



Royal Tropical Institute



## Yes I Do Alliance

### Context Analysis and Focus Document for 2018

#### General information

Name of the organization	Stichting Plan Nederland
Postal address	P.O. Box 75454 1070 AL Amsterdam
Telephone number	+31 20 5495555
Email address	<a href="mailto:info@plannederland.nl">info@plannederland.nl</a>
Name and email address of contact person	Ms. Monique Demenint <a href="mailto:Monique.Demenint@plannederland.nl">Monique.Demenint@plannederland.nl</a> +31 20 5495579 +31 6 15541059

## **Introduction**

The Yes I Do Alliance (YIDA), comprising Plan Nederland (lead), Amref Flying Doctors, CHOICE for Youth and Sexuality, the Royal Tropical Institute (KIT) and Rutgers, is implementing a five-year programme (2016–2020) addressing child marriage (CM), teenage pregnancy (TP) and female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C).

The programme is being carried out in seven countries — Ethiopia, Indonesia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Pakistan and Zambia — with the ultimate goal that adolescent girls and boys enjoy their sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and achieve their full potential, free from all forms of CM, TP and FGM/C.

2018 will be the third year of operation. In 2016 the country alliances were set up, and during the inception phase the Theory of Change (ToC) was made country-specific, synergy and collaboration in the country alliances were discussed, geographic areas selected and activities designed. In 2017 all countries were fully operational and focusing on the five pathways of change. In 2018 we will continue building on the foundations laid by the country alliances in 2017. We will also carry out a midterm review to take stock of progress made so far and carry out the midline study as a follow-up to the baseline study.

During the Annual Review Meetings to take place in Q4 of this year, all countries will review the outcomes and assumptions of their ToCs; based on this reflection, more detailed planning will be done. Moreover, the collaboration and synergy between the alliances will be discussed and improved.

In this document we present a context analysis for 2018 and summarize the primary focus for each pathway for 2018. We also provide information on the process for adjusting the ToC, including any changes in the composition of the country alliances. Additionally, we highlight monitoring and evaluation (M&E) activities, including capacity-building and the YIDA learning processes, information on YIDA communication and cooperation in the Netherlands, as well as major key risks and mitigation measures. Finally, we present an explanation of the 2018 YIDA budget. The individual country updates are available at the request of BUZA.

## **General context analysis 2018**

### **Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance Policy (PLGHAP)**

A general contextual change that may have an influence in 2018 is the recent presidential election in the USA, where the newly appointed Republican administration has reinstated the Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance Policy (PLGHAP), formerly known as the Mexico City Policy (MCP). The PLGHAP bans US government family planning funds and other funds from going to foreign non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that provide abortion services (as a family planning tool), counselling or referrals, or advocate for liberalization of their country's abortion laws — even if the NGOs use non-US funding for these activities. The PLGHAP only affects organizations that are registered as non-US INGOs. Amref Health Africa in Ethiopia and Amref Health Africa in Kenya have signed the PLGHAP. As there are no vertical money flows involved from Amref Health Africa to other partners in the YIDA, the PLGHAP does not significantly affect the implementation of the programme, although it is not yet sure how partners could be affected. The alliance however will be able to continue providing information about post-abortion care or including questions on abortion in YIDA research. In the future it could be possible that more alliance members sign the PLGHAP, that is why the YIDA

will continue to regularly monitor the impact of the PLGHAP and discuss potential risks and mitigation measures.

### **Political situation**

In several YIDA countries political (national or district) elections will take place in 2018 or 2019. This will be the case in Indonesia, Mozambique and Pakistan. In Kenya Presidential elections took place, the results however were not accepted. In October 2017 re-elections took place, in a number of districts these were boycotted by the opposition. Despite this boycott, the current president has been declared winner of the elections. The political situation in Kenya can potentially still lead to political unrest and violence in certain areas of the country. We do not expect the Yes I Do programme in Kajiado to be affected by this. The re-elections entail that new local political leaders and policymakers will have to be introduced to the Yes I Do programme, to make them more aware of CM, TP and FGM/C and to ensure a smooth continuation of the programme in 2018.

