



SRHM

SEXUAL AND
REPRODUCTIVE
HEALTH
MATTERS

MORE THAN A JOURNAL

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

2020 AT A GLANCE

KNOWLEDGE

In 2020, the journal grew from strength to strength with 104 published articles in three issues, an increase of over 50% compared to the previous year. The journal received 1,448,697 article downloads in 2020 which is nearly double the number from the previous year. We also continued to shorten the time between submission and first decision for all papers from 46 days in 2019 to 33 days in 2020.

CAPACITY

Our journal continued to work closely with authors, encouraging and assisting those with valuable but less often published perspectives, to prepare their papers for publication. A number of papers are available in the 2020 open issue which are a result of fruitful mentoring collaboration.

INFLUENCE

SRHM delivered a swift and timely response during the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. 10 days after the global lockdown was announced, we hosted a webinar on the subject which was attended by 1,555 participants from 116 countries. We coordinated several other webinars throughout the year including our first event in French, in collaboration with our partners in West Africa. We also hosted a meeting with 25 leading experts from around the world on rights-based knowledge creation.

GLOBAL REACH

We established a francophone regional hub which made possible the publication of our francophone Africa journal issue in 2020. Continuing the work started in 2019, we strengthened our South Asia regional hub and released a dedicated call for papers for the first South Asia journal issue. We also launched our mentoring programme through which mentees from South Asia receive training, support and mentoring on analysis, research and writing.

STRENGTHENED ORGANISATIONAL CAPACITY

We added a new associate editor and operations manager to our international team. We maintained a stable foundation and management of financial resources that enabled SRHM to continue the core operations arising from the 2018-2022 strategic framework, and sustain and develop funder relations.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF-EXECUTIVE, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

2020 brought enormous challenges to people everywhere. In today's world of continuing poverty, powerlessness and intolerance, the COVID-19 pandemic has compounded these problems. The pandemic has exacerbated inequalities across all societies, heightened government deployment of authority in different political regimes, and highlighted the weaknesses of health systems in all countries.

To counter these challenges, SRHM continued throughout 2020 to provide a solid platform for advancing rights and evidence-based knowledge creation, capacity building and advocacy. This year we formed stronger alliances than ever before, strengthened our work with many partnerships, used innovative and creative ways for working together and reached out to our diverse and multidisciplinary communities. We responded to anti-SRHR political turbulences, such as those posed by the Global Gag rule and anti-gender politics. We created knowledge and dialogue for action to further equitable access to SRHR, for example, by seizing unprecedented opportunities in the expanded use of self-care interventions and expanding the focus on rights in universal health coverage.

SRHM's vision statement, formulated some years ago – a world in which sexual and reproductive health and rights are recognised as fundamental human rights and matters of social justice- is perhaps even more relevant today than ever before. The increase of ideologically-inspired politics and rhetoric that have absolutely no basis in evidence often violate human rights and damage sexual and reproductive health, requiring global solidarity and action. As this Annual Report testifies, we are committed to creating the change needed to achieve our vision, and to advancing the progress of rights and evidence-based action for sexual and reproductive health.

We are grateful to our partners, communities, and funders for supporting our work and make this year's progress possible.

Eszter Kismódi, Chief Executive

Julia Hussein, Editor-in-Chief

Jane Cottingham, Chair of the Board of Trustees

ABOUT SRHM

Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters (SRHM) is an organisation promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) globally through its journal and “more than a journal” platform.

At the heart of SRHM is an **INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL** with global relevance – the Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters journal. It is a multidisciplinary, open access, peer-reviewed, international journal that explores emerging, strategic, as well as neglected and marginalised issues across the field of SRHR.

SRHM is also **MORE THAN A JOURNAL**. As an SRHR platform, it inspires new rights-based thinking and action in research, policy, service and practice. It contributes to capacity building and rights- and evidence-based knowledge creation through multi-disciplinary global and local partnerships.

The core focus of SRHM is the dissemination of rights- and evidence-based information reflecting scientific and research excellence and ensuring a platform for policy debate on the complex politics of SRHR.

VISION

A world in which sexual and reproductive health and rights are recognised as fundamental human rights and matters of social justice; in which sexual and reproductive health needs are addressed, and rights of people are fully respected, protected and fulfilled without discrimination of any kind.

MISSION

To inspire, create, disseminate and advance rights- and evidence-based knowledge, build capacity, and engage in collaborative action for advocacy, policy and service delivery globally, regionally and locally on SRHR.

SRHM is building a stronger and more sustainable organisation that manifests its commitment to evidence-informed, global, collaborative and human rights values in all its operations.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

KNOWLEDGE



KNOWLEDGE

SRHM creates and pursues innovative approaches for rights- and evidence-based knowledge generation and sharing, that inform SRH service delivery, policy and advocacy.

CAPACITY



CAPACITY

SRHM contributes to a stronger and more diverse cadre of researchers, programme and policy makers, service delivery providers and advocates who publish, disseminate and use their rights- and evidence-based knowledge.

INFLUENCE



INFLUENCE

SRHM ensures that strategic dialogue and action generate greater political awareness and progressive changes in SRHR laws, policies, programmes, services and advocacy informed by evidence, human rights and social justice.

GLOBAL REACH



GLOBAL REACH

SRHM builds regional, national, and community ownership in knowledge generation linked to capacity-building, influence and advocacy, ensuring diverse voices are represented and amplified.

ORGANISATIONAL STRENGTH



SUSTAIN AND STRENGTHEN ORGANISATIONAL AND FINANCIAL CAPACITY

SRHM strives to be an organisation with strong institutional and financial sustainability in order to maintain its core mission, vision and values.

