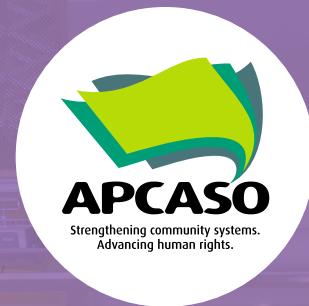




Annual Report

2024

APCASO Annual Report 2024

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Writers: RD Marte, Jeffry Acaba,
Mangala Namasivayam, Pattariya Maleehom,
Chalita Auesiritrakul

Editors: Jeffry Acaba & Chalita Auesiritrakul

Layout and Design: Ladyfingers Co.

66/5, 33 Tower, Sukhumvit 33 Road,
Klongton Nuea, Wattana, Bangkok 10110 Thailand

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Council of Representatives

- Mara Quesada (Chair), Philippines
- Choub Sok Chamreun, Cambodia
- Masaki Inaba, Japan
- Puan Meirinda Sebayang, Indonesia
- Asghar Satti, Pakistan

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- Mr. Nachale Boonyapisomparn, Secretary
- Mr. Puchong Senanuch, Board member
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Focal Points

- Action for Health Initiatives (ACHIEVE, Philippines)
- Africa Japan Forum (AJF, Japan)
- Alliance Myanmar (Myanmar)
- Association of People Living with HIV & AIDS (APLHIV, Pakistan)

- Community Health and Inclusion Association (CHIAS, Laos)
- Jaringan Indonesia Positif (JIP, Indonesia)
- Khmer HIV/AIDS NGO Alliance (KHANA, Cambodia)
- Key Population Advocacy Consortium (KPAC, PNG)
- Lhak-Sam (Bhutan)
- Mongolia Anti-TB Coalition (MTC, Mongolia)
- National Coalition of People Living with HIV India (NCPI+, India)
- PT Foundation (Malaysia)
- Center for Supporting Community Development Initiatives (SCDI, Vietnam)
- Spiritia Foundation (Indonesia)
- Service Workers in Group Foundation (SWING, Thailand)
- Trisuli Plus (Nepal)

Funders and Donors

- The Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
- Stop TB Partnership Hosted by UNOPS
- Open Society Foundations
- Treatment Action Group
- L'Initiative and Expertise France

Abbreviations

ACT!AP:	Activists Coalition on TB Asia-Pacific	FOC:	Focus of change
APCRG:	Asia-Pacific Regional Platform on Community, Rights, and Gender	GJ:	Gender Justice
CBOs:	Community-Based Organisations	SR:	Sexual Rights
CCM:	Country Coordinating Mechanism	NTP:	National TB program
CE:	Community Engagement	PLWH:	People living with HIV
CESI:	Community Engagement Strategic Initiative	PPR:	Pandemic Preparedness and Response
CFCS:	Challenge Facility For Civil Society	rCAB:	Regional Community Advisory Board for TB
CLM:	Community-Led Monitoring	REGENERATE:	Regional Gender Justice and Sexual Rights Initiative
CLOs:	Community-Led Organisations	STP:	Stop TB Partnership
COPPER:	Communities in Pandemic Preparedness and Response	TA:	Technical Assistant
CoR:	Council of Representatives	TB:	Tuberculosis
CRG:	Community, Rights, and Gender	TODA:	Tricycle Operators and Drivers' Association
CSOs:	Civil Society Organisations	UHC:	Universal Health Coverage
CS:	Civil Society	WHO:	World Health Organization
CSS:	Community Systems Strengthening		

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1 Executive Director's Foreword

APCASO is a catalytic platform for advocacy and community systems strengthening for health, social justice, and human rights of key, vulnerable and marginalised communities in Asia and the Pacific.

In 2024, we moved further the needle on this mission and commitment at both country and regional levels, working with our focal points and other community and civil society partners. Building upon our efforts from previous years to safeguard community interests in the follow-up processes to the 2023 high-level meetings on Universal Health Coverage (UHC), tuberculosis (TB), and pandemic preparedness and response, we convened civil society dialogues with broader stakeholders and duty-bearers and provided monitoring tools and other resources, aware that civil society advocacy needs enabling policy environments to achieve the changes they intend. We have broken new ground with two new areas of funded work: gender justice and sexual rights (GJSR) and climate justice. With much excitement and pride, we launched in October the Regional Gender Justice and Sexual Rights Initiative (REGENERATE) and consequently, the Asia-Pacific REGENERATE Platform – a solidarity building, cross-learning, and advocacy space for Asia-Pacific community and civil society organisations and networks committed to working together to promote, advance, defend, and protect

gender justice and sexual rights. REGENERATE is a dream initiative for APCASO and its partners and we look forward to REGENERATE enabling a transformative community capacity-development and advocacy movement for key affected women and girls and people of diverse sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics. Also in October, we co-convened a regional multi-stakeholder dialogue on climate and health as part of a longer-term vision to support civil society engagement and advocacy in this issue. APCASO envisions that this expanded work areas at the regional level will inspire needed counterpart mobilisations and engagement with our partners at the country level while we remain steadfast in all other work we have with them via projects or by virtue of our focal point partnership.

As always, we remain both proud and thankful for the partnership, trust and support of focal points and other partners. The funding environment for civil society work on health and human rights is becoming additionally challenging, and we remain committed to working with development partners and other allies in the coming years to defend diversity and hopefully expand funding for communities and civil society.

“REGENERATE is a dream initiative for APCASO and its partners and we look forward to REGENERATE enabling a transformative community capacity-development and advocacy movement for key affected women and girls and people of diverse sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics.”

