

ANNUAL REPORT

CHOICE
FOR
YOUTH &
SEXUALITY



LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ARI: aliansi remaja independen

CYECE: Centre Youth Empowerment and Civic Education

GAL: Generation Alive

GoP: graph of participation

GUSO: Get op Speak Out

MYP: meaningful youth participation

NAYA: Network of Adolescent and Youth of Africa

QA: Queer Alliance

RAHU: Reach a hand Uganda

REA: Rights, Evidence Action for Youth Rights

RHRN: Right Here, Right Now

SRHR: Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

SWOP: state of the world population

TaYa: Talent Youth Asociation

ToT: training-of-trainers

TYPF: The YP Foundation

UN: United Nations

UN DESE:

UNFPA: United Nations Family Planning Association

YASRHR: Youth Ambassador Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

YID(A): Yes I Do (Alliance)



Hey readers!

2017 was totally lit: the start of three new partnerships, our first youth-led research on CSE in NL and EU, the pleasure to have our partners in Amsterdam for a week of linking, learning and fun, and we launched eight new resources on youth-led advocacy and meaningful youth participation!

CHOICE also celebrated its 21st B-day in 2017 (this makes us in age an adult). A great moment to take stock of meaningful youth participation, and I believe we are halfway our mission. The slogan “nothing about us without us” of the Sustainable Development Agenda definitely lead to a growing interest of governments and organizations in youth participation. At conferences, we see more young people in panels, we see more SRHR programs focusing on young people’s SRHR, and UN agencies and governments are developing their own youth strategies. BIG WIN: decision-makers and SRHR leaders can’t move around us anymore. However, I also believe we should be cautious with celebrating the progress. While we see that young people are placed at the center, it often remains tokenistic. To illustrate: youth participation limits to an advisory role with lacking decision-making power, young people still have limited access to the UN processes due accreditation challenges, lack of money or skills barriers, and we often see a not-so-diverse group of young people participating.

With 20+ years of experience and forever young, we know what is required to make participation of young people truly meaningful. I am super proud that we launched our MYP from A to Z manual, that includes our Flower of Participation, Graph of Participation, MYP checklists and, most importantly, a capacity-strengthening trajectory for young people and adults to become MYP champions and practitioners.

The core for capacity strengthening is there, and now it is time for the next step: putting the money where the mouths are. If decision-makers and donors are down with meaningful youth participation, we are happy to collaborate. During our anniversary, we launched the call-to-action for more youth-friendly funding directly available for youth-advocates and youth-led organizations. So, let’s make this call-to-action become reality! The upcoming years will be exciting; a new multi-annual strategy, more research on our MYP interventions, and upscaling our MYP from A-Z trajectory. CHOICE will keep fighting for young people’s SRHR, and we will keep welcoming a diverse group of young people to our squad to make SRHR available for everyone :) !

Enjoy reading.

Zoë Nussy
Executive Director



1. WHY CHOICE

1.1 WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE WORLD?

- Young people, especially those not in a union or marriage, face more obstacles than adults in obtaining contraceptives and HIV prevention because of restrictive laws and policies (UNFPA, SWOP 2017)
- In 2015, there were an estimated 14.5 million births to adolescents in 156 developing countries, territories and other areas (UNFPA, 2016a).
- 42% of the world population is 24 years or younger (UN DESA 2017), and one in four people is between the age of 10 – 25.

1.2 WHY CHOICE?

We cannot underestimate the importance of young peoples' sexual reproductive health and rights (SRHR). These days, the world is home to 1.8 billion young people under the age of 24, the majority of which live in developing countries. SRHR for young people are crucial in the global fight against poverty; matters such as unwanted pregnancies and early and forced marriages limit young people from living up to their full potential. These issues also prevent us from contributing optimally to society, which has negative implications for countries' development.

Many young people are naturally sexually active, but we often do not have the legal right to freely decide on our sexuality, nor do we have access to adequate information and health services. Many young people around the globe are unable to freely express their sexuality and/or sexual preferences because of existing stigma and taboos. Young people all over the world are in dire need of an enabling environment, in which they can make their own choices, facilitated by comprehensive and correct information, access to contraceptives and safe abortion, and youth-friendly services that treat young people with respect and confidentiality.

1.3 VISION/MISSION

VISION

CHOICE wants to live in a world in which all young people:

... Openly and safely express their sexuality and who they love

... Freely enjoy the pleasures of sex if, with whom and when they choose

... Are sexually healthy and can make well-informed choices about their sexual actions

... Can openly and safely choose, if with whom, when and how to have children.

... Meaningfully participate in decision making that affects their lives and the lives of their peers.

MISSION

CHOICE is an ambitious and bold youth-led organization (led by youth aged between 16 and 30). We advocate for the sexual and reproductive health and rights of young people world-wide and support them to meaningfully participate and to voice and claim their rights.



2. WHERE DO WE WORK

In 2017, CHOICE worked in 11 countries and regions across 5 continents: Asia, Africa, Europe, North America and the Caribbean Region:

**INDONESIA | INDIA | MALAWI | ZAMBIA
ZIMBABWE | KENYA | UGANDA | NIGERIA
ETHIOPIA | MOZAMBIQUE | THE CARIBBEAN
REGION | THE NETHERLANDS**





3. WHAT HAPPENED IN 2017

(PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS 2017)

CHOICE aims for a world in which all young people can make informed decisions to fulfill their SRHR and can meaningfully participate in all processes that affect their lives. To create such a world, we need young leaders and youth-led organizations that advocate for young people's SRHR and their right to participate in a meaningful way.

In 2017, our activities brought us one step closer to a strong and inclusive moments that advocates for young people's SRHR and their right to participate meaningfully. This section highlights several of the projects and activities that took place in 2017.

3.1 MEANINGFUL YOUTH PARTICIPATION (MYP)

Meaningful youth participation has become the buzzword of the past couple of years. Time to take initiative; from all our capacity strengthening activities on MYP, CHOICE developed a training-of-trainers (ToT) manual. The MYP from A to Z manual is a tool to integrate MYP into organizations and programs. It includes a full theory on MYP, tools and methodologies, tips for facilitators and training sessions. The ToT on MYP supports the implementation and advocacy for MYP in policies, programs and services, which eventually leads to a strong and inclusive movement for SRHR!

From Theory to Tools

CHOICE is a leading expert on meaningful youth participation for over 20 years. In 2016 we conducted an independent external research on our youth leadership program. One of the recommendations included to further develop the theory of MYP, and the further development of tools. The starting point of the MYP theory was the original Flower of Participation, developed with YouAct in the early 2000s. Key in innovating the flower of participation was that it included all building blocks that contribute to meaningful youth participation, and that it is written in a youth-friendly language.

A theory is good for understanding what the different forms of MYP are, and what the necessity of MYP is. The Graphs of Participation support you in identifying the current state of MYP in a program of organization and contribute to a better understanding between adults and young people.

Launch

The MYP from A to Z manual has been piloted and implemented in Kenya, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Zambia, Malawi and Indonesia. The trained trainers (61 in total), trained the in-country alliances on MYP as well with a total of # participants. A total of # organizations and # staff members has been reached within the GUSO and YID alliance. In 2018 our implementing partner continue to facilitate trainings on MYP, and in the summer of 2018 a very first MYP academy will be organized for MYP trainers to work on internalization of MYP in programs and policies.

Partner organization	#participants ToT	#participants follow-up training
ARI	5	61
Coalizao	11	Not yet available
CYECE	5	Not yet available
GAL	5	Not yet available
NAYA	10	111
TaYa	12	77

Apart from the ToT trainings, we integrate MYP in other programs as well. The RHRN regional platforms in Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean region were trained on Meaningful and Inclusive participation, and the RHRN Zimbabwe platform received a full training on MYIP. In the Netherlands, CHOICE provides trainings on MYP on a regular basis e.g. International AIDS day, the Dutch YID alliance members, visiting students and during the "comeback-day" for SRHR policy officers of the Dutch Embassies.

3.1. DEMYSTIFICATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

The United Nations can be a daunting space. It is perceived as far away, extremely political and incredibly complex. Yet, CHOICE works in these spaces for quite some time now. As it is one of CHOICE strategies to conduct youth-led advocacy on international level, and to create a youth-movement in doing so. We need to create a bigger youth voice and amplify our needs in these UN spaces.

It starts with providing accessible information. In 2017, CHOICE produced youth-friendly advocacy resources. We developed three factsheets on international decision-making processes of the United Nations: Commission on Status of Women, Commission on Population and Development and the Human Rights Council. These factsheets are developed in three languages (English, French and Spanish) and online accessible. Hard copies are used during trainings and share widely during relevant conferences.

Understanding the relevant UN processes for youth SRHR issues is only one thing; understanding the language of decision-makers is the next. The advocate's guide to UN language is a tool that helps young people navigate to the difficult and technical jargon. It gives insight in why language is important, how it is used and how you can use it. Furthermore, the language tool gives an extensive overview of relevant language for our issues.

Other tools that have been developed are the "So, you are going to the UN?" guide. This is a visual tool for youth advocates that attend a UN conference for the first time and provides tips and tricks on how to prepare, what to expect, and how-to follow-up when you are back home. As part of the RHRN partnership, CHOICE and Rutgers developed the youth-friendly guide on how to incorporate the 2030 Agenda into your SRHR advocacy.

