



PREVENTING SEXUAL VIOLENCE ON UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES

Sexual violence is any sexual act committed against a person without freely given consent. Men and women may experience sexual violence, but most victims are women. Thus, early prevention with men is critical; yet, young men often are difficult to reach and may resist programs that target sexual violence, not seeing themselves as potential perpetrators. Prevention with men that integrates a bystander framework, which treats men as “allies” of women, is one way to target attitudes and behaviors while decreasing resistance to participation.

In this project, CCIHP, in collaboration with Emory University will adapt RealConsent for use with men attending one of two universities in Hanoi, Vietnam. We will test

the impact of RealConsent on knowledge/attitudinal/emotional mediators, and in turn, on sexual violence perpetration and prosocial bystander behavior in this target group. RealConsent is a novel, six-session, web-based serial drama and educational program designed to prevent sexual violence perpetration and to enhance prosocial bystander behavior in young men.

During September, researchers at CCIHP conducted focus group discussions with young men at Hanoi Medical University and Thang Long University. They really liked the course but felt that some messages needed further adaption for a Vietnamese context and that they preferred a cartoon format, rather than live acting for some scenarios.

CCIHP INPUT INTO UNIVERSAL REVIEW PROCESS

A training session was held on 15th September on the Universal Review Process (UPR) hosted by UNDP. The UPR is a unique process which gives all nations the opportunity to declare what actions they have taken to improve the human rights situations in their countries. Recommendations are then made and some of these are then accepted to be implemented by member countries. In 2019, it will be the turn of Vietnam to participate in this process and thus it is important that the voice of civil

society is heard.

The session was attended by a range of CSOs who had already provided papers that will provide inputs into this process. These papers addressed issues such as LGBTIQ rights, the prevention of gender-based violence, internet freedoms, the rights of persons with disabilities and the land rights of ethnic minorities. CCIHPs involvement is work with GBV-NET on a paper on the prevention of gender-based violence and a factsheet on prevention of sexual harassment in work and public places.



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CCIHP Connections

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF CCIHP



LAUNCH OF JOINT PROGRAMME BETWEEN UNFPA AND CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS TO RESPOND TO GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

On 20th September, a fantastic event was held to launch a programme to strengthen the response to gender-based violence from the perspectives of social organisations.

This is a unique programme, as it is the first time that UNFPA is partnering with civil society organisations at a national level. The programme will last from 2018 to 2021 and it is for 2.25 million USD. This exciting programme aims to strengthen the role of social organisations in

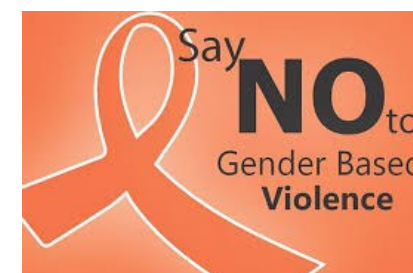
collecting evidence and developing interventions to respond to gender-based violence and other harmful practices.

CCIHP will be working together with the Centre for Studies and Applied Science in Gender, Family, Women and Adolescents (CSAGA), with the support of Vietnam Union of Science and Technology Organisations (VUSTA) and UNFPA.

We wish everyone well as they embark on this important programme.



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PUBLICATION OF “EXPECTANT FRAGMENTS” A BOOK OF STORIES ABOUT LOVE, MARRIAGE AND PREGNANCY

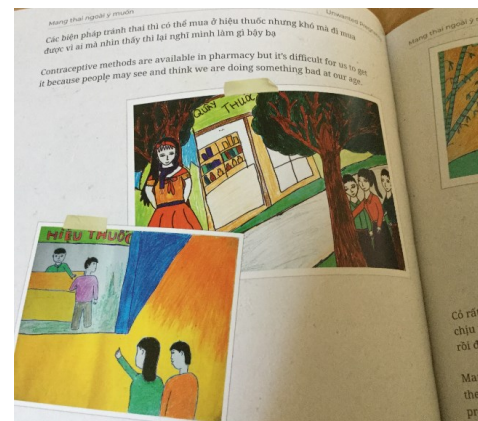
*I remember,
When we hardly knew each other,
Then we met,
Gradually we got to know to each other
Together we talked,
Together we shared,
The joy and the sadness,
From time to time
The feelings grew
We became a couple.*

This beautiful poem is from the CCIHP publication “Expectant Fragments”. This book collects together more than 70 stories and artworks produced by ethnic minority pupils of the Thuan Chau Ethnic Minority Boarding school in Son La province. It is one of the key outputs from project “Innovative Ethnic Minority Youth in Family Planning” which was funded through the generous support of the global FP2020 program.



The stories and artworks represent the emotional feelings of the pupils about, love, sex, relationships, pregnancy and marriage. The project showed that the use of community-based art is an effective and emotional way to explore sensitive subjects with young people that allows them to express their desires and needs in an attractive way.

Well done to Son and the creative team who worked together with the pupils in these empowering art sessions to explore these difficult issues.



REGIONAL DIALOGUE AND LAUNCH OF REPORT INTO COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION

The launch of a report that reviewed Sexual and Reproductive Health Education in Lower and Upper Secondary Schools in Vietnam was warmly welcomed by participants on 14th September. The objectives of this review were to assess the content, implementation and delivery of the current school-based sexuality and reproductive health education program.

The lead researchers Andrea Irvin and Quach Trang conducted interviews and focus group discussions with parents, pupils, teachers and officials from the Department of Education and Training.

They also undertook a detailed desk review of the Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) curricula in Vietnam against international standards. The review highlighted many inconsistencies and highlighted that although intentions are good there is much room for improvement in the delivery of CSE in the country.

The report made recommendations to:

- Improve the quality of the current SRH and life skills content in the curriculum.



- Improve the quality of the delivery of SRH education and life skills in schools.
- Undertake a strategic advocacy campaign for the inclusion of a stand-alone subject that includes CSE.
- Evaluate alternatives to school-based CSE.

Earlier in the month, Tu Anh also took part in part in the Regional Dialogue on Comprehensive Sexuality Education in Bangkok on 6-8 September. Joining the Vietnam delegation were representatives from UNFPA and from Vietnam Institute of Education. The regional dialogue reviewed the revised International Technical Guidelines on Comprehensive Sexuality Education by UNESCO, listened to best practices of CSE in the region and discussed Vietnams national action plan for CSE.

FURTHER GOOD NEWS FOR A365

Grand Challenges Canada was delighted to hear that we had secured a grant from USAID to support children and young people with autism, and asked us to re-submit a proposal for a grant of up to 1 million CAD. After much work the A365 team has now submitted a proposal for review, and we wish them well for success.

