

# arrow

*annual report*

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## Exploring New Paradigms for the New Development Agenda

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2012

the asian-pacific resource and  
research centre for women  
(arrow)



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*A Kalasha matriarch, Kalash Valley, Pakistan*  
*Source: Photostream of manalahmadkhan*  
*(Flickr, Creative Commons)*

## About ARROW

ARROW is a regional non-profit women's NGO co-founded in 1993 by Rashidah Abdullah and Rita Raj. It has consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, and is based in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

### VISION<sup>1</sup>

An equal, just and equitable world, where every woman enjoys her full sexual and reproductive rights.

### MISSION

To promote and defend women's<sup>2</sup> rights and needs,<sup>3</sup> particularly in the areas of health and sexuality, and to reaffirm their agency<sup>4</sup> to claim these rights.

### OBJECTIVES

ARROW's goals will be met when:

- a. Systems, policies and programmes are reoriented to:
  - Uphold gender equality and sexual and reproductive health and rights; and

- Ensure that health systems deliver comprehensive, gender-sensitive and rights-based services for sexual reproductive health that are accessible<sup>5</sup>, equitable, just and of the highest quality.
- b. Women's movements<sup>6</sup> and civil society<sup>7</sup> are strong and effective in:
  - Influencing policy agenda on women's health, sexuality and rights;
  - Holding governments and donors accountable to international and national commitments; and
  - Gaining sustained representation on decision-making structures.
- c. Women's lives and health outcomes improve, particularly in the area of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR),<sup>8</sup> especially those poor and marginalised.

## THEMATIC AREAS AND CRITICAL ISSUES OF WORK

### Overarching Themes:

- Women's empowerment and gender equality
- Affirmative sexuality

### Critical Issues:

- Universal access to quality sexual and reproductive health services
- Universality of sexual and reproductive rights
- The socio-economic determinants of health and well-being
- Emerging issues affecting SRHR, such as climate change, disasters and conflict

## STRATEGIES

ARROW believes in the power of effective collaborations to make a difference in women's lives, including their SRHR. Our partners are integral to our structure, and capacity building initiatives with them are an important mechanism to facilitate their effective participation in achieving our goals.

ARROW's strategy in the 2012-2016 work programme includes the following measures:

- Information, knowledge sharing and communications for social change

- Monitoring and research for evidence-based advocacy
- Building and strengthening partnerships for advocacy
- Organisational development

## STRUCTURE

- ARROW is governed by a Board of Directors, comprising five committed members with experience in leading women's organisations.
- ARROW's programmes are implemented by highly-qualified paid staff members from its office in Kuala Lumpur, with specific contributions from project-based consultants and occasional interns. There were 18 full-time staff positions in 2012.
- ARROW's operations are overseen by the management team, led by the Executive Director and supported by a Finance cum Administration cum Manager and two Programme Managers.
- The Programme Advisory Committee, a committed set of activists knowledgeable about SRHR issues in the region, provides programme advice and sets direction for action.

## REACH AND COVERAGE

In 2012, ARROW worked directly with 17 national partners in 13 countries across Asia and the Pacific, including Bangladesh, Burma, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. We have also entered agreements with three more national partners in Bhutan, Maldives and Sri Lanka, with work to begin in 2013. Additionally, through our Global South ICPD Monitoring Initiative,<sup>9</sup> we are working with regional organisations in five regions of the Global South: Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Middle East and North Africa. Moreover, through our information and communications and advocacy programmes, we are able to reach stakeholders on SRHR and women's health, sexuality and rights in more than 120 countries worldwide.

## Endnotes

1. As part of the planning process for the new Strategic Plan, the ARROW staff, Board, Programme Advisory Committee members and partners reviewed the organisation's vision, mission and long-term objectives to ensure that they remain current, relevant and responsive to the needs of the region.
2. All women, especially those who are most marginalised and excluded.
3. Some needs are not covered by rights; needs is defined differently from 'welfare.'
4. Agency refers to the ability to act on one's own behalf and exercise informed choices. This term encapsulates elements like empowerment, capacity, ability, claiming rights, and being agents of change. This can be collective or individual.
5. Geographical accessibility, which means time it takes to reach services and also the price of services.
6. This includes the full diversity of women's movements, including grassroots and Southern voices.
7. Civil society here refers to organisations representing groups that are marginalised or discriminated against, and do not include religious bodies and private sector organisations.
8. The abbreviations SRHR (sexual and reproductive health and rights), SRR (sexual and reproductive rights) and SRH (sexual and reproductive health) are used throughout the document.
9. ICPD refers to the International Conference on Population and Development held in 1994 in Cairo, where the equality and empowerment of women became a global priority. Part of ARROW's work involves monitoring of ICPD commitments, particularly in SRHR. The abbreviations ICPD and ICPD PoA (Programme of Action) are used throughout the document.





*Outside National League for Democracy Headquarters, Burma; April 2012 by Suzette Mitchell  
Source: Photostream of unwomenasiapacific (Flickr, Creative Commons)*

## Reflections from the Executive Director: Outstanding Moments of 2012 and Ways Forward



The year 2012 was an extremely fulfilling year for the Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women (ARROW) in many different ways. It was filled with many memorable and striking events.

One of ARROW's more outstanding moments was organising the meeting "Beyond ICPD & the MDGs: NGOs Strategising for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Asia-Pacific" ('Beyond ICPD & the MDGs') in May 2012 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia that enabled the regional political articulation of the SRHR agenda in the 'KL Call to Action.'

This key meeting brought together a wide range of cross-generation NGOs and activists working on SRHR, migration, poverty, food security, climate change and religious extremism across 27 different countries in the region and enabled ARROW to deeply understand the regional agenda from the perspective of these diverse stakeholders. It also

concretely established the credibility of ARROW as a key regional NGO in the lead-up to 2015.

The second most outstanding moment was co-chairing the Bali Global Youth Forum at the end of the year. This co-chairing was led by Rishita Nandagiri, a youth member of ARROW's Programme Advisory Committee, with the Executive Director. The Bali Global Youth Forum was the first in a series of thematic forums initiated under the ICPD Beyond 2014 secretariat as a means of informing the 20-year-old Programme of Action of new and current paradigms. ARROW anticipated that the forum, as the first of ICPD Beyond 2014 activities, could potentially enable civil society to push the SRHR agenda forward. ARROW invested staff time quite heavily in the forum and was actively involved in all task forces.

Key information materials were also produced and widely distributed to apprise the almost 1,000 Bali delegates of the youth SRHR agenda from the Global South and Asia-Pacific. This multi-stakeholder meeting resulted in the revolutionary Bali declaration that articulated access to safe abortion services, access to comprehensive sexuality education, access to SRH services for young people, and sexual identity as fundamental rights of young people. Since then, the declaration has been widely disseminated by UNFPA and has now become an official UN document. It will be put forth to the General Assembly as a multi-stakeholder declaration of how the ICPD Programme of Action needs to be updated in 2014. This was truly an exhilarating experience.

A third outstanding moment was when ARROW initiated new work and dialogues with new partners and new movements to grow our work. At the ground level, our work reached new countries and brought into the ARROW fold Bhutan, Maldives and Sri Lanka. In Burma, our current work was expanded in a context where the work is necessary and much-needed especially in the border areas. Inter-movement work was seen as becoming more significant to create new constituencies for the SRHR agenda. In the past, we had worked with the rural women's movement and least-developed countries.

This year, we had made significant inter-movement linkages, especially with the migration movement through inclusion of the agenda in the 'Beyond ICPD & the MDGs' meeting and subsequent publications of the *ARROW for Change* bulletin and the working paper on the inter-linkages of labour migration, gender, and SRHR.

A fourth outstanding moment was the revamping of ARROW's identity, which also involved a revitalising of ARROW's logo. After 20 years, the ARROW team after going through an external perceptions audit and an internal, moderated, search exercise, expressed a succinct, new vision statement for the organisation: 'An equal, just and equitable world where every woman enjoys her full sexual and reproductive rights.' This new vision took into account ARROW's Strategic Plan 2012 – 2016, as well as the discussions from the strategic planning meeting which was held with ARROW's partners, Board and Programme Advisory Committee members. This exercise also gave the organisation a new and vibrant logo to celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, which was loved by all. The new logo revitalises the idea of an 'arrow' as in the old logo and at the same time has the profile of a woman to emphasise that the well-being and rights of women are the central concern of ARROW's work and that we work with and for women. With a plethora of publications, websites and new media being created every year, it was also essential to invest in creating a visually-coherent identity for the work of the organisation. The roll-out of the new look is being done step by step and thus far ARROW's key products such as the *ARROW for Change*, the website and the annual report have all adopted the new identity.

This year was also when the finance and administrative section of the organisation was revamped considerably. The transition of the accounting system to use the Navision system, the strengthening of existing internal financial controls systems, and the negotiation of a new lease on our tax exempt status have all been stellar achievements in this year. All of these enabled the organisation to have a sound financial and administrative foundation on which excellent programmes can be based on and run from.

As we move towards 2015, I can only state the hope that all of us are fully geared up in order to give our best and to do our best for women and girls in the global South to realise sexual and reproductive health and rights for all!

**Sivananthi Thanenthiran**  
ARROW Executive Director

*Participants and organisers of the Beyond ICPD and the MDGs: NGOs Strategising for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Asia-Pacific meeting*  
Source: ARROW Photobank





## Information and Communications: Building Inter-linkages, Creating Social Change

Knowledge is a key to transformative social change; this is one of the Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre's (ARROW) core beliefs. As such, information and communications (Infocom) has been a core strategy since ARROW's establishment and is our first objective in ARROW's current strategic plan. ARROW's strong Infocom programme reaches more than 120 countries worldwide, enabling us to articulate and sustain the momentum for the SRHR agenda in the Asia and Pacific region and the Global South. It is catalytic to strengthening ARROW's and partners' ability to influence key stakeholders about SRHR policies and programmes.

In 2012, the main highlights for the Infocom programme include a positioning and branding exercise that resulted in clarifying ARROW's vision and tagline, a new logo and a new look for our products. We also helped shape the analysis and debate

around critical issues relevant in the ICPD review and post-2015 development agenda processes through developing and disseminating publications on migration, gender and SRHR; youth movement building and SRHR; and other development issues that shape the SRHR agenda in the region. We continued to make critical SRHR information accessible to key stakeholders through our services, including the ARROW SRHR Knowledge Sharing Centre, the SRHR Info Resource e-news service and the ARROW website. Additionally, in 2012, we solidified our social media presence through strengthening our Facebook interventions and establishing a Twitter account. Furthermore, we strengthened our Infocom programme through exciting inter-movement and intersectional initiatives looking at the intersections to SRHR of migration, food security, poverty, and climate change.

ARROW's Infocom work is supported by our core development partner Sida,<sup>10</sup> with additional support from various donors for specific projects and outputs.

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### ARROW'S POSITIONING, VISIONING AND REBRANDING

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Since ARROW was established in 1993, the world and the organisation have changed. Yet, ARROW's identity as reflected in its logo has overall remained the same through the years. As part of our preparations for our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations in 2013 and to ensure that we remain relevant and strategic, ARROW embarked on an exercise to help the organisation position itself with greater clarity and strength.

We carried out an internal 'Perceptions Audit,' followed by a workshop on 27 March 2012 to create a Brand Positioning Model that would serve as an internal brand template and guideline for ARROW in clarifying what ARROW stands for, and what ARROW as an organisation is trying to achieve. As a result, ARROW has identified a new vision that captures all that we aim, work and hope for: *"An equal, just and equitable world where every woman enjoys her full sexual and reproductive rights."* ARROW's new tagline, *"Championing women's sexual and reproductive rights,"* covers what ARROW hopes to do in its new strategic plan.

To ensure that ARROW's brand identity is in line with the above vision and tagline, and that our 'look and feel' is consistent across all our platforms and products, ARROW took the opportunity to refresh our brand identity. The cornerstone of this new brand identity is the new ARROW logo, which combines critical elements of the previous logo, including the use of the colour purple (the colour of women, as well as of deep thought, imagination and inspiration) and the arrow symbolism. Further dynamism and freshness has also been added through the ribbon element by using a youthful and vibrant pink. The woman's face is a visual reminder of whose rights we are championing. Her looking back captures the importance of our history and of the women who carved and walked those paths with us, as well as ARROW's key strategy of monitoring and reviewing achievements and gaps to be more accurate and strategic in the future. The arrow pointing forward symbolises strategic action towards our desired aim and direction.

This rebranding also included the redesign of ARROW's office stationery, key publications and organisational website.

This rebranding exercise on ARROW's new logo and 'look and feel' has received positive responses from ARROW's key stakeholders. Plans to continue this exercise in 2013 include producing templates for other products.

#### ASK-US! CENTRE: ENABLING ACCESS TO SRHR INFORMATION

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ARROW's SRHR Knowledge Sharing Centre (ASK-us!), formerly known as the Information and Documentation Centre, has been established since the inception of ARROW in 1993. As one of the few remaining SRHR and women's health-related resource centres in the region for advocacy work, ASK-us! provides important research support to researchers, activists and stakeholders.

**Resource Management:** Resource collection and management is crucial in making sure that ARROW responds to information needs quickly and efficiently. The collection currently contains 23,002 information sources in print and electronic formats,

an 11.5% increase from the 2011 collection of 20,636. There were 2,366 new acquisitions for 2012. ASK-us! has also re-subscribed to the Elsevier database Science Direct, which is a leading full-text scientific database offering journal articles and book chapters from more than 2,500 peer-reviewed journals and more than 11,000 books.

**Research Support:** This year, a total of 8,441 users were served by ASK-us! through its rich trove of information resources and services. This included resource centre drop-ins, responding to email requests and the provision of proactive information via the SRHR Info Resource and website. This marks an 11.7% increase in the usage and outreach of ASK-us! (there were 7,557 users in 2011). The majority of users were from the Asia-Pacific, North America and Europe regions.

**Research Tools:** An annotated bibliography was produced as a supplement to the *ARROW for Change* on Labour Migration, Gender and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights. This publication, titled *Women and Migration: An Annotated Bibliography*, is available on the website.<sup>11</sup> The print copy was also disseminated to current funders, the Board, Programme Advisory Committee, partners and networks. Additionally, the DVD compilation of all of our publications, titled, *ARROW Digital Resources 1994-2012*, was produced in September, and disseminated widely, including to the Board, Programme Advisory Committee and partners, as well as conference participants.

#### ADVANCING THE SRHR AGENDA THROUGH NEW MEDIA AND MEDIA MECHANISMS

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Given that the world is now moving into a digital age, the power of new media and media mechanisms are critical in engaging and influencing a wider range of audience on advocacy for development issues and change. These tools work by connecting people to information and services, and at the same time, by linking individuals with communities and organisations, and vice versa. Recognising the importance of these mechanisms, ARROW continues to strengthen its online presence through its organisational website, its monthly

e-newsletter *SRHR Info Resources*, social media channels (Facebook and Twitter), as well as its project websites. All these modalities aim to make SRHR relevant information accessible and useful to a wide range of audience.

**ARROW Website:** ARROW's website aims to be a dynamic SRHR information hub, making available and accessible cutting-edge information and analyses on critical women's issues. It also promotes ARROW and her work, her partners and the work that they do; enhances outreach through the increased utilisation of new technologies; and acts as a platform for networking and alliance-building.

Given the central role of the website in strengthening ARROW's online presence and identity, the website was among the first platforms to be redesigned to reflect the new logo, as well as ARROW's new vision and mission. The template is mobile device friendly as many people now use iPads, Tablets and smartphones to access the internet. The website was launched in the second week of October, and ongoing revamp-related updates were done until the end of the year. More will be done in 2013.

Aside from general fine-tuning of the website, numerous pages on the website were also updated, in order to ensure that the information available was the latest and most updated. Throughout the year, new pages on the website were created to capture ARROW's current projects and initiatives.

The website is utilised as a mechanism for knowledge sharing, with all ARROW publications made available for download in web-friendly digital formats. Twenty publications were uploaded in 2012 (see Box 1: ARROW Knowledge Products in 2012, page 17); by end of 2012, over 100 ARROW publications have been digitised and made available for download on the website. The website is the top mechanism for distribution of publications (see Table 1: ARROW Knowledge Products Distributed by Mechanism, 2011-2012, page 22).

In 2012, ARROW's website continued to grow as an information portal and advocacy tool for social change. This is reflected in

the increase in the number of hits and visits from 2011. By end of 2012, ARROW's website received 2,223,051 hits, an increase of 64.1% (compared with 1,354,225 hits in 2011), while the number of visits increased from 177,238 in 2011 to 246,971 in 2012 (39.3% increase) (See Figure 1: Hits & Visits 2012, page 18). The website generated 822,061 page views in total in 2012.

The number of unique visitors, return visitors and new visitors also increased significantly in 2012, when compared to 2011, as shown in Figure 2 (page 18). The website also grew in terms of its regional and global<sup>12</sup> reach, as shown in Figure 3 (page 19). North America as a region garnered the most hits, visits and page views, followed by Europe and Asia. This can be attributed to higher bandwidth in these three regions.

**E-newsletter:** *SRHR Info Resources* is ARROW's e-newsletter service, which contains SRHR-related news and resources, calls for action and papers, upcoming events, job openings and ARROW and partner updates. As ARROW's identity rebranding occurred in 2012, it was decided to refresh the *SRHR Info Resources* look, and also to move the e-newsletter service onto a different, more efficient platform. This Email Marketing System platform is more user-friendly as well. There were 35 *SRHR Info Resources* issues sent out in 2012 (an increase from the 20 pieces sent out in 2011) to a total number of 1,835 subscribers (as of 31 December 2012).

