Resource Map on
SEXUAL ORIENTATION
AND GENDER IDENTITY
for Young Sexual and Reproductive Rights Activists
Resource Map on
SEXUAL ORIENTATION AND GENDER IDENTITY
for Young Sexual and Reproductive Rights Activists
INTRODUCTION

Issues related to sexual orientation and gender identity have gained more visibility in the last few years but at the global level, there are many things that remain to be done. In the context of a new development agenda, it is crucial to talk about young LGBTIQ people in order to leave no one behind in the Post-2015 framework and going forward.

The sexual and reproductive rights of young people with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities guarantee that individuals maintain bodily integrity and can exercise control over their own body, sexuality and life.

Every person has the right to make decisions regarding their lives and their sexual and reproductive rights; yet many people have these rights denied, with life-threatening or even fatal consequences.

Despite growing acceptance and respect in many countries around human rights advocacy and sexual orientation and gender identity, the universal acceptance of the sexual and reproductive rights of LGBTIQ people in particular remains a struggle. Among others, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people are vulnerable to stigma, discrimination, harassment and the threat of violence because of their sexual orientation and gender identity. This is based on a generally accepted patriarchal and hetero-normative binary system that assumes male, female and heterosexuality as normal. This deep-rooted construct manifests itself in homophobia/lesbophobia and transphobia as well as other forms of discrimination based on the diversity of sexual orientation and gender identity.

This is even more concerning where discrimination is institutionalized by state legislation, which can result in the criminalization/illegality of people with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities, punishable by fines, imprisonment and in some cases death.

Many youth-led and youth-serving organizations have worked hard to promote and advocate for the sexual and reproductive health and rights of people with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities nationally, regionally and internationally. As a result, a number of useful resources, including research, reports and documents, have been published in recent years.

The Youth Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights (YCSRR), as a youth-led international organization of young people aged 18-29 years old, is committed to promoting adolescent and youth sexual and reproductive rights at the national, regional and international levels and identifies issues related to sexual orientation and gender identity as integral to bodily integrity, dignity and health. With this in mind, the YCSRR has put together a selection of useful resources to reference in your work on youth and advocacy ensuring that LGBTIQ people can claim and exercise their sexual and reproductive rights.

For updated resources and information on youth and sexual and reproductive rights, including sexual orientation and gender identity rights, please visit www.youthcoalition.org.
ABBREVIATIONS

AIDS: Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
EU: European Union
FTM: Female to Male
HIV: Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IGLYO: International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Youth and Students Organization
ILGA: International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association
LGBTIQ: Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Intersex Queer
MSM: Men who have Sex with other Men
MTF: Male to Female
OHCHR: Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
SOGI: Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity
SRR: Sexual and Reproductive Rights
SRHR: Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
STI: Sexually Transmitted Infection
UN: United Nations
UNFPA: United Nations Population Fund
WHO: World Health Organization
YCSRR: Youth Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights
YMSM: Young Men who have Sex with other Men
GLOSSARY OF GENDER IDENTITY AND SEXUAL ORIENTATION

This glossary of terms serves as an introduction to sexual orientation and gender identity language and will help you to better understand the language used in the following documents.

“Regardless, every person has the right to define their own identity and we should respect the terminology we each choose to use to describe ourselves.” - Page 1.

Link:
www.youthcoalition.org
AN ACTIVIST’S GUIDE TO THE YOGYAKARTA PRINCIPLES

The guide demonstrates how the Yogyakarta principles can be applied to international human rights law in relation to sexual orientation and gender identity. There is an inconsistency between the rights identified in international human rights documents, such as those in the Yogyakarta Principles, and the rights actually enjoyed by individuals. While international standards may grant us rights, discrimination, stigma, violence and fear pose real threats to people of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. This Guide is a tool for those who are working to create changes and build on the momentum that has already begun around the Yogyakarta Principles.

“The Principles seek to be comprehensive in their scope, both in terms of the rights covered by law and also in relation to the actual lived experience of LGBTI people.” - Page 10.

Link:
http://www.ypinaction.org/content/activists_guide

Link to the Yogyakarta principles:
http://yogyakartaprinciples.org/

BALI GLOBAL YOUTH FORUM DECLARATION

The Global Youth Forum declaration is one of the most progressive documents at this time that acknowledges the sexual and reproductive rights of all young people with a strong emphasis on young people with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. It was developed in the context of the ICPD+20 Operational Review process.

“Governments must repeal laws and regulations that permit violence and/or discrimination against young people, especially those who are marginalized, including laws that limit same-sex marriage, and criminalize YPLHIV and LGBTQI.” - Page 12.

Link:
BORN FREE AND EQUAL

The OHCHR publication highlights how UN documents protect LGBT rights around the world, including resolutions, conventions and guidelines published by the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council and other UN agencies. The publication identifies documents with and without special mention that are relevant to the protection of all people, including LGBTIQ persons.

