Event Programme

NHI4UHC: Leveraging NHI and its Elements to Achieve UHC
Asian Development Bank Headquarters
27 to 30 September 2016

Background

National Health Insurance (NHI) systems are not new. Many developed countries have made significant progresses towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC) by using these systems or elements of them.

In Asia and the Pacific, Japan implements a NHI system funded by payroll taxes, income-based premiums, and government subsidies. The system has effectively reduced out-of-pocket payments for health to only 14% of total health expenditures in 2014.

Among the middle- and low-income countries in Asia and the Pacific, Thailand moved closer to UHC by implementing its own version in 2002, called the Universal Coverage Scheme (UCS). UCS insures the population that falls outside of the Social Health Insurance system for the formal sector and the Civil Servants Medical Benefit Scheme for government personnel. The scheme now covers 75% of the entire population, and is funded through government taxes. How did the Thai UCS become one of the most successful health financing models for middle-income countries? Aside from commitment from politicians, civil society, and technocrats to move towards UHC, several reforms were implemented. These included changes in pooling and purchasing mechanisms, which led to efficiency. Costs were controlled through fixed budget caps, which also improved efficiency and financial sustainability.

Thailand’s success proves that developing member countries (DMCs) are capable of making progresses towards UHC—and that some of the most effective interventions use elements of social health insurance as instruments for improving health outcomes and coverage.

The same is true for many countries that are on their way towards UHC. This meeting then demonstrates why these successes are not out of the reach of DMCs and shares examples of how NHI as a tool for moving closer to the objective of UHC.

Objective

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) in partnership with the ADB Institute (ADBi) will convene this meeting to learn from Thailand as well as other country experiences on maximizing the use of a national health insurance system to move towards UHC. Key components and bottlenecks of UHC will be explored: Providing effective population coverage, selecting what goods and services to purchase, improving pooling mechanisms, governance issues, and more. Several country-specific experiences from OECD countries and DMCs will also be retold. The meeting is expected to support the ongoing efforts of DMCs, and to inform ADB’s financing and technical support to DMCs as these strive to make progresses UHC.
### DAY 1: Tuesday, 27 September 2016

**Opening Session**
The session will set the stage for the next four days and describe ADB’s commitment to support DMC efforts to meet the sustainable development goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 3 and universal health coverage targets.

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<td>0900–0910</td>
<td>Welcome Address by Bambang Susantono</td>
<td>Vice President, Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development Group, ADB</td>
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<tr>
<td>0910–0925</td>
<td>ADB, National Health Insurance, and Universal Health Coverage by Eduardo Banzon</td>
<td>Principal Health Specialist, Sustainable Development &amp; Climate Change Department, ADB</td>
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<td>0925–0950</td>
<td>Universal Health Coverage: Key Issues and Challenges by Soonman Kwon</td>
<td>Technical Advisor (Health), Sustainable Development &amp; Climate Change Department, ADB</td>
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**SESSION 1 National Health Insurance as an Instrument for UHC**
The session will look at how the traditional view of health insurance has evolved from paying for adverse health events to using it as an instrument for reaching the overall targets of UHC—population coverage, provision of needed health services, and financial risk protection. It will present the story of Thailand, Japan, Korea, and Taipei, China with focus on Thailand given that it is still a developing member country of ADB.

**NHI as an Instrument for UHC: Lessons from Thailand and Non-DMCs**

* Moderator: Azusa Sato, Health Specialist, Southeast Asia Regional Department, ADB

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<tr>
<td>0950–1015</td>
<td>Universal Coverage in Thailand by Walaiporn Patcharanarumol</td>
<td>International Health Policy Program, Thailand</td>
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<td>1015–1025</td>
<td>Open Forum</td>
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<td>1025–1035</td>
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<td>Group picture-taking</td>
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<td>NETWORKING BREAK</td>
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<td>1100–1200</td>
<td>Panel Discussion: NHI as an Instrument for Achieving UHC in Non-DMCs</td>
<td>Moderated by Azusa Sato, Health Specialist, Southeast Asia Regional Department, ADB</td>
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* Panelists: Naoki Ikegami, St. Luke’s International University, Japan
  Tae-jin Lee, Seoul National University, Korea
  Yue-Chune Lee, National Yangming University, Taipei, China