KNOWLEDGE



OPEN ISSUE 2020

This year's open issue contains a record of 61 non-editorial articles. These papers cover topics of abortion, infertility, menstrual health, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, sex characteristics and bodily diversity, contraception, violence, adolescent health, maternal health and more in the SRHR field. The open issue accepts papers on a rolling basis throughout the year.



SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS IN THE ERA OF COVID-19

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we launched a call for papers in March 2020. In 2020, we have published 22 articles in this special collection of papers which highlights the implications for SRHR globally in the era of COVID-19. This collection of papers is published as part of our open issue.



UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE: SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH RIGHTS IN FOCUS

This themed issue explores the promises and limitations of universal health coverage for SRHR, with special attention to rights-based perspectives. At 30 articles, this is our biggest themed issue yet. This issue was produced in collaboration with the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH).



EXPORTING HARM: IMPACT OF THE GLOBAL GAG RULE ON SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS

This special issue is dedicated to illuminating the harm done by the Trump administration's expanded Global Gag Rule which tramples on national sovereignty, sound healthcare policy, and women and girls' SRHR. This issue was guest edited by Anand Tamang and Terry McGovern and was produced in collaboration with the Heilbrunn Department of Population and Family Health at Columbia University.

OUR JOURNAL

The SRHM journal received 1,448,697 article downloads in 2020, a 94% increase since 2019.

The top cited non-editorial article was *Intersectionality as a lens to the COVID-19 pandemic: implications for sexual and reproductive health in development and humanitarian contexts* by Michelle Lokot and Yeva Avakyan, with 12 citations.

The most downloaded article published in 2020 was *COVID-19: What implications for sexual and reproductive health and rights globally?* an editorial by Julia Hussein. The editorial was also cited 33 times.

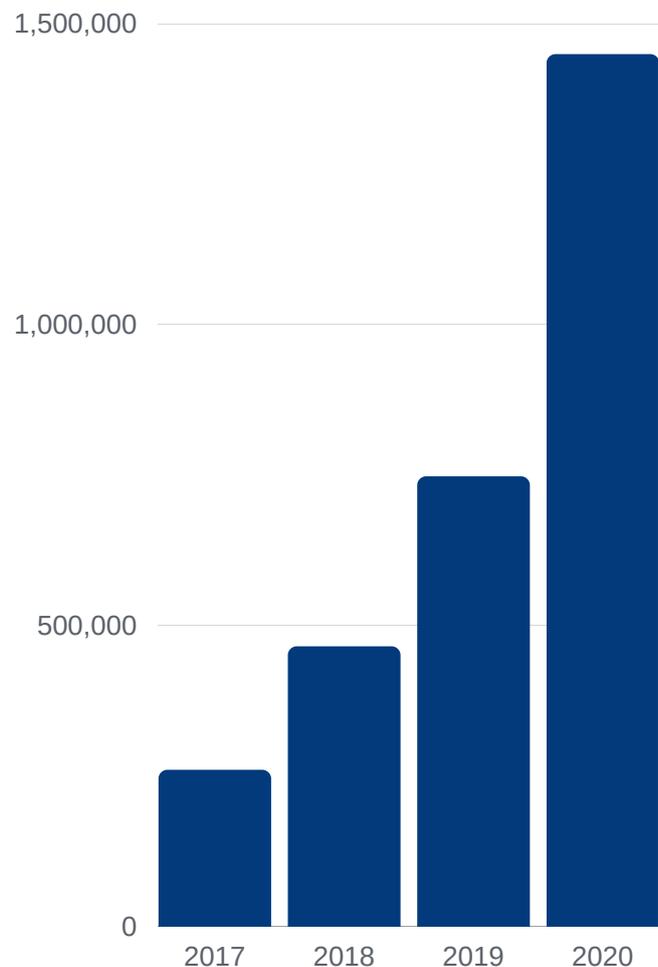
The top Altmetric scoring article was *Slowing progress: the US Global Gag Rule undermines access to contraception in Madagascar* by Lantonirina Ravaoarisoa, Mamy Jean Jacques Razafimahatratra, Mamy Andrianina Rakotondratsara, et al. with a score of 483.

DOWNLOADS

The online readership of our journal has grown tremendously since it became open access in 2017, allowing anyone, anywhere in the world, to access articles published in the SRHM journal. Readers are able to access articles published since the inception of the journal in 1993 to the present.



ARTICLE DOWNLOADS,
DATA FROM PUBLISHER



RELEVANCE AND LONGEVITY OF SRHM ARTICLES

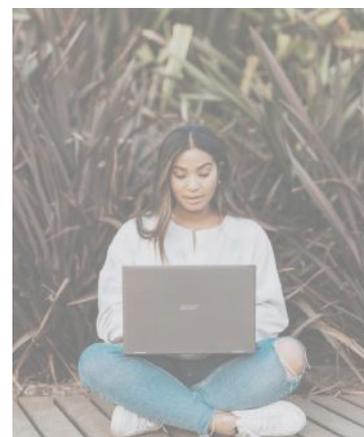
The table below shows the top 10 downloaded articles in 2020, across all journal issues. These articles showcase the diversity of topics, the diversity of the origins of the research, and the relevance of SRHM research. New articles to make the top ten list compared to 2019 are: a paper on health sector reforms in China, a review of a documentary about female genital cosmetic surgery, an editorial on COVID-19 and sexual and reproductive health and rights, an article about discourses on youth sexuality in Indonesia, and an editorial on young people's sexuality.

