



**INNOVATING
FOR SEXUAL AND
REPRODUCTIVE
HEALTH AND RIGHTS
IN ASIA PACIFIC**

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



CONTENTS

01 MESSAGE

FROM THE CHAIR AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

02 MISSION

03 2020 IN REVIEW

04 TIMELINE OF EVENTS

05 PROGRAMS

06 CAPACITY BUILDING & ACCOUNTABILITY

07 NETWORKING & ENGAGEMENT

09 GENERATING EVIDENCE

11 COMMUNICATIONS IMPACT

12 STRONGER NETWORK

12 GOVERNANCE

13 OUR MEMBERS

14 OUR PEOPLE

15 FINANCIALS



**INNOVATING
FOR SEXUAL AND
REPRODUCTIVE
HEALTH AND RIGHTS
IN ASIA PACIFIC**
2020 ANNUAL REPORT



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2020 was a challenging year for the world, and particularly the sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) community, as it upended the status quo. The COVID-19 pandemic demanded that we re-evaluate and change our operations as we adapt to a new reality.

Asia Pacific Alliance for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (APA) members have been at the forefront throughout the pandemic, working with and advocating with governments to address and highlight how the pandemic's effects exacerbate inequalities and historical injustices, and impact the ability of marginalised communities in Asia and the Pacific to enjoy their SRHR.

In the face of such challenges, APA and its members continue to innovate by seeking out new tools, resources and collaborations to work on and advocate for the work we do to realise the SRHR of marginalised communities.

At the coordinating office, we have increased our digital communications, online advocacy and call attention to civil society initiatives for SRHR self-care in the region. Additionally, APA began a new area of capacity building on feminist leadership and practice in 2020, and engaged our members in civil society-generated evidence for sexual rights in the Asia Pacific to help fill in the knowledge gaps.

We are happy to welcome three new members to our network this year:

- Reproductive and Family Health Association of Fiji
- Chanan Development Association
- Equal Asia Foundation

Our continuing efforts could not have been achieved without the support of the Planned Parenthood Association of Thailand (PPAT), who hosts the APA coordinating office in Bangkok. We are grateful for their continued assistance!

We look forward to bringing the lessons learned from 2020 forward into 2021.

Sincerely,

Shama Karkal

APA Steering Committee Chair

Alexandra Johns

APA Executive Director

MISSION

In 1994, 179 governments adopted the revolutionary Programme of Action (PoA) at the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo. This ambitious agenda called for women's sexual health, reproductive health and reproductive rights to be prioritised in sustainable development efforts.

We established the Asia Pacific Alliance for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (APA) as a civil society organisation-led network to support action for promoting the ICPD agenda at national, regional and global fora. Over the last two decades, APA galvanised national and regional advocacy from its coordinating office in Bangkok to further SRHR, gender and human rights globally.



WHO WE ARE

Asia Pacific Alliance for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (APA) is a network of national, regional and global civil society organisations that advocate for the fulfilment of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) for all persons in the Asia Pacific region.



WHAT WE DO

Our mission is to mobilise civil society advocacy across the Asia Pacific region to hold governments and other stakeholders accountable for their obligations and commitments to realise the SRHR of all persons in Asia and the Pacific. We prioritise issues such as sexuality, access to comprehensive sexuality education and access to safe and legal abortion.



HOW WE DO IT

APA uses two main strategies to achieve its mission: regional advocacy and capacity building. APA and our members advocate at national, regional and global fora to ensure inclusion and uptake of comprehensive sexuality priorities, encourage government transparency and participation and monitor review processes. These include 2030 Agenda, International Conference on Population and Development, Beijing Platform for Action, Universal Periodic Review and human rights treaty bodies for progress on SRHR commitments.

2020 IN REVIEW

We are committed to empowering sexual and reproductive health and rights champions. We mobilise for advocacy on SRHR, encourage active participation and endeavour to increase opportunities for civil society in developing countries to access national, regional and global review processes.

APA specifically focuses on underserved issues within SRHR, including access to safe and legal abortion, comprehensive sexuality education and human rights for people of diverse sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions and sex characteristics.

APA's coordinating office continued its support of members in our network by acting as a platform to share information, strategies and tools as well as amplifying the national advocacy campaigns and initiatives of our members and partners across the region.

The COVID-19 pandemic had a big impact on APA's strategic advocacy work as a regional network, as it

did throughout the entire SRHR community. While many events at the beginning of the year were cancelled, many organisations rebounded and adapted to the new reality by hosting online and hybrid meetings, increased digital advocacy and fostered self-care initiatives.

