



# Annual Report 2017

**RHM**

REPRODUCTIVE  
HEALTH  
MATTERS

1 January - 31 December 2017  
[www.rhmatters.org](http://www.rhmatters.org)

Cover Photo:

Location: Jordan, Zaatari (Za'atari) Refugee Camp

Syrian refugee Amal holds a kite which she made herself. On her kite Amal wrote names of different cities to remind her of Syria.

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Website: [www.rhmjatters.org](http://www.rhmjatters.org)

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# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF (OUTGOING)

#Shedecides, #Metoo, #Time's up! These are familiar hashtags from 2017, another year with resurgent threats to sexual and reproductive health and rights. What distinguished 2017 was the unparalleled resilience and resistance around the globe.

The year started with the re-enactment by the Trump administration of an expanded Global Gag Rule (the Mexico City Policy), posing threats to global health organisations around the world offering vital sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) services. This move unleashed a wide political response and led to the launch of the She Decides initiative, supported by the Dutch government and joined by several other governments and philanthropists who pledged to fill the funding gap created by the Global Gag Rule.

In parallel, we witnessed an unprecedented breaking of the silence on rape and sexual violence: women collectively denounced the deeply-ingrained culture of sexual assault and harassment in the workplace that is underpinned by sexism and patriarchy in nearly all societies. People marched in the streets, mobilised online, and voiced their anger, demanding change and accountability.

These efforts happened in spite of, or perhaps as a pushback to, rising right-wing populism and radical conservatism, renewed attacks on sexual and reproductive health and rights, and shrinking of funding for women's rights organisations.

But they also happened against the backdrop of growing challenges that magnify the threats to sexual and reproductive health and rights. The ongoing armed conflicts, wars and natural disasters have created the largest humanitarian crisis in decades. The Rohingya calamity, the war in Syria, the situation in South Sudan, and the conflict in Yemen, to mention just a few, continue to pose tremendous risks to security, safety and health. RHM dedicated a themed issue on sexual and reproductive health and rights in humanitarian crises to support the generation and dissemination of evidence, stressing the research and data gaps, and calling for a more adequate response to the SRHR needs of vulnerable populations.

For RHM, 2017 marked an active year with important changes. In addition to our themed issues and supplements, we expanded the RHM journal by introducing an open issue, to enable us to publish timely critical reflections and other analyses in response to the changing SRHR landscape throughout the year. This issue was inaugurated by publication of critical pieces on the implications of the Global Gag Rule, which were highly accessed. Another important change was our transition to a fully open access journal, whose positive aspect is shown in this report by the greater and more geographically diverse audience that we have managed to reach in this relatively short time.

This annual report illustrates many other notable achievements. From presenting evidence in support of safe abortion at the 61<sup>st</sup> Commission on the Status of Women, shedding light on the implications of right-wing populism for women's reproductive rights, and our multi-

stakeholder research agenda-setting meeting on disrespect and abuse in maternal care, these efforts demonstrate our strategic ambitions to bridge the research and policy divide and to link local and global conversations.

These achievements would have not been possible without the generous support of our donors: the John D and Catherine T MacArthur Foundation, the Open Society Foundation and the Dutch Government, to whom we are indebted for their kind contribution, in particular at a time when SRHR remains grossly underfunded. I extend my gratitude to all our partners, readers, peer-reviewers, the editorial board members and trustees for their support in the year that passed.

I am looking back at 2017 and concluding my service as the Executive Director of the organisation and Editor-in-Chief of its journal, with a sense of pride in our notable achievements, and passing on a vibrant and thriving organisation to continue to lead with evidence! And I look ahead to 2018 with a sense of optimism and excitement.

I thank you for your dedication to sexual and reproductive health and rights and your commitment to RHM in 2017 and welcome your continuing support in 2018.

Dr Shirin Heidari  
Outgoing Executive Director and Editor-in-Chief

# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

## LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and the Editorial Advisory Board, I would like to thank Shirin Heidari for her achievements and enthusiasm in maintaining RHM on the cutting edge of developments in the field of sexual and reproductive health and rights. We are sad to see her leave but wish her all success in her future ventures.

At the beginning of 2018, the renewed Board of Trustees acted swiftly to ensure no loss of impetus and enthusiasm for RHM. With two new senior management colleagues in place – Julia Hussein as Interim Editor-in-Chief and Eszter Kismödi as Acting Chief Executive – we are forging ahead with shaping a strategic plan for a continued top-quality, innovative, evidence-driven journal that combines coverage of research with policy and programmatic issues, together with our concept of RHM as “more than a journal”. This includes support and mentoring to authors and researchers – particularly those who are up-and-coming – from all parts of the globe, providing a dynamic platform for fostering debate and exchanges on current SRHR issues, and contributing to positive changes in policy and practice at international, regional and local level.

We thank our donors for their continued support to RHM in its mission as a global platform to motivate and support the development, sharing, and use of knowledge, evidence, ideas and experiences that will inform, influence and inspire rights-based SRHR policies and programmes.

We are invigorated by the papers coming in, the dynamism of the staff in place and look forward to future collaboration that will keep SRHR at the top of global agendas.