TOP DOWNLOADED ARTICLES IN 2020	ISSUE	DOWNLOADS IN 2020
1. Sexuality and Women's Rights in Armed Conflict in Sri Lanka. <i>Yasmin Tambiah</i>	May 2004	108,026
2. Sex Workers in Kenya, Numbers of Clients and Associated Risks: An Exploratory Survey. <i>C. Bernard Agala, Michael Elmore-Meegan, Ronan M Conroy</i>	May 2004	87,386
3. School-Based Sex Education in Western Nepal: Uncomfortable for Both Teachers and Students. <i>Sujeeta Shakya, Shreejana Pokharel, Andrzej Kulczycki</i>	Nov 2006	54,908
4. Sexual Torture of Men in Croatia and Other Conflict Situations: An Open Secret. <i>Evert Ketting, Pauline Oosterhoff, Prisca Zwanikken</i>	May 2004	38,375
5. Chinese Maternal Health in Adjustment: Claim for Life. <i>Vinod Diwan, Lennart Bogg, Keli Wang</i>	Nov 2002	34,115
6. The Perfect Vagina. <i>Tracey M Plowman</i>	Jun 2010	29,801
7. Romance and Sex: Pre-Marital Partnership Formation among Young Women and Men, Pune District, India. <i>Bela Ganatra, Mallika Alexander, Shireen Jejeebhoy, Laila Garda, Savita Kanade</i>	Nov 2006	29,267
8. COVID-19: What implications for sexual and reproductive health and rights globally? <i>Julia Hussein</i>	Mar 2020	27,738
9. Youth, Sexuality and Sex Education Messages in Indonesia: Issues of Desire and Control. <i>Brigitte M Holzner, Dédé Oetomo</i>	May 2004	27,558
10. Young people, sex and relationships: miles to go and promises to keep. <i>Marge Berer</i>	May 2013	18,895

ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

New submissions to the journal increased by 75%, from 227 in 2019 to 397 in 2020. In 2020, 104 articles were published across the three journal issues, compared with 69 articles the previous year, as SRHM continues to develop and grow.

Consistent with the previous year, there was a reduction in the mean time from submission to first decision for all papers – from 46.8 days in 2019 to 33.3 days in 2020. This is another strong showing in this regard, and is a reflection of the hard work of our expert reviewers, Associate Editors, Managing Editor and Editor-in-Chief in providing detailed feedback and, where required, timely monitoring to authors.



The discoverability and accessibility of the journal was boosted by its full inclusion in PubMed Central, the open access repository of the National Library of Medicine, in 2020. Journal content dating back to the year 2000 will be available on PubMed Central in due course, and it will be interesting to monitor what proportion of article views and downloads occur via this widely accessed platform in the future, in addition to the views and downloads from our publishing partner's platform.

JOURNAL METRICS



Following discussions in 2019, SRHM underwent a shift in 2020 to provide a more complete picture of journal metrics, with less emphasis placed on the 2-year and 5-year impact factors (1.662 and 2.076, respectively, for 2019), as advocated by the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA) and its many signatories; consistent with this, the journal page on our publishing partner's platform now displays a wide range of up-to-date journal metrics, in addition to the article-level metrics contained within each manuscript, for SRHM. We consider that this is important for providing potential authors, partners and other stakeholders with a more contextualised picture of the journal, and we continue to investigate ways in which we can align further with DORA and other important initiatives.

CAPACITY

SRHM enhances the capacity of SRHR practitioners to produce and use multidisciplinary, rights-based evidence and analysis that links to policy and practice, by publishing their work in the journal and other SRHM platforms.

SRHM addresses imbalances in research publication internationally, by giving attention to younger and new researchers, practitioners and advocates who have less experience in academic writing, and those from low- and middle-income countries.

PROVIDING MENTORSHIP

While papers are accepted on an ongoing basis, authors are supported to develop their academic writing by our editors and associate editors through mentoring. A number of papers in the 2020 open issue are the result of fruitful mentoring collaboration.

In 2020, we also launched a mentoring programme in South Asia. This initiative enabled us to conceive a structured mentoring programme that can be used globally. Further information is included below.



INFLUENCE

SRHM works to ensure that SRHR advocacy, policy and practice are informed and influenced by rigorous evidence- and rights-based analysis. We collaborate with partners and allies to influence political and policy agendas and identify gaps in knowledge and encourage investigation into neglected areas in SRHR.

SRHM AND COVID-19

SRHM delivered a swift and timely response during the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. By providing a platform for discussion, knowledge and information sharing within the global SRHR community, we worked to feature the best and latest rights-based evidence and analysis on the implications of COVID-19 for SRHR globally. We seek to bring attention to how outbreaks can heighten vulnerabilities of different population groups, accentuate gender inequities and lead to neglect of the needs and rights of the most marginalised, including women and girls, refugees, migrants, people living with disability, people living with HIV, as well as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people.

Webinar: What implications for COVID-19 and sexual and reproductive health and rights?

10 days after the global lockdown was announced, we hosted a webinar where we reflected on the implications of COVID-19 on SRHR. SRHM was one of the first organisations to host an online event on this topic. This led to a record number of website visits (over 1,320 people in one day) and significant increases in social media activity.



Six expert panellists engaged in this groundbreaking discussion and made presentations in the following areas: global standards and access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services; maternal health; services for refugee populations; supplies and global access to contraceptives; rights-based lessons from HIV for an effective, community-led response; understanding and addressing gender and violence against women; situating disability; human rights issues faced by transgender people; and regulatory barriers and global standards for accessing safe abortion services.