**Social Media:** Social media is becoming an increasingly important tool of engagement for social change. It allows us to interact with people who have an interest in ARROW or SRHR generally; giving us an immediacy of connection that is difficult with other forms of media. It also gives us a useful forum to garner feedback on the work that we are doing and the ability to measure some of its impact. ARROW's key goal in utilising social media is to build a wide base of popular support both for ARROW and SRHR. Overall, in 2012 there was a substantial increase in ARROW's engagement with social media due to the implementation of a strategy of regular updates and interaction with members on ARROW's Facebook page, and the launch of ARROW's Twitter account in December 2012.

## Box 1. ARROW Knowledge Products in 2012

### ARROW for Change Issues

- *ARROW for Change* Vol. 17 No. 2 2011: Gender-based Violence and Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights: Looking at the Health Sector Response in the Asia-Pacific Region (<http://arrow.org.my/publications/AFC/v17n2.pdf>)
- *ARROW for Change* Vol. 18 Special Edition 2012: Seizing the Pivotal Moment: NGOs Strategising for Sexual & Reproductive Health & Rights in Asia & the Pacific Post-2014 (<http://arrow.org.my/publications/AFC/v18SpEd.pdf>)
- *ARROW for Change* Vol. 18 No.2: Youth SRHR Movements: Claiming the Post-2015 Development Agenda ([www.arrow.org.my/publications/AFC/v18n2.pdf](http://arrow.org.my/publications/AFC/v18n2.pdf))
- *ARROW for Change* Vol. 19 No. 1: Migration, Gender and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (<http://arrow.org.my/publications/AFC/v19n1.pdf>)

### Annotated Bibliographies

- *Women and Migration: An Annotated Bibliography* ([http://www.arrow.org.my/IDC/Bibliographies/Migration\\_Annotated.pdf](http://www.arrow.org.my/IDC/Bibliographies/Migration_Annotated.pdf))

### ARROW Monitoring Reports, Researches, Working Papers and Others

- *Reclaiming & Redefining Rights: Setting the Adolescent & Young People SRHR Agenda Beyond ICPD+20* ([http://www.arrow.org.my/uploads/R&R\\_Factsheet.pdf](http://www.arrow.org.my/uploads/R&R_Factsheet.pdf))
- *Reclaiming & Redefining Rights - Thematic Studies Series 5: Poverty, Food Security, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights - Integrating and Reinforcing State Responsibilities, Integrating Societal Action* ([http://www.arrow.org.my/publications/ICPD+15Country&ThematicCaseStudies/Poverty\\_FoodSecurity\\_SRHR.pdf](http://www.arrow.org.my/publications/ICPD+15Country&ThematicCaseStudies/Poverty_FoodSecurity_SRHR.pdf))
- *Reclaiming & Redefining Rights - Guidance Series: Analysing Sexual and Reproductive Health & Rights under the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Violence Against Women (CEDAW)* ([http://www.arrow.org.my/uploads/R&R\\_GuidanceSeries.pdf](http://www.arrow.org.my/uploads/R&R_GuidanceSeries.pdf))
- *Sex & Rights: The Status of Young People's Sexual & Reproductive Health & Rights in South East Asia* (<http://www.arrow.org.my/uploads/Sex&Rights.pdf>)
- *The Essence of an Innovative Programme for Young People in South East Asia: A Position Paper on Comprehensive Sexuality Education (including Youth-friendly Services), Meaningful*

*Youth Participation & Rights-based Approaches in Programming* ([http://www.arrow.org.my/uploads/The\\_Essence\\_of\\_an\\_Innovative\\_Prog\\_for\\_Young\\_People.pdf](http://www.arrow.org.my/uploads/The_Essence_of_an_Innovative_Prog_for_Young_People.pdf))

- *International Labour Migration, Gender, and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Southeast and East Asia and the Pacific* ([http://www.arrow.org.my/uploads/Migration\\_WorkingPaper.pdf](http://www.arrow.org.my/uploads/Migration_WorkingPaper.pdf))
- *Leadership Experiences of Young Women in South East Asia: Reflections on Advancing Young People's SRHR Agenda* ([http://www.arrow.org.my/uploads/Leadership\\_Experiences\\_of\\_Young\\_Women\\_in\\_SEA.pdf](http://www.arrow.org.my/uploads/Leadership_Experiences_of_Young_Women_in_SEA.pdf))

### Meeting Reports/Outputs

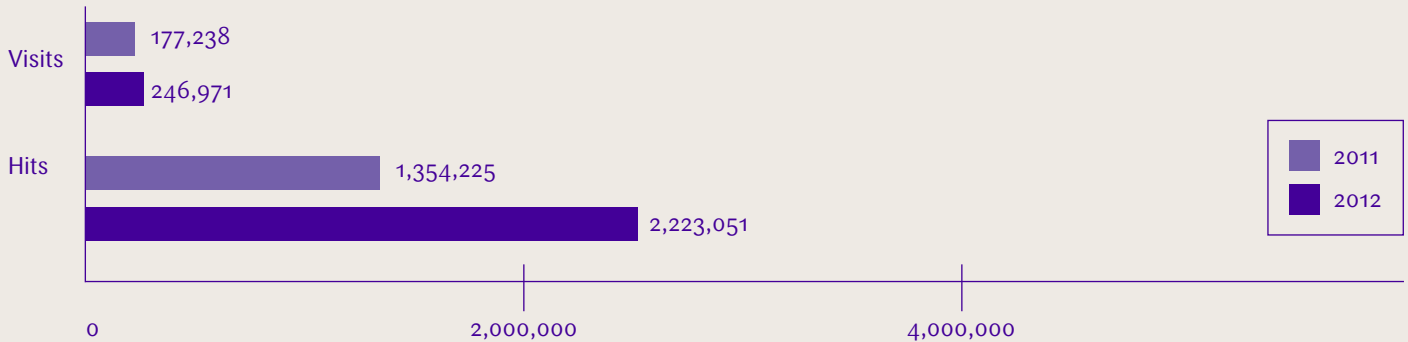
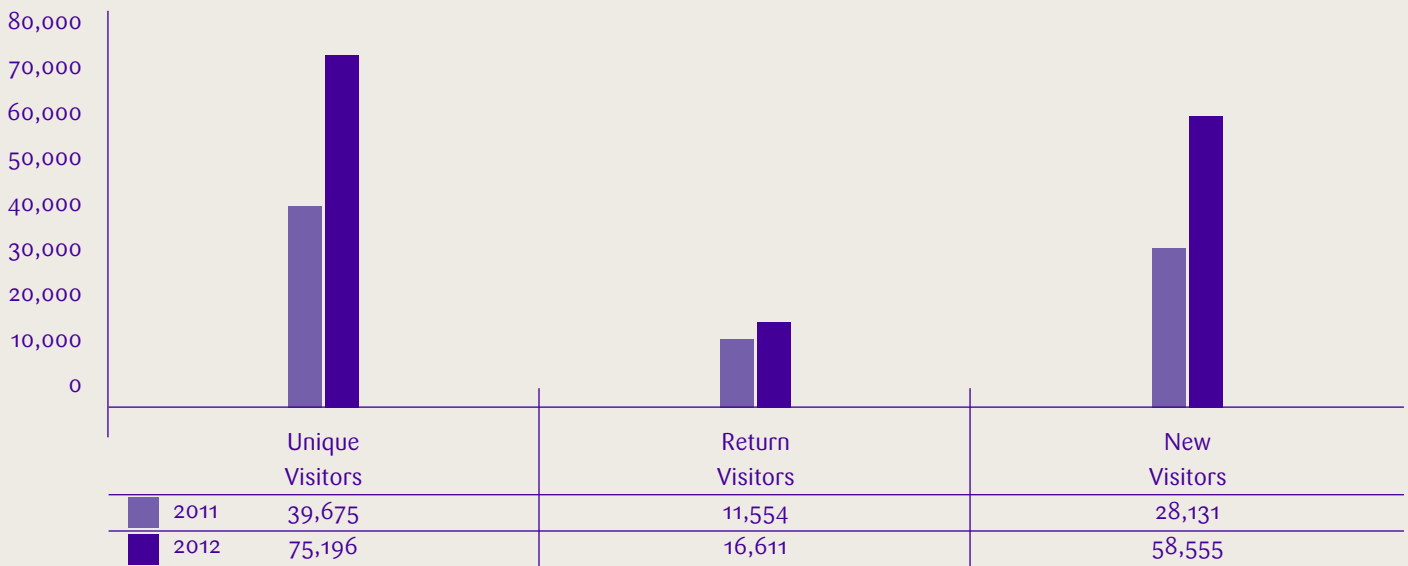
- *Beyond ICPD & the MDGs: NGOs Strategising for Sexual & Reproductive Health & Rights in Asia-Pacific: Thematic Papers presented at the Regional Meeting 2-4 May 2012; Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia* ([http://www.arrow.org.my/APNGOs/Thematic\\_Papers\\_Beyond\\_ICPD\\_&\\_the\\_MDGs.pdf](http://www.arrow.org.my/APNGOs/Thematic_Papers_Beyond_ICPD_&_the_MDGs.pdf))
- *Action for Sexual & Reproductive Health & Rights: Strategies for the Asia-Pacific Beyond ICPD & the MDGs* ([http://www.arrow.org.my/APNGOs/Proceedings%20Report\\_Final.pdf](http://www.arrow.org.my/APNGOs/Proceedings%20Report_Final.pdf))
- *Kuala Lumpur Call to Action* ([http://www.arrow.org.my/APNGOs/KL\\_Call\\_to\\_Action.pdf](http://www.arrow.org.my/APNGOs/KL_Call_to_Action.pdf))
- *Kuala Lumpur Plan of Action* ([http://www.arrow.org.my/publications/KL\\_POA.pdf](http://www.arrow.org.my/publications/KL_POA.pdf))
- *Global Youth Forum: Families, Youth Rights and Well-being (including sexuality)* ([http://arrow.org.my/www/publications/families\\_youth\\_rights\\_well\\_being\\_GYF2012.pdf](http://arrow.org.my/www/publications/families_youth_rights_well_being_GYF2012.pdf))

### Annual Report

- *Annual Report 2011* (<http://www.arrow.org.my/publications/AnnualReports/AR2011.pdf>)

### Videos

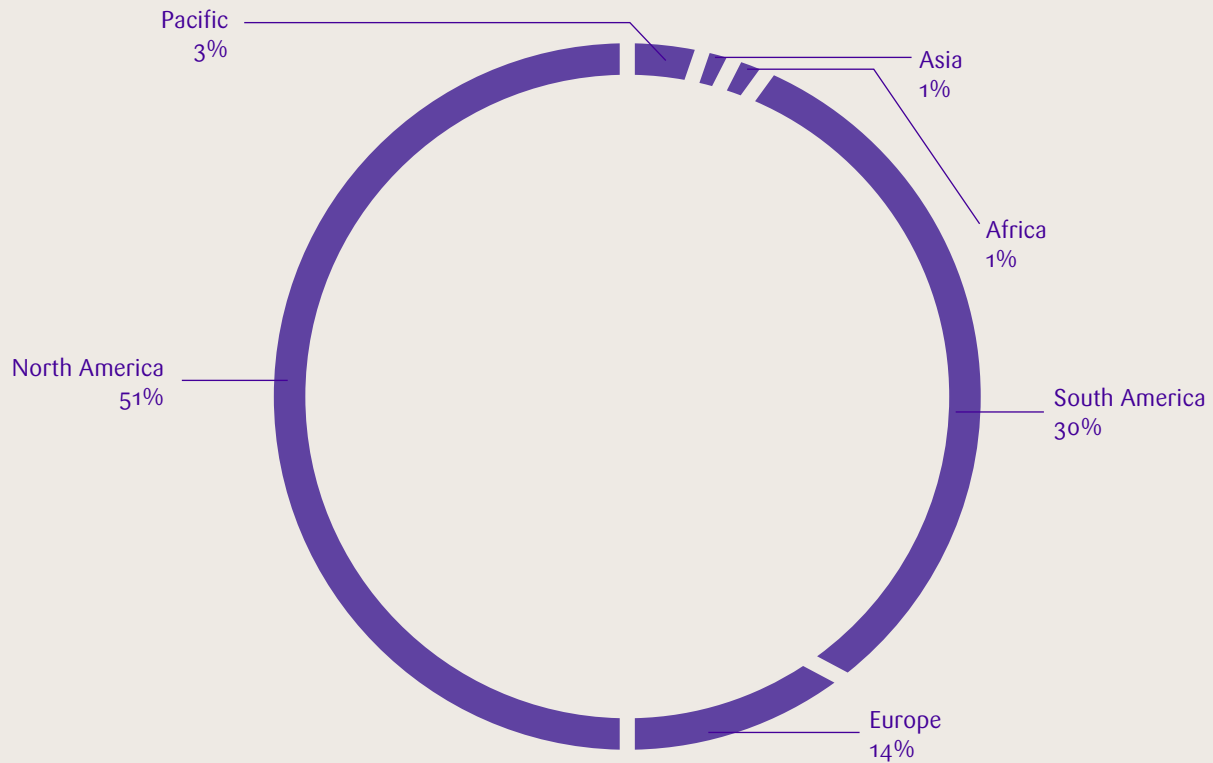
- *Islam and Abortion* ([http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=u54vbKD41u8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=u54vbKD41u8))
- *Islam and Contraception* ([http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=RMO2NsquyUk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=RMO2NsquyUk))

**Figure 1: Hits & Visits 2012****Figure 2: Comparison of Visitors (Unique, Return and New) between 2011 and 2012**

ARROW's **Facebook** 'likes' have been steadily increasing and went from 200 likes in 2011 to 624 likes in 2012 (212% increase). This big jump in numbers shows that ARROW's Facebook page is not only relevant, accessible and interesting, but that the 'fans', who come from across the globe,<sup>13</sup> are becoming increasingly more engaged. Meanwhile, ARROW launched its official **Twitter** account (@ARROW\_Women) on

1 December 2012 to coincide with the Global Youth Forum, and within a few weeks, grew to 50 followers, showing that the information that ARROW puts out and the issues that ARROW advocates for are indeed relevant.

**New and Traditional Media:** New media refers to any media that is based online, while traditional media refers to the

**Figure 3: Website Hits by Region**

more established forms of media, such as television, radio, newspapers, magazines, newsletters, and other forms of print publications. While new media is more immediate, as news is updated in 'real time', traditional media is generally more in-depth, and more often than not, contains a form of legitimacy that social media has yet to attain.

During the Global Youth Forum, two ARROW staff acted as field

reporters for forum organiser UNFPA,<sup>14</sup> producing two press releases a day during the Forum's duration. Video interviews for ARROW and UNFPA were also done. This opportunity gave ARROW exposure to a wider audience in a popular format.<sup>15</sup> Undertaking these media interventions on behalf of UNFPA allowed us to position ourselves strategically as being a useful source of grassroots opinions on processes and events that are taking place in the UN system.

In the context of traditional media, our most substantial intervention in 2012 was the engagement of a media consultant for the 'Beyond ICPD & the MDGs' meeting. Different types of media, including social media, print news, radio, and others were used for delivering the meeting's key messages. Invitations to press, broadcast and online media for press conference (launch) were sent, and interviews were facilitated between press, broadcast and online media, and the selected interviewees and resource. The conference outcome, the 'KL Call to Action', was shared in national, regional and international media. Outputs from this engagement included three articles at *Berita Harian*, a local Malay newspaper, a cover feature spread with *Oriental Daily News*, and a radio interview with the Malaysian radio station BFM (The Business Station). These interventions were important in raising ARROW's profile both nationally and regionally, and opening up ARROW's issues and messages to the public beyond the global civil society.

Aside from media activities around the May meeting, a media release was also developed in December on International Migrant's Day to launch ARROW's three migration-related publications. The press release reached an estimated 2,335 or more people.<sup>16</sup>

## ARROW PUBLICATIONS: AT THE CUTTING EDGE OF THE SRHR AGENDA

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ARROW's various knowledge products, including the *ARROW for Change* bulletin and working papers, serve as key vehicles for presenting and pushing forward of evidence-based analyses, frameworks and agenda related to sexuality, gender, rights, and SRHR that use Southern, women-centred, rights-based principles from an NGO perspective. They help provide examples of successful and innovative policy, programme or research; and highlight key tools and resources for use in research, advocacy, as well as policymaking and programming. Our resources help stimulate interest around issues that are perennial yet critical and need to be viewed from a different lens (such as gender-based violence), or are emerging and are being defined (such as the links of migration to SRHR).

**Shaping Analyses, Knowledge and Perspectives:** ARROW released four volumes of the *ARROW for Change* bulletin and one working paper in 2012, which helped us build perspectives on critical issues related to SRHR. This has kept us at the cutting-edge of the SRHR field.

**ARROW for Change** is ARROW's flagship, peer-reviewed serial publication that aims to contribute a Southern, rights-based and women-centred analyses and perspectives to global discourses on health, sexuality and rights. First published in 1995, the publication series/bulletin has become an important resource in the region and globally, and is a platform for exploring linkages between SRHR and other development issues, and building understanding and alliances among movements. The twice-yearly bulletin is meant primarily for decision-makers and programme managers in the region, but is distributed globally.

