Welcome to the first newsletter of the **Realising Rights Research Programme Consortium**. Our newsletter is designed to keep you in touch with the work of the partners in Kenya, Bangladesh, Ghana and the UK. If you are interested in meeting the challenge of achieving universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights the Consortium can keep you up to date with cutting edge research and support your campaigning and media efforts with evidence.

With best wishes, Kate Hawkins, **Communications Officer**

### Breaking News!

#### Makutano Junction
The work of one of our partners, The African Population and Health Research Center, has been featured in the new UK Department for International Development Research Strategy. [Click here if you want to know more...](#)

### Making safe sex fun...

#### Global Mapping of Pleasure
Realising Rights, in partnership with the **Pleasure Project**, is proud to bring you the ‘Global Mapping of Pleasure’ a collection of 45 case studies describing innovative programmes, organizations, media and individuals around the world working to show that safer sex can still be enjoyable. [Download the report...](#)

### Let’s talk about health

#### Promoting Healthy Communications
From 7-11 April 2008 participants from Bangladesh, China, Ghana, India, UK, US, Uganda, Kenya and Nigeria came together to build their communication skills at a workshop held at IDS. [Find out more...](#)

### Survey the landscape

#### The MDGs – how are we doing?
Scarcity of data is one challenge hampering progress towards Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for most African Countries. An INDEPTH Network Meeting heard how **Demographic Surveillance Systems** can meet this challenge. [Find out more...](#)

### Decision time

#### APHRC: transforming research to policy
At a meeting convened by APHRC at the 5th African Population Conference, December 2007, policymakers, Members of Parliament and Heads of Population Secretariats met to discuss ways of using research in policy-making. [Read their write up...](#)

### Sex

#### Realising Rights in the News
An article by our colleagues Elizabeth Kahurani and Rose Oronje was featured in the
**education**

Uganda Daily Monitor. Recent evidence shows that in sub-Saharan Africa, young adolescents aged 12-14 years are normally sexually aware and by age 15, nearly 1 in 5 girls have had sex. To read more about why comprehensive sexuality education is so important for them [click here...](#)

**Meet the Team**

In our new feature you can now get to know the members of the Realising Rights team. **Our first victim** is Jas Vaghadia. [Click here to read more...](#)

**Coming soon!**

Keep checking our website for upcoming news and events including:

- The launch of our communications workshop report
- More on how we track the influence of our work in changing national and international policy

Send questions and feedback to [j.vaghadia@ids.ac.uk](mailto:j.vaghadia@ids.ac.uk)

Anyone can subscribe to the Realising Rights Newsletter by sending an email to [k.hawkins@ids.ac.uk](mailto:k.hawkins@ids.ac.uk) with ‘subscribe’ in the subject box. If you wish to unsubscribe to the Newsletter email [k.hawkins@ids.ac.uk](mailto:k.hawkins@ids.ac.uk) with ‘unsubscribe’ in the subject box.

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**Our partners:**

African Population and Health Research Center, BRAC, INDEPTH Network, Institute of Development Studies and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine