

SheDecides.

SheDecides.

SheDecides.

SheDecides.

SheDecides.

SheDecides.

For a world where

SheDecides. about her

body, life and future.

Without question.



Contents.

Foreword	01
Our Vision and Action	02
What we do	03
Who we are	03
Executive Summary	05
Pillar 1: Convene and Strengthen	07
Youth Accountability Panel	07
Masterclasses	09
Convening with Partners	10
Spotlight: New Champions	11
Pillar 2: Take Political Action	13
Action through Partnership	13
Pillar 3: Amplify and Speak Out	16
Campaign for comprehensive sexuality education	16
Demanding safe and legal abortion	18
Looking forward	19
Our 2024 Plan of Action	20
Thank you	23
Our Champions	24



Foreword



Since becoming Co-Chair of SheDecides in 2022, so much of our world has changed. The anti-rights and anti-gender movement has grown stronger in many places. From national level pushback by far-right populist leaders to global high-level meetings in the United Nations, the advances made on women's rights are under threat like never before. Freedom of expression is coming under attack in many places, and human rights and abortion rights defenders are facing unprecedented levels of hostility. Conflict and humanitarian emergencies have become a daily feature of our newsreels.

At times it all feels a bit dark. But then I am reminded that in this darkness, the SheDecides movement is a beacon of light. It is a place where leaders come together and raise their voices in unity for a world where women and girls, in all their diversity, are free. Where we speak out for the right to choose so that sexual and reproductive health and rights are a reality for everyone, everywhere. It is a space where we share openly the challenges we face and support

each other through them. It is a place of collective feminist action and intersectional representation. It is a movement with impact -demanding stronger policies, commitments and smart collaborations that shifts global power dynamics. When I see the way governments, civil society, activists and individuals come together, take risks, and collaborate to drive change, I realise that the light will always overcome the darkness.

As the Kenyan Nobel Peace Laureate Wangari Maathai puts it, *"In the course of history, there comes a time when humanity is called to shift to a new level of consciousness to reach a higher moral ground. A time when we have to shade our fear and give hope to each other. That time is now"*. It is an honour to be part of a feminist movement that takes powerful collective action, when our rights are being threatened. I am grateful to everyone within SheDecides and beyond who has contributed to giving us all hope in 2023.



Memory Zonde-Kachambwa
Co-Chair, SheDecides Guiding Group



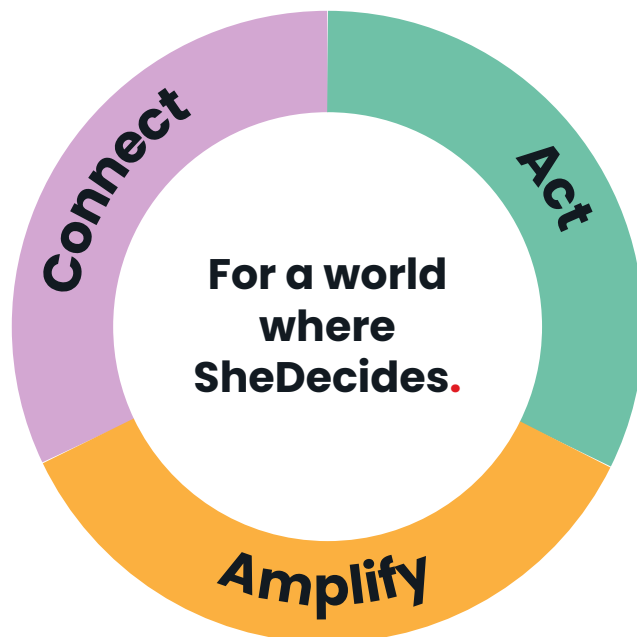
What is SheDecides?

SheDecides is a **global political movement** standing up for a world where every woman, girl and young person – in all their diversity – can decide what to do with their body, life and future. Since 2017, we have been speaking out for the **right to choose**.

Our members include governments, civil society organizations, youth leaders, service providers, researchers, parliamentarians, media, activists, artists and donors. We bring together champions from Africa, Asia, the Arab Region, Latin America and the Caribbean, Europe and North America. We unite across diverse sectors and roles, taking collective action to advance bodily autonomy, sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) for all.

How do we take action?

Strategic coordination
Sharing knowledge
Smart collaborations



Driving political action
Joint global advocacy
High-level events

Strategic communications
Media campaigns
Storytelling, spotlight progress



What is our purpose and what do we achieve?