Jane Cottingham  
Chair of the RHM Board of Trustees

# ABOUT RHM

*Reproductive Health Matters (RHM) is a non-profit organisation working to advance the sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) of people of all age, ethnicity, race, colour, gender, as fundamental human rights and matters of social justice.*

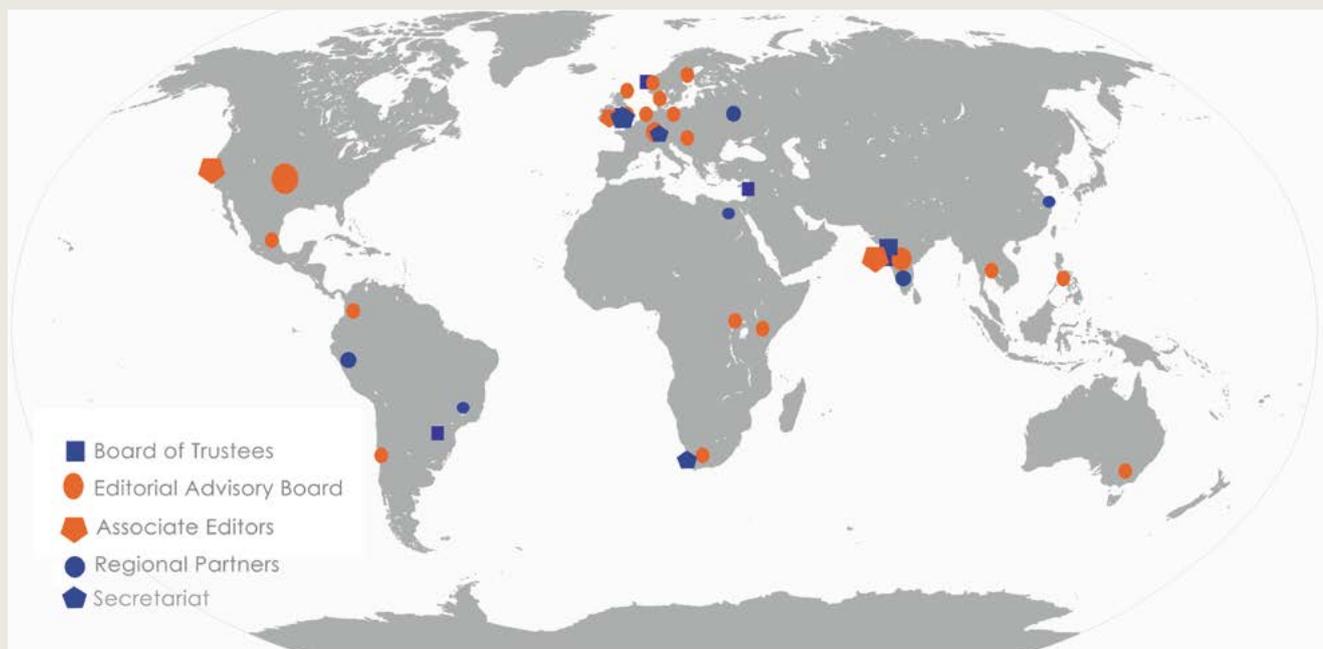
## OUR MISSION

RHM's mission is to serve as a global platform to motivate and support the development, sharing and use of knowledge, evidence, ideas and experiences that will inform, influence and inspire policy and programmes, and build a critical mass of support for sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR).

Our peer-reviewed journal publishes research, in-depth analysis and critical reviews across the spectrum of SRHR, generating knowledge and evidence and inspiring new thinking and action. In addition, we support advocacy and inform global, regional and local policy discussions to ensure investment in overlooked SRHR issues, research, rights-based and evidence-based policies and programmes.

RHM has a presence in London, Geneva and Cape Town, and engages with regional partners in Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Peru and Russia to ensure translation and dissemination of RHM publications in languages other than English.

## RHM'S PRESENCE AROUND THE WORLD



# GENERATING EVIDENCE

*In 2017, RHM continued to generate and disseminate SRHR evidence while strengthening the voices of SRHR advocates around the world.*



## OPEN ISSUE FOR 2017: A COMPILATION

Volume 25, No. 49

This issue hosts those articles, including editorials, which were published on a rolling basis throughout the year, outside of the themed issues and supplements. These articles are related to a range of SRHR themes and geographic regions; topics included threats to reproductive rights in the US; international surrogacy; and the aftermath of the Zika virus epidemic in Brazil.



## DISABILITY AND SEXUALITY: CLAIMING SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS

Volume 25, Number 50

This thematic issue addressed topics related to sexuality and SRHR of people with disabilities. The issue contributed to advancing a subject that is slowly emerging from a world of neglect and exclusion into rights-based public discourse and policy. The issue focused on three key themes, including rights, justice and aspirations of people with disabilities; inequitable structures and access; and personal experiences, identity and intersectionality.



## HUMANITARIAN CRISES: ADVANCING SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS

Volume 25, Number 51

Through this issue, RHM contributed to the growing global conversation, commitments, and momentum regarding SRHR in humanitarian settings by taking stock of progress (or regressions) in this area, building the evidence base, and widening the discussion to include marginalised and under-represented voices. The issue generated and disseminated new evidence and insights across the following three thematic areas: heightened risk and vulnerability; interventions and responses; and legal and policy issues.



## GENDERED BODIES AND REPRODUCTION IN THE ARAB COUNTRIES AND TURKEY

Volume 25, Supplement 1

This supplement presents the work of members of the RHWG, a research network encompassing the Arab region and Turkey, known as the Reproductive Health Working Group. It provided a dissemination forum for research presented at the network's annual meetings, and an opportunity to highlight complementarities among the individual studies. Along with a paper exploring the history of the network, the articles contained in this supplement speak to three key SRHR themes within the region, including women's perceptions of their health and health care; gender, sexuality and daily life; and conflict and displacement.

