

grandmothers
Advocacy Network



Mouvement de soutien des
grands-mères

GRAN POLICY ON SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to clarify the range of rights and health services included in the Grandmothers Advocacy Network (GRAN) support of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), including the rights of gender-diverse persons. It is intended to clarify what is encompassed when GRAN, as an organization, lends its support to SRHR campaigns.

Context

UN Sustainable Development Goals

Progress in improving access to sexual and reproductive health services is important in achieving UN Sustainable Development Goal 3, which calls for ensuring good health and well-being for all. Improved access to these services also contributes to achieving Sustainable Development Goal 5, which calls for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. Gender equality, in turn, is fundamental to attaining many other SDGs, including Goal 4, to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education, Goal 8, to promote full and productive employment and decent work for all, and Goal 10, to reduce inequalities. The achievement of any one goal is linked to the achievement of the others. [See: [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals](#) for a complete list of all 17 goals.]

Gender Equality

- Gender equality is when people of all genders have equal rights, responsibilities, and opportunities.
- Gender inequality is discrimination on the basis of sex or gender causing one sex or gender to be routinely privileged or prioritized over another. Everyone is affected by gender inequality -- women, men, and gender-diverse persons, children, and families. It impacts people of all ages and backgrounds.
- Gender equality is a fundamental human right which is violated by gender-based discrimination.

Health Services

When we speak of sexual and reproductive health services for women, girls, and gender-diverse persons, we are referring to a wide range of health services, including, but not limited to:

- comprehensive sexuality education,
- diagnosis, treatment and prevention of sexually-transmitted infections, including HIV/AIDS,
- family planning services, including contraception and safe access to abortion,
- ante-natal and safe-delivery care,
- post-natal care, and
- sensitivity towards services for gender-diverse persons.

GRAN's Policy

When GRAN advocates for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), it advocates for all those rights and services. GRAN supports the United Nations' position that criminalization of health services that only women require, including abortion, is a form of discrimination against women, and violates their human rights. In its advocacy efforts, which are focused on improving the human rights of women, girls and gender-diverse persons in sub-Saharan Africa, as well as marginalized women in communities of the Global South, GRAN advocates for universal access to all sexual and reproductive health and rights.