**SESSION 2 Covering the Whole Population**
Providing effective population coverage in UHC terms entails several things: Identifying the poor and vulnerable groups, making sure that they are empowered and informed regarding their benefits, and ensuring that they have physical and financial access to services—assuming that countries already have a working system for insuring the formally employed. The four sub-sessions will highlight country challenges and responses in ensuring population coverage given the geographical expanse and population mobility of Asia and the Pacific. The sessions will also discuss specific population concerns on proper identification of those who will be subsidized, member empowerment efforts, and the value digital health brings in to sustaining effective population coverage. It will also go deep in the population coverage experiences in India and China, the two largest countries in terms of population, in Asia and the Pacific.

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  Tae-jin Lee, Seoul National University, Korea
  Yue-Chune Lee, National Yangming University, Taipei, China
Panel Discussion: Challenges in Population Coverage
Moderated by Beverly Ho, Department of Health, Philippines

Panelists
Tran Thi Mai Oanh, Director, Health Strategy and Policy Institute, Viet Nam
Tsolmon Tsilaajav, Former Director of Planning, Ministry of Health, Mongolia
Jaidev Singh Anand, Senior Technical Specialist, ACCESS Health, South Asia

Addressing Population Coverage Challenges
Moderator
Hayman Win, Senior Health Specialist, South Asia Regional Department, ADB

Sin Taxes and Scaling Up Population Coverage in the Philippines: Lessons for Asia and the Pacific (1425-1445)
by Jeremias Paul, Coordinator, Tobacco Control Economics, World Health Organization

Covering People Across the Pacific (1445-1505)
by Gregorio Ngirmang, Minister of Health, Palau

Covering People Across Borders for People from Asia and the Pacific (1505-1525)
by Azusa Sato, Health Specialist, Southeast Asia Department, ADB
Awad Mataria (by Skype), Regional Adviser, Health Financing, WHO-EMRO

Open Forum (1525-1545)

NETWORKING BREAK

Digital Health, Member Management, and UHC
Moderator
Susann Roth, Senior Social Development Specialist, Sustainable Development & Climate Change Department, ADB

Unique Identifiers and Inter-operability Labs to drive UHC
Derek Ritz, Mohawk University

Leveraging Country Networks for Scaling Up Digital Management of Population Coverage
Alvin Marcelo, AeHIN

Monitoring NHI and UHC: Lessons from the Field
Rosebelle Azcuna, independent consultant
DAY 2: Wednesday, 28 September 2016

Moderator
Arup Chatterjee, Principal Financial Services Specialist, Sustainable Development & Climate Change Department, ADB

0900 – 0910  
**Keynote Address: ADB and the Sustainable Development Goals**  
by Ma. Carmela Locsin  
Director General, Sustainable Development & Climate Change Department, ADB

0910 – 0930  
**Scaling up Population Coverage in India: The RSBY Story**  
by Nishant Jain, Deputy Program Director with Social Security Program, GIZ – India

0930 – 0950  
**Scaling up Population Coverage in China: The NRCMS Story**  
by Qingyue Meng, Dean, Peking University School of Public Health

0950 – 1005  
Open Forum

**SESSION 3 Purchasing Needed Health Services**

Given resource constraints, a challenge for health systems is to be able to identify the health needs to be covered—what these should be, where they will be covered, and how these services are to be provided. These will help address supply side issues but another aspect that needs to be resolved is the demand side—are there factors that members have difficulty with and aren’t being addressed? These include the indirect costs of accessing health services, such as transportation, travel time, home care, among others. After determining what services should be covered, then a second question of how these services shall be purchased and the providers paid arises. Two panels will tackle these inter-related strategic purchasing components of determining what needs have to be covered, who shall provide the needed services and how the providers shall be paid. And with changing demographics, burden of diseases and other issues affecting health systems, the challenge of addressing these new and emerging concerns and consider what actions can help DMCs address will be tackled in an other session.