## RHM IN TRANSLATION



### RHM IN CHINESE, NUMBER 49

Sexuality, sexual and reproductive health in later life

Editor: Mengchun Jia

Partner institution: National Research Institute for Family Planning, China

Website: <http://www.e-healthdata.cn/healthdata/szjkyl/index.jhtml>



### RHM IN CHINESE, NUMBER 50

Disability and sexuality: claiming sexual and reproductive rights

Editor: Mengchun Jia

Partner institution: National Research Institute for Family Planning, China

Website: <http://www.e-healthdata.cn/healthdata/szjkyl/index.jhtml>



### RHM IN HINDI, NUMBER 10

Sexuality, politics and rights

Editor: Shalini Singh

Partner institution: CREA, India

Website: <http://www.creaworld.org/publications/reproductive-health-matters>



### RHM IN RUSSIAN, NUMBER 8

Reproductive health: new development paradigms post-2015

Editor: Lyubov Erofeeva

Partner institution: Russian Association for Population & Development, Russia

Website: [www.ranir.ru/prz/](http://www.ranir.ru/prz/)

# EXPANDING OUR REACH

*In 2017, RHM hosted and contributed to several events on timely topics such as the implications of rising populism on SRHR, the devastating violations of people's SRHR in humanitarian settings, as well as disrespect and abuse in childbirth.*

## SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS IN HUMANITARIAN SETTINGS

During the 61<sup>st</sup> session of the Commission on the Status of Women, RHM together with its partners, International Rescue Committee, World Health Organisation, Women's Refugee Commission, Columbia University, and Ipas, organised a special panel to discuss the challenges to SRHR in humanitarian settings. Amidst the complex and varied contexts of humanitarian crises, access to services, such as family planning, abortion and emergency obstetric care, can be compromised or denied too easily. Policy barriers, failed health systems, a lack of effective interventions, and other socio-cultural and economic factors, such as insufficient funding, all contribute to inadequate realisation of sexual and reproductive rights. A full session report is available [online](#).



## TOGETHER: ENSURING SRHR OF WOMEN AND GIRLS WITH DISABILITIES: HOW TO TACKLE MULTIPLE DISCRIMINATION AND INEQUALITIES

RHM's regional partner, CREA, organised a strategic meeting on disability and SRHR at the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) at the UN to discuss advocacy spaces on promoting SRHR of people with disability. The RHM themed issue on [Disability and Sexuality](#) was highlighted at the event, and was promoted at the sessions of the CRPD Committee. The side event was co-sponsored by the Permanent Missions of Ethiopia, Antigua and Barbuda, OHCHR, UN Women, International Disability Alliance (IDA), International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC), Center for Reproductive Rights, CREA, Shanta Memorial Rehabilitation Centre India (SMRC), Handicap International, Inclusion International, Light for the World, Lumos Foundation, Reproductive Health Matters and Women Enabled International.

## A RESEARCH AGENDA-SETTING MEETING ON DISRESPECT AND ABUSE IN MATERNAL CARE

In line with its strategic vision to strengthen its regional presence and forge a stronger link between global discussions and local realities, RHM organised its first research agenda setting meeting in Rio de Janeiro. The meeting was organised in conjunction with the SVRI Forum in partnership with its regional partner, Grupo Curumim. The one-day meeting chaired by former RHM trustee Simone Diniz, focused on presenting and sharing contemporary research and issues related to disrespect and abuse in childbirth. Through the day, participants shared their own work and research in this area, debating issues, such as how best to frame such violence against women; how current institutional cultures and health care professional training curricula contribute to the entrenchment and reproduction of harmful attitudes and practices; how sensitisation and awareness programmes contribute to the "humanisation" of childbirth; how obstetric violence intersects with other factors such as race and poverty; and how different feminist campaigns and women's movements have been working to address these issues locally and internationally. The online report is available [here](#).

## IS POPULISM BAD FOR WOMEN RIGHTS?

RHM's Director, Shirin Heidari, moderated a session organised by Foraus and the University of Geneva that examined the implications of right-wing populism on women's health and rights, with a particular focus on populist leaders such as Recep Tayyip Erdoğan in Turkey, and Donald Trump in the USA. Speakers addressed not only the present political climate and the impact on women's SRHR under each administration, but they further elaborated on the pending threats to women's right, in particular the right to safe abortion. Speakers included RHM associate editor, Laura Ferguson, and Professor Ayse Dayi the Head of research, faculty of social and political sciences, University of Lausanne. For a complete report please visit [here](#).

## CONTEXTUALISING POPULISM AND ITS EFFECTS ON SRHR

RHM's Director, Shirin Heidari, participated in a panel discussion during the 2017 EuroNGOs Conference in Brussels. She talked about the causes and consequences of rising right-wing populism, particularly in Europe, and discussed the political implications on SRHR. Heidari situated reactions to progressive change against a background of growing economic inequalities, as well as a widening shift in cultural values, which is believed to have unleashed these renewed attacks on women's rights. The online report is available [here](#).



## CONDUCTING SRHR RESEARCH IN HUMANITARIAN CRISES: CHALLENGES, STRATEGIES AND OPPORTUNITIES



RHM organised and hosted a panel discussion at the Annual Meeting of the Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG) held in Athens. Co-chaired by Monica Adhiambo Onyango and Shirin Heidari, the session covered topics such as research gaps, concerns about methodology, and funding in the area of SRHR in humanitarian settings. Approximately 80 SRHR practitioners, researchers and policy-makers attended the session, during which RHM soft-launched issue 51 of its journal, *Humanitarian Crises*, ahead of publication. A full session report is available [online](#).