In Mozambique, political elections will take place in 2018 at district level in Nampula province. Political unrest might cause insecurity, but it is assumed that it will not hinder or delay implementation of the programme.

General elections in Pakistan will be held in 2018. Currently the ruling party is a centre-right conservative party with very little interest in health and education issues.

In Indonesia, national elections will be held in 2019. The Islamic fundamentalist parties and organizations may politicize SRHR and services for unmarried young people during the preparations and campaigns which will start in 2018.

It is expected that the period leading up to the elections and the election results could potentially lead to unrest, negatively impacting the implementation of the Yes I Do programmes in the countries concerned. On the other hand, elections also provide an opportunity to engage in a dialogue with (potential) political parties on the importance of SRHR.

This is particularly important in Indonesia and Pakistan, where the political climate is (becoming) more conservative and SRHR issues are opposed by religious groups. Increased religious conservatism is also being seen in East Africa, most notably in Uganda; this could potentially also have a spillover effect to Kenya.

On a more positive note, we also see political will to end CM and TP in the African YIDA countries — for example, with existing and newly adjusted laws to ensure the age for marriage for boys and girls is 18, as is the case in Malawi and Ethiopia, for instance. In Kenya and Ethiopia there is also political will to end FGM/C, but awareness-raising on this subject in (remote) communities remains necessary.

### **Environmental situation**

In all countries erratic climate changes can be expected in 2018 and beyond. This can lead to heavy rainfall, severe droughts or other natural disasters, affecting implementation of the programme. For example, travelling in affected areas will become more difficult and expensive, and community members will not be able to prioritize YIDA activities such as attending meetings. In some implementing areas we note that adolescents are moving/migrating for either educational or economic reasons. This is causing challenges for the programme, especially with regard to awareness-raising and training activities. People are targeted and informed, and then they move away, leading to the fact that people cannot finalize training. For 2018, specific attention will have to be paid to how to

deal with reaching out to target groups that migrate from the intervention areas and the negative effects this has on the programme.

### **Context analysis by country**

**Ethiopia:** The political situation in Ethiopia has stabilized in comparison to last year, but still we are informed about spells of unrest and demonstrations. In 2018, potential unrest may or may not affect the implementation of the programme. The state of emergency has however been lifted. A more stable political environment could benefit the implementation of the Yes I Do programme in 2018, as government authorities might have more time to facilitate project activities and address issues requiring their input.

**Kenya:** The Kenyan political party that was elected in the 2017 election campaigned for free primary and secondary school programmes and loans/bursaries for vocational training. If this materializes, it will give adolescent girls at risk of CM due to poverty an opportunity to finish their education.

Kenya has seen increased budget allocations for SRH at the local level. In the event that there will be a new administration that does not support these budget allocations, the Yes I Do programme will accelerate advocacy activities for the continuation of the health budget for 2018 and beyond.

**Mozambique:** The Mozambican government has started a review process of the 2009 decree which still allows girls under 16 to marry with parental consent. The adjusted decree is supposed to state that marriage for both partners is only allowed over 18 years of age. The YIDA supports the review of the decree and will disseminate it to the local level to create awareness in the communities about this new legislation.

**Malawi:** The national parliament amended the Republican Constitution Act in February 2017. This Act previously approved marriage under the age of 18 (if partners had parental consent). The amendment now aligns the Act with the Marriage, Divorce and Family Relations Act of 2015, which criminalizes any marriage involving partners below the age of 18. In 2018 the YIDA in Malawi will continue to use the 2017 amendment to raise awareness, with the aim that communities will adjust their by-laws in line with the amendment, thus protecting girls from marriage before 18 years of age.

**Zambia:** Despite recent political unrest leading to a declaration of a state of emergency, the Yes I Do programme has not been affected, and implementation has continued. Government officials from the district (District Commissioners), provincial (Provincial Ministers) and national levels (the President) have openly acknowledged the seriousness of the problems of CM and TP and have pledged the government's commitment to addressing them.

