

Understanding Universal Health Coverage

UHC and Health Financing

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Understanding UHC and HCF

- ▶▶ What is Universal Health Coverage (UHC)?
- ▶▶ Why are we aiming for UHC?
- ▶▶ What is the link between HealthCare Financing (HCF) and UHC?
- ▶▶ Nigeria and UHC?

- ▶▶ YOU and UHC ...



What is UHC?

▶▶ UHC is a **goal**

All people have access to effective and high-quality health services, without experiencing financial hardship

- ❖ **Universal**: All people regardless of race, gender, social status
- ❖ **Health services**: curative, health promotion, prevention, rehabilitation, and palliative
- ❖ **Quality**: sufficient quality to effective
- ❖ **Financial hardship**: lowering out of pocket costs and the risk of catastrophic health expenditure



UHC and SDGs

- ▶▶ Sustainable Development Goals
- ▶▶ Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages
 - ❖ Target 3.8: Achieve UHC



<p>1 NO POVERTY</p>	<p>2 ZERO HUNGER</p>	<p>3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING</p>	<p>4 QUALITY EDUCATION</p>	<p>5 GENDER EQUALITY</p>
<p>6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION</p>	<p>7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY</p>	<p>8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH</p>	<p>9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE</p>	<p>10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES</p>
<p>11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES</p>				<p>12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION</p>
<p>13 CLIMATE ACTION</p>	<p>14 LIFE BELOW WATER</p>	<p>15 LIFE ON LAND</p>	<p>16 PEACE AND JUSTICE STRONG INSTITUTIONS</p>	<p>17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS</p>

THE GLOBAL GOALS
For Sustainable Development



▶▶ In addition UHC supports achievement of other SDGs

❖ ?

❖ ?



Measuring UHC: It is a challenge!

- ▶▶ WHO and World Bank UHC Measurement Framework (2014)
- ▶▶ Health service coverage
 - ❖ Antenatal care (% pregnant women)
 - ❖ Skilled birth attendance (% pregnant women)
 - ❖ Immunization (% children)
- ▶▶ Financial protection
 - ❖ Households experiencing catastrophic health expenditure (%)
 - ❖ Households pushed into poverty (%)
- ▶▶ Equity
 - ❖ Disaggregate above indicators by gender, wealth quintile, place of residence

Why is moving towards UHC important?

▶▶ Health benefits

- ❖ Niger 2000: universal access policies, free health care for pregnant women and children → infant and child mortality fell 50%
- ❖ Burundi 2016: eliminates user fees, for pregnant women and children under 5 → infant and child mortality fell 43%

▶▶ Economic benefits

- ❖ Out of pocket expenditures pushes 100 million people into poverty annually (counter-acting economic development strategies)

▶▶ Political benefits

- ❖ Can be a vote winner if implemented effectively with accountability and transparency



UHC, Human Rights and Equity

- ▶▶ Universal means any strategy that explicitly excludes any person is deemed unacceptable
 - ❖ Especially those with greater needs
- ▶▶ UHC does **not** require that everyone receive their health services using the same providers or the same financing sources but
 - ❖ Quality across providers must be ensured
 - ❖ Risk protection across service users must be ensured

