

Source: <https://www.vulvani.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/P1280096-01.jpg>

## i. Preconditions

### i. Facts and figures



**Approx. 25% of the world's population menstruates**  
(United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, 2019)



Surrounded by **secrecy** and **taboos**



Various **sociocultural** and **structural** challenges



**Restricting freedom, choices, participation, and mobility**  
(Winkler and Roaf, 2015, pp. 9, 11)



Good **Menstrual Health and Hygiene (MHH)** is crucial for **sustainable development**



Lead a **dignified** and **healthy** life with **no restrictions** from **realizing their full potential**

## i. Menstrual Health (and Hygiene)



Menstrual health is a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity, in relation to the menstrual cycle (Hennegan *et al.*, 2021, p)

- ◆ Information
- ◆ Menstrual care materials & facilities
- ◆ Health services
- ◆ Stigma-free environment
- ◆ Decision-making about participation

21 March 2023

Louisa van den Bosch 24043

5

## i. Two sides of the coin

### Promising development...

- ◆ **Growing recognition and increased importance**
  - Spain: First European country to allow paid menstrual leave
  - Japan and Indonesia adopted menstrual leave policies in 1947 and 1948 (Masih, 2023)

### ...however

- ◆ Focus of campaigns on the **Global South** and **adolescent girls**
- ◆ **How MHH is outlined in the context of sustainable development** with specific attention to **power** and **gender** dimensions

21 March 2023

Louisa van den Bosch 24043

6

Source: <https://www.yulvani.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/P1280096-01.jpg>

## ii. Research questions

## ii. Research questions

### How is Menstrual Health and Hygiene framed in and for international development cooperation?

1

What makes MHH important for sustainable development and vice versa?

- ◆ What is the concept of Menstrual Health and Hygiene?
- ◆ What are the challenges around menstruation?
- ◆ What is the role of MHH in the Agenda 2030?
- ◆ What are common foci and action patterns in current MHH work?

2

How do power relations manifest and reflect in sustainable development, amongst other from a gender perspective?

- ◆ How is the relationship between the Global South and the Global North?
- ◆ How is the Agenda 2030 impacted by power relations between the Global North and Global South?
- ◆ What are images of women and girls in the Global South?

3

How is MHH represented and framed in the United Nations policy context?

- ◆ What information about MHH can be found in the selected documents?
- ◆ How are diagnoses and prognoses of issues around MHH represented?
- ◆ What do these patterns/frames imply?

4

How do common patterns/frames impact MHH approaches and solutions?

- ◆ On the Global South?
- ◆ On the Global North?
- ◆ On MHH?

21 March 2023

Louisa van den Bosch 24043

8

Source: <https://www.vulvani.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/P1280096-01.jpg>

### iii. Methods and results

### iii. Methodology

#### Inclusion criteria

- ◆ 6 UN resolutions
- ◆ Policy recommendations, state of global cooperation, views of Member States (Ruder, Nakano and Aeschlimann, 2017, p. 52)
- ◆ Although not binding normative for SD sector

- ◆ **The human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation:** resolution / adopted by the General Assembly on 18 December 2019
- ◆ **The girl child:** resolution / adopted by the General Assembly on 18 December 2019
- ◆ **Consequences of child, early and forced marriage:** resolution / adopted by the Human Rights Council on 11 July 2019
- ◆ **The human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation:** resolution / adopted by the Human Rights Council on 6 October 2020
- ◆ **Child, early and forced marriage:** resolution / adopted by the General Assembly on 16 December 2020
- ◆ **Menstrual hygiene management, human rights and gender equality:** resolution / adopted by the Human rights Council on 12 July 2021

