

# Uniting for a Healthier Future

**Highlights** Mali signs Country Compact, Joint Financing Arrangement (JFA) signed in Ethiopia, IHP+ Phase 1 Report, Update on Providing for Health initiative on health financing and social protection, Report on health system surveillance from Ethiopia and Zambia

## 1. Mali signs Country Compact

On April 20th the Government of Mali and twelve development partners signed the [Mali Compact](#). The Government of Mali needs an additional US300 millions over the period 2009 - 2011 to implement the National Health Programme. Reducing the financial gap, providing predictable funding and greater alignment to national planning, budgeting and aid management procedures are some of key donor commitments [Read the Press Release](#) [Watch the video story on the Mali Compact](#)



## 2. Ethiopia Signs Joint Financing Arrangement (JFA)

As a follow up to the Compact commitments, on April 15, the Government of Ethiopia and its Development Partners -DFID, Spanish Development Cooperation, Irish AID, UNFPA, UNICEF, WHO and World Bank finalized and signed the JFA [Read the press release](#)



## 3. IHP+ News

### 3.1 IHP+ Phase 1 Report

The [Phase 1 Progress Report](#) outlines the main achievements, and reports on progress against major activities and milestones of the International Health Partnership and Related Initiatives in its first 18 months (September 2007 - March 2009). Key achievements include:

- Country Compacts signed in Ethiopia, Mali, Mozambique and Nepal
- Continued widened engagement most recently with new signatories to the Global Compact - Rwanda and Uganda in February 2009;
- Increased Civil Society voice and participation at global and country-level;
- Agreement of IHP+ common results frameworks and essential attributes for national health strategies;
- Completion of the first independent review of the IHP+
- Establishment of a North- South Consortium to take forward annual reviews of progress;
- Launching of the High-Level Taskforce on Innovative International Financing for Health Systems;
- Agreement between the World Bank and UNICEF to harmonize procurement policies in health.

### 3.2. Letter from Civil Society to the IMF

A number of Civil Society organizations recently sent a [letter](#) to the IMF on health and education related matters. The IMF issued a [response](#). While the response is addressed to Sue Perez, one of the IHP+ Civil Society rep to the SuRG, this letter was not written specifically in the context of the IHP+, nor did Sue send it to the IMF within her capacity as an IHP+ CS SuRG representative.

### 3.3. Joining the IHP+

The IHP+ has developed two information notes 'Becoming a Partner' of the IHP+. These notes are intended to give [developing countries](#) and [development partners](#) a clearer understanding of the steps towards, and implications of signing the Global Compact

Useful links: | [WHO](#) | [UNICEF](#) | [UNAIDS](#) | [World Bank](#) | [UNFPA](#) | [GAVI](#) | [Gates Foundation](#) | [Global Fund](#) |

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### 3.4 Report on health system surveillance from Ethiopia and Zambia

The Country Health Systems Surveillance platform (CHeSS) aims to improve the availability, quality and use of the data needed to inform country health sector reviews and planning processes, and to monitor health system performance. Mission reports from [Ethiopia](#) and from [Zambia](#) are now available.

### 3.5 Social Health Protection and Universal Coverage: Update on Providing for Health (P4H).

P4H aims at reducing the risk of financial catastrophe and impoverishment in order to improve access to health services and improve health outcomes. P4H serves as an international platform for dialogue and harmonized collaboration to support LICs and MICs in reaching their goals and objectives on Social Health Protection and Universal Coverage. [Read the first P4H update](#)

### 3.6 Final Report from the conference on parliamentary involvement in global health

[The report](#) on 'Global Action for Health Systems Strengthening' has been finalized. It is the outcome of a conference on global action for health systems strengthening, held in Tokyo on 3-4 November, involving leaders from agencies involved in the global effort to strengthen health systems.

### 3.7 Update on independent evaluation of the IHP+

The IHP+ Results consortium has delivered its draft Inception Plan outlining the approach that will be taken to report annually on the performance of the IHP+ process. This will be published in coming weeks. IHP+ Results has recently formalized collaboration with the OECD/DAC [Task Team on Health as A Tracer Sector](#), to ensure that the IHP+ features strongly within the High-level Panel on Aid Effectiveness. The public launch of IHP+ Results and of the North-South Observatory will take place during the World Health Assembly

### 3.8 Technical Consultation on Results-Based Financing in the Health Sector in Africa

The WHO and the World Bank held a technical consultation on Result-based financing in Kigali, Rwanda on April 27-30. The consultation served to share experiences in Africa, enable participants to observe what PBF looks like in practice, and to stimulate discussion among donors' key policy-makers and program managers about how RBF could contribute to countries' health policy goals in achieving the health MDGs. [Read the Concept Note](#). A report on the meeting will be circulated soon.

## 4. Upcoming Events

**4.1 Regional Health Workforce Conference** on Human Resources for Health Results, will be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from May 10 to 14, 2009. The conference is the culmination of the work carried out during the first phase of the Africa Human Resources for Health (HRH) Program, funded by the Gates Foundation and Norway. The Africa HRH Program aims to assist governments in Sub-Saharan Africa design and implement country-specific solutions to HRH problems in the region.

**4.2. The Third Meeting of the High Level Taskforce on Innovative International Financing for Health Systems** will take place in Paris on May 29th. Hosted by the French Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Taskforce member, Bernard Kouchner, the meeting will review the final reports from two Working Groups and prepare its recommendations in time for the G8 in July. A second consultation with Civil Society will be held in Johannesburg on 13th and 14th May, hosted by [Taskforce](#) member Mrs Graca Machel.

**4.3 The next IHP+ Country Teams Meeting** will be held in June. This meeting will focus specifically on African IHP+ countries. Exact location and dates are still being finalized. A Country Teams Meeting for Asian IHP+ countries is also being planned for later in 2009.

Useful links: | [WHO](#) | [UNICEF](#) | [UNAIDS](#) | [World Bank](#) | [UNFPA](#) | [GAVI](#) | [Gates Foundation](#) | [Global Fund](#) |