The webinar was attended by 1,555 participants from 116 countries who in total contributed 495 chat comments via Zoom and a further 3,500 participants watched via Facebook live. In addition, the recording has been viewed more than 2,400 times.

Call for papers and launch of a special collection of articles on COVID-19

On 20 March 2020, we announced a call for papers to better understand the impacts and effective responses to the COVID-19 outbreak and how it relates to SRHR worldwide. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive - we received more than 85 submissions in 2020.

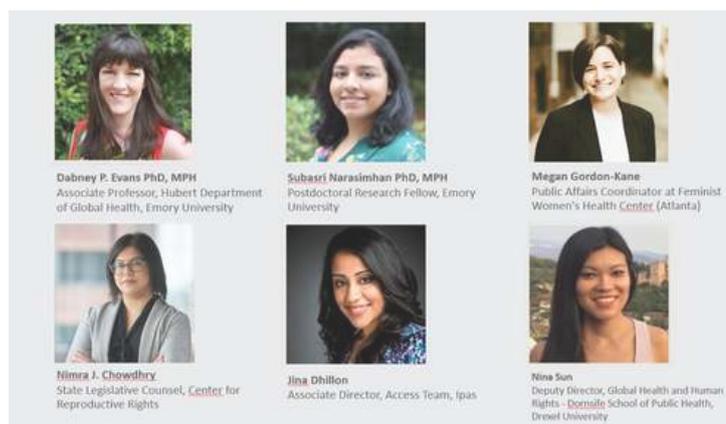
The resulting collection of 22 papers includes an editorial which was downloaded more than 25,000 times. A noticeable trend weaving through our research is how solutions and adaptations for effective sexual and reproductive health service provision during the pandemic have emerged, including the utility of telemedicine, the merits of self-care, and the value of having services close to the community through, for example, community health workers.

WEBINAR SERIES

In 2020, we coordinated several webinars which contributed to debates about human rights standard development, setting research and policy agendas, and engaging in advocacy for SRHR globally and ensuring that our knowledge was shared broadly in order to influence policy and practice.

Early abortion bans: a new wave of anti-abortion strategy and tactics

On 16 January 2020, we held a webinar to discuss a new wave of anti-abortion strategy and tactics that has been sweeping across the United States and has begun influencing anti-abortion strategy globally. The webinar was moderated by Nina Sun, Deputy Director, Global Health and Human Rights, Dornsife School of Public Health, Drexel University and SRHM Associate Editor.



In this webinar, we welcomed Dabney Evans and Subasri Narasimhan to introduce their paper, "A narrative analysis of anti-abortion testimony and legislative debate related to Georgia's fetal 'heartbeat' abortion ban" published in the SRHM journal. The paper analyses anti-abortion tactics for promoting controversial "heartbeat" bills. In addition, Megan Gordon-Kane from the Feminist Women's Health Center in Atlanta, Nimra Chowdhry from the Center for Reproductive Rights, and Jina Dhillon from Ipas, joined the discussion.

Universal Health Coverage and SRHR during COVID-19 and beyond

On 15 June 2020, SRHM hosted a webinar to discuss the new reality of achieving SRHR in universal health coverage (UHC) during COVID-19 and beyond.

The webinar was moderated by Gita Sen, Director, Ramalingaswami Centre on Equity & Social Determinants of Health. The panelists included Helga Fogstad, Executive Director, PMNCH, Helen Clark, Board Chair, PMNCH, Sundari Ravindran, Principal Visiting Fellow, United Nations University Institute for Global Health, Allan Maleche, Executive Director of Kenya Legal and Ethical Issues Network on HIV and AIDS (KELIN), Naomi Lince-Deroche, Senior Research Scientist, Guttmacher Institute, and Manjulaa Narasimhan, Department of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Research, World Health Organization.

Sexual pleasure in times of COVID-19

For World Sexual Health Day on September 4, SRHM, in collaboration with the World Association for Sexual Health (WAS) and The Pleasure Project, co-organised a webinar on sexual pleasure in times of COVID-19.

Anne Philpott from The Pleasure Project, Dr. T Mofokeng, UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health, and Vithika Yadav from Love Matters India spoke during the webinar. Together they led a discussion on how the pandemic had presented both challenges and opportunities as it concerns sexual pleasure. Although social distancing, stay-at-home measures, and fear of the virus impacted sexual interactions globally, the pandemic also led many individuals and couples to further explore their sexuality.

Ethics in sexual and reproductive health research during COVID-19

The COVID-19 crisis has exacerbated the need to collect the most up to date and evidence-based information on SRHR, that can help governments and others to respond to the challenging and emerging situation. However, ethical considerations in SRHR research, such as setting priorities, respecting confidentiality, privacy, informed consent, being inclusive of marginalised populations, cannot be sidelined. To deliberate on the shared understanding of ethical practices in SRHR research, this session of the ethics dialogues series brought together diverse expertise from the field to share their experiences and provoke a critical conversation.



Held on 14 September, 2020, this session was jointly organised by CORE Net India and SRHM.

L'Afrique francophone: quelles priorités en santé sexuelle et reproductive?
(Francophone Africa: what priorities in sexual and reproductive health?)

On October 8, SRHM, in partnership with the Moroccan organisation Ensemble pour la Santé de la Reproduction (Together for Reproductive Health), hosted its first ever French webinar. The event marked the launch of the most recent French issue of the SRHM Journal.

The webinar focused on both opportunities and challenges facing the region including what is needed to reach the Sustainable Development Goals through maternal and newborn health, changes in abortion access with Tunisia as a case study, as well as the need to prioritise adolescent health.

