

UHC Forum 2017 Side Event

Institute for Global Health Policy Research (iGHP), National Center for Global Health and Medicine (NCGM), in conjunction with P4H-Global Network for Social Health Protection Coordination Desk, World Health Organization, and Asia-Pacific Observatory for Health systems and Policies (APO), is delighted to announce the upcoming UHC Forum 2017 side event, “Health System Financing and Social Health Protection for UHC: Role of Comparative Health System Analysis and Regional Collaborations in Asia” which is to be held on December 15, 2017 in Tokyo.

Date & Time	Friday, December 15, 2017, 15:00-17:30
Topic	“Health System Financing and Social Health Protection for UHC: Role of Comparative Health System Analysis and Regional Collaborations in Asia”
Venue	Golden Cup Room, 3rd Floor, Tokyo Prince Hotel
Access	http://www.princehotels.com/tokyo/map-direction/
Language	English only (No Japanese interpretation will be provided)
Participation	Free of charge and open to general public. Advance registration is required.

UHC Forum 2017 in

Tokyo: <http://universalhealthcoverageday.org/forum/>

Provisional agenda

Part One. 15:00-16:25 “Global Collaborative for Health Financing and Protection”

Presenter/Facilitator: **Claude Meyer, P4H Coordinator, WHO/HQ**

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| 15:00-15:15 | Health financing and social protection for UHC |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Engaging with stakeholders to change health financing policy |

- Role of networking in the process of health financing and social protection reforms
- Importance of networking and stakeholder engagement on shifting evidence to policy

15:15-
15:30 Questions and Answers

15:30-
15:40 Country cases on networking and shifting evidence to policy

- Use of health system reviews as a means to engage with policy makers for improving health system performance and financing (**Walaiporn Patcharanarumol, IHPP, Thailand**)

15:40-
15:55 Questions and Answers

15:55-
16:10 Discussants:
Ms. Xenia Scheil-Adlung, ILO
Ms. Irina Nikolic, World Bank
Dr. Menkhanym Kaldybayeva, Ministry of Health, Kazakhstan
Mr. Heiko Warnken, BMZ, Germany

16:10-
16:25 Questions and Answers

Part Two. 16:25-17:30 “Regional networking and collaborations for UHC in Asia”

Facilitator: **Kenji Shibuya, Director, iGHP**

16:25-
16:40 Major health financing and social protection issues in Asia
(**Soonman Kwon, Seoul National University**)

16:40-
16:50 Asia Networking-P4H website presentation (**D. Bayarsaikhan, P4H**)

16:50-
17:00 APO as another example of regional partnership (**Nima Asgari, APO**)

17:00-
17:15 Questions and Answers

17:15- 17:25	Japan HiT Report (Haruka Sakamoto, University of Tokyo)
17:25- 17:30	Closing remarks (Eiji Hinoshita, Director-General, Bureau of International Health Cooperation, NCGM)

Expected outputs/outcomes:

- Validation of priority health financing and protection issues and challenges to progress towards UHC in Asia including strategic policy actions and responses.
- Consolidated views on regional networking initiative for UHC, particularly health financing, in Asia, comments and feedback to strategize the next step collaborative actions.
- Highlighting challenges and opportunities for using health system research to generate evidence for policy change in Asia Pacific
- Sharing findings of “Japan Health Systems in Transition (HiT) report” together with Asia Pacific Observatory (APO) as an example of health care financing for the ageing society as well as a collaboration model in Asia.

Potential contribution to the UHC 2030 key principles:

This side event will contribute to the principles related to evidence-based health national strategies and leadership, a commitment to improve health system for all, and international cooperation based on mutual learning.

Co-sponsor & Organizing partners:

- Institute for Global Health Policy Research (iGHP), the Bureau of International Health Cooperation, National Center for Global Health and Medicine (NCGM), Japan: <http://www.ighp.ncgm.go.jp/en/>
- P4H-Global Network for Social Health Protection Coordination Desk, Department of Health Systems Governance and Financing, World Health Organization, Headquarters, Geneva: <https://p4h.world/>

- Asia-Pacific Observatory for Health systems and Policies (APO): http://www.wpro.who.int/asia_pacific_observatory/en/



UHC Forum 2017 Side Event

**“Health System Financing and Social Health Protection for UHC:
Role of Comparative Health System Analysis and Regional Collaborations in Asia”**

December 15, 2017 15:00-17:30

Tokyo Prince Hotel, Golden Cup Room

Background

Universal Health Coverage (UHC) is about people getting the care they need, without financial hardship. This side event focuses on two aspects of achieving UHC: Health financing and linking it with changes in service delivery. In particular, health financing and social health protection is central for UHC. Health financing reforms suggest that high level political commitment and government actions with clear policies, strategies and implementation plans are necessary together with inclusive partnership collaboration at national and regional levels. Currently, many Asian countries face challenges to improve health financing arrangements for revenue collection, pooling and purchasing within their socioeconomic and fiscal contexts, as well as to ensure that health financing reforms effectively respond to country and regional issues such as ageing, non-communicable diseases, technological advancements, globalization and growing inequalities in health.