In 2020, APA took a big step forward as we submitted our application to be officially registered as a foundation with the Government of Thailand. In line with this, we were thrilled to recruit a Thai board. We also welcomed three new members to our network: Chanan Development Association (CDA), Equal Asia Foundation, and Reproductive and Family Health Association of Fiji (thus adding Fiji as our first Pacific Island).

2020 IN REVIEW

TIMELINE OF EVENTS



PROGRAMS

WE MOBILISE CIVIL SOCIETY ACTION FOR SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS IN THE ASIA PACIFIC

APA continues to be a collective regional voice for holding governments and other stakeholders accountable to their commitments for realising sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) for all. We believe strong partnerships and an active civil society, equipped with knowledge and skills, are the keys to strong, effective regional advocacy that delivers life changing SRHR policies. We employ two main strategies to achieve our objectives: regional advocacy and capacity building.

APA also contributes to regional and global coalitions and listservs to ensure that Asia Pacific SRHR issues are prioritised and that members are continually updated on current initiatives and developments. We coordinate the Thematic Working Group on Gender, Sexuality and SRHR at the Asia Pacific Regional Civil Society Organisation (CSO) Engagement Mechanism and contribute to the Asia Pacific Women's Major Group. At global level, we are also part of the Association of Women in Development (AWID), the International Sexual and Reproductive Rights Caucus (ISRCC), the Women's Rights Coalition, and the Women's Major Group.

This year, APA also contributed to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Asia Pacific Regional Office's midterm review of strategy along with network member Burnet and an ad hoc civil society advisory committee for the 2020 UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board (PCB) thematic report on cervical cancer.

PROGRAMS

CAPACITY BUILDING & ACCOUNTABILITY

FEMINIST LEADERSHIP IN PRACTICE SHORT COURSE

For the first time, APA organised a short course on building feminist leadership and practice, which took place from 18 November to 2 December. Members from 14 organisations participated in the online course, which provided a comprehensive dive into the practice of feminism and how to make our organisations more inclusive and feminist oriented. Participants were also guided in using a self-assessment tool to audit programmes and projects in their organisations.

"I really look forward to similar learning and opportunities for interaction. There is a lot that I learnt and reflected on through the workshop and I have already shared some of the learning, reflections and insights with the senior management to take discussions forward to become a more inclusive organisation."

PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK,
FEMINIST PRACTICE
SHORT COURSE

In 2-3 words: What would you expect from someone claiming to be a feminist leader?

A word cloud on a teal background containing the following terms: adaptable, assertive, inclusive, good listener, respect for difference, transparency of actions, an inspiration, social justice, empathy, integrity, groundedness, assert their rights, mutual respect, leadership, clear vision, transparency, open minded, equality, intuitive, relational, debate, listening.

INTERNATIONAL SAFE ABORTION DAY

On September 28th, APA mobilised our members to come together and develop advocacy messaging for the international campaign on safe abortion.

A short video from the Members was developed and disseminated on the APA website and social media affirming that #AbortionsEssentialHealthcare.



PROGRAMS

NETWORKING & ENGAGEMENT

7TH ASIA PACIFIC FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

MARCH 20 • VIRTUAL

Organised by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the theme of the 7th Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) was “Accelerating action for and delivery of the 2030 Agenda in Asia and the Pacific.” APA participated in a thematic session at the intergovernmental meeting and gave input for the Chair’s 2020 Statement through the Asia Pacific Women Constituency highlighting gender, sexuality and SRHR.

Due to the impacts of the pandemic, the APFSD Civil Society Forum took place on November 26-27. APA’s Executive Director presented a statement at the meeting on behalf of the Thematic Working Group on Gender, Sexuality and SRHR.

10TH ASIA PACIFIC CONFERENCE ON REPRODUCTIVE AND SEXUAL HEALTH AND RIGHTS

MARCH 30 • VIRTUAL DIALOGUE SERIES

The 10th Asia Pacific Conference on Reproductive and Sexual Health and Rights (10APCRSHR) took place throughout a series of virtual dialogues this year. APA’s Executive Director was involved in a session on how COVID-19 impacted marginalised women in the Asia Pacific, spoke about the increased barriers to SRHR in the region, its impact on achieving gender and development justice and offered recommendations to ensure marginalised groups are not being left behind.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF COVID-19 ON POPULATION

JULY 13 • E-CONFERENCE

This online conference was organised by APA member Youth Advocacy Network, Pakistan for World Population Day (July 11). APA’s Executive Director shared about the impact of COVID-19 on the SRHR of women and girls in the region, highlighting violations to their human rights.



Commission on Social Development – United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)



PROGRAMS

NETWORKING & ENGAGEMENT

COMMISSION ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT – UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (ESCAP)

OCTOBER 20–21 • BANGKOK

At the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Commission on Social Development, the Asia Pacific Indicator Framework for Monitoring Progress Towards the Implementation of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Programme of Action and the Asian and Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Population and Development was on the agenda for Member State endorsement. APA facilitated two members to make statements in support of the indicator framework. Additionally, a young person from the Asia Pacific Network of Sex Workers delivered a statement on behalf of the APA network as well as network member APCOM who also made a statement.

ASIA PACIFIC CONSULTATION ON THE GLOBAL AIDS STRATEGY BEYOND 2021

AUGUST 6 & OCTOBER 8 • VIRTUAL

Organised by UNAIDS Asia Pacific, these meetings aimed to provide insights into the HIV response in the region and identify the Asia Pacific-specific perspectives for ending AIDS by 2030. APA advocated for the inclusion of SRHR as one of the regional priorities sent to the global level as input for the development of the new Global AIDS Strategy Beyond 2021.

CIVIL SOCIETY CONSULTATION ON INFERTILITY AS A HUMAN RIGHT

NOVEMBER 5 • VIRTUAL

APA participated in the Civil Society Consultation on Infertility as a Human Right, organised by the Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights in order to share perspectives and priorities across the Asia Pacific.

BANGLADESH 5TH NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE ON FAMILY PLANNING AND SRHR

OCTOBER 16–17 • VIRTUAL

This conference was organised by network member SERAC-Bangladesh. APA's Executive Director gave closing remarks that highlighted the importance of comprehensive sexuality education, removing barriers to young peoples' SRHR, the impact of COVID-19, and opportunities for advocacy.

PROGRAMS

GENERATING EVIDENCE

In addition to advocacy, we publish and contribute to initiatives that generate evidence on sexual and reproductive health and rights in the Asia Pacific.

SHIFTING THE SRHR NARRATIVE IN THE ASIA PACIFIC

This publication aimed to address the gaps in sexual rights knowledge and evidence as well as determine what types of evidence civil society organisations can use to fill these gaps. It highlighted neglected areas of SRHR, including comprehensive sexuality education, the sexuality of young people, access to safe and legal abortion, the right to a pleasurable sex life, and eliminating discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity and expression and sex characteristics.

APA members undertook mini pilots to generate evidence, including:

- Comprehensive Sexuality Education in Nepal: Evaluating Teachers' Training YUWA, Nepal
- Youth Sexuality and Sex-Positive Approaches in Indonesia Aliansi Remaja Independen (ARI) Indonesia
- Access to Comprehensive Sexuality Education for Out-of-School Adolescent Girls in Bangladesh SERAC-Bangladesh

We utilised participatory methodology to engage members of the APA alliance, partners and our extensive networks. We formed a short-term task force for quality assurance that included:

- Shrirupa Sengupta, Communications Lead, Associate Director, Swasti Health Catalyst
- Fsaht Hassan, CEO, Youth Advocacy Network (YAN) Pakistan
- Dakshitha Wickremarathne, YAN Sri Lanka
- S.M. Shaikat, Executive Director, SERAC Bangladesh
- Amit Timilsina, Board of Directors, Youth Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights

PROGRAMS

GENERATING EVIDENCE

BRIEFS LINKING SRHR TO THE 2019 GLOBAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT REPORT

This series of six briefs aimed to provide a snapshot into how SRHR links to the new Agenda 2030 framework laid out by the Global Sustainable Development Report and its six entry points, including policy coherence and evidence from the Asia Pacific. It also illustrated how the fulfilment of SRHR assists countries in the region in achieving just and sustainable development using the development justice framework of the Asia Pacific Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism (APRCM).

CIVIL SOCIETY INITIATIVES FOR SELF-CARE ON SRHR

APA developed this publication to capture the good practices of civil society-led self-care initiatives to address SRHR, including linkages to HIV, that have come to the forefront during the pandemic. It aimed to uncover successes and areas for improvement in terms of SRHR self-care interventions, explored the potential of self-care as a contributor to strong health systems and recommended how to use this information to feed national, regional and international advocacy strategies related to COVID-19 and human rights fulfilments. This publication will be finalised in 2021.

The Technical Assistance task force from APA membership was established to oversee the development of research and ensure high-quality results. Thus, APA would like to thank:

- Ramil Andag, SOGIESC Rights Officer, APCOM
- Alok Vajpey, Joint Director/Head, Knowledge Management and Core Grants, Population Foundation of India
- Jane Estoesta, Director of The Research Centre, Family Planning New South Wales
- Amit Timilsina, Board of Directors, Youth Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights
- Riju Dhakal, President, YUWA

PROGRAMS

COMMUNICATIONS IMPACT

We took concrete steps to better serve our members by improving the quality, relevance and access to information within our network.