In 2018, CHOICE will continue with demystifying the UN. CHOICE youth advocates will share vlogs of their work at International Advocacy Processes and bring the UN literally to your screen. Furthermore, a guide on accountability mechanisms of the Human Rights Council will be developed with our partners under the REA program.

3.2 CHOICE CONNECTOR WEEK

Building a youth movement is not easy. What is the common value that drives young people? How can youth advocates align strategies and create a bigger impact? What connects us better? Representatives of CHOICE's youth-led partners from Nigeria, Ethiopia, Kenya, Zambia, Mozambique, Malawi, India and Indonesia travelled to Amsterdam in October 2017 to strengthen our pie of the youth movement on SRHR.

Cross-regional learning: sharing experiences, good practices and challenges

During the connector week, the participants had the opportunity to exchange challenges and good practices. Linking and learning with and from other youth-led organizations helps in bringing new solutions. Mutual challenges included high turnover, diversification of funding and meaningful youth participation. In mixed

interactive workshops the participants discussed these issues and took back home solutions to tackle these challenges.

Developing joint strategies

The big driver behind our youth movement is the realization of our SRHR. We believe the youth movement can be strengthened if we align our strategies. In the connector week, we identified two areas to develop joint strategies: international advocacy and fundraising. A workshop focusing on international and regional processes formed the basis for the participants' international advocacy plans for 2018. Key advocacy events have been identified and CHOICE or our partners will coordinate the movement and amplify youth voice by taking their realities to these spaces and hold governments accountable.

Together with our partners, we will actively share funding opportunities – and where possible – apply for a joint project proposal. In 2018, CHOICE will host a donor breakfast where we call for access to youth-friendly funding.

3.3 EU UNITE FOR CSE RIGHTS!

Eastern Europe is a region that still faces huge economic and social disparities and persisting inequalities, which hinder human rights' advancement. Recently, the region has encountered the rise of well-organized and funded opposition aiming to block youth and women from having access to basic reproductive and sexual health services and information. According to an EU-wide survey, homophobic and transphobic attitudes persist, and a significant part of Europe's youth population still does not have access to Comprehensive Sexuality Education. Reason for CHOICE and YouAct to join forces and activate young European advocates to influence national policies.

The EU Unite for CSE Rights project is funded with a 10.000 grant from Share-Net the Netherlands and is designed for evidence-based advocacy. Youth advocates from Cyprus, Georgia, Poland, Romania and the Netherlands participate in this project and conducted research on SRHR and CSE in their country of origin.

They identified the most pressing challenges that need to be tackled in order to make CSE possible. During a youth-led advocacy workshop in Amsterdam, the youth-advocates worked on their advocacy plan and an online campaign.

Facts & Figures

CYPRUS

Lack of awareness about CSE was identified as the main barrier to its implementation. The objective was to increase people's awareness about CSE, before engaging young people in further action. The online campaign contributed to that. With support from the CFPA and Cyprus Youth Council, a meeting with the Cyprus Children's Parliament was held. They committed to research and document to which extent SE is implemented in secondary schools.

ROMANIA

Youth advocates from Romania did active outreach with several decision-makers including decision-makers that work on the education system. They also started the dialogue on CSE with three parliamentarians from different political parties, and with the Directorate of School Counsellors, who are important stakeholders in curriculum implementation. A result of this, is that a training on preventing sexual harassment and abuse of girls in schools is planned.

GEORGIA

Recently, in Georgia there is burgeoning attention and advocacy on CSE, therefore working on that topic through the Unite4CSE project definitely encouraged civil society organizations and advocates in Georgia to strengthen their work towards CSE; local organisations supported Unite4CSE by hosting a roundtable discussion with policy makers where the country desk research was presented by youth advocates along with the call to action to implement the sexuality education curriculum.

POLAND

In light of the restrictive environment for SRHR advocacy at the national-level the advocacy strategy was developed towards the general public as a means of igniting discussions around the topic of CSE in schools; although the outreach timeline was limited, over 5000 people were reached in the eight days of the advocacy campaign and online civil society strategy sessions were hosted to align SRHR work and to call on more Polish organisations to championing CSE.

NETHERLANDS

Outreach was mainly focused on young people with the intent of increasing the understanding that although the Dutch Government has a relatively progressive position on CSE, the present system results in varying levels and quality of information, leaving many young marginalised people un/under-represented in the curriculum. During the influencing phase in late 2017, CHOICE was able to expand our reach in the Netherlands and credibility in championing CSE rights. The next advocacy phase will commence in early 2018 integrated into existing national advocacy plans, calling on the relevant Ministries to ensure broad coverage to fully 'Comprehensive and Inclusive' Sexuality Education. The Policy asks are shared with the Dutch Youth Ambassador on SRHR who disseminated through her social media networks and blog.

INDICATORS

- 12 young people attended the Unite4CSE webinar on Thursday 1st February 6 YouAct and 3 CHOICE youth members attended the Capacity Building on Advocacy & Policy Influencing workshop in Amsterdam in November, 2017.
- Unite4CSE Infographics reached over 27,000 people via Facebook [*5000 people reached in Poland], and 40.000 overall.
- Unite4CSE Infographic shared 134 times
- 8 meetings with policymakers
- 5 blog posts on CSE
- 1 compiled desk research on CSE

3.4 #IKKIES

In late 2017, CHOICE ran the #IkKies campaign: a campaign that asked people to send emails to their representatives asking to remove the abortion pill from criminal law. By doing so, the general practitioner (GP) will be able to provide the pill without having to navigate the unnecessarily complex and difficult maze that they currently have to. Furthermore, they will be able to not only preform a so-called 'overtijdbehandeling', but also an abortion. CHOICE had three objectives with this campaign (1) reach a general

audience to raise awareness and educate on the topic; (2) activate the general audience to speak out for decriminalization of the abortion pill by emailing their representatives; and (3) make representatives aware of this issue and calling on them to take action.

Online reach & engagement

Over 18.000 people were reached through different online channels. Our highest number of people reached was on Facebook, this is however, because Facebook also counts the people reached by shared posts in contrast to other media. Although we are not able to put an exact figure on it, our reach on other media is probably higher than these figures show because of people who shared the campaign on their own channels (which we can't measure).

Point for improvement in case of more e-mail campaigns, is finding supporting tools to track the number

of e-mails that have been send. Based on page visits we estimate that approx. 500 people send emails to government representatives. Support was expressed by the NVVS Seksuologie, de Stoute Vrouw (both via Twitter) and WO=MEN via their websites.

In response to our campaign we were invited to join the advocacy coalition working on making the abortion pill accessible to GPs (consisting of Clara Wichmann Fonds, Rutgers Stichting, Feminist Club Amsterdam, De Goede Zaak, Women on Waves and Groenlinks). In 2018 more public campaigns will follow, in the run up to the court case by Clara Wichmann.

3.5 THE DUTCH YOUTH AMBASSADOR ON SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS

The youth-adult partnership between the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and CHOICE for Youth & Sexuality introduced in 2015 the position of the Dutch Youth Ambassador for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights. The Youth Ambassador champions meaningful youth participation, advocates at the national and international level and invests in relationships with youth-led organizations, international civil society organisations, UN agencies, the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other governments to champion youth SRHR during a time of increased populism and opposition to sexual rights. Sanne Thijssen held the position of Youth Ambassador from September 1 2016 until August 31st 2017, after which she passed the torch to Melodi Tamarzians, who remains in this position until September 2018.

Sanne: A champion of Universal Access to Youth Friendly Sexual and Reproductive Health Services and SRHR in Humanitarian settings

The priorities of Sanne are based on evidence that stronger advocacy efforts were still required to ensure that all young people have unhindered access to Youth Friendly Services, including young people living in Humanitarian Settings – at a time with the highest level of displacement in the 21st Century.

Sanne worked towards these priority areas utilizing her Ministerial access to provide input on DSO-GA positions, policy drafts and program development. Sanne also met with the Secretary General, Joke Brandt, where she advocated for a stronger adoption of the recommendations for improving youth participation at Dutch ministries; drafted by the first Youth Ambassador for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, Lotte Dijkstra. And during the High Level Political Forum, Sanne met with the Minister on Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation where she stressed the need to increase the commitment of the Dutch government to support meaningful youth participation in youth-friendly policies and practice.

Through the active promotion of youth rights in side-events, discussions and policy dialogues during international platforms, Sanne contributed to international advocacy efforts to advance Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights. Sanne was similarly involved in knowledge brokering by working together with international and national (youth-led) organizations, UN and governmental initiatives to improve and advocate for youth and SRHR, creating a bridge between youth initiatives and international policy makers. Sanne has championed stronger investment, including using new technologies, to increase access to Youth-Friendly Services and discussed the issue with different stakeholders – ranging from UNFPA to foreign policymakers. During these occasions, she has advocated for a personalized integration of youth friendly services according to local youth needs, which has often led to a better understanding of the term Youth-friendly Services and integration mechanisms.

