



From Advocacy to Accountability: Empowering communities throughout the UHC Process

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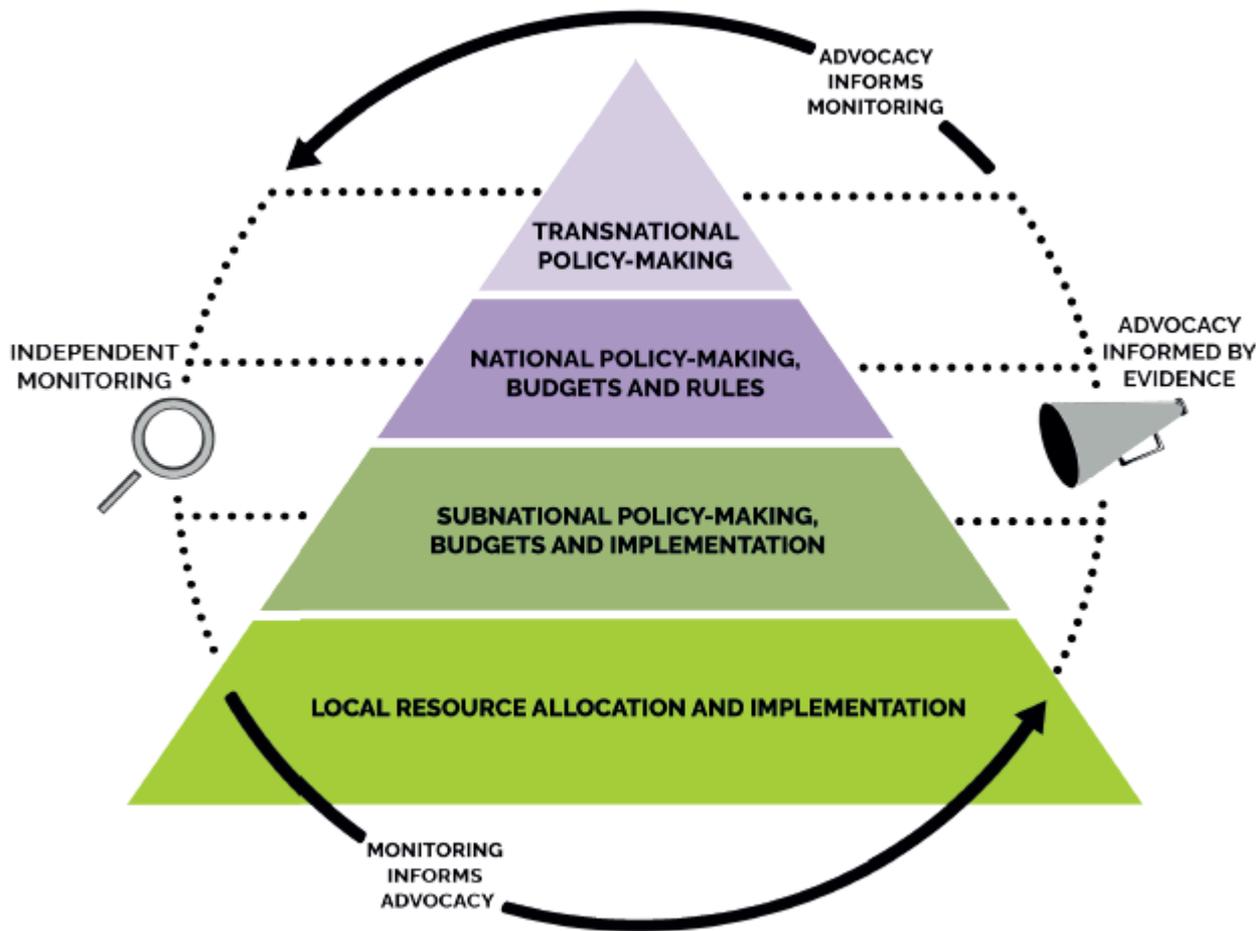
Prince Mahidol Award Conference, January 29, 2017



Objectives

- ✦ Introduce conceptual framework for civil society engagement
- ✦ Explore how civil society and community organizations have successfully engaged in the policy process in Guatemala
- ✦ Way forward for civil society organizations (CSOs) and community engagement given health reform proposals

