

# Health Care Financing Training

## Recap – Day 1



# Introduction

- ▶▶ The HCF training is sponsored by USAID and implemented by Health, Finance and Governance (HFG) Project
- ▶▶ It brings together USAID, politicians, Government officials and technocrats from 5 States for peer review namely – Rivers, Cross River, Akwa Ibom, Bauchi & Lagos
- ▶▶ The Lagos State Hon. Commissioner for Health represented by Dr. Taiwo gave the opening speech with a key message: Poverty should not hinder access to health
- ▶▶ Cross sectoral participants from Min.of Finance, Min.of Budget & Eco.planing, MoH, NHIS, HFG champions & media



# Objectives

- ▶▶ Key note address was delivered by MoH Lagos & USAID
- ▶▶ Dr. Sylvester espoused the objectives of the meeting:
  - ▶▶ to deepen the understanding of health financing concepts,
  - ▶▶ acquaint participants with the legal framework, processes and Institutional arrangement required to implement health financing and to
  - ▶▶ outline a road map to implement UHC.
- ▶▶ Dr. Gafar Alawode (HFG, COP) moderated by pointing out the importance of UHC on the workforce and is first on the stage in Nigeria States



## Highlights Cont'd

- ▶▶ Four presentations, a panelist discussion and a group work
- ▶▶ The first presentation by Dr. Elaine Baruwa (HFG Country Manager), was on **Understanding the concept of Universal health coverage**
- ▶▶ Key learnings
  - UHC is a goal not a strategy, it pools resources for Universal health, not only treatment but preventive & rehabilitative care
  - Can reduce hardship, enhance efficiency, equitable not equality access to health care
  - Can advocate for UHC using the SDGs linkages & impact



# Health Financing within the overall health System by Prof. Tanimola Akande

- In line with the building blocks of UHC, leadership, governance and money are highly needed in implementing UHC
- Good service delivery must enhance access and quality
- A performing health workforce consists of HR Mgt, HR skills & HR policies, Health information system, medical products, vaccines & technologies and health financing mechanism



## National Health Act (NHA) Provision for Health Care Financing by Dr. Nneka Orji of the FMoH UHC Dept.

- ▶▶ - NHA HCF fund primarily from FG annual grant of not less than 1% of its consolidated revenue asides donors & other sources, States & LGAs each are to contribute counterpart funds
- ▶▶ Uses- 50% for basic minimum package, 20% for essential drugs, vaccines & consumables, 15% for maintaining facilities, equipment & transport, 10% for HR, 5% for emergency medical treatment at PHCs
- ▶▶ An SHIS team at the State to cover three basic functions – revenue collection, risk pooling and purchase of health services



# Raising revenue for Health by Dr. Elaine Baruwa

- ▶▶ Espoused innovative ways of increasing funds for UHC
  - Direct Govt. taxation, Fiscal space for health, OOP though not the way to go, Indirect taxes e.g Taxing sin services like tobacco and Pre-payments (Premiums)
- ▶▶ Criteria: Taxes should not be harmful, be effective, efficient and improve overall equity of payment
- ▶▶ Equity was described by participants as fairness in cost sharing (%s) but equality in accessing care
- ▶▶ Federal and State Govts contribution to health rates around 0 – 5% compared to the threshold of 15%.
- ▶▶ Health spending increased life expectancy



# Lagos State Fiscal Space for SHIS Analysis by Dr. Bukola Ayinla – Head, Lagos State UCH Dept

- ▶▶ Few years back, Lagos State provided for infants and persons above 60 years theoretically but OOP spending was still done at the health facilities for mainly drugs
- ▶▶ FG withholding of LGA funds gave rise to looking inwards
- ▶▶ Lagos State Health Scheme Law (LSHS) established by the State House of Assembly
- ▶▶ Concerted steps taken in its formation e.g fiscal space analysis, health benefits package, etc
- ▶▶ Nagging questions still trail its implementation such as the funding interaction between NHIS and the LSHS





# Conclusion

- ▶▶ Panel discussion
- ▶▶ Group Work by States
  
- ▶▶ -NHIS has a framework such as an enabling bill, must be autonomous(agency), must have pluralistic funding mechanism and budget line, benefit package for all, pool & strategic purchasing.



## Other comments

- ▶▶ Key comments included non-reliance on donor funding and counterpart funding of States/LGAs are key to ownership
- ▶▶ ???????



Thank you