Additionally, Sanne shared input with youth-led organizations and SRHR networks, such as with members of the Right Here Right Now network, on advocacy strengthening and collaboration opportunities to address challenges faced by key populations. Moreover, she connected with Dutch Embassies and Dutch funded SRHR programs overseas, visiting successful SRHR community-level initiatives during her respective field trips to Benin, Kenya and Nepal.

Melodi: universal access to safe abortion and SRHR in humanitarian settings

After graduating on women's right to abortion within African and International human rights law, it became even more clear for Melodi that advocating for the access to abortion is necessary to prevent violations on a range of other rights. Unintended pregnancies can affect the right to education, the right to self-determination, gender equality and can result in health complications or even put the woman's life at risk. In 2017, Melodi developed her strategy that includes planned activities such as trainings in the Ministry and with CSOs on meaningful youth participation, and youth consultations in the Netherlands and during her international travels on the priority areas.



4. CHOICE IN PARTNER- SHIPS

4.1 RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW

Right Here, Right Now (RHRN) is a strategic partnership started in 2016 between Rutgers, dance4life, ARROW, CHOICE for Youth & Sexuality, HIVOS, IPPF-AR, LACWHN and the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

RHRN is implemented in 10 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America, and aims to improve access to Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) and youth-friendly SRHR services through enhanced and concerted advocacy at (sub) national, regional and international level. CHOICE's role in this partnership is to strengthen the capacity of RHRN members on meaningful and inclusive youth participation and youth-led advocacy.

Capacity Strengthening

To provide each platform members with proper tools and knowledge on MYP, CHOICE and dance4life developed session packages for Meaningful and Inclusive Youth Participation. The CHOICE MYP from A-Z manual and dance4life's trainings material form the basis of these packages, and specific attention is paid to the diversity among the platform members (inclusivity). All the 10 platforms used session plans of these packages in their national value clarification workshops. CHOICE participated in the value clarification workshop in Zimbabwe and facilitated the sessions on MIYP. Furthermore, during the regional meetings in Latin America and Asia, CHOICE facilitated a full-day session on MIYP.

In addition, CHOICE supported youth advocates from the Caribbean Region on international advocacy by building their knowledge on UN processes, UN language, youth leadership skills and the CHOICE UN simulation in a two-day training on the Dominican Republic as part of their value clarification workshop.

International Advocacy

One of our core activities is conducting youth-led advocacy with the objective to include progressive agreements on SRHR and youth in outcome documents of international processes. CHOICE represents priorities of RHRN platform members in the listed activities, but also includes the priorities of different strategic partnerships CHOICE engages in. CHOICE's strategy is to enter in dialogue with governments such as the Dutch delegation, EU member states, Latin American States, Mountain group (Iceland, Norway, Switzerland, New Zealand, Australia) etc. Furthermore,

CHOICE organizes itself by collaborating in youth-caucuses, women's' rights groups and SOGI groups. On behalf of RHRN, CHOICE advocates for progressive youth SRHR at the Commission on the Status of Women 61, Commission on Population and Development 50, and the High Level Political Forum. Furthermore, CHOICE was representing young people at the EuroNGOs in Brussels and Sexuality Conference in Berlin. Listed are highlights of CHOICE's advocacy efforts and participation of these conferences.

Commission on the Status of Women:

- Participation in UN Women Youth Forum to set young peoples' priorities: the structure of engagement of this forum is open for improvement so CHOICE and the Young Feminist Caucus did send UN Women recommendations to better organize next year. This resulted in a meeting between youth advocate Kate van de Krol and UN Women with the following agreements: A youth-friendly animation on CSW 62.
- Developed the Young feminist Statement and helped organize and support the Young Feminist Visions.
- Event: Why SRHR and HIV/AIDS are key to economic empowerment.
- Event: lunch break event on MYP model.
- Civil Society where removed from UN on Wednesday 22 March. See link press release. Official complaint and protest letter that restored access to UN.

Commission on Population and Development:

- CHOICE organized the youth caucus. 15 youth advocates participated and learned more on the CPD and language advocacy. Furthermore, the Youth Caucus developed a youth strategy and communication strategy.

High Level Political Forum:

- CHOICE contributed to the voluntary national review of agenda 2030 of the Netherlands.
- CHOICE gave an oral statement on behalf of the Major Group on Children and Youth on Wednesday the 12th of July during the thematic review on SDG #5. CHOICE also co-drafted statements on SDG3 (which was delivered by our partner ARI) and 19.

EuroNGOs:

- CHOICE co-organized the youth pre-meeting of the EuroNGOs.
- CHOICE created the youth-hub during the EuroNGOs. A 2 day linking and networking where youth advocates can meet with each other and SRHR advocates.
- CHOICE co-moderated panel on youth advocacy.

4.2 GET UP SPEAK OUT

The Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Rutgers, Simavi, Aidsfonds, IPPF UK, dance4life and CHOICE for Youth and Sexuality form the consortium Get Up Speak Out (GUSO), and work together to improve the Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights of young people, and in particular that of young women and girls. GUSO is implemented in seven countries, where CHOICE works in four of these: Kenya, Ethiopia, Malawi and Indonesia.

GUSO is carried out via the Multi-Component Approach: working simultaneously on ensuring sexuality education, youth friendly services and building a supportive environment. Activities in the countries are carried out by national platforms and are aligned with national SRHR alliances. CHOICE partners take a leading role in empowering young people and creating an enabling environment for young people's SRHR. In 2017 we worked on the MYP training materials, delivered ToT on MYP and re-developed You(th) do it!

4.3 YES I DO

Another program funded via the SRHR fund is the partnership between Plan Nederland, Rutgers, Amref Flying Doctors the Netherlands, Royal Tropical Institute (KIT), CHOICE for Youth and Sexuality and the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The partnership aims to prevent child marriage, female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C) and unintended pregnancies. Young girls are provided with access to comprehensive education and health services, are empowered to make their own decisions and are provided with alternatives (education and economic opportunities). Yes I Do is implemented in seven countries, and CHOICE works with national partners in six of the YID countries. In 2017 we worked on the MYP resources for Yes I Do, and delivered the ToT on MYP.

4.4 RIGHTS EVIDENCE ACTION

Rights, Evidence, Action (REA)! is a partnership with RNW Media and is a program that aims to improve the lives of young people including LGBTs by enabling them to understand and claim their SRHR. REA challenges stigma around young people's SRHR and brings a greater social awareness of, and acceptance for the SRHR of all young people, including young LGBTs. REA is implemented in four countries, where CHOICE works with grassroots youth-led organizations and Love-Matters branches of RNW. In this program, CHOICE connects youth advocates with influential actors and stakeholders, strengthen evidence-based advocacy skills of the youth advocates and CSOs, which increases their meaningful engagement in policy processes. Furthermore, CHOICE trains youth-partners on youth-led advocacy and how to lobby for SRHR and LGBT rights at international level.

Advocacy for LGBT rights

CHOICE and our international partners advocate for MYP and SRHR for all young people via the human rights mechanisms in Geneva. While CHOICE has extensive experience in youth-led advocacy at the ICPD and Agenda 2030 processes, the human rights mechanisms are relatively new in our work. 2017 was a year of exploration and trying which strategy would fit our objectives best. This is what we have done in 2017:

- UN SOGIE: CHOICE made a statement at the UN and directly advocated with the Independent Expert on SOGI on meaningful youth participation and the SRHR needs of LGBTI young people, leading to the prioritization of the sensitization of youth in his first thematic report.
- HRC Youth Forum: We supported the organization of the HRC Youth Forum through participation in the Steering Committee, where we actively participated with two CHOICE youth advocates. Prior to the HRC Youth Forum, we provided a short advocacy training for the 20 attending youth advocates. CHOICE will co-organize the Youth Forum in 2018 with YWCA.

- HRC: we engaged in the resolution negotiations during the June 2017 session, and lobbied for language recommendations for the resolution on Youth & Human rights in cooperation with SRI, the YP Foundation and YWCA. CHOICE organized a side-event on meaningful youth participation and participated in a panel with UN Deputy High Commissioner of Human Rights and Minister of Equality of Denmark where we spoke about the importance of investing in young people's SRHR for realizing the SDGs.

Capacity strengthening of young people and youth-led organizations

International youth-led partners work on the improvement of young peoples' SRHR and LGBT rights in their national and regional contexts. We support them by strengthening their capacity on youth-led advocacy, youth leadership and organizational management.

These were our main outcomes of 2017:

- Cooperation agreement with four youth-led partners. In development workshops we contextualized the theory of change to match it with national needs and priorities of young people.
- CHOICE with support of SRI, trained 9 youth advocates from in and outside the EU on the UN human rights mechanisms and youth-led advocacy. Online support and technical assistance for our Kenyan partner in the CEDAW review and input for the report UN independent Expert on SOGI.
- Online support and technical assistance for our Nigerian partner in the UPR review.
- Furthermore, a strong need for youth-friendly guidelines on engagement with treaty body mechanisms such as CEDAW is necessary. This will be developed together with our Kenyan and Indian partner in 2018.

The background features several white, stylized human figures arranged in a cluster. Each figure is composed of a circular head and a semi-circular body. The figures are positioned behind the main text, with some overlapping each other.