The webinar was moderated by Amina Barkat, Professor and Head of Department of Medicine and Neonatal Resuscitation, Mohammed V University, and Sabina Abou Malham, Professor, Doctor of Public Health, University of Sherbrooke. The panel was composed of Rachid Aboutaieb, Professor and Director of the Sexual and Reproductive Health Laboratory at the Faculty of Medicine of Casablanca; Jean-Paul Dossou, Doctor, PhD student in Public Health, Director of the Center for Research in Human Reproduction and Demography; Selma Hajri, Physician, specialist in endocrinology and reproductive health; and Marlene Joannie Bewa, Physician, Researcher and Expert in Adolescent and Youth Sexual and Reproductive Health in West Africa and North America.



Exporting harm: impact of the expanded Global Gag Rule on sexual and reproductive health and rights

On October 21, we launched our special issue in collaboration with Columbia University: *Exporting harm: impact of the expanded Global Gag Rule on sexual and reproductive health and rights*. In this virtual event, researchers shared the latest evidence of the GGR's impact in Kenya, Madagascar, and Nepal, and discussed the implications of their findings for health systems, civil society, and women and girls across these diverse contexts.

The webinar included presentations from the Center for Research on Environment Health and Population Activities (CREHPA) in Nepal, African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC) in Kenya, L’Institut National de Santé Publique et Communautaire (INSPC) in Madagascar, and The Global Health Justice and Governance program (GHJG), Heilbrunn Department of Population and Family Health, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health. The webinar also featured French and English interpreters to make it more accessible to a wide audience.

RIGHTS-BASED KNOWLEDGE CREATION INITIATIVE

In 2020 we launched our rights-based knowledge creation initiative. This initiative is based on the recognition that SRHR laws, policies and programmes across the world are increasingly influenced by ideologically inspired politics and rhetoric, which lack any basis of evidence, often violate human rights, and damage health. Through various activities, our initiative aims to address how rights principles, such as accountability, autonomy, non-discrimination and participation can be made as main components of SRHR research and knowledge creation for the advancement of evidence and rights-based laws, policies and practices.

Rights and Evidence-Based Knowledge Creation in Sexual and Reproductive Health - A Global Virtual Meeting

A meeting titled *Enhancing the ecosystem of rights and evidence in sexual and reproductive health* was organised on 23 July 2020 with 25 participants from South Asia, Africa, Latin America, Europe, North America and the Middle East. The purpose of the meeting was to connect local, national, regional, and global experts to dissect evidence and rights-based research and knowledge creation for influence and advocacy.



Based on this meeting, we planned a comprehensive programme for 2021 which includes a series of meetings with expert dialogue, extensive rights-based literature reviews organised around key rights principles of SRHR (accountability, participation, non-discrimination, autonomy and consent). The initiative aims to create knowledge products in the form of articles, as well as toolkits for dissemination and global use in mentoring, training and education.

SHARING KNOWLEDGE TO LINK RESEARCH, ADVOCACY AND POLICY

SRHM shares knowledge to influence and link research, advocacy and policy. SRHM plays an important role as a source of objective, well-researched data and evidence. To extend our reach to as wide an audience as possible, we have broadened our approaches to communicating evidence and knowledge.

SRHM in the media



Here's How Conservatives Are Using Civil Rights Law to Restrict Abortion

SRHM paper, *A narrative analysis of anti-abortion testimony and legislative debate related to Georgia's fetal "heartbeat" abortion ban* [28(1): 2020], was used by TIME magazine to show how pro-lifers are using civil rights protections to lobby against early abortions.



Malta’s medical doctors: No to total ban on abortion

The Malta Today emphasized the findings of a study titled *Abortion and methods of reproductive planning: the views of Malta’s medical doctor cohort* [27(1): 2019] in which the authors surveyed doctors in Malta and found that the majority do not agree with a total ban on abortion.



Africa's policies hold key to LGBT rights on the continent: here's how
Regional legal and policy instruments for addressing LGBT exclusion in Africa [29(1): 2020] was cited in The Conversation, The Zimbabwe Star, and Myza to show that regional policy documents such as “The African Charter” offer African countries not yet protecting LGBT rights the basis to draft domestic legislation as the first step to protection to all.



How COVID-19 increased the need for family planning in India

A paper titled *Impact of covid-19 on family planning services in India* [28(1): 2020] was quoted by the online news source mint. The article looks at the limited family planning service provision and increase in unmet need for family planning.



How Trump has sown global chaos for women and girls

In this op-ed published by CNN, Terry McGovern, chair of the Heilbrunn Department of Population and Family Health at Columbia University and guest co-editor of the *Global Gag Rule special issue* [28(3): 2020], dives into what was at stake under the Trump Administration for the reproductive health and wellbeing of women worldwide.



Burkina Faso and Thailand achieving UHC for Sexual and Reproductive Health

The *Universal Health Coverage: Sexual and Reproductive Rights in Focus* issue [28(2): 2020] was referenced in a article published by the WHO Newsroom which explores how different countries are responding to the need to integrate SRHR into universal health coverage.

Social media

The nature of social media allows SRHM to reach a wide and diverse audience. SRHM uses Twitter and Facebook to link individual papers to relevant conferences and events, international days of action and remembrance; and alert organisations and individuals to papers that could usefully inform and support their work. Since the launch of an Instagram page in 2019, we have been working to reach a new, younger audience and to engage with advocates and activists in the SRHR field.

Twitter: 6,000 followers, increased from 4,200 in 2019
Facebook: 2,725 followers, increased from 2,167 in 2019
Instagram: 600 followers since the launch in 2019

Websites

SRHM's organisational website, srhm.org, had over 71,100 page views in 2020 (compared to 37,000 in 2019), with over 29,600 users from all over the world.