RD Marte



2 Message from the CoR Chair

First of all, congratulations to APCASO for a very productive 2024. APCASO continued to convene stakeholders in the region to collectively strategize on follow-up action to ensure government accountability to the commitments at the 2023 UN High-level Meetings on TB, Universal Health Coverage (UHC), and Pandemic Preparedness, Prevention and Response (PPPR), specifically, calling on governments to step up on achieving the global targets to eliminate TB by increasing investments. At the country level, one of the most notable achievements for APCASO was in providing technical assistance to country focal points to enhance community engagement in PPPR, which serves as a programmatic follow up to its advocacy at the UN HLM on PPPR.

2024 also saw APCASO reinforcing foundational interventions to address structural barriers to effective HIV, TB and malaria responses by embarking on the REGENERATE Initiative. This undertaking that will run from 2024 to 202(?) allows APCASO to set up a learning institute to enhance capacities of gender and sexual rights advocates in the region and strengthen



movement building to ensure inclusive, gender just and sexual rights affirming policies, programs and services in TB, HIV and malaria.

While these programs progress and new challenges arise, the Council of Representatives remains steadfast in providing its support to the Secretariat and the Focal Points as APCASO continues to work towards the realization of its strategic goals.

Mara Quesada

3 Message from the Board

I would like to warmly congratulate APCASO on a successful 2024. Over the past year, APCASO has shown strong commitment by meaningfully engaging key populations and partners at all levels — from communities to national, regional, and global platforms.

The leadership and initiatives of APCASO have clearly demonstrated the power of meaningful engagement in creating positive social change. The organization has helped bring the voices of communities that are often unheard to the forefront, while supporting networks and civil society organizations in their work both nationally and internationally. APCASO has also built strong regional connections and strengthened relationships with key stakeholders.

Through a series of meetings, project activities, and collaboration, APCASO has continued to take the lead in advancing social justice and positive change. The organization's dedication to its vision, mission, and goals is truly inspiring.



My hope for APCASO and partners is that they continue the stellar work on advancing rights and championing community voices for health against a challenging financial and political environment.

Mr. Kongpan Pramroj
Chair of the Board



4 2024 Programmes and Key Achievements

a) Communities in Pandemic Leadership and Governance (CELG)



Background and Objectives:

The Activists’ Coalition on Asia-Pacific (ACT! AP), hosted by APCASO, has supported last-mile populations (LMPs) and TB key and vulnerable populations (KVPs) in engaging in the national pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response (PPPR) at country level. This will be achieved by developing and testing community engagement strategies, and approaches that enable LMPs as part of the TB networks to influence COVID-19 and PPPR decisions.

Year(s) of Implementation:

2023 – 2024

Funder:

Global Fund



Major Activities:

- Conducted 4 LESSONS webinars that continued to facilitate discussions related to pandemic governance among LMPs in Asia-Pacific region
- Supported the development of a Lessons Learned Report that captured the major achievements and lessons learned in the implementation of the CELG project across

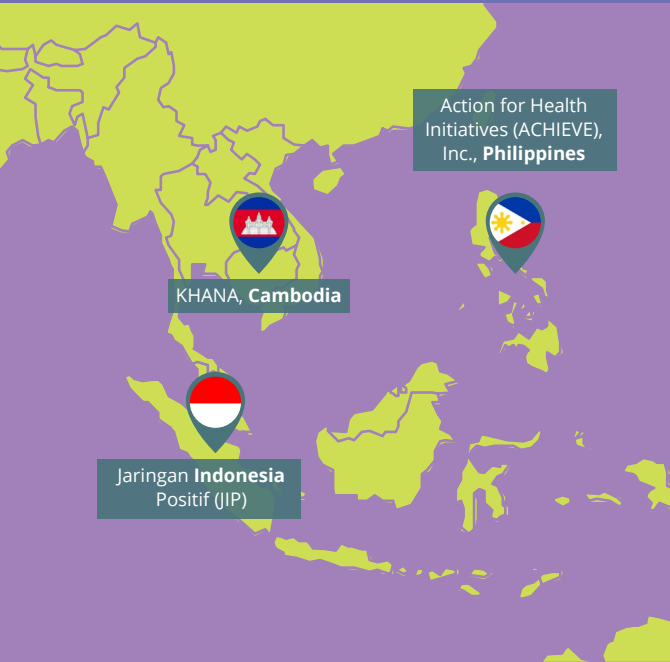
Key Results:

- No. of country partner subgrantee: **3**
- No. of materials produced: **1**
- Total no. of participants who attended all meetings organised this year: **118**
- Total social media reach: **2,486**

Links to Reports, Publications, and Products:

CELG resources: <https://copper.apcaso.org/resources/>

List of Organisations and/or Countries:



“Through the establishment of district-based PPPR Task Forces and multi-stakeholder collaboration based on the support from CELG, we are promoting sustainable community resilience with the integration of health, disaster preparedness and risk communication principles for long-term impact.”

Wahyu Kreshna, Jaringan Indonesia Positif

b) Challenge Facility for Civil Society (CFCS) 12



Background and Objectives:

This project aims to support Asia-Pacific TB survivor and affected community and civil society mobilisation and advocacy for optimal operationalisation of and accountability to the 2023 TB HLM political commitments.

