



East & South East Asia and Oceania Region

From choice, a world of possibilities



ESEAOR At a glance



The International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) is a global service provider and a leading advocate of sexual and reproductive health and rights for all. Founded in India in 1952, it has a Central Office based in London and six regional offices around the world. IPPF works in 171 countries and is a global network of 148 Member Associations (MAs). IPPF is registered under the UK Charities Act and has *Category One* consultative status at the United Nations.

IPPF believes that sexual and reproductive rights should be internationally recognised as human rights and therefore guaranteed for everyone regardless of race, age, religion and sexual orientation. We support the right of women to take control of their reproductive lives. We promote the rights of young people to make informed choices and decisions regarding their sexual and reproductive health. We defend the rights of individuals to pursue healthy sexual lives without fear of unwanted pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections including HIV. We promote equality between men and women, aiming to eliminate gender biases. IPPF works to safeguard these choices and rights for current and future generations in tandem with like-minded organisations.

IPPF - a worldwide movement

IPPF invests in family planning and sex education because they are fundamental rights vital to improving health and saving lives.





ESEAOR

The East and South East Asia and Oceania Region (ESEAOR), based in Kuala Lumpur, is one of IPPF's six regional offices. IPPF ESEAOR's position as both advocate and provider of sexual and reproductive health and rights is unique in that it works to build and strengthen capacities of its Member Associations (MAs) in 26 countries with them taking the lead role in managing in-country projects.

The ESEAOR Regional Office, with its Sub-Regional Office for the Pacific, serves as Regional Secretariat for the MAs. It is responsible for supporting MAs in the areas of strategic planning, programme development and operations, monitoring and evaluation, resource mobilisation, financial accountability, volunteer development, capacity building, knowledge management, quality of care and management information systems. IPPF ESEAOR also facilitates partnerships between its MAs and government agencies, non government organisations, civil society, and UN agencies in the field of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and HIV within and across the region.

IPPF ESEAOR's Member Associations currently provide sexual and reproductive health including HIV counselling, information and services through 5,140 service outlets in 26 countries which are carried out by staff and volunteers. Their services are available to all, irrespective of race, creed, political belief, gender, age or sexual orientation especially the most-at-risk-populations (MARP).

IPPF's mandate includes a specific focus on youth and ensures their access to its services. IPPF's policies emphasize empowerment and informed choice - choices about family planning, safer sex, accessing comprehensive treatment, care, and support.

Our Vision

We envisage a world in which every woman, man and young person has access to the information and services they need, in which sexuality is recognised both as a natural and precious aspect of life and as a fundamental human right; a world in which choices are fully respected and where stigma and discrimination have no place.

Our Mission

ESEAOR's programmes aim to improve the quality of lives of individuals through advocacy for sexual health and reproductive rights, and through services especially for the poor and vulnerable in society. We defend the rights of all young people to enjoy their sexual lives free from ill-health, unwanted pregnancy, violence, and discrimination, and for a woman's right to choose to terminate her pregnancy legally and safely. We also strive to eliminate sexually transmitted infections and to eradicate HIV and AIDS. We work in partnership with other organisations and donors to achieve these goals more efficiently and effectively.

The Five A's of IPPF



■ Access

Unequal access to sexual and reproductive health care is one of the greatest social and health inequities in the world today. Regrettably, it is the poor women and girls who bear the brunt of sexual and reproductive ill health. IPPF believes that everyone deserves access to the highest quality of health care without prejudice, for their own wellbeing and a healthy society.

IPPF, thus, works in partnership with individuals and communities to inform, educate, and improve people's sexual and reproductive health. Its service infrastructures are designed to respond to the needs of everyone especially the poor and marginalized women, men, and young people. In ESEAOR in particular, more than half of clients served are considered poor, marginalized, socially excluded or underserved.

Sexual and reproductive health is critical to human development and poverty reduction.

An example of IPPF's effort in expanding access to sexual and reproductive health services to populations in crisis and post-crisis situations is the SPRINT Initiative.