There were four volumes of the bulletin completed in 2012:

- **ARROW for Change Vol. 17 No. 2 2011 (Gender-based Violence and Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights: Looking at the Health Sector Response in the Asia-Pacific Region),<sup>17</sup>** which further explores the critical linkages between addressing gender-based violence and SRHR toward influencing the ICPD+20 and post-MDG development framework. This issue was published in January in collaboration with the UNFPA Asian and the Pacific Regional Office (APRO), and core support from Sida.
- **ARROW for Change Vol. 18 Special Edition 2012 (Seizing the Pivotal Moment: NGOs Strategising for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Asia and the Pacific Post-2014),<sup>18</sup>** which highlights conversations, reflections and presentations from the two regional meetings that ARROW convened in May 2012 to strategise for the SRHR agenda in the ICPD and MDGs beyond 2014 process. This was funded with the support of the Ford Foundation, UNFPA and Sida.
- **ARROW for Change Vol. 18 No. 2 2012 (Youth SRHR Movements: Claiming the Post-2015 Development**

**Agenda**),<sup>19</sup> which offers reflection pieces from young activists from the global South on youth movement building and the post-2015 development agenda, as well as insights from ARROW's Women's Health and Rights Advocacy Partnership in South East Asia initiative. Conceptualised and written or co-written by young people, this issue is part of ARROW's commitment to youth SRHR, as well as to leadership development and meaningful youth participation and decision-making. This is the first issue of the bulletin that followed the new design outcome of ARROW's rebranding exercise. This was funded with the support of Oxfam Novib and Sida.

- **ARROW for Change Vol. 19 No. 1 2013 (Labour Migration, Gender, and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights)**,<sup>20</sup> which presents articles analysing the intersections between SRHR, gender and migration; identifies gaps in research, policy and programming on migration from a gender and SRHR perspective; showcases examples from the region of effective initiatives addressing SRHR issues of women migrant workers; and provides recommendations for stakeholders. This publication was developed with an annotated bibliography and working paper, as a set of resources on migration and its inter-linkages with SRHR. This was funded with the support of International Development Research Centre and Sida.

Additionally, two **concept notes** were developed in 2012 as part of the development of AFC issues: one on youth movement building by ARROW's under-30 programme officers—Rachel Judhistari Arinii, Shubha Kayastha and Suloshini Jahanath—and the other on labour migration, gender and SRHR by Guest Editor Maria Lourdes Marin. Aside from providing initial ideas on the content of the bulletin, *ARROW for Change* concept notes contain an overview that comprehensively maps the breadth and scope of the theme in the region and provides the rationale for the issue.

We also published a **working paper** titled, 'International Labour Migration, Gender, and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Southeast and East Asia and the Pacific',<sup>21</sup>

authored by Maria Lourdes Marin. This working paper presents an overview of the SRHR issues faced by women migrant workers; gives insight into the sexual and reproductive health outcomes of women migrant workers; looks at policy and programme interventions; and provides recommendations for future directions. This was the first publication in our Working Papers series, which aims to publish the overview sections of *ARROW for Change* concept notes and provide a much more in-depth analysis on specific issues related to SRHR.

**Advocacy and Networking:** ARROW utilises the *ARROW for Change* bulletin and its other publications as tools for advocacy and networking with key stakeholders on SRHR within Asia and the Pacific, as well as globally.

Our collaboration with UNFPA in developing *ARROW for Change* Vol. 17 No. 2, allowed us to advocate with the UN agency on our analyses and perspectives on the intersections between gender-based violence and SRHR. The issue was distributed at the UNFPA APRO 2012 Planning Meeting in January, as well as to their sub-regional and country offices within Asia-Pacific. It was also utilised as a resource by the UNFPA Malaysia country office in developing its country programme in cooperation with the Ministry of Health.

Meanwhile, the release of *ARROW for Change* Vol. 18 No. 2 with the reflection pieces from activists in the youth movements across all regions of the Global South enabled us to create a much stronger volume with a broader appeal and greater relevance for the ICPD beyond 2014 and the post-2015 agenda. We utilised this issue, as well as our other youth-focused publications, as part of our interventions at the Global Youth Forum in Bali. This enabled us to reach over 1,000 onsite delegates, and to influence the recommendations that formed the Bali Declaration, a ground-breaking document that will go directly to the UN Secretary General to help shape the future development agenda.

In 2012, to further draw attention to the intersections of migration, gender and SRHR, as mentioned in the media section, we strategically launched our migration publications

**Table 1: ARROW Knowledge Products Distributed by Mechanism, 2011 – 2012**

| Mechanism   | 2011            |            |      | 2012             |            |      | % Change In<br>2011 - 2012                               |
|---|-----------------|------------|------|------------------|------------|------|--|
|   | No of<br>copies | %          | Rank | No. of<br>copies | %          | Rank |  |
| Website downloads of publications   | 34,597          | 49         | 1    | 43,605           | 49         | 1    | 20.65  |
| Knowledge products distributed through booths, participation in events, sharing of selected publications and requests to key stakeholders | 8, 129          | 12         | 3    | 12,354           | 16         | 4    | 34.19  |
| <i>ARROW for Change</i> distribution to print and e-subscribers   | 14,392          | 20         | 2    | 21,368           | 26         | 2    | 32.64  |
| <i>ARROW for Change</i> translations distributed by partners  | 7,170           | 10         | 4    | NA               | NA         | NA   | No translation produced in year 2012; scheduled for 2013 |
| Publications distributed by Gale  | 6,258           | 9          | 5    | 6, 884           | 9          | 3    | 9.09   |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>70,546</b>   | <b>100</b> |      | <b>84,211</b>    | <b>100</b> |      | <b>16.22</b>   |

on 18 December 2012, during International Migrants' Day. Advocacy and cooperation with migration groups led to publications being shared with the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health and the Migration Health Department of the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) in Geneva and Bangkok. These were also featured in the mailing list of the Joint United Nations Initiative on Mobility and HIV/AIDS in South East Asia, which brings together governments, leading civil society organisation networks, and the UN, to promote universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support for mobile and migrant populations in South East Asia and southern China.

**Reaching Wider Audiences; Usage by Other Groups:** In 2012, *ARROW for Change*'s reach and utilisation by key stakeholders globally and across the region continued to grow. A big development this year is that EBSCOhost Connection, an online database that bridges the gap between search engines

(such as Google) and the premium content in EBSCO, has started indexing individual articles from *ARROW for Change* and providing abstracts for each. This is expected to increase the accessibility and reach of the bulletin. Also in 2012, the Royal Tropical Institute KIT Library, the International Council of Nurses ICHRN Knowledge Library, the London South Bank University, and the Louis Jefferson Long Library of Wells College, Aurora, New York, were among others<sup>22</sup> who joined the list of online archives and databases, and university and NGO libraries worldwide that feature AFC in their collections.<sup>23</sup> Publications produced this year were also featured in e-newsletters, listservs and websites, and were requested for distribution for networks and meetings.

## MARKETING AND PROMOTIONS

The marketing and promotions mechanism supports the other infocom mechanisms and the organisation as a whole,

by promoting ARROW's issues, knowledge products and services to not just disseminate information, but also to create transformative social change. Varied channels, including exhibition booths, electronic and print subscriptions and agreements with global distributors are used.

**Reaching a Wider Audience:** A total of 84,211 pieces were distributed in 2012 (an increase of 16% when compared to 70,546 in 2011), by utilising a variety of mechanisms. The website is the top dissemination mechanism by far.

ARROW's non-exclusive distribution agreements with EBSCO Publishing and Gale<sup>24</sup> to include the *ARROW for Change* and other selected ARROW publications as part of their online and university-based research databases is expected to enable ARROW to reach a broader international audience, particularly academics, researchers and students. This increased accessibility is not reflected in the numbers cited in Table 1 (page 22), which reflects only actual purchases, and excludes views at bulletin abstracts.

**ARROW's Presence in Events and Exhibition Booths:** In 2012, ARROW participated in 42 events. Exhibition booths were arranged in 10 ARROW events and in four key SRHR-related events. We also distributed publications through staff members who attended 28 global, regional and national events, including the 'Beyond ICPD & the MDGs', "NGO-UNFPA Dialogue for Strategic Intervention on SRHR", "Toward ICPD+20 Global Survey (AP Youth Partners' Advocacy Training and Strategy Meeting for the CPD 2012)", and the regional advocacy dialogue "Advancing Accountability: Raising the Issue of Maternal Deaths in South Asia". In all, a total of 12,354 knowledge products were distributed in 2012 events. Additionally, the ARROW booths were accessed by 560 individuals, with 285 people added to the contact database. These various platforms provided ARROW with the opportunity to share our work and knowledge products. It also gave ARROW the opportunity to build its collection with new and relevant information resources.

**Database of ARROW Contacts:** ARROW's contact database, which was started in 1993, is an important tool for ARROW's Infocom work and ARROW's work overall. As of end of 2012, there were 8,305 contacts in the database. The database is a useful tool for finding resource persons, consultants and vendors, as well as used in our mailing lists for dissemination of information and knowledge products.

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## INTERSECTIONAL AND INTER-MOVEMENT WORK

All social justice and development issues are interrelated and need to be addressed holistically, and achieving SRHR is an intrinsic part of attaining gender equality, human rights, social justice and ultimately, sustainable development. The ability and agency to decide what to do with our bodies are as important as, and interlinked with, achieving other development issues. Despite this, there is a tendency in the development community, those of us in women's rights and SRHR work included, to work in silos. It is extremely crucial that the linkages between SRHR and development issues are articulated in this period of reviews of ICPD and MDGs, and in the post-2015 development agenda process, so that SRHR remains on the table.

To address these gaps and to ensure we look at our work more holistically and strategically, ARROW began three initiatives in 2012 that examine the intersectionality of SRHR with key development issues of migration, poverty, food security and climate change. Through these initiatives, ARROW also aims to be at the cutting-edge of global development discussions. These initiatives are currently lodged in the Infocom programme.

### Migration, Gender and SRHR

Migration is one of the key facets of this globalised world, spurred on by transport and communications technology and increased interdependence on goods and labour. A large part of the population is on the move, whether they cross borders or move to cities. According to the UN Population Division, in 2010, there were 214 million international migrants globally in 2010. Of this total migrant stock, half are women and 15.6% are between ages 0-19. The Asia and Pacific region accounted

for 32% of the world's migrant stock; has six of the top 10 countries of origin; and represents many important migration flows. Migration in Asia and the Pacific has primarily been for employment, although it is also due to other factors, such as for education, marriage, conflict, natural or climate change-induced disasters, famine or development projects.<sup>25</sup>

SRHR is a major but rarely mentioned challenge being faced by migrant workers, particularly women and undocumented migrant workers. This initiative, supported by the International Development Research Centre and titled *Promoting Better Health for Marginalised Migrants in Southeast and East Asia*, aims to facilitate cross-movement knowledge creation, translation and dissemination on issues related to migration, gender and SRHR among researchers, policymakers, decision-makers and implementers in non-government and government organisations, and other key stakeholders in Southeast and East Asia.

This is being done in order to provide recommendations for evidence-based policies, programmes and future research related to these issues. This in turn will hopefully contribute to ultimately achieving health equity and achievement of rights for migrant communities, especially migrant women. It is also hoped that the initiative will contribute to highlighting this issue as a key concern in the review process of the implementation of international commitments related to health and sustainable development, and in the development of a new development framework post-2014/15.

As earlier mentioned, three knowledge products were developed and completed as part of this initiative: a working paper, an *ARROW for Change* bulletin issue, and an annotated bibliography. These products will be strategically utilised in 2013 for knowledge sharing, dissemination and advocacy.

For this initiative, ARROW also networked with and made strategic interventions at key meetings organised by migration groups in 2012. These included:

- Regional Workshop on “Review of the GMS Countries’ Existing Reproductive Health Legislations, Policies, and

Services for Women and Women Migrant Workers”, organised by Raks Thai Foundation and the Coordination of Action Research on AIDS and Mobility (CARAM) Cambodia on 23-28 September 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

- Regional Consultation on Health and Migration with UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health, organised by CARAM Asia on 3rd and 4th November in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- CARAM Asia workshop on the Right to Health and Migration at the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Social Forum on Migrations on 26-30 November 2012 in Manila.

### Food Security, Poverty and SRHR

Food security and poverty and their impact on the SRHR of women and young people are key development issues as we move into the creation of a post-2015 development agenda. In this context, ARROW began an initiative in 2012, which aims to integrally link SRHR with these two critical socio-political development agendas to provide an impetus for the SRHR agenda in the South Asian region.

This project, supported by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, will use a strategy combining the modality of a regional meeting to bring together key stakeholders in these three different movements on one platform, with knowledge product outputs combining the work, insights and interests of these three movements, and advocacy and dissemination strategies.

The first part of the project that took place in 2012 focused on scoping the linkages between the issues and identifying key persons and groups working on these issues, as well as key regional and global meetings happening on these issues. This led to the identification of the key issues to be covered that were felt to truly capture the linkages, which are: food security, poverty and maternal health; food security, poverty and sexuality, including diverse sexualities; and food security, poverty and access to contraception.

## Box 2. Feedback from users of ARROW's infocom products and services

### FEEDBACK FROM ASK-us! USERS

*Spacious resource centre and many resources available for research work.* – Julie Lam, freelance researcher on sexuality and reproductive health issues, Malaysia

*Great work! Great information!* – Lis Bower, student, University of Nottingham, Oxford

*Lots of very good information. Will come back again.* – Inna Hudaya, Samsara, Indonesia

### FEEDBACK ON ARROW'S WEBSITE

*Absolutely love that pages can be translated into so many different languages. The website has so many resources that we can access (thumbs up).* – Paulini Turagabeci, Board Member, Fiji Women's Rights Movement (FWRM) on ARROW's website

*Love the graphics, especially the special landing page.* – Ann Nunis, Projects Officer, Women's Aid Organisation (WAO), Malaysia, on ARROW's website

### FEEDBACK VIA ARROW'S SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

*Well done, ARROW team; great work.* – Hendrica Okondo, Projects Manager, World Young Women's Christian Association (WYWCA), on ARROW's Facebook page

*Well said ^\_^,* Dakshitha. @dakki\_16 on ARROW's presentation during the Global Youth Forum, via ARROW's Twitter account

### FEEDBACK ON ARROW for Change

*Well done! It is great to have allies in the fight to secure migrants' SRHR! We are glad you asked us to contribute to the ARROW newsletter, and it was our pleasure to have ARROW participate at the UNSR and in the WSFM session. We hope to continue collaborating on advocacy to push for migrants SRHR into the future. Perhaps we could look into SOGI next....* – Brahm Press, Raks Thai Foundation and Migration, Health and HIV Task Force, CARAM Asia, on ARROW for Change Vol. 19 No. 1

*Congratulations for the release of an entire issue devoted to Labour Migration, Gender and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights! I really enjoyed the editorial by Malu, and the entire issue is very informative as well as timely.* – Alexandra Johns, Advocacy and Communications Officer, Asia Pacific Alliance for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, on ARROW for Change Vol. 19, No. 1

*Family Planning International is pleased that the latest 'ARROW for Change' features an article on an important Open Hearing on adolescent SRHR held in New Zealand earlier this year! Thanks, ARROW!* – Family Planning International (via ARROW's Facebook page) on ARROW for Change Vol.18 No. 2

## Climate Change and SRHR

Climate change is fast becoming an important challenge for the international community. Its effects go beyond the environment and have socio-economic and political consequences, exacerbating existing issues of poverty and inequities. It may have profound implications for social justice and gender

equality, and could significantly impact on human health. The links between SRH and climate change are complex and indirect, and yet there is a resurgence of the population discourse that attempts to make simplistic connections between climate change and population growth. In August 2012, to help develop the positioning of SRHR and women's rights activists on the issue, ARROW began to conduct a scoping study in select island and coastal countries in Asia

(Bangladesh, Indonesia and the Philippines) to examine linkages between climate change and sexual and reproductive health; assess solutions beyond a limited focus on population growth; and identify areas of policy and programme interventions in climate change adaptation and advocacy work specifically related in improving women's health and SRHR. This 12-month initiative is supported by the Population Action International and will conclude in August 2013.

At the end of 2012, ARROW has been involved in identifying relevant resources and consultants to support the study. We have also conducted a preliminary literature search related to climate change and SRHR.

## SUMMARY AND WAY FORWARD

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The year 2012 was a year of changes, and was overall a successful one for the Infocom team. We were able to effectively look for solutions to challenges and delivered results as per our strategic plan 2012-2016. Among others, we have helped increase ARROW's visibility as a key regional/global SRHR stakeholder, as well as of our issues and products. This has helped increase ARROW's credibility and influence in regional and global development and SRHR arena. We have facilitated the establishment of linkages between SRHR and selected development issues, and built bridges with other organisations, activists and movements, particularly from the migration and youth movements. We have provided women's movements, other movements and NGO advocates with connections, energy, tools and better understanding of development and SRHR issues, which we hope to have helped improve their ability for effective advocacy on women's health and rights. Internally, the Infocom team has contributed much more strongly and effectively in other ARROW areas of work. We have gotten very positive feedback on our mechanisms and engagements (see Box 2, Feedback from users on ARROW's infocom products and services, page 25).

Moving ahead, in 2013, with a full team complement and considering the lessons from 2012, the Infocom team looks forward to a year where we will ensure the quality, timeliness

and strategic usefulness of our knowledge sharing services and our knowledge products to internal and external stakeholders. ASK-us! will continue to support information needs for advocacy, research and publications work proactively and we will continue to strive to produce cutting-edge publications and knowledge products. We will also continue to increase ARROW's online and media profile through developing and implementing an overall media strategy, with a stronger social media component, and work towards increasing ARROW's profile by highlighting ARROW's advocacy presence in key regional and national platforms. We will also continue our implementation of our inter-sectional and inter-movement initiatives and strive towards expanding our global and regional reach in terms of increasing the usage of our knowledge products.

Lastly, we look forward to working closely with the other teams at ARROW, as we jointly work on key products and provide Infocom support to the rest of the ARROW team. We also look forward to more profound engagement with partners and allies.