Year(s) of Implementation:

2023 – 2024

Funder:

Stop TB Partnership



Major Activities:

- Conducted Beyond the HLMs Regional Meeting and High-Level Event in Siem Reap, Cambodia from 17-21 June 2024, wherein 80 civil society representatives, representatives from affected communities, governments, and bilateral and multilateral partners in almost 20 countries attended the two events. This regional forum produced an Outcome Statement
- Conducted the Donors Dialogue in the sidelines of the 2024 Union Conference, which was attended by 63 participants from the Union Conference.
- Three (3) country partners supported in the piloting of the Post 3-HLM Accountability Scorecard (ongoing)

Key Results:

- No. of country partner subgrantee: 4
- No. of materials produced: 8
- Total no. of participants who attended all meetings organised this year: 143
- Total social media reach: 27,372



List of Organisations and/or Countries:



“Due to this support of APCASO, Touched by TB could provide a common platform for CSOs and government officials to discuss and understand the UNHLM commitments in three areas and ways to follow up the commitments till 2030. This kind of Initiative was first time in india and it was very fruitful. Thanks a lot to APCASO for this innovative idea.”

Dr. Gopa Kumar, Touched by TB

Country Highlight: Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka (DAST)

Opening pathways for civil society and TB-affected community partners in ineligible countries

Sri Lanka remains ineligible to apply for funding under the Stop TB Partnership's Challenge Facility for Civil Society (CFCS), likely due to its relatively low TB burden of 26 reported cases per day in 2023. However, an estimated 12 individuals continue to be missed by TB services daily, posing a risk of ongoing transmission, particularly following the COVID-19 lockdowns. A community, rights, and gender (CRG) assessment highlighted gender disparities and stigma that limit access to TB services, especially among women and key and vulnerable populations.

APCASO's partner, DAST, identified these challenges through its ongoing work and sought to strengthen Sri Lanka's TB response by addressing CRG issues, promoting rights-based approaches, and fostering collaboration among government, civil society, and

community stakeholders. As DAST was unable to access CFCS funding directly, APCASO successfully advocated with the Stop TB Partnership to include DAST's proposal as a subgrant under APCASO's CFCS 12 project, securing nearly USD 42,000 to support implementation.



With APCASO's technical guidance, DAST has achieved several key milestones:

- **TB CRG Assessment:** The first national study to identify CRG-related barriers and priorities in the TB response.
- **District TB Networks:** Seven networks established and linked with government TB clinics to facilitate collaboration and local engagement.
- **Awareness Campaigns:** Ten small grants awarded to CSOs to conduct awareness and sputum collection activities in 10 districts.
- **Capacity Building:** Two workshops conducted, engaging over 80 participants from CSOs across seven districts.
- **Community Engagement Committee:** Established in partnership with the National Programme for Tuberculosis Control and Chest Diseases (NPTCCD) to institutionalize community consultation at the national level.

These initiatives have strengthened community-led participation and enhanced coordination between DAST and the NPTCCD, positioning DAST as a key civil society actor in the national TB response.

APCASO remains committed to supporting DAST's leadership in advancing inclusive, community-driven approaches toward Sri Lanka's goal of ending TB by 2030.

“In 2024, one of APCASO's key contributions to DAST was its trust in DAST's ability to identify priority issues and its support in directing investments accordingly. This trust enabled DAST to elevate tuberculosis (TB) as a priority issue among community and civil society organizations that had primarily been engaged in the HIV response. It also facilitated stronger collaboration between the NPTCCD and civil society. A concrete outcome of these efforts is the launch of a pilot peer educator intervention, which will be implemented under the GC7 national TB grant.”

Roshan DeSilva, Executive Director, DAST

c) Communities in Pandemic Preparedness and Response (COPPER)



Background and Objectives:

COPPER aims to facilitate communities to effectively engage in country-level PPR processes and mechanisms to ensure PPR policies, strategies, and programs integrate health equity, human rights, and gender equality. This ensures that (a) communities have access to accurate and timely information, tools, and resources on PPR; (b) capacities of communities at national level and facilitate their engagement in country-level PPR are strengthened; (c) meaningful community engagement in PPR governance are supported; and (d) coordination and networking with traditional HTM are enhanced.



Year(s) of Implementation:
2024 - 2025

Funder:
Global Fund

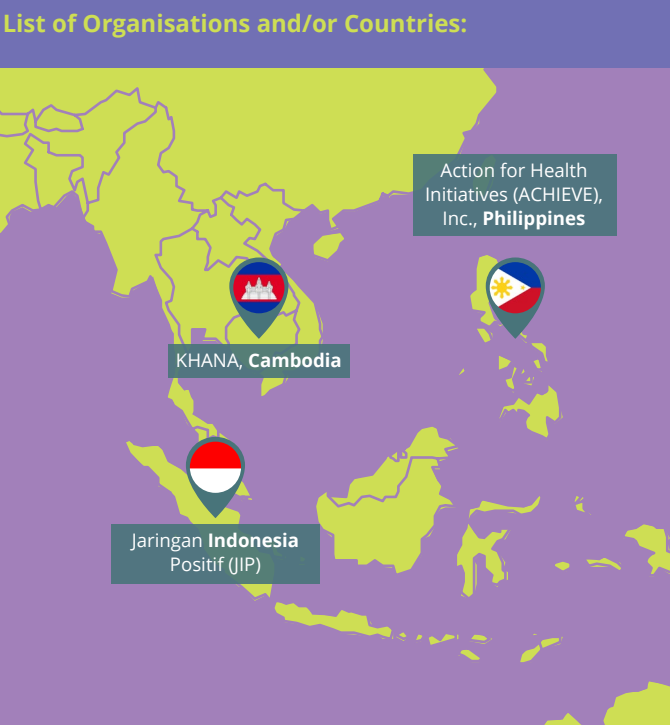


- Major Activities:**
- Organised 4 LESSONS webinars that provided an orientation on the basics of PPR; the Pandemic Accord; One Health and Climate Justice; and country-level PPR initiatives under this project
 - Updated the CELG website into COPPER website and hosted the COPPER project including LESSONS webinar recordings and resources
 - Provided technical support in the implementation of COPPER in 3 countries: Cambodia, Indonesia, and the Philippines