SRHM's journal website, srhmjournal.org, is hosted by our publisher, Taylor and Francis, where the entire journal archive is open-access.



Blogs

Blogs serve to share current issues and topics in SRHR in an informal format and are submitted to SRHM by various members of the SRHR community.

Below are the top 5 blogs of 2020 (by readership):



COVID-19: a wakeup call to eliminate barriers to SRHR



As COVID-19 soars in Latin America, digital innovations offer women and girls a lifeline



Accessing safe abortion services amid the COVID-19 pandemic



The impact of COVID-19 on young peoples' access to contraceptives and contraceptive services



The law and self-managed abortion during COVID-19 and beyond

GLOBAL REACH

SRHM builds regional, national, and community ownership in knowledge generation linked to capacity-building, influence and advocacy, ensuring a spread of voices are represented and amplified.

By building capacity and partnering with local organisations, SRHM ensures that the next generation of researchers, policy makers, service providers and especially advocates from the Global South is well equipped to address SRHR issues locally and globally.



REGIONAL HUBS

This year, we built upon the work started in 2019 to develop regional SRHR knowledge platforms connected to our language editions. We focused on two regional hubs: francophone Africa and South Asia. The increased reach strengthens SRHM's ability to influence policy and action by building partnerships with global, regional and national actors.

FRANCOPHONE AFRICA REGIONAL HUB

In collaboration with the Association Ensemble pour la Santé de la Reproduction (ESR) and Ecole Nationale de Santé Publique (ENSP), SRHM has established a francophone regional hub with collaborating partners from Benin, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Tunisia. This collaboration made possible the publication in French of the francophone Africa journal issue of 2020 which provides a space for French speaking healthcare professionals, researchers, policy makers and activists to consult evidence and rights-based analyses on priority issues in francophone Africa. The collaboration also resulted in our first webinar in French bringing together a panel of francophone Africa regional SRHR experts, and the development of a bilingual editorial production process which will lead to the production of bilingual French/English journal issues from 2021 onwards.



SOUTH ASIA REGIONAL HUB

We are grateful to have received a grant from the Gates Foundation to establish a South Asian regional hub. This grant enabled us to establish multi-disciplinary local and regional partnerships and enhance rights-based knowledge creation with global relevance.

Strategy Meeting

A two-day strategy meeting was held in Delhi from 5-6 March 2020, with the aim of gathering feedback from experts in the region on setting up a South Asia regional hub. The meeting brought together SRHR organisations, practitioners, researchers, academics and advocates, government champions, youth leaders and other key stakeholders who are committed to progressive social and political changes on SRHR issues.



SRHM South Asia Regional Issue

In May 2020, we launched a dedicated call for papers for the first South Asia journal issue with a specific focus on regional SRHR needs and perspectives. This journal issue will serve as an entry point for long term, sustained and rights- and evidence-based knowledge creation in the South Asia region.



Through this journal issue, SRHM strives to identify regional threads to build and strengthen local agendas for evidence generation and action. Most importantly, the issue provides a space to examine challenges and progress, using a regional, multidisciplinary lens to strengthen the community of practitioners, advocates and researchers committed to improving SRHR in South Asia. The issue invited submissions on original, rights-based research, analytical reviews, including implementation research, evaluation and policy and legal analyses, commentaries, and critical perspectives from authors across disciplines working on SRHR in South Asia.

Mentoring Programme

To help strengthen the skills of researchers in South Asia, we launched a mentoring programme in June 2020. After a competitive selection process, we matched nine mentees with leading experts in SRHR from the region. Mentees receive training, support and mentoring on analysis, research and writing, with a rights- and evidence-based perspective. The programme is offered for a period of 16 months (from September 2020 to December 2021). The programme also offers the opportunity for mentees to publish their research in the South Asia regional issue of SRHM (subject to peer review and editorial approvals).

In memory of Dr. Jana

We take this opportunity to remember Dr. Jana who was a member of our South Asia Steering Committee. Sadly, Dr. Jana passed away in 2020. Dr. Jana championed human rights in all his work as a medical doctor, a public health specialist, an epidemiologist, a researcher and academician, and as the founder of the Durbar Mahila Samanwaya Committee (DMSC). He was an incomparable professional and, above all, a profoundly inspiring human being. He elevated the voices of the most marginalized communities to ensure their needs were heard and their dignity was respected. The impact of his work will be felt for years to come.



LANGUAGE EDITIONS

Traditionally, we collaborated to publish the SRHM Journal in multiple languages every year. Our partners, based in institutions and organisations in Egypt (Arabic), China (Chinese), India (Hindi), Brazil (Portuguese), Russia (Russian) and Peru (Spanish), would select relevant articles for translation and publication. This year, we piloted a new programme and focused on the French edition of the journal. This was part of our decision to strengthen activities in francophone Africa. We also continued our work of turning the Hindi language edition into a South Asia regional journal issue - a decision that was very well received in the region.

