COPASAH
SHARED PRACTICE. GROUNDED KNOWLEDGE.

COPASAH proposed Strategic Plan for 2025-26

COPASAH proposed integrated strategy during 2025-26

In response to the significant challenges emerging during the post-COVID scenario, COPASAH is today strategically positioned globally to address the intersecting crises of democracy, human rights and public health in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs).

COPASAH recognises the critical need to promote people-centred health services that uphold and promote human rights, which are urgently required to respond to the needs of wide range of deprived populations and marginalized communities.

In the coming two years, COPASAH aims to contribute to overcome democratic deficits in health systems through community empowerment, capacity building, grounded knowledge generation, alliance building and advocacy. We are convinced that vibrant democracies produce responsive health systems.

Overview of challenges

COPASAH's overarching strategy focuses on addressing key challenges which prevent equitable access to healthcare in the Global South in the post COVID era, including:

- Hyper-centralization of health systems, linked with growing democratic deficits
- Marginalisation of various groups and communities requiring access to quality and responsive healthcare
- Gender inequity in health governance and implementation gaps
- Constriction of processes for community accountability and involvement in health systems
- Unregulated expansion of commercialised private healthcare and inadequately accountable public – private partnerships, linked with major cost and access barriers to healthcare

COPASAH work emphasis for this period:

Advancing Health Empowerment and Democracy (AHEAD)**:** to counteract the constriction of democracy related to health systems: improving access to public health systems with inclusivity and equity; respect for human rights, expanding participatory spaces; reclaiming health services through collective action.

Community mobilization and advocacy for Primary Health Care**:** to enhance community-engaged primary healthcare (PHC): Co-produce health solutions involving local healthcare providers, elected representatives and communities, mobilize patient groups, and strengthen the role of local governments and community health workers in health planning.

Health justice with access to healthcare for marginalised groups and gender equity**:** through focused social accountability and rights claiming processes.

Patients' rights through social accountability of private healthcare and public – private programmes**:** to ensure affordable and equitable access to entire range of healthcare, advocate for patient rights, document and challenge gaps related to schemes and programmes, and ensure effective grievance redress for patients.

Core strategies

Capacity building of diverse social actors:

- Strengthening abilities of civil society organizations, local elected representatives and community groups through focused orientation and training, and technical support.

- Enhancing advocacy skills and engagement strategies, particularly in the areas of health sector accountability, reproductive justice, and patients' rights.

Public Awareness and Social Outreach:

- Conducting subnational, national, regional and global workshops, webinars, and outreach programs.
- Utilizing digital platforms and social media to engage a broader audience.

Knowledge Generation and Sharing:

- Documenting case studies, best practices, and experiences related to people-led social accountability and health rights to build a robust evidence base.
- Facilitating knowledge exchange at subnational, national and international level through forums, publications, and online platforms.

Policy Evaluation and Advocacy:

Developing policy briefs and action plans to inform and influence health sector policy and implementation, scorecards to track health security commitments at national and regional levels

Compiling and analyzing legal and policy frameworks across regions, to identify opportunities for enhancing health rights.

Networking and Collaboration:

Strengthening country-level and regional COPASAH networks as well as global networking by engaging new members, fostering alliances, and participating in strategic meetings and global health agenda influencing processes.

Promoting inter-regional learning and collaboration among COPASAH hubs to address shared challenges and leverage collective strengths.

Key priorities for Regional and Thematic hubs

The regional and thematic hubs play a vital role in contextualizing and implementing these strategies, ensuring that COPASAH's global vision can be realized through local to global action, knowledge generation and advocacy.

COPASAH South Asia hub and Private healthcare accountability hub: Strengthen civil society in South Asia to raise awareness on Right to healthcare, evaluate policy implementation, foster dialogue on Patients' rights and Private healthcare accountability. Contribute to improving health policy implementation and generating grounded evidence on the private healthcare sector to inform the regional and global discourse.

COPASAH Western Africa: Strengthen civil society in West and Central Africa, to use the regional health security accountability framework for promoting transparency. Support five countries in implementing the framework and scorecards, deepen engagement with regional and global health networks.

COPASAH Eastern and Southern Africa and SRHR hubs: Support partners through capacity building and local accountability efforts on SRHR. Deepen engagement in regional and global SRHR processes, influence discourse with rights-based evidence, and enhance communication for sharing knowledge and resources across regions.

COPASAH South America: Expand COPASAH membership and support social accountability initiatives in South America. Improve access to key documents in Spanish, maintain a dynamic regional webpage, foster engagement with other hubs, and secure strategic alliances and funding for regional priorities.

COPASAH Europe: Enhance internal operations and visibility of COPASAH Europe, build member advocacy capacities, and expand regional influence. Facilitate discussions on urgent issues, produce a publication on health rights in Southeast Europe, and continuously update the regional health barometer.

COPASAH Mesoamerica: Contributing to a critical mass of grassroots indigenous organizations that implement legal empowerment and social accountability. Building coalition with civil society and social movements to implement the recommendations of Global Health Commissions at national level in the countries of the region.