

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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Rudolf Abugnaba-Abanga is a Health/Development and sustainability professional with 20 years of national and international experience working with government, INGOs, local NGOs, academia, and development partners in health. He has an in-depth understanding of community and formal health systems in Ghana/ West & Central Africa. In the last decade, he has worked extensively in social accountability for health, young people's SRHR, women's socio-economic empowerment, and community participation in health governance. He has managed partnerships with local NGOs, INGOs, alliances, and academia.

Mr. Abugnaba-Abanga holds an MPhil in Development Studies and has additional expertise in policy influencing, PMEL, Meaningful Youth participation, and project management; he is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Environment and Sustainability at the University for Development Studies, Ghana, with a research focus on Climate Resilient Health Systems in low resourced settings.

He is the Ghana Country Research Lead for EU- Horizon 2020 financed implementation Research on Group care for Antenatal and parenting (GC_1000) implemented in 4 LMICs and 3 High-income countries.