## TOWARDS GREATER ACCOUNTABILITY FOR SRHR IN CRISIS SETTINGS

A EuroNGOs workshop jointly organised by RHM, Médecins du Monde France, Swedish Association for Sex Education (RFSU) and Countdown 2030 Europe in Brussels. The participants deepened their understanding of the current policies and funding landscape on SRHR in humanitarian crises. For an online report, please visit [here](#).

## A SELECT NUMBER OF PETITIONS AND LETTERS SIGNED BY RHM IN 2017 INCLUDE:

- A letter to the UN Secretary-General from NGOs represented at this year's UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), invited António Guterres, UN Secretary-General, to meet with them for an open dialogue during the CSW (13 to 24 March 2017)
- A letter inviting like-minded governments worldwide, civil society organisations, the private sector and foundations to join the Netherlands in stepping up financing for sexual and reproductive health and rights and championing these crucial issues at all levels.
- A letter to Rex W. Tillerson, United States Secretary of State for International Development regarding the extended Mexico City Policy and its devastating effects on the world's poorest women.
- A letter congratulating Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus on his appointment as the new WHO Director-General, and calling upon him to address SRHR and women/girls' health concerns.

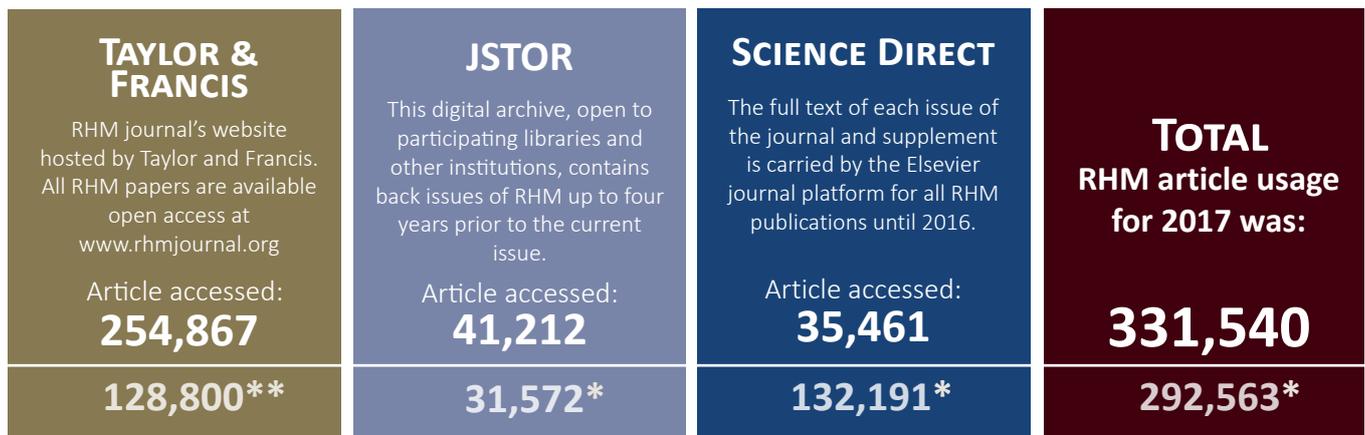
## GLOBAL OUTREACH

Significant changes were introduced in January 2017 to strengthen the RHM journal and its outreach, as we transitioned to a fully open access (OA) model with a new publisher, Taylor and Francis. The new model offers all current and past articles free of charge for anyone to read from our journal website [www.rhmjournal.org](http://www.rhmjournal.org); a change, which ultimately brought about a significant increase in our reach and a shift in our global readership distribution (see page 13).

In addition, the journal was expanded by introducing an open issue for continuous publication of a wide range of SRHR subjects beyond the two themed issues, to offer a more dynamic platform for communication and publication of critical analysis on contemporary and emerging subjects on a rolling basis.

The following illustration shows the main channels through which RHM articles in English can be accessed.

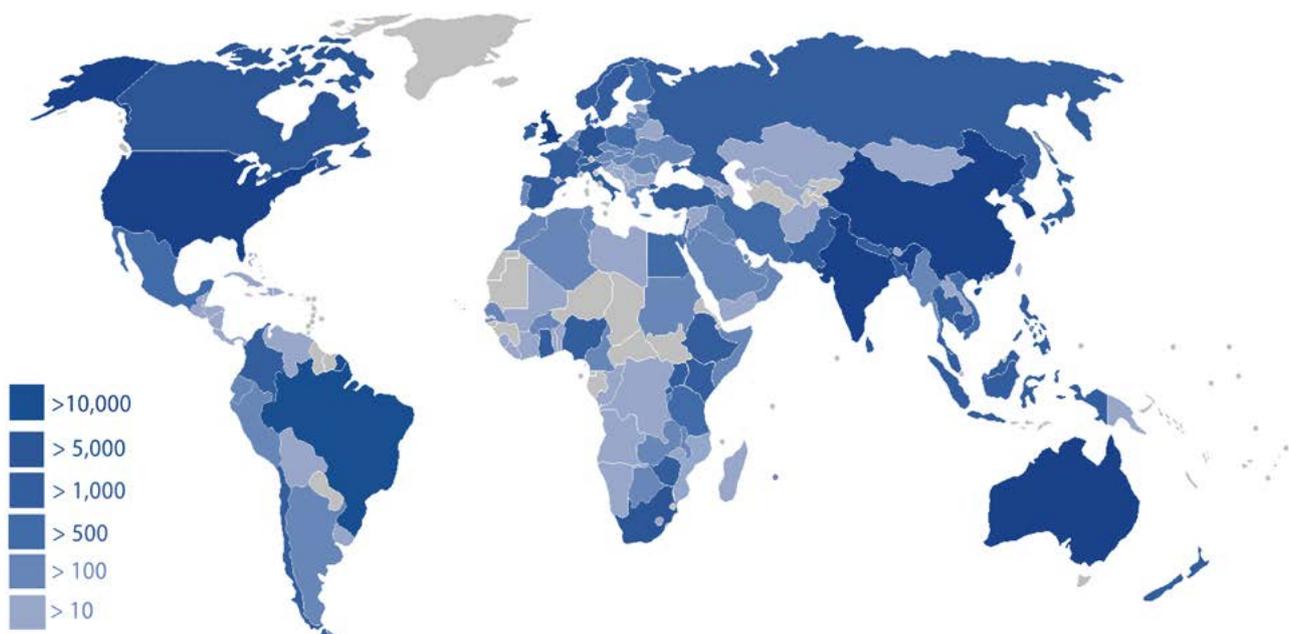
In 2017, a total of **331,540** RHM articles were accessed, a dramatic increase compared to 292,563 in 2016.