5. ORGANI- ZATION

5.1 TEAM

CHOICE is run by a group of ambitious and activist young professionals aged between 16 and 30 years old. From our office in Amsterdam, our team supports (youth-led) partners and youth advocates in Meaningful Youth Participation and youth-led advocacy. The team is responsible for the daily management of the organization, coordination and quality of subsidy programs and projects, development of resources, external communication and fundraising. Every quarter, we reflect on our annual objectives and evaluate progress.

Our team consists of an Executive Director, Administrative Office, Fundraising and Communication Officer, two Advocacy Officers and four program Coordinators. In 2016, CHOICE also worked with one intern, and 24 youth advocates that work on a voluntary basis for the organization. As of December 31, CHOICE has 9 staff members and one intern that count for 7.5 FTE.

Executive Director

The CHOICE executive director (Elsemieke de Jong until April 30 2017 and Zoë Nussy from March 1 2017 onwards), is responsible for the daily management of the organization and this includes the design, development and implementation of organizational strategic plans in a cost-effective and time-efficient way. The executive director is accountable to board and reports to the board on a regular basis. The earnings of Zoe were € 38.866,- (based on 1,0 fte) in 2017, and of Elsemieke were €18.708,- (based on 1.1 fte). Both earnings are below the maximum of €168.000,- as stipulated in the Dutch Law "Wet Normering Topinkomens".

Other Employees

The CHOICE team – excluding the executive director – counts for 7,9 FTE at the end of December 2017.

5.2 GENERAL BOARD

Our General Board, is the governing body of the organization and determines the organization's policies and strategies. The General Board oversees if our planned activities and budget are in line with those policies and strategies, and also evaluates the executive director. The Board has the responsibility to supervise the organization, which is arranged via quarterly management reporting.

The General Board is appointed via a competitive application procedure, where a selection committee recommends candidate members. The Board appoints its member for a period of two years, with the possibility to extend its term two more years. The Board meets at least 6 times a year.

COMPOSITION OF THE GENERAL BOARD AS PER 31 DECEMBER 2017:

- Esther van Duin (Chairperson) MSc International Development Studies, Junior Lecturer human geography and spatial planning at Utrecht University.
- Marnix Heikamp (Treasurer), BSc Bachelor of Science, project coordinator digital solutions at Bureau Zuidema.
- Gaia Mori (Secretary) MSc, Research Master in Social Psychology, Programme Coordinator at Sanquin Bloedvoorziening.
- Marijke Bleeker MSc Human Sexuality Studies Policy Officer at the Dutch Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings and Sexual Violence against Children
- Jelena Lucjia Brodnjak, Bachelor of Arts.

As per March 1st, 2017 the board receives a monthly allowance of €200,-, which is below the maximum as stipulated in the Dutch Law "Wet Normering Topinkomens".

5.3 TRANSITION OF THE SUPERVISORY AND ADVISORY BOARD

Per July 2017, the Supervisory Board transitioned into an Advisory Board with the vision that the full decision-making process is led by young people. However, as we are a fully youth-led organization sometimes certain expertise within the organization is lacking (e.g. legal issues, human resources, technology). The advisory board can provide the board with non-binding advice. Member of the advisory board are appointed by the board – and members of the advisory board can recommend candidates – for a period of two years. The advisory board receives no emoluments.

Composition of the supervisory board until 23 June 2017:

- Anneke Wensing – Consultant in fundraising and project management for NGOs
- Daan Rijk – Team Lead Credit Management – Broca-
cef Phoenix Group
- Ellen Eiling – Senior Policy Advisor Aidsfonds
- Frouke Karel – Product Owner Castor EDC

Composition of the advisory board as per 24 June 2017:

- Anneke Wensing – Consultant in fundraising and project management for NGOs
- Daan Rijk – Team Lead Credit Management – Broca-
cef Phoenix Group
- Ellen Eiling – Senior Policy Advisor Aidsfonds
- Frouke Karel – Product Owner Castor EDC

5.4 CODE OF CONDUCT

CHOICE follows the CAO Zorg & Welzijn for remuneration staff. Furthermore, CHOICE follows the guidelines of CBF's erkenningsregeling, which has been granted again for 2017. Code Wijffels goed bestuur and ANBI.

5.5 FUNDRAISING

In 2017, CHOICE invested in two small fundraising opportunities: Share-Net small-grants and the Aidsfonds small-grants for AIDS2018. CHOICE was successful in obtaining the Share-Net small grant to conduct research on the state of Comprehensive Sexuality Education in Eastern Europe and the Netherlands, to work on evidence-based advocacy.

In the third quarter, CHOICE hired a Fundraising and Communications officer. For CHOICE it is important to invest more in the communication of good practices, results and lessons learned. In this way we can show our impact and added value, which eventually supports us in active fundraising. 2018 will be the year where fundraising becomes a priority area.

5.6 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

One of the 2017 objectives were to finalize the CHOICE PMEL framework to better track our advocacy and youth-leadership results. Three CHOICE staff members followed a PMEL course with MDF consultancy.

Our Theory of Change (ToC) was used as a case to study on, and resulted on a re-developed with five clear and logical pathways of change. Due the fact we changed our Theory of Change, and that the PMEL capacity of our staff had to be strengthened, the PMEL framework is expected to be finalized in Q3 of 2018.

Since 2017, CHOICE updates the IATI dashboard with our data every 6 months. This is a Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs requirement. It is our ambition to make our impact more visible by using IATI.

5.7 CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

In selecting and monitoring our international partner, we make sure they share our values and views on what makes a better world for young people. This includes gender equality, LGBTI rights, diversity and inclusion, HIV and AIDS, cooperation among civil society organizations, financial management and sustainability. A sustainable approach is a core component in our work and theory of change. At our office in Amsterdam, we are equally aware of our responsibilities with regard to the environment. Our host organization, Amnesty International, analysed the use of energy of our office building in 2016 and implemented several measures to reduce the ecological footprint of all office users, including CHOICE. Since 2017, we separate our waste in different categories, and we use FSC certified paper for printing and copying.

6. RISK ANALYSIS AND UNCERTAINTIES

6.1 STRATEGY

Multi-annual strategy

CHOICE's current multi-annual strategy runs until the end of 2018. By the end of Q3 we aim to have finalized the new multi-annual strategy. As part of this strategy, we will conduct a SOAR and SWOT analysis and a contextual analysis on the state of MYP and ASRHR. We will determine our added value and how this matches with the identified need among young people in the Netherlands, Europe and the wider world. Furthermore, we

will make our advocacy and youth-leadership strategy more specific with clear objectives for the longer term. To make the multi-annual strategy a guiding document for our daily operations and yearly planning, we will also critically reflect on which structures are necessary to support the realization of this strategy, e.g. this includes our internal (governance) structures and budgeting.

6.2 OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

High turnover

The nature of a youth-led organization is that it faces a high turnover among our employees, Youth Advocates and Board. Apart from that, our employees and volunteers transition out of the organization because they reach the age where they are not considered as youth anymore, there is a high mobility amongst our youth advocates due to work, travel and studies. CHOICE invests in a knowledge management system, which includes proper documentation, intensive knowledge sharing and capacity strengthening via internal and external trainings. In 2018, CHOICE will start working with online project management tools, which will facilitate in our knowledge management. The current Executive Director will leave the organization as of November 30th 2018, and an early recruitment process will start in September 2018 for a smooth transition.

Internal and external fraud

CHOICE has a strict policy on fraud of any type or in any circumstances, whether carried out by persons associated with CHOICE (Board Members, management, staff or volunteers) or associated with partner organizations, contractors or clients. Fraud against CHOICE depletes funds intended for the accomplishment of program delivery, undermines effective functioning and jeopardizes sustainable development by diverting donor contributions. Fraud in favour of CHOICE affects our reputation and ability to attract donations. Vigorous and prompt investigations will be carried out into all reported cases (following procedures set out in the complaints policy) of actual or suspected fraud. This Policy is applicable to CHOICE partner organizations and other third parties that are contracted to provide services to CHOICE. The fraud prevention policy for Board Members, management, staff or volunteers of CHOICE is described in CHOICE's Internal Fraud Prevention Policy.

Safety & Security

Safety and security issues may occur in our and our partners' daily work. CHOICE is a youth-led civil society organization working on relatively sensitive issues with our international (youth-led) partners. Our employees and volunteers travel abroad regularly where you can face different social/cultural norms and political (in) stability. Furthermore, our financial transactions, communication and documentation happens mainly online, which is in a digital area an additional security risk. In 2017, safety and security became a central theme in most of our programs (RHRN, REA). While CHOICE has an organization worked with security guidelines, our safety and security framework is never sufficient developed. In 2018, this is one of the main priorities, including a mandatory training for employees on safety and security.

6.3 FINANCIAL CHALLENGES

Financial diversification

CHOICE is financially healthy; however, a large amount of our annual income derives from the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. One of our strategic partnerships ends in November 2018, which makes CHOICE for almost 95% dependent of financing from the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs and weakens our financial independence. Diversification of funding remains a priority: at the start of 2018 CHOICE increased FTE on fundraising and finalized the fundraising strategy. Main objectives for 2018 include attracting funding and go beyond the traditional partnerships.