- Key Results:**
- No. of country partner subgrantee: **3**
 - No. of materials produced: **8**
 - Total social media reach: **7,298**

“The COPPER Project workshop on Enhancing Community Capacity for Human Rights and Advocacy in the Context of PPPR is ACHIEVE’s major achievement under COPPER Project. I was in awe to witness a diverse group of participants from the Government Agencies, NGOs, private sectors, key affected populations from TB, HIV, and people who use/inject drugs, the youth sector, migrant workers, the TODA community, and Indigenous people. The workshop was a realization that PPPR is everyone’s commitment to upholding, regardless of age, gender, status, culture, or beliefs.”

Florita Dalida, Founder TB HEALS



“One of the major achievements of ACHIEVE is forming a coalition that will advocate and ensure national PPPR policies and strategies. ACHIEVE brought together diverse civil society organizations working on HIV, TB, public transport groups, women’s groups, youth organizations, Indigenous peoples’ organizations, and other community groups critical in responding to health emergencies.”

Oliver I D. Barrameda,
COPPER CE Project Coordinator, ACHIEVE

d) Promoting and Supporting Evidence and Rights-Based Advocacy in Southeast East Asia and the Pacific on the Harm Reduction Programme



Background and Objectives:

This project is aimed to safeguard the rights of vulnerable communities impacted by harsh drug policies in Asia, ensuring that community-based Organisations (CBOs) can operate effectively. It prioritized evidence-based and human-rights-focused responses to drug issues, emphasizing community involvement. Additionally, the project also supports the organisation’s development as well as the capacity building of its staff to ensure that the organisation can sustain and are able to implement the project and its objectives.

Year(s) of Implementation:
2021-2024

Major Activities:

- APCASO and partners conducted a review meeting to discuss the implementation progress and challenges faced as well as to strategise on the way forward for the coming years.
- Project partners in the Philippines were able to engage effectively at the national policy level, this included the review of the Local Government Code (LGC), and the establishment of a stronger relationship between CSOs and the government.

Key Results:

- No. of country partner subgrantee: 5



List of Organisations and/or Countries:



“IPG’s Harm Reduction project with APCASO in the Philippines offered a compassionate, community-based alternative to the brutal and punitive war on drugs. In partnership with local duty bearers, it upheld the dignity of people often marginalized and criminalized, focusing instead on care, support, and health. The project championed a humane, holistic approach—providing essential social services to those whose lives include drugs.”

Arline Santos, Institute of Politics & Governance (IPG)

e) Regional Gender Justice and Sexual Rights Initiative (REGENERATE)



Background and Objectives:

REGENERATE is a civil society capacity-development, movement-building, and advocacy project that aims to address the long standing gaps around gender and sexuality in health policies and services related to HIV, TB, and malaria in the Asia- Pacific region. The initiative's goal is to have inclusive HIV, TB, and malaria programming and policy-making in Asia-Pacific that respond to the needs of women and girls and people of diverse sexuality. The project envisions civil society and communities of key and vulnerable women and girls and people of diverse sexuality actively engaging in advocacy for gender justice and sexual rights regionally in Asia Pacific and in 3 countries (Cambodia, Thailand, Vietnam) to develop gender-just and sexual rights-affirmative HIV, TB, and malaria programming and policy making.

Year(s) of Implementation: 2024-2027
Funder: L'Initiative and Expertise France

Major Activities:

- The launch and kick-off meeting of the REGENERATE Initiative to promote gender justice and sexual rights in Asia Pacific, with L'Initiative and country partners in June 2024 (<https://apcaso.org/regenerate-kick-off-meeting-press-release/>)
- The grant making, workplan development and grant disbursement for 3 country partners.
- The launch of the Regional Gender Justice & Sexual Rights (REGENERATE) Platform for

the Asia-Pacific region - a solidarity building, cross-learning, and advocacy space for community and civil society organisations and networks committed to working together to promote, advance, defend, and protect gender justice and sexual rights, particularly of key affected women and girls (KAWGs) and people of diverse sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics (SOGIESC) to HIV, TB, and malaria and broader health issues.

Key Results:

- No. of country partner subgrantee: **3**
- No. of materials produced: **1** (<https://apcaso.org/regenerate-project-brief/>)
- Total no. of participants who attended all meetings organised this year: **40-50**
- Total social media reach: **4,629**



List of Organisations and/or Countries:



“SWING, an organization, which represents LGBT people and sex workers, has often been overlooked by policies and budgets that only recognized female sex workers. With this project, terms like diversity and gender justice are now included, acknowledging LGBT individuals and sex workers. We express our gratitude to L’Initiative and APCASO for this recognition..”

Mr. Chamrong Phaengnongyang,
Co-founder and Deputy Director of SWING

f) Supporting, Mobilising, and Accelerating Research for Tuberculosis Elimination (SMART4TB)



Background and Objectives:

This project is an USAID cooperative agreement to accelerate the process to achieve the End TB goals in high burden countries. SMART4TB implements research studies with local partners including Community Advisory Board (CABs) to identify effective person-centered methods for finding, treating, and preventing TB through strengthening local capacities to conduct high-quality research.