\* 2016 Usage numbers.

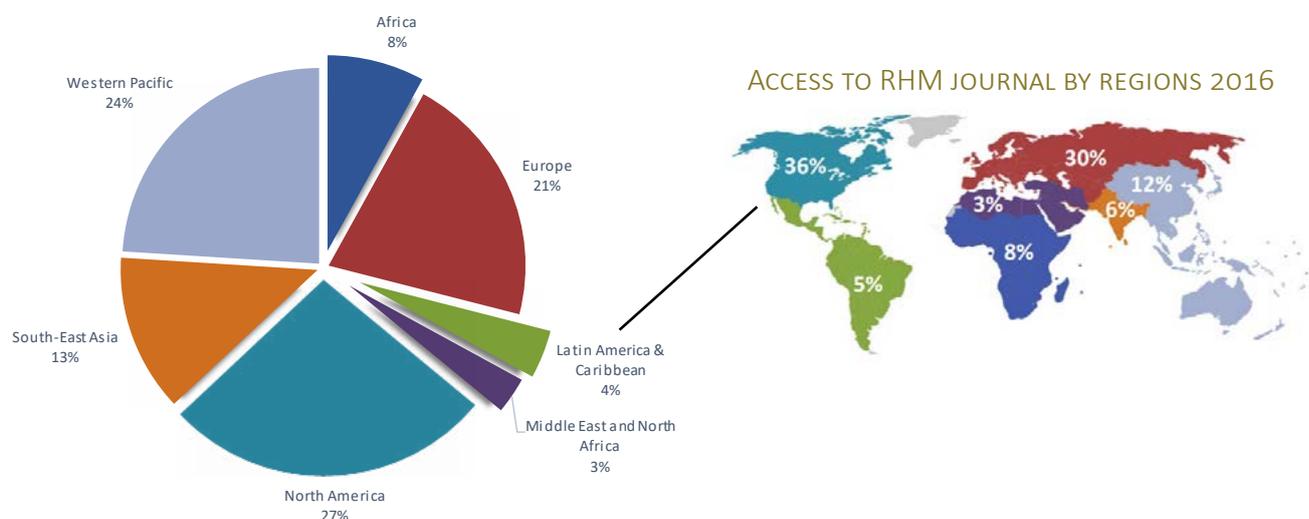
\*\* Number of articles published on our journal website hosted by Elsevier in 2016.

## MAPPING RHM JOURNAL'S ACCESS IN 2017



\*Usage of English articles only  
 Source: Taylor and Francis

The chart below breaks down RHM article usage. North American readers constitute 27% of RHM journal readership. In 2017, we noted important changes in demographics, with a doubling in number of downloads in the Western Pacific region (24% in 2017, compared to 12% in 2016), with a significant increase in readership in China with a total of 40,015 downloads, and the South-East Asia region (13% in 2017, compared to 6% in 2016) with a significant rise in article access in both India and Sri Lanka with a total of 21,012 downloads.



\*Usage of English articles only.

\*\* Regions are based on the World Health Organization’s regional divisions, except that Eastern Mediterranean is referred to as Middle East & North Africa, and the Americas have been divided between North America and Latin American and Caribbean.

Source: Taylor and Francis

The table below lists the top ten most accessed articles from the RHM journal website in 2017. The results reflect the range of issues RHM covers, the spread of interests of our readers and the enduring relevance of many papers.

### TOP 10 RHM ARTICLES ACCESSED FROM TAYLOR AND FRANCIS IN 2017

ARTICLE TITLE	USAGE	ISSUE
- Sexuality and women’s rights in armed conflict in Sri Lanka	11,996	May 2004
- Sexual torture of men in Croatia and other conflict situations: an open secret	8,708	May 2004
- Sex workers in Kenya, numbers of clients and associated risks: an exploratory survey	8,668	May 2004
- In vitro fertilization policy in Israel and women’s perspectives: the more the better?	8,048	May 2008
- Nurse-midwives’ attitudes towards adolescent sexual and reproductive health needs in Kenya and Zambia	4,416	May 2006
- Youth, sexuality and sex education messages in Indonesia, issues of desire and control	3,900	May 2004
- “The cut above” and “the cut below”: the abuse of caesareans and episiotomy in Sao Paulo, Brazil	3,880	May 2004
- Implications of the Trump Administration for sexual and reproductive rights globally	3,820	March 2017
- Support to the Safe Motherhood Programme in Nepal: an integrated approach	2,750	Nov. 2007
- Contextualising sexual harassment of adolescent girls in Bangladesh	2,642	May 2013

Source: Taylor and Francis only

## RELEVANCE AND LONGEVITY OF RHM ARTICLES

In 2017, following the re-enactment of the expanded Mexico City Policy (the Global Gag Rule) by the US president, RHM commissioned and published critical analyses and commentaries on the implications of this policy for SRHR both nationally and globally. These articles were accessed **6882** times in 2017.