Sexual and reproductive health and rights are under threat due to an increasingly organised opposition, de-prioritisation of funding, and a shrinking space for civil society to speak up to defend human rights.

SheDecides is a powerful convener of diverse voices, trusted experts and progressive leaders across the world. Our mission is to counter the roll-back of rights and advance bodily autonomy and sexual and reproductive health and rights for all. We challenge regressive narratives, policies and laws through revitalized political leadership and smart partnerships. SheDecides drives change by strengthening coordinated political action and amplifying the collective voice of our Champions and allies.



What SheDecides will do

Expected Achievements

-  **Build collective strength of movement members.**
A stronger, more interconnected and tightly coordinated intergenerational movement.
-  **Convene movement members and allies.**
A strategically interconnected web of members and allies that are well-positioned to act together.
-  **Coordinate political action amongst movement members and allies.**
A tightly coordinated movement that is able to quickly and effectively plan and respond to global advocacy opportunities.
-  **Support global coordination amongst movement members around accountability for political and financial commitments.**
A coordinated SheDecides movement that can collectively encourage support and demand accountability for the commitments.
-  **Amplify the voice and political actions of movement members and ally organisations.**
A movement that builds progressive stories and narratives, and amplifies youth voices.
-  **Create opportunities for movement and allies to reach new audience.**
A movement that can build progressive narrative on bodily autonomy and SRHR issues by reaching a broad global audience through innovative partnerships and public-facing campaigns.



Executive Summary.



Our results

This year brought a renewed focus on strategic coordination between SheDecides Champions, to ensure a stronger impact of our efforts. With abortion rights under attack around the world and misinformation and misconceptions about comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) hitting an all-time high, it was clear that these needed to be our priorities. By creating a series of political events and opportunities to make progress, SheDecides harnessed the collective power of the movement to drive and support change.

We built broader support and diverse collaborations around abortion rights and comprehensive sexuality education, as a pathway to gender equality. Through sharing campaign action and hosting strategic political conversations at international high-level events with ministers, technical experts and youth-leaders, we magnified our reach amplifying the voices of others. We focused on building strong partnerships across networks, civil society, UN-entities and new governments to advance our common goals.

We expanded our Champion network, welcoming nine new global leaders to SheDecides, and curated platforms at events and in the media for their expertise to be heard and their calls for change amplified. We supported Champions to have brave and public conversations for change, as well as the coordination behind the scenes to deliver political change in negotiated spaces. We facilitated capacity building within the movement, increased awareness and reach by hosting SheDecides

Masterclasses, publishing toolkits for joint action and brokering speaking platforms for our movement members and allies. Throughout our work we kept a focus on creating connections, collaborations, opening up doors between partners, supporting youth leadership, fighting opposition and responding with agility to opportunities to have an impact.

We close 2023 with a stronger, more visible and more connected movement, whose Champions and allies are delivering impact at global, regional and national levels. Looking forward to 2024, we will continue to strengthen our partnerships and advance political change, putting the spotlight on that the global commitments move forward in relation to International Conference of Population and Development (ICPD+30) and that decision makers prioritise young people's sexual and reproductive health and rights. We will scale up our coordinated efforts to counter the roll-back on abortion rights, and speak out loud and clear - that abortion is health care.

At a glance: SheDecides in 2023



We convened movement members and allies and inspired them to act together through:

- Hosting two Masterclasses on the theme of opposition.
- Developing and sharing 2 Toolkits, including resources, materials, key messages and social media tools, to 250 SheDecides Champions and their teams.

We built the collective strength of our members and became a stronger, more interconnected and tightly coordinated SheDecides movement through welcoming:

- 4 new Governmental Champions.
- 2 new Youth Champions.
- 3 new Champion representatives.

We supported global coordination amongst movement members for accountability for political and financial commitments through:

- Organising 3 high-level, high profile global events on abortion and CSE, at Women Deliver and the Commission on the Status of Women.
- Substantially contributing to an additional 3 high-level events on CSE, anti-rights fightback and youth sexual and reproductive health and rights.

We coordinated political action amongst movement members and allies, responded to global advocacy opportunities and challenged opposition through:

- Developing and strengthening partnerships with six allied networks from the sexual and reproductive health and rights community, and three partnerships beyond it.



We amplified the voice and political actions of movement members and allies, and leveraged our membership's progressive stories through:

- Publishing two Champion-led op-eds in mainstream media, including one calling for access to CSE that had the support of 13 Ministers from 10 countries.