Our Partners

SRHM IN RUSSIAN



EDITOR: Lyubov Erofeeva
PARTNER INSTITUTION: Russian Association for Population & Development, Russia
WEBSITE: www.ranir.ru/prz, also hosted on [SRHM Russian webpage](#)

SRHM IN SPANISH



EDITOR: Ruth Iguñiz-Romero
PARTNER INSTITUTION: Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia, Peru
WEBSITE: www.diassere.org.pe, also hosted on [SRHM Spanish webpage](#)
FACEBOOK: [@temassaludsy](#)

SRHM IN ARABIC



EDITOR: Hala El-Damanhoury
PARTNER INSTITUTION: Etijah Foundation, Egypt
WEBSITE: Hosted on [SRHM Arabic webpage](#)
FACEBOOK: [@arabicrhm](#)
TWITTER: [@arabicrhm](#)

SRHM IN CHINESE



EDITOR: Mengchun Jia
PARTNER INSTITUTION: National Research Institute for Family Planning, China
WEBSITE: <http://www.e-healthdata.cn/healthdata/szjky/index.jhtml>, also hosted on [SRHM Chinese webpage](#)

SRHM IN FRENCH



EDITOR: Bouchra Assarag
PARTNER INSTITUTIONS: Association Together for Reproductive Health (ESR) and Rabat National School of Public Health/ Ministry of Health (ENSP)
WEBSITE: Hosted on [SRHM French webpage](#)

SRHM IN HINDI



EDITOR: Shalini Singh
PARTNER INSTITUTION: CREA, India
WEBSITE: www.creaworld.org/publications/reproductive-health-matters, also hosted on [SRHM Hindi webpage](#)

SRHM IN PORTUGUESE



EDITORS: Ana Paula Portella and Simone Diniz
PARTNER INSTITUTION: Grupo Curumim, Brazil
WEBSITE: Hosted on [SRHM Portuguese webpage](#)
FACEBOOK [@questoesaudereprodutiva](#)
TWITTER: [@BrasilQSR](#)

SUSTAIN AND STRENGTHEN ORGANISATIONAL AND FINANCIAL CAPACITY

SRHM strives to be an organisation with strong institutional and financial sustainability in order to maintain its core mission, vision and values.

SRHM SECRETARIAT

Our global team is passionate about the mission of SRHM and contributes diverse, dynamic, and professional experience to the organisation.

Eszter Kismódi - Chief Executive, Switzerland

Julia Hussein - Editor-in-Chief, UK

Pete Chapman - Managing Editor, UK

Pathika Martin - Monitoring Editor, UK

Edna Epelu - Operations Manager, UK (until August 2020)

Amy Guthrie - Operations Manager, UK (since July 2020)

Jessica MacKinnon - Communications Manager, Ireland

Alexane Bremshey - Communications Officer, UK

Anna Reed - Intern, USA (from June to August 2020)

In July 2020, we welcomed Amy Guthrie as Operations Manager to ensure the smooth running of the organisation. In August 2020, we said a fond farewell to Edna Epelu as Operations Manager. We are grateful for her contribution to the organisation and her dedication to SRHM.





TRUSTEES

Our Trustees ensure SRHM's accountability for its mission, vision, values and operational excellence.

Jane Cottingham (Chair) - Independent consultant, Switzerland

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Sofia Gruskin - Director, Program on Global Health and Human Rights, University of Southern California, USA

Sarah Hodgson - Finance Specialist

Mike Mbizvo - Country Director, Population Council, Zambia

ASSOCIATE EDITORS

Our associate editors provide a valuable contribution to the publication of the journal and mentorship of authors.

Laura Ferguson - Associate Director, Program on Global Health & Human Rights, University of Southern California, USA

Emma Pitchforth - Senior Lecturer and Senior Research Fellow in Primary Care, University of Exeter, UK

Mindy Jane Roseman - Director of International Law Programs and Director of the Gruber Program for Global Justice and Women's Rights, Yale Law

Joyce Wamoyi - Social and behavioural researcher at the National Institute for Medical Research, Mwanza, Tanzania

Nina Sun - Deputy Director, Global Health and Human Rights, Dornsife School of Public Health, Drexel University, USA

Nambusi Kyegombe - Assistant Professor, Social and Structural determinants of health, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK

Atsumi Hirose - Teaching Fellow in Global Health, Imperial College London, UK; Affiliated researcher, Department of Global Public Health, Karolinska Institutet, Sweden

In 2020, we welcomed Atsumi Hirose as our newest associate editor.

EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD

Our editorial advisory board members offer diverse, multidisciplinary and long-standing expertise related to SRHR to help achieve SRHM's core mission.

Avni Amin – Scientist on Gender-based Violence, WHO, Department of Reproductive Health and Research, Switzerland

Luisa Cabal – Special Adviser for Human Rights and Gender at UNAIDS, Switzerland

Mauro Cabral – Executive Director, GATE, Argentina

Lidia Casas – Professor of Law, Facultad de Derecho, Universidad Diego Portales, Chile

Marilen J. Danguilan – Social Health Advisor, Salubris Medical Center; Population Services of the Philippines Inc, Philippines

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Thérèse Delvaux – Senior Researcher, Institute of Tropical Medicine, Belgium

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Shireen Jejeebhoy – Independent researcher, India

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Gunta Lazdane – Director of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Institute of Public Health, Riga Stradins University, Latvia

Address Malata – Vice Chancellor, Malawi University of Science and Technology, Malawi

Affette McCaw-Binns – Professor of Reproductive Health and Epidemiology, University of the West Indies, Jamaica

Alice Miller – Associate Professor (Adjunct) of Law at Yale Law School, Co-Director of the Global Health Justice Partnership, Yale University, USA

Wanda Nowicka – Lecturer, Institute of Applied Sciences, Warsaw University; Chair, Equality and Modernity Association, Poland

Jeffrey O'Malley – Director, Division of Policy and Strategy, Unicef, USA

Sabina Rachid – Dean & Professor and Associate Professor, IMPACT; BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University, Bangladesh

TK Sundari Ravindran – Professor, Achutha Menon Centre for Health Science Studies, India