Year(s) of Implementation:
Oct 2023 – Sep 2025 (Current implementing year)
Funder: Treatment Action Group (TAG)



Major Activities:

- APCASO has developed an additional module on TB and Gender to the CABLAB online learning course. The course intended to increase community engagement and broaden participation of communities in the research process. At the national level, the course is being introduced and rolled out to communities by project partners in 11 countries in Asia-Pacific.
- The Asia-Pacific Community Advisory Board (RCAB) contributed to the review of two TB research protocols.
- Conducted TB R&D and community engagement meeting among partners and researchers during the Union Conference in Bali, Indonesia.

Key Results:

- No. of country partner subgrantee: **11**
- Total no. of participants who attended all meetings organised this year: **25**
- Total social media reach: **2,405**

“Being part of the CABLAB initiative has been a truly empowering experience. The e-learning platform has opened doors to invaluable knowledge and skills, allowing me to actively contribute to advancing TB care and research. Reviewing protocols has been a rewarding opportunity to ensure that the voices and needs of our communities are reflected in meaningful ways. Representing the AP rCAB member various platforms has been an incredible journey—sharing stories, advocating for change, and driving action for a healthier future.”

Karishma Banjara, Trishuli Plus, Nepal

List of Organisations and/or Countries:



g) COMMUNITY Engagement Strategic Initiative on TB (TB CE SI)



Background and Objectives:

In 2024, ACT!AP & APCASO, with funding support from the Global Fund's Community Engagement Strategic Initiative (CE SI), Component 2 have continued the support to TB-affected communities in the region by implementing this project regionally and in 3 countries.

The goal of the project is to strengthen the capacity of TB community networks and organizations to engage in Global Fund processes at country level in order to:

- Generate and use data to inform advocacy and decision-making;
- Strengthen their capacity to mobilize and hold their representatives and decision-makers accountable;
- Access timely and relevant Global Fund-related information; and
- Drive program quality based on adoption of global guidance and sharing of best practice.

Year(s) of Implementation:

2024-2026

Funder:

Global Fund



Major Activities:

- Consultative engagement plan development and orientation meetings with other CE SI partners in countries and other stakeholders in Mongolia, Pakistan and Nepal to ensure better collaboration and coordination of the CE SI work in these countries.
- Grant-making, finalisation of workplan and sub-granting to 3 country partners.
- Capacity strengthening workshops through the adaptation of community engagement toolkit in 3 countries.
- Launch of the network of TB network in Nepal (ACT! Nepal) and Pakistan (ACT! PK)

Key Results:

- No. of country partner subgrantee: **3**
- Total social media reach: **3,172**

List of Organisations and/or Countries:



“It is important for us to work together to identify discriminatory barriers to TB care and reinforce the need for rights-based, stigma-free TB services in Mongolia.”

Tumendemberel, an MDR-TB survivor and member of MTC's leadership program participant



5 Key Networks and Partnerships

a) Activists' Coalition on TB – Asia-Pacific (ACT! AP)



Year(s) of Implementation:

Since 2016

Funder:

n/a

Background and Objectives:

The Activists' Coalition on TB – Asia Pacific (ACT! AP) is the first and only Asia-Pacific regional coalition of TB activists and civil society organisations working on TB. With more than 30 members across 15 countries in the Asia-Pacific region, ACT! AP has committed to its new set of Commitments to Action for 2024-2026 that focus on: elevating political attention to end TB; realising inclusive community, rights, and gender (CRG); overcoming barriers to prevention, treatment, and diagnostics, and vaccine; adequate and strategic investments; and a coordinated and capacitated TB community and activist movement.

Major Activities:

- Development of its new 2024-2026 Commitments to Action, in line with electing its new Steering Committee, which is now led by Choub Sok Chamreun (Cambodia) and Bazra Tsogt (Mongolia) as its co-Chairs
- ACT! AP was selected as Track Lead for Track 2: Empowering Communities: Strengthening Systems to end TB for the Union Conference Community Connect, and has been involved in the preparations, documentation, and participation at the Community Connect section of the Conference, including coordinating a booth
- ACT! AP co-hosted a number of big meetings this 2024, to include the “Beyond the HLMS” Meeting in Siem Reap, wherein a Siem Reap statement which reiterated our commitment to advancing a rights-based, people-centered vision for health that calls for action on new TB prevention and treatment, climate justice, and pandemics; and the Donors Dialogue at the Union Conference, which discussed the gaps and opportunities in supporting community-led responses in the Asia-Pacific region.

Key Results:

- Total members: **35**
(3 new members)
- No. of materials produced: **2**
- Total no. of participants who attended all meetings organised this year: **30**
- Total social media reach: **5,030**

List of Organisations and/or Countries:

- Asia-Pacific Network of People living with HIV (APN+), Asia-Pacific
- Asia-Pacific Transgender Network (APTAN), Asia-Pacific
- Results International, Australia
- KHANA, Cambodia
- Health and Development Alliance (HEAD), Cambodia
- Global Coalition of TB Activists (GCTA), India
- Spiritia Foundation, Indonesia
- Menara Agung Pengharapan (MAP) Internasional, Indonesia
- Perhimpunan Organisasi Pasien TB (POP TB), Indonesia
- Lao People living with HIV/AIDS (Lao PHA)
- MTC, Mongolia
- Trishuli Plus, Nepal
- APLHIV, Pakistan
- Burnet Institute, Asia-Pacific
- Key Populations Advocacy Consortium (KPAC), Papua New Guinea
- Samahan ng Lusog Baga, Philippines
- Innovations for Community Health (ICH), Philippines
- World Vision, Thailand
- SCDI, Vietnam



“ACT! AP in 2024 continued to lead and thrill ensuring we are well representing the voice of people with TB regionally and globally. I have been very honoured to take part in this amazing regional platform. Thanks to the strong support and partnerships, the voice of people with TB is louder than ever.”