Of the **254,867** articles downloaded from the journal website, **23,364** were published in 2017, of which **11,636** were accessed from the *Disability* issue alone (May 2017) **2369** from the Humanitarian Crises issue (November 2017) and **2477** downloads from the Supplement.

The table below lists the top ten most accessed 2017 articles in the last 12-month period from the Taylor and Francis website.

### TOP 10 RHM ARTICLES ACCESSED FROM TAYLOR AND FRANCIS IN 2017

- Implications of the Trump Administration for sexual and reproductive rights globally - 25(49):2017
- The business of desire: "Russian" bars in Amman, Jordan - 25(50)Supplement:2017
- Disability and sexuality: claiming sexual and reproductive rights - 25(50):2017
- What will become of reproductive issues in Trump's America? - 25(49):2017
- The 2018 *Inter-agency field manual on reproductive health in humanitarian settings*: revising the global standards - 25(51):2017
- The Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its take on sexuality - 25(50):2017
- A qualitative study to explore the barriers and enablers for young people with disabilities - 25(50):2017
- Pleasure, sex, prohibition, intellectual disability, and dangerous ideas - 25(50):2017
- Sexual violence against men and boys in conflict and forced displacement: implications for the health sector - 25(51):2017
- Exploring the sexual and reproductive health issues of visually impaired women in Ghana - 25(50):2017

Source: Taylor and Francis only.

The below map captures the distribution of corresponding authors and the country/setting of focus of published articles in 2017. While the majority of corresponding authors were from high-income countries, most articles were co-authored by a mix of both high and low- and middle-income country authors.

### AUTHOR AFFILIATION AND COUNTRY/REGION OF FOCUS FOR 2017 JOURNAL ISSUES



\*Usage of English articles only  
Source: Taylor and Francis

# ONLINE COMMUNICATIONS

*RHM's online dissemination strategy aims to reach a diverse readership across sectors around the world.*

## ORGANISATIONAL WEBSITE - [WWW.RHMATTERS.ORG](http://WWW.RHMATTERS.ORG)



REPRODUCTIVE  
HEALTH  
MATTERS

In 2017, RHM revamped its organisational website and launched its new branding. The new logo reinforces the organisation's acronym RHM, which is a well-known acronym by partners in the field. This move also reflects the broad scope of our growing organisation, working across the spectrum of sexual and reproductive health and rights. The new website was developed to be a more dynamic and interactive portal to engage with partners and other stakeholders, while showcasing the range of RHM's activities.

## JOURNAL WEBSITE - [WWW.RHMJOURNAL.ORG](http://WWW.RHMJOURNAL.ORG)

RHM's journal website is hosted by our new publisher, Taylor and Francis. The entire journal archive is available and open access, allowing anyone anywhere in the world to freely download all RHM articles, past and present.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media channels serve as the main communications channels through which RHM promotes RHM's journal and organisation, reaching a more diverse and global audience while highlighting important issues in SRHR.

Facebook has proved to be the most effective and engaging social media tool, to promote its journal and activities. For example, a Facebook post dated 6 July 2017 promoting the new **Disability** issue reached more than 1,500 people, was shared 12 times and generated more than 126 reactions, comments and shares.

**FACEBOOK: 1,111** followers across **88** countries: 25% from the US and the UK, followed by India (10%), Peru (8%) and Brazil (8%).

**TWITTER: 2,744** followers across **89** countries: 51% from the USA and the UK, followed by Russia 6.8%.

**LINKEDIN: 119** followers across **22** countries: 30% from the USA and the UK, followed by the Netherlands with 5%.

## INTERVIEWS



### STATE OF THE WORLD'S FATHERS REPORT 2015 & 2017

*June 2017*

RHM interviewed Gary Barker, President and CEO of Promundo, to present key findings from the State of the World's Fathers 2015 and 2017 reports, including linkages between men's engagement in unpaid care work and women's sexual and reproductive health.



### DISABILITY AND SEXUALITY: CLAIMING SRHR

*July 2017*

Guest Editor Renu Adlakha, from the Centre for Women's Development Studies in New Delhi, India discusses the gaps in research and the empirical base on the sexual life of people with disabilities while a theoretical framework is in the process of being developed. This interview was conducted by RHM's regional partner in India, CREA.

# IMPACT

*RHM articles are used as a source of evidence and advocacy tool to inform and improve SRHR policy and practice.*

While citations of RHM articles in other academic journals are easy to track, and are captured by the Impact Factor, citation by policy documents and the use of RHM articles as a source of evidence in policy and programme discussions are harder to obtain. The list below highlights a few examples of how RHM articles have been referenced and used by various UN-funded briefs, university programmes, regional advocacy groups and in news outlets:

Sally Sheldon's article, "How can a state control swallowing? The home use of abortion pills in Ireland" [24(48):2016] is cited as key evidence in Abigail R. A. Aiken's address to the Committee on international developments in the provision of health care services in the area of termination of pregnancy entitled Opening Statement to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on the Eighth Amendment of the Constitution (Ireland).