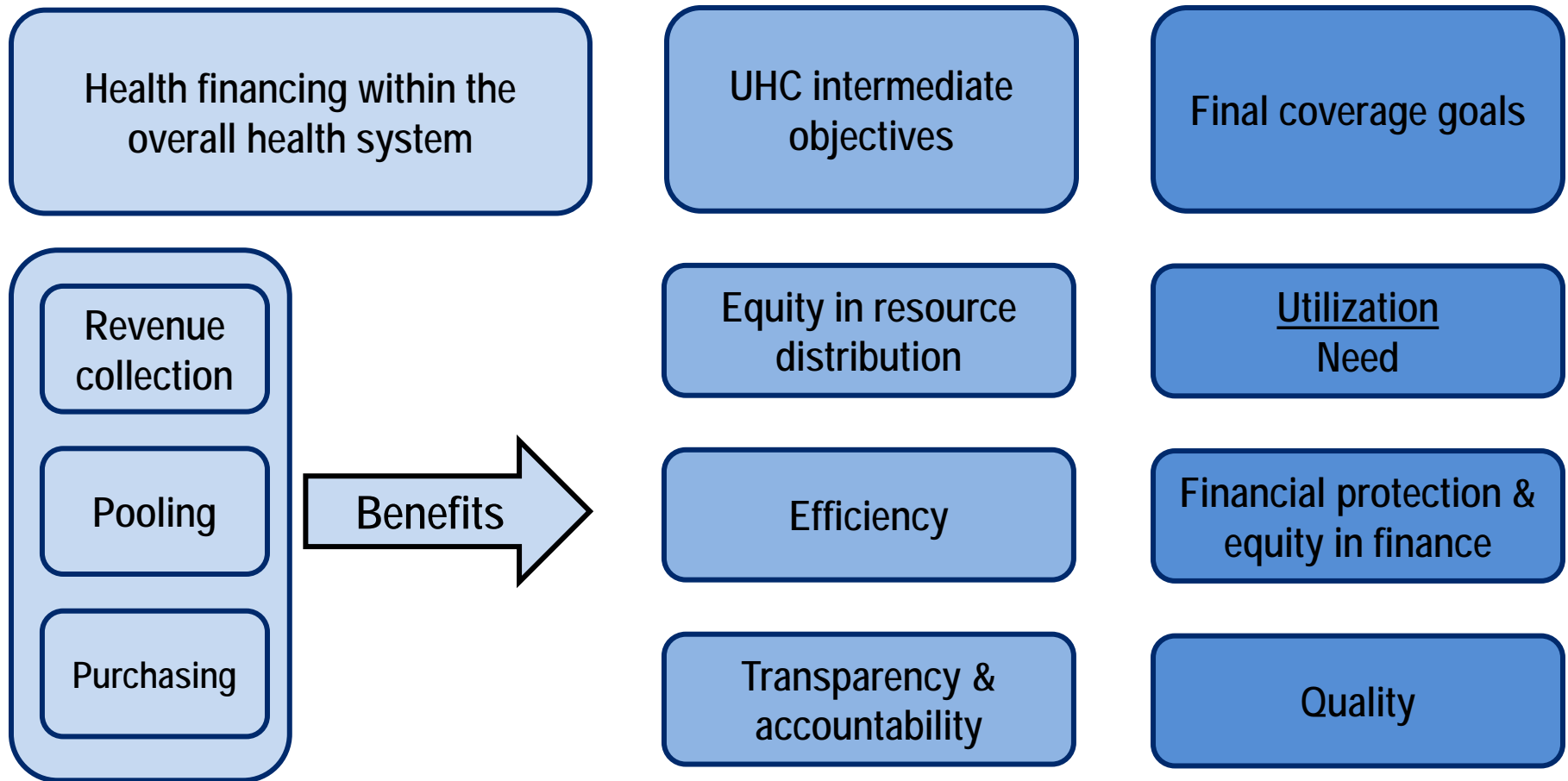


UHC and health care financing

Health care financing system has three functions

1. Raising sufficient financial resources to cover health systems costs
2. Pooling financial resource to protect people from financial risk (loss of income, need to pay out of pocket)
3. Purchasing health service to ensure the optimal use of available resources

Health financing and UHC objectives/goals





UHC Myths #1

- ▶▶ UHC is a health financing strategy – True and False?
- ▶▶ UHC is **not** just health financing, it should cover all components of the health system to be successful:
 - ❖ health service delivery systems
 - ❖ health workforce
 - ❖ health facilities
 - ❖ communications networks, health technologies, information systems
 - ❖ quality assurance mechanisms
 - ❖ governance and legislation



UHC Myths #2

- ▶▶ UHC is assuring a minimum package of health services – True or False?
- ▶▶ UHC is not only about assuring a minimum package of health services, but also about **assuring a progressive expansion** of coverage of health services and financial risk protection as more resources become available



UHC Myths #3

- ▶▶ UHC means free coverage – True or False?
- ▶▶ UHC **does not mean free coverage** for all possible health interventions, regardless of the cost, as no country can provide all services free of charge on a sustainable basis.

Nigeria and UHC



- ▶▶ Presidential Summit on UHC in Nigeria, 2014
- ▶▶ Nigeria said **"Yes to UHC"**
- ▶▶ What did Nigeria do next ...



Policies

- ▶▶ National Health Act provision for health care financing
 - ❖ 50% of the BHCPF*: provision of basic minimum package of health services to citizen in eligible “primary and secondary” facilities through NHIS
 - ❖ 20%: essential drugs , vaccines and consumables
 - ❖ 15%: maintenance of facilities, equipment and transport
 - ❖ 10%: developing human resources for health services
- ▶▶ State Supported Health Insurance Program (SSHIP)
 - ❖ Objective: To rapidly expand coverage towards UH

... but planning and implementation ...



UHC: All people have access to effective and high-quality health services, without experiencing financial hardship

▶▶ National Health Act & SSHIP support progress to UHC

Universal

- SSHIP objective

Health services

- Minimum basic package

Quality

- BHCPF:
 - 20% drugs
 - 15% maintenance
 - 10% training

Financial protection

- BHCPF:
 - 50% for insurance provision



YOU and UHC

- ▶▶ UHC is a **political** process that involves **negotiation** between **different interest groups** in society over the **allocation** of health benefits and **who should pay** for these benefits
 - ❖ Why political?
 - ❖ What negotiation?
 - ❖ Who are the interest groups?
 - ❖ Allocation – do we prioritize, if yes, who?
 - ❖ Who should pay – govt, individuals, should rich subsidize poor, should govt subsidize poor?

Thank you

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