Financial health partnership secretaries

Funding for the GUSO, RHRN, YID, and REA programs is not directly coming from the funders, but via the partnership secretaries. This brings in uncertainty in case the secretaries cannot meet their contractual obligations (e.g. bankruptcy or bail-out). For this reason, program budgets are transferred bi-annually to minimize risks and CHOICE transfers grants to implementing partners bi-annually as well.

6.4 FINANCIAL REPORTING AND LAWS & REGULATIONS

RJ 650

In the financial statements 5.2, we included an amount of €250.632,- prepaid grants for next year. This amount equals the first instalments (50%) of the contracted grants for 2018 with the GUSO and YID implementing partners.

In 2017, CHOICE reflected on its internal process of transferring grants, and concluded that the first instalments were transferred relatively far in the implementing period. As this is an undesirable situation, the financial and program team decided to transfer the first instalments before the implementing period (which is before January 1st, 2018).

The prepaid grants for 2018 are contracted and signed in the financial year 2017. This means the total contracted amount should be included in the balance sheet of income and expenditure following RJ 650. Unfortunately, we did not take sufficient notice from RJ 650, which has clear rules on prepaid grants for the new financial year.

On March 7th 2018, the Board of CHOICE unanimously decided that the prepaid grants will not be included in the balance sheet of income and expenditures, and thus deviate from RJ 650, for the following reasons:

- Including the prepaid grants in the balance sheet of income and expenditure would give an incorrect representation of the actual income and expenditures towards the objectives in 2017. It would give the impression we grew significantly in income and expenditures in 2017, and in 2018 our income would decrease significantly compared to 2017. This would create an unrealistic image.
- The internal procedures of CHOICE did not include a timeframe in which to contract and transfer the first installments of the grant. Therefore, we consider this as a one-off deviation. The internal procedure is sharpened by including a timeframe for contracting and transferring grants, and specifically refers to RJ 650.
- A priority for 2018 onwards is attracting diverse funding. Including the contractual agreements as would

be required by RJ650 implies a unrealistic financial situation of the organization: e.g. a significant growth in 2017 and – as expected – a decreased income/ expenditures in 2018.

- Processing contractual obligations and expenditures this way, does not affect the result and continuity reserve. The overall obligations and expenditures are fully covered with the subsidy incomes.

As an organization we stress it is extremely important to comply with RJ650 and other national regulations regarding financial reporting to give a correct presentation of our financial figures. We believe this is a one-off deviation, and by making the decision to deviate from RJ650 once, we believe we still manage to give an accurate presentation of our financial situation. The internal follow-up actions will avoid this in the future. CHOICE for Youth & Sexuality yielded a surplus of €35.142,- in 2017. The financial position of CHOICE is healthy as we can meet our short and long-term financial obligations.

Our total income in 2017 was €1.491.684,-, which is an increase of 75% compared to 2016. This increase is the result of the REA program that started in November 2016, and additional funds for this program and the Share-Net small grant.



7. FINANCIAL REPORT 2017

7.1 RESULT

CHOICE for Youth & Sexuality realized a positive result of €35.142,-

7.2 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Income

Our total income in 2017 was €1.491.684,-, which is an increase of 75% compared to 2016. This is the result from successful fundraising initiatives in 2016 and 2017. Our income is in line our budget.

The significant increase of our annual income is because the start date of the REA program was 1 November 2016, so we received only for two months income from Amplify Change compared to 2017.

Expenditure

Our total expenditure in 2017 was €1.456.056,-. CHOICE spend €1.337.874,- directly to the objectives. Compared with our total income, this is a spending percentage of 89,7%. Compared to our total expenditures, this is even 91,9%. In 2016, these percentages were respectively 85,1% and 87,4%.

Furthermore, management and administration costs in 2017 were €114.101,-. The realized management and administration costs are higher than budgeted for. The total expenses to M&A costs of CHOICE's total expenses are, however, only 7,8%. We budgeted lower for 2017 compared to realize expenditures in 2016. Furthermore, we contracted additional FTE on management and administration compared to 2016.

Fundraising costs amounted €4.081,- (0,3%) in 2017, which is also lower than budgeted for. The expenditures on fundraising are low because of two reasons. A part-time (0,6 FTE) fundraising and communication officer was hired midway Q3. It showed that the FTE were insufficient for this combined portfolio. Furthermore, the focus of Q3 and Q4 was on transition of knowledge and communication. In Q1 of 2018 we increased the capacity on fundraising with 0,3 FTE.

Currently, CHOICE is in the process of developing standards for the expenditure ratio. The rule of thumb CHOICE applies to determine an appropriate ratio between expenditures on objectives, fundraising costs

and administration costs is the 70-30 ratio. This is in line with government standards.

Deviations in income and expenditures

- Expenses on pension includes a difference of + €12.911,- compared to budget. In 2017 we received a correction on pension. As we increased in FTE, more pension need to be paid by CHOICE.
- Expenses on illness also increased, as we had to insure more FTE.
- Training for staff was over budgeted. €12.500,- of €20.000,- was spent. Not everyone used their trainings budget.
- Travel costs of staff increases, as more people have to commute to Amsterdam by public transportation.
- Representation costs of staff is higher than budgeted for. Compared to 2016, it shows the budget was not realistic.
- Communication expenses were lower than budgeted for: 2017 was the first year with a big communication budget, but also without a real communication strategy. This is the result of unrealistic budgeting. We expect to catch up with these expenses in 2018, as CHOICE hired a communication officer.

Reserves

The result of €35.142,- resulted in a growth of the continuity reserve. Per 31 December 2017, the continuity reserve amounts for €150.769,-. This financial reserve allows the foundation to continue meeting all (contractual) obligations that are fixed in the short run, in times of reduced income.

These include – but are not limited to – paying salaries and covering organizational costs, such as office rent. Furthermore, the reserve can be used to bridge a financial gap between expiring programs and newly acquired grants or programs.

For the first part of its usage, we identified the following contractual obligations, that will need to be covered for at least three consecutive months: Financial administration costs (€4.279,-), (in)direct labour costs (including insurances) (€101.478,-), travel costs of board and staff (€1.290,-), banking costs (€150,-), website maintenance (€266) and other organisational

costs (€2.718,-). The amounts that have been spent on this per 3 months have been mentioned between parentheses. The lease agreement has a term of notice of 12 months so the amount allocated for this over 2017 should be €13.479,-. Summing these values up gives a total of €123.569,- that should be the absolute minimum for the continuity reserve. The continuity reserve per 31-12-2017 is €150.769,- so CHOICE does meet this minimum threshold.

Considering the second and third uses of the continuity reserve, CHOICE has an adequate continuity reserve though it is not excessive. It must be noted that exit visits to partners in the global south will be difficult due to the minimal surplus. Keeping in mind the growth of the organisation and the therefore continuing risks that come with it, CHOICE will aim to conservatively grow the continuity reserve in the coming years.

7.3 PROGNOSIS 2018

The CHOICE year plan 2018 is a detailed subset of our long-term strategy, and business as usual: the implementation of the strategic partnerships and fundraising. A focus of 2018 will be the development of our new strategy framework that covers at least the period 2019-2024.

In the upcoming years, CHOICE will focus and strategically place itself as the expert on meaningful youth participation and youth-led advocacy in national, European and international processes. Our core-identity is that we are youth-led and that we support other youth and youth-led structures, which is something we want to strengthen.

Advocacy

Along with our multi-annual strategy, we will also strengthen our advocacy strategy by identifying long-term objectives and match these with the most impactful strategies. In 2018 we will continue with advocacy for progressive SRHR language in UN outcome documents of the Commission on the Status of Women, Commission on Population and Development and the Human Rights Council resolutions that affect our issues. Together with our youth-led partners, we will do youth consultations and research on realities of young people in relation to their SRHR. We will amplify their voices in the UN via different ways: social media, factsheets, blogposts

and spoken-word events, and of course, we continue our dialogue with decision-makers from all around the world.

In the Netherlands we continue our advocacy work for access of the abortion pill at the P.D., and the importance of comprehensive sexuality education in the Dutch school system. One of the lessons learnt from last year was that the Human Rights Council processes are harder to digest. Together with our partners from REA, we will work on a tool that makes these processes more accessible.

Youth Leadership

In the upcoming year, CHOICE will develop additional tools to strengthen the internal structures and activities of youth-led organizations with an Advocacy Capacity Assessment Tool and an Organizational Capacity Assessment. We will pilot these tools internally, before using them with partner youth-led organizations.

To strengthen the capacity of MYP trainers from our youth-led partner organizations, we will organize a MYP academy in the summer of 2018. In this academy, technical assistance on MYP and institutionalizing MYP in organizations are core topics to cover.

Comparable with last year's MYP ToT training, we will re-structure and re-new our youth leadership skills training sessions. Several of our YID and GUSO partners will be trained on these skills, and we will use these training formats for the youth pre-conferences of AIDS 2018 and ICFP.

Youth Do It! will be further developed and extended with e-learning opportunities for young people that would like to learn more on youth leadership, youth led advocacy and SRHR.

Fundraising

Currently CHOICE is working on a donor mapping to see how we can improve our strategy to develop new strategies. CHOICE will make proposals for at least two funds this year. Furthermore, partnerships will preferably have developed via co-creation with other partners, including funders, and the design-thinking methodology will be applied to create more innovative approaches to tackle SRHR issues.