Choub Sok Chamreun, ACT! AP
Co-Chair

“APCASO, through Challenge Facility for Civil Society and as host of Activists’ Coalition on TB Asia - Pacific (ACT! AP), continues to play a significant role engaging, coordinating and capacitating TB local community organizations and people affected by TB across the Asia-Pacific region. Efforts to advocate for political will, increased financing and to overcome barriers to quality TB services are now and will continue to be central to saving the lives of people affected by TB and ending the epidemic by 2030.”

Viorel Soltan, Team Leader, Country & Community
Support for Impact (CCS4i), Stop TB Partnership



b) REGENERATE Platform

Background and Objectives:

A part of the REGENERATE Initiative, the Asia-Pacific REGENERATE Platform serves as a space for civil society, academics, and technical experts to unite and advocate for gender-just and sexual rights-affirmative health policies and programming. In addition to its advocacy role, the Platform offers capacity building training and mentoring for members and conducts strategic dialogues and consensus-building sessions to develop a cohesive national advocacy agenda on gender justice and sexual rights (GJSR).

The platform envisions creating a safe, just, and inclusive world that celebrates diversity and upholds sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) for key affected women and girls (KAWG) and people of diverse SOGIESC (PoDS) by

- Emphasising cross-learning and info-sharing, enabling the exchange of country best practices and developments to foster collaboration.
- Promoting joint advocacy by coordinating regional efforts based on shared priorities, supporting country campaigns, and monitoring opposition to GJ and SR initiatives.
- Building solidarity and alliances across countries and movements, engaging with like-minded partners to strengthen connections at both regional and international levels.
- Emphasising resource sharing and mobilization, facilitating the exchange of technical expertise, tools, and materials, while also securing resources for building GJSR movements and operationalizing the REGENERATE Platform's vision.



REGENERATE Platform 1st Meeting, 4-5 October 2024

This was a historic day for us as we convened the inaugural meeting of the Regional Gender Justice & Sexual Rights (REGENERATE) Platform in Bangkok. This two-day event brought together existing and new partners from the region working on gender justice and sexual rights to establish a platform that will focus on the needs of key and vulnerable women and girls, as well as people of diverse sexualities. The REGENERATE Platform will serve as a civil society and community space for uniting civil society, academics, and technical experts across the region to advocate for gender-just and sexual rights-affirmative health policies and programming. During this convening, we co-created the vision of the platform, what we want to achieve together as a movement and strategised on the way forward for the affiliates of the platform to guide its future activities and advocacy efforts toward building a gender-just world!

“We have a long-standing relationship with APCASO and its work with all its members, and we know its tireless advocacy efforts, at regional level and beyond, to strengthen community systems and advance human rights. The year 2024 has been particularly rich in our partnerships, especially regarding the mobilization of all stakeholders and participation in high-level dialogues dedicated to pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response, as well as universal health coverage and tuberculosis. But also, the launch of the regional REGENERATE project, which aims to strengthen community capacity in gender equality and sexual and reproductive health rights. These are all collaborative spaces that will allow for the emergence of leaders, the provision of training, and advocacy activities to ensure that these issues are integrated into health policies to combat pandemics.

“Now more than ever, this partnership seems absolutely essential to us!”

Adeline Lautissier, Unit Manager for Southeast Asia and Ukraine, Expertise France

6 Key APCASO and Partners' Convenings in 2024



a) REGENERATE Kick-off Meeting

12-14 June 2024

Regional Gender Justice and Sexual Rights Initiative REGENERATE kick-off meeting with our partners KHANA Cambodia, SCDI and Swing Thailand started with a bang - joined by the amazing L'Initiative team in Bangkok. The first day was productive in providing an overall view of what is ahead for the project while fostering team-building and cross-learning among the partners. This exciting project is supported by Expertise France through L'Initiative to achieve inclusive HIV, TB, and malaria programming and policy-making in

Asia-Pacific that respond to the needs of women and girls and people of diverse sexuality. The 3 year project aims to ensure civil society and communities of key and vulnerable women and girls and people of diverse sexuality actively engage in advocacy for gender justice and sexual rights regionally in Asia Pacific and in 3 countries (Cambodia, Thailand, Vietnam) to develop gender-just and sexual rights-affirmative HIV, TB, and malaria programming and policy making.



b) Beyond the HLMs

17-21 June 2024

APCASO, KHANA Cambodia and ACT!AP with the support of Stop TB Partnership and Expertise France and L'Initiative hosted by the Ministry of Health of Cambodia convened a 3-days multi-stakeholder meeting in Siem Reap, Cambodia. This event is being held to share developments on the 3 HLMs at global, regional, and country levels especially in the context of monitoring and accountability for each of the HLMs to identify key issues and moments that can be leveraged for cross-sector advocacy and accountability also to increase political support and leadership from governments in the region.



