being in all matters relating to the reproductive system. Sexual and reproductive health is a life-time concern for every person, from infancy to old age.

**Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR)** is the collection of human rights essential to sexuality and reproductive health. It comprises of Sexual Health, Sexual Rights, Reproductive Health and Reproductive Rights. SRHR was addressed by the Core International Conferences on Population and Development and 47 World Conference on Women (1995).<sup>11</sup>

SRHR as part of human rights, have the following principles of human rights described in the Universal Declaration and outlined by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA):<sup>12</sup>

**International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) defines Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE)** as a rights based approach to reach young people with the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values they need to determine and enjoy their sexuality – physically and emotionally, individually and in relationships.<sup>13</sup>

**Marriage equality** refers to a political status in which the marriage of same sex couples are the marriage of opposite sex couples an individual's rights and freedoms to all require complete, regardless of whether those couples are of different or same sexual orientation.<sup>14</sup>

Abortion refers to a voluntary intervention to terminate an unwanted, unwanted, or unwanted pregnancy. The partners, skills and medical standards considered safe in the provision of abortion are different for medical and surgical abortion and depend on the duration of the pregnancy.<sup>15</sup>

**Safe abortion** refers to abortion that is done with a method recommended by World Health Organization (WHO). It is medical abortion (vacuum aspiration), or dilatation and evacuation, is appropriate to the pregnancy duration, and is provided by a trained health care provider.<sup>16</sup>

**Principles of human rights**

- Universality:** They apply equally to all persons and they are the rights of every individual; there are no exceptions. This means that SRHR apply to everyone, including all children, adolescents and young people.
- Non-discrimination:** A person cannot lose their rights. A person entitled to these rights from birth, because they are human.
- Inalienability:** No right is more important than another right, they are all connected and cannot be lost one without the other. Denial of one right impedes the enjoyment of the other rights.
- Interdependence and interrelation:** The fulfillment of one right may depend in part or in whole on the fulfillment of other rights.

## A Provincial Issue Brief: Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights at Karnali province (Province 6) of Nepal

The issue brief highlights the situation of sexual and reproductive health in Karnali Province with major focus on young people and marriage equality, comprehensive sexuality education and safe abortion.

**A Provincial Issue Brief:  
Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights at  
Province One of Nepal**

**Introduction to few Terminologies**  
Sexual and reproductive health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being in all matters relating to the reproductive system. Sexual and reproductive health is a life-time concern for every person, from infancy to old age.

**Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR)** is the collection of human rights essential to sexuality and reproductive health. It comprises of Sexual Health, Sexual Rights, Reproductive Health and Reproductive Rights. SRHR was addressed by the Core International Conferences on Population and Development and 47 World Conference on Women (1995).<sup>11</sup>

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- Interdependence and interrelation:** The fulfillment of one right may depend in part or in whole on the fulfillment of other rights.

## A Provincial Issue Brief Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights at Province One of Nepal

The issue brief highlights the situation of sexual and reproductive health in Province One with major focus on young people and marriage equality, comprehensive sexuality education and safe abortion.

**A Provincial Issue Brief:  
Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights at  
Province Three of Nepa**

**Introduction to few Terminologies**  
Sexual and reproductive health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being in all matters relating to the reproductive system. Sexual and reproductive health is a life-time concern for every person, from infancy to old age.

**Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR)** is the collection of human rights essential to sexuality and reproductive health. It comprises of Sexual Health, Sexual Rights, Reproductive Health and Reproductive Rights. SRHR was addressed by the Core International Conferences on Population and Development and 47 World Conference on Women (1995).<sup>11</sup>

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Abortion refers to a voluntary intervention to terminate an unwanted, unwanted, or unwanted pregnancy. The partners, skills and medical standards considered safe in the provision of abortion are different for medical and surgical abortion and depend on the duration of the pregnancy.<sup>15</sup>

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- Interdependence and interrelation:** The fulfillment of one right may depend in part or in whole on the fulfillment of other rights.

## A Provincial Issue Brief: Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights at Province Three of Nepal

The issue brief highlights the situation of sexual and reproductive health in Province Three with major focus on young people and marriage equality, comprehensive sexuality education and safe abortion.

# Visibility materials

In 2019, Visible Impact developed two types of tumblers:



# Our Supporters and Donors

*Thank you!*

The generous contributions of our donors, supporters, foundations, networks, dedicated individuals and progressive governments has helped us sustain and enable our work to support girls, women and youths, to safeguard their sexual and reproductive health and rights and to achieve the change.

## International Partners



## National Partners



## Alliances and Networks



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