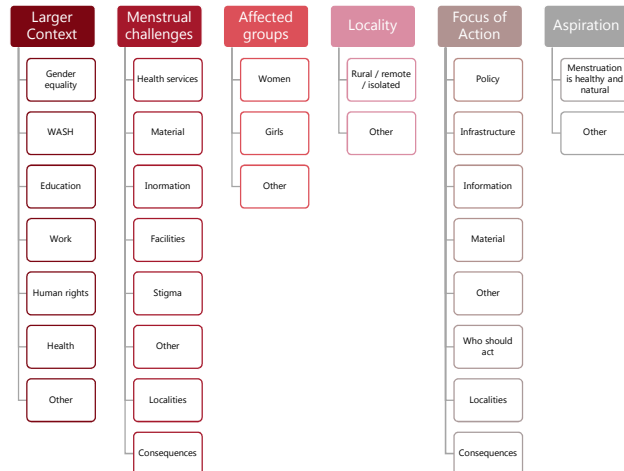
### iii. Qualitative Content Analysis

#### Method

- ◆ Systematic examination of communicative material (Mayring, 2004, p. 266)
- ◆ Combination of summarizing and structuring – only paragraphs concerned with menstruation were analyzed (Mayring, 2004, pp. 260, 268)

#### Results

- ◆ Lack of detail in textual information



21 March 2023

Louisa van den Bosch 24043

11

### iii. Critical Frame Analysis

#### Method

- ◆ Examine representations of problems and solutions offered in policy documents (van der Haar and Verloo, 2016, pp. 1–2)
- ◆ Frames: transforming complex issues into manageable thought structures to make sense of it (Winslow, 2017, p.584; Lombardo, Meier and Verloo, 2009, p.20)
- ◆ Explicit attention to the varying power of authors in **diagnosis**, **prognosis**, and **call for action** as well as to **gender** (van der Haar and Verloo, 2016, pp. 1–2)

#### Results

- ◆ Main problems: education, WASH facilities, human right to water and sanitation, human rights impacts on dignity, well-being, and gender equality
- ◆ MHH was only outlined as a subproblem

21 March 2023

Louisa van den Bosch 24043

12

### iii. Frames

- ◆ **MHH is a human rights issue**
  - ☑ Critical importance of MHH for a dignified life
  - ☑ Reductionism, instrumentalism, tokenism HR WASH
- ◆ **MHH is to blame for school absenteeism**
  - ☑ Schools important localities for MHH
  - ☑ Out-of-school menstruators, other reasons for absenteeism
- ◆ **MHH is a problem of the 'third-world girl'**
  - ☑ Issues in GN and urban, central, secure, or advantaged areas
  - ☑ GS subaltern towards GN, neocolonial reproductions
  - ☑ Passive roles, homogenization

21 March 2023

Louisa van den Bosch 24043

13

Source: <https://www.vulvani.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/P1280075-01-1.jpg>



## iv. From period shame...



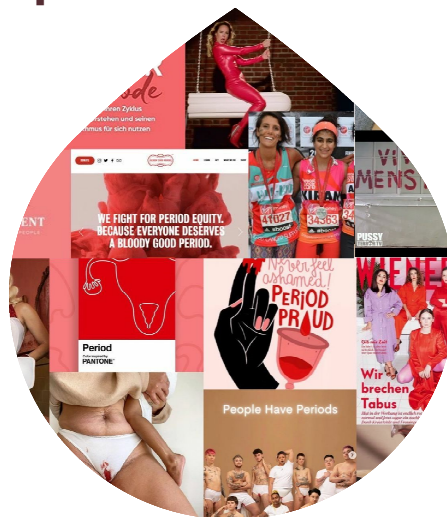
[https://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=https://34%2F%2Fwww.sturmunddrang.de%2Fassets%2Fimages%2F%2F15\\_original\\_file\\_30-264-f98-a6784e5f.png&imgrefurl=https://34%2F%2Fwww.sturmunddrang.de%2Fmagazin%2Fvon-koerperscham-zu-period-pride.html#id=2-UWRHaLryfoM8wet=10CHzQMysEAmoXCMiukGHrb\\_QYAAAAA80AAAAEAAU.i8dooid=AUIzm\\_AT3w3czM8w=4188h=2388q=binde%20menstruation%20bau&client=firefox-b&ved=1ChcQMysEAmoXCMiukGHrb\\_QYAAAAA80AAAAEAAU](https://www.google.com/imgres?imgurl=https://34%2F%2Fwww.sturmunddrang.de%2Fassets%2Fimages%2F%2F15_original_file_30-264-f98-a6784e5f.png&imgrefurl=https://34%2F%2Fwww.sturmunddrang.de%2Fmagazin%2Fvon-koerperscham-zu-period-pride.html#id=2-UWRHaLryfoM8wet=10CHzQMysEAmoXCMiukGHrb_QYAAAAA80AAAAEAAU.i8dooid=AUIzm_AT3w3czM8w=4188h=2388q=binde%20menstruation%20bau&client=firefox-b&ved=1ChcQMysEAmoXCMiukGHrb_QYAAAAA80AAAAEAAU)