c) Climate and Health Dialogue

2-3 October 2024

APCASO had the privilege of bringing together civil societies working on climate and health from the region to attend the Regional Climate & Health Dialogue jointly organised by the French Embassy in Thailand and Mahidol University with APCASO as civil society partner from 2-3 October 2024, in Bangkok. This groundbreaking event brought together around 120 of the region's climate and health stakeholders - civil society, government, academia, development and technical partners. The dialogue provided a one of its kind platform for intersectional dialogue and learning to discuss regional issues linked to the impacts of climate change on human health and on the better anticipation, prevention and preparation for public emergencies and climate change under the One Health approach. We take this opportunity to share our deepest appreciation to L'Initiative and Expertise France for funding the civil society participation to this dialogue and ensuring that the voice of communities most affected by climate change is heard loud and clear in these spaces and discourses.



d) Big 3 at the Union Conference

12-16 November 2024

TB R&D and Community Engagement Learning Session

During the session, the research team from Treatment Action Group (TAG) and @SMART4TB shared the latest information and interventions on TB diagnostics and therapeutics, which enabled rCAB to discuss and come up with great ideas and plans to engage more in TB diagnostics and treatment for the communities we serve under the SMART4TB. It was a great session where rCAB members managed to share their ground experiences with the research team and to hear about the gaps in engaging with TB research and accessing TB diagnostic and treatment.

Donors Dialogue: Financing Community Systems Strengthening for Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness, and Response (PPPR), TB, and UHC

Panellists and presenters at the Dialogue discussed the grim reality and challenges of the financing landscape especially for civil society and community-led responses; the politicised state of health and the non-prioritisation of supporting long-term movement-building and advocacy; and potential opportunities to promote community-led responses, as well as avenues to support these initiatives under existing funding support both domestically and bilaterally. APCASO commits to continue this conversation as we jointly build towards identifying possibilities and frontiers to ensure that community-led responses will be sustained.



e) ACT!AP & rCAB Reception

13 November 2024

This event was to celebrate the Asia-Pacific Community Advisory Board (rCAB) official launch event after two successful years of project implementation and entering an exciting third year with the new logo!





f) APCASO and Partners at the Union Conference

12-16 November 2024

ACT!AP Booth

ACT!AP, hosted by APCASO, set up a booth at the Union Conference Community Connect Zone to present its new Commitments to Action (CtA) 2024-2030, as well as ACT! AP's and its members' ongoing initiatives. Visitors also had a chance to participate

by writing their own personal commitments aligned with CtA. APCASO also showcased its new publications related to TB, CLM, and pandemic preparedness and response during the Union Conference week.

Community Connect Presentation

APCASO

RD Marte, presented on "Advocacy Across Borders: A Case Study of the 1/4/6x24 Campaign's National, Regional, and Global Approach to Advocacy," sharing progress and next steps for the campaign. The presentation highlighted how communities and civil society in Asia-Pacific are being mobilized to advance the 1/4/6x24 goals, particularly after the 2023 Health High-Level Meetings. **15 Nov 24**

Jeffry Acaba, presented on the "Setting Advocacy priorities: TB Communities' Action for the Global Fund Replenishment Cycle workshop" which aims to empower TB affected communities, civil society members, and TB survivors by deepening their understanding of and engagement with the Global Fund replenishment cycle. **14 Nov 24**

Pattariya Maleehom, presented the newly added module on TB and Gender which focuses on the general information of TB in the context of gender and the importance of including gender in TB research and studies was presented. **12 Nov 24**

APCASO Partners

Dr. Gopa Kumar from **Touched by TB, India**, spoke at the panel of "Survivor-Led networks as a catalyst for ending TB in high burden countries." **12 Nov 24**

Cao Thi Ngoc Anh from **SCDI, Vietnam**, spoke at the "Civil society, advocacy and community engagement symposium." **13 Nov 24**

Phorng Chanthorn from **KHANA, Cambodia** and **Dr. Bazra Tsogt** from **MTC, Mongolia**, spoke at the "Future in Motion: 2024 Asia-Pacific TB Forum; From global commitments to local action- implementing the UNHLM Declaration on TB." **12 Nov 24**



Internal Events and Meetings



a) Staff Retreat in Ubud

17-21 November 2024

From 17-21 November, APCASO staff had the opportunity to do the retreat in Ubud, Indonesia. This staff retreat gives a pulse after so many things have been happening throughout the year. This retreat provided a much needed reset after a busy year. To prioritize, APCASO ensured that staff could travel and spend quality time together. During the retreat, we visited several places including Terman Dedari, where we met our partner from JIP, Pura Tirta Empul Temple, caught the sunset and watched Kacak dance at the Pura Dalem Taman Kaja. We returned home feeling refreshed, fulfilled, and united as a TEAM.

b) APCASO end of the year staff planning

18-19 December 2024

As 2024 came to a close, the APCASO team gathered for a two-day planning session to reflect on the past year and prepare for 2025. We started sharing personal insights on the challenges, accomplishments of 2024. The discussion helped us recognise our progress and allowed us to share best solutions moving forward and to set the stage for a fresh start. Looking ahead to 2025, we developed strategies to enhance our work and created a detailed work plan outlining major milestones and activities for the year with the clear plan in place.



c) 2024 APCASO CoR and Staff Reflection and Planning Meeting (RPM)

30 April – 01 May 2024

For two days, APCASO’s Council of Representatives (CoR) and staff convened to seek advice, feedback, and recommendations as the APCASO team chart its 2024 operations and activities. Specifically, the staff presented its 2023 achievements and challenges; upcoming programs, projects, and engagements; and areas of work that need to be prioritised for 2024. Key results from this meeting included 5 thematic workplans that focused on APCASO’s internal workstreams: organisational development; monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL); focal point engagement; emerging themes; and communications.



d) 2024 Council of Representatives Governance Meeting

2 May 2024

The CoR met again following the RPM to discuss governance-related matters, particularly of the organisation’s overall financial health, programmatic thrusts, and staffing matters. , A representative of the staff was also invited to speak on behalf of the APCASO secretariat team with regards to staff requests and concerns.