65,000

FACEBOOK
FOLLOWERS



1,000

TWITTER
FOLLOWERS



850

INSTAGRAM
FOLLOWERS

SOCIAL MEDIA

Our website and social media aimed to strengthen cooperation, promote networking and advocacy between members and exchange knowledge and tools on global, regional and national SRHR developments. Engagement has significantly increased on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

In 2020, the website was further developed as we added a new section on evidence generation.

KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

In 2020, a portal function exclusively for APA membership was added to our website. The *Knowledge Management Portal (KMP)* is a user-friendly platform for knowledge sharing and community building. The KMP contains a membership database, group calendar and strategic database housing country statements and shadow reports from processes relevant to SRHR so that members can track the positions of countries and plan joint events.

In 2020, 100% of our Members surveyed found information they received from the network useful and were either satisfied or very satisfied. 85% of members reported being satisfied or very satisfied with the contribution they were making to the network.

Additionally, APA has an internal listserv exclusive to its members that is used to disseminate strategic information and developments related to SRHR. We also distribute a newsletter to members on a quarterly basis, with a new *In Focus* series highlighting Member's perspectives and advocacy strategies introduced this year.



STRONGER NETWORK

Our membership is as diverse as our region. We are a network of non-governmental organisations, family planning associations, public health researchers, regional networks and community-based organisations who work across numerous expertise in advocacy, human rights, service delivery, public health research and inclusive measures for marginalised groups.

We continued our growth in 2020 by adding three new members:

- Reproductive and Family Health Association of Fiji
- Chanan Development Association (CDA)
- Equal Asia Foundation

These new members bring new representation to the network and the addition of a new country: Fiji. As of December 2020, our membership comprised of 42 organisations and individuals in nine countries across the Asia Pacific.

GOVERNANCE

Our organisation is governed by a seven-member international Steering Committee, elected by the membership. The Steering Committee met virtually this year on August 18th, 2020.

In 2020, APA took a big step forward and formally submitted our application for registration as a foundation in Thailand. The registration is expected to be complete in 2021. APA recruited three Thai representatives to serve on a new Board for the Foundation to oversee administration and ensure legal compliance with the government of Thailand once registered.

STRONGER NETWORK

OUR MEMBERS

FULL MEMBERS 2020

AUSTRALIA

- Burnet Institute
- Family Planning New South Wales (FP NSW)
- Family Planning Victoria
- Family Planning Welfare Association of the Northern Territory (FP WANT)
- Shine SA

BANGLADESH

- Bandhu Social Welfare Society
- SERAC-Bangladesh

CHINA

- China Family Planning Association (CFPA)

FIJI

- Reproductive and Family Health Association of Fiji

INDIA

- Swasti Health Catalyst
- Population Foundation of India (PFI)

INDONESIA

- Aliansi Remaja Independen (ARI)
- Indonesia Planned Parenthood Association (IPPA)

JAPAN

- Africa Japan Forum (AJF)
- Japanese Organization for International Cooperation in Family Planning (JOICFP)

MALAYSIA

- CARAM Asia

NEPAL

- Women's Rehabilitation Center (WOREC)
- YUWA

NEW ZEALAND

- New Zealand Family Planning Association (NZ FP)

PAKISTAN

- Chanan Development Association (CDA)
- Sukaar Welfare Organization
- Youth Advocacy Network (YAN) Pakistan
- Youth Association for Development (YAD)

THAILAND

- Asia Catalyst
- Asia Pacific Coalition on Male Sexual Health (APCOM)
- Asia Pacific Network of Sex Workers (APNSW)
- Asia Pacific Transgender Network (APTAN)
- Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD)
- Equal Asia Foundation
- International Community of Women Living with HIV Asia Pacific (ICW-AP)
- Planned Parenthood Association of Thailand (PPAT)
- Raks Thai Foundation
- YouthLEAD

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS 2020

ORGANISATIONS

- Action Canada for Sexual Health and Rights (ACSHR)
- International Planned Parenthood Federation East and South East Asia & Oceania Region (IPPF ESEAOR)
- Population Action International (PAI)
- Marie Stopes International (MSI)
- Youth Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights (YC)

INDIVIDUALS

- Amit Timilsina
- Dakshitha Wickremarathne
- Haseeb Khawaja
- Rubina Ali

STRONGER NETWORK

OUR PEOPLE

STEERING COMMITTEE 2020



Shama Karkal
(Chair)
Swasti Health Catalyst
SOUTH ASIA



Ann Brassil
(Vice-Chair)
Family Planning
New South Wales
OCEANIA



Hong Ping
China Family Planning
Association
EAST ASIA



Pattaya Buranprapa
(Treasurer)
Planned Parenthood
Association of Thailand
(PPAT)
SOUTHEAST ASIA