We created opportunities for movement members and allies to reach new audiences through:

- Convening 18 speaking slots for Champions, including 3 for youth Champions.
- Launching a campaign on CSE which had 4K impressions a day.



Deeper dive into our results.

SheDecides five year strategic plan is organized in **three pillars**, with six goals to achieve by 2027.

Convene and Strengthen

Take Political Action

Amplify and Speak Out

Pillar 1: Convene and Strengthen

In 2023, we deepened relationship with existing SheDecides movement members and reached beyond our movement to support the power of new allies.



SheDecides brought actors together from across United Nations entities, governments civil society and youth networks to advance sexual and reproductive health and rights globally, making progress towards achieving:

Goal 1: Solidarity and collective strength is built amongst movement members so that they are able to advance bodily autonomy and SRHR and strategically counter opposition.

Goal 2: Connections between movement members and allies are built and strengthened so that bodily autonomy and SRHR gain broader support.



Youth Accountability Panel

Young people's SRHR is central to SheDecides, and we continue to deepen our commitment to youth leadership by learning from the Youth Accountability Panel (YAP). A youth-led independent platform for youth-led accountability in the SheDecides movement, the YAP provides strategic guidance and directs the SheDecides Support Unit on ways to strengthen engagement and support for young people within the movement, including making recommendations for young champions for the SheDecides movement.

In 2023, the YAP produced a Recommendations Report on meaningful adolescent and youth engagement and power dynamics within the SheDecides movement.

The report explores the experiences and perspectives of young champions within the SheDecides movement, and shares recommendations to better support the youth movement and empower young champions with meaningful opportunities. The report emphasises the pivotal role of young champions in the SheDecides movement, and recognises that their passion, commitment, and voices are invaluable assets that contribute to driving the movement's mission forward. It found that SheDecides has embraced young people as part of its governance and accountability structures, aligning itself with other leaders in the sector.

During interviews with young people engaged with SheDecides, there was consistent praise for the work of the Support Unit in engaging young people and the way SheDecides truly leveraged its position to open doors for young people. The report participants highlight the importance of going beyond representation and ensuring that young champions are actively involved in all stages of decision-making, from initial planning to evaluations.

It explores the delicate balance between young leaders and political leaders within SheDecides and concludes that meaningful engagement requires equal representation and participation from both groups. It is

the inclusion of young leaders in decision-making processes alongside political leaders which allows the movement to effectively reflect its core values and priorities and truly place youth at the centre.

The key recommendations from the report included providing mentorship for young people and opportunities to facilitate meetings with key decision-makers, improve internal and external visibility of meaningful adolescent and youth engagement practices, and to conduct regular reviews of and update to these practices.



Youth Accountability Panel



SheDecides has really built connections with policy makers in the global north and south. It has supported breaking the power dynamics by bringing ministerial delegation in the same room with young people.

Youth Accountability Panel report participant

SheDecides Masterclasses

Supporting the SheDecides movement to be on the forefront of the conversation is one of our core functions, and we achieved this through hosting SheDecides Masterclasses. Designed to provide an opportunity to connect with others and update their knowledge, the masterclasses give champions a safe and participatory space where they can ask questions and explore issues. The information provided by leaders in the field is designed to spur and inform collective action. In 2023 we ran two masterclasses, the first exploring lessons learnt through Chile's constitutional reform process and the second on how to use investigative research to respond to anti-gender movements.

The first masterclass, hosted by SheDecides Champions IPAS LAC and Women's Link, and introducing Corporación Miles to SheDecides, provided a deep dive of lessons from the rejection of the Chile constitutional referendum of 2022. Despite generally being a context where social issues change slowly, the proposed constitutional reform included a wide range of social and economic rights and codified the right to abortion and CSE. The masterclass created a space where participants were able to reflect on the challenges faced when drastic political changes are perceived with fear and suspicion, and the need to create cross-party legitimacy for these processes to reduce polarisation.

The role of the anti-rights movement was also explored in the Chilean context, with participants sharing how fake news and erroneous text interpretations led to a reduction in support for the constitutional reform. Champions also shared the importance of ensuring that these brave changes are communicated clearly to all education levels within the population and the need to build towards big change with patience.



SheDecides hosted a second masterclass with IPAS, on using opposition research to manage, mitigate, and mobilise against anti-gender movements. The masterclass unpacked what opposition research is and emerging trends and tactics of anti-rights actors, and also provided a deep dive into the Political Network of Values November meeting held at the United Nations in November 2023.

