



PRINCE MAHIDOL
AWARD CONFERENCE

2017



ADDRESSING THE HEALTH OF
VULNERABLE POPULATIONS
FOR AN INCLUSIVE SOCIETY

PS1.4

PARALLEL SESSION 1.4

Information for More Focused Action and
Monitoring Progress to Ensure that
No One is Left Behind

BACKGROUND

In September 2015, world leaders came together to formally adopt the new sustainable development agenda. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a universal, transformative and people-centered plan of action. These 17 goals address the interconnectedness of sustainable development, which include economic growth, social inclusion and environmental protection. In the Preamble of the outcome document of the UN Summit for the adoption of the goals, Member States pledged “that no one will be left behind.”¹

As we move towards implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, one of the major challenges is to ensure that no one is actually left behind. Inequalities are a threat to social progress and economic and political stability, affecting all areas of work, including development, human rights and peace and security. In the current landscape, there are increasing inequalities within and among countries; persistent gender inequality, social exclusion, and lack of access to basic services, including health. These are all areas which were recognized in the 2030 Agenda, and are hindrances to sustainable development. The UN Secretary-General has warned that “if inequalities continue to widen, development may not be sustainable.”² Reducing inequalities and leaving no one behind are at the core of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Member States, through the 2030 Agenda give a special focus to the poorest, most vulnerable and marginalized, including women and girls, youth, persons with disabilities, people living with HIV/AIDS, older persons, indigenous peoples, refugees and internally displaced people and migrants. The Chief Executives Board for Coordination has also put the fight against inequalities and discrimination at the forefront of their strategic frameworks, policy guidance and global plans of action to support the implementation of the 2030 agenda. Member States, the UN System, Civil Society organizations and other entities have been working on reducing inequalities for many years. There are currently several operational and monitoring frameworks. These include the UNAIDS Stigma Index, Social Inclusion Index, UNDP Human Development Index, UNDP LGBTI

¹ A/RES/70/1 http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E

² Opening remarks of the UN Secretary-General at the informal General Assembly thematic debate on inequality, 8 July 2013.

Inclusion Index (in process), Equist-Equitable Strategies to Safe Lives, as well as others which are still discussion.

This parallel session will aim to have a discussion on the existing mechanisms, identify gaps and challenges and share lessons learned. It will also look at how implementing partners can coordinate their efforts to ensure that marginalized populations are included in the SDGs, and also identify the ones who are currently being left out, as well as identify ways to bring these marginalized groups into the decision-making process in order to better address their needs and ensure that communities are at the forefront.

OBJECTIVES

- Consider the existing operational and monitoring frameworks in place and how they address the needs of marginalized groups. This would include identifying gaps and challenges, as well as addressing how they can be better linked to the new SDGs.
- Consider whether marginalized populations are being adequately included in the SDGs.
- Discuss on how greater collaboration with national, local and community actors; especially marginalized groups can be further strengthened.
- Identify the various stakeholders relevant to inclusion of marginalized groups, and consider how coordination can be strengthened.



MODERATOR

Alex ROSS

Director
WHO Center for Health Development
Japan

Mr. Ross is Director of the WHO Kobe Centre (WKC), a global think tank focusing on research relating to universal health coverage, innovation and ageing populations. The Centre uses cross-disciplinary approaches to promote frugal social, technological and systems innovations, to create communities of practice and to share lessons globally. WKC organized two major WHO Global Forums on Innovation for Ageing Populations in 2013 and 2015.

Mr Ross has worked in a number of senior positions in WHO (Director for Partnerships and UN Reform; and of the Office of the Assistant Director-Generals for Communicable Diseases and for HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria), in the UK Department for International Development, and the US Government (USAID, Department of Health and Human Services, and Congress). He has been a key player in developing a number of global health initiatives and partnerships, including the creation of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria, UNITAID, the WHO '3x5' Initiative, and in developing innovative financing strategies for global health.

Mr Ross received his BSPH and MSPH degrees from the University of California in Los Angeles (UCLA) with specializations in health systems, planning and policy.