In the past 10-15 years, many Asian countries implemented health financing and social health protection reforms to various extent and built considerable knowledge, experiences and learnt valuable lessons to share with others. Some countries like Japan, the Republic of Korea, and Thailand already have taken initiatives and shown interests in closer bi- and multi-lateral collaboration and partnerships because of increasing needs and demands in the region. Development partners like ADB, OECD, and World Bank are also keen to align their technical support with national and regional development priorities. This new type of collaboration will gradually transform the traditional donor and recipient model into more inclusive and equal partnerships. These developments in Asia show that it is timely to discuss and support regional networking for UHC in Asia.

Asia Pacific Observatory for health systems and policies (APO) is a clear example of such collaborative work between development partners and countries in the Asia Pacific region. By reviewing the status of the health system in the countries, APO highlights challenges ahead and by generating the evidence that the countries need to realize different components of UHC, it provides the necessary arguments for policy makers to shape health architecture for achieving UHC including linkages between health financing and service delivery.

P4H Network Coordination Desk, Asia-Pacific Observatory for Health systems and Policies (APO), and iGHP have agreed that the UHC Day in December 2017 is a good opportunity to organize a side event on regional networking for health financing and protection in Asia. Its main objectives are to discuss, support and advance regional health financing and protection initiatives in Asia and to show the role of locally generated evidence for policy linkages between health financing and service delivery.

In addition, as an example of health care financing for the ageing society as well as a collaboration model in this region, the University of Tokyo (U of Tokyo) and iGHP will present findings of “Japan Health Systems in Transition (HiT) report” together with the APO secretariat. Japan HiT report is a comprehensive summary of Japanese health care system with strong focuses on health care financing and aging society, and based on this report, we will propose possible collaborations in health care financing in Asia. Finally, the organizing partners will discuss evidence-based knowledge sharing, country experiences and also plan on presenting the utilization of evidence for changing health system policy based on examples from the fields including the Philippines, (or Bhutan) and Bangladesh.

Expected outputs/outcomes:

- Validation of priority health financing and protection issues and challenges to progress towards UHC in Asia including strategic policy actions and responses.
- Consolidated views on regional networking initiative for UHC, particularly health financing, in Asia, comments and feedback to strategize the next step collaborative actions.
- Highlighting challenges and opportunities for using health system research to generate evidence for policy change in Asia Pacific
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Potential contribution to the UHC 2030 key principles

This side event will contribute to the principles related to evidence-based health national strategies and leadership, a commitment to improve health system for all, and international cooperation based on mutual learning.

Organizing partners

- Institute for Global Health Policy Research (iGHP), the Bureau of International Health Cooperation, National Center for Global Health and Medicine (NCGM), Japan
- P4H-Global Network for Social Health Protection Coordination Desk, Department of Health Systems Governance and Financing, World Health Organization, Headquarters, Geneva

Provisional Agenda

Part One. 15:00-16:25 Global Collaborative for Health Financing and Protection

Presenter/Facilitator: **Claude Meyer, P4H Coordinator, WHO/HQ**

15:00-15:15 Health financing and social protection for UHC

- Engaging with stakeholders to change health financing policy
- Role of networking in the process of health financing and social protection reforms
- Importance of networking and stakeholder engagement on shifting evidence to policy

15:15-15:30 Questions and Answers

15:30-15:40 Country cases on networking and shifting evidence to policy

- Use of health system reviews as a means to engage with policy makers for improving health system performance and financing (**Walaiporn Patcharanarumol, IHPP, Thailand**)

15:40-15:55 Questions and Answers

15:55-16:10 Discussants: **Xenia Scheil-Adlung, ILO**

Irina Nikolic, World Bank

Menkhanym Kaldybayeva, Ministry of Health, Kazakhstan

Heiko Warnken, BMZ, Germany

16:10-16:25 Questions and Answers

Part Two. 16:25-17:30 Regional networking and collaborations for UHC in Asia

Facilitator: **Kenji Shibuya, Director, iGHP**

16:25-16:40 Major health financing and social protection issues in Asia (**Soonman Kwon, Seoul National University**)