Positive changes in laws and policies are expected to continue. Currently, revisions to the marriage bill have been submitted to but have not yet been passed by parliament. If a new bill does come into effect, the YIDA will play a role in sharing the latest updates and disseminating this information widely.

**Indonesia:** The Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection (supported by UNICEF and UNFPA) identified best practices/models for CM prevention in Indonesia. The Ministry confirmed to the national YIDA that it is interested in learning more about the Indonesian Yes I Do intervention model,<sup>1</sup> with the intention to adopt the model in 2018 and test it locally before using it as a national model. The YIDA team has been asked to provide technical assistance to the government to implement

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<sup>1</sup> We refer to Yes I Do as a community-based intervention model in which villages are the basis of the intervention by integrating all aspects of the five pathways in the activities of the village. All village interventions will be integrated into the village governance system.

the model nationally. This gives the YIDA the opportunity to incorporate the Yes I Do intervention model into the local government system and integrate it into relevant government programmes.

The Indonesian Women's Ulema Congress (KUPI) recommended conducting a judicial review of the marriage law in Indonesia. The YIDA in Indonesia supports this initiative and is of the opinion that KUPI has a strong bargaining position with the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection and the Ministry of Religious Affairs to open a dialogue on CM in Indonesia. When possible the YIDA will collaborate strategically with KUPI in 2018 — for example, by providing evidence from the programme.

**Pakistan:** The government policies for civil society organizations remain restrictive. They include very strict visa procedures, limiting monitoring and research visits from Dutch YIDA staff. During its current term in office the government has cancelled the registration process of all international NGOs and local NGOs that receive funds from foreign sources, and started the registration process afresh with a strict and mostly obscure scrutiny process. Rutgers Pakistan and Plan International Pakistan are still expecting to obtain their registration from the government. Civil society in Pakistan is quiet vibrant, and a fierce advocacy campaign against the shrinking space for civil society has been launched, in which the YIDA is taking part.

### **Adjustments to ToCs**

The Yes I Do programme works with a ToC which includes five pathways of change and four cross-cutting strategies (meaningful youth participation (MYP), gender-transformative approach (GTA), girls' empowerment, and engaging men and boys). All countries have contextualized the generic ToC to include their local realities. The five pathways and four cross-cutting strategies are the foundation of the programme.

At this stage, the countries foresee only minor changes to be made to the country-specific ToCs for 2018. The contextualized ToCs will be discussed during the Annual Review Meetings which are planned during the last three months of 2017. The country ToCs, including the cross-cutting strategies, will be reflected on, taking into account the implementation, the findings of the baseline reports, M&E and progress and challenges encountered. The teams will discuss potential overlaps and identify possible gaps. As part of the ToC reflection process, teams will also discuss the assumptions underlying the ToC, to discuss whether they are still valid or need adjusting. This joint reflection will provide the country alliances with insights which will help the teams learn and refine and sharpen their ToCs. Analysis on what went well and more detailed priorities and planning for 2018 will also be discussed.

The cross-cutting issues of MYP, GTA, girls' empowerment and male engagement are fully integrated in the ToC.

### **Meaningful youth participation**

Basic training on MYP has taken place in the YIDA countries in 2017. To further strengthen MYP within the partner organizations of the country alliances, the MYP Organization Tool (MOT) has been developed. The tool will be shared with the countries in 2017 so that they can take stock of how MYP is currently operationalized within their programmes and organizations. The tool will allow partners to further strengthen their MYP within their organizations and programmes. The youth led partners in the countries will be able to assist other partners to build their capacity on MYP and fully integrate it into their activities.

## **Girls' empowerment**

As girls' empowerment is one of the cross-cutting strategies in the Yes I Do programme, three different aspects of girls' empowerment ('power within', 'power over' and 'power with') are interwoven into the different pathways.

