YoSHAN
Youth Led SRHR Advocacy Nepal

उसको शरीर  उसको स्वास्थ्य  उसको रोजाँ  उसको भविश्य
YoSHAN collaborated with the organizations Visible Impact and Right Here Right Now (RHRN) digital campaign who decides? to develop series of Facebook Live session on safe abortion. The main objective of the partnership is to clarify the values of the youth on "Abortion" who engage themselves in the social media platform "Facebook".

YoShan was responsible to develop the content for the live session and facilitate the session in an effective and efficient way while engaging the viewers throughout the sessions.

"ABORTION IS NOT CRIME.
ABORTION IS HEALTHCARE"

YoSHAN developed and facilitated three episodes of Facebook Live Session from July to August 2019.

Episode 1: Abortion Laws in Nepal facilitated by Durga Sapkota and Bonita Sharma
Episode 2: Abortion procedures facilitated by Elisha Joshi and Anjila Thapa
Episode 3: Busting Myths and stigmas around abortion facilitated by Shreejana Bajracharya and Puspha Joshi Pradhan.
YoSHAN initiated a partnership with a national FM station, Radio Audio Pvt. Ltd and planned a series of radio program on Safe and Legal abortion. Radio Audio has a history of broadcasting an interactive youth-friendly program named Khuldulee.com since 2008. The program has huge listener ship around 100K. The program is highly promoted through radio and social media. One of the most popular programs on young people's SRHR in Nepal.

"ABORTION: LEGAL, SAFE, ACCESSIBLE"

We on-air the first radio episode on the occasion of 28 September 2019, global Day of Action for Access to Safe and Legal Abortion. Our Youth Champions Durga and Pushpa spoke about safe abortion rights, YoSHAN and its working areas to promote and advance SRHR in Nepal.

Radio program in association with YoSHAN is aired once a week where listeners can send their queries related to SRHR, especially abortion. The program is facilitated by IVR system and have reached 800 SMS within two episodes.
Online advocacy

YoSHAN is also engaged in monitoring media when it comes to publishing news in online or print media. We have realized that inaccurate information published in mainstream media in Nepal is one of the major factors that perpetuate the stereotypes.

On 29 September 2019, the most popular online page Routine of Nepal Banda published a post in their social media claiming abortion news as SAD FACT. The figure they had quoted was irrelevant. YoSHAN and its youth champions replied to the post and was able to take the post down from its social media handles.

Sad Fact: Last year matra Nepal ma almost 1 lakh jana le abortion gareka chhan vane illegally ra Private sector bata abortion game ko number ajhai dherai huna sakchha 😕

Routine of Nepal Banda is popular among youngsters. It has 550K followers in Instagram and 100,000K followers in Facebook. Such unauthentic news on abortion have created misleading impact on page followers where young people are disgusting the character of women being promiscuous.

YoSHAN effort is to aware the admin on accurate and relevant information on abortion. Through private message we have offered the admin to work together and display correct information on abortion in future.

"#MYABORTIONMYHEATH #MYRIGHTTODECIDE"
YoSHAN organized it's first national youth advocacy institute (YAI) on safe abortion advocacy rights in collaboration with Asia Safe Abortion Partnership in September for medical professionals and students.

Twenty one participants from medical and paramedical background from diverse geography were selected after the rigorous process. The workshop was facilitated by Dr. Suchitra Dalvie and Manisha Gupte, a very experienced feminist activist from India and co-facilitated by our former youth champions.

"SAFE ABORTION IS NECESSARY FOR GENDER EQUALITY"

Within these three days YAI, we talked about safe abortion rights from various perspectives including sexuality, patriarchy, economy, politics and so on. The participants were also trained on use of free tools to create stigma free contents for social and digital media campaign to effectively engage youths with evidence-based information on SRHR, especially safe abortion. We are very hopeful that these youth champions will contribute immensely to the movement. As youth champions, they will be engaging with YoSHAN in various local level activities.
To mark the International Safe Abortion Day 28 September 2019, YoSHAN organized another episode of Guff4youth jointly with feminist organization, Loom Nepal.

In this episode we discussed on safe abortion through right based approach and identified gaps in the current laws in Nepal. The call for participation was called through social media. Around twenty young people from diverse background attended the session. At the end of the discussion, we painted on a canvas with pro-choice messages to show solidarity with the global pro-choice movement.

"ABORTION IS PART OF WOMEN'S LIVES!"

