

## **P4H Update 3 - December 2009**

---

### **1. Upcoming P4H meetings**

The next **P4H Focal Point meeting** is scheduled for **25-26 Jan 2010** in Washington, hosted by the Worldbank. Agenda will be circulated in January.

### **2. P4H Focal Points and Coordination Team [OP 0.1]**

- France has introduced H el ene Barroy (French government) as a new focal point for Global Fund and P4H.
- GTZ Tanzania will second Birte Frerick from Jan to Feb 2010 to the P4H coordination unit in Geneva as part of a junior development programme.
- France has announced the arrival of the French coordinator Pascal Brouillet to join the P4H coordination team in Feb 2010.

### **3. P4H Network [OP 2.1, 2.2]**

The Rockefeller Foundation and Results For Development (R4D) have informed P4H about a planned technical workshop in India in Feb 09 (see also under *4. upcoming events*). It is currently being discussed how these **private investments** in health systems development including health financing could be harmonised and create synergies with **public investments** of P4H and its partners.

As part of the Steering Group meeting on 12 Oct., P4H held a first **Open Forum** for organisations and donor governments to discuss their interest and planned investments in Social Health Protection and related areas of work. This opportunity has been taken up by the Swiss Development Cooperation, DFID, Global Fund and the International Health Partnership (IHP+).

### **4. Upcoming events [OP 5, 5.3]**

The **Rockefeller Foundation** and **Results for Development (R4D)** are planning for a *Joint Learning Workshop: Moving Toward Universal Health Coverage* in Hyderabad, India on 2-5 February 2010. This will be practical workshop for health insurance policymakers and practitioners from Ghana, India, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam. The event shall also serve as start-up event for a wider learning network.

The next meeting of the health and social protection sector network Africa of the **German Development Cooperation (GDC)** will be on 21-25 Feb 2010 in Mombasa, Kenya. Though this is an internal GDC meeting, the coordination team has been invited to discuss how the links between bilateral work on health and SHP and global initiatives such as P4H, Global Fund, IHP etc. could be strengthened. The afternoon of day 3 of the meeting will focus on SHP and P4H and the experience in Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda.

### **5. P4H Framework for assessing and improving SHP [OP 0.3]**

The **conceptual work** on the P4H framework has entered its 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase. The 1<sup>st</sup> phase focused on stocktaking of the different perspectives, values and objectives related to SHP. The current 4<sup>th</sup> draft of the framework outlines the concept of SHP and contains a list of indicators and tools. The application in Uganda provided a

deeper understanding of SHP in Uganda, however it did not yield an estimate on how good or bad SHP actually is in Uganda.

Thus, the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase will focus on **measuring SHP**. Following-up on a proposal from ILO presented during the last P4H Focal Point meeting, a working group of ILO and WHO led by the coordination team has been proposed. The process and involvement of P4H partners will be discussed during the upcoming Focal Point meeting in Washington.

## **6. Communications Strategy** [OP 0.4]

On 8 Dec 09, Mondofragilis moderated a brainstorming session of P4H partners for the development of **key messages** and a **P4H media kit**. The very constructive meeting came up with a plethora of ideas for P4H information and communications for policy, technical and implementation (management) level.

The design phase of the **P4H website** is complete. The site is expected to go online before the end of the year.

## **7. P4H country work** [OP 1.1-1.3; 2.1-2.4; 4.1 and 5.2]

**Senegal.** The Ministry of Health in Senegal invited P4H for a **mission** from 7-11 Dec 09. The mission team – consisting of participants from WHO, ILO, WB, GIP-SPSI, AFD – supported the Ministry in assessing (i) the progress in implementing the National Strategy of Extension of the Health Coverage and to identify barriers and bottlenecks (ii) the stewardship and willingness of the Government to implement the strategy and its components taking into account appropriate fiscal and budgetary implications of the strategy (iii) technical and financial support requirements. The mission report is in preparation and will be sent to Government authorities and stakeholders. **Next steps** include (i) analyses of three tools which could be applied/developed: social budgeting currently being pilot tested by ILO and other Health Finance Budgeting and Performance Appraisal tools from WHO in order to decide about their suitability and use in Senegal, and (ii) technical and financial support in collaboration with World Bank and AFD for specific elements of the National Strategy on Health Coverage in Senegal.

**Uganda.** The report of the last mission in Aug 09 has been forwarded to Uganda and is being discussed at various levels. The planned ILO actuarial study needed to be postponed and results may only be available mid 2010. The WHO **health financing review** will be carried out during 11-22 Jan 2010. The **next P4H visit** is scheduled for 15-19 Feb 2010 to discuss the results of the health financing review, the health financing options outlined in the P4H mission report and the possible launch of a Ugandan health economics institute.

**Rwanda.** Following a decision of the Rwandan Ministry of Health to explore ways of changing the payment system to a capitation system, P4H has been asked to support the implementation process through a **6-12 months consultancy**. P4H assisted in the search for a suitable candidate and forwarded several CVs to Rwanda. The selection process is managed by the Rwandan authorities.

**Kenya.** P4H has funded a 3-month assignment supporting the Government in finalising and disseminating the **Kenya Health Care Financing Strategy**. This strategy is the result of a consultative process initiated by the MOH in 2007 and has been finalised and disseminated to a large gathering of stakeholders, including

the Prime Ministers Office and Ministry of Finance, healthcare service providers, including private sector, development partners and researchers.