'Power within' is reflected in the specific training given in girls' clubs and the creation of girls as champions of change. They will become the agents of change, able to create social movements. In addition to communities, influential key persons are mobilized to support girls' rights, through which the 'power with' component is realized.

'Power over' is reflected in the lobbying and advocacy activities that challenge legislation perpetuating CM and FGM/C.

As the baseline research last year showed that girls have more agency and more strategies available regarding their power, discussions will take place in 2018 about what specific activities are needed with regards to the girls' empowerment strategy.

## **Male engagement/gender-transformative approach**

Gender inequality is one of the root causes of vulnerability and marginalization, and as such closely linked to FGM/CM and TP. The programme aims to create critical awareness among all stakeholders on the health and social costs of harmful gender norms and replace these norms with ones that promote inclusion, equality and human rights. The engagement of men and boys is part of this strategy, so that boys and men are no longer seen as the problem, but as part of the solution. Gender-transformative programming requires changes in thinking at all levels, including those of partners. In 2017, a number of countries received GTA training, mainly focusing on understanding and experiencing the concept and being familiar with the evidence of GTA approaches. Building on the understanding of the GTA concept, focus is required in 2018 to support partners in providing GTA training themselves, to integrate a GTA in programming, by assessing interventions, products, institutions or policies with a GTA lens, and to develop plans to strengthen these interventions and products accordingly.

## **Composition of the alliances**

The following changes in the composition of the alliances in the seven YIDA countries occurred: in Mozambique and Zambia discussions were held with PSI Mozambique and Society for Family Health (SFH) in Zambia for PSI to be a technical partner in the Yes I Do programme. Ideas and discussions were exchanged, and after a lengthy process we learned that the parties could not find a match with the programme and the available budget to lead to a workable partnership. In Mozambique and Zambia the local Plan International Zambia and Mozambique offices are in the process of considering local partners to facilitate access to adolescent SRH services. In the Netherlands, PSI Europe and the YIDA will stay connected by sharing their mutual insights into CM by means of expert meetings and other learning events.

In Zambia the YIDA agreed to identify a new partner (to be contracted by Rutgers) midway 2018. By this time the team will be able to identify where the programme needs additional strengthening. Rutgers will select a new partner in collaboration with the Zambian alliance.

## Country alliance-building

A good start has been made in all the countries and in the Netherlands to create efficient, operational country alliances. For example, where needed, offices of alliance members are shared, and joint planning is taking place and will continue in 2018. This will also lead to alliance members being able to share technical expertise. In all countries attention is continuously needed to ensure smooth cooperation among alliance members. More activities involving collaborating, exchanging experiences and learning will continue in 2018, both in the countries and in the Netherlands. Reflection on alliance-building is also part of the annual review process.

We have developed a tool to discuss the baseline of partners' capacities regarding MYP, and we will also develop a tool to discuss how a GTA is integrated into their organizations and programmes. This process for capacity-strengthening will be further introduced during the Annual Review Meetings, and tools will be made available to enable partners to identify where strengthening is needed. Information from this process can also be used by partners to assist each other in specific areas and to indicate specific learning needs.

## Focus for 2018

In general, each organization will continue implementing activities under the pathways as described in the 2016 Inception Report and implemented in 2017, with the aim to combine the experience and expertise of the alliance members in the intervention areas and achieve as much synergy as possible. In this document we provide the major focus areas for each pathway for 2018.

*Pathway 1: Community members and gate-keepers have changed attitudes and take action to prevent CM, FGM/C and TP.*

In 2018, awareness-raising activities in the communities will continue to counter the persisting influence of social customs and norms underlying the practices of CM, TP and FGM/C. In 2018, intergenerational dialogues including community leaders, young people and men and boys will take place to discuss CM and TP; where relevant, FGM/C will also be included in the discussions. It is assumed that over time, people within communities with more knowledge of the effects of CM, TP and FGM/C will form social movements and will take action against these practices. Within these social movements young people are trained as agents of change and will be able to influence their peers to stand up against CM, TP and FGM/C within their communities. To change the negative social norms regarding CM, TP and FGM/C, continued dialogue with religious and community leaders, mothers, teachers and others remains necessary over a longer period of time to change behavior. Different groups will be targeted with messages on CM, TP and FGM/C using edutainment, sports and youth clubs.

