

PS 2.2

INTER-SECTORAL, MULTI-SECTORAL APPROACHES: CHALLENGES (PART 1)

| BACKGROUND

Biodiversity, healthy ecosystems and human health and well-being are inextricably linked. Yet, we continue to see the destruction of our natural world to our own detriment.

Human ecological disruption, unsustainable consumption and production, climate change and pollution have driven both infectious and noncommunicable disease risk long before the COVID 19 pandemic. Today, the risk of both infectious disease outbreaks and noncommunicable diseases is increasing rapidly, as is the incidence of antimicrobial resistance. Increased disease risk is itself driven by increasing anthropogenic changes and the impacts of human activities on the environment. In particular, unsustainable exploitation of the environment due to land-use change, agricultural expansion and intensification, unregulated animal trade and consumption, pollution, the increased use of antimicrobials in food production systems and other drivers disrupt natural interactions and ecosystem integrity and combine to drive disease risk.

Climate change has also been implicated in disease emergence (e.g. tick-borne encephalitis in Scandinavia) and will likely cause substantial health risks in future by driving the movement of people, wildlife, reservoirs, and vectors, and spread of their pathogens, in ways that lead to new contact among species, increased contact among species, disrupt natural host-pathogen dynamics, by hindering food and nutrition security and food safety, and can also drive the risk of NCDs.

Some of the questions explored through this session will examine the main reasons that we have largely failed to value healthy ecosystems as a fundamental pathway to keeping humans healthy. It will also seek to address how key stakeholders and sectors can work together to achieve transformative change required to meet the Sustainable Development Goals and other global commitments (e.g. Paris Agreement, Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework).

What are the main reasons that we have largely failed to value healthy ecosystems and environments as a fundamental pathway to reducing the global burden of both infectious and non-communicable diseases?

- Lack of cross-sectoral engagement
- Inadequate political leadership/political will and public support
- Inadequate financing for multisectoral collaboration (role of taxation)
- Insufficient community empowerment (political voice, authority)
- Competing private sector interests

| OBJECTIVES

Finding synergies to maximize co-benefits can be meaningfully achieved only through concerted multi-sector, multi-stakeholder collaboration. Newly expanded initiatives and collaborations and tools to support the implementation of One Health and other integrated approaches to health, such as Ecohealth and planetary health, and other emerging or expanded partnerships, provide essential opportunities to address both global environmental challenges and infectious and noncommunicable disease risks.

The "Inter-sectoral, Multi-sectoral Approaches" session will be divided into two parts for an in depth look at the challenges (Parallel Session 2.2) associated with siloed actions to tackle the root causes of infectious and noncommunicable disease risk and opportunities (Parallel Session 2.5) and tools for cross-sectoral and multisectoral collaboration to overcome them. It will enable participants both to engage in a constructive dialogue spanning the full breadth of the biodiversity and climate challenges that we face and to discuss opportunities for engagement to catalyze cross-sectoral action through integrated approaches such as One Health, and other integrated approaches to health.



Panelist

Puthita Kachintorn

Pharma-agro Business Developer

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Growing up in a medical-affiliated family, even though not a medical personnel herself, Ms. Puthita Kachintorn has always set her heart in helping people. In doing so, she did her Master's Degree with the focus area of social enterprise, in a hope to be able to create a bridge in assisting the underserved groups of people. Fortunately, Ms. Kachintorn has found the opportunity to be a part of the initiative to restore Nan pristine headwater forest by Mr. Lamsam, Chairman Emeritus of KASIKORNBANK; presently, she is working as a Pharma-agro Business Developer of K Agro-innovate Institute (KAI), under KASIKORNTHAI Foundation.

Previously, Ms. Kachintorn also gained her experience working in corporate finance at Bangkok Dusit Medical Services (BDMS), the largest hospital operator network in Thailand, and working as a project manager in a health-tech start up. With her background revolving around the healthcare industry for most of her life, she found the key to bring about the success in creating the 'end-to-end value chain' of medicines from plants, which is the 'game changer' to sustainably restore Nan forest, is the connectivity among multi-sectors. Ms. Kachintorn is now serving as the squad team to make sure all the key players along the value chain, such as researchers, regulators, physicians etc., is moving towards the same goal with cross-collaborations in their works.

Being one of the forefront to build not only a 'multi-disciplinary', but also an 'end-to-end' value chain to change people's way of making a living in the forest, which is the deeply rooted problem leading to a never-ending deforestation, she needs to acquire extensive inter-sectorial knowledge and knowhow from both domestic and international level.

She strongly believes that her privilege of being born in the properly-served group of the society and her youth energy should be put into what really matters to the world. Ms. Kachintorn received her Bachelor's Degree in Business Economics from Mahidol University International College, Thailand and her MSc of Innovation and Entrepreneurship from Queen Mary, University of London.