The SPRINT Initiative (Sexual and Reproductive Health Programme in Crisis and Post-Crisis Situations in East, Southeast Asia and the Pacific) is a three-year (2007-2010) AusAID funded programme that works to increase access to sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services for communities in humanitarian settings in the ESEAO region. The SPRINT Secretariat is housed within ESEAOR regional office, and its partners include UNFPA Humanitarian Response Branch, University of New South Wales and the Australian Reproductive Health Alliance.

To date, SPRINT has trained over 2800 health actors and supported 20 in-country trainings on SRH in emergencies, including China, DPRK, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Philippines, Solomon Islands and Timor Leste. The SPRINT Initiative is the first undertaking in the world to support the systematic scale up of SRH services in crises, and it is in the process of being rolled out globally.



In 2008, the Tuvalu Family Health Association, an IPPF Member Association, established a Youth Clinic and Youth Center to provide confidential SRH services and sexuality education to out-of-school youth in the capital city of Funafuti. Meanwhile, the Mongolian Family Welfare Association successfully lobbied for the inclusion of sexual and reproductive health and rights subjects in the informal and formal curriculum for adolescent reproductive health in the country.

■ Adolescents

Asia has a young population - 1 for every 5 persons is between 15-24 years old. The most recent social and demographic data indicate that adolescents and in general, young people (aged 10-24) in the region are confronted with sexual and reproductive health problems such as unwanted pregnancies, sexually transmitted infections, HIV/AIDS, and violence. But too often, young people are denied the information and support they need which makes them more vulnerable.

IPPF works to promote the recognition of young people's sexual and reproductive health and rights by partnering with young people themselves. It encourages open and honest discussions about young people's sexuality. Through the Member Associations, IPPF provides young people with information, services, and capacity building needed to ensure that all adolescents are supported and empowered to make informed choices about their sexual and reproductive lives.

In ESEAOR, increasing youth representation in governance is one of the regional priorities. Starting with the Regional Council, youth representatives make up 20% of its members and MAs have started to fulfill 20% youth representation in their governing boards. This ensures that their voices are heard, valued and acted upon.

■ Abortion

Restrictive abortion laws and lack of access to safe services kill hundreds of women each day and injure countless others because of unsafe abortion. It is a critical public health and human rights issue that disproportionately affects poor women. IPPF believes that when abortion is legal, accessible, and safe, women's lives are spared. IPPF encourages the provision of high quality safe abortion services to the fullest extent of law and works to change restrictive laws and attitudes to give women greater access to safe abortion and eliminate dangerous practices that harm women. IPPF invests in family planning and sex education in order to reduce unintended pregnancies and the need for abortion.

The IPPF strategic goal on abortion is based on a universal recognition of a woman's right to choose and have access to safe abortion. It is the aim of ESEAOR that all MAs in the region implement some form of abortion-related activities to achieve this goal. Currently, half of the ESEAOR MAs are actively advocating for reduced restrictions and increased access to safe legal abortions.

Every woman has the right to safe, legal abortion.

Linking sexual and reproductive health and HIV programmes and policies is critical for fostering a comprehensive response to HIV.



■ HIV/AIDS

HIV is preventable and manageable yet millions continue to become infected while millions more are unable to access treatment or care. In the ESEAO region, social and legal barriers that limit access to HIV-related programs and services increase HIV risk and vulnerability, especially among key affected groups such as sex workers, men who have sex with men (MSM), people who use drugs and young people.

Linking HIV and SRH responses is at the core of IPPF's work. Sexual and reproductive ill health and HIV share some root causes including poverty, gender inequality, and social marginalisation. A comprehensive sexual and reproductive health (SRH) response to HIV offers one of the most effective routes to reaching the many people vulnerable to HIV infection, or to those already living with HIV. IPPF ESEAOR encourages and supports its MAs in developing these linkages in their programming. Besides prevention programs and services, IPPF ESEAOR works with its MAs to expand treatment, care, and support services for those infected with and affected by HIV & AIDS. Strategies to reduce HIV-related stigma and discrimination remain integral to our programming, especially since the groups most affected by HIV are already marginalised within their societies to begin with.

Technical Support Facility for Southeast Asia and the Pacific (TSF SEAP)

The HIV/AIDS TSF SEAP was established by the **Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS** in 2006 as part of its strategy to strengthen the capacity for effective HIV and AIDS responses at the country level. The TSF SEAP is managed by **International Planned Parenthood Federation - East & South East Asia and Oceania Region (IPPF-ESEAOR)** based in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

The TSF targets and **harmonises its technical support through the provision of timely, competitively priced, high quality, short-term technical assistance (TA)** for scaling up HIV and AIDS responses at the country level. The TSF provides **capacity development** to its country partners and consultants within the region for effective management of TA and strengthening of the local and regional capacity in key thematic areas.

The TSF services are available to National AIDS Commissions, Health and other Ministries, Civil Society Organisations, as well as other key regional and national partners.

To find out more about the TSF, request technical support or register as a consultant, please visit

www.tsfseap.org



Sexual Rights: An IPPF Declaration

is a landmark document developed by IPPF in 2008 to enhance the Federation's understanding of the nature of human rights, the nature of human rights related to sexuality, as well as the differences and commonalities between sexual rights and reproductive rights. IPPF uses this tool to help create a world in which the freedom, equality and dignity of all people are guaranteed, especially in the areas of their lives related to sexuality.

■ Advocacy

Sexual and reproductive health and rights are central to individual and social well-being. This is why IPPF works with various stakeholders to ensure that everyone, regardless of wealth, sexuality or age gets access to good quality sexual and reproductive health information and care including family planning - one of the most effective ways to improve individual and community health and well-being.

Towards this end, the ESEAOR Region is investing a significant amount of energy and resources to advocate for and raise the profile of sexual and reproductive health on the poverty and international development agendas, as well as to strengthen the public, political and financial commitment to sexual and reproductive health and rights within its member countries.

Besides, ESEAOR is working to mainstream gender, sexuality and rights into SRH programmes which include the process of following up the implementation of *Sexual Rights: An IPPF Declaration*.

The freedom to make informed and voluntary choices about matters of sex and reproduction is essential to living a life of dignity.

Our Supporting Strategies

■ Governance and Accreditation

ESEAOR is committed to the vision, mission, and core values of IPPF. In order to stay relevant in the changing sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) environment of the region, ESEAOR ensures that MAs in the region are poised to meet any new SRHR challenge that will arise in the future, and are positioned to meet community and individual SRHR needs.

The IPPF Accreditation System is based on ten core principles of membership and underpinned by 49 standards which cover all key areas of accountability and organizational development. The Accreditation System provides assurance that the Federation's essential Standards and Responsibilities of Membership are adhered to and in so doing reassure our clients, donors, governments, partners, volunteers and staff that the services offered are of high quality and that there is transparency and accountability within the organization.

The IPPF Code of Good Governance

This Code of Good Governance was developed by a Task Force set up to strengthen volunteering and governance in IPPF. It was approved and adopted by IPPF in November 2007. Among others, the Code calls on governing bodies at all levels to ensure integrity and collective responsibility in the organisation.



In implementing the accreditation system, ESEAOR aims to facilitate Member Associations (MAs) individually to be recognised as strategic and progressive SRHR organisations that have good governance and are accountable to all stakeholders nationally. Governance thus focuses on strengthening MAs' policies and systems to ensure that they are open and democratic as an organisation and in its work, and adhere to the IPPF Code of Good Governance. MAs' institutional capability and effectiveness are improved and they can form strategic partnerships and alliances in the region to move forward the SRHR and MDG agenda by being more creative and focused in the translation of IPPF's Strategic Framework (Advocacy, Adolescents, HIV and AIDs, Abortion and Access) and ensuring there is shared values, collective integrity and accountability policies, systems and practices to support this.

Accreditation and governance in the words of one MA means

"Improved management, and improved working relationships with staff & volunteers. "

Samoa Family Health Association

■ Capacity Building

IPPF believes that capacity building of staff and volunteers is considered an essential input for MAs to become effective sexual & reproductive health entities at national, regional and global levels. The capacity building programme of ESEAOR addresses the varied levels of competencies among MAs in the region. Essentially, ESEAOR works to enhance the capacity of staff and volunteers to not only address the issues of the 5A's but also to put in place strong and effective financial and organisational management systems, including systems for monitoring and evaluation of their projects, documentation of best practices and lessons learnt and skills for generating resources to undertake their initiatives.

In summary, the capacity building strategy aims to strengthen MAs so that they can deliver effective SRH programmes and services and make greater contributions to the multi-sectoral responses to SRH and HIV in the region.

The "Pacific Regional Sexual and Reproductive Health Capacity Building Programme" funded by AusAID and NZAID aims to address the capacity enhancement needs of the Pacific MAs to be effective SRHR organizations.



IPPF works in partnership with individuals and communities to inform, educate, and improve people's sexual and reproductive health.

■ Resource Mobilisation

One of IPPF's goals is to have a sustainable and diversified stream of incomes at all levels. The huge demand for reproductive health services in the ESEAO region and the inadequacy of resources means that all possible funding opportunities, both from traditional and non-traditional sources will have to be explored to its paramount advantage, and funds will have to be used more cost effectively. Keeping in view the dynamic milieu in the development field, ESEAOR's resource mobilisation strategy promotes the involvement of the government, public, donors and private sectors. Thus, advocacy for resource mobilisation is one of the top priorities in the region. IPPF lobbies among governments for them to recognise their responsibilities and invest in sexual and reproductive health and rights of their citizens. In addition, IPPF provides technical assistance and training for MAs to improve their capacity to generate local and international resources.

Investing in the infrastructure of health care so that it is available to everyone, especially those most in need, will save millions of lives.

■ Knowledge Management

As a dynamic and learning organisation, IPPF-ESEAOR is constantly striving to improve the performance of its programmes and projects, as well as ensure full accountability to meet stringent donor requirements. Knowledge Management plays an important role in ensuring the availability of quality information and the dissemination of these information to the appropriate channels for decision making. In 2007, the RO launched its own website which enabled the uploading of news and reports on the programmes in the region, at the same time providing linkages to other information sources. This enables staff, volunteers, and even the public to have instant access to up-to-date information.

Within the broad strategy of knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation (M & E) is recognised as an integral component towards organisational effectiveness. The M & E policy of IPPF includes a commitment to build the capacity of staff and volunteers of MAs and increase their evaluation skills for decision making.

ESEAOR Member Associations

FULL MEMBERS

- Sexual Health & Family Planning Australia, Inc.
- China Family Planning Association
- Family Planning Association of Hong Kong
- The Indonesian Planned Parenthood Association
- Japan Family Planning Association, Inc.
- Korean Family Planning & Maternal Child Health Association of Democratic People's Republic of Korea
- Planned Population Federation of Korea
- Federation of Reproductive Health Associations, Malaysia
- Mongolian Family Welfare Association
- New Zealand Family Planning
- Family Planning Organization of the Philippines
- Samoa Family Health Association
- Singapore Planned Parenthood Association
- Planned Parenthood Association of Thailand
- Vanuatu Family Health Association
- Vietnam Family Planning Association

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

- Reproductive Health Association of Cambodia
- Cook Islands Family Welfare Association
- Reproductive & Family Health Association of Fiji
- Solomon Islands Planned Parenthood Association
- Tonga Family Health Association
- Tuvalu Family Health Association

Grant Receiving Non-Members

- Kiribati Family Health Association_
- Lao Project Office
- Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association
- Papua New Guinea Family Health Association

