

**SECURE Webinar Series #2:
Making Women's Challenges & Roles in the COVID-19 Vaccination Programs Visible
31 March 2022, 3:00-5:00 PM Manila time**

SECURE Webinar Series is as a platform to document, disseminate and promote innovative approaches and best practices for coronavirus disease (COVID-19) vaccination among Southeast Asia developing member countries (DMCs). It is supported by the ongoing technical assistance (TA), Supporting Enhanced COVID-19 Vaccination and Post-COVID-19 Health Security Response in Southeast Asia. The series serves as a venue for knowledge and information exchange among governments, development partners, CSO networks and other key stakeholders. Core messages of the SECURE Webinars are: (1) immunization is still the most critical public health intervention for COVID-19 control and prevention, and (2) COVID-19 vaccines must be treated as a global public good. A series brief will be produced after each webinar and shall be shared through designated social media platforms.

The SECURE Webinar Series #2: **Making Women's Challenges & Roles in the COVID-19 Vaccination Programs Visible** brings together experts, scholars and practitioners to share experiences and observations over gender concerns that beset the implementation of COVID-19 vaccination programs globally to help inform and strengthen the current and future vaccination initiatives within the Southeast Asia region.

According to the latest report of Global Health 5050, countries recording sex disaggregated data show that there is gender parity over first dose vaccinations among men and women.* However, data from Southeast Asia is mixed, with Thailand having the most number of women (64.5%) who received the first dose of vaccine followed by Viet Nam at 56.98%, while Cambodian and Indonesian women slightly outperforming men in first dose vaccinations (at 50% and 51%, respectively).* Gender parity in first dose vaccinations is still elusive in some Southeast Asian DMC such as Timor-Leste where women account for 47.4% of the vaccinations. * Some common barriers that prevent women from receiving vaccinations are lack of access to trustworthy information, limited physical access to health facilities or vaccination sites, vaccination hesitancy, gender norms, and other forms of vulnerabilities (i.e., vaccine disenfranchisement experienced by migrant workers and refugees, rural women and men in the wake of extreme weather disturbances, women who experience lack of agency at home and gender-based violence among others). Women are often tasked with caring for family members, though this does not always imply they hold the decision-making power over health issues in the household. It would be invaluable to understand factors affecting women's access to and their inclination (or disinclination) to receive the vaccines and the roles they can assume in support of the vaccination programs.

The SECURE Webinar Series 2 aims to highlight issues that were not adequately excogitated during the planning and implementation of vaccine roll outs and invites participants to reflect on their shared experiences through a gender lens to emboldened them to raise more questions on how COVID-19 inoculation initiatives affect and benefit women and men differently. Ultimately, this event seeks to contribute to the ongoing discourse of achieving herd immunity amidst pandemics where women's roles are made stronger and their concerns visible with the corresponding solutions given commensurate importance.

* Data from www.globalhealth5050.org. Sex-disaggregated data in first dose vaccinations are not available in the Lao PDR, the Philippines and Singapore.



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AGENDA

| Time | Session |
|-------------------------|--|
| 03:00 – 03:05 PM | Overview of the SECURE Webinar Series and TA6767 Dr. Eduardo Banzon, MD <i>Principal Health Specialist, Southeast Asia Department, Asian Development Bank</i> |
| 03:05 – 03:10 PM | Welcome Remarks Ms. Ayako Inagaki <i>Director, Southeast Asia Department, Asian Development Bank</i> |
| 03:10 – 03:15 PM | Gender mainstreaming in ADB operations and policies Ms. Samantha Hung Chief of Gender Equality Thematic Group Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department Asian Development Bank |
| 03:15 – 03:55 PM | Gender Dimensions in Vaccination Planning and Mobilization |
| 03:15 – 03:35 PM | Jean Munro Senior Manager, Gender Equality, GAVI |
| 03:35 – 03:55 PM | Dr. Lavanya Vijayasingham (PhD) Independent global health professional who recently completed her post doctoral fellowship at the UNU-IIGH |
| 03:55 – 04:15 PM | Vaccine Hesitancy Dr. Kenneth Hartigan-Go, MD Adjunct Faculty, Asian Institute of Management Resident Research Fellow, Ateneo School of Government Doctor of Medicine, College of Medicine, University of the Philippines-Manila |

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| <p>04:15 – 04:35 PM</p> | <p>Vaccine Communication & Community Engagement</p> <p>Dr. Beverly Lorraine C. Ho, MD Director IV, Health Promotion Bureau, Department of Health, Philippines Master in Public Health, Harvard, TH Chan School of Public Health Doctor of Medicine, College of Medicine, University of the Philippines-Manila</p> |
| <p>04:35 – 04:55 PM</p> | <p>Q and A</p> |
| <p>04:55 – 5:00 PM</p> | <p>Summary & Closing Remarks</p> <p>Dr. Eduardo Banzon, MD <i>Principal Health Specialist, Southeast Asia Department, Asian Development Bank</i></p> |