1005 – 1100  
**Panel Discussion: Determining which needed services should be covered**  
**Moderators**  
Megan Counahan, Health Specialist, Central and West Asia Regional Department, ADB  
Sean Donato, Health Specialist, Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, ADB

**Panelists**  
Alia Luz, Health Intervention Technology Assessment of Thailand  
Inez-Mikkelsen Lopez, Health Specialist, Pacific Regional Department, ADB  
Yogesh Rajkotia, Thinkwell Global  
Naoki Ikegami, St. Luke's International University, Japan

1130 – 1225  
**Panel Discussion: Determining how service providers and goods will be paid**  
**Moderators**  
Gerard Servais, Senior Health Specialist, South East Asia Regional Department, ADB

**Panelists**  
Yue-Chune Lee, National Yangming University, Taipei, China  
Walaiporn Patcharanarumol, International Health Policy Program, Thailand  
Bernard Couttelenc, ADB consultant  
Claude Meyer, P4H (Providing for Health)

1350 – 1510  
**Future Challenges on Covering Needed Health Services**  
**Moderators**  
Kirthi Ramesh, Social Development Specialist, Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, ADB  
Brian Chin, Health Specialist, South Asia Regional Department, ADB

**Ageing and UHC**  
Soonman Kwon, Technical Advisor (Health), Sustainable Development & Climate Change Department, ADB

**Malaria Elimination, Health Security, and UHC**  
Sandii Lwin, Myanmar Health and Development Consortium
The original intent of insurance was to make sure that the patient is protected from catastrophic spending in case of adverse health events by shifting money to prepayment. The idea now is to expand this concept to make sure that even regular health services are covered. An essential step to making this happen is increasing prepayments and the pool of funds for health insurance. This session will explore how to increase the single pool of funds while ensuring that members are protected from catastrophic out-of-pocket payments.

**1540 - 1700**

**Increasing and Pooling Pre-Payments: Challenges and Responses**

*Moderator*

Yogesh Rajkotia, Thinkwell Global

- **Mobilizing Government Revenues for NHI: Challenges in DMCs** (1540-1555)
  Vera Siesjo, Country Manager, ACCESS Health

- **Mobilizing VAT, Re-allocated Subsidies, and Other Sources for NHI: Global Lessons** (1555-1610)
  Lluis Vinyals-Torres, Regional Adviser for Health Financing, WHO-SEARO

- **Challenges of State Governments in Implementing National Health Insurance** (1610-1625)
  Sunil Nandraj, Advisor, Health Reforms, State Government of Delhi

- **Evolving a Single Fund in the Philippines** (1625-1640)
  Ruben John Basa, Senior Vice President, Philippine Health Insurance Corporation, Philippines

Open Forum (1640-1700)
DAY 3: Thursday, 29 September 2016

SESSION 5 Governance: Holding It All Together

The enabling platform for UHC is critical in this process. Areas such as the policy and regulatory environment, decision points for quality standards, and stakeholder roles and participation will define the success of UHC. The incentive mechanisms for a successful health system should therefore be in place. This first sub-session explores global lessons on UHC governance efforts and two best practices in creating an enabling platform for UHC: Korea’s Big Data Initiative, which has become the ultimate source of evidence for policy-making; and Indonesia’s stepwise JKN governance reforms which highlights transparency and encourages stakeholder engagement and participation in UHC. The second sub-session looks at the value of investing in research to inform the governance of UHC efforts.

Moderator
Soonman Kwon, Technical Advisor (Health), Sustainable Development & Climate Change Department, ADB

0900 - 0910 Keynote Address: ADB on Building Institutions to Sustain NHI and UHC
by Stephen Groff
Vice President for Operations 1, ADB

Governing NHI and UHC

0910 – 0935 Governing UHC Efforts: Global Lessons
Toomas Palu, World Bank

0935 – 0955 Korea’s Big Data Initiative and UHC
Yoon Kim, Seoul National University

0955 – 1015 Governance Challenges in Moving Towards UHC in Indonesia
Teguh Dartanto, University of Indonesia

1015 – 1025 Open Forum

NETWORKING BREAK

1055 – 1200 Panel Discussion: Research for Informing Governance in NHI4UHC
Moderator
Lluis Vinyals-Torres, Regional Adviser for Health Financing, WHO-SEARO
Rochelle Eng, Health Policy and Financing Consultant, WHO-WPRO

Panelists
Katherine Villegas-Reyes, AIHO, Philippines
Juan Carlos Negrette, University of Utah
Anderson Stanicole, United Nations Population Fund
Tae-jin Lee, Seoul National University, Korea
Ros Chhung Eang, Ministry of Health, Cambodia