Both masterclasses gave SheDecides Champions and the wider movement a greater understanding on the issues of the moment and tool to use in their own contexts.





Convening with partners

Bringing allies and champions together and inspiring collaboration for change is at the heart of the SheDecides movement. Across the year, we worked with a range of partners around our key themes to highlight the most urgent issues, profile the expertise in the movement and make tangible commitments for progress.

Together with the Global Safe Abortion Dialogue (GSAD) steering committee, SheDecides coordinated a high-level concurrent session at Women Deliver 2023 where we highlighted the expertise of the GSAD members, SheDecides Champions, World Health Organisation and allies to a global audience. We also coordinated closely with UNESCO and the advocacy group of the Global Partnership Forum on CSE to broaden the scope and reach of SheDecides with a joint CSE campaign.

We continued to press for change at the United Nations through amplifying the voices of our champions and their collective work

to advance sexual and reproductive health and rights through political negotiations, including through our on-going partnership with the Nexus Initiative. At the UN General Assembly, SheDecides Governmental Champions made strong global commitments on sexual and reproductive health and rights, CSE and access to safe abortion. With only seven years left to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal commitments, the moment presented an opportunity to accelerate action and demand progress. As a political movement working to advance bodily autonomy and sexual and reproductive health and rights for all, SheDecides attended the UN General Assembly to support Champions and to follow the discussions around the goals on health, gender equality, education, and peaceful and inclusive societies.

SheDecides strategized for a strong response to anti-rights movements through participating in the Wilton Park Conference convened by the UK's Foreign

Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO). Bringing together key partners from states, civil society, UN agencies, foundations and academia in response to the world-wide attacks on rights and health, the Conference was an opportunity to better understand and take action on attempts to rollback progress on sexual and reproductive health and rights. SheDecides supported FCDO with suggestions for the programme and recommended key allies to include in the conversation. The key outcomes were a stronger shared understanding of rollback on sexual and reproductive health and rights, new and stronger alliances, and a commitment to action.



When we work together, we make great strides in advancing what we need to do. Overcoming challenges can only be done through concerted global action. We must continue to do so with renewed energy. South Africa fully supports the ICPD agenda and to galvanize the efforts and action that is needed. 2030 is just around the corner!

Lindiwe Zulu
Minister for Social Development
South Africa

Spotlight: New Champions

We strengthened our network of 53 Champions through welcoming **six new SheDecides Champions**, including 4 Governmental Champions and 2 youth Champions. We also welcomed three new individuals who will be representatives of existing organisational Champions. Champions demonstrate what it means to be a SheDecides ambassador: unquestioned commitment to sexual and reproductive health and rights, a passion for working collaboratively, and a desire for a better, fairer world.

Our new youth Champions are:



The International Federation of Medical Students Associations

The International Federation of Medical Students Associations (IFMSA), bringing with it a network of one of 1.3 million medical students from 139 national members organisations in 130 countries around the globe.



Youth Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights

Youth Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights, represented by its Executive Director, Eunice García, bringing an anti-oppressive lens aimed at dismantling systems of oppression that limit the engagement of young people in advocacy spaces.



Our new government champions are:



Franz Fayot
Minister for Development Cooperation
and Humanitarian Affairs

at the **Government of Luxembourg**, which understands sexual and reproductive health and rights as an integral part of two of Luxembourg's priorities: the respect of human rights and the promotion of gender equality.



Ana Catarina Mendes
Minister in the Cabinet of the Prime
Minister and for Parliamentary Affairs

at the **Government of Portugal**, is lawyer and politician with specialist expertise from 11 years on Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons and in the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy.



Dr Sangeeta Mishra
Director General, Department
of Health Services

at the **Government of Nepal**, who highlights the need for international solidarity between governments and world leaders to advance rights, best practices and bodily autonomy.



Ayelén Mazzina
Minister for Women, Genders
and Diversity

at the **Government of Argentina**, believes that economic independence and real inclusion are essential for bringing an end to gender-based violence.

We were also delighted to welcome three new representatives of existing organisational Champions:



Caroline Gennez
Minister of Development Cooperation and of
Major Cities for the **Government of Belgium**



Lois Chingandu
Director: External Relations, **Frontline AIDS**



Frances Longley
Chief Executive, **FIGO**

Pillar 2:

Take Political Action

As a powerful network of leaders, SheDecides guides and encourages collective action between Champions. With our unique global movement of diverse experts and governmental leaders taking political action for SRHR, we are welcomed into decision making spaces and trusted to contribute to change. During 2023 we leveraged our strength to support those often excluded from decision-making dialogues, such as young people, to be included in global advocacy spaces.

