



***“The true character of a society is revealed in how it treats its children.”
- Nelson Mandela***

Dear readers,

The active involvement of adolescents and young people is essential in promoting comprehensive Reproductive Health and Sexuality Education (RHSE). They bring unique perspectives. By actively including their point of view, needs, and experiences, we can ensure that their sexual and reproductive health and rights aligns with realities and addresses their concerns.

Rutgers Indonesia remains steadfast in our commitment to deliver comprehensive RHSE while also encouraging adolescents and young people to voice their aspirations.

Let's check our work in August 2023!

Highlights of The Month

Youth Consultative Meeting 2023



Youth Consultative Meeting 2023

In an effort to enhance the voices of adolescents and youth, Rutgers Indonesia conducted a series of consultative meetings. Youth Consultative Meeting carried out by Rutgers Indonesia along with our programme implementing partners, which are Rutgers Lombok, Yayasan Tanoker, Perkumpulan SuaR, and Yayasan SEMAK.

It involved about 120 adolescents and young people, both from the assisted villages and schools. This event was held in Mataram, Jember, and Bandung from August 21–25, 2023.

Highlights of The Month

By listening to the aspirations of young people, we set out the 2024 plan to be precisely targeted to address the needs of young people in empowering and amplifying the voices of Adolescent Girls and Young Women.

The adolescents and young people presented the efforts already undertaken, planned, and achieved. They also identified challenges and opportunities in preventing child and marriage, teenage pregnancy, and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) in the respective regions. Given the open discussion provided by the Youth Consultative Meeting, they were able to convey their ideas to Rutgers Indonesia and all partners. These proposals are then sifted through by the implementing partners of Power To You(th) to be included in their work plan for 2024.

[Read more.](#)



Highlights of The Month



Young Aspiring Advocates in Lombok

Rutgers Indonesia continues to encourage the participation of young people and support the local government in carrying out efforts to prevent and eradicate harmful practices in the region. In August 2023, Rutgers Lombok conducted a community discussion for Young Aspiring Advocates. This event was held from August 29–30 in East Lombok.

Young Aspiring Advocate aims to strengthen the young people's capacity and understanding related to the Gender Transformative Approach (GTA) and Meaningful and Inclusive Youth Participation (MIYP), particularly in preventing child marriage, and teenage pregnancy, and SGBV in their region. In this activity, young people have been upskilled to be young advocates who are able to share their knowledge regarding the principles of GTA and MIYP with their peers. Throughout the discussions, every participant is free to express their opinion as a part of the young people's contribution to the local policies.

[Read more.](#)

Highlights of The Month



The Policy-making Workshop Regarding Reproductive Health and Sexuality Education in Jember

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As a strategic step in integrating Reproductive Health and Sexuality Education into regional development plans, Rutgers Indonesia, in collaboration with our programme implementing partner, Perkumpulan SuaR, conducted the Policy-making Workshop Regarding Reproductive Health and Sexuality Education with Jember Local Government on August 15, 2022.

The workshop involved the Ministry of Religious Affairs, District Education Office, District Health Office, District Office for Women's Empowerment, Child Protection, and Family Planning (DP3AKB) of Jember Regency and many local CSOs. This activity aims to foster shared understanding with related stakeholders regarding the importance of Reproductive Health and Sexuality education. The workshop encourages the local government to determine the viable policy strategy and establish a legal documentation that supports the implementation of RHSE. In this process, the involvement of stakeholders, both formally and informally, at all levels is crucial.

Highlights of The Month

The discussion identifies the current policies related to RHSE and the efforts undertaken by the local government to incorporate SRH Education into the Regional Medium-Term Development Plan (RPJMD). Furthermore, this discussion encourages the involvement of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) by assessing the capabilities of each organisation in order to achieve relevant institutional capacity strengthening. Local CSOs also consider media discussion forums related to women, children, and disabilities issues as part of the advocacy strategy through media coverage.

Read more.