PANELISTS

Miriam WERE

Member of the Board of Trustees
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Miriam K. Were is a Medical doctor (Nairobi) with Doctor of Public Health (Johns Hopkins University). Her career life includes Working as a Medical Officer, Kenya's Ministry of Health; Teaching Community Health in Faculty of Medicine, University of Nairobi; in UNICEF, Ethiopia; World Health Organisation Representative in Ethiopia; UNFPA Director for East, Central and Anglophone West Africa. Currently, she is Chancellor of Moi University in Kenya, Co-sponsor of UZIMA Foundation. Has been Chair of Kenya National AIDS Control Council; African Medical and Research Foundation, AMREF; UN Secretary General's independent Expert Review Group (iERG) for Women's and Children's Health; International Oversight Group of the Global Health Risk Framework, Trustee of the Kenya Medical Women's Association,

Prof Were's honours include Goodwill Ambassador, Community Health Strategy, Kenya; Hideyo Noguchi Africa prize by Japan; The Queen Elizabeth II Gold Medal for Public Health; Knight in the Legion of Honour in the French National Order for distinguished service in promoting Mothers' and Children's health; The World YWCA Trail Blazer as woman leading change. Honorary degrees from Moi University, Science; Doctorate from Ochanomizu University and Humane Letters from DePaul University.



PANELISTS

Edmund SETTLE

Policy Advisor
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Edmund Settle is the regional Policy Advisor on HIV, Human Rights, Law and Sexual Diversity for UNDP in Bangkok since 2009. He currently oversees the regional Being LGBTI in Asia programme; two multi-country Global Fund programmes addressing HIV and human rights among men who have sex with men and transgender people in 11 countries; and the regional work on HIV, human rights and the law. Before moving to Bangkok, he was with UNDP in China and the Philippines where he worked with government departments and civil society groups to develop and implement national strategies to reduce HIV among men who have sex with men and transgender people.

Edmund has published numerous commentaries on HIV and human security in publications such as The Lancet, Journal of the International AIDS Society, New York Times, South China Morning Post, Asia Times, China Daily and the Oxford Review. In 2005, he authored and published a Glossary of HIV/AIDS Related Terms and Phrases in Chinese and English. Edmund received his Masters of International Policy Studies on Human Security and Development from the Middlebury Institute of International Studies.



PANELISTS

Herve ISAMBERT

Senior Regional Public Health Officer
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Thailand

Dr. Herve Isambert is a Senior Public Health Officer of UNHCR, the refugee agency of the United Nations system. Based in Bangkok for the last 6 years, he has been providing technical support and public health guidance to the refugee country operations located in the Asia Pacific region. Before joining UNHCR some 10 years ago, he worked over 16 years with Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF / Doctors Without Borders), an international humanitarian-aid non-governmental organization (NGO), in several operations in Africa and Asia.

He is a medical doctor graduated from Paul Sabatier University in Toulouse, France; he holds a Master Degree of Public Health from Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand.



PANELISTS

Téa E. COLLINS

Adviser

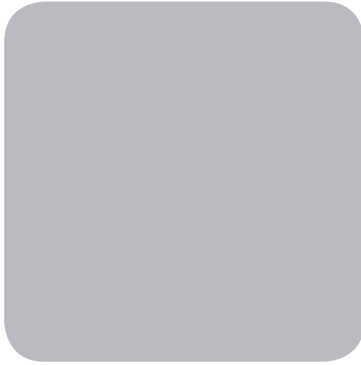
The WHO Global Coordination Mechanism on NCDs
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Dr Téa Collins is Advisor at the World Health Organization (WHO) Global Coordination Mechanism on the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases (GCM/NCD), where she oversees work on the alignment of development assistance for health and international cooperation with national NCD plans. Dr Collins came to WHO from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), where she provided technical advice and expertise on matters related to comprehensive cancer control and health systems strengthening to the Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy (PACT).

Prior to IAEA, Dr Collins advised the World Medical Association (WMA) on global health issues of concern to the medical profession in collaboration with the WHO Global Health Workforce Alliance. She also served as the first Executive Director of the NCD Alliance, a partnership of over 2,000 member organizations in 170 countries with a mission to combat the NCD epidemic by putting health at the center of all policies.

Dr Collins' background also includes managing World Bank and USAID-supported projects, and academic work at the George Washington University in Washington, DC, USA. Dr Collins is a pediatrician with a Doctorate in Global Health from The George Washington University, as well as a Master's in Public Health from Boston University and a Master's in Public Administration from the Harvard University Kennedy School of Government. Dr Collins was a Presidential Scholar and Public Service Fellow at Harvard.



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