Action through partnership

Through direct support to Champions, creating youth accessible spaces and hosting side events and round tables, we made progress towards achieving:

Goal 3: Political coordination among movement members and allies has increased so that global advocacy around bodily autonomy and SRHR is more impactful.

Goal 4: Global coordination around accountability is supported so that political and financial commitments around bodily autonomy and SRHR are advanced.

In 2023, SheDecides demonstrated that action is an outcome of ongoing partnerships and strategic political conversations. We worked closely with like-minded partners including the Nexus initiative to engage ahead of important political discussions on CSE and provided space for governments to speak up and showcase best practice on achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. We surpassed our target and curated 18 platforms for SheDecides Champions to share their expertise and call for change, including supporting three of our young leaders to speak out.



We worked with a network of governments and civil society partners to identify strategic moments for political action in 2023 and also looking ahead to 2024. We exchanged ideas and strategised with key partners at the Berlin Dialogue on Population and Development, the Shaping Feminist Foreign Policy conference and the SheDecides Governmental champion breakfast at the sidelines of a closed-door member state retreat on advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights.

On the sidelines of the Commission on the Status of Women, SheDecides hosted a high-level event on comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) with strategically selected decision-makers, governmental representatives, young leaders and experts from the Global Partnership Forum on CSE to showcase political leadership and action. Through this gathering, we strengthened the global visibility of the importance of CSE in achieving gender equality and increased political interest. With over 130 participants, the meeting was attended by ministers, state secretaries, youth leaders, civil society

organisations, movements, networks, UN high level representation and technical teams (UNFPA, UNESCO, UNAIDS, UN Women, UNGEI), governmental/mission representatives, parliamentarians, research/academia and other experts engaged in Commission for the Status of Women. Nearly all SheDecides governmental champions and representatives were present at the event in New York, including South Africa, Argentina, Portugal, Norway, Sweden, Belgium, Netherlands, Canada and France, as well as other governmental representatives from Australia, New Zealand, Luxembourg, Mexico and Mozambique.

Similarly, in the run-up to the Commission for Population and Development, the ongoing partnership with the Global Partnership Forum for CSE and strategic political conversations resulted in opening the space for governments to profile their leadership and call for progress. This resulted in increased accountability for the commitments made and applied pressure for the realisation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

SheDecides.

“ We can only build a sustainable world when all 8 billion people can exercise their rights, their choices & responsibilities. Young people need to be at the decision-making tables now so that we can ensure SRHR for all. You can count on the Netherlands! ”

Pascalie Grotenhuis
 Director General for International Cooperation
 The Netherlands




In July 2023, SheDecides participated in the Women Deliver conference in Kigali, Rwanda, where we enhanced the visibility of the movement and Champions. We had a strong presence in the conference, highlighting our convening power and strong messaging, particularly around abortion. One of SheDecides' standout achievements at the Women Deliver conference was the high-level session "Abortion and Universal Health Coverage; Best practices from Politics to Provision." The panel event was co-hosted with the Global Safe Abortion Dialogue and provided a platform for critical discussions on safe abortion, shedding light on the importance of comprehensive reproductive healthcare and rights.

The timely focus on universal health coverage ahead of the high-level stakeholders' meeting at the UN General Assembly in September positioned the SheDecides movement at the forefront

of policy discussions around expanding access to abortion care within health systems. The event provided a platform for SheDecides Champions MSI Reproductive Choices, Ipas and the Governments of France and Sweden, as well as new partners PSI, the World Health Organization and the Governments of Nepal and Benin.

These two events raised the profile of key sexual and reproductive health and rights issues, put leaders on the record speaking in support of abortion and CSE.



For the government of Benin it was a matter of human rights and public health. The statistics showed that 3 out of 4 abortions were clandestine and contributed to 15% of the maternal deaths. That is why we needed to change the laws to better ensure and expand women's rights to terminate a pregnancy, to prevent these deaths.

Jean-Pierre Wangbe
Head of the Legal Unit, Ministry of Health, Benin



Pillar 3:

Amplify and Speak Out

In 2023 we used our collective voice to speak out key strategic moments in support of for abortion rights, CSE and other issues related to bodily autonomy.