With an increased awareness of SRHR, we see that people in the communities report more cases of CM or FGM/C to child protection committees and/or authorities. We expect this to continue to increase in 2018. The programme will, therefore, focus on strengthening child protection mechanisms and equipping communities to jointly monitor and supervise efforts to identify girls who need support in leaving or resisting a marriage or FGM/C, return to school etc.

*Pathway 2: Adolescent girls and boys are meaningfully engaged to claim their SRH rights.*

The focus under pathway 2 will be to intensify MYP training for community-based organizations and youth and other groups. A start will be made to create an MYP movement by providing technical

assistance and mentorship and facilitating adolescent dialogues. Skills-building on advocacy and youth leadership will be further rolled out.

In 2017 all alliance partners received joint training on MYP. At the end of this training, each organization developed an action plan on the integration of MYP in their organization and programming. In 2018 each of the partners will continue to work on the implementation of this action plan. They are being supported by the youth led partner in the national alliances and programme officers in the Netherlands. In addition, assessments of partners' MYP capacity are planned for Q4 2017, which will produce concrete action points that will further guide organizations' implementation of MYP in 2018. With the alliance members being sensitized on MYP, activities in 2018 will focus on MYP capacity-strengthening of other stakeholders and the development of youth leadership.

*Pathway 3: Adolescent girls and boys take informed action on their sexual health.*

The focus under pathway 3 in 2018 will be on increasing knowledge of adolescent SRHR among school management, teachers and students. Additionally, health care providers will be trained to improve youth-friendly SRH services. Integrating comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) is a key strategy in 2018, involving teachers, adolescent students and the community and introducing them to SRHR principles. Where the awareness of school management and teachers on the need for CSE for adolescent boys and girls has been raised, both in-school and out-of-school training on SRHR will take place. For 2018 this means that peer-to-peer education on SRHR will take place in schools and youth clubs, for example. Where needed, the CSE manuals will be updated and distributed.

It is equally important for boys and girls to have access to SRH information and services. To improve access, it is necessary to train professionals such as social workers and health care providers to provide youth-friendly services. In 2018, health care providers will receive training, and service outlets, health facilities and youth centres will be provided with information on youth-friendly SRH services.

*Pathway 4: Adolescent girls have alternatives beyond CM, FGM/C and TP through education and economic empowerment.*

As poverty, a lack of education and limited job opportunities for girls are major drivers of CM, activities under this pathway are intended to increase access to safe post-primary education for adolescent girls and train them in entrepreneurial and business skills to improve their employment opportunities.

To enable girls to continue their schooling after primary education and finish their secondary education, there will also be a focus on creating safe environments for girls in secondary schools — for example, by informing teachers and management about girls' needs.

In addition, young girls will receive information about the courses and professions available in the intervention areas to increase their income-generating skills.

In some countries market scans were conducted in 2017 which provided necessary information on what kind of businesses are available and which skills youths need to have. Initial contacts with the private sector have also been made. In 2018, training on setting up small-scale business enterprises will be held — for example, using the Enterprise Your Life (EYL) training or the Community Savings and Loans Associations (CSLA) methodologies.

Young people who have already received training will be linked in 2018 to existing opportunities for internships, employment and financial support. Those who have not yet been trained will be identified in 2018 for vocational and entrepreneurial skills training to improve their chances in the job market.



*Pathway 5: Policymakers and duty bearers develop and implement laws and policies in relation to CM and FGM/C.*

Under this pathway it is important in 2018 to reach out to key staff at local and national government departments of health, education and social development to continue advocating for laws on CM and FGM/C to be put in place or to be implemented.

Through continued awareness-raising and sensitization activities on SRHR within the communities, people, including youth, will become more and more knowledgeable about marriage laws that criminalize underage marriage. In 2018 this will enable (young) community members to take action — for example, advocating for local by-laws to be brought in line with national laws and thus protecting underage girls from getting married within the communities.

