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New Report Highlights Innovative Collaboration for Universal Health Coverage

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The Joint Learning Network for Universal Health Coverage Releases New Report on Past Achievements and Future Vision as It Marks Three Years Since Its Founding

Momentum for accelerating Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in countries around the globe continues to build. Today, the Joint Learning Network (JLN) for Universal Health Coverage *released a new report* highlighting the network's achievements since its founding three years ago.

Over the past year, Universal Health Coverage (UHC) has attracted global attention, as policy makers, world leaders and countries work to ensure that millions of people worldwide receive important health interventions and are not pushed into poverty because they have to pay out-of-pocket for health care services.

This urgent need was notably recognized in the 2012 United Nations resolution and speech by Jim Kim, President of the World Bank, during the 2013 World Health Assembly that highlighted the opportunity for UHC to serve as an overarching health goal in the post-2015 global development dialogue: "To free the world from absolute poverty by 2030, countries must ensure that all of their citizens have access to quality, affordable health services." This supported WHO Director General Margaret Chan's 2012 statement that "Universal health coverage is the single most powerful concept that public health has to offer."

Founded in 2010, the JLN facilitates practitioner-to-practitioner learning and exchange of ideas among low- and middle-income countries that have made a political commitment to achieving universal coverage but continue to face design and implementation challenges due to the complexity of health system reform. JLN member countries — Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Mali, Nigeria, the Philippines and Vietnam — have created a unique collaborative model for joint problem solving, which facilitates country learning exchanges and collaborative development of practical tools that can be used by multiple countries. The model enables members to make improvements to their health systems based on the real experiences of other countries. JLN members aim to avoid 'reinventing the wheel' and accelerate progress toward UHC.

"The vision of the JLN is one of strong leadership from country members, collaboration, shared learn¬ing and joint problem solving among high-level practitioners, staff in ministries of health and policy-makers in Africa and Asia as they progress towards UHC," remarks Judith Rodin, President of The Rockefeller Foundation in the introduction of the report. "During its first three years, the JLN, approach has shown tremendous value. This report captures the highlights of success to date and shares findings from a recent strategic review."

The JLN is now entering a new phase that will build on the strengths of the network and institute a revised governance and management structure, including a Steering Group comprised primarily of country representatives that will set overall strategic priorities for the network and oversee the network's management and activities. Next week, the new Steering Group will convene in Manila for its first meeting to set the agenda for the coming years and develop a strategy for sustaining the JLN.

The Rockefeller Foundation and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation provide funding the network, with in-kind support from GIZ, the World Bank and the World Health Organization.

R4D serves as the JLN Secretariat and facilitates some of the technical work of the JLN. Collaborating partners include ACCESS Health International, Centre for Health and Social Services (CHeSS), the Institute for Healthcare Improvement, the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), PATH, PharmAccess, and the Results for Development Institute.

- *Download the Joint Learning Network for Universal Health Coverage Report here.*

For additional background on the Joint Learning Network watch the below videos:

- *What is the Joint Learning Network for Universal Health Coverage?*
- *How are members of the Information Technology track collaborating to move toward UHC?*
- *'Accreditation as an Engine for Improvement': The Quality track approach*

Connected Project(s): *Joint Learning Network for Universal Health Coverage (JLN)*

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