ARROW exhibition booth at the Health Fair, Malaysia 2012  
Source: ARROW Photobank



ARROW knowledge products, 2012



## Endnotes

- Sida refers to the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency.
- Available: [http://www.arrow.org.my/IDC/Bibliographies/Migration\\_Annotated.pdf](http://www.arrow.org.my/IDC/Bibliographies/Migration_Annotated.pdf).
- The top 10 countries visiting ARROW's website are the United States of America, Malaysia, Puerto Rico, Italy, Ukraine, Russian Federation, Pakistan, the Netherlands, Canada and Germany.
- Fans are coming from all around the world, with the top ten countries being Malaysia, United States of America, Pakistan, India, Indonesia Australia, the Philippines, Nepal, Vietnam and Thailand. This is most likely due to the prevalence of ARROW activities in South Asia and South East Asia, and the bulk of international allies coming from the USA.
- UNFPA refers to the United Nations Population Fund and is the lead United Nations organisation for the follow-up and implementation of the ICPD PoA.
- The releases were posted in the ICPD beyond 2014 website (<http://icpdbeyond2014.org/about/view/13-icpd-global-youth-forum>), the official website for all of UNFPA's engagements in relation to ICPD+2014 visited by anyone with an interest in the ICPD+2014 process.
- This release appeared on the website and was sent out through ARROW's SRHR Info Resources. It was also forwarded to migration networks such as Joint United Nations Initiative on Mobility and HIV/AIDS and shared through social media.
- Available: <http://arrow.org.my/publications/AFC/v17n2.pdf>
- Available: <http://arrow.org.my/publications/AFC/v18SpEd.pdf>
- Available: [http://arrow.org.my/uploads/20121128100437\\_v18n2.pdf](http://arrow.org.my/uploads/20121128100437_v18n2.pdf)
- Available: <http://arrow.org.my/publications/AFC/v19n1.pdf>
- Available: [http://arrow.org.my/uploads/Migration\\_WorkingPaper.pdf](http://arrow.org.my/uploads/Migration_WorkingPaper.pdf)
- Other new additions this year include ABS Library Services National, Genamics, Harley E. French Library of the Health Sciences of the University of the North Dakota School of Medicine and Health Sciences, Pubget, Research Bible and the University of Saskatchewan University Library. New websites that featured the publications produced this year include the ASTRA Youth Network.
- They join a list that includes among online databases Eldis, Free Library, HealthSpace, Asia, PubMed of the US National Library of Medicine, Population Information Online, ResearchGate, SafetyLit Injury Prevention Literature Update and Archive Database, Scopus, Scribd, Source and Trove. Libraries include Cornell University (USA), Centre for Development Studies (India), Centre for Women's Development Studies (India), Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (Singapore), Makerere University (Uganda), Monash University (Malaysia/Australia), University of Connecticut (USA), and University of Wisconsin (USA). AFC is also featured in the websites of NGOs such as the Association for Women's Rights in Development and Shirkat Gah, among others.
- EBSCO databases are accessible to thousands of universities, biomedical institutions, schools and other libraries in more than 70 countries, and generate 120-150 million searches per month. Meanwhile, about 1,500 public, academic and school libraries from all over the world subscribe to Gale.
- Marin, M.L. (2012). Navigating Borders, Negotiating Bodies: Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights of Women and Young Migrant Workers in Asia-Pacific Region. In *Beyond ICPD and the MDGs: NGOs Strategising for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in the Asia-Pacific*. Available: [http://www.arrow.org.my/uploads/Thematic\\_Papers\\_Beyond\\_ICPD\\_&\\_the\\_MDGs.pdf](http://www.arrow.org.my/uploads/Thematic_Papers_Beyond_ICPD_&_the_MDGs.pdf)

The updated ARROW website after the rebranding exercise, 2012





*Community health worker in Korail slum, Dhaka, Bangladesh by Lucy Milmo/DFID  
Source: Photostream of DFID (Flickr, Creative Commons)*

## Monitoring and Research for Evidence-based Advocacy: Influencing the Agenda beyond ICPD & the MDGs

ARROW is committed to consistently monitoring commitments of both national governments and international bodies on women's health, sexuality and rights, most especially the commitments made under the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD). In the lead up to 2014 and 2015 when the new global development agenda is to be defined, ARROW understands that the Asia-Pacific agenda cannot exist in a silo and has strived to broaden its monitoring and research work. In this light, ARROW has partnered with feminist leaders, women NGOs and researchers from the Global South regions to define a distinct monitoring agenda for the Global South.

In 2012, ARROW's work in monitoring the ICPD+20 across the Global South regions culminated in the consolidation of a monitoring framework composed of rights-based, gender-

sensitive indicators of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR).

This framework, with adaptations suiting the regional contexts, has since been accepted and used in regional draft monitoring reports across the Global South. Other key monitoring and research outputs include ICPD+20 Global South regional monitoring reports, Global South ICPD+20 factsheets on youth, a Guidance Note to mainstream SRHR within the CEDAW<sup>26</sup> human rights framework and a study looking at the inter-linkages of SRHR with food security and poverty.

ARROW's monitoring and research work is supported by the Ford Foundation with additional support from Sida.

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### ICPD+15 CONTINUATION PROJECT

The year 2012 saw the conclusion of the ICPD+15 continuation project. Key outputs included a campaign on teenage pregnancy and sexuality education; activities related to our global alliance of interfaith and secular groups working for SRHR; and two publications: one on using CEDAW to push for SRHR and another on poverty, food security and SRHR.

#### **Campaigning for Access to Sexuality Education and Reducing Teen Pregnancies**

Evidence from the ICPD+15 country reports on Thailand and Vietnam point to the need to address two priority SRHR issues in the Mekong region: access to comprehensive sexuality education and unplanned teen pregnancies. In response, ARROW's partners, the Centre for Creative Initiatives in Health and Population and the Southeast Asian Consortium on Gender, Sexuality and Health implemented campaigns in the two countries from June 2011 to May 2012.

ARROW provided technical support. The campaigns aimed to increase awareness and understanding of teen pregnancies and promote the need for comprehensive sexuality education through social media and national dialogues. Initial research on media advocacy related to sexuality education, unplanned

pregnancy, and unsafe abortion in the two countries were conducted in 2011, followed by in-country consultations and regional meetings in 2012 to discuss work plans and progress. Youth workshops were conducted to teach basic concepts in gender, sexuality and media theory.

Campaign-related videos as workshop outputs were uploaded to YouTube, and submitted as contest entries in Facebook. Winners were announced at national policy dialogues.

National policy dialogues were organised to present the research findings, campaign activities and outcomes to government stakeholders, the media and NGOs. These dialogues promoted policies and programmes that will affirm young people's rights to sexuality education and SRH services. They also called for comprehensive sexuality education for adolescents and young people.

The campaign used popular social media platforms that drew in great participation among the youth. It opened up public discussion on socially sensitive issues, while providing an alternative and empowering dimension to mainstream media messaging.

### Addressing Religious Extremism

ARROW's work to address religious extremism is carried out mainly through the Global Interfaith and Secular Alliance (GISA): Working for Reproductive and Sexual Health and Rights, a global partnership between ARROW and Catholics for Choice.

First convened in 2011, GISA brought together SRHR advocates from the Global South and the Global North and activists working from a faith-based perspective to counter the impact of religious extremism on SRHR. GISA has 23 member organisations to date. In 2012, ARROW carried out the following activities to address religious extremism:

- **Advocacy videos on Islam and SRHR<sup>27</sup>** – ARROW worked with feminist filmmaker Yati Kaprawi in producing cutting-edge videos featuring Islamic religious authorities presenting progressive views and interpretations of

Islamic religious teachings on contraception and abortion. ARROW's partner, the Reproductive Rights Advocacy Alliance Malaysia, has made use of the videos in its advocacy activities.

- **Statement to the Commission on Population and Development<sup>28</sup>** – A statement on the issue of religious extremism and its impact on young women's SRHR, endorsed by 22 GISA allies and three other partner organisations, was delivered at the 45th session of the Commission on Population and Development 23-27 April 2012; New York, USA). The statement highlighted the adverse impact of growing religious extremism on young women's SRHR and called on governments to address the issue in their respective countries through policy and legislative reforms. It was the first statement presented at a session of the Commission that described the negative impact of religious extremism on SRHR.
- **World Café session on responding to anti-SRHR religious extremists** – A World Café session at the ARROW regional meeting, 'Beyond ICPD & the MDGs' discussed how NGOs can respond more effectively at the country and regional levels to anti-SRHR religious extremists that have derailed the progress of devising codified national laws for SRHR. The session offered a venue to share best practices in countering the religious extremist forces in the region that impinge on SRHR progress.
- **Participation in International AIDS Conference** – ARROW Executive Director Sivananthi (Siva) Thanenthiran participated in the Interfaith Pre-Conference, "Transforming Religious Leadership on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights" held on 20 July 2012 at the International AIDS Conference held in Washington DC from 20-27 July 2012. Siva Thanenthiran also served as a speaker in the session "Religion, Stigma and HIV" at the Faith Zone in the Global Village on 26 July.

## EXPLORING THE LINKAGES OF POVERTY, FOOD SECURITY AND SRHR

Establishing linkages among poverty, food security and SRHR is critical for the optimal realisation of SRHR, according to the results of a survey conducted by ARROW in 2011.

ARROW commissioned Shobha Raghuram, an independent researcher and development expert, to undertake a study to further explore the poverty, food security and SRHR linkages and inform policy and programme implementation in Asia and the Pacific. The study brought together nine development activists and academicians from the region who provided self-portraits of their work, ideas, struggle and activism in the areas of poverty, food security, and/or SRHR. Using a co-constructivist methodology, the study showcased the interviewees' perception of challenges to the SRHR movements in four areas of engagement: (1) poverty and sustainable development, (2) social movements, (3) development research on linking spaces that need elaboration and political remapping, and (4) campaigns for crucial alliances at the national, regional and international levels to foster struggle. The recommendations from the study suggest the need for investments in grassroots efforts and increased State commitments for universal health coverage, amongst others.

ARROW published and disseminated the study and transcript of interviews in December 2012 with the title, *Reclaiming & Redefining Rights—Thematic Studies Series 5: Poverty, Food Security, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights—Integrating and Reinforcing State Responsibilities, Integrating Societal Action*.<sup>29</sup>

### Using CEDAW for SRHR Advocacy

Another research activity that ARROW embarked on in 2012, *Reclaiming & Redefining Rights—Guidance Series: Analysing Sexual and Reproductive Health & Rights under the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Violence against Women (CEDAW)*,<sup>30</sup> examined the linkages of the CEDAW Convention, the General Recommendations and the

Optional Protocol with women's SRHR. CEDAW experts Amy Lynne Locklear and Sunila Abeysekera were commissioned to undertake the study.

The publication has a Guidance section, which aims to demonstrate the potential links between CEDAW and the ICPD Programme of Action (PoA). The next half, the Guidelines section, aims to build greater understanding on CEDAW among SRHR advocates, so that they can use CEDAW and the standard-setting work of the CEDAW Committee to engage in advocacy to encourage states parties to fulfil all of their obligations under CEDAW and to meet the recommendations in the ICPD PoA. This publication also uses the ARROW ICPD+15 country monitoring studies to provide insights into the possible use of the frameworks provided by CEDAW and the ICPD PoA to advance women's rights to free and informed choice in matters relating to their sexual and reproductive health.

## GLOBAL SOUTH ICPD+20 MONITORING AND RESEARCH PROJECT

ARROW realised the need for the voices of the Global South to be included in the review processes leading up to post-2014/2015, where a new global development agenda will be defined. In line with this, we expanded the scope of ICPD+20 monitoring beyond the Asia-Pacific region to include the other regions of the Global South (Africa, Central and Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Middle East and Northern Africa). This initiative aims to provide the critical monitoring evidence on ICPD+20 implementation in these regions to inform the regional and global review processes around ICPD+20. It is being done in partnership with the Central and Eastern European Women's Network for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (ASTRA), the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), Latin America and Caribbean Women's Health Network (LACWHN) and World Young Women's Christian Association (WYWCA).

## Generating a Global South Report on Regional and Global SRHR Agendas

After the Global South Partners' Planning Meeting in August 2011 with regional partners, and the finalisation of the ICPD/SRHR monitoring indicators framework and methodology for development of regional reports, partners in the respective regions started working on the monitoring reports. In March 2012, the partners came together to present their draft regional report findings.

All reports<sup>31</sup> from the five regions (Asia and the Pacific,<sup>32</sup> Africa,<sup>33</sup> Central and Eastern Europe,<sup>34</sup> Latin America and the Caribbean<sup>35</sup>, and the Middle East and Northern Africa [MENA]<sup>36</sup>) generated data using agreed upon 69 Global South SRHR monitoring framework indicators. These indicators included specific aspects of issues of reproductive health, reproductive rights, sexual health, sexual rights, health, financing and women empowerment across time trends since the ICPD in 1994.

Based on the preliminary draft report and the questionnaire synthesis from regional CSOs, some of the trends seen in Asia and the Pacific include universal access, poverty, climate change, food security, religious extremism and migration, while trends impacting SRHR in Eastern Europe include poverty, gender inequality, religious extremism, and financial crises.

The MENA region cites the lack of democracy, armed conflicts, exclusion of women and youth unrest as some key emerging trends, while the Africa report focuses on health sector reforms, and health system strengthening initiatives as important to integrate and ensure public provision sexual and reproductive health services to prevent people from getting into the poverty trap. The Latin American and the Caribbean report focused on the lack of legislations that would ensure the full realisation of sexual and reproductive rights and the limitations in terms of implementation and compliance with existing laws.

All the regional reports are expected to be published before the start of respective regional ICPD+20 meetings in 2013, except the report on Central and Eastern Europe, which has been

already been completed and published.<sup>37</sup>

## Updating the Global South ICPD+20 Indicator Database

Prior to the "Regional Reports Sharing, Writing and Fine-tuning Workshop" on 5-7 March 2012 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, the ARROW team collated key data on the SRHR monitoring framework to be uploaded on the SRHR database. The database, last updated in March 2012, needs to be further updated to incorporate new data.

## Adolescent and Youth-Related ICPD+20 Work

As part of the Global South initiative, ARROW also embarked on adolescent and youth-related ICPD+20 work.

**Capacity Building Workshop and Youth Factsheets:** ARROW organised the "Global South Adolescent and Young People SRHR Factsheet Development Workshop" in Brussels, Belgium on October 9-14, 2012. Participants culled adolescent and youth-related monitoring indicators from the Global South ICPD+20 monitoring framework. Through the peer-assist method, the participants analysed the identified indicators for progress/lack of progress toward goals related to adolescent and youth in the ICPD PoA and developed regional factsheets on adolescent and young people's SRHR. Aside from the regional factsheets, a global overview for the factsheets was also developed by Sai Jyothirmai (Sai) Racherla, Janet Ajao and Siva Thanenthiran.

The youth factsheets were published as "*Reclaiming and Redefining Rights: Setting the Adolescent and Young Peoples' SRHR Agenda beyond ICPD+20*"<sup>38</sup> in time for the Global Youth Forum in Bali (see next section) to inform the meeting process, and therefore the international review processes leading up to 2014. The factsheets, all authored or co-authored by young people under 30,<sup>39</sup> also function as advocacy tools to intervene with government, donors and inter-government organisations on issues of adolescent and young peoples' SRHR.

**Global Youth Forum:** ARROW was involved as a key stakeholder at the Global Youth Forum from 3-6 December

ARROW partner and staff member at the Global Youth Forum, 2012

Source: Global Youth Forum, UNFPA



2012 in Bali, Indonesia. Aside from being the co-chair of the Steering Committee, ARROW was also the only NGO that presented papers. Siva Thanenthiran presented a paper on “Families, Youth Rights and Well-being (including Sexuality)”, which she co-wrote with Maria Melinda (Malyn) Ando, Rishita Nandagiri and Sai Racherla. Shama Dossa also presented a paper on “Comprehensive Education”. Other ARROW staff involved in the forum were Rachel Arinii, who served as plenary moderator of the session “Fully Inclusive Civic Participation”, and Suloshini Jahanath, who served as online moderator for the session on “Families, Youth Rights and Well-being (Including Sexuality)”.

As part of the Steering Committee, ARROW also provided media support for UNFPA during the Forum. ARROW produced two media stories daily, focusing on particular delegates and on the plenary sessions. ARROW staff Gaayathri Nair and Janet Ajao wrote media stories, including three delegate interviews that were published on the GYF website, and recaps of the plenary sessions. Six articles were posted on the UNFPA website, including “Shaping the Discourse on Youth and Sexuality”.<sup>40</sup> Gaayathri and Janet were also interviewed for live webcast interviews as youth delegates and ARROW staff participating in the forum.<sup>41</sup>

## OTHER KEY ADVOCACY ENGAGEMENTS

Aside from advocacy interventions mentioned earlier, here are the other key engagements in 2012.