The 2017 UNHCR Global Protection Cluster report on Sexual Violence Against Men and Boys in the Syria Crises uses Daniel Weishut's "Sexual torture of Palestine men by Israeli authorities" [23(46):2015] as key evidence on the subject.

The Maternal Health Task Force, a project of the Women and Health Initiative at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, cites "Moving beyond disrespect and abuse: addressing the structural dimensions of obstetric violence" by Michelle Sadler et al. [24(47):2016] as a principal paper in its resource section.

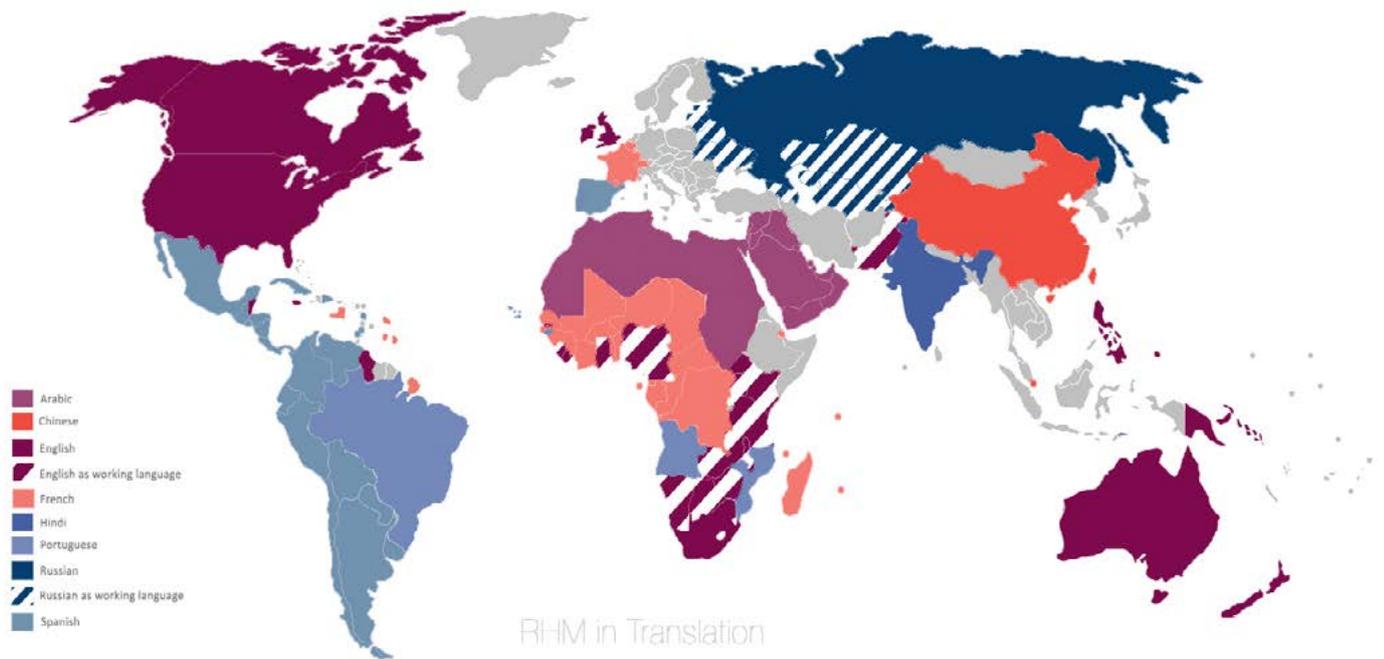
The Maternal Health Task Force, a project of the Women and Health Initiative at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, cites "A qualitative study to explore the barriers and enablers for young people with disabilities to access sexual and reproductive health services in Senegal" [25(50):2017] by Eva Burke et al. as a principal paper in its resource section.

Morgan Carpenter's paper, "The human rights of intersex people: addressing harmful practices and rhetoric of change" [24(47):2016] is cited in the Shadow report submission to the Human Rights Committee on the situation of intersex people in Australia on August 2017.

The issue on *Disability and sexuality: claiming sexual and reproductive rights* will be integrated into the curricula of the Institute of Epidemiology and Health Care on Sexual Health at University College London and the SRHR collaborative programme of the University of Oslo, Faculty of Medicine and Faculty of Health and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights.

# BEING GLOBAL

*With a view to making evidence more accessible and overcoming language barriers in global SRHR debates, RHM translates and disseminates selected articles into other languages in collaboration with its regional teams in Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Peru and Russia.*



## RHM IN ARABIC (CAIRO, EGYPT)

During 2017, the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> issues of RHM in Arabic were in production, scheduled to be published in 2018. They cover sexual and reproductive health and rights in the contexts of disability and older persons. In both issues commissioned editorials have been added to further develop the themes within the MENA region, where discussions relating to SRHR face many barriers.

RHM was invited to present at the Inter-Agency Working Group's MENA Meeting in Amman, Jordan, April 5-6. RHM in Arabic Editor, Dr. Hala El Damanhoury, alongside RHM's Managing Editor & Advocacy Officer, introduced the forthcoming issue of RHM on SRHR in *Humanitarian Crises*. It was met with much interest and enthusiasm from workshop participants, representing local, regional and international NGOs, researchers, international organisations (such as UNICEF, UNFPA, and WHO).

