

# CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

## National Conference 2023: Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Bangladesh | Showcasing Research through Ideas, Ingenuity and Innovations

Organised by | **Advancing Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (AdSEARCH) by icddr,b**

Abstract Submission Deadline | **26 March 2023**

Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) are essential for achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) because of their links to gender equality and women's wellbeing, their impact on maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health, and their roles in shaping future socio-economic development and environmental sustainability within an inclusive sexual, gender and human rights framework. While Bangladesh has made remarkable progress in improving SRHR in the last two decades, this has not been consistent across different areas of SRHR and is not uniform across different geographic regions or population groups. The achievements have been further challenged in recent times by the COVID-19 pandemic that disproportionately affected various population groups – women and children and populations with special needs, in particular. The pandemic had the potential to reverse the progress towards universal access to SRHR that has been made over the last decades.

Against this background in March 2021, the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD) supported a cross-divisional, multi-year research project titled “Advancing Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights” (AdSEARCH) by icddr,b, which aims to improve sexual and reproductive health (SRH) outcomes and realisation of rights among different population groups with distinct SRH need in Bangladesh. In 2023, icddr,b is going to organise the **National Conference 2023: Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Bangladesh | Showcasing Research through Ideas, Ingenuity and Innovations** to facilitate, debate, and document the collective knowledge and ideas nationally on selective SRHR issues. The conference aims to impact a wider audience regarding SRHR by collaborating with policymakers, youth and practitioners. In light of this, icddr,b is asking for abstracts under the following sub-themes:

**Health of Adolescents and Young People:** Menstrual Hygiene, Sexuality and Sexual Health Child Marriage and Unintended Pregnancy and Family Planning.

**Fertility:** Family planning (Fertility preferences, Choice and use of different methods, method switching and discontinuation, method mix, unmet need for family planning, postpartum family planning (PPFP)), Unintended pregnancy, Pregnancy Loss: Abortion, Miscarriage and MR; Post-abortion care (PAC) and Infertility.

**Maternal and Newborn Health:** Pregnancy complications (Anemia, Jaundice, GDM, HTN Disorder including eclampsia and pre-eclampsia, Ectopic Pregnancy and Recurrent Pregnancy Loss), Delivery-related complications (PROM, Prolonged Labor, Obstructed Labor, Prolapse, Fistula and C-section), Maternal Health Services (ANC, PNC, BEmONC and CEmONC), Pre-term birth and low-birth weight, Stillbirth and Neonatal Mortality).

**Gynaecological Issues and Sexual Health:** Sexual Behavior, STI/RTI/UTI; Reproductive Cancer, Menstrual Disorder and Menopause.

**Sexual and Reproductive Health of Key Population (KPs):** Sexuality, sexual behaviours and sexual concerns, Structural challenges surrounding SRHR; Co-morbidities relating to SRHR (e.g. STIs, HPV, RTIs, mental health, etc.), Transgender health and rights, Sexualised drug use and its implications; SRHR interventions, innovations, and access to services.

**Nutrition among Adolescents and Pregnant Women:** Adolescent nutrition, Pregnancy weight gain, Low Birth Weight, Dietary Diversity and Water-sanitation-hygiene and enteropathy.

For the aforementioned SRHR themes we are expecting abstracts focusing on one or more of the following topics:

- **Burden, Risk Factors, Context** (awareness, social stigma, vulnerability), care seeking (availability, accessibility, and affordability)
- **Service Availability, Readiness and Provision and Experience of care; Gender Equity and Equality and Rights** (Gender roles, norms and gender disparities in SRHR, Women's empowerment and SRHR, Gender-based violence and SRHR, Gender and rights of the key populations)
- **Male Engagement and Involvement**
- **Mental Health**
- **COVID-19.**

## GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Prior submitting, the presenting author must ensure that all co-authors are aware of its contents.
2. Submitted abstract(s) should include data from non-published sources.
3. Abstract(s) must be allocated to previously mentioned specific themes and topics, and the applicant must mention the specific thematic area.
4. The Abstract(s) should accurately portray the work itself and must be composed in English.
5. Abstract(s) previously presented should not be submitted.
6. One is allowed to submit more than one abstract as an author or co-author.
7. The submitting author will receive all correspondence regarding the abstract, we recommend the first author would be the preferred presenter.
8. After final submission, extensive editing or updating of the abstract is not accepted.
9. Due to any cause, documents sent beyond the deadline will not be accepted unless the deadline is extended.

## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION PROCESS

1. Presenting author's contact details (should be the same details as the submitting author so that the presenting author receives the correspondence about the abstract).
  - Email address
  - Full postal address
  - Phone number
  - Authors' details
  - Full first and family name(s)
  - Affiliation details: department, institution/hospital, city, country.
3. Abstract title should accurately describe the contents of your abstract.
4. Abstract text should be limited to 300 words in Microsoft Word (.doc or.docx) file, Font should be any open source font, font size 11 pt., 1.5 spacing.
5. Abstract layout - Abstract must be submitted with the following sections:
  - Title
  - Author
  - Background & Objectives
  - Methods
  - Results
  - Conclusions
  - Themes and cross-cutting topics of the Abstract
6. References are not required.

## REVIEW & AWARD DECISIONS

Abstracts are subject to review by more than one member of the 'Abstract Review Committee' for inclusion in the conference and for oral or poster presentation. The best three oral and poster presentations will be awarded and awardees will be offered mentorship through experts at icddr,b to develop their abstract(s) into full manuscripts and publication in relevant journals. All shortlisted abstracts will be included in a Book of Abstracts by AdSEARCH. In addition, all participants will receive a Certificate of Participation and will have free registration for the conference.

## IMPORTANT DATES

Deadline for Submission: **26 March 2023**

Deadline for Poster Submission: **20 April 2023**

Submit via Link: <http://adsearch.icddrb.org/>

Contact via E-Mail: [adsearch\\_official@icddrb.org](mailto:adsearch_official@icddrb.org)