Campaign for comprehensive sexuality education

Comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) is a missing piece in achieving gender equality for all. It equips young people with the foundational skills they need to decide about their health and well-being. CSE builds knowledge, attitudes and values for healthy, respectful and gender equal relationships. But not all young people have access to it, and some governments are not prioritising it. Because of the life-changing impact that having CSE can have on an individuals' life – and the on-going attacks against it – it is one of SheDecides priority themes; much of our communications efforts in 2023 focused on shining a spotlight on this intervention.

Kicking off at the Commission of the Status of Women, and strategically timed to tackle opposition in the run-up to the Commission on Population and Development, we partnered with UNESCO and UNFPA to promote comprehensive sexuality education at high-level political convenings and, through a public communications campaign, amplified bold, clear, positive and supportive messages in support of CSE. The campaign "CSE – A Missing Piece to Achieve Gender Equality", in collaboration with the Global Partnership Forum on CSE, worked to demystify CSE, highlight its vital role in achieving gender equality, challenge misconceptions, and put the spotlight on inspirational global leadership, best practices and progress. The campaign strengthened evidence-based arguments on CSE as a solution to gender inequality. It showcased global support for CSE, and provided support to amplify simple and clear messages for political leaders and other key stakeholders who might be less inclined to use UN technical language or content around CSE.



Through developing campaigns, hosting high-level convenings, empowering our Champions to go public on international days and using media to raise awareness of our issues, we contributed to achieving:

Goal 5: SheDecides movement members' collective voice and action is strengthened and amplified through public facing communications, so that bodily autonomy and SRHR gain broader support.

Goal 6: Creative media, content and partnership opportunities are created so that movement members and allies can speak out to new, broad global audiences and counter opposition.





The SheDecides Support Unit disseminated the campaign materials, key messages and social media toolkit to all SheDecides Champions and their teams (250 persons), building a strong joint voice calling for greater prioritization and investment in CSE. As part of the campaign, we hosted a blog series, with Champions sharing their perspectives and experiences on CSE, and created quote cards from Champions and allies that illustrated the global commitment for this issue.

The campaign created a strong engagement and genuine interest in CSE within the SheDecides movement, framing it as a feminist and political issue that lies at the heart of achieving gender equality for all. Although it is a new topic for some SheDecides members, all members have responded positively to the campaign and the majority have made use of key messages developed and shared by the

Support Unit. Over the period of 6 March to 24 April, the campaign had 198.6K impressions, with 4K impressions per day; a 40% increase on the overall 2023 engagement.

The campaign culminated in an op-ed published in Al Jazeera, authored by SheDecidess Champions Alexander de Croo, Prime Minister of Belgium, Lindiwe Zulu South Africa's Minister of Social Development and Memory Zonde-Kachambwa of FEMNET and Co-Chair of the SheDecides Guiding Group. With 13 Ministers from 10 countries and nearly all SheDecides Champions signing on, this op-ed was a strong political message that there is global consensus – and global strength – around a call for access to CSE for all.



We know that to achieve gender equality we must change societal norms and behaviours that lead to harmful practices. If we really want to address the behaviours that are the root causes of gender inequality...we must approach CSE in a holistic way.

Eunice Garcia
Executive Director, Youth Coalition

Demanding safe and legal abortion

September 28 marks International Safe Abortion Day. It is a global moment where activist and advocates unite to demand universal access to safe and legal abortion as a human right and as essential healthcare. SheDecides ensured high profile for International Safe Abortion Day (ISAD) by participating in the Women's Right to Safe and Legal Abortion ISAD working group to design the 2023 campaign concept, messaging and toolkit under the theme of **#UnstoppableMovement**. The campaign celebrated the diverse way we unite to advance abortion rights and celebrate the many wins of the past few years. We supported movement members to take action on September 28 by disseminating the campaign materials to all champions and teams and encouraging them to speak out for International Safe Abortion Day with one clear voice. We also produced a video that spotlights recent progress and showcases the positive trend to expanding abortion rights access globally.

SheDecides is proud to convene some of the largest abortion service providers and abortion rights organisations from across the globe as SheDecides Champions. To celebrate their vital work in providing essential healthcare, SheDecides ran a social media campaign using **#AbortionRightsChampions** to spotlight their work and acknowledging their commitment to choice & bodily autonomy.



We provided space for Champions to further raise their voices for abortion rights through publishing an op-ed published in Context/ Thomson Reuters calling for all governments to decriminalise abortion, spotlights global progress towards decriminalisation and profiles voices from CSO Champions and the work of movements in driving this progress. The op-ed exposed the work of opposition groups to restrict human rights, including the right to abortion, and highlighted advances in Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia and Africa, dispelling the idea that abortion is a Western agenda.