The document is particularly useful for references to international law and non-discrimination language. It is also a quick guide to sexual orientation, sex and gender identity.

“When describing people; use the terms, pronouns and names that they choose. If you are not sure – ask.” - Page 11.

Link:
http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/BornFreeAndEqualLowRes.pdf

FREE & EQUAL

A project of the United Nations Human Rights Office implemented in partnership with the Purpose Foundation, the global public education campaign for LGBT equality raises awareness of homophobic and transphobic violence and discrimination and promotes greater respect for the rights of LGBT people everywhere. The campaign includes factsheets, videos, news and statements with the purpose of engaging millions of people around the world in conversations that will help promote the fair treatment of LGBT people and generate support for measures to protect their rights.

“UN: LGBT Rights are Human Rights.”

Link:
http://www.unfe.org
ILGA-EUROPE GLOSSARY

The purpose of the glossary is to share knowledge and streamline the usage of language on LGBTI related issues and the work of ILGA-Europe. The glossary also contains don’ts from ILGA-Europe’s experience with terms that have been misused or misunderstood and can be counterproductive for the work of LGBTI rights advocates on a national level.

“You can find out what we mean, when we say or write: LGBTI, hate crime, The European Commission, biphobia heteronormativity, Council of Europe, intersex people, capacity development ect.”

Link:
http://www.ilga-europe.org/home/publications/glossary#abc

LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER RIGHTS IN EUROPE: 2013 CONFERENCE REPORT

The report provides a summary of discussions, key issues and recommendations for action coming out of the conference attended by Ministers and Secretaries of State, governmental representatives, representatives of the European Commission, the OHCHR, the Council of Europe, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and civil society representatives from over 40 different countries from a broad range of States in Western and Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

“Participants acknowledged the need for transgender and intersex issues to receive more attention, including through education of policymakers, empowerment of transgender and intersex activists and strengthening of collaborations with civil society organizations working on these issues.” - page 3.

Link:
MATERIALS AND MEDIA –
THE GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR
LGBT EDUCATION

The hub hosts dozens of useful resources related to inclusive education, programs to integrate LGBT people into schools, reports about homophobic bullying and many references to the right to education and SOGI.

“The pages give a list of the materials and media in our database. With this, we refer to stand alone materials like films, videos, CDs, hand-outs, background articles.”

Link:

OSLO CONFERENCE ON HUMAN
RIGHTS, SEXUAL ORIENTATION
AND GENDER IDENTITY: SUMMARY
AND TOOLKIT

Conference reports and summary of conclusions based on the UN High Commission on Human Rights, Discriminatory Laws and Practices and Acts of Violence against Individuals based on their Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, the outcomes of the regional seminars held in Kathmandu, Paris and Brasilia, regional inputs from Africa and the global dialogue in Oslo. Also includes a toolkit on relevant resources.

“We solemnly affirm that human rights and fundamental freedoms should be guaranteed for all. No one should face violence or discrimination on any ground, including on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.” - Page 5.

Link:
**SOGI LEGISLATIVE DATABASE**

All around the world there have been laws that protect the rights of people with diverse sexual orientation. The International Commission of Jurists and the University of Toronto created a collection of laws from more than 20 countries, many of them including specific issues related to young people.

“The database is a collection of legislative examples on a wide variety of topics, including same-sex parenting, sexual activity, gender recognition, partnership benefits, marriage, and military service.”

Link: http://www.icj.org/sogi-legislative-database/

---

**THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF LGBTQI YOUTH**

The position paper outlines the key health issues, risks and concerns for LGBTQI young people, the barriers to accessing appropriate health care and recommendations for healthcare professionals, education institutions and civil society organisations working towards equality for LGBTQI people.

“Same-sex attraction, gender dysphoria and intersex conditions are not themselves risk factors for mental health problems, but they may make people more vulnerable to negative experiences and discrimination, two factors that impact severely on mental health, and also on physical health.” - Page 8.

Link: http://www.iglyo.com/resources/health-and-wellbeing-of-lgbtqi-youth/
TRANS AND INTERSEX PEOPLE

This document is funded by and prepared for the use of the European Commission, Directorate-General for Justice. It provides definitions of and perspectives on gender identities and gender expressions under international human rights law, case studies of national legislation and legal coverage of intersex people under anti-discrimination legislation.

“There are few direct references to gender identity in international law, there is an increasing body of resolutions and recommendations that suggest increasing institutional awareness of the seriousness of gender identity discrimination.” - Page 7.

Link:

YOUNG MEN WHO HAVE SEX WITH MEN

This policy brief examines HIV risk factors and access to services among YMSM using data from the 2012 Global Men’s Health and Rights survey (2012 GMHR) of the Global Forum on MSM & HIV (MSMGF). The brief concludes with a set of recommendations for addressing YMSM and HIV globally.

“Experiences of homophobia were significantly associated with reduced access to services, while community engagement and comfort with health service providers were each significantly associated with increased access to services.” - Page 11.

Link: