



Asia-Pacific Gender CoP August Meeting

Notes, 4/8/2022, [Link to Recording](#)

We will continue to use [FABO to store files](#) related to the CoP.

Introductions and New Leadership

- We gave thanks for Belinda Lauria's leadership of the Asia-Pacific Gender CoP. Belinda has now taken up a new role at Plan and is no longer part of the CoP.
- Piia Lempiäinen (Felm, Hong Kong) will continue as Co-Chair

We warmly welcome new co-chairs:

- Mia Agnes Meiria, Yakkum / Indonesia
- Ranjita Borgoary, UELCI / India.

Technical Assistance

- Roscel gave an overview of the technical assistance provided to the gender COP which includes 3 streams:

Advocacy stream

- **PANZ and its partners subgroup:** it focuses on how to do advocacy about gender-based violence engaging faith leaders in the Pacific. The first technical assistance session to be held this week.
Jacinta is the reference person of this subgroup.
- **India, Cambodia, Indonesia forums subgroup.** It involves national forums to lead advocacy activities. The technical assistance focuses on clarifying the steps needed to identify gender issues for advocacy and how to lead the forum in relation to this. Sessions not started yet.
Ranjita is the reference person for this subgroup

Organizational stream

- **Policy subgroup:** it focuses on how to develop a Gender or GEDSI policy. One session already held and 2 more sessions to be organized (one in August and one in October).
Titin is the reference person for this subgroup.
- **Strategy subgroup:** it focuses on how to develop a gender strategy, considering the different situation/needs of support offices and of implementing partners. One session already held and 2 more sessions to be organized (one in August and one in October)
Piia is the reference person for this subgroup.

Within the end of the technical assistance period provided by Roscel, both the subgroups have been asked to prepare at least a work plan that includes the steps to implement the drafting of a policy and of a strategy within each organization

Programmatic stream

Related to the technical support offered to 2 organizations to support their work on specific programmatic areas. The 2 organizations are:

- **YAKKUM**, that is focusing on carrying out a gender analysis.
Mia is the reference person of this subgroup
- **CCDB** that has not yet defined the support focus and the subgroup reference person

In Person Meeting

- Proposal for an in-person meeting to be held from 27th to 29th September 2022 in Bali, Indonesia.
- This meeting is considered an opportunity for the gender COP members to build stronger relationships among each other and to link and share their work on gender with participants of another ACT Alliance regional meeting.
- Planning has started with the Co-Chairs, and we welcome further input from members into the [Concept Note here](#) (please input before 16th August 2022).
- Please express your interest in the meeting via our [Google Form here](#).

Engagement of theologians in the meeting

- Elaine explained that they will support the grounding of our work on gender advocacy, policies, and strategies from a faith perspective, as ACT, being a faith based alliance, needs to consider a human rights perspective as well as a faith perspective in carrying out its activities.
- The small group of theologians that will join the in-person meeting will start this kind of discussion in order to continue it virtually after the event in Bali. The identification of theologians will be carried out with the support of the Co-Chairs, considering already existing networks.
- In relation to this, Kylie mentioned that in the Pacific a lot of work grounded within the gender equality theology has been already done.

About participants selection:

- Rachel clarified that interested staff members can apply to join the in-person meeting even if they were not previously involved in the gender COP activities.
- Members will need to fund their participation in the meeting, however, there is limited funding available for people not able to cover their full costs, please express this in the [Google Form here](#), if you wish to be considered for funding.
- However, due to space limitation for the meeting, a prioritization among possible participants will be done, considering also that we want to support the learning of people already or will be actively engaged in the COP.

Suggestions for the in-person meeting:

- Jacinta proposed to map out or have a discussion among us to understand what agencies are doing, what resources they have developed, what could be shared and to identify areas where agencies could work together
- Titin suggested to have members presenting their work in relation to the technical assistance, to promote learning among different streams
- Rachel introduced the ideas for the meeting sessions proposed by the Co-Chairs listed in the meeting [concept note](#) shared online

Further information and suggestions **in relation to the technical assistance development** has been shared by Roscel, who explained that the current streams subgroups have been defined on the basis of the support needs expressed by members last year. Although the technical assistance started addressing these needs, some members are expected to struggle in implementing what learned. Therefore, in relation to the planning of next year, Roscel suggested to continue focusing on what the technical assistance is already working on and to use the in-person meeting to strengthen the continuation of the work already started.

SAVE THE DATE
Asia-Pacific Gender Community of Practice

In-Person Meeting, Bali, Indonesia
Tuesday 27th – Thursday 29th September 2022

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GENDER JUSTICE

- o In Person CoP meeting, 27th-29th September 2022
- o An online workshop for COP members planned for November 2022