

Multistakeholder forum on responsible parenthood, reproductive health law and the Global Strategy
23 March 2015 | Cebu City, Philippines



More than 100 participants from civil society organizations, academia, youth groups, media and government took part in a forum on responsible parenthood and reproductive health law which also aimed to provide feedback to updating the Global Strategy. Organized by Philippine NGO Council on Population Health and Welfare, Inc., Kaabag sa Sugbo (Network of 36 NGOs in Cebu Province), Cebuano Youth Ambassadors, the objectives of this forum were to:

- support national and sub- national advocacy efforts to improve the policy environment and to ensure sufficient resources for reproductive health in the Philippines.
- provide inputs in the preparation of the Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health

Thoughts on the updated Global Strategy

Participants had an opportunity to hear some of the background and rationale for updating the Global Strategy. As part of the prospective setting for the full implementation of the reproductive health law in Philippines, they were asked their top three priorities and concerns the Global Strategy should address.



Some quotes from participants:

- “The Global Strategy will provide us with unified approach to more meaningful implementation the RPRH Law. “ (NGO)
- “It is about time to focus on young people.” (Youth representative)
- “We, in government should provide age-appropriate information and services.” (Association of Municipal Health Providers)
- “Accurate and timely information among parents, especially mothers, is what we need now.” (Academe)
- “Where are the men?” (Media)
- “The LGBTs are still neglected vulnerable groups.” (Transgender group)

Participants’ suggested ranking of priority concerns to be addressed in the Global Strategy

1. Availability, accessibility and affordability of quality health services
2. Health Systems Strengthening and Universal health coverage
3. Adolescents sexual and reproductive health and rights
4. Maternal care
5. Sexuality education for young people
6. Gender equity and equality
7. Governance and leadership