YoSHAN was at a national level seminar organization by FSGMN (Federation of Sexual and Gender minorities Nepal) titled "Unveiling Challenges of Sexual and Gender Minorities in Nepal and Road to Gender Equal Society: A seminar on LGBTIQ+ Rights". The discussion on issues of sexual and gender minorities and their rights in Nepal took place. The participants then came up with recommendations which were presented to the government/stakeholders. Section 67 of civil code is about definition of marriage which is very discriminatory i.e. it says, the marriage between a man and a woman is only legitimate marriage. So we demand, #DismissSection67
YoSHAN is a part of Technical Committee for Implementation of Comprehensive Abortion Care (TCIC). Every year on the occasion of International Safe Abortion Day, the team organize a candle lighting event in the open space in Kathmandu in the memory of women who had to die because of complication of unsafe abortion.

YoSHAN was the part of the event and committed on providing evidence based information to all who want to access safe and legal abortion services.

"YOSHAN WEBSITE LAUNCH- 28TH SEPT 2019"

YoSHAN launched its website on 28 September 2019. The website was live with information on women’s bodily autonomy, patriarchal society and its impact, information on SRHR and safe abortion in Nepal.

Youth Champions who graduated during Youth Advocacy Institute were challenged to develop creative social media posts like memes, GIPHY, poems, blogs, articles, etc. The youth champions were creatively and created snap-chat videos, tik-tok videos who disseminate the positive message of young people SRHR, especially on stigma free safe abortion services.
YoSHAN was invited to be part of an interactive TV program 'Jana Swastha Bahas' on Nepal Television by the host organization Sancharika Samuha. Dr. Bhim Tinkari, Director - Family Health Welfare Division and SRHR expert Ms. Madhabi Bajracharya were the guest speakers. The program had a very productive discussion on safe abortion policy, services and challenges in the present context.

YoSHAN represented as youth networking and was able to provide youth perspective on accessing non-judgemental abortion services.

"MAKING ABORTION ILLEGAL DOES NOT REDUCE ABORTION RATES."

Forum for Women, Law and Development (FWLD) invited YoSHAN to be part in preparing NGO parallel report consultation workshop in 25th Beijing Review Nepal, the National Network for Beijing Review (NNBN) celebrated 25 plus anniversary and conducted it’s review on October 17 and 18. YOSHAN is very delighted to participate and contribute in making the comprehensive report.

The two days program was centered on gender equality and empowerment of women at the national, regional and international levels. The recommendations from provincial-level consultation was discussed and presented to officials from the government, INGOs and UN agencies.
Participation

Our youth champion, Pushpa Joshi Pradhan participated in the National consultation program organized by Beyond Beijing Committee (BBC) on "Beijing +25 National review Validation and Feminist Position Paper Consultation program" in regard to Beijing +25 review process for the development of CSO parallel report on "Beijing Declaration and Platform action review progress." In this regard, BBC had conducted consultation at all 7 provinces of Nepal.

"NO WOMAN LEFT BEHIND. WE ALL DESERVE
• FREE
• SAFE
• LEGAL ABORTION"


Our Youth Champion Anjila Thapa and Elisa Joshi attend the meeting in behave of YoSHAN and shared YoSHAN vision, mission and theory of change to the team.
Our Youth Champions (Senior and freshly graduated) had super awesome September with the month full of activities. Youth Champions conducted one day gender sensitization program on safe abortion targeting 20 medical students an intern doctors of Institute of Medicine (IOM), Maharajgunj.

Durga Sapkota and Anjila Thapa are studying in IOM collaborated with nepal Medical Students Society, IOM for implementation of the program. YoSHAN and team had interactive discussion leading to value clarification of participants on SRHR and abortion.

"LET'S REMOVE ABORTION FROM CRIMINAL LAW"

Our youth champions during YAI had drafted monthly action plan where they committee to conduct sessions in their colleges and communities on safe abortion.

Ashmita Thapa, our youth champion graduated 2019 conducted sensitization program on Safe Abortion for Nursing students of Neuro health college. Ashmita and her team also celebrated 5th national safe abortion day and creates social media post and tik-tok video. Around 35 nursing students participated in the session.
Our youth champion Kamala Bista conducted one day orientation program on safe abortion to the young people at Mahakali Nagarpalika, Darchula. Sixteen young people participated in the program and share their experiences.

The program was successfully completed in collaboration with Darchula District Youth council and National Youth Council. Kamala also project the Sushila Jaisi case of unsafe abortion leading to the death of a woman in Accham District.

"ABORTION IS INTEGRAL PART OF HEALTH CARE"

Redefining the culture on her own terms, our youth champion Garima Nepali challenged her ritual during Deepawali and drew sanitary pad as mandala/rangoli to welcome Goddess Laxmi fighting towards period positivity.

She says, "Because menstruating is a normal biological phenomena which validates my existence as a woman. This process never had or ever will restrain me, my spiritual beliefs and rituals. Celebrating festivals of light by praying to divine feminine and accepting my biological divinity. If you feel offended feel free to contact me, gladly I will help you."