A Conceptual Framework for CSO and Community Engagement



Source: Fox, 2016

CSO tactics vs. strategies

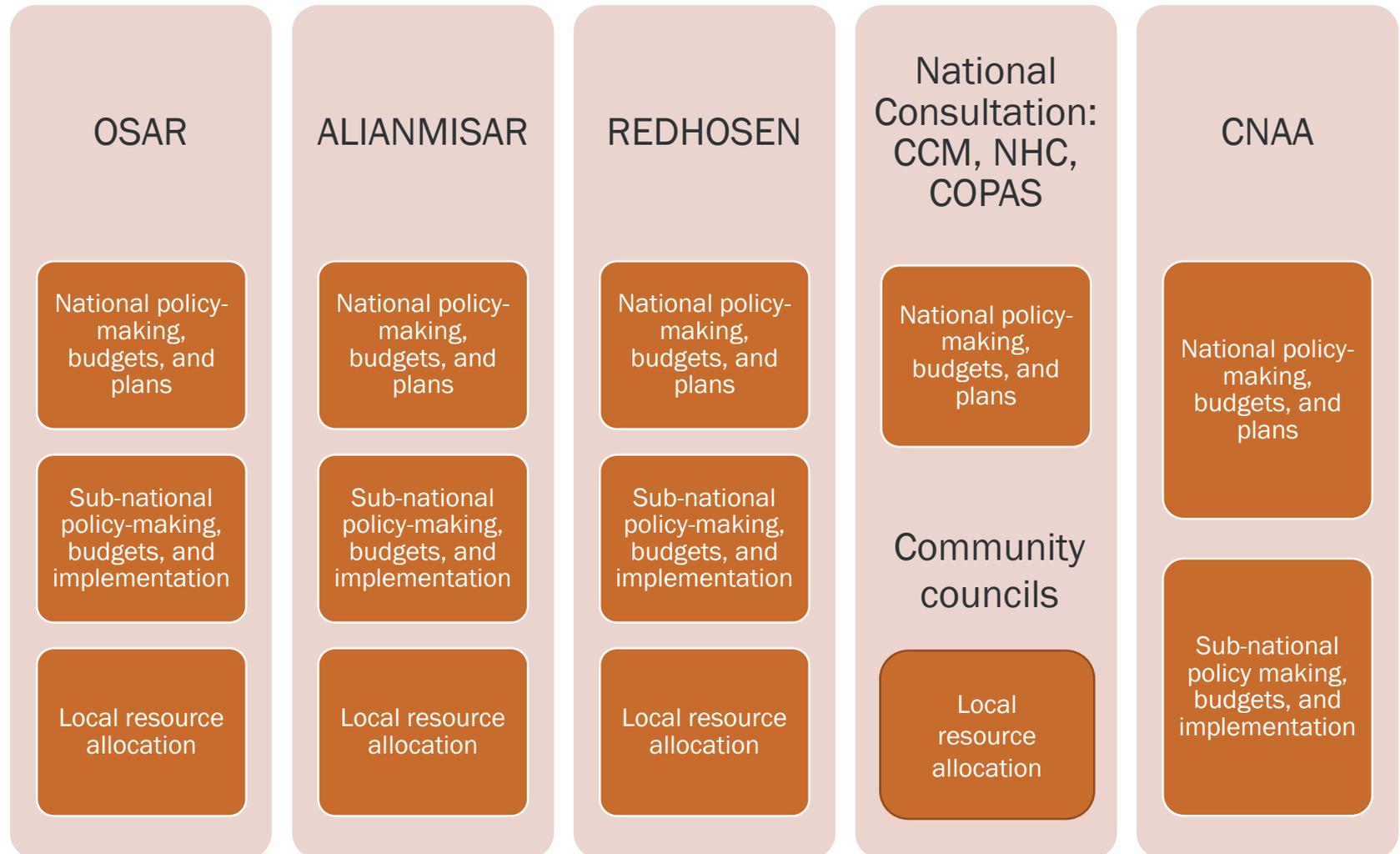
Tactics

- Tool-led interventions (often external)
- Limited to citizen voice efforts
- Information provision
- Limited to “local” arenas.

