

UHC Forward: Towards Universal Health Coverage

'Universal Health Coverage: From Promise to Practice' a GIZ Forum on Health and Social Protection



Date:

Mon, 2013-08-26 (All day) - Wed, 2013-08-28 (All day)

Event type:

Event of interest

I. Background

The concept of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) has gained tremendous momentum on the global development agenda. The objective of coverage for everyone with needed health services and financial risk protection provides the orientation for health and social protection policies worldwide.

More than one billion people – one in seven humans alive – do not have access to the health care they need. Each year, another one hundred million gain access at high out-of-pocket expenditure and fall into poverty. Bad health and exorbitant health care spending are today's biggest cause of impoverishment worldwide.

The concept of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) builds on the principles of the WHO constitution of 1948 declaring health a fundamental human right and on the Health for All agenda set by the Alma-Ata declaration in 1978. It refocuses the agenda on the intricate relationship between health services for all and the role of society in financing health care. It also highlights the role of social health protection in strengthening the equity agenda.

The UN system and international community have published various reports (e.g. WHR 2008 and 2010) and adopted several resolutions (WHA 54.3, 64.9., ILO Recommendation 202 on Social Protection Floor, UN GA resolution on UHC) focusing on UHC. However, while political commitment for the concept is high, many countries are struggling with its operationalization – how can they transform the promise of UHC into practice?

Policy-makers are looking for successful examples and innovative approaches tackling the practical challenges they face when addressing the dimensions of UHC: universality, financial risk protection and delivering services of adequate quality. Moreover, the move towards UHC is taking place against a background of complex national and global transitions and health challenges, such as rising non-communicable and chronic diseases, shifting demographics and financial insecurity affecting countries at all stages of economic and social development.

II. Objectives

The GIZ Forum on Health and Social Protection will allow policy-makers, practitioners and academia to discuss practical approaches to addressing the challenges related to the various dimensions of UHC. Experts from the private and public sectors, development agencies and the research community will explore what the focus on UHC means for their work, and what evidence and practical examples they can learn from. This event focuses on actual implementation and the delivery of tangible solutions.

The guiding questions of the forum are:

- What approaches have worked to attain universality of coverage?
- Which practical solutions have proven effective to overcome challenges and bottlenecks on the way to financial risk protection?
- How can health systems deliver the prevention, promotion, treatment, rehabilitation and palliative services needed by everyone, as well as public health interventions?
- How can international cooperation best strengthen capacities at country level and support the implementation of national policies and programmes for UHC?
- What are new and old actors in this field doing differently in contributing to UHC (e.g. emerging economies, private sector)?
- What are promising innovative approaches in science and technology?

III. Participants

The forum will bring together 150 participants from the following areas:

- Experts from international development (German and other agencies)
- Policy-makers and implementers from partner countries (public and private sectors)
- Health care industry (e.g. pharmaceutical industry, health service providers) and social business; social security and insurance schemes
- Consulting industry
- Leading thinkers and researchers from the field
- Representatives from emerging economies

IV. Date and venue

Date: August 26-28, 2013 Venue: Bonn (Gustav-Stresemann-Institut)

Homepage: <http://german-practice-collection.org/en/events/forum-uhc> E-Mail: forum-uhc@giz.de

Results for Development Institute POWERED BY The Rockefeller Foundation GENEROUSLY

FUNDED BY ©2011 UHC FORWARD | All Rights Reserved

Finely Crafted by PROOF BRANDING | Built and maintained by AFFINITY BRIDGE