

## **PS 3.6**

### **MULTI-SECTORAL POLICIES AND PRACTICES: ADAPTATION**

## | BACKGROUND

Adaptation action advances climate-resilient communities, ecosystems, and economies, with particular focus on vulnerable populations – the poor, women, and indigenous peoples. These groups are often the most vulnerable to climate change and are at greater health risk of its impacts. A single shock (e.g. a storm) or slow onset impact (such as sea level rise) can exacerbate existing vulnerabilities and increase the likelihood of locking communities already at risk into cycles of poverty. Support to countries to respond to the ongoing impacts of climate change and to prepare for likely impacts, including uncertainty, in the future, is imperative.

Climate change puts the healthcare system at risk by threatening infrastructure through extreme weather and in meeting the growing demand for treating climate-induced illness. The integration of climate risks and health into national planning and budgeting processes and strategies through Health National Adaptation Plans (H-NAPs), Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessments (V&A's), and National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs) is also a way of drawing attention to the issue. This enables countries to align their adaptation planning processes with their national development plans and other existing planning efforts while ensuring whole-of-society and multi-stakeholder engagement with key institutions, academia, civil society, NGOs, and the private sector.

## | OBJECTIVES

The objective of this session is to share examples and ideas for multisectoral practices and policies to improve understanding of and action on climate change adaptation and health across regions and to discuss challenges and opportunities. We will focus on strategies and interventions to promote health and adapt healthcare systems for climate change conditions through policy reform, innovation and modeling, national adaptation plans, and early warning detection systems. Through support to countries on adaptation policy and programming, the intention is to leverage and catalyze financing – domestic public finance and private finance – to scale up adaptation action in the context of supporting health.



Speaker

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Manjit Kaur “Jit” Sohal is a development professional with over 10 years of experience managing programs and projects in the Philippines and Southeast Asia. She currently serves as Regional Program Manager at Health Care Without Harm where she leads the implementation of the Climate and Health program in Southeast Asia, working with health systems, health facilities, and health professionals on decarbonization and resilience-building in the sector.

Before joining Health Care Without Harm, she worked with the Philippine Department of Social Welfare and Development focusing on the government’s social protection and disaster response, recovery, and rehabilitation programs. For more than four years, she headed the business development and project management unit of a Philippine-based consulting firm, where she also acted as project manager and consultant for various development projects funded by the Asian Development Bank, United Nations Children’s Fund, United Nations Development Program, National Economic Development Authority, among others.

Jit is a graduate of Political Science from the University of the Philippines-Diliman.