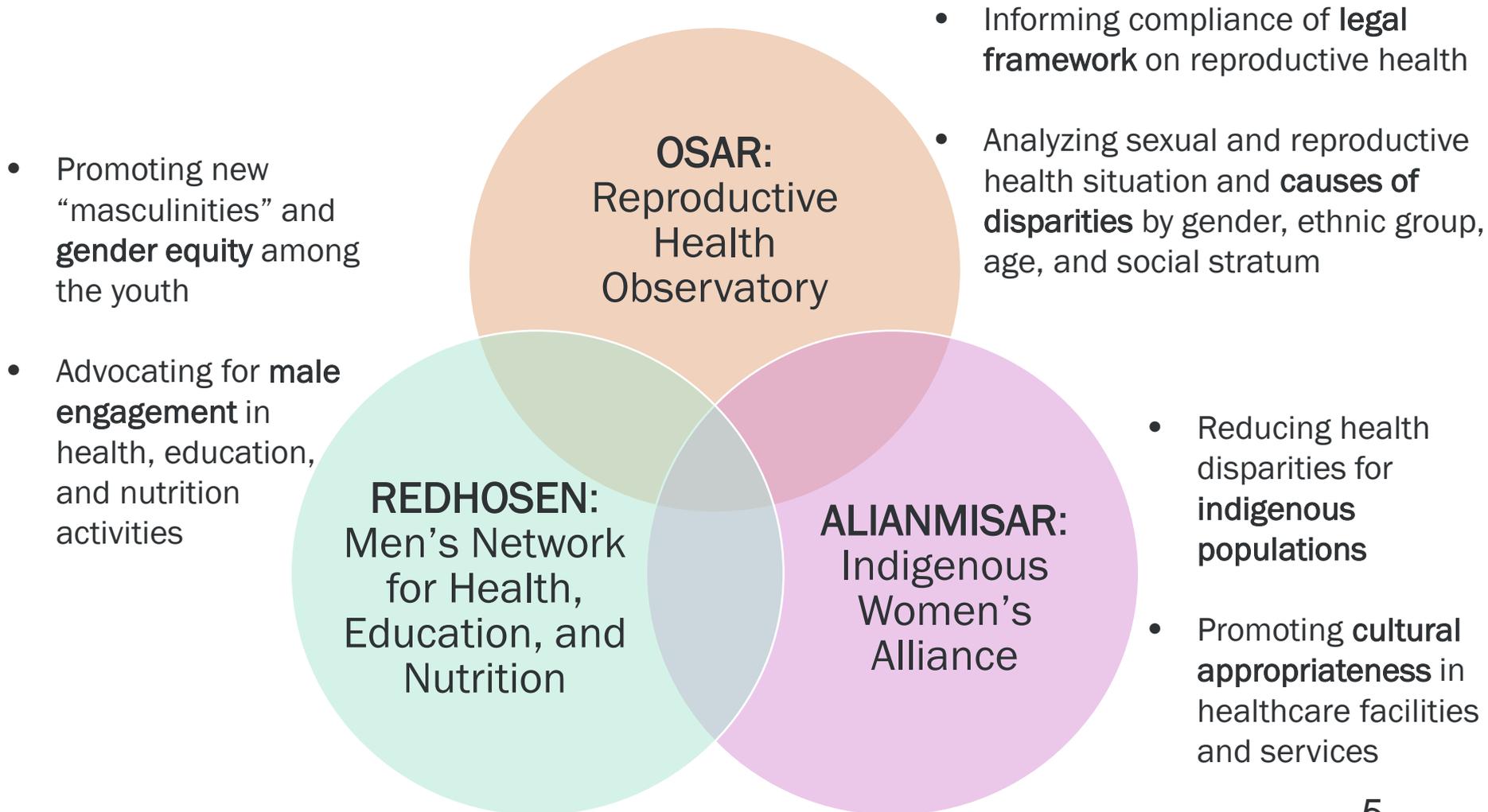
Strategies

- Multiple, coordinated tactics
- Enabling environments for collective action to reduce perceived risk
- Citizen voice coordinated with governmental reforms that bolster public sector responsiveness
- Multi-level
- Campaigns rather than interventions

Applying the Framework to Guatemala's CSO Landscape



Key CSOs: Roles and Responsibilities



CSO Spotlight: ALIANMISAR

+ Mission:

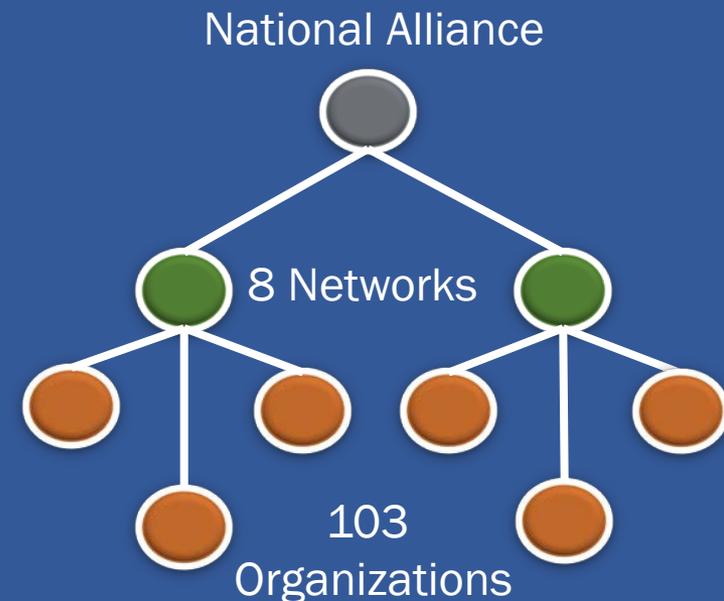
- Ensure compliance with sexual and reproductive rights with cultural relevance through advocacy and political dialogue