- **UNFPA APRO Regional Meeting** (16-18 January; Bangkok, Thailand) – Siva Thanenthiran presented ARROW’s work and the key directions around the ICPD Beyond 2014 at the UNFPA APRO regional meeting.
- **Inter-Agency Meeting ICPD Beyond 2014 UNFPA Indicators Meeting** (6-8 February; New York, USA) – ARROW was invited to share the ICPD+15 SRHR indicators framework and to contribute to the UNFPA indicators finalisation at two inter-agency meetings organised by UNFPA. Siva Thanenthiran and Sai Racherla represented ARROW at this meeting.
- **Multi-Country Workshop for the Development of Accountability Framework** (19-21 March; Manila, Philippines) – ARROW was invited to participate in the three-day workshop to develop country roadmaps to enhance results and accountability for the health sector,

particularly on women's and children's health. Hosted by the World Health Organisation Regional Office for the Western Pacific (WHO WPRO), the workshop brought together a range of stakeholders engaged in the health sector from the seven countries under the WPRO: Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines and Vietnam. These included government representatives from ministries of health and other health departments, UN agencies, international and regional NGOs and civil society organisations. ARROW Programme Officer Malyn Ando presented on the central role of CSOs, especially of women's health and rights NGOs, in ensuring accountability, at the session on Accountability and Outreach.<sup>42</sup>

- **ASEAN Civil Society Conference/ASEAN Peoples' Forum** (29-31 March; Phnom Penh, Cambodia) – ARROW jointly organised a workshop on “Maternal Health, Sexual and Reproductive Rights and Link to HIV” with Amnesty International Philippines in cooperation with Indonesian Planned Parenthood Association. The workshop aimed to recognise the centrality of sexual and reproductive rights in every HIV programme to respond more effectively to the HIV epidemic and to individuals' broader needs. ARROW presented on the situation of adolescents and young people's SRHR in ASEAN countries.
- **Regional Consultation on Regional Framework for Reproductive Health** (19-20 April; Manila, Philippines) – ARROW was one of few NGOs invited in this WHO WPRO consultation attended by national programme managers for reproductive health or maternal health from the Ministry of Health from Cambodia, China, Fiji, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Philippines, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Vietnam. The meeting aimed to review and finalise the draft Regional Framework for reproductive health in the Western Pacific Region, and identify the next steps for country specific actions according to their situations and needs. Malyn Ando participated in the group discussions and also provided written feedback on the document.
- **Global Forum for Health Research panel** (24-26 April, Cape Town, South Africa) – Initial findings from regional reports were presented at the Forum. ASTRA's Katarzyna (Kasia) Pabijanek and WYWCA's Hendrika Okondo presented the key regional ICPD+20 findings to the Global Forum participants.
- **Third People's Health Assembly (PHA3)** (6-11 July; Cape Town, South Africa) – ARROW and the People's Health Movement (PHM) co-organised a workshop on “Strategising for Universal Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health: Fostering Linkages between the Women's Health Movement and the People's Health Movement.” Speakers included Sai (ARROW), Shama Dossa (ARROW), Rishita Nandagiri (Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights), Jacqueline Chico Mbanja (S.W.E.A.T<sup>43</sup>) and Abhay Shukla (PHM Right to Health Campaign India). Health activists put forward the case for universal access to sexual and reproductive health. The workshop enabled dialogue within the PHM Right to Health Campaign and fostering South-South, North-South and inter-sectorial collaboration on the issue of universal access to sexual and reproductive health. Strategies were compiled and taken to the Right to Health Workshop for inputs. Recommendations from ARROW's KL Call to Action were also incorporated in the PHA3 Cape Town Call to Action.
- **Beyond 2014 Meeting organised by ACPD Canada** (13-14 September; Geneva, Switzerland) – Sai Racherla and Kasia Pabijanek presented on UNFPA processes leading up to 2014, and opportunities for CSO engagement to a group of at least 30 global civil society groups.
- **2012 Conference of the EuroNGOs** (11 October; Brussels, Belgium) – The conference theme was “Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in the Next Global Framework: Promoting a Critical Dialogue.” ARROW's Siva Thanenthiran, ASTRA's Kasia Pabijanek, WYWCA's Hendrika Okondo, and EIPR's Soha Abdelaty presented the initial findings of their respective regional Global South reports.

- **Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD) 10<sup>th</sup> General Assembly** (25 October) – Sai Racherla delivered a presentation regarding maternal mortality, contraception and young people during the session on “Key Population Trends in Asia-Pacific.”
- **Southeast, East and Northeast Asia and the Pacific Parliamentarians Forum on the MDGs Acceleration and Post-2015 Development Agenda** (20-21 November; Manila, the Philippines) and **South, Southwest and Central Asia Parliamentarian and CSO Forum on MDG Acceleration and the Post-2015 Development Agenda** (10-11 December; Dhaka, Bangladesh) – The outcome of these sub-regional forums will feed into the Asia-Pacific Parliamentarian Conference in Indonesia in March 2013. The meeting generated critical inputs from parliamentarians in setting national agendas and new development frameworks beyond 2015, as well as the report on the post-2015 framework which will be produced by the High Level Panel of Eminent Persons in May 2013. Sai Racherla and Siva Thanenthiran represented ARROW at the Dhaka and Manila meetings, respectively.

## SUMMARY AND WAY FORWARD

It proved to be an intense but fulfilling 2012 for ARROW in its work on evidence-based monitoring and research for advocacy. The team was able to facilitate two capacity strengthening workshops, one for ICPD+20 monitoring and research report writing in April, and the other for the development of youth factsheets development for the Global South partners in October. The outcomes of these workshops enabled partners to develop the regional ICPD+20 monitoring reports, as well as regional ICPD+20 youth factsheets to inform the Global Youth Forum agenda in Bali held in December. Advocacy was carried out at various national, regional and global levels to affirm highest attainable standards of sexual and reproductive health and rights, and its inclusion in all development agenda. Important research achievements include the CEDAW study, which moves forward ARROW’s commitment to mainstream SRHR into human rights mechanisms, and the study on

poverty, food security and SRHR. Collaborations with partners and networks, within and across movements, were also strengthened.

Leading up to 2014-2015, it is especially crucial that SRHR is mainstreamed and interlinked with key development priorities, such as poverty, food security, migration, climate change and religious extremism. ARROW has already initiated this during the ‘Beyond ICPD & the MDGs’ meeting, looking at all these issues from a gendered, rights-based and Southern perspective.



*Media Workshop for WHRAP-SA and WHRAP-SEA partners (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia), May 2012 Source: ARROW Photobank*

## Endnotes

26. CEDAW refers to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. Adopted in 1979 by the UN General Assembly, CEDAW is often described as an international bill of rights for women.
27. Available: <http://www.arrow.org.my/?p=video>.
28. Available: <http://www.arrow.org.my/?p=oral-statement-at-the-45th-session-of-the-commission-on-population-development>.
29. Available: [http://www.arrow.org.my/publications/ICPD+15Country&ThematicCaseStudies/Poverty\\_FoodSecurity\\_SRHR.pdf](http://www.arrow.org.my/publications/ICPD+15Country&ThematicCaseStudies/Poverty_FoodSecurity_SRHR.pdf).
30. Available: [http://www.arrow.org.my/uploads/R&R\\_GuidanceSeries.pdf](http://www.arrow.org.my/uploads/R&R_GuidanceSeries.pdf).



*The Global South Team, Factsheets Planning Meeting, 2012  
Source: ARROW Photobank*





*Arakan farmer's field day and seed fair*  
*Source: Photostream of ricephotos (Flickr, Creative Commons)*

## Building and Strengthening Partnerships for Advocacy: Strengthening Partnerships, Generating Impact

In the 10 years since its inception, ARROW's Women's Health and Rights Advocacy Partnership (WHRAP) programme has claimed and created new advocacy opportunities that heighten the demand for better health governance and accountability in Asia and the Pacific. The WHRAP modality, which aims to strengthen the regional sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) agenda, supports joint strategic planning and evidence-based advocacy on government commitments to bring about real changes in the lives of marginalised women, youth and their families and grassroots communities.

From four countries in 2003, WHRAP has expanded its reach in Asia and the Pacific by building sustainable partnerships. WHRAP has worked with 140 community-based organisations (CBOs) and 18 national partners and has reached out to over 250,000 marginalised women and girls, enabling their voices and lived experiences to be heard through advocacy actions at the local, national, regional and global levels. WHRAP partners have been able to present advocacy evidence and arguments that are also grounded in the realities of the marginalised women and young people.

ARROW currently coordinates two WHRAP initiatives: WHRAP-South Asia or WHRAP-SA (covering Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Pakistan) and WHRAP-South East Asia or WHRAP-SEA (covering Burma, Cambodia, China, Laos, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam). Both focus on improving quality of life through improved sexual and reproductive health services to further advance the rights of marginalised women and youth. Additionally, ARROW is taking the opportunity of the formation of a regional alliance from a regional meeting we organised in May to visualise its plans for rolling out WHRAP-Asia-Pacific as a platform for achieving changes in SRHR-related policies in the region.

ARROW's partnership work is funded by Danida through the Danish Family Planning Association (DFPA), GIZ, Oxfam Novib and UNFPA, as well as core support from Sida.

### ADVOCATING FOR CONTINUUM OF QUALITY CARE FOR MARGINALISED WOMEN'S REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH IN SOUTH ASIA

Now in Phase III (July 2011-December 2013), WHRAP SA continues to be implemented as a partnership programme with DFPA as the international partner, ARROW as the regional partner, five leading South Asian national women's organisations (Beyond Beijing Committee in Nepal, Centre for Health Education, Training and Nutrition Awareness or CHETNA in India, Naripokkho in Bangladesh, SAHAYOG in India, and Shirkat Gah in Pakistan), and 42 CBOs in the four countries. Danida funds this initiative.

WHRAP-SA's strategy is unique in that it pushes for joint and complementary strategic planning, monitoring and evidence-based advocacy for accountable health governance and SRHR issues at local, national, regional and international levels. At the local level, WHRAP-SA aims to empower marginalised grassroots women by building their capacities to generate and utilise evidence on barriers and gaps in accessing SRHR services. It integrates locally generated evidence with national advocacy and partnership-building to reorient policies and programmes related to SRHR, so that they are more accurate in addressing the

needs of marginalised grassroots women including young girls. Finally, WHRAP-SA aims to contribute towards creating synergies between national advocacy at the regional and international arena to influence decision-making processes with regard to SRHR agenda and international development aid, through the partnership at all levels.

**Expansion of the Programme:** In 2012, after an extensive partnership selection process, WHRAP-SA welcomed three new partners: Respect, Educate, Nurture, and Empower Women (RENEW) from Bhutan; Society for Health Education (SHE) from Maldives; and Women and Media Collective (WMC) from Sri Lanka. The process included studying the country SRHR contexts, mapping of SRHR organisations, meeting with these organisations and finalising which organisation to partner with based on organisational principles, structure, issues that organisations work on and strategies used, such as advocacy, outreach in the community and networking at the national level. Project activities by the partners will begin in 2013.

**Reaching Out to Marginalised Women:** About 23,006 marginalised women and young girls were reached through local activities by partner CBOs. These activities, which aimed at empowering women in grassroots communities, included awareness-raising sessions, capacity building sessions, production of information, education, communication materials, radio programmes and campaigns.

**Local to Global Rights-Based Advocacy:** WHRAP-SA works towards ensuring that the marginalised women in the community are able to get care which is accessible, affordable, effective and acceptable, and calls for safe delivery for all births, regardless of whether they take place at home or in health institutions. To this end, the regional advocacy strategy was finalised in April 2012, and a position paper, “Rights-Based Continuum of Quality Care for Women’s Reproductive Health” (CQC), was developed.

Advocacy at the local level has been efficacious, with partners who are working with their CBOs claiming access, participating in and influencing processes in terms of taking the CQC position forward and bringing about positive change for marginalised

women. Working with CBOs has been important for achieving results at the local level as they are more aware of the local contexts and people’s needs, as well as have confidence of the communities. The role of media in relating evidence and generating awareness and support on issues is also important. In both these contexts, partners were proactive in building local alliances.

Some key results include:

- Increased accountability of duty bearers through mobilisation and empowerment of grassroots women to bring their evidence to local authorities in district-level public dialogues and hearings. SAHAYOG organised a State-level dialogue in Uttar Pradesh, India where findings of a survey conducted by the Mahila Swasthya Adhikar Manch on implementation of free maternal health services in the state were presented to state level policy makers. The findings have been taken up by the state authorities.
- Increased importance of traditional birth attendants in a policy environment, which did not acknowledge their importance, such as in Gujarat, India (CHETNA).
- Improved quality of maternal health services provided to communities residing in the Saltpan area of Gujarat, India. Evidence for the need was provided to the Health Commissioner of Gujarat state and other stakeholders, and as such services have been initiated in the current financial year. A detailed plan for the year 2013-14 has been prepared and submitted to the Government of India (CHETNA).
- Increased accountability of duty-bearers leading to better quality services, such as that seen with regular interactions with hospital management committees and union health committees in Bangladesh project sites. Naripokkho’s advocacy for quality SRH have resulted in the regularisation of committees’ meetings, hospital monitoring by committee’s members, identifying problems in hospitals and taking initiatives to solve them locally.

- Improved governance of the health system, such as that seen in India through the work of CHETNA and SAHAYOG. Meetings with elected representatives have resulted in the filling up of vacant posts, stopping the demand for informal payments, improving the quantity of nutrition supplement and others.
- Formation of 40 committees on birth registrations in 40 villages in five districts of Pakistan, through Shirkat Gah's work. Collected and analysed data were used to advocate with the Local Government Departments to advocate for standardisation of minimum age of marriage with Women Development at district level.
- Sensitisation of media personnel on SRHR issues (Beyond Beijing Committee, Naripokkho and Shirkat Gah).

At the national level, partners kept the focus on calling for CQC, utilising strategies that have complemented their advocacy. These strategies include regular interactions with SRHR advocates and alliances, such as the National Alliance for Maternal Health and Human Rights (NAMHHR) in India, Pakistan Reproductive Health Network (PRHN), and the DOORBAR Network in Bangladesh who have taken up the position of CQC. Partners' key results include:

- Dialogues for reorientation of policies, such as getting parliamentarians in India to dialogue on the issues of health and nutrition rights of women (CHETNA).
- Increased accountability by getting the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) to ensure that monitoring is incorporated in the state action plan for Uttar Pradesh (SAHAYOG).
- Sharing information on the importance of the documentation of maternal deaths and their causes with Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and technical agencies like WHO, UNFPA and UNICEF in India.
- Making national policymakers acknowledge the gaps identified in the Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojana, such as its

exclusion of the second child from benefits. Upon the request of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the NAMHHR study has been presented to the Resource Group Meeting on Maternal Health, and the Special Secretary for the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare also expressed concern over the findings and instructed district commissioners to meet the convenor of NAMHHR (SAHAYOG).

At the regional and global levels, actions were taken to introduce the position and present key evidence with view to further WHRAP-SA's engagement on the issue, with the identification of key stakeholders for the CQC position.

*World Health Organisation Advocacy:* In the context of the WHRAP-SA strategy, the larger goal for engagement with WHO is to promote a shift in current regional and national reproductive health policies and programmes in South Asia from a narrow vertical focus on delivery by skilled birth attendants alone to a context-specific rights-based comprehensive CQC. As part of this goal, a number of interventions were made through one-on-one linkages, and claimed advocacy space.

- An introductory meeting with the Regional Advisor of Making Pregnancy Safer and Reproductive Health, Department of Family Health and Research and Medical Officer of Making Pregnancy Safer at the WHO South East Asia Regional Office covered areas of possible cooperation, which includes technical support and advocacy on maternal anaemia and adolescent anaemia issues. Through this meeting, WHRAP-SA increased its access to the WHO South East Asia Regional Office.
- WHRAP-SA presented on maternal death review initiatives by CSOs at the WHO Commission on "Information and Accountability for Women's and Children's Health" South East Asia Consultation in Bangkok, Thailand on 23-29 September 2012. The workshop brought together key stakeholders from ministries of health and partner communities to develop country roadmaps to enhance results and accountability for women's and children's

health. WHRAP-SA partners were able to further strengthen ties with national government delegations and input into national accountability plans. WHO also invited WHRAP-SA to take part in a panel on maternal death reviews at the Global Maternal Health Conference in Tanzania on 15-17 January 2013. National partners were also asked to input in the more extensive national plan development in their own countries. These outcomes reflect increased participation and influence with WHO and its processes as a key stakeholder.

- WHRAP-SA organised a Regional Advocacy Dialogue on “Advancing Accountability: Raising the Issue of Maternal Deaths in South Asia” in New Delhi, India, which brought 18 regional and national stakeholders, including WHO and WHRAP-SA partners, to assess maternal health policies and their implication on the lives of marginalised women to address the gap in care and services. The participants agreed on WHRAP-SA’s core advocacy agenda, reflecting broader alliance building for the partnership. The UN Special Rapporteur on the Right of Everyone for the Enjoyment of the Highest Attainable Standard of Physical and Mental Health who joined the meeting suggested the use of the complaints protocol for violation of rights and proposed a regional health conference or workshop where women’s issues will be prioritised from an HR perspective before 2014. Recommendations and outcomes of the dialogue will be taken up at the next WHRAP Steering Committee meeting for further strategic advocacy interventions.
- ARROW, on behalf of WHRAP-SA, submitted to the independent Expert Review Group (iERG) a CQC position paper<sup>44</sup> through the Partnership on Maternal, New Born and Child Health (PMNCH)/WHO. The iERG opened a space for online submissions of evidence and best practices to inform maternal and child health policy development and implementation. The submission included WHRAP-SA’s experiences and findings and list a number of obstacles to implementation of the Global Strategy on maternal and child health.

the MDGs’ meeting, the CQC position was included in the “KL Call to Action” outcome document. A summary version of the CQC position paper was also distributed to all the participants. A South Asian Caucus of participants met to identify key strategies and again, this recommendation on CQC was voted as the most important context-specific need of the South Asian region.

*Human Rights Mechanisms:* WHRAP-SA partners participated in practical skills and knowledge building workshops on ways to utilise the UN Human Rights Council processes -particularly the Universal Periodic Review to hold their governments accountable to commitments on rights issues. Partners are currently looking at ways to interact with the review processes at the national level.

*Extending Outreach of WHRAP-South Asia and ARROW:* With the aim of promoting WHRAP-SA’s advocacy agenda, WHRAP-SA and ARROW reached out to organisations like the Centre for Reproductive Rights, the International Planned Parenthood Federation South Asia Regional Office and the South Asian Initiative to End Violence Against Children, which have keen interest in developing strategies to influence the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) around the issue of early marriage and its impact on SRHR. Introductory and information sharing interactions have also been made with country offices of UNFPA, UN Women and UNDP in Bhutan, India, Maldives and Sri Lanka.