On the sidelines of Women Deliver, SheDecides co-hosted a high-level reception "Together For A World Where She Decides" at the Swedish Ambassador's residence in Kigali, in partnership with Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, The Netherlands, The UK and the European Union Delegation in Rwanda. The networking event provided an opportunity for Champions to come together and connect with allies and SRHR experts from across the globe. It highlighted the need to prioritize abortion care as an essential part of women and young people's health and human rights for all.





Looking forward.



At the end of my first year as Co-Chair of the SheDecides Guiding Group, I am looking back on 2023 with pride. It was a full year and – from running campaigns to publishing op eds to influencing political spaces – SheDecides has exceeded most of our commitments and, more importantly, contributed to change and progress on sexual and reproductive health and rights. I am proud to be part of a movement that – even in tough circumstances – did not give up hope or bend from its vision. **But we know that there is much more to do in 2024 and beyond.**

Next year, we will deepen our partnerships within and beyond the sexual and reproductive health and rights sector to increase our impact and ensure that our voices are heard far and wide. Our communications outreach will support this, through campaigns, expert analysis and calls for political action.

Our work with the Youth Accountability Panel showed us that while we have made good progress on implementing our 2022–2027 youth engagement strategy, we have more to do. In 2024, we will strengthen youth representation in decision-making and form a new Youth Advisory Panel with Champions and youth experts within our community. This panel will provide guidance on meaningful and inclusive youth and adolescent participation.

To remain responsive and relevant, we will continuously evaluate and improve our support for all Champions, and especially

young champions. At the heart of the SheDecides movement, Champions are driving change at global, regional and national levels. We remain committed to creating good opportunities for collaborations and joint efforts, connecting the dots between champions and new allies across different regions, roles, age groups and areas of expertise.

Thematically, we will continue to focus on the areas of most need and where our collective voice can have most impact. In 2024, we will be partnering with the Rutgers-led “She Makes Her Safe Choice” programme to amplify the importance of ensuring safe abortion access and best practices in West Africa.

The 30th anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development will provide our community with the opportunity to look at the progress made and the on-going challenges in sexual and reproductive health and rights, to make sure that the most pressing issues are considered and that those most affected are heard.

We will also stay true to our movement roots by being brave, vocal and agile, responding to opportunities when and wherever they arise and using our unique role as a convener and a political advocate to call for a world where sexual and reproductive health and rights are a reality for all.



Sonali Silva
Co-Chair, SheDecides Guiding Group

Our **2024** Plan of Action



Pillar 1 : Convening and Strengthening

The SheDecides Support Unit builds partnerships with Champions and Allies across regions and sectors to advance common goals through convening, coordinating political action and amplifying their leadership.

In 2024, we will:

Map Champion priorities and key areas of interest, to tailor relevant support and strategic opportunities for SheDecides champions and allies, with a particular focus on ensuring youth SRHR perspectives and engagement.

Create space and convening opportunities for SheDecides Champions to come together as a group and strategize for impact.

Host learning round tables and masterclasses for Champions, providing space to learn and share best practices at the forefront of international development cooperation, global commitments, national progress and challenges.

Strengthen the ability of the SheDecides movement to push back against opposition through sharing information, learning and tactics on how to counter these forces.

Increase cross-regional coordination and connection with new Champions and allies, including leaders and decision maker in Africa, Latin America and Asia strengthen diversity through intergenerational and intersectoral collaborations and partnerships for SheDecides as a global and inherently political movement.

Continue to work in partnership within and beyond the sexual and reproductive health and rights movement, including with The Global Partnership Forum on CSE, the Global Safe Abortion Dialogue, and government and United Nations allies, as well as with new partners in the human rights, democracy, gender equality, education, arts-culture and media sector.

Develop, restructure and consult with SheDecides new Youth Advisory Panel (YAP), to ensure youth-led accountability for the commitments made through the SheDecides Youth Engagement Strategy.

Pillar 2: Take political action

The SheDecides Support Unit will maximise impact and support change through coordinating political action, steered towards public-facing high-level events.

In 2024, we will:

Support Champions, especially young Champions and allies, to engage with decision makers to recommit their SRHR support in relation to the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) throughout the 30th anniversary year including at; the Global Youth Dialogue in Benin and the Commission on Population and Development at United Nations in New York.

Map out collaborations and create opportunities for joint political action in support of advancing young people's sexual and reproductive health and rights in various formats, in partnership with youth-led organizations.

