

Universal Health Coverage, Sustainable Development and the Post-2015 Agenda

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1

Universal Health Coverage (UHC):
A sustainable development goal for health

2

UHC: What and Why?

3

The UHC Global and National Movement

Health Enables Sustainable Development

Health is a Right

- The right of everyone to enjoy the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health is recognized in numerous global, regional and national treaties and constitutions

Health is Socially Determined

- 75% of health outcomes depend on living and working conditions

Health Contributes to Growth and Development

- Healthy population means higher labor productivity
- Higher returns to households from labor market participation

Increased Access to Health Services

Improved Level and Distribution of Health

Outcomes

Better Health for Citizens

Improved Country Competitiveness

Inclusive and Sustainable Growth

The Health Sector Contribution

Post 2015 Development Agenda: Wellbeing for All The contributions of the health sector and other sectors

Sustainable Wellbeing for All

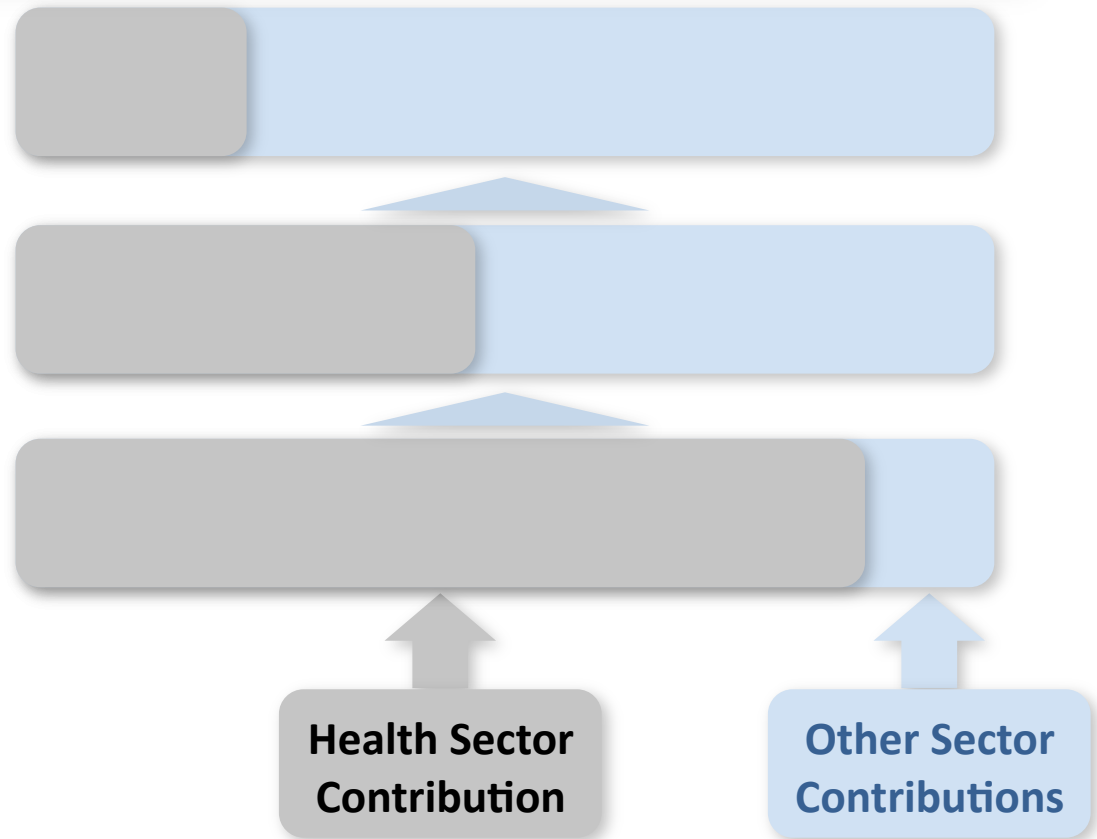
Poverty eradication, health, education, nutrition, environment, security, etc.

Healthy Lives at All Stages

Child survival, maternal survival, MDG6, adolescent health, NCD burden reduction

Universal Health Coverage

Health promotion, prevention, treatment, financial risk protection



Universal Health Coverage

Disease and health-specific goals cannot be met without a functioning health system that enables all people to access health services they need without incurring financial hardship.

- UHC is a catalyst for change, more efficient and equitable government spending
- Resulting in a more efficient, accountable health system

- Greater access to health services
- Financial protection
- A sustainable, healthier and more productive society

The challenge is to frame an overarching health goal and targets in a way which:

- Acknowledges health sector specific contribution to health;
- Links to other sectors and development goals;
- Drives change relevant for all countries;
- Appeals to politicians and the public; and
- Can be measured and include indicators for level and distribution (equity).

Definition:

All people can access the health services they need without incurring financial hardship.

Indicators:

1. Access
2. Financial protection

Universal Health Coverage: Why?

1

UHC reflects health sector's inherent responsibility to provide universal and equitable access to health services for ensuring improved health outcomes.

2

UHC links to other sectors, and enables healthy, sustainable development.

3

UHC is a recommitment to health as a human right.

Universal Health Coverage is an integrated, efficient approach to improve health outcomes. It's aspirational, but there is growing global and national commitment to UHC.

Growing Global Momentum and Focus on Universal Health Coverage

“UHC is the single most powerful concept that public health has to offer...the umbrella concept that demands solutions to the biggest problems facing health systems...the anchor for WHO.”

– Dr. Margaret Chan, WHO, May 2012



- The UN General Assembly Resolution:

“Recommends that consideration be given to including universal health coverage in the discussions on the post-2015 development agenda in the context of global health challenges.”

- Broad spectrum of countries moving towards Universal Health Coverage:

Thailand

South
Africa

United
States

Ghana

China

Turkey

Indonesia

Mexico

India

Brazil

Viet Nam

Egypt

UHC is the **only proposal that embraces the whole health system** and puts rights and equity at the center of its vision. Specifically UHC:

- Emphasizes universal health access to comprehensive, high-quality prevention, treatment and care;
- Includes clear, specific, and concrete health goals – accelerating progress on the unfinished MDG agenda and incorporating all that was missing (such as NCDs); and
- Considers targets and indicators specific to each part of the life course – for children, adolescents, adults and the elderly.

Summary of an Action Agenda for Sustainable Development

- Goal Five: Achieve health and well-being at all ages

“Every country should be well-positioned by 2030 to ensure universal health coverage for all citizens at every stage of life, with particular emphasis on the provision of comprehensive and affordable primary health services.”

– Report for the UN Secretary
Prepared by the Sustainable
Development Solutions Network
June 6, 2013