16:40-16:50 Asia Networking-P4H website presentation (**D. Bayarsaikhan, P4H**)

16:50-17:00 APO as another example of regional partnership (**Nima Asgari, APO**)

17:00-17:15 Questions and Answers

17:15-17:25 Japan HiT Report (**Haruka Sakamoto, University of Tokyo**)

17:25-17:30 Closing remarks (**Eiji Hinoshita, Director-General, Bureau of International Health Cooperation, NCGM**)

Report on UHC Forum 2017 Side Event

Institute for Global Health Policy Research (iGHP), the Global Network for Health Financing and Social Health Protection (P4H), and Asia Pacific Observatory on Health Systems and Policies (APO) had a pleasure of co-organizing a side event entitled “Health System Financing and Social Health Protection for UHC: Role of Comparative Health System Analysis and Regional Collaborations in Asia” during the UHC Forum 2017 held in Tokyo from 12th to 15th December 2017.

The aims of this event were to validate priority health financing and protection issues and challenges to progress towards UHC in Asia, and obtain consolidated views on regional networking initiatives for UHC to address region specific challenges and opportunities. The event also emphasized the challenges and opportunities for using health system research in order to generate evidence for policy changes in Asia Pacific region.

The P4H’s presentation included a several topics including its evolution over the past 10 years with a transition from the MDG to SDG context, and a framework based on the intersection of health, social, finance – in line with SDG principles. A group of panelists that represented the steering group members of the P4H network also had insightful and relevant dialogues on global collaborations for health financing and protection. The APO’s presentation focused on the Asia Pacific Context, highlighting the uniqueness of the regional and national landscape of political economy in Asia and the implications it has on networking and partnership. The participants also learned about the APO’s engagement with countries based on the above-mentioned realities and increasing focus on policy dialogues and engagement with national health leaders throughout the life cycle of APO publications. In addition, the Executive Summary of the Japan Health Systems Review (HiT) report was launched as an example of publications that looks at the whole health system architecture at the national level including health care financing for ageing society as well as a model of collaboration between various partners in Asia. The Japan HiT presentation was all-encompassing that it covered the history of Japanese health care system, various challenges Japan currently faces as well as the newly proposed health-care vision in order to tackle challenges beyond the “Japan Vision: Health Care 2035”.

Furthermore, we were honored to have two distinguished guests, Dr. Naoko Yamamoto, WHO Assistant Director General for UHC and Health Systems and Dr. Agnes Soucat, WHO Director of the Department for Health Systems Governance and Financing join as a speaker and participant, respectively, who delivered remarks during the event.

Assistant Director General Yamamoto congratulated all the partners for organizing this important event during the Tokyo Forum. Dr. Yamamoto underscored the role of health financing and social health protection in moving towards UHC. According to her, the Tokyo Forum placed a special emphasis on health financing, and provided opportunities at the highest political level to discuss UHC in the contexts of different countries, such as Japan. Dr. Soucat also welcomed this event and expressed her active and full support towards regional networking for UHC. The potential role of networking in improving data and communication, sharing lessons and experiences and closing the knowledge gaps across countries and regions was evidently presented in the WHO regional and global financing reports prepared for the Forum, namely health expenditures estimates produced according to the new system of health accounts.

Despite the fact that the event was held during the last hours of the UHC Forum 2017, we were fortunate to have many participants from various professional fields and different regions of the world as well. The success of this side event clearly showed how all the organizing partners value the collaborations and inputs provided from different fields. In conclusion, all the partners agreed that the side event was well organized and met its expected objectives and outcomes. The partners have genuine interests and willingness to continue working together to promote and strengthen the partnership platform and networking for advancing UHC including health financing and social health protection in the Asia and Pacific Region.

Speakers:

Naoko Yamamoto, Assistant Director General, WHO
Soonman Kwon, Professor, Seoul National University
Walaiporn Patcharanarumol, IHPP, Thailand
Claude Meyer, P4H Coordinator, WHO/HQ
D. Bayarsaikhan, P4H
Nima Asgari, APO
Haruka Sakamoto, University of Tokyo

Kenji Shibuya, Director, iGHP, NCGM

Eiji Hinoshita, Director-General, Bureau of International Health Cooperation, NCGM

Panelists:

Xenia Scheil-Adlung, International Labour Organization

Irina Nikolic, the World Bank

Menkhanym Kaldybayeva, Republican Centre for Health Development, Kazakhstan

Heiko Warnken, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development,
Germany