Sandeep Prasad
Action Canada for
Sexual Health and
Rights (ACSHR)
GLOBAL



Lloyd Nunag
Youth Coalition
for Sexual and
Reproductive Rights (YC)
GLOBAL

COORDINATING OFFICE



Alexandra Johns
Executive Director



Wasana Kumanuwong
Finance and
Administration



Wachira Chairattham
Finance and
Administration

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT 2020

SECTION A: CASH FLOW

	RFSU		MEMBERSHIP		ACCUMULATED FUND		TOTAL	
	US\$	Baht	US\$	Baht	US\$	Baht	US\$	Baht
Opening Balance	39,588.51	1,189,124.18	–	–	27,570.67	828,143.00	67,159.19	2,017,267.18
Fund received	175,021.31	5,257,132.67	–	–			175,021.31	5,257,132.67
Add: Bank interest received	170.87	5,132.52	4,126.13	143,226.83	29.15	893.45	4,326.16	149,252.80
Membership Fees	–	–					–	–
Total Income	214,780.70	6,451,389.37	4,126.13	143,226.83	27,599.82	829,036.45	246,506.65	7,423,652.65
Subtract: Expenses as at 31 December 2020	(162,856.62)	(4,891,740.58)			(128.59)	(3,862.40)	(162,985.21)	(4,895,602.98)
Subtract: Prepaid for 2020	35.62	1,070.00						
Subtract: Accrued for 2020	99.88	3,000.00						
Subtract: Computer and Depreciation 2020	(405.96)	(12,194.00)						
Closing Balance as at 31 December 2020	51,653.61	1,551,524.79	4,126.13	143,226.83	27,471.24	825,174.05	83,521.45	2,528,049.67
Grand Total	51,653.61	1,551,524.79	4,126.13	143,226.83	27,471.24	825,174.05	83,521.45	2,528,049.67

APA works in partnership with the Planned Parenthood Association of Thailand, who provides financial management services. APA is thankful for the support of all of its donors, and for PPAT's continued assistance.



SECTION B: FUND BALANCE

GRANTOR	BUDGET LINE DESCRIPTION	BUDGET		ACTUAL		BALANCE: 31 DECEMBER 2020		% SPENT
		US\$	Baht	US\$	Baht	US\$	Baht	
RFSU Civil Society Partnership Programme for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Core Grant (Year 2018 – 2023)	1. Result 1: Strong CS capacity on SRHR and accountability	49,938.24	1,500,000.00	35,409.17	1,063,588.90	14,529.07	436,411.10	
	2. Result 2: [Synergised engagement on nat/reg/global processes on SRHR]	5,659.67	170,000.00	1,827.74	54,900.04	3,831.93	115,099.96	
	3. Result 3: APA is a sustainable organisation with a diverse donor and membership base	22,165.02	665,773.00	13,862.67	416,394.53	8,302.35	249,378.47	
	4. Coordinating Office and network facilitation	115,490.51	3,469,000.00	99,937.63	3,001,836.70	15,552.88	467,163.30	
	5. Audit	1,165.23	35,000.00	1,165.23	35,000.00	–	–	
	6. Financial administration services	14,633.66	439,552.81	10,654.17	320,020.41	3,979.49	119,532.39	
	Total	209,052.33	6,279,325.81	162,856.62	4,891,740.58	46,195.71	1,387,585.22	78%
Asia Pacific Alliance for Sexual and Reproductive health and Rights (Accumulated Fund) 1 January 2020 – 31 December 2020	1. Miscellaneous costs	32,368.75	972,263.28	128.59	3,862.40	32,240.16	968,400.88	
	Total	32,368.75	972,263.28	128.59	3,862.40	32,240.16	968,400.88	
Grand Total		241,421.08	7,251,589.09	162,985.21	4,895,602.98	78,435.87	2,355,986.10	



CONNECT WITH US

Asia Pacific Alliance for Sexual and
Reproductive Health and Rights (APA)

11/1 South Sathorn Road, AIA Sathorn Tower
9th Floor, Yannawa, Sathorn, Bangkok
Thailand 10120

FIND US ON THE WEB

www.asiapacificalliance.org

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK / FOLLOW US
ON TWITTER AND INSTAGRAM

@AsiaPacAlliance

EMAIL US AT

join@asiapacificalliance.org

APA would like to extend warm thanks to:

