



PARALLEL SESSION 3.3

MAKING HEALTH SERVICES ACCOUNTABLE TO THE PEOPLE - A GLOBAL TREND?

| BACKGROUND

To achieve SDG3 and Universal Health Coverage, health sectors and services must be held accountable to parliaments, national oversight bodies, the electoral, civil society, citizens, and patients themselves – within existing resource constraints and specific challenges facing the countries – to do the job they are mandated to do, free of corruption, and with maximum health outcomes for the people.

All parts and levels of the health sector need to be held accountable and managed in a transparent manner: At the level of its leadership; strategic planning; maximizing and reaching health outcomes; proper financial management of the health budgets at all levels; the procurement of and access to affordable and quality medicines and contracting for infrastructure; efficient supply chain of commodities without wastage; impactful health promotion programmes and services; and the equitable access and quality of health care services at both primary and tertiary.

Central to ensure accountability and transparency in the health sector is the fight against the scourge of corruption, at all levels, and both at country and international levels, which is a major obstacle to the achievement of UHC in too many countries and so many ways. Corruption results in waste of resources; ineffective or even harmful care; collusion and kickbacks in the procurement of medicines and infrastructure contracts; illegal charging for free health services that exasperates equitable access; theft and diversion of medicines; and the list goes on.

Underpinning this session are the principles enshrined in SDG 16 to “Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels”.

| OBJECTIVES

The objective of the session is to recommend, and share examples of, concrete and actionable solutions to make the health sectors – at all levels of their institutions – accountable for the proper management of their budgets, procurement of medicines, achieving health outcomes it has committed to, and the quality and equitable access of the health services, fight the scourge of corruption. This accountability is to parliaments, oversight bodies, civil society, citizens, and the patients themselves.

The audience will hear about cases where countries have shown leadership in this area, as well as obstacles that have been encountered and overcome. The session will also provide a forum to discuss the accountability of the private sector to contribute to UHC and ‘do no harm’ in its business practices.



Panelist

Mariecar Mangosong

Planning Officer III, Health Planning Division, Health Policy Development and Planning Bureau

Department of Health
Philippines

Mariecar Mangosong is a Planning Officer from the Department of Health (DOH) - Philippines.

She offers a field of experience in health systems planning and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) with the role of ensuring that national health plans are conducive to the attainment of the country's health goals.

Most recently, she has been involved in the crafting of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the landmark law - Philippine Universal Health Care Act of 2019. She is one of the editors of the National Objectives for Health 2017-2022, the medium-term health sector strategic plan of the Philippines. She is also part of the team who spearheaded the creation of the F1Plus for Health Monitoring and Evaluation System, the M&E system of the current health agenda for the medium-term 2017-2022. She also served as project coordinator and technical staff to the DOH-Legacy of Public Health and Strengthening Civil Registration and Vital Statistics: A case study of the Philippines.

Her field focuses in the monitoring and evaluation of the health sector performance in attaining the national goals and objectives for health, the Philippine development plan, the Sustainable Development Goals and the Philippine Ambisyon 2040. She is also part of the team involved in the formulation of macro investment and budget plans for health; and develops and coordinates sectoral and internal systems and processes for health planning, program and project development and provides technical assistance, consultancy and advisory services on health planning, program and project development.

She has launched her career as a Health Program Officer under the Knowledge Management and Information Technology Service and has been a former fellow of the Health Policy Development and Planning Bureau of the Department of Health.

A licensed medical technologist by profession, her academic background includes a B.S. in Medical Technology from the University of Santo Tomas where she graduated Cum Laude and also has her units earned in Masters in Public Health from the University of the Philippines.