Organize SRHR discussions and intergenerational political dialogues at key international moments including in relation to; the Commission on the Status of Women, World Health Assembly, the Summit of the Future and UN General Assembly.

Ensure political leadership at ministerial high-level international events, celebrating global advances and spotlighting progress driven by diverse leaders, experts and decision makers from across the world.

Create opportunities to celebrate collective action and feminist political leadership and policies driven by Champions and allies, including in relation to global Feminist Foreign Policy meetings and other fora.



Pillar 3: Speaking up and amplifying

SheDecides will strategically use communications and tailored key messages to reach targeted political audiences and reach new audiences.

In 2024, we will:

Provide communication support for our Champions and allies through press releases, toolkits, social media assets as well as launch Champion op eds timed with key moments to reach broad audiences.

Continue Champion Spotlights and profiling, highlighting the work of the movement and its collective impact, with focus on amplifying best practices on sexual and reproductive health and rights, bodily autonomy and abortion around key global moments and other relevant feminist fora and international conferences.

Mark International Safe Abortion Day with a campaign focusing on stories and perspectives from health practitioners, with a focus on progress and abortion rights in West Africa.

Create opportunities for SheDecides youth champions and allies to speak out on youth sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Map out opportunities for expanded collaborations with communication departments of champions and allies, as well as reaching out to new allies for creative communications.



Thank you.

The work of SheDecides would not be possible without the support of our Guiding Group, the principal decision-making body of SheDecides, and the independent youth accountability panel 2021-2023 that helped shape the direction of our work with young people. The SheDecides Champions who are at the core of the movement and drive our engagement to keep fighting for sexual and reproductive health and rights. The SheDecides Support Unit is the engine behind the scenes and the hub for the movement to unite in collective, feminist action to advance bodily autonomy worldwide.

The generosity of our donors allows the SheDecides Support Unit to function and the movement to flourish. Many thanks to the David and Lucille Packard Foundation, the Government of Belgium, the Government of Canada, the Government of Luxembourg, the Government of Germany, Rutgers/The Dutch Post Code Lottery, the Government of The Netherlands, the Government of Sweden, the Government of France and UNESCO for their financial contributions and collaboration in 2023.

Finally, thank you to every person around the world who bravely speaks up for sexual and reproductive health and rights. A world where rights are respected and all people are free to make their own decisions about their body, life and future will only come about when a critical mass rises up together and demands it. Thank you for being part of this movement, and for fighting for a world where SheDecides.



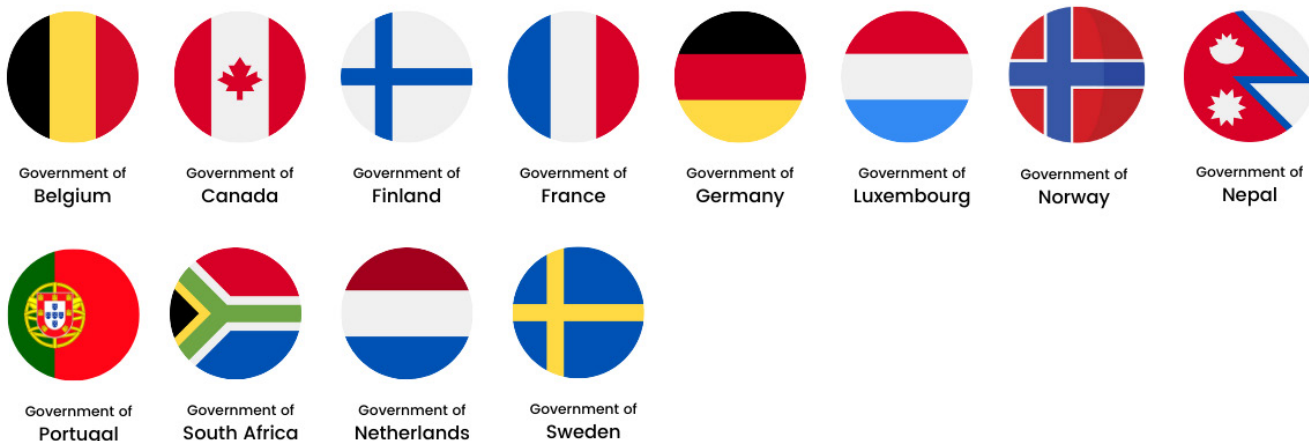
SheDecides.

SheDecides Champions

Organizations



Governments



Individual Champions