LUNCH BREAK

SESSION 6 Implementing and Sustaining NHI4UHC

The three sub-sessions will discuss the different implementation challenges of DMCs. A number of DMCs that are implementing “new” NHI for UHC are tackling birthing pains which they may be able to address better by building upon the experiences of other DMCs. Stories on sustaining NHI4UHC in the face of changing disease burden, population demands, political bottlenecks, and adverse patient and provider behavior are expected to provide insights to DMCs. Finally, a deeper understanding of the mindset of Finance Ministry officials regarding NHI4UHC is critical step sustaining all these UHC efforts.

1330-1430 Panel Discussion: Implementation Challenges for “New” National Health Insurance Systems
Moderated by Eduardo Banzon, Principal Health Specialist, Sustainable Development & Climate Change Department, ADB

Panelists
Suleman Khan, Health Economics Unit, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Bangladesh
Bouphat Phonvisay, National Health Insurance Bureau, Ministry of Health, Lao PDR
Faisal Rifaq, Prime Minister National Health Program, Ministry of National Health Services, Regulation and Coordination, Pakistan
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<th>Speaker(s)</th>
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| 1500  | Sustaining UHC efforts                                                       | Moderators
Raushan Mamatkulov, Senior Health Specialist, East Asia Regional Department, ADB
Ye Xu, Health Specialist, Southeast Asia Regional Department, ADB |
|       | **Continuous Re-invention: UHC in Singapore** (1500-1520)                   | Lim Yee Wei, National University of Singapore                                                   |
|       | **The Virtuous Cycle of UHC: Increased Prepayments and Enhanced Service Delivery** (1520-1535) | Ma. Elena Herrera, Asian Institute of Management                                                |
|       | **Aspirational Goals and Building Alliances: Lessons for UHC from APLMA** (1535-1550) | Benjamin Rolfe, Executive Secretary, APLMA                                                      |
|       | Open Forum (1550-1605)                                                      |                                                                                               |
| 1605  | Dialogue with Finance Ministry Officials                                    | Moderator
Susann Roth, Senior Social Development Specialist, Sustainable Development & Climate Change Department, ADB |
| 1700  | Bringing It All Together                                                    | Soonman Kwon, Technical Advisor (Health), Sustainable Development & Climate Change Department, ADB |
DAY 4: Friday, 30 September 2016

SESSION 7  NHI, UHC, and the Private Sector
This portion will discuss the role of the private sector vis-a-vis NHI systems in efforts to move towards UHC. It shall be open to a wider audience, including private sector representatives.

0910 – 1200  NHI, UHC, and the Private Sector
Moderators
Saumya Kailasapathy, Health Specialist, Sustainable Development & Climate Change Department, ADB
Eduardo Banzon, Principal Health Specialist, Sustainable Development & Climate Change Department, ADB

0900 – 0910  Keynote Address: ADB and the Private Health Sector
by Diwakar Gupta, Vice President for Private Sector and Cofinancing Operations, ADB

0910 – 0915  Introductions
by Eduardo Banzon and Saumya Kailasapathy

0915 – 0945  Structuring financing in NHI4UHC: Speakers
Partnering for Health Insurance “The Abu Dhabi Experience”: Jan Schmitz-Huebsch, Munich Re
Pharmaceuticals Financing: Ben Kamarck, Gilead

0945 – 1005  Structuring financing in NHI4UHC: Reactors
· Judith Won Pat, Speaker of the Guam Legislature
· Gregorio Ngirmang, Minister of Health Palau
· Soonman Kwon, Technical Adviser (Health), SDCC, ADB

1030 – 1100D  Implementing Services in NHI4UHC: Speakers
Hospitals: Bhavdeep Singh, Fortis Hospitals
Delivery Innovation: Farouk Meralli, mClinica

1100 – 1120  Implementing Services in NHI4UHC: Reactors
· Alice Sabino, Clinton Health Access Initiative
· Dale Huntington, Johnson & Johnson
· Margaret Bengzon, The Medical City (TBC)
· Scott Roberts, Private Sector Operations Department, ADB

1130 – 1150  Open Forum

1150-1200  Summary and Closing