+ Strategic Objectives:

- Demand public resources for reproductive health for indigenous populations with higher maternal mortality rates
- Watch over the government's obligation to women's rights to accessible, effective, and culturally appropriate health services, especially family planning and maternal neonatal health
- Health communication for behavior change on sexual and reproductive health



Silvia Xinico



Guatemala's SNIS Health Indicators System: Available to All

- ✦ **One entry-point**
- ✦ Statistics and indicators
- ✦ **Early-warning** systems
- ✦ Management-level **decision-making support**
- ✦ Available to CSOs to use for advocacy

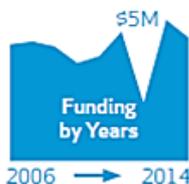


Aligning CSO engagement with health financing over time

Sustainable, predictable financing

- Law: 15 % of alcohol tax revenue for SRH and FP services
- Monitored flow of funds
- USD\$36M (inflation adjusted) for FP/RH services from 2006-2014

HP+: Continue to track and monitor budget allocations



Formalized sub-national civil society engagement ensures cross-sectoral policy implementation

- MOUs: agreement to collaborate on monitoring health and education services
- Implemented municipal intervention: Agreements between CSOs and mayors/local leaders; CSO capacity strengthening; Advocacy strategy and action plan; Policy monitoring
- After monitoring visits to 162 schools and 33 health facilities, CSOs advocated successfully for more than USD\$450K in additional GoG investments in services

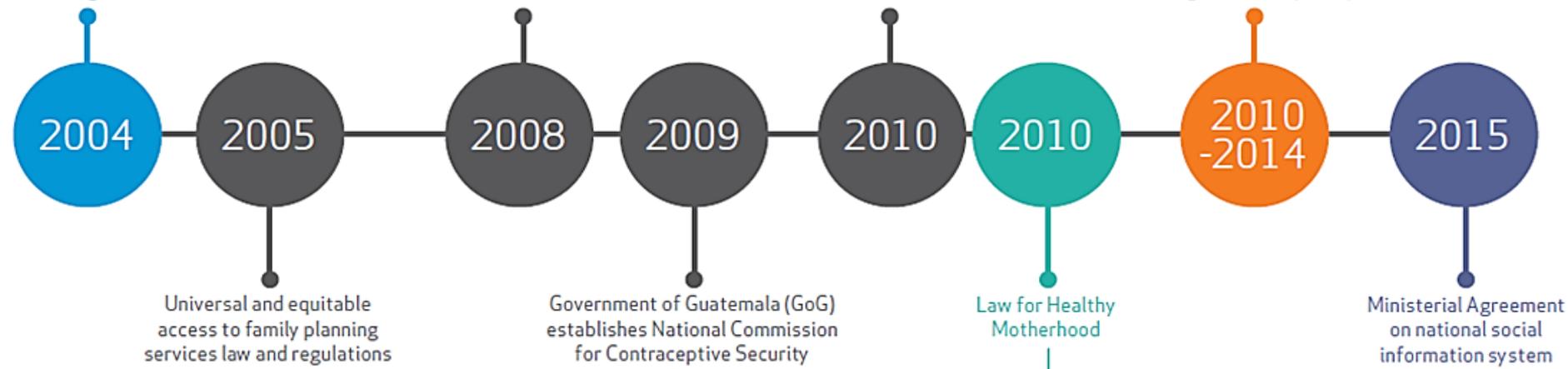
HP+: Improve financial sustainability of CSOs

Distribution of distilled spirits, beer and other fermented beverages law

Memorandum of Understanding with Congress to form OSAR, monitoring board for reproductive health

Exemption to budget law enabling GoG to procure vaccines, arvs, lower cost contraceptives

MOU between GoG divisions and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)



Equitable safe motherhood becomes a reality

- Law: improve maternal health and survival
- Advocated for decree on regulations that make law implementable (2012); Monitored implementation to ensure quality of care for rural, indigenous, and low-income women; Monitored flow of funds
- Increase in culturally appropriate care: Maternity houses for women in remote areas; Providers that speak indigenous languages; Special spaces for vertical deliveries

HP+: Continue to monitor and advocate for quality of care

Open data fosters greater government accountability

- Ministerial Agreement: enables operation of and public access to social information system
- Provided assistance to GoG to develop user-friendly web platform with data from Ministries of Health, Education, and Social Development
- After launch of initial system, President requested expansion into 16 government institutions

HP+: Integrate data from private sector into system

Conclusions

- ✦ Social participation in Guatemala has faced challenges due to political instability and conflict
- ✦ CSO engage at all levels of policy and planning
- ✦ Social participation in auditing and public oversight contributes to fighting public corruption
- ✦ New goals for CSO networks as a result of the health reform process
 - New capacities and new scale of participation

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