

SANDRA GATHONI THIJSSEN



Founder & Independent
Consultant

PROFILE

Women Deliver Young
Leader '18-'20

Co-founder Stories To
Action

Blogger for Girls Globe

CONTACT

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Sanne Thijssen

EXPERIENCE

INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT

Shake The Dust

Oct 2019- Present

Working with global and national organizations, Shake The Dust provides fresh insights and offers unique solutions to improve human rights and push forward gender equality.

At the crossroads of research, communication and advocacy, my expertise includes (but is not limited to) the development of tailored handbooks and curricula. Click here to view my [portfolio](#).

- Previous assignments:

Gender Digital Advocacy Communications Consultant -
Save The Children US (Apr - Dec '22)

Creative Writer Strategy 2028 - International Planned
Parenthood Federation (Jan - Jun '22)

Lobby, Advocacy and Communication Officer - Save The
Children, MMW/WK (May-Oct '21)

Share-Net International SHIRIM Communication &
Networking Lead (Apr- Jun '21)

Consultant Youth Participation Beijing+25 - Right Here,
Right Now Alliance (Jan-Feb '21)

Consulting Policy and Advocacy Officer - Simavi, the
More Than Brides Alliance (Mar '20-Jan '21)

Consultant Campaign 16 Days of Activism Against GBV -
Share-Net NL (Nov-Dec '20)

Stories of Change Consultant - CHOICE for Youth and
Sexuality (Nov '20)

Communication Strategy Development Consultant -
Share-Net International (Jul-Dec'020)

Strategy Youth Consultant - IAYFP (Nov '19 - Feb '20)

ICPD+25 Lobby & Advocacy Consultant - Simavi (Nov '19)

EUROPEAN EXTERNAL AFFAIRS RESEARCHER

European Centre for Development Policy and Management

Sept 2018- Sept 2019

Working on EU-Africa relations and development cooperation research and communications. Actively facilitating internal gender mainstreaming and producing lead publications with a gender lens or focus (incl. EU external financing).

COMPETENCIES

PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES

- Policy formulation
- Policy development
- Capacity-building
- Communication strategy development
- Qualitative and quantitative research

LANGUAGES

- Cambridge English CAE Certificate (A mark)
- English C2
- Dutch C2
- German B1
- French A2
- Indonesian A2

DATA AND REPORT WRITING CONSULTANT

International Organization for Migration

Nov 2017- Dec 2017

Independent analysis of regional questionnaire data collected by the IOM using Marketsight. Deliveries: four comprehensive research reports and output datasets with summarized findings and key recommendations.

DUTCH YOUTH AMBASSADOR FOR SEXUAL & REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH & RIGHTS (SRHR)

Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs / CHOICE for Youth and Sexuality

Sept 2016 - Sept 2017

An independent position anchored in the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (within DSO-GA), aimed at increasing meaningful youth participation and SRHR through policy development and diplomatic relations - including missions to Benin, Nepal and Kenya and the UN in New York and Geneva.

EDUCATION

MASTER IN PUBLIC POLICY AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

United Nations University / Maastricht University

2015 - 2018

An international dual-degree Master, which is re-known for it's focus on research excellence and policy analysis. Graduated with a specialization in Risk and Vulnerability.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EUROPEAN PUBLIC HEALTH

Maastricht University

2012 - 2015

A program which combines health sciences with public policy. Thereby developing knowledge to conduct country-level health research (including modules on research design, methodology and statistics).

ADDITIONAL COURSES

HONOURS PROGRAMME

Faculty of Health, Life Sciences and Medicine- Maastricht University

2013 - 2015

Programme for excelling students within the university. Organised, facilitated and published on the first Citizens Summit on health (>200 participants) in the city of Maastricht.