### **Improved Organisational, Managerial and Advocacy**

**Capacity:** To improve its management and advocacy structures, WHRAP-SA adopted a dual internal project structure: the Working Group (which comprises of project implementers), and the Steering Committee (which comprises of project decision makers). This has led to the improvement in organisational, managerial and advocacy capacities of the partnership. The Working Group built its capacity on developing national advocacy plans and now each organisation has a clear advocacy strategy in place. The Steering Committee led the decision-making processes on the CQC position paper and regional and national advocacy plans, monitoring and

evaluation, effectiveness of the network, regional advocacy capacity development plan, new partners assessment and governance of the network. DFPA as international partner has noted that the network has improved its coordination, communication and decision making in 2012.

**Monitoring and Evaluation:** Aside from continuous monitoring by national partners, a number of key regional actions were taken to gauge the progress of the project given the renewed focus of WHRAP-SA's advocacy position on CQC. Extensive baseline studies were conducted at the regional and national levels across the four partner countries, with the objective of collecting data that would assist in rethinking the partnership's advocacy strategies and to make more strategic investments in influencing policy change on SRHR, specifically in the area of CQC.

Data and information gathered from the baseline exercise is being used for monitoring and have formed the basis on which national and regional advocacy strategies have been designed. The baseline study reports include issue-based assessment of the country and region as well as organisational assessment of all the partners. Aside from this, comprehensive assessment exercises were carried out by ARROW and DFPA for the selection of new partners from Afghanistan, Bhutan, Maldives and Sri Lanka for WHRAP-SA, and by the end of the year, WHRAP-SA gained three new partners on board from Bhutan, Maldives and Sri Lanka. The assessment for Afghanistan is still ongoing.

**Strengthened Capacities of Partners:** WHRAP highlights the importance of building the capacity of the partnership as a whole, which includes strengthening of all partners' capacities on advocacy, monitoring and evaluation, and other skills. In this context, partner CBOs were invited to a learning visit in the Bargaina, Barisal and Pathukhali districts in Bangladesh to learn and share about different activities and advocacy strategies. Multiple stakeholders interacted during the visit, including local women, hospital management committees, health alliances, hospital staff and local media. Participants of the visits were exposed to different advocacy strategies and activities, including, the formation of the Right to Health Alliance as a pressure group (which includes members from

organisations working on women's health, civil society and media). A half-day 'theory of change' workshop for partners was also organised, providing the partners with clarity on what change was being sought at the local, national and regional levels.

**Increased Visibility for WHRAP-South Asia:** About 200 WHRAP-SA DVDs were disseminated in relevant events and meetings, and the CQC position paper has also been disseminated to over 100 key stakeholders during the 'Beyond ICPD & the MDGs' meeting. Regular updates on WHRAP-SA's website, registering over 3,000 visitors at end of 2012, also promoted partners' work.

## ADVOCATING FOR COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION AND YOUTH-FRIENDLY SERVICES IN SOUTH EAST ASIA

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WHRAP-South East Asia (WHRAP-SEA) has further institutionalised its accountability in aiming to improve SRHR outcomes for 68,153 marginalised young people in South East Asia through (1) creation of youth policy in Cambodia, (2) a comprehensive sexuality education for Akha minority girls in Luang Nam Tha province in Laos, and (3) free clinic service in Siem Riep, Cambodia. This initiative commenced in 2009 and in 2012 began its second phase.

The second phase has seen the partnership work with all partners in both funded and non-funded modalities. Working with a number of national partners, youth's rights issues are being brought to local and national forums for decision-making, such as the creation of community-owned youth clinics and counselling rooms in Luang Nam Tha-Laos, policy on provision of comprehensive sexuality education, and clinic referral for factory workers by the Vietnam Labour Union in Hanoi, among others.

WHRAP SEA partners are:

- Burma-Thailand: Migrant Action Program Foundation, Myanmar Positive Women's Network, and Burma Medical Association;

- Cambodia: Reproductive Health Association of Cambodia;
- China: Yunnan Health and Development Research Association;
- Indonesia: Yayasan Jurnal Perempuan;
- Laos: University of Health Sciences;
- The Philippines: Likhaan; and
- Vietnam: Centre for Creative Initiatives in Health and Population

**Reaching Out to Young People in South East Asia:** WHRAP-SEA partners (with their CBOs) have reached out to 30,513 marginalised young people through awareness-raising sessions, peer educator sessions, community dialogues and publications utilising the tailor-made curriculum on young people's comprehensive sexuality developed by national partners. It has also contributed to the establishment of at least five emerging youth-led networks on the respective issues of young people's SRHR at local and national levels, such as the Jingpo Pioneer Organisation in China and Purple Scarf Network in Vietnam.

**Increased Visibility of the Initiative and Issue through Social Media:** An online media strategy was implemented in 2012, engaging the project's website<sup>45</sup> and blog.<sup>46</sup> Social media accounts in Facebook and Twitter were also created and have registered a total of 45,679 users by the end of 2012.

**Generating Evidence for Advocacy:** Three publications highlighted issues affecting young people in South East Asia and the experiences from the WHRAP-SEA initiative. These are 1) *Sex & Rights: The Status of Young People's Sexual & Reproductive Health & Rights in Southeast Asia*<sup>47</sup>; 2) *The Essence of an Innovative Programme for Young People in South East Asia: A Position Paper on Comprehensive Sexuality Education (including Youth-friendly Services), Meaningful Youth Participation & Rights-based Approaches in Programming*<sup>48</sup>; and 3) *Leadership Experiences of Young Women in South East Asia: Reflections on Advancing Young People's SRHR Agenda*.<sup>49</sup>

**Local to Global Advocacy:** WHRAP-SEA believes that the two key aspects of programmes on adolescent SRHR are provision of comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) and provision

of youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health services. CSE seeks to equip young people with the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values they need to determine and enjoy their sexuality—physically and emotionally, individually and in relationships. It is crucial to put in place broad-based strategies for CSE that address the needs of young people, especially young women and girls.

Moreover, WHRAP-SEA has an overarching principle of meaningful youth participation by involving young staff, young researchers and youth activists to the design, implementation and monitoring activities. A rights-based approach holds governments and people/institutions accountable as duty bearers for adolescents and young people. Such an approach, while recognising that young people are rights holders, works at empowering and enabling them to claim their sexual and reproductive rights. This empowerment occurs not just through awareness or information provision, but also through considering young people as stakeholders, and altering the balance of power between young people and adults.

Some of the results by partners at the local and national levels are:

- Partners in Burma-Thailand—Burma Medical Association, Migrant Assistance Programme Foundation and Myanmar Positive Women Network—focused on increasing civil society action to demand for quality SRH services through community dialogues with local stakeholders, advocacy dialogues with donor organisations and ethnic leadership organisations.
- In Cambodia, the Reproductive Health Association of Cambodia has expanded their project to the Monduliri province to deliver young people's SRHR programme on CSE, which has further enabled young people in that province to demand better SRH services from government and public-owned health centres. As the key organisation for policy writing, the Association focused on finalising the national youth policy that comprises of elements of young people's SRHR. They have been able to insert the element of youth-friendly health services in the client-centred guide

*Meeting with partners in Burma, February 2012*

*Source: Nalini Singh, ARROW Photobank*



for public health services of the Ministry of Health.

- In Lao PDR, the Faculty of Postgraduate Studies, University of Health Sciences focused on CSE and Youth Friendly Services among ethnic girls in Luang Nam Tha province, in collaboration with the Vientiane Youth Centre, a youth-led organisation. The Faculty organised an advocacy dialogue in July 2012, which was attended by the participants from 18 different local and national authorities, such as the Lao Youth Union, Lao Women Union, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, other NGOs and UN agencies (UNFPA and UNICEF).

The dialogue emphasised the importance of introducing CSE into the informal education sector. At the community level, several efforts to promote CSE were done, including advocacy dialogues with the district governor, district health officer, informal education sector officer, village leaders and the leaders of Lao Youth Union. The initiative has resulted in proposals to set up of SRH information and counselling rooms for youth within two sites of Long district of Luang

Nam Tha being accepted by the local authorities.

- In Vietnam, the Centre for Creative Initiatives in Health and Population has scaled up its project by adding two more project sites, expanding from one industrial zone in North Thang Long area, to three industrial zones, adding Noi Bai and Soc Son areas. Phase II will focus on empowering young workers, especially female workers in negotiating for safe and healthy sex and relationship and on reducing stigma and discrimination, pre-marital sex and co-habitation. The Centre is now implementing the project with two more partners, the Vietnam Labour Union and the Centre for Development and Integration.

Advocacy at the regional and global levels have been exceptionally successful with young people who are part of the project taking their issues forward in various advocacy forums.

*ICPD+20 & MDGs +15 processes:* This year, the WHRAP-SEA partnership contributed to the prioritisation of young people's issues for the ICPD+20 processes. ARROW was appointed

co-chair of the International Steering Committee of the ICPD Beyond 2014 Global Youth Forum. Ten WHRAP-SEA youth partners took part in the consultation. ARROW and partners also provided collective input on the UNFPA global survey, to bring the WHRAP SEA agenda forward. ARROW was also involved in the meetings of the High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons, a body for MDG+15 review.

A regional consultation was organised in Bali, Indonesia on 9-10 December 2012, where WHRAP-SEA emphasised that the MDG Goal 5B (Achieve universal access to reproductive health) is the most off-track goal in the region and that access to youth-friendly health services should be integrated in the post-2015 development agenda.

*Commission on Population and Development (CPD):* The 45<sup>th</sup> session of the CPD was on youth and adolescent SRHR. This made it crucial for WHRAP-SEA to interact with the process, and WHRAP-SEA generated impact by joining the global NGO coalition in preparation for 2012 CPD and led the Asia-Pacific regional consultation for young people to further link the progress with relevant global processes such as MDG monitoring and Rio+20. Leading up to the CPD, WHRAP-SEA facilitated a group of 30 young activists representing 10 countries from the region to strategise further on how to advocate for a progressive outcome from the session. Through a number of strategies, the partnership contributed to the results, which is a well-published progressive outcome document of the 45<sup>th</sup> session and can be expressed as the first and only platform globally for young people to politicise the momentum around the debates on young people's SRHR.

*ASEAN Bodies:* In 2012, the ASEAN Youth Forum was held back-to-back with the ASEAN People's Forum in Cambodia from 25 March to 1 April. WHRAP-SEA co-organised the ASEAN Youth Forum, which brought 100 youth participants from all ASEAN countries together with China, Japan and East Timor representatives. ARROW and five youth partners of WHRAP-SEA from China, Cambodia, Philippines, Indonesia and Vietnam participated in the forum, and through strong leadership, the youth statement featured issues of young people's SRHR.

WHRAP-SEA also joined the UN Interagency Task Team on Gender to shape a network to further promote the rights of key affected women and girls in the HIV response, namely "Unzip the Lips."

Through the network, a meeting with the ASEAN Task Force on HIV/AIDS was organised. The result was the acknowledgment by the Task Force that issues of key affected women and girls for the HIV/AIDS response need to be prioritised by the ASEAN.

*UNESCAP Session on Universal Access:* This consultation was organised back-to-back with UNESCAP's session on Universal Access in Bangkok on 6-8 February 2012. Representatives from ARROW and the Reproductive Health Association of Cambodia joined the meeting, which served as the follow up regional event for UNGAS on HIV/AIDS in 2011. Together with Seven Sisters and Inter-Agency Task Team of Young Key Affected Population, ARROW created a side event on young people issues with the theme of access on youth friendly health services.

### **Improved Organisational, Managerial and Advocacy**

**Capacity:** An Internal Management Committee comprising of representatives of all partner organisations meets annually to decide on the projects advocacy and capacity building priorities. This year, partners reflected on their achievements thus far and decided to focus on advocating on youth friendly services for 2013.

**Monitoring and Evaluation:** Monitoring and evaluation is an integral part of all ARROW projects. In 2012, emphasis was placed on understanding the situation of WHRAP-SEA's Burma-Thailand partners who work on issues of Burmese migrants' health in increasingly difficult situations. Through participatory discussion and capacity building exercises with the Myanmar Positive Women Network, and by consultations with their key partners, a number of challenges and opportunities were mapped for the Network. Additionally, a capacity building session on project management was organised during the visit, which focused on financial management, planning for advocacy, communication strategy, as well as governance

for decision making within the organisation. The ARROW WHRAP-SEA team also visited the Burma Medical Association, with the outcome being the urgent need to have a capacity building for Burma partners to further their discourse on youth empowerment and sexuality and to address SRHR issues beyond the disease control outlook.

**Strengthened Capacities of Partners:** Two capacity building sessions were done for WHRAP-SEA partners in 2012. The first, held in September for Burma partners on matters of project design and implementation and to build greater comradeship between the three organisations, resulted in a collaborative advocacy plan. The second session, a workshop on “Movement and Knowledge Building toward the post-2015 Development Agenda” in Chiang Mai, Thailand in October, brought together all WHRAP-SEA partners and youth advocates that work with them at the local and national level. This resulted in a draft plan for 2013 activities, advocacy agenda and communication strategy.

## REALISING WHRAP-ASIA-PACIFIC

As part of the WHRAP-Asia-Pacific initiative, the ‘Beyond ICPD & the MDGs’ meeting ensured that the Asian and the Pacific SRHR agenda and its interlinkages with other development issues are clearly defined to inform the ICPD+20 and beyond and the post-MDG development framework. It also ensured that the region is a priority for development investment through the presentation of evidence based thematic papers on issues of universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights, poverty, food security, climate change, religious extremism, and migration and their impact on SRHR of women and young people in the region.

Thematic papers linking SRHR with various development issues were presented during the meeting. The themes and authors are:

- “Universal Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health in the Asia-Pacific Region: How Far Are We from the Goal Post?” by Dr. T K Sundari Ravindran;

- “Poverty and Its Impact on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights of Women and Young People in the Asia-Pacific Region” by Dr. Manju Nair, and Dr. T K Sundari Ravindran;
- “Navigating Borders, Negotiating Bodies: Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights of Women and Young Migrant Workers in Asia-Pacific Region” by Maria Lourdes Marin;
- “Climate Change and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights of Women and Young People in the Asia-Pacific Region: Affirming Rights, Refuting Dubious Linkages” by Dr. Jael Silliman;
- “Religious Extremisms and Its Impact on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights of Women and Young People in the Asia Pacific Region” by Ratna Osman; and
- “Food Security and Its Impact on SRHR” by Marilen Danguilan.

Post-meeting, these papers were published by ARROW to serve as important resources in the region on SRHR and its interlinkages with development issues.<sup>50</sup> Key highlights were also published in a special issue of *ARROW for Change* bulletin.

Key recommendations that emerged from the meeting resulted in the policy declaration, KL Call to Action, to inform policies and programmes of the Asia-Pacific agenda.

Participants also developed the ‘KL Plan of Action’, a strategic plan for the engagement of the partnership in key opportunities that may arise in the next few years with the upcoming review processes for ICPD, MDGs, and the Beijing Platform for Action.

The participants all agreed to form the ‘Asia-Pacific Partnership for SRHR and Sustainable Development.’ With the immediate action of promoting more information sharing amongst partners, they also agreed to join in global

actions to demand the comprehensive incorporation SRHR into the new development framework through various mechanisms.

As the coordinating partner for the partnership, ARROW is working towards ensuring that the 'KL Call to Action' and the 'KL Plan of Action' are taken forward in the lead up to the post 2014-2015 development agenda. The Global Youth Forum, discussed in the previous chapter, was one such important event.

## SUMMARY AND WAY FORWARD

The year 2012 proved to be a successful year for WHRAP as a whole. Most of the planned activities were successfully implemented and distinct results have been noted at various levels. Local advocacy efforts have resulted in direct benefits for local target communities through changes demanded by them.

The formation of the Asia-Pacific Partnership for SRHR and Sustainable Development as a regional platform to further invigorate, strategise and implement actions to demand for the inclusion of SRHR in the new development framework, has been an exciting new development.

Moving forward in 2013, there will also be a concerted effort across all initiatives and at all levels to advocate for CSE and CQC, with a specific focus on the provision of Youth-Friendly Services in the region supported by concrete evidence from the ground. ARROW will also work towards ensuring that partners representing marginalised women and youth will be heard at key advocacy forums that are taking place in 2013, including the "Women Deliver Conference", the "4<sup>th</sup> Consultation of the Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post 2015 Development Agenda" and the "6<sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Population Conference."

The WHRAP modality owes its success to joint strategic planning, monitoring and evidence-based advocacy on government commitments to ensuring SRHR for all. ARROW, which is at the centre of this partnership, hopes to continue

this unique modality to ensure that there are sustained efforts for the achievement of real and relevant changes in SRHR-related policies across the Asia and Pacific region.