In some countries there is political will for change. Information from the programme and findings from the baseline reports will be used in 2018 for evidence-based advocacy to inform and convince both local and national leaders, policymakers and duty bearers to adjust or implement existing laws and policies stating that marriage should take place over 18 years of age for boys and girls. In countries where FGM/C is practised, it is important to continue advocacy activities in 2018 so that existing laws are implemented.

In Indonesia and Pakistan governments are becoming increasingly more conservative and tend to politicize SRHR issues, especially for young (unmarried) people. It is, therefore, key to have programme information and baseline findings available to convince key stakeholders that SRH information and services are necessary, particularly for young people.

### **M&E activities for 2018**

Based on the country-specific M&E frameworks — reflecting indicators for results at output, outcome and impact levels — in-country partners have collected and analysed data in 2017. Findings from baseline measurements and output results have been reported and published in IATI. M&E activities in 2018 will focus on ongoing monitoring of the programme interventions and the midterm review.

Since the start of the YIDA, all partners have registered their organizations (in Aidstream), set up and published their organization's account in the IATI registry, created their Yes I Do activity for each country and published results (outputs, outcomes and impact) of YIDA activities.

Currently a dashboard is being developed to visualize the IATI results published by the alliance partners. This dashboard will be permanently accessible and available to all partners. In 2018 the dashboard will facilitate ongoing monitoring of the Yes I Do programme activities and ensure analysis of progress by combining IATI files produced by the YIDA partners.

To optimally guide countries in monitoring their programmes (development of tools, data collection, data analysis and interpretation) and address their capacity-building needs, ongoing and tailor-made M&E capacity-building support will be provided in 2018. This will be done by the M&E coordinators, M&E advisors of the different partners in the programme countries and in the Netherlands through skype sessions and support visits.

### **Baseline report**

The synthesis report of the seven baseline studies became available in June 2017. It provided insights into the drivers of CM, TP and FGM/C, recommendations for programming and evidence for advocacy.

This report has been shared with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Currently, operational research is ongoing to further investigate specific issues and knowledge gaps in the countries.

### **Operational studies**

In 2017 several qualitative operational studies were implemented to supplement findings for the baseline or to analyze certain topics and themes in greater depth. The operational studies focused on the influence of initiation rites, leadership roles and decision-making on FGM/C, repeated CM and divorce, and research related to the champions of change curriculum. During 2017 and 2018 these studies will continue and be finalized. The findings will be analyzed, shared and disseminated.

### **Midterm review and midline study 2018**

#### **Midterm review**

In 2018 an internal midterm review is planned to ascertain the progress of the programme by collecting and analysing the available quantitative data in line with the M&E framework and combining this information with an analysis of the expenditures in the countries so far. This will allow us to see whether we are on the right track and to adjust the programme and budget if necessary. In addition, we will also implement the midline study in 2018.

#### **Midline study 2018**

In the second half of 2018 we will also conduct a qualitative midline study in each of the countries. This means that we will use mapping and qualitative methods to see what the observed effect is in relation to the five pathways of change and what the perspectives related to the five main pathways of change are. The cross-cutting strategies will be included; we will assess the progress made in relation to MYP, GTA and the inclusion of men and boys, from the perspectives of the communities, young people and key informants. A quantitative midline study is not an option, as the programmes' activity period is too short, and we will not be able to meaningfully measure progress. For the qualitative midline study we will ask permission from the ethical commissions at national and global levels. A detailed proposal for the qualitative midline study will be developed by February 2018.

### **Learning in 2018**

As the Yes I Do programme is a complex programme taking place in seven countries, learning is considered essential and is a continuous process, taking place both in the countries and in the Netherlands.