A total of 1,200 copies of the journal issues were printed and distributed in Egypt and elsewhere in the region, and displayed at 12 conferences and workshops in Egypt and the Arab region.

EDITOR: Hala El-Damanhoury

PARTNER INSTITUTION: Etijah Foundation, Egypt

WEBSITE: [www.arabicrhm.org](http://www.arabicrhm.org) | FACEBOOK: [rhmarabic](https://www.facebook.com/rhmarabic) | TWITTER: [@arabicrhm](https://twitter.com/arabicrhm)

Print run: 600 copies per issue

## RHM IN CHINESE (BEIJING, CHINA)

In 2017, two further issues of RHM in Chinese were published. They focused on disability and sexuality, and sexuality, sexual and reproductive health in later life. The topics were of particular relevance in the Chinese context because sex is a historically stigmatised topic, and when it intersects ageism and discrimination stemming from disability the topic becomes yet more taboo.

RHM in Chinese editions are available on two key websites and can now be accessed through mainstreaming channels, such as [www.pan.baidu.com](http://www.pan.baidu.com), which is very popular among younger generations in the region. Further, electronic copies of each new issue were mailed out to 2156 professionals in the sector.

EDITORS: Mengchun Jia

PARTNER INSTITUTION: National Research Institute for Family Planning, China

WEBSITE: <http://www.e-healthdata.cn/healthdata/szjkyl/index.jhtml>

Online only

## RHM IN FRENCH (LONDON, UK)

RHM is actively seeking partners in francophone Africa to undertake the publication and dissemination of RHM in French in line with its policy of building capacity of regional organisations and networks.

Reproductive Health Matters

WEBSITE: [www.rhmatters.org](http://www.rhmatters.org)

Online only

## RHM IN HINDI (NEW DELHI, INDIA)

In 2017, the 10th edition of RHM in Hindi was published, based on the 2015 English language edition, sexuality, sexual rights and sexual politics. The edition is particularly useful for activists who are part of social movements and working for sexuality education, young people's health and SRHR issues but affected by the paucity of Hindi reading material.

The total number of downloads and views of RHM material through the CREA website by 2017 exceeds 2000.

EDITOR: Shalini Singh

PARTNER INSTITUTION: CREA, India

WEBSITE: [creaworld.org/publications/reproductive-health-matters](http://creaworld.org/publications/reproductive-health-matters)

Online only

## RHM IN PORTUGUESE (RECIFE, BRAZIL)

The ninth issue of RHM in Portuguese focuses on population, environment and sustainable development, with articles charting the complex interconnections between population and sexual and reproductive rights in the post-2015 development agenda. In the current Brazilian context, a regression in social policies and an increased threat of food insecurity constitute important obstacles to universal access to health services, including sexual and reproductive health.

Individual articles of the edition have been published on Facebook, and is being hosted on the RHM website, as well as on the website of our partner, Grupo Curumim, and on Issuu (a free electronic publishing platform). In 2017, 2540 people were reached through the Facebook page, which has 509 followers. Further, RHM-posted articles on Issuu receive 100 visits on average per month.

EDITORS: Ana Paula Portella and Simone Diniz  
PARTNER INSTITUTION: Grupo Curumim, Brazil  
WEBSITE: [www.grupocurumim.org.br](http://www.grupocurumim.org.br) | FACEBOOK [questoesaudereprodutiva](https://www.facebook.com/questoesaudereprodutiva) TWITTER: @RHMBrazil  
Online only

## RHM IN RUSSIAN (MOSCOW, RUSSIA)

In 2017, the eighth edition of RHM in Russian was published, on new development paradigms post-2015 for health, SRHR and gender equity. The topic is of particular relevance in the current Russian context because the perception of ICPD, MDGs and SDGs has been very vague in Russian professional and political circles.

The edition is available on the dedicated RHM page on the Russian Association for Population & Development's (RAPD) website and on the RHM website. While the total number of downloads and views exceeds 3100, the print edition remains more popular among the professionals in Russia. Print copies of the journal have been promoted at national leading congresses in obstetrics and gynaecology, and public health. The journal has also been promoted through RAPD Facebook, Vkontakte and other listserves.

EDITOR: Lyubov Erofeeva  
PARTNER INSTITUTION: Russian Association for Population & Development, Russia  
WEBSITE: [www.ranir.ru/prz](http://www.ranir.ru/prz)  
PRINT RUN: 1,500 copies

## RHM IN SPANISH (LIMA, PERU)

The ninth edition of RHM in Spanish focuses in part on the political aspect of sexual rights and reports on the consequences of violations, providing much-needed evidence and support to inform debates and SRHR advocacy efforts in the region. This edition also addresses another key issue relevant to the entire region: women's access to safe abortion practices.

In 2017 alone, the RHM in Spanish page was viewed 20,571 times. Readers are based mainly in Mexico (30%), Peru (13%), Argentina (12%) and Colombia (9%).

EDITORS: Nancy Palomino Ramírez and Mariella Sala  
PARTNER INSTITUTION: Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia, Peru  
WEBSITE: [www.diassere.org.pe/temas-de-salud-reproductiva](http://www.diassere.org.pe/temas-de-salud-reproductiva) | FACEBOOK: [Temas-de-SALUD-reproductiva](https://www.facebook.com/Temas-de-SALUD-reproductiva)  
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*RHM's dedicated international secretariat, editorial team and editorial board bring a wealth of collective SRHR experience and knowledge to advance our understanding of the spectrum of SRHR that affect our lives.*

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\*Financial statement to be included once audited.