## Endnotes

31. At least three out of the five regional reports are co-written and co-researched by a person under 30 years of age.
32. The Asia and the Pacific monitoring report covers 21 countries in the region: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burma, Cambodia, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Kiribati, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Maldives, Nepal, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam.
33. The Africa report covers nine countries: Angola, Benin, Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Tanzania and Zambia.
34. The Central and Eastern Europe report covers seven countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Hungary, Poland, Russia and Ukraine.
35. The Latin America and the Caribbean report covers six countries: Argentina, Brazil, Columbia, Dominican Republic, Mexico and Nicaragua.
36. The MENA report covers six countries: Egypt, Palestine, Tunisia, Kuwait, Turkey and Yemen.
37. *Reclaiming & Redefining Rights- Status ICPD+20: of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Central and Eastern Europe*. 2012. ASTRA. Available: [http://www.arrow.org.my/publications/ICPD+20/ICPD+20\\_Astra.pdf](http://www.arrow.org.my/publications/ICPD+20/ICPD+20_Astra.pdf).
38. Available: [http://www.arrow.org.my/uploads/R&R\\_Factsheet.pdf](http://www.arrow.org.my/uploads/R&R_Factsheet.pdf).
39. The authors were: Suloshini Jahanath (Asia and the Pacific); Nelly Lukale and Hendrica Okondo (Africa); Marta Szostak and Katarzyna (Katia) Pabijanek (Central and Eastern Europe); Nayeli Yoal (Latin America and the Caribbean) and Dalia Abd El-Hameed and Soha Abdelaty (MENA).
40. Available: <http://icpdbeyond2014.org/whats-new/index/?p=2>.
41. This interview has been made available on the Global Youth Forum website: <http://www.icpdyouth.org/> via their YouTube page: <http://www.youtube.com/user/GlobalYouthForum>.
42. For more on the initiative visit: [www.who.int/woman\\_child\\_accountability/en/](http://www.who.int/woman_child_accountability/en/)
43. S.W.E.A.T stands for 'Sex Workers Education and Advocacy Taskforce', an NGO based out of Cape Town, South Africa.
44. Available: [http://www.who.int/woman\\_child\\_accountability/en/](http://www.who.int/woman_child_accountability/en/).
45. Visit: [www.srhr4youth.org](http://www.srhr4youth.org).
46. Visit: <http://youthsection.wordpress.com/knowledge-hub/>.
47. Available: <http://www.arrow.org.my/uploads/Sex&Rights.pdf>.
48. Available: [http://www.arrow.org.my/uploads/The\\_Essence\\_of\\_an\\_Innovative\\_Prog\\_for\\_Young\\_People.pdf](http://www.arrow.org.my/uploads/The_Essence_of_an_Innovative_Prog_for_Young_People.pdf).
49. Available: [http://www.arrow.org.my/uploads/Leadership\\_Experiences\\_of\\_Young\\_Women\\_in\\_SEA.pdf](http://www.arrow.org.my/uploads/Leadership_Experiences_of_Young_Women_in_SEA.pdf).
50. Papers available: [http://www.arrow.org.my/uploads/Thematic\\_Papers\\_Beyond\\_ICPD\\_&\\_the\\_MDGs.pdf](http://www.arrow.org.my/uploads/Thematic_Papers_Beyond_ICPD_&_the_MDGs.pdf).





*Vietnamese woman*  
Source: Photostream of mullygun (Flickr, Creative Commons)

## Organisational Development: Strengthening Systems



ARROW strongly believes that an organisation needs to have a strong solid system to achieve its vision and goals. Organisational development involves not only effective financial and administrative processes, but also sound human resource management policies and accountable decision-making mechanisms, as well as enhanced learning and sharing processes within ARROW and among partners on best organisational management practices.

For 2012, the main highlights have been the finalisation of ARROW's new Strategic Plan and the strengthening of ARROW's financial management system.

### STRATEGIC PLAN 2012 - 2016

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ARROW staff, the Board of Directors (the Board), Programme Advisory Committee (the Committee) and partners began formulating ARROW's seventh Strategic Plan 2012-2016 in 2010. The final version was officially approved by the Board in May 2012. The Board also approved ARROW's new vision statement toward the end of an internal perceptions audit that determined and clarified ARROW's position as an organisation

among SRHR advocates, and within the larger women's movement and the global development community.

### MONITORING AND EVALUATION

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ARROW has instituted a mid-year evaluation process that enables us to take stock of mid-year achievements and revise current plans to achieve key outcomes. ARROW's monitoring and evaluation programme also took place during the annual Programme Advisory Committee meeting, enabling key Committee members to provide critical input to the programme team. The Board also evaluates the programme work of

ARROW through work plans and the annual reporting process. Both the Board and Committee members are updated every quarter through quarterly progress reports.

### DOCUMENTING GOOD ORGANISATIONAL PRACTICES

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Over the years, ARROW has received many requests from NGOs within the Asia and Pacific region and beyond to share our tools and learning. With the need to respond more fully and widely, the Board embarked on conceptualising an initiative to document and share ARROW's organisational practices.

This document, the ARROW Resource Kit for Women's NGOs, aims to strengthen leadership and management of organisations in the region and contribute toward ARROW's long-term objective of strengthening women's movements and CSOs.

The Kit will feature ARROW's stories, experiences, lessons learned and tools on leadership and organisational management that support and strengthen women's organisations within a social justice framework.

In November 2012, the Board and staff committed to ensure that progress on the resource kit continued. An initial outline was presented and agreed upon. A Steering Committee composed of the Board, staff, and friends of ARROW guides the project.

## RITA RAJ WOMEN'S SPACE

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The Rita Raj Women's Space and other areas at the ARROW office continued to be utilised as meeting venues for women's organisations and local activists. This year, the space hosted the youth strategising session during the 'Beyond ICPD & the MDGs' meeting and related meetings. Additionally, the Reproductive Rights Advocacy Alliance Malaysia continued to use the space as a venue for their quarterly meetings.

## GOVERNANCE AND PROGRAMMATIC GUIDANCE

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### Board of Directors

The Board is ARROW's governing body that consists of committed feminist activists who have led or are leading women's NGOs in the Asia and Pacific region. Governance matters remained a priority for the Board throughout the year. This included the Executive Directors' transition, fund-raising, staff re-structuring and the preparation and planning for the formulation of the five-year strategic plan.

In 2012, the Board had two meetings in May and December, as well as an Annual General meeting in July. The Board discussed and approved the organisation's 2011 audit and operational budget for 2012 and 2013, as well as the Strategic Plan 2012-2016. The Board also discussed ARROW's Anti-Corruption Policy, which is one of the requirements of the WHRAP-South Asia new programme modality.<sup>51</sup>

Aside from this, the Board also made a number of significant decisions, including the approval of repurchase agreement, a new salary packaging structure which will be implemented in January 2013, and the Policy on Occupational Safety and Health.

The year 2012 also proved to be a year of transition in the Board as we bid a fond farewell to Ninuk Widyantoro of Women Health Foundation (Indonesia), who has been on the Board since 2006. Ninuk completed her second three-year term in October 2012. She was replaced by former Programme

Advisory Committee member Naeemah Laila Khan, currently the Research Officer of the Pacific Leadership Programme (PLP) from Fiji. Her appointment to the Board has been approved by the Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs of Malaysia in October 2012.

### Programme Advisory Committee

The 2012 Programme Advisory Committee meeting was organised back-to-back with the 'Beyond ICPD & the MDGs' meeting to maximise the opportunity of Committee members' presence. Two Board members also were present, along with ARROW staff.

In 2012, two Committee members ended their three-year term. Naeemah Laila Khan was invited to be a Board member, while Pimpawun Boonmongkoon completed her second term. Tu Anh Hoang's term was renewed for a second term based on her outstanding contributions; ARROW believes she would continue to greatly contribute to the Committee.

Three new members were approved by the Board in May 2012: Babu Ram Pant from Nepal who is committed to the youth movement and its issues; Tara Chetty from the Fiji Women's Rights Movement, with a background in communication and media, and Rozana Isa, Coordinator of MUSAWAH (the global Muslim feminist network, the secretariat of which is Sisters In Islam) from Malaysia with expertise in issues on religious fundamentalisms.

## STAFF DEVELOPMENT

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As per the Talent and Leadership component of ARROW's organisational development policies, staff development occurs within the organisation in a number of key ways. One is the joint programme learning and brainstorming that takes place within the organisation.

In 2012, staff had the opportunity to participate in the creation of *ARROW for Change* issues, which encompassed critical issues such as migration, building the youth SRHR movement,

**Table 2. ARROW's Financial Overview for the Years 2012**

| (in USD)  | 2012             |
|---|------------------|
| <b>Financial Resources</b>                                  |                  |
| Grants received in advance                                  | 295,813          |
| Total grants received during the year                       | 1,488,776        |
| Other contributions of financial resources                  | 19,397           |
| <b>Total grants and contribution of financial resources</b> | <b>1,803,985</b> |
| <b>Expenditure &amp; Personnel Costs</b>                    |                  |
| Objective 1: Information & Communication                    | 155,477          |
| Objective 2: Evidence-based Monitoring                      | 304,562          |
| Objective 3: WHRAP  | 1,032,937        |
| Objective 4: Organisational Development                     | 61,453           |
| Institutional, Governance & Overhead                        | 223,041          |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b>                                    | <b>1,777,470</b> |
| <b>Net Result</b>   | <b>26,515</b>    |
| (exchange rate 1 USD : RM3.05)                              |                  |

Source: ARROW Audit Report 2012

and exploring the key interlinkages with critical issues in the region with the SRHR agenda. Additionally, the 'Beyond ICPD & the MDGs' meeting also brought ARROW staff into contact with key thinkers on the issues of SRHR in the region through the process of paper preparation, key question development and publication. The meeting itself added depth to the dimensions of our work in the region.

## ARROW'S FINANCES AND GRANTS

**Financial Management System:** The year 2012 was a very significant milestone in ARROW's financial management and accountability systems. ARROW is highly committed to fully implement a financial management system that advocates the principles of transparency, accountability and integrity. A new accounting system, the Microsoft Dynamics NAV, was implemented to help ARROW improve the analytical components of its reporting formats. An internal controls system placing greater emphasis on segregation of duties

was also reintroduced to complement the new accounting processes.

**Grants:** ARROW continues to receive Sida's long-term support for its overall strategic plan, which is crucial to not just ARROW's sustainability as an organisation, but also for SRHR projects in the Asia-Pacific region and globally. The grant also enables ARROW to work with other donor partners toward achieving our vision and mission.

In 2012, ARROW received grants amounting to USD1,733,749.00 representing 99% of total donor contributions of USD1,753,146.00. (See Table 2)

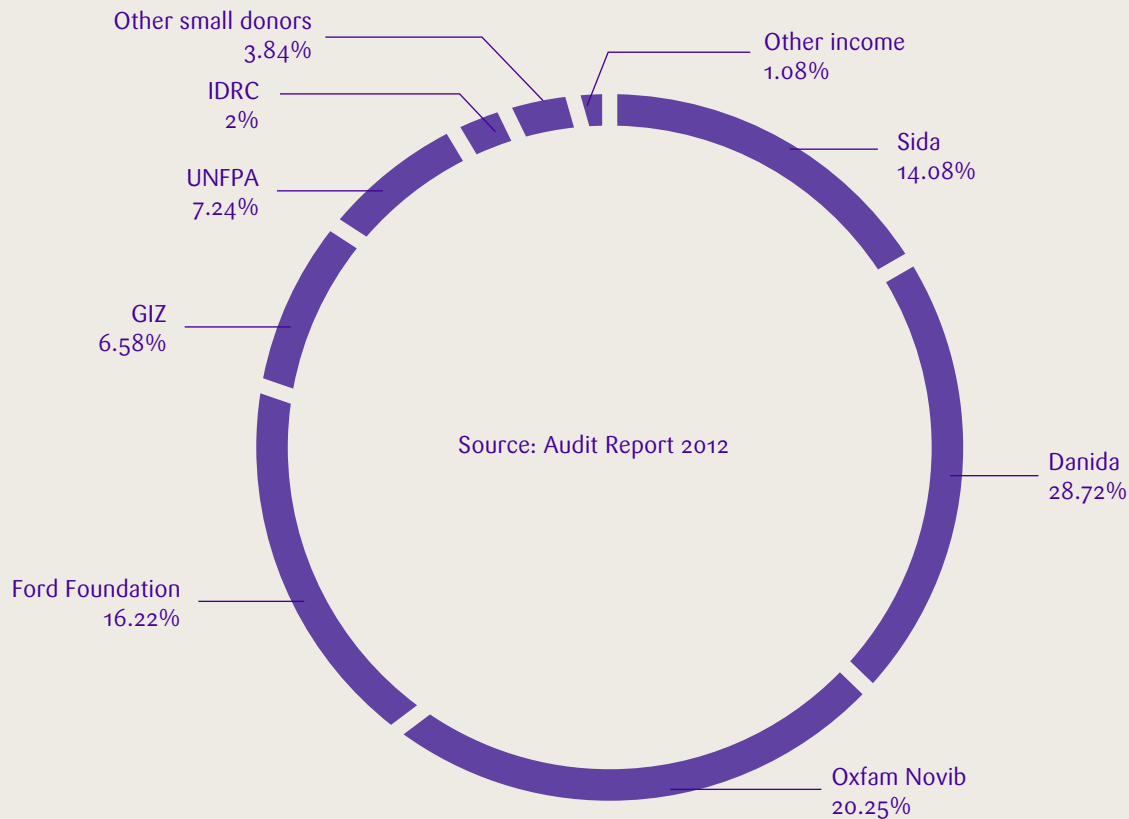
Aside from Sida, donors who contributed to expenses in 2012 were Danida, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ). Ford Foundation, IDRC Regional Office for Southeast and East Asia, Oxfam Novib and UNFPA. Small grants received from Catholics for Choice and

the Global Fund for Women also contributed to expenses. ARROW also acknowledges the contributions from the David and Lucille Packard Foundation and Population Action International, as well as a suppletion grant from Oxfam Novib, that were made in 2012, but will be expended on project activities in 2013. (See Figure 4: Donor Contributions in 2012.)

**ARROW Expenditure:** In 2012, ARROW's total expenditure amounted to USD1,777,470 as compared to USD1,819,522 in 2011.

During the year, ARROW's coordination and overheads costs represented 13% of the total expenditure. This covers the cost to keep a legal entity in Malaysia and the expenses related to the governance of ARROW, such as Board meetings, compulsory company secretary and external auditors. It should be noted that a significant 29.3% of the total ARROW budget goes to partners to accomplish work at the national level. (See Figure 5: ARROW's Expenditure in 2012; page 56.)

**Figure 4: Donor Contributions in 2012**



## CONCLUSIONS AND WAY FORWARD

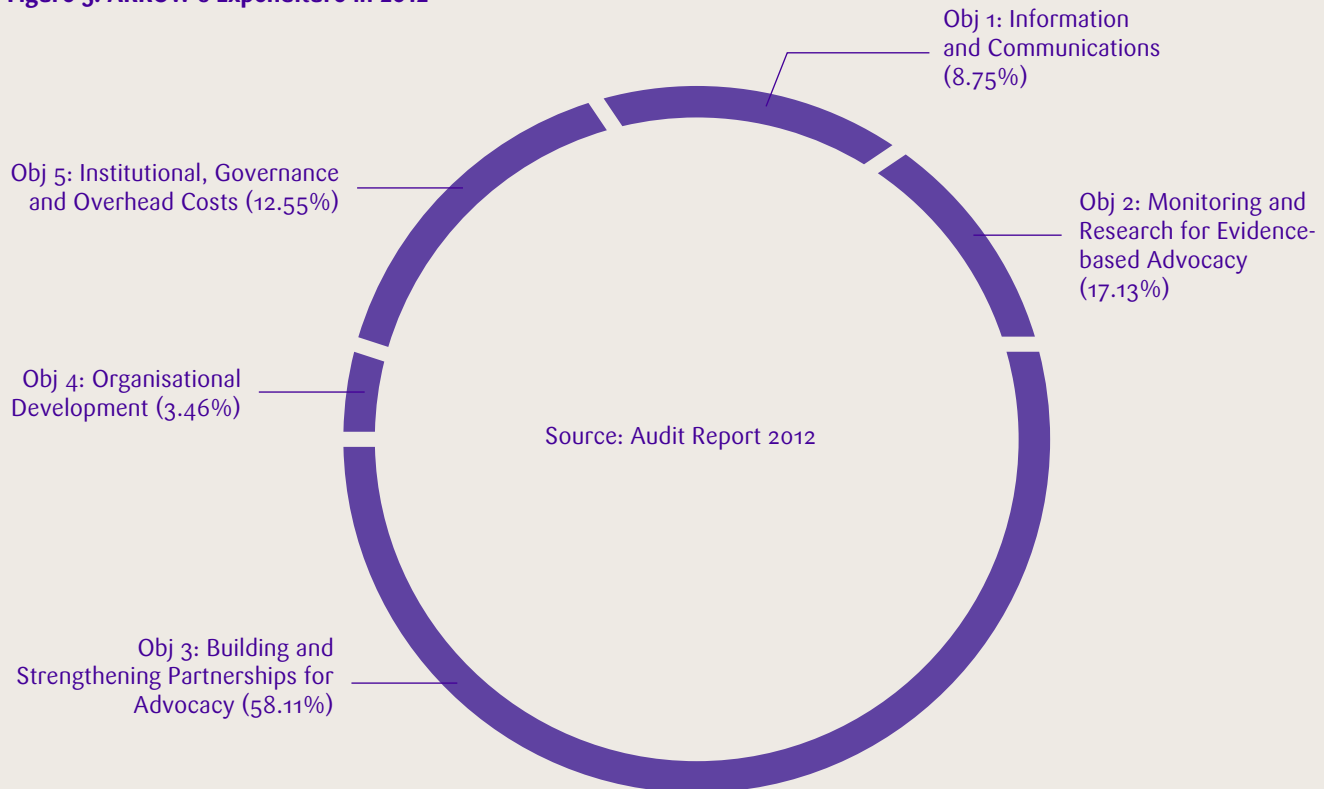
This year, ARROW continued to invest in key improvements to ARROW's financial system, the development of a strategic plan draft and also continued to work on the recommendations made in ARROW's 2011 External Evaluation, adding credibility and trust. ARROW also implemented the anti-corruption policy, finalised the workplace safety and health policy and developed a green policy. Meanwhile, ARROW had also obtained an extension of its tax exempt status for a further period of five years, from 2012 – 2016.

