

7 APPC SIDE EVENT

Rights-based approaches as the foundation to achieving just and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific

Joint proposal

Date: 17 November 2023, 10:00-11:15

Venue: Meeting Room H at the UNCC

ORGANIZERS

This joint side event is organized by Asia Pacific Alliance for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (APA); David & Lucile Packard Foundation; Directorate General of Family Planning, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Bangladesh; Equality Now; FP2030 Asia and the Pacific Hub; IPPF ESEAOR; SERAC Bangladesh; and Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights (WGNRR).

A. Side Event Concept

The International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action (ICPD PoA) was truly remarkable in its shift away from numbers and towards a rights-based approach as the foundation to achieving just and sustainable development. This session will focus on the fulfillment of the ICPD PoA in Asia and the Pacific as the key to enabling and empowering women and marginalized groups in the face of a shifting demographic context and emerging challenges. It will harness the power of implementing rights-based policies and narratives to achieve sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), ensure access to information, education and services, and eliminate harmful practices like female genital mutilation (FGM).

This will be an interactive, fast-moving session that will bring together champions from governments and civil society, including young people, from diverse countries and contexts to discuss good practices and myth-busting, and encourage the sharing of experiences. Audience Members will be encouraged to bring the discussions forwards and engage with panelists following the session.

The specific objectives of the side event are:

- To underscore the importance of developing and implementing policies that are anchored in human rights to fulfilling SRHR and achieving just and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific
- To promote evidence-based policy recommendations from the region including low fertility context and to counteract health disinformation and harmful narratives that undermine bodily autonomy,
- To explore forward-looking solutions to ensure an enabling environment for the achievement of SRHR and the elimination of harmful practices, including FGM.
- Review progress in implementing the ICPD PoA, and the recommendations from the 2013 Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development

The outcomes are increased:

- Understanding of the linkages between sustainable development, justice and SRHR
- Conversations around how different countries are implementing rights-based policies to advance SRHR and strengthen positive narratives that are based on evidence
- Support the integral role of multiple stakeholders, including communities, in developing effective rights-based solutions

B. Side Event Programme

Agenda	Time allotted	Speaker	Topic
12:30 - 12:33	3 minutes	Welcome: Alexandra Johns, APA	Welcome and introduction to representative delivering Opening Remarks
12:33-12:40	7 minutes	Diene Keita, UN Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy Executive Director for Programme	Opening Remarks
12:40:12:45	5 minutes	Moderator: Dr Samukeliso Dube, Executive Director FP2030	Introduction to panelists, flow of session and guide questions
12:45-12:50	5 minutes	Panelist 1: Ms Shahan Ara Banu, Director General of Family Planning Government of Bangladesh	Question 1
12:50 - 12:55	5 minutes	Panelist 2: Dutchaneeya Rattanasiri, PPAT Council Member and youth volunteer	Question 2
12:55-1:00	5 minutes	Panelist 3: Nawmi Naz Chowdhury, Global Legal Advisor, Equality Now	Question 3
1:00 -1:18	18 minutes	Moderator	Questions and sharing from the floor.
1:18 - 1:27	9 minutes	All 3 panelists	Final key message
1:27-1:30	3 minutes	Co-organizer: TBD	Thanks and closing