

POSITION

YAinA stands for Youth Advocates in Action.

It is a collection of working groups of young people from 7 European Countries, advocating for the increase of available funding within the European Development Fund in issues relating to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) of youth in the Global South / Developing countries. For the goal to be achieved YAinA is contacting you as a candidate member of the European Parliament.

MDG 1: Eradication of Poverty - "Eliminating all forms of discrimination against women is thus a prerequisite for eradicating poverty, promoting sustained economic growth, ensuring quality family planning and reproductive health services, and achieving balance between population and available resources" ICPD Chapter III.

MDG 3: Promotion of Gender equality and empowerment of women - "Governments should promote equal participation of women and men in all areas of family and household responsibilities, including, among others, responsible parenthood, sexual and reproductive behaviour, prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, and shared control in and contribution to family income and children's welfare." ICPD Chapter IV.

MDG 3: Promotion of Gender equality and empowerment of women - ICPD Chapter VII argues that the development of responsible sexuality permits relations of equity and mutual respect between genders. It should be ensured that both genders have access to information, education and services on SRHR both at childhood and adulthood. Emphasis must also be given to protection of women, youth and children from sexual abuse, exploitation, trafficking and violence.

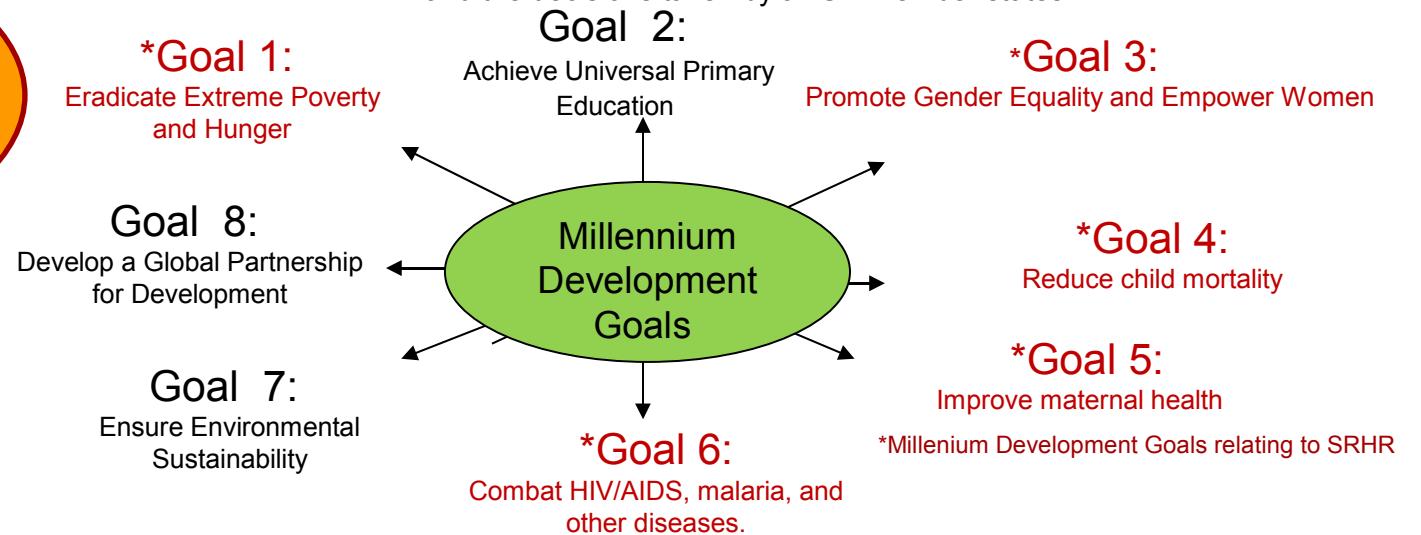
MDG 4: Reduction of child mortality - "All countries should reduce mortality and morbidity and seek to make primary health care, including reproductive health care, universally available by the end of the current decade." ICPD Chapter VIII.

Y-AID? Why Aid?

- Almost 50% of world population is consisted by youth under the age of 25.
- 82 million girls aged 10-17 in developing countries will be married before they reach 18 years of age
- 14 million girls aged 15-19 will give birth every year
- 500,000 women die each year by complications related to pregnancy and childbirth, 99 per cent of them in developing countries.
- Two thirds of the global total people with HIV/AIDS live in the sub-Saharan area of Africa.
- Three quarters of all AIDS deaths occurred in sub-Saharan Africa in 2007.

Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) are vital for the fulfillment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Five out of the eight goals set up as MDGs are related to SRHR, directly or indirectly. This can be further supported by the decisions of the International Conference on Population and Development, and the decisions taken by all UN member states.



MDG 4: Reduction of child mortality - "target the underlying socioeconomic causes of child mortality such as mothers' access to reproductive health, education and employment."
MDGs Targets

MDG 5: Improvement of Maternal Health - SRHR are directly related to this goal. ICPD in Chapter VIII, calls all governments to expand the provision of maternal health services as primary health. Measures should be enforced to prevent, detect and manage high-risk pregnancies, especially those of adolescents; measures should also be taken to ensure men share responsibility for sexual and reproductive health.

MDG 5: Improvement of Maternal Health - The ICPD recognizes that abortion should in no case be promoted as a method of family planning and for this calls upon countries to develop measures of prevention of unwanted pregnancies through education, access to information and family planning. Moreover, governments should ensure abortions are safe for Maternal health.

MDG 5: Improvement of Maternal Health - "Provide sufficient financing to strengthen health systems, particularly for maternal, childcare and other reproductive health services" and "ensure that procurement and distribution of contraception, drugs and equipment are functioning and increase access to contraception and sexual and reproductive health counselling for both men, women and adolescents"
MDGs Target 1.

MDG 5: Improvement of Maternal Health - "Establish dedicated national programmes to reduce maternal mortality and ensure universal access to reproductive health care, including family planning services" MDGs Target 2.

MDG 6: Combat of HIV/AIDS and other transmissible diseases - The ICPD recognizes that in order to combat HIV/AIDS access to information and education, are essential. Measures for prevention of the spreading of the disease must be ensured.

We, the group YAinA call for:

- All actors to work for the increase of funding of the European Development Fund of issues relating to SRHR of youth in the Global South.
- All actors to include SRHR as one of the priorities of the European Development Fund.
- The commitment and enforcement of all necessary actions to achieve the agreed global development targets, particularly those stated in the Cairo Programme of Action and the Millennium Development

YAID ?

As a member of the European Parliament you will have the possibility and power to vote over the Official Development Aid budget allocations and lobby to ensure that a larger percentage is allocated for SRHR