Processes that have been supported/facilitated by P4H

- The dissemination and discussion of the financing strategy
- Detailing the initial phases of the implementation of the strategy, including testing ways to incorporate the poor into coverage and reviewing the institutional setup in preparation for future changes. Consequently, the issue of how to finance healthcare in the future has moved higher up on the national agenda.
- Involvement of diverse stakeholders, from Government to development partners, from National Hospital Insurance Fund to the private sector, in this discussion. The importance is felt to start improving coverage, especially of the poor, through the existing mechanisms - while continuing the discussion about how the diverse coverage landscape in Kenya can ultimately bring universal coverage.

Since November 2009, the National Economic and Social Council (NESC) has taken up the issues detailed in the Healthcare Financing Strategy and is developing its recommendations by the end of January 2010. NESC is chaired by the President of Kenya and recommends policies to the Cabinet.

**Tanzania.** The Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (MoHSW) in Tanzania has invited P4H on 5-6 Nov 09 to Dar Es Salaam to discuss opportunities for collaboration in the area of health financing, universal coverage and SHP. The Tanzanian health sector strategic plan (HSSPIII) states the effective, efficient and equitable use of scarce resources as priorities of the sector. In this context the MoHSW seeks P4H support in the following areas: (1) development of a **health financing strategy** (TOR are in progress); (2) launch of a Health Financing Committee, i.e. a special **SHP working group**; (3) assist the MoHSW in defining the financial requirements for the health sector and SHP (4) assist in designing a **pro-poor oriented system** with better access to health care for the disadvantaged; (6) role of insurance systems for the informal sector

**Next steps:** the national Health Care Financing Working Group shall be asked to elaborate a detailed request for support to be submitted by MOHSW to P4H.

**Cambodia.** As part of the joint support to the Cambodian SHP Master plan, P4H partners have prepared TOR for **measuring catastrophic payments**. The quantitative data analysis supported by P4H (involving WHO HQ) will provide baseline information on access to health services, the level and the distribution of out-of-pocket payment, the impact of health payment on poverty and attached catastrophic health expenditure. In the transition to universal coverage, this will provide evidence for further development of Cambodian Social Health Protection policies.

**Nepal.** The MoH Nepal has requested support from the P4H partner GTZ for the development of a **Social Health Protection (SHP) policy**. The request had been passed on to P4H, inviting the coordination team to attend a stakeholder workshop on 26-27 Nov in Nepal, to agree on the conceptual cornerstones and a framework for developing a national SHP policy. Besides presenting P4H, the workshop provided an opportunity to discuss the concepts of universal coverage and SHP in more depth, and to clarify the relation to other work streams such as the health sector strategic plan, health financing strategy, free health care policy and social protection policy.

The participants have recommended the following **next steps**:

(1) Development of a SHP policy, with the MoH in the lead of the process assisted by (still to be established) group for drafting the policy. The P4H network is expected to contribute to this process.

(2) Link the SHP policy to the new health sector strategic plan 2010-2015 (HSSP-II), the process of developing a SHP policy (and a HCF Strategy) should be made part of the next sector strategic plan, which should be ready by end of Dec 09. The HSSP-II should allocate resources and outline some key activities for the political and technical process of developing a SHP policy and a health financing reform options.

(3) Link to Social Protection: the development of the SHP policy should be linked to the broader SP framework and the Social Protection Floor Initiative. ILO's involvement is important in this process.

The process will be coordinated at country level. P4H partners at regional and international level will be consulted as required. This could be in form of participation in further stakeholder meetings, workshops and roundtable discussions; support to analytical work (e.g. health financing review) and the development of health financing options; facilitation of inter-sectoral discussions, etc.

**Mongolia.** P4H in collaboration with ADB has supported a **consensus building workshop** on 3 Dec 09. Participants endorsed a *Program for institutionalizing the Social dialogue/consensus for reform of the Social health insurance system in Mongolia*. All recommendations of the workshop together with the above Program will be submitted to the Government for further endorsement and approval at Cabinet level. Working groups will be formed at national and local levels with assistance of stakeholders and international partners. The objective of this Programme is to intensify the reform of social health insurance system in Mongolia through effective participation and cooperation of social partners.

**Sri Lanka.** The South East Asian Regional Office (SEARO) of WHO together with Worldbank are planning a **workshop on health financing** in Feb 2010. The agenda will be circulated by SEARO in due course.

Countries where **dialogue** about potential P4H support has been initiated:

- Bangladesh (GTZ initiated dialogue with other P4H partners for possible joint support)
- Indonesia (possible scoping visit in Jan/Feb 2010),
- Philippines (P4H coordinator has been invited to GDC planning workshop in Jan 2010).
- India
- Bhutan (joint WHO-WB support)
- Pakistan

#### **8. P4H trainings / workshops [OP 5.]**

P4H supported a **workshop on 'Strategic Purchasing in Health Care'** in Bangkok, Thailand from 30 Nov to 4 Dec 09. The event was a joint effort of WHO (SEARO/WPRO/EMRO) and Worldbank. The excellent workshop was attended by more than 50 participants from more than 15 countries.