Communication

While we launched a new website in 2016, we noticed the format in which this website is developed is not the most suited for the visitors we target. The resources for interested young people, and the results for potential partners and funders are not clearly visible, nor easy accessible. As the current website is more design-focused than user-focused, we decided to upgrade the current website into a new structure which is user (and thus mobile) friendly. We expect the launch of this new website in Q2.

**CHOICE TREATS
US AS EQUALS,
WE CONSTANTLY
LEARN FROM EACH
OTHER. THEY LISTEN
TO OUR INPUT
AND WE LISTEN TO
THEIR INPUT. EVEN
THOUGH CHOICE IS
THE ORGANISATION
THAT GIVES US
FUNDING, THEY
TREAT US AS
PARTNERS - STAFF
MEMBER OF ONE
OF OUR PARTNER
ORGANIZATION**

Annex I: Letter of the Board of CHOICE for Youth & Sexuality
Concerns: Board letter regarding performance of executive tasks
of CHOICE for Youth and Sexuality Date: April 02, 2018

Dear Sir/Madam,

Throughout 2017, CHOICE for Youth and Sexuality (CHOICE), consisting of the board, staff and advocates, has worked tirelessly to improve sexual and reproductive health and rights for young people worldwide. In 2016 the decision was made to discontinue the Supervisory Board, based on an (pro bono) advice from a consultant from Berenschot. In this transition CHOICE's Supervisory Board and Board have each monitored six months of progress made in 2017. By means of a modification in CHOICE's statutes, the Supervisory Board has been discontinued as of June 23 2017. Instead, an Advisory Board was installed June 24 2017. CHOICE's Board has observed CHOICE to be a professional organization in good shape. In 2017, the (former) Supervisory Board had one meeting with the Board. As of June 24 2017, the Board had six Board Meetings with the Executive Director present, not including irregular meetings. On June 23 2017, the (former) Supervisory Board consisted of: Ms. Anneke Wensing, Ms. Ellen Eiling, Ms. Frouke Karel and Mr. Daan Rijk. Further information on the composition of the (former) Supervisory Board is set out below. The members of the (former) Supervisory Board had no conflicts of interest and ensure their independent position with respect to CHOICE. Nor does the Board. As in the previous years, the Supervisory Board received no allowances. The main topics discussed during the meeting between the Board and Supervisory Board were the annual narrative and financial report of 2016 and the statutory changes in 2017. During the Board meetings the work plan and budget for 2018 were discussed. Other important topics were personnel (and FTE) changes in staff, personal changes in the Board and the establishment of an Advisory Board. In 2017, advice has specifically been sought with Mr. Daan Rijk on CHOICE's financials. The transition from a Supervisory Boards to an Advisory Board was completed in June 2017. All members of the (former) Supervisory Board have transitioned to the Advisory Board. In addition, profiles of expertise advice needed within CHOICE have been drafted, recruitment of additional members will continue into 2018. In 2017, several long-term processes have been initiated, most importantly the establishment of a new multiannual strategy (2019-2022) for CHOICE. Also, a fundraiser has been hired in light of the end-date of the majority of CHOICE's funding programs in 2020. The board is confident that CHOICE will continue to professionalize in 2018, to reach full potential and support youth leadership and SRHR worldwide.

Kind regards, The Board of CHOICE

ANNEX II: FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2017

2. ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2017

2.1. BALANCE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2017

		31-12-2017	31-12-2016
		€	€
ASSETS			
Fixed assets	5.1	5.554	8.770
Receivables	5.2	99.323	57.718
Prepayments and other current assets	5.2	333.672	9.092
Cash and cash equivalents	5.3	305.959	504.163
Total		744.508	579.744

		31-12-2017	31-12-2016
		€	€
LIABILITIES			
Reserves			
* Continuity reserve	5.4	150.769	115.627
* Current and accrued liabilities	5.5	593.739	464.117
Total		744.508	579.744

2.2. STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR 2017

INCOME		Actual 2017 €	Budget 2017 €	Actual 2016 €
Private persons	6.1	1.604	1.545	1.389
Companies	6.2	-	-	-
Lottery organizations	6.3	-	-	-
Government subsidies	6.4	1.077.139	1.206.611	810.461
Related not-for-profit organizations	6.5	13.965	-	13.125
Unrelated not-for-profit organizations	6.6	398.975	231.333	25.679
Total income from fundraising		1.491.684	1.439.490	850.654
Sale of products and services	6.7	-	-	-
Other income	6.8	-	-	-
Total income		1.491.684	1.439.490	850.654

EXPENDITURE		Actual 2017 €	Budget 2017 €	Actual 2016 €
Directly allocated to objectives				
Projectcosts - wages & organization		361.281	374.230	284.171
Projectcosts - travel & other direct		277.345	342.295	132.933
Projectcosts		638.625	716.525	417.104
Partner organizations		699.249	590.484	307.086
Total expenditure		1.337.874	1.307.009	724.191

The amount for Partner organizations reflects the funds CHOICE has contracted and paid out to her partners. CHOICE monitors the actual spending by her partners according to an approved procedure. At the time of writing, not all partner spendings were accounted for. CHOICE does not foresee any upcoming problems in this regard.

Fundraising and administration costs

	Actual 2017 €	Budget 2017 €	Actual 2016 €
Fundraising costs	4.081	36.557	8.832
Management and administration	114.101	70.228	95.920
	118.181	106.785	104.752
Total expenses	1.456.056	1.413.794	828.943

	Actual 2017 €	Budget 2017 €	Actual 2016 €
Result before financial income & costs	35.628	25.696	21.711
Financial results	-486	-441	-43
Total results	35.142	25.255	21.669

Appropriation of the result

Added to continuity reserve	35.142		21.669
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2.3. CASH FLOW STATEMENT 2017

	2017 €	2016 €
Cash flow from operational activities		
Income	1.491.684	850.654
Expenditure	1.456.541	828.986
Cash flow from investment activities	35.142	21.669
Change in liabilities during the year	129.622	349.588
Change in assets during the year	362.969	31.875
	-233.347	317.713
Movement cash and cash equivalents	-198.204	339.382
Liquid assets at the end of the financial year	305.959	504.163
Liquid assets at the start of the financial year	504.163	164.782
Movement cash and cash equivalents	-198.204	339.382

3. EXPLANATORY NOTES RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 2017

3.1. GENERAL

The financial statements of CHOICE for Youth and Sexuality have been drawn up in accordance with Guideline 650 of the Dutch Accounting Standards Board.

3.2. ACCOUNTING PERIOD

These financial statements have been drawn up on the basis of an accounting period of one year. The financial year is concurrent with the calendar year.

4. ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES

General

The accounting principles are based on historical cost. Unless otherwise indicated, assets and liabilities are included at nominal value. Income and expenditure are allocated to the period to which they apply.

Transactions in foreign currencies

Transactions denominated by foreign currencies are converted at the exchange rate applying on the transaction date. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated by foreign currencies are converted at the exchange rate applying on the balance sheet date.

Use of estimates

In accordance with general principles, when drawing up the financial statements, CHOICE must make certain estimates and suppositions that partly determine the amounts included.

(Government) Subsidies

Subsidy income is incorporated on the balance sheet in the same year as the subsidy grant/commitment with the donor becomes active. The amount can never exceed the amount as shown in the subsidy grant/commitment. Subsidy income is allocated based on the realised indirect and direct project costs, implying that this income is only reflected if and when the related costs have been made. Commitments for funding of future expenditures are not recorded as a receivable.

Financial accountability towards the donors only happens at the end of the project. However, the lead agent of subsidy projects must approve annual financial and narrative reporting.

Continuity reserve

The continuity reserve has been created to warrant the continuity in the case of (temporary) drop in income.

Donations and contributions

Donations and contributions are recorded in the year in which they were generated.

In kind donations

In kind donations are recorded in the year in which they are granted and are valued at the fair value in The Netherlands.

(Government) Subsidies

Subsidy income is incorporated on the balance sheet in the same year as the subsidy grant/commitment with the donor becomes active.

Cost allocation

Costs are allocated to the objective, fundraising income and management and administration on the basis of the following criteria:

- directly attributable cost is allocated directly – wage expenses are allocated according to timesheets, which are authorized by the ED.
- indirectly attributable cost is apportioned according to a formula based on the number of staff working on the relevant activity.
- allocation method is similar to previous year. Explanation sheet 5.5 includes the calculations.

In doing so, CHOICE follows guideline 650, as well as the recommendation regarding management and administration costs drawn up by the Fundraising Institutions Association (VFI).

5. EXPLANATORY NOTES TO THE BALANCE SHEET

5.1. FIXED ASSETS

	2017	2016
	€	€
Acquisition costs	11.974	11.974
Accumulated depreciation	-6.420	-3.204
Divestments		
	5.554	8.770

During 2017 no assets were acquired. Depreciation percentage is 33%. All assets are used for the day-to-day management of the organisation.