Juliet Richters – Honorary Visiting Professor, Sexual Health Program, Kirby Institute, University of New South Wales, Australia

Judit Sándor – Professor, Faculty of Political Science, Legal Studies and Gender Studies of the Central European University (CEU), Hungary

Gita Sen – Director, Ramalingaswami Centre on Equity & Social Determinants of Health, Public Health Foundation of India

Iqbal Shah – Principal Research Scientist, Department of Global Health and Population, Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health, USA

Tom Shakespeare – Professor of Disability Research, International Centre for Evidence in Disability, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK

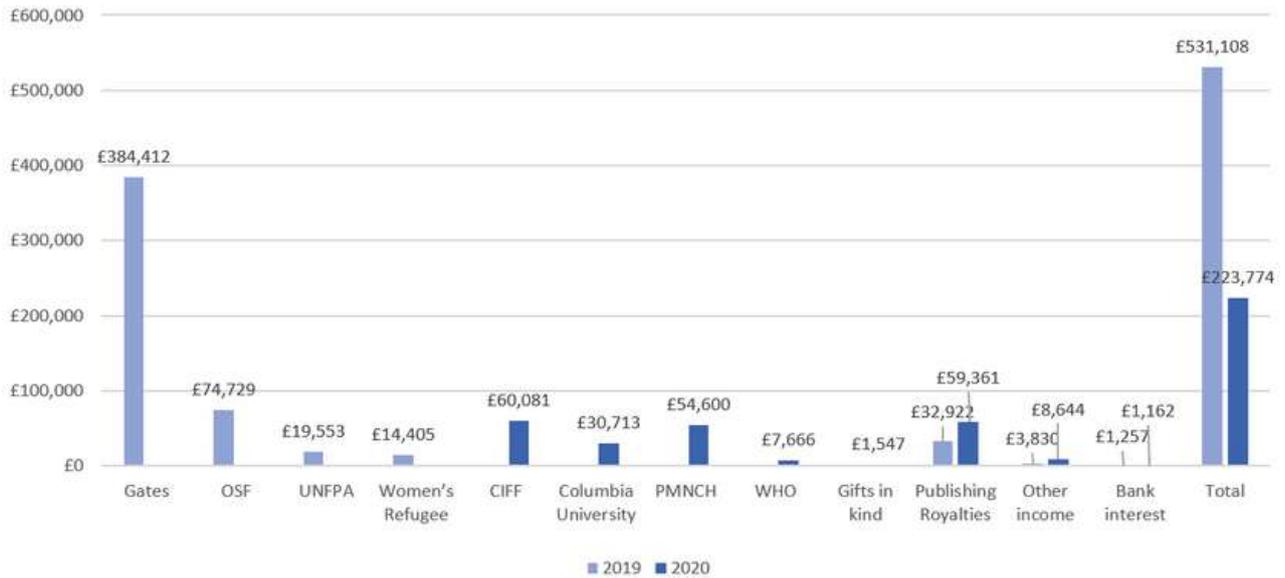
Heidi Stöckl – Director of the Gender Violence & Health Centre, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK

Johanne Sundby – Professor, Institute of Community Medicine, University of Oslo, Norway

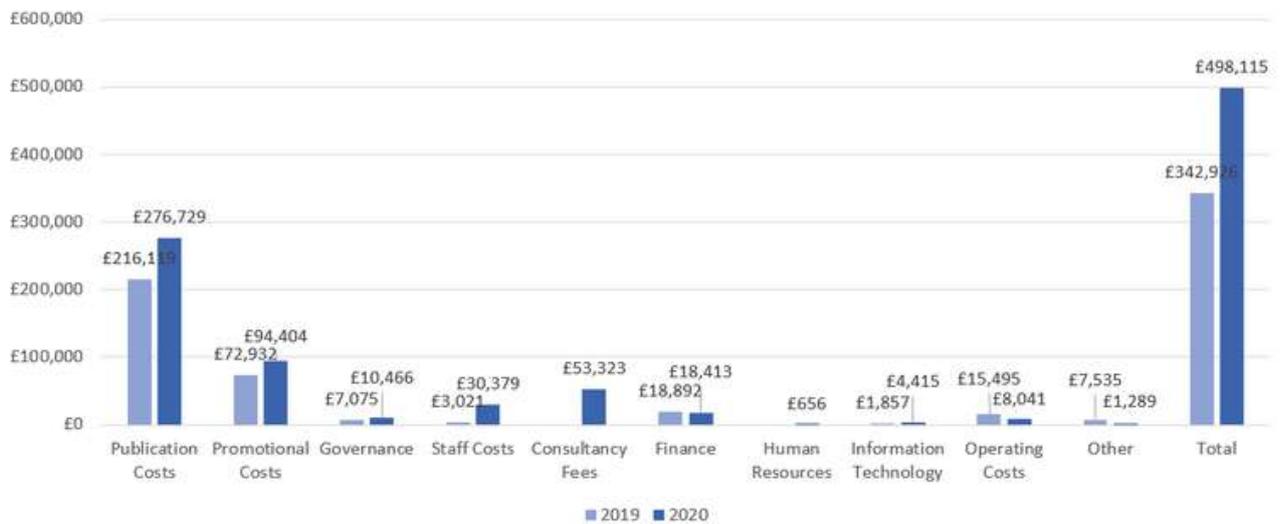
Sylvia Tamale – Associate Professor, Faculty of Law, Makerere University, Uganda

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Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters
Hamilton House
Mabledon Place
London WC1H 9BB, UK
Website: www.srhm.org