

Finances in Global Health - Online Training Proposal

Title: Finances in Global Health

Coordinator(s) incl. NMO:

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Level of Online Course: Advanced Online Course

Background

Many of the Global Health Issues that face our world nowadays stem from the lack of financial resources and weak financial management from countries around the world. Recognizing the direct relationship between economy, finances and health is fundamental for the prosperity of global health and universal health coverage. This is the big challenge that the health systems face worldwide and impacts the road to providing patient-oriented, cost-effective and quality health services needed without facing financial hardships. From this issue, the well-known science of health financing emerged as a core function of every health system. Today, millions of people do not access health services due to the out-of-pocket costs that impact negatively on their sustainability. Many others receive poor quality of services even when they have the means to pay for these services. This is why carefully designed and implemented health financing policies can make a difference and accelerate progress toward universal health coverage and SDG Goal Number 3, Goal number 5 and Goal number 8.

According to the World Health Organization, payments made by people for using health services are usually out of pocket payments/expenditures that cause financial hardships, especially in LICs and LMICs.

The foundation of financial management, regardless of how funds are administered, remains the same. In other words, the principles of finances are stationary, it is the applied environment that changes. Through this online course, the common financial management skills executed in NMOs will be discussed, appended and reformed to be applied on health systems and the achievement of universal health coverage.

Our aim is to strengthen the IFMSA member knowledge on finances and facilitate the understanding of health financing and its importance in tackling today's health issues. Through this course, we will discuss the different functions of health financing and health economics in detail with extensive country illustrations, to build capacity in resource administration, priorities for health packages, liaising for sponsorships. This, to offer a clearer understanding of how health financing policy is developed, how the key policy decisions around each of the four core functions intertwined, and to get an understanding of how each can support progress towards UHC.

Themes, overall topics & related Standing Committees:

Theme: Financial Management in Health systems WorldWide [Health Financing]

Overall Topic and Focus Areas:

- Overview on Health Systems and Universal Health Coverage
- Health Financing Core Functions
- Health Economics - Cost effectiveness of Health investments.
- Sustainable Finances for UHC - Using Health Financing policy to achieve progress toward UHC

A Detailed Overview on Focus areas to be addressed:

A. Health Systems and Universal Health Coverage.

- 6 Core Functions of Health Systems
- Health Systems Model
- Definition and Goals of Universal Health Coverage

B. Health Financing

- Impact of Financing on healthcare service delivery
- Functional Framework of Health Financing
- Relation Between Health Financing and UHC Objectives and Goals
 - a. Financial Protection
 - b. Equity in Finances
 - c. Utilization relative to Needs
- Revenue Raising
 - a. Guiding objectives of Revenue Raising
 - b. Categories of Funding (Private and Public)
 - c. Fairness of Revenue Raising
 - d. Fiscal Space for health and Contributing factors (Budget for health)
 - e. The roadway to Increasing Health Spending on health
- Pooling
 - a. Definition of Pooling of health Finances
 - b. Characteristic of a successful health pool that ensures equity in health finances in relation to health needs.
 - c. Applications using different Countries health systems.
- Purchasing:
 - a. Definition Of Purchasing (Allocation of Funds)
 - b. Strategic Allocation of Funds to accelerate progress toward UHC.
 - c. Application using different Countries health systems.
- Benefits
 - a. Definition of Benefit packages -
 - b. Principles of rationing (Need , health maximization and equity)
 - c. Rationing health services - How to address fairness and equity
 - d. Benefit packages Design and UHC

C. Health Economics

- Principles of Health Economics
- Economics Appraisal and Evaluations - Cost-Benefit/effectiveness analysis of health decisions

D. Sustainable Finances for UHC using health financing Policies

- Major StakeHolder identified (ministries and external Funding)
- Addressing Health Financing Policies and promoting dialogue

Related Standing Committees: Standing Committee on Public Health and overarching concept of UHC and Social Accountability.

Target Group:

- Participants with little background knowledge in Finances and interested in public health
- Course will accommodate up to 12 Participants

Objectives

1. Participants Acquire Clear understanding and knowledge on the core functions of health systems, Universal health coverage, health financing and Health Economics.
 2. Acquire clear understanding on the role of Finances in Health
 3. Participants understand how Health Financing policies are applied and developed Worldwide.
 4. Link the importance of having sustainable finances for health with universal health coverage and quality healthcare services.
 5. Apply relative NMO Financial Management Skills on health systems
- Associated Indicators
- 70% Participants filled the pre assessment and post assessment survey
 - 90% of the participants got clear understanding of the role of health financing in UHC which will be evaluated in the post assessment survey
 - 80% of correct answers on interactive question in sessions
 - 80% of participants share their feedback via wooclap at the end of each session

Methodology

The advanced online course will take place through Zoom Meetings/Google Meetings and will be held over a period of 2 weeks, (3 sessions/Week). Focus areas will be discussed throughout the sessions as demonstrated above. Participants will be assigned homework after each session. This will be moderated using Google Class Room for easier accessibility and Tracking. HomeWork will either be Individual work performed by each participant, or group homeworks to encourage collaborative thinking, open discussion between team members and build up teamwork skills. In addition, readings will be distributed and will either be suggested readings for further knowledge or compulsory readings that complement the topics and facilitate further understanding and comprehension. A pre and post assessment form will be distributed as a method of evaluation.

Avenues of Engagements and interaction:

1. Dialogues will be conducted and facilitated through Google Classroom or Miro to provide participants with an additional platform to share their perspectives and examine other viewpoints as well.
2. Upon participants' agreement, an online group on a preferred social media platform (Whatsapp, Facebook, Telegram , etc.) will be created for easier communication and accessibility.

Finances in Global Health Course, is an overarching and interdisciplinary Course, using real life experiences and application from different countries. The Knowledge explained will be divided into:

- $\frac{1}{3}$ Health systems and Universal Health Coverage.
- $\frac{2}{3}$ Health Financing and Economics.

The Course will be Composed of 6 Sessions given over 2 weeks :

Session 1: Health Systems and universal Health Coverage

Session 2: Health Financing - Basics

Session 3: Health Financing - Advanced (1)

Session 4: Health Financing - Advanced (2)

Session 5: Health Economics - Principles and Evaluations

Session 6: Road to Sustainable Finances in health + wrap up.

Session	Topics	Content
1	Health systems and UHC	Core Functions of Health Systems
		Health system models Worldwide
		Goals and objectives of UHC
2	Introduction to Health Financing	Impact of Financing on healthcare service delivery
		Functional Framework of Health Financing
		Relation Between Health Financing and UHC
3	Health Finances - in to depth	Revenue Raising (internal funding and external funding)
		Pooling
		Application on Countries
4	Health Finances - into depth #2	Purchasing
		Benefits
		Applications on Countries
5	Health Economics	Guiding Principles
		Appraisal and Evaluations
6	Road to sustainable finances in health + Wrap up	Barriers to sustainable Finances
		Relation to Sustainable development goals (Goal 3 and 5, and 8)
		Wrapping up - Addressing health Financing policies