5.2 RECEIVABLES, PREPAYMENTS AND OTHER CURRENT ASSETS

	2017	2016
	€	€
Receivables donors & subsidies	99.323	57.718
Decommisioned grants 2016-2017	50.574	-
Prepaid grants for next year	250.632	-
Deposits and securities	3.130	3.130
Prepaid insurance, travel costs and interest	29.337	5.962
	432.995	66.810

Receivables have a duration period with a maximum of one year. Prepaid grants reflect the advances within the GuSo and YID programs for 2018 made late 2017. In order to better reflect the financial situation of CHOICE the director and board have chosen to present these advances this way.

The major receivable donors and subsidies are as follows:

	2017	2016
	ASK	ASK
	€	€
Situation as of 1 January	-32.500	-22.133
Interest	-	-
Received	34.228	-
Subsidies received in advance	1.728	-22.133
Claimed/granted subsidy	-1.728	-10.367
Subsidies received in advance	-0	-32.500

	2017	2016
	RHRN	RHRN
	€	€
Situation as of 1 January	-915	-
Interest	10	33
Received	213.728	199.796
Subsidies received in advance	212.823	199.829
Claimed/granted subsidy	-216.871	-200.744
Subsidies received in advance	-4.048	-915

	2017	2016
	REA	REA
	€	€
Situation as of 1 January	-15.575	
Interest	-	
Received	227.496	
Subsidies received in advance	211.921	
Subcontractors to be paid next year	92.946	
Claimed/granted subsidy	-398.975	-15.575
Subsidies received in advance	-94.108	-15.575

5.3. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2017	2016
	€	€
Bank current account and deposit	305.289	502.349
Petty Cash	670	1.815
	305.959	504.163

The cash equivalents include a bank deposit of EUR 207.129 with an average interest of 0,10%. All cash equivalents are immediately claimable.

5.4 RESERVES

Continuity reserve		
	2017	2016
	€	€
Situation as of January 1	115.627	93.958
Profit or loss before appropriation	35.142	21.669
Situation as of 31 December	150.769	115.627

A continuity reserve is created to cover risks in the near future and to ensure that the fundraising organisation can continue to meet its (contractual) obligations that are fixed in the short run, in times of reduced income. Contractual obligations should be covered for at least three consecutive months. To meet these obligations, the continuity reserve should be at least €123.569,- on 31-12-2017.

5.5 CURRENT AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES

	2017	2016
	€	€
Subsidies received in advance	515.312	385.794
Holiday provision	34.344	23.923
Contributions for national insurance, income tax and pensions	16.559	11.196
Creditors	15.963	24.447
Other accrued liabilities	11.560	18.758
	593.739	464.117

Within the other accrued liabilities is a reservation of EUR 2.010 for a possible wage tax claim.

The two largest subsidies received in advance are:

Proceedings subsidies	2017	2016
	MFS II	MFS II
	€	€
Situation as of 1 January	18.245	35.340
Interest		-
Received		-18.245
Subsidies received in advance	-0	35.340
Claimed/granted subsidy	-	-17.095
Subsidies received in advance	-0	18.245

Proceedings subsidies	2017	2016
	GUSO	GUSO
	€	€
Situation as of 1 January	200.566	-
Interest	251	353
Received	504.688	438.390
Subsidies received in advance	705.505	438.743
Claimed/granted subsidy	-407.305	-238.177
Subsidies received in advance	298.201	200.566

Proceedings subsidies	2017	2016
	Yes I Do!	Yes I Do!
	€	€
Situation as of 1 January	137.134	-
Interest	171	319
Received	475.793	450.347
Subsidies received in advance	613.098	450.666
Claimed/granted subsidy	-413.456	-313.532
Subsidies received in advance	199.642	137.134

6. EXPLANTORY NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

6.1. INCOME FROM PRIVATE PERSONS

	Actual 2017 €	Budget 2017 €	Actual 2016 €
Donations and contributions	1.565	1.030	1.220
In-kind donations	39	515	169
	1.604	1.545	1.389

6.4. GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIES

	Actual 2017 €	Budget 2017 €	Actual 2016 €
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs MFS II	-	17.095	
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs ASK	1.728	10.367	
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs RHRN	216.871	193.728	200.744
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs GuSo	407.305	486.953	238.177
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs Yes I Do!	413.456	491.043	313.532
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs Youth Ambassador 15-16	-	19.506	
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs Youth Ambassador 16-18	37.779	34.888	11.039
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Child Marriage)	1.077.139	1.206.611	810.461

The subsidies for the programs of RHRN, GUSO and Yes I Do run from 2016 till 2020. The subsidy for Youth Ambassador SRHR runs from September 2016 until August 2018.

Percentage own contribution

The alliances for RHRN, GuSo and Yes I Do! needs to raise a minimum of 25% own contribution. CHOICE does not meet this percentage individually, the alliances are however well above the 25%.

	Actual 2017	Budget 2017	Actual 2016
	€	€	€
Total own contribution	414.545	232.878	40.194
Total own contribution and MFSII subsidie	1.491.684	1.439.490	850.654
Percentage own contribution	27,8%	16,2%	4,7%

6.5. INCOME FROM RELATED NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

	Actual 2017	Budget 2017	Actual 2016
	€	€	€
dance4life	6.000		13.125
KIT Sharenet	7.965		
	13.965	-	13.125

6.6. INCOME FROM UNRELATED NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

	Actual 2017	Budget 2017	Actual 2016
	€	€	€
Mannion Daniels Amplify Change (REA)	398.975	231.333	15.575
Utopa Foundation	-		1.779
Other institutions	-		8.325
	398.975	231.333	25.679

FINANCIAL RESULTS

	Actual 2017	Budget 2017	Actual 2016
	€	€	€
Income from interest	224	309	251
Bank and other financial expenses	-710	-750	-294
	-486	-441	-43

J EXPENDITURE DIRECTLY ALLOCATED TO OBJECTIVES

	Actual 2017	Budget 2017	Actual 2016
	€	€	€
Total project costs	1.337.874	1.307.009	724.191

Spending percentage

Below, the proportion of the total expenditure on the objective(s) to the total income has been represented as a percent for the relevant years:

	Actual 2017	Budget 2017	Actual 2016
	€	€	€
Total direct expenditures for the objectives	1.337.874	1.307.009	724.191
Total income	1.491.684	1.439.490	850.654
Spending percentage	89,7%	90,8%	85,1%

Below, the proportion of the total expenditure on the objective(s) to the total expenditure has been represented as a percent for the relevant years:

	Actual 2017	Budget 2017	Actual 2016
	€	€	€
Total direct expenditures for the objectives	1.337.874	1.307.009	724.191
Total expenditure	1.456.056	1.413.794	828.943
Spending percentage	91,9%	92,4%	87,4%

K FUNDRAISING COSTS

Fundraising costs

	Actual 2017	Budget 2017	Actual 2016
	€	€	€
Fundraising costs	4.081	36.557	8.832

Cost percentage fundraising

Below, the proportion of the fundraising costs to the total direct fundraising income has been represented as a percent for the relevant years:

	Actual 2017	Budget 2017	Actual 2016
	€	€	€
Fundraising income	1.491.684	1.439.490	850.654
Fundraising costs	4.081	36.557	8.832
Cost percentage fundraising	0,3%	2,5%	1,0%

L MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

Management and administrative costs

	Actual 2017	Budget 2017	Actual 2016
	€	€	€
Management and administrative costs	114.101	70.228	95.920
Total expenditure	1.456.056	1.413.794	828.943
Management and administration percentage	7,8%	5,0%	11,6%

7 ALLOCATION FO EXPENDITURE

SPECIFICATION AND COST ALLOCATION TO APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Expenditure	Objective	Raising funds	Management & Administration	Total 2017	Budget 2017	Total 2016
	€	€	€	€	€	€
Grants to partners	699.249			699.249	90.484	07.086
Direct project costs (travel)	277.345			277.345	342.295	132.933
Staff costs	304.124	3.435	96.049	403.608	380.705	296.396
Accomodation costs	18.349	207	5.795	24.352	28.200	25.282
Office and general expenses	38.808	438	12.256	51.502	72.860	67.539
Total	1.337.874	4.081	114.101	1.456.056	1.414.544	829.236

7.1 SPECIFICATION COSTS

Appropriation	Actual 2017 €	Budget 2017 €	Actual 2016 €
Salaries	271.439	259.521	205.452
Social security	43.430	43.462	32.872
Pension	36.583	23.672	29.709
Total staff costs	351.452	326.655	268.033
Illness insurance	8.100	4.500	3.705
Trainings for staff	12.968	20.900	7.354
Health services staff	853	750	236
Travel staff to office	18.472	12.000	13.522
Other travel expenses	291	1.000	116
Internship costs	0	1.000	0
Representation board	11.472	13.000	1.667
Representation staff	2.303	900	1.763
Total indirect staff costs	54.458	54.050	28.363
Rent	13.479	15.000	13.466
Office costs	1.737	2.000	4.068
Write offs	3.216	3.250	1.610
Moving office expenses		0	0
IT	5.921	7.950	6.139
Total accomodation	24.352	28.200	25.282
Volunteer expenses	2.713	2.000	3.052
Board declarations	2.446	3.500	4.551
Membership fees	3.061	2.000	2.251
Website hosting	1.062	2.500	954
Foundation costs	6.916	5.000	3.731
Staff declarations	555	350	248
Fundraising	16	1.000	963
Communications	13.796	25.000	30.363
Other general costs	254	300	160
Total general organisation	30.820	41.650	46.273
Finance administration	15.059	14.040	10.857
Accountant	1.266	6.500	5.424
Payroll services	2.055	2.420	1.762
Advice	0	7.500	2.930
Total accountant & admin	18.380	30.460	20.972
	479.462	481.015	388.924