21 March 2023

Louisa van den Bosch 24043

15

## iv. ...to period pride



<https://www.sturmunddrang.de/magazin/von-koerperscham-zu-period-pride.html>

21 March 2023

Louisa van den Bosch 24043

16



## References

- General Assembly resolution 74/134 (18 December / 2019) *The girl child* (A/RES/74/134). Available at: [undocs.org/en/A/RES/74/134](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/74/134).
- General Assembly resolution 74/141 (18 December / 2019) *The human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation* (A/RES/74/141). Available at: [undocs.org/en/A/RES/74/141](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/74/141).
- General Assembly resolution 75/167 (16 December / 2020) *Child, early and forced marriage* (A/RES/75/167). Available at: [undocs.org/en/A/RES/75/167](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/75/167).
- Hennegan, J. *et al.* (2021) 'Menstrual health: a definition for policy, practice, and research', *Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters*, 29(1), pp. 1–8. doi: 10.1080/26410397.2021.1911618
- Human Rights Council resolution 41/8 (11 July / 2019) *Consequences of child, early and forced marriage* (A/HRC/RES/41/8). Available at: [undocs.org/en/A/HRC/RES/41/8](https://undocs.org/en/A/HRC/RES/41/8).
- Human Rights Council resolution 45/8 (6 October / 2020) *The human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation* (A/HRC/RES/45/8). Available at: [undocs.org/en/A/HRC/RES/45/8](https://undocs.org/en/A/HRC/RES/45/8).
- Human Rights Council resolution 47/4 (12 July / 2021) *Menstrual hygiene management, human rights and gender equality* (A/HRC/RES/47/4). Available at: [undocs.org/en/A/HRC/RES/47/4](https://undocs.org/en/A/HRC/RES/47/4).
- Lombardo, E., Meier, P. and Verloo, M. (2009) *The Discursive Politics of Gender Equality*. Routledge.
- Masih, N. (2023) 'Need time off work for period pain? These countries offer 'menstrual leave.'', *The Washington Post*, 17 February. Available at: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2023/02/17/spain-paid-menstrual-leave-countries/> (Accessed: 3 October 2023).
- Mayring, P. (2004) 'Qualitative Content Analysis', in Flick, U., von Kardoff, E. and Steinke, I. (eds.) *A Companion to Qualitative Research*. London, Thousand Oaks, New Delhi: Sage Publications, 266–269.
- Ruder, N., Nakano, K. and Aeschlimann, J. (2017) *The GA Handbook: A practical guide to the United Nations General Assembly*.
- Spencer, G., Corbin, J.H. and Miedema, E. (2019) 'Sustainable development goals for health promotion: a critical frame analysis', *Health Promotion International*, 34(4), pp. 847–858. doi: 10.1093/heapro/day036
- United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2019) *World Population Prospects 2019, custom data acquired via website*, 13 April. Available at: <https://population.un.org/wpp/DataQuery/> (Accessed: 13 April 2021).
- van der Haar, M. and Verloo, M. (2016) 'Starting a Conversation about Critical Frame Analysis: Reflections on Dealing with Methodology in Feminist Research', *Politics & Gender*, 12(03) (7pp). doi: 10.1017/S1743923X16000386
- Verloo, M. (2005) 'Mainstreaming Gender Equality in Europe: A Critical Frame Analysis Approach', *Greek Review of Social Research*, 117(117), pp. 11–34. doi: 10.12681/grsr.9555
- Winkler, I. and Roaf, V. (2015) 'Taking the Bloody Linen Out of the Closet: Menstrual Hygiene as a Priority for Achieving Gender Equality', *Cardozo Journal of Law and Gender*, 21(1), pp. 1–37.
- Winslow, L. (2017) 'Frame Analysis', in Allen, M. (ed.) *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Communication Research Methods*. Los Angeles: SAGE, pp. 583–586.