



**Pan American  
Health  
Organization**



**World Health  
Organization**

REGIONAL OFFICE FOR THE **Americas**

# ***Agenda 2030 & The Universal Health Strategy***

## ***What are the similarities & Differences?***

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# Aims

This presentation aims to :

1. Briefly review Agenda 2030 and the Universal Health Care Strategy
2. Identify and discuss main similarities and synergies and their implications for the health of Women, children & adolescents

# Agenda 2030

- Agenda 2030 seeks to realize the human rights of all, to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom, and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development: the economic, social and environmental
- Agenda 2030 is a plan of action for people, the planet and prosperity. It is made up of 17 Sustainable Development Goals with 169 associated targets which are integrated and indivisible
- Many of the goals of Agenda 2030 are health related: Goals 1-3, 5 & 6, are specific to health and all of the others impact upon health.

# Agenda 2030: Related Targets

- Invests in children , focus on a world in which every child grows up free from violence and exploitation.
- Woman and girls enjoys full gender equality and all legal, social and economic barriers removed to their empowerment
- By 2030, end preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 years of age, with all countries aiming to reduce neonatal mortality to at least as low as 12 per 1,000 live births and under-5 mortality to at least as low as 25 per 1,000 live births

# Agenda 2030: Related Targets

- By 2030, ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programs
- By 2030, reduce the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 per live Births.

# Universal Access

- The goal of universal health coverage is to ensure that all people obtain the health services they need without suffering financial hardship when paying for them. This requires:
  - a strong, efficient, well-run health system;
  - a system for financing health services;
  - access to essential medicines and technologies;
  - a sufficient capacity of well-trained, motivated health workers.

# Why Universal Health Coverage?

According to WHO:

- 400 million people globally lack access to one or more essential health services
- Every year 100 million people are pushed into poverty and 150 million people suffer financial catastrophe because of out of pocket expenditure on health services
- 32% of total health expenditure worldwide comes from out of pocket payments. In our region these costs vary from 7% in Cuba to 56.6% in St.Kitts\Nevis
- People centered and integrated health services are critical for achieving universal health coverage

# Universal Health Coverage\Strategy

- In the region of the Americas, millions of people lack access to comprehensive health services required to live a healthy life and prevent disease, as well as to receive the health services they need when they are sick. Our region remains one of the most inequitable in the world.
- Ensuring that all people and communities have access to the comprehensive health services they need is a fundamental challenge for PAHO, thus the Universal Health Strategy.
- A main objective of the strategy is for the quality of health services to be good enough to improve the health of those receiving the services

# Universal Health Coverage\Strategy

Following are some key points of the universal access and universal health coverage strategy (UH) approved by member states in the region of the Americas in 2014:

- Health is a key component of sustainable human development.
- Universal access to health and universal health coverage are essential for the achievement of better health outcomes for all.
- Main challenge: mismatch between the complexity of current health issues, the increasing demands and expectations of the population and the health sector capacity to respond.

# Universal Health Coverage\Strategy

Some of these challenges include:

- reducing inequalities; increasing health financing and efficiency; reducing fragmentation and segmentation of services; eliminating fees at point of care; addressing the causes of inadequate human resources for health; overuse and underuse of medicines and health technologies; limited capacity of Ministries of Health to make the case of health to other sectors within government; limited engagement of local authorities; limited mechanisms for meaningful participation of communities and people (especially those most vulnerable).

# Universal Health Coverage\Strategy

The UH strategy intends to provide guidance on key strategic action lines to address the issues raised previously. It includes 4 strategic lines:

- Expanding equitable access to comprehensive, quality, people- and community-centered health services
- Increasing and improving financing with equity and efficiency, and advancing toward the elimination of direct payments that constitute a barrier to access at the point of service
- Strengthening stewardship and governance
- Strengthening multisectoral coordination to address the social determinants of health that ensure the sustainability of UHC

# Similarities & Synergies

## Agenda 2030

- Substantially increase health financing recruitment, development training and retention of the health workforce in developing countries, especially in least developed countries and small island developing States.

## Universal Health Strategy

- Requires strengthening health systems and workforce capacity building. An important component of this process is health financing since a great deal of funds will be needed to implement the necessary changes

# Similarities and synergies

## Agenda 2030

- Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.

## UHC

- Implies that all people and communities will have access to comprehensive, appropriate, timely, affordable and quality health services, free from discrimination

# Similarities & Synergies

## Agenda 2030

- By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases.

## Universal Health Strategy

- Deems it critical to expand access to health services for vulnerable groups , prioritize interventions that serve unmet needs and health challenges, e.g. maternal and child mortality, NCDs, HIV infection, TB, violence, & the impact of climate change

# Similarities & synergies

## Agenda 2030

Universal respect for human rights and human dignity, the rule of law, justice, equality and non-discrimination. Respect for race, ethnicity and cultural diversity; equal opportunity, permitting the full realization of human potential & contributing to shared prosperity.

## Universal Health Strategy

The core value of universal access and UHC is based on the WHO Constitution which states that “The enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition”.



# Summary

- *Agenda 2030 and UHC are both based on human rights and human dignity, the rule of law, justice, equality and non-discrimination*
- *Resource mobilization , health system strengthening and capacity building are key components of both Agenda 2030 and the UHC Strategy*
- The focus of both are people and people centered care. The aims are to maintain and improve health, allowing children and adults to learn and earn, preventing poverty and leading to long term economic development.

# Summary

- Recognize the role of National Governments , but also note the need for strengthened partnerships (private sector, governments, civil society and regional and international agencies) for successful implementation and maintenance of required systems
- PAHO/WHO and other UN bodies are committed to supporting countries to develop and strengthen their health systems, as well as providing implementation and monitoring frameworks and expertise (agenda 2030 Goal 17)

# Summary

In closing let me reiterate, that good implementation of UHC will impact positively the implementation of the goals and targets of Agenda 2030 and vice versa. There is however a main difference of both systems to point out:

- The Universal Health Coverage strategy has a strong focus on the issue of Health Systems strengthening. The SDGs on the other hand covers overall the factors, and the inter relations of issues affecting people now and in the future. They are concerned with the planet and the need to protect and preserve it for us and for the future generations

# The End

THANK YOU

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QUESTIONS?