7.2 PAYMENT OF DIRECTORS

During 2017 CHOICE has had two executive directors:

Directors during 2017	Zoë Nussy	Elsemieke de Jonge
Started	1 maart 2017	1 januari 2017
End	31 december 2017	30 april 2017
FTE	100%	100%
Former TOP employee	no	no
Employment by contract	yes	yes
Salary	€ 33.672	€ 16.412
Pension	€ 5.194	€ 2.296
Taxable expenses	€ 0	€ 0
Total salary costs	€ 38.866	€ 18.708
WNT maximum per year	€ 168.000	€ 168.000
WNT maximum in proportion	€ 140.000	€ 56.000
Directors during 2016	Elsemieke de Jonge	
Started	1 januari 2016	
End	31 december 2016	
FTE	100%	
Former TOP employee	no	
Employment by contract	yes	
Salary	€ 49.659	
Pension	€ 6.701	
Taxable expenses	€ 0	
Total salary costs	€ 56.360	
WNT maximum per year	€ 168.000	
WNT maximum in proportion	€ 168.000	

7.3 SALARIES BOARD AND DIRECTORS

Directors

Name	Elsemieke de Jong
Function	Executive director
Active during 2016	January - April 2017
Parttme percentage	100%
Former top functionary	No
Contract of employment	Yes
WNT maximum	€ 56.000
Salary 2017	€ 16.412
Pension contribution 2017	€ 2.296
Total salary 2017	€ 18.708

Name	Zoë Nussy
Function	Executive director
Active during 2016	March - December 2017
Parttme percentage	90%
Former top functionary	No
Contract of employment	Yes
WNT maximum	€ 140.000
Salary 2017	€ 33.672
Pension contribution 2017	€ 5.194
Total salary 2017	€ 38.866

General Board

During 2017 CHOICE has decided to grant the members of the general board stipend of EUR 200 per month. This fee has been paid out starting march 2017.

Name	Esther van Duin
Function	Chair General Board
Active during 2017	January - December 2017
Parttme percentage	not applicable
Former top functionary	No
Contract of employment	No
WNT maximum	€ 25.500
Board stipend 2017	€ 2.000

Name	Timo Bravo Rebolledo
Function	Member General Board
Active during 2016	January - September 2017
Parttme percentage	not applicable
Former top functionary	No
Contract of employment	No
WNT maximum	€ 13.300
Board stipend 2017	€ 1.300

Name Marijke Bleeker
Function Secretary General Board
Active during 2016 January - September 2017
Parttime percentage not applicable
Former top functionary No
Contract of employment No
WNT maximum € 11.900
Board stipend 2017 € 1.300

Name Robin Toorneman
Function Treasurer General Board
Active during 2016 January - September 2017
Parttime percentage not applicable
Former top functionary No
Contract of employment No
WNT maximum € 11.900
Board stipend 2017 € 1.300

Name Gaia Mori
Function Secretary General Board
Active during 2016 September - December 2017
Parttime percentage not applicable
Former top functionary No
Contract of employment No
WNT maximum € 4.900
Board stipend 2017 € 700

Name Marijke Bleeker
Function Member General Board
Active during 2016 September - December 2017
Parttime percentage not applicable
Former top functionary No
Contract of employment No
WNT maximum € 4.900
Board stipend 2017 € 700

Name Marnix Heikamp
Function Treasurer General Board
Active during 2016 September - December 2017
Parttime percentage not applicable
Former top functionary No
Contract of employment No
WNT maximum € 4.900
Board stipend 2017 € 700

Name Jelena Lucija Brodnjak
Function Member General Board
Active during 2016 January - December 2017
Parttime percentage not applicable
Former top functionary No
Contract of employment No
WNT maximum € 16.800
Board stipend 2017 € 1.600

Supervisory Board

During 2017 CHOICE has disbanded the Supervisory board. The members of the supervisory board did not receive any payments.

Name	Ellen Marion Eiling
Function	Member supervisory board
Active during 2017	January - June 2017
Parttme percentage	not applicable
Former top functionary	No
Contract of employment	No
WNT maximum	€ 8.400
Board stipend 2017	€ 0

Name	Frouke Karel
Function	Member supervisory board
Active during 2016	January - June 2017
Parttme percentage	not applicable
Former top functionary	No
Contract of employment	No
WNT maximum	€ 8.400
Board stipend 2017	€ 0

Name	Anneke Charlotte Wensing
Function	Member supervisory board
Active during 2016	January - June 2017
Parttme percentage	not applicable
Former top functionary	No
Contract of employment	No
WNT maximum	€ 8.400
Board stipend 2017	€ 0

Name	Daan Johannes Cornelis Rijk
Function	Member supervisory board
Active during 2016	January - June 2017
Parttme percentage	not applicable
Former top functionary	No
Contract of employment	No
WNT maximum	€ 8.400
Board stipend 2017	€ 0

7.4 BUDGET 2018

	Actual 2016	Budget 2017	Actual 2017	Budget 2018
Income				
BuZa MFS II	€ 17.095			
BuZa ASK	€ 10.367		€ 1.728	
Dance 4 Life / Youth ICPD	€ 13.125		€ 6.000	
St. Utopa	€ 1.779			
Dura	€ 8.325			
Jongeren ambassadeur jan15-aug16	€ 19.506			
BuZa - Right here right now	€ 200.744	€ 193.728	€ 216.871	€ 213.728
BuZA - Get up speak out	€ 238.177	€ 486.953	€ 428.501	€ 451.517
BuZA - Yes I Do (Plan)	€ 313.532	€ 491.043	€ 442.834	€ 571.765
Amplify Change -				
Rights Evidence Action	€ 15.575	€ 231.333	€ 294.229	€ 322.167
Youth Ambassador sep16 - aug18	€ 11.039	€ 34.888	€ 37.779	€ 23.825
Sharenet - YouAct			€ 7.965	
Nieuwe subsidies - overheid				€ 40.000
Nieuwe subsidies - stichtingen				€ 25.000
Indivuele donaties & consultancy (9110, NLBB)	€ 1.220	€ 1.030	€ 1.565	€ 15.000
In kind donaties (9115, NLBB)	€ 169	€ 515	€ 39	€ 500
Interest	€ 251	€ 309	€ 224	€ 250
Total income	€ 850.905	€ 1.439.799	€ 1.437.736	€ 1.663.752
Projectcosts				
BuZa MFS II	€ 1.390			
BuZa ASK	€ 6.460			
Dura	€ 3.073			
Jongeren ambassadeur jan15-aug16	€ 8.325			
BuZa - Right here right now	€ 59.014	€ 72.000	€ 67.268	€ 74.248
BuZA - Get up speak out	€ 146.634	€ 335.322	€ 295.052	€ 336.803
BuZA - Yes I Do (Plan)	€ 208.710	€ 332.732	€ 334.516	€ 421.015
Amplify Change -				
Rights Evidence Action	€ 500	€ 175.500	€ 197.975	€ 225.917
Youth Ambassador sep16 - aug18	€ 5.914	€ 17.225	€ 19.645	€ 12.050
Sharenet - YouAct			€ 7.965	
Nieuwe subsidies - overheid				€ 28.000
Nieuwe subsidies - stichtingen				€ 17.500
Total projectcosts	€ 440.019	€ 932.779	€ 922.421	€ 1.115.533

Personnel- and organization cost

Salarissen en werkgeverslasten	€ 268.033	€ 326.655	€ 351.452	€ 351.685
Overige personeelslasten	€ 28.363	€ 54.050	€ 54.458	€ 56.362
Kantoorkosten	€ 25.282	€ 28.200	€ 24.352	€ 27.450
Algemene organisatiekosten	€ 46.273	€ 41.650	€ 30.820	€ 33.650
Accountant en administratiekosten	€ 20.972	€ 30.460	€ 18.380	€ 27.500
Rentelasten en bankkosten	€ 294	€ 750	€ 710	€ 750
Total	€ 389.217	€ 481.765	€ 480.172	€ 497.397

Total result	€ 21.669	€ 25.255	€ 35.143	€ 50.822
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8. OTHER**8.1 LIABILITIES NOT PRESENTED ON THE BALANCE SHEET**

CHOICE has a rental contract with Amnesty International which is renewed that every year, and which can be cancelled with a 9 month notice. The rental contracts is worth € 13.500 per year.

8.2 SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

No subsequent events occurred after balance sheet date which affect the annual report.

Amsterdam, March 2018

General board

Chair	Ms. Esther van Duin
Secretary	Ms. Marijke Bleeker
Treasurer	Mr. Robin Toorneman
General Board member	Mr. Timo Bravo Rebolledo
General Board member	Ms. Jelena Lucija Brodnjak

Supervisory Board

Chair	Ms. Ellen Eiling
Secretary	Ms. Frouke Karel
Treasurer	Mr. Daan Rijk
General Board member	Ms. Anneke Wensing

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