For example, learning takes place via annual or biannual narrative reports and regular monitoring visits. The narrative reports collect the needs for capacity-building, and, based on these needs, specific interventions such as M&E support or technical assistance can be organized. During the 2017 annual review meetings the country alliances will discuss their learning needs and identify learning priorities for 2018. The alliances will also discuss how they can support each other at the national and regional level by sharing specific expertise and experiences.

In the Netherlands we will continue to share specific expertise among alliance members — for example, in the second half of 2017 learning sessions on MYP and IATI have been organized. Similar learning events covering specific themes related to Yes I Do will take place in 2018.

During implementation of the programme we learned that having joint meetings between M&E or finance and programme staff is valuable to combine M&E or finance and programme needs and knowledge. For M&E it is also important to further discuss particular learning needs within the (country) alliances. Therefore, joint meetings are planned to take place in 2018.

Learning between CM alliances is also being organized. Regular meetings between the alliances and the Ministry will continue in 2018, and a joint monitoring trip is planned to take place in the first half of 2018. Learning from YIDA research findings is shared within, between and beyond the CM alliances with the broader SRHR community in the Netherlands via cooperation with Share-Net International and Girls Not Brides Netherlands (GNBN). For example, a joint expert meeting will take place in December 2017, where researchers from the three CM alliances will present baseline findings with a specific focus on the choices and agency of girls in relation to CM.

International opportunities to learn in 2018 include, for example, the upcoming International AIDS Conference in Amsterdam in July 2018. GNBN will have a stand to provide information on CM in the Global Village, which is open to the Dutch public. In June 2018 there is the Global Convening of Girls Not Brides Global in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, where national partnerships will share experiences and knowledge.

## **Communications**

A YIDA external communications strategy has been developed in 2017, and the YIDA branding/identity will become available before the end of the year. A two-pager will be finalized in Q4 2017 to be used in the Netherlands and in the countries to provide stakeholders and others interested in the programme with basic information. We are also working on an animated video to visualize the why, where and how of the Yes I Do programme. These types of communications materials will strengthen the visibility of the YIDA in 2018. We will also continue producing YIDA briefs to inform the members and partners about key results, events and deliverables.

Information from the YIDA baseline reports will be used to formulate specific key messages for external communications purposes — for example, for joint (advocacy) activities together with the SRHR group and/or GNBN. Specific country summaries based on the YIDA baseline reports are now available to be used for external communications and/or advocacy purposes in 2018.

## **Cooperation in the Netherlands**

The three CM alliances and other international and Dutch organizations meet in one of the three GNBN working groups. The working groups are: CM in the Netherlands, the Global South, and Advocacy and Communications. The Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs is also represented in one of the working groups. For 2018, the working group on CM in the Netherlands will have collected more information on the scope and nature of CM in the Netherlands, providing a basis for its activities. The Global South working group will focus on specific themes to share and spread knowledge and experience in cooperation with Share-Net International. The Advocacy and Communications working group will

lobby the Dutch government to keep SRHR including CM as a priority area within Dutch foreign policy and will liaise where possible with the existing SRHR group for joint advocacy.

#### Major risks for the YIDA in 2018

General major external risks	Mitigation measures
Signing the PLGHAP might have negative consequences for the YIDA	The PLGHAP is on the agenda of the YIDA in the Netherlands, and information on its effects has been requested from the countries; for now the risk is low, and the subject will be monitored both in the countries and in the Netherlands
In some YIDA countries there is political unrest and instability with shrinking space for NGOs.	The YIDA will closely monitor the political situation in the countries and discuss possible mitigation measures when appropriate.
General major internal risks	Mitigation measures
In some YIDA countries (Pakistan and Indonesia) governments are becoming more and more conservative, with shrinking space for SRHR activities, especially for young unmarried people. For Pakistan visas are very difficult to obtain, limiting monitoring / research visits.	Mitigation takes place by creating opportunities for the YIDA to lobby national and local governments on the importance of SRHR, especially for young people.  Wherever possible other solutions will be sought to stay in touch with the programme such as meetings in another country.
High turnover of staff in the countries and in the Netherlands	Ensure that key information is available to share with new staff for a smooth transition