7 Looking Forward

We remain grateful to all our partners and supporters for making all the achievements of 2024 possible – these are our collective achievements; these are the region’s achievements.

While we celebrate our accomplishments though, we remain mindfully aware of the huge work that still needs to be done, and challenges that still need to be overcome, to fulfil our vision of just, equitable and inclusive societies that respect, fulfil, and advance the rights of key, vulnerable and marginalised communities, and enable their equitable access to health, development, and social justice.

And challenges do abound. Conservative, anti-rights movements and governments continue to take root in a lot of countries in our region and in donor countries. Resources for social justice, advocacy, movement

building and for our region have become ever more challenging to secure. Calls for whole-of-society and intersectional responses to health and rights gain in popularity but these calls are still not translating into country, regional approaches to health and development. The climate crisis and changing world and regional demographics if not managed will spring new and emerging health issues and exacerbate existing access to health challenges. And these are to name just a few.

For APCASO, moving forward, we will focus our energies on strengthening the resilience and sustainability of our network. At the same time that we do this internal-focused work, we will also support initiatives that safeguards and sustains work for health and human rights, especially of the most vulnerable and marginalised communities.



“Moving forward, we will strengthen our network’s resilience and sustain our work for health and human rights — especially for the most vulnerable.”

RD Marte

8 The People behind APCASO



APCASO is an Asia-Pacific regional civil society network organisation that serves as a catalytic platform for advocacy and community systems strengthening for health, social justice, and human rights for key, vulnerable, and marginalised communities in Asia and the Pacific. We work with civil society and community-led organisational partners in Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Indonesia, India, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Staff:

RD Marte - Executive Director
Jeffry Acaba - Programme Manager
Mangala Namasivayam - Programme Manager
Pattariya Maleehom - Programme Officer
Chalita Auesirtrakul - Programme Officer
Sharmila Bhandari - Programme Officer
Jeeraporn Pakornthadaphan - Operation Manager
Rattapol Sricharoen - Operations Officer
Ancharat Kaewmorakod - Finance Manager
Prapaphorn Nunthaviriyant - Accountant
Pairoh Surawanna - Office Assistant



Council of Representatives:

Mara Quesada (Chair), Philippines
Choub Sok Chamreun, Cambodia
Masaki Inaba, Japan
Puan Meirinda Sebayang, Indonesia
Asghar Satti, Pakistan

Board of Directors:

Mr. Kongpan Pramroj, Chair
Ms. Nittaya Phanupak Pungpapong, Vice Chair and Treasurer
Mr. Nachale Boonyapisomparn, Secretary
Mr. Puchong Senanuch, Board member
Ms. Supecha Baotip, Board member



Focal Points:

ACHIEVE (Philippines)
AJF (Japan)
Alliance Myanmar (Myanmar)
APLHIV (Pakistan)
CHIAs (Laos)
JIP (Indonesia)
KHANA (Cambodia)
KPAC (PNG)
Lhak-Sam (Bhutan)
MTC (Mongolia)
NCPI+ (India)
PT Foundation (Malaysia)
SCDI (Vietnam)
Spiritia Foundation (Indonesia)
SWING (Thailand)
Trisuli Plus (Nepal)

5 Vision, Mission, Focus of Change

Our Vision

We envision just, equitable and inclusive societies that respect, fulfil, and advance the rights of key, vulnerable and marginalised communities, thereby enabling their equitable access to health, development, and social justice.

Our Mission

We bring together and support community and civil society organisations to improve advocacy and community systems in order to secure health, human rights and social justice for key, vulnerable and marginalised communities.



Our Focus of Change



Social Justice: Respect and consideration for social justice, community empowerment, human rights, and gender transformation become the normative approach in health and development responses in the Asia Pacific region.



Community System Strengthening: Civil society in the Asia Pacific region lead by example to establish and model best practices and standards on community systems strengthening that achieve health, social justice and development goals.



Improved Health Outcomes: Health-related policy and programme frameworks are equitable, people-centered, and right based; inclusive of mental health and well-being; and are prepared to effectively respond to emerging pandemics and other threats and challenges.

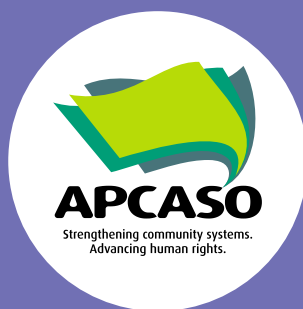


Strengthen the Movement: A strong APCASO convenes, supports, strengthens, grows, inspires and sustains civil society to champion social justice improved health outcomes, sustained equitable financing for health, and sets best practices and standards on community systems strengthening.



Grow and Sustain Health and Rights Financing: People-centered, rights-based, and equitable investments for health, social justice, and development, are strengthened, diversified, scaled up and sustained to meet the needs of key, vulnerable and marginalised communities.





66/5, 33 Tower, Sukhumvit 33 Road,
Klongton Nuea, Wattana,
Bangkok 10110 Thailand



www.apcaso.org



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