Throughout the year, ARROW's committed leadership, both Board and executive, was core in implementing ARROW's work, and this drove the organisation to new heights both

regionally and globally. ARROW has been fortunate in our Programme Advisory Committee, composed of SRHR experts from the region, who contribute greatly to ARROW in terms of keeping our work relevant and on the right track to not just the needs of the region, but also globally. ARROW staff members remain a strong backbone of the organisation. Their dedication to the work that ARROW does and to SRHR advocacy enables a more productive and positive work environment. We are also very fortunate to work in partnership with inspiring people and organisations across the region.

ARROW is leveraging on these achievements as we prepare to celebrate in 2013 ARROW's 20 years of setting in change for women and young people in the region and beyond.

**Figure 5: ARROW's Expenditure in 2012**





ARROW Mid-year Planning, July 2012  
Source: ARROW Photobank



ARROW PAC and staff, May 2012. Source: ARROW Photobank



The team that worked on the Beyond ICPD and the MDGs meeting, May 2012  
Source: ARROW Photobank

#### Endnotes

51. All the project partners of this Danida grant are required to develop an anti-corruption policy within their organisations. It also needs to be approved their respective Boards.





*A young mother and child in Hongtso, Bhutan*  
Source: Photostream of ahinsajain (Flickr, Creative Commons)

## Who Supports Us



ARROW warmly thanks everyone who supported our work, extended solidarity and friendship, and shared a common commitment to enhancing women's SRHR.

### ARROW'S DONORS IN 2012

- Catholics for Choice
- Danish International Development Agency (Danida), through the Danish Family Planning Association (Danish FPA)
- David and Lucille Packard Foundation
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
- Ford Foundation
- Global Fund for Women (GFW)
- IDRC Regional Office for Southeast & East Asia
- Netherlands Organisation for International Development Cooperation (Oxfam Novib)
- Population Action International (PAI)
- Swedish International Development Agency (Sida)
- United Nations Population Fund Asia Pacific Regional Office (UNFPA-APRO)

### OUR INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL PARTNERS IN 2012

- **Africa:** World YWCA
- **Eastern Europe:** ASTRA Network

- **Latin America and the Caribbean:** Latin American and Caribbean Women's Health Network (LACWHN)
- **Middle East and North Africa:** Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR)
- **North America:** Catholics for Choice (CFC)
- **Europe:** Danish Family Planning Association (DFPA)

### OUR COUNTRY PARTNERS AND THEIR LOCAL CIVIL SOCIETY PARTNERS IN 2012

- **Bangladesh:** Adorsho Mohila Shongstha; Annesha Samaj Sheba Shongho; Artha-Shamajik Shikkha Sanskritic Unnayon Sangstha (ASECED); Barisal Mohila Kollayan Shongstha; Children and Youth Development Organisation (SYDO); Community Based Development Project (CBDP); Development of Economical & Social Centre (DESC); Dr. Dheeran Shikder Foundation (DDS); Jago Nari; Integrated Social Welfare Association (ISWA); Naripokkho; Nazrul Shriti Shongshod (NSS); Patuakhali Development Organisation (PDO); Porag Nari Kollayan Shongstha; Shangkalpa Trust; Shaplaful Social Development Organisation (SSDO); Shuktara Mohila Shongstha
- **Bhutan:** Respect, Educate, Nurture, and Empower Women (RENEW)
- **Burma:** Burma Medical Association; Migrants Assistance Programme (MAP) Foundation; Myanmar Positive Women Network (MPWN)
- **Cambodia:** Action for Health, Agir Pour les Femmes En Situation Precaire, Angkor Hospital for Children, Buddhism for Development, Cambodia Women's Crisis Centre, Cambodian Women for Peace and Development, Cooperation for a Sustainable for Cambodian Society, Making a Difference for Good, Men's Health Cambodia, Minority Organisation for Development of Economy, New Hope Cambodia, Partners for Health and Development, Partnership for Development in Kampuchea, Phnom Srey Organisation for Development, Reproductive and Child Health Alliance, Reproductive Health Association of Cambodia (RHAC), Salvation Centre Cambodia, Supporters for Mental Health, the Lake Clinic-Cambodia
- **China:** Beijing Zhongze Women's Legal Counselling and Service Centre (formerly Beijing Women's Law Studies



*ARROW youth partners and youth staff at the Beyond ICPD and the MDGs Meeting, May 2012. Source: ARROW Photobank*

and Legal Aid Centre); Heilongjiang Women's Federation; Shanghai Women's Health Care Institute; Yunnan Health and Development Research Association (YHDRA)

- **India:** Academy for Nursing Studies and Women's Empowerment Research Studies (ANS-WERS); Ahmedabad Women's Action Group (AWAG); Akhil Bhartiya Gramin Uthan Samiti; Association for Sarva Seva Farms (ASSEFA); Astitva Samajik Sansthan; Baba RamKaran Das Gramin Vikas Samiti; Centre for Health and Social Justice (CHSJ); Centre for Health Education, Training and Nutrition Awareness (CHETNA); Ebtada Sansthan; Gramin Punar Nirman Sansthan; Gramya Sansthan; Janpath Network; Jan Shiksha Evam Vikas Sangathan; Jatan Sansthan; Navachar Sansthan; Rural Women's Social Education Centre (RUWSEC); SAHAYOG; Social Action for Rural and Tribal Inhabitants of India (SARTHI); Shikhar Prashikshan Sansthan; Tarun Vikas Sansthan; Yoganjali Kelwani Mandal
- **Indonesia:** Aliansi Remaja Independen, Centra Mitra Muda, Global Citizen Corps, Ikatan Remaja Muhammadiyah, Ikatan Remaja Muhammadiyah Padang, Indonesia Youth Conference, Mitra Inti, Palang Merah Indonesia, Perkumpulan Keluarga Berencana Indonesia Padang, Women's Health Foundation (YKP), Yayasan Bandungwangi, Yayasan Jurnal Perempuan (Women's Journal Foundation or YJP), Yayasan Kusuma Bongas
- **Lao PDR:** Faculty of Postgraduate Sciences, National University of Laos; Lao Youth Union; Lao Women's Union; Norwegian Church Aid
- **Malaysia:** Federation of Reproductive Health Associations of Malaysia (FHRAM); Reproductive Rights Advocacy Alliance Malaysia (RRAAM)
- **Maldives:** Society for Health Education (SHE)
- **Nepal:** Ashmita Nepal; Beyond Beijing Committee (BBC); Child Society Nepal (CS Nepal); Himalayan Human Rights Monitors (HimRights)-Makawanpur; Rural Institution for Community Development (RICOD); Women Skill Creation Centre (WOSCC); Youth Welfare Society—Makawanpur
- **Pakistan:** Alshahbaz Social Welfare Association, Saath Development Society, Sawani Saanjh, Shirkat Gah Women's Resource Centre, Umeed Welfare Society
- **Philippines:** Likhaan Centre for Women's Health;

Reproductive Health Rights and Ethics Centre for Studies and Training (ReproCen) of the University of the Philippines

- **Sri Lanka:** Women's Media Collective
- **Thailand:** The Southeast Asian Consortium on Gender, Sexuality and Health
- **Vietnam:** Central Enterprise Youth Union, Centre for Creative Initiatives in Health and Population (CCIHP); Family Health Research and Development Centre (FHRD); Institute for Reproductive and Family Health (RHAf); Research Centre for Gender, Family and Development (CGFED); Vietnam Youth Federation

#### NETWORKS AND STEERING COMMITTEES THAT ARROW IS A MEMBER OF

- 7<sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Conference on Reproductive and Sexual Health and Rights (APCRSHR) International Steering Committee
- Asia Pacific Women's Watch (APWW)
- Asia Safe Abortion Partnership (ASAP)
- Asian Rural Women's Coalition (ARWC)
- Coalition for Sexual and Bodily Rights in Muslim Societies (CSBR)
- Global Interfaith and Secular Alliance: Working for Reproductive and Sexual Health and Rights (GISA)
- International Steering Committee (Co-Chair) of the Global Youth Forum
- Reproductive Rights Advocacy Alliance Malaysia (RRAAM)
- Strategies from the South Initiative
- Unzip the Lips
- Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights (WGNRR)



*Regional policy dialogue with WHRAP-SA held in Delhi, India,  
October 2012  
Source: Shama Dossa, ARROW Photobank*





*A woman from the Hill Tribes, Thailand*  
*Source: Photostream of Babasteve (Flickr, Creative Commons)*

## Who We Are



### Board of Directors for 2012

- *Khawar Mumtaz*, Chief Executive Officer, Shirkat Gah Women's Resource Centre, Pakistan
- *Maria Chin Abdullah*, Executive Director, Empower, & Steering Committee Member, Bersih 2.0, Malaysia
- *Naeemah Laila Khan*, Research Officer, Pacific Leadership Programme (PLP), Fiji (*starting October 2012*)
- *Ninuk Widyantoro*, Chair, Advisory Board, Yayasan Kesehatan Perempuan, Indonesia (*until October 2012*)
- *Rashidah Abdullah*, Co-founder and former Executive Director, ARROW; Co-chair of the Reproductive Rights Advocacy Alliance Malaysia (RRAAM), Malaysia
- *Sunila Abeysekera*, Independent Consultant and Human Rights Defender, Sri Lanka

### Programme Advisory Committee for 2012

- *Babu Ram Pant*, Freelance Consultant, & Member of the Youth Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights, Nepal (*starting May 2012*)
- *Hoang Tu Anh*, Director, Consultation of Investment in Health Promotion (CIHP), Vietnam
- *Naeemah Laila Khan*, Fiji (*until September 2012*)
- *Norhayati Kaprawi*, Director, Lensa Srikandi, Malaysia (*starting April 2012*)

- *Ouk Vong Vathiny*, Executive Director, Reproductive Health Association (RHAC), Cambodia
- *Rishita Nandagiri*, Communications and Youth Affairs Officer, WGNRR, the Philippines (*starting April 2012*)
- *Rozana Isa*, Project Coordinator, Musawah, Malaysia (*starting May 2012*)
- *Tara Jyoti Smiles Chetty*, Programme Manager, FWRM, Fiji (*starting May 2012*)
- *Zhang Kaining*, Director, Yunnan Health and Development Research Association (YHDRA), China

### Staff 2012

#### Full-time Staff

- *Ambika Varma*, Programme Officer, ASK-us! (*until July 2012*)
- *Biblabi Shrestha*, Programme Officer, WHRAP-SA (*until May 2012*)
- *Gaayathri Nair*, Programme Officer, InfoCom (*starting October 2012*)
- *Leong Mee Nan*, Finance Officer
- *Maria Melinda "Malyn" Ando*, Programme Manager, Information & Communications (*starting September 2012*); formerly Programme Officer, ARROW for Change and Publications
- *Nalini Singh*, Programme Manager, Advocacy & Capacity Building
- *Norlela Shahrani*, Administration & Finance Manager (*until July 2012*)
- *Nor Azurah Zakaria*, Assistant Administration Officer
- *Paremela Naidu Ramamoorthy Naidu*, Administrative Officer (*starting 1 July 2012*)
- *Rachel Arinii Judhistari*, Programme Officer, WHRAP-SEA
- *Rosnani Hitam*, Executive Assistant
- *Sai Jyothirmal Racherla*, Programme Officer, ICPD+20
- *Shama Dossa*, WHRAP South Asia Advocacy Officer
- *Shubha Kayastha*, Programme Officer, WHRAP-SA (*starting May 2012*)
- *Sivananthi Thanenthiran*, Executive Director (*starting January 2012*), formerly Programme Manager, Information, Communications & Research
- *Suloshini Jahanath*, Programme Officer, Website

- *Suzana Abu Samah*, Assistant Administration Officer (until July 2012)
- *Uma Thiruvengadam*, Assistant Programme Officer, ASK-us!
- *Yap Bee Khim*, Finance and Admin Manager (starting June 2012)

#### Contract staff

- *Janet Kehinde Adekemi Ajao*, short-term Project Officer (starting August 2012)
- *Malikka a/p Karuppaiah*, Office Maintenance
- *Nida Mushtaq*, Programme Officer (until July 2012)

#### Short-term Volunteer

- *Chiam May Yen*

#### Infocom Task Force

- *Di Surgey*
- *Indu Capoor*
- *Jac sm Kee*
- *Khawar Mumtaz*
- *Susanna George*

### CONSULTANTS, CONTRIBUTORS AND EXTERNAL EXPERTS FOR VARIOUS INITIATIVES IN 2012

#### Commissioned

- ARROW for Change (AFC): *A.D. Eridani, Amara Quesada-Bondad, Brahm Press, Brenda S.A. Yeoh, Dame Carol Kidu, Deng Rui, Dina M. Sidiqqi, Elijah Fung, Felistah Mbithe, Filo Tuivanualevu, Humaira Tehsin, Jael Silliman, Joel Mark Barredo, Kesaya Baba, Kurnia Wijastuti, Maria Lourdes S. Marin, Marilen J. Danguilan, Marta Szostak, Naureen Tawakkal, Nayeli Yoval, Nelly Lukale, Paulini Turagabeci, Sumi Subramaniam, Thaufiek Zulfahary, Theodara Lam, TK Sundari Ravindran, Vathiny OV Liljestrand*
- Beyond ICPD & the MDGs: NGOs Strategising for Sexual & Reproductive Health & Rights in Asia-Pacific meeting: *Anna Whelan, Avelina Rokoduru, Dina M. Sidiqqi, Gill Greer, Jael Silliman, Kaew Nartrapee, Liz Eckermann, Magdalena Lopez, Manju Nair, Maria Lourdes S. Marin, Marilen Danguilan, Muhadjir Darwin, Naila Baig-Ansari, Narimah*

- Awin, Nathalie Verceles, Rashidah Abdullah, Ratna Osman, Rishita Nandagiri, Rokeya Kabir, Saramma Mathai, Shobha Raghuram, Suman Bisht, Sunita Kujur, Sylvia Estrada “Guy” Claudio, T K Sundari Ravindran,*
- Copy-editors for various publications: *Cezar Repuyan Tigno, Charity Yang*
- ICPD+15 project/Monitoring ICPD+20/SRHR across the Global South: *Amy Lynne Locklear, Shoba Raghuram, Sunila Abeysekara*
- Integrating Gender and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights into Climate Change Adaptation in Asia: A Scoping Study to Understand Linkages between Climate Change, Gender and SRHR in Select Island / Coastal States in Asia: *Babu Ram Pant*
- Media: *Sasha Surandran, Vanaja Dhanan*
- Organisational Development: *Eva Maaten*
- WHRAP-South Asia: *Samia Afroz Rahim, Vanaja Dhanan*
- WHRAP-South East Asia: *Arushi Singh, Mrinalini Rai, Nang Lao Liang Won, Niesrina Nadhifah, Pham Vu Thien Sofyan Nur Salim, Yanuarudin Mukhlis*

#### Voluntary

- ARROW for Change: *Anka Grzywacz, Babu Ram Pant, Brenda Yeoh, Caitlin Chandler, Carolyn I. Sobritchea, Constance Shumba, Jacqueline Weekers, Jayamalar Samuel, Jolovan Wham, Justine Sass, Rosalia Sciortino*
- Beyond ICPD & the MDGs: NGOs Strategising for Sexual & Reproductive Health & Rights in Asia-Pacific meeting: *Junice Melgar, Maria Chin Abdullah, Maria Lourdes S. Marin, Mian Liping, Krystyna Kacpura, Le Bach Duong, Maesy Angelina, Maria Theresa Ujano-Batangan, Marisa Viana, Marta Vallejo-Mestres, Mika Toyota, Naeemah Khan, Neha Sood, Nida Mushtaq, Richarl's Martins, Pimpawun “Pim” Boonmongkon, Rashidah Abdullah, Sharuna Verghis, Shiv Khare, Suchada Thaweesit, Sylvia Estrada “Guy” Claudio, TK Sundari Ravindran, Wijit Wongwareethi*
- Photos: *Babasteve, Graham Crumb, KC Wong and Ray\_from\_LA. (Flickr, Creative Commons)*
- WHRAP South East Asia: *Millinda Rajapaksha, Rishita Nandagiri, Usa Lerdsinsuntrad*

## SERVICE PROVIDERS AND VENDORS

- *Al-Zam Sdn. Bhd.*, Company Secretary
- *ANS Resources Enterprise*, Stationery supplier
- *Catony*, Promotional materials developer
- *Chimera Sdn. Bhd.*, Brand design consultancy
- *CYF Contracts & Marketing Sdn. Bhd.* and *Mac Nogas Sdn. Bhd.*, Printing services
- *Fazli Fadzil*, Office maintenance contractor
- *Good Point Enterprise*, Air conditioner contractor
- *Grand Lotus Travel Agencies*, Travel services
- *Heway and DHL*, Mailing services
- *Jason Tan Z Kiat* and *Ken Chong*, IT technical support
- *Jim Marpa*, *Politieia Kody* and *Tun Muhammad Ali Jinnah Basir*, Promotional materials development and publications design
- *Lucid Events*, Event Design and Management Company
- *M.M. Ally's Sdn Bhd.*, Money changer
- *Maybank KL Sentral*, Banking services
- *Nand Digital Corporation Sdn. Bhd.*, DVD design and animation
- *NetonBoard Sdn. Bhd.*, Web hosting services
- *Patricia Kong and ERA Agencies*, Insurance services
- *S. Selvi, Brothers Base Centre (M) Sdn. Bhd.*, Toner supplier
- *S. Syed Ibrahim*, Newspaper delivery services
- *SJ Grant Thornton*, Chartered Accountants/External Auditors
- *Sunil Vijayan*, Legal advice services
- *Sync Consulting Sdn Bhd.*, Accounting Software Company
- *Wong Kum Fatt, Ng Ah Meng Sdn Bhd.*, Landlord

*Grassroot women discussing safe abortion in Morang, Nepal.  
Source: Beyond Beijing Committee*









Woman in traditional Lao clothes  
Source: Photostream of exotissimo (Flickr, Creative Commons)

## championing women's sexual and reproductive rights

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