Private Sector In Health Thematic Working Group

Activities 2019-2020

Innovations for UHC Asia-Africa

A series of Innovations for UHC Asia-Africa meetings are taking place this year, starting with the Africa Health Agenda International Conference (AHAIC2019) ‘Driving UHC in Asia and Africa through Community-led Innovation’ side-event in March 2019. Another consultation meeting will take place in Hanoi, Vietnam, in May. It will focus on achieving UHC in Asia and Africa by scaling locally driven Innovations, looking at the role of new intermediaries in the region. Deliberations from these two meetings are expected to be presented at the World Health Assembly (WHA) in May 2019.

These activities follow the Innovations for UHC Conclave held in June 2018 in Bangalore (read the report) and a high-level consultation hosted by Amref Health Africa and UHC2030 along the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in September 2018. Activity Leads: Desta Lakew and Priya Balasubramaniam

Innovations for UHC Unconference 2019

The plan for an ‘Unconference’ comes as one of the follow-on activities proposed at the HSR2018 Private Sector in Health TWG satellite session on Engaging with Private Providers in Low and Middle Income Countries- Strengthening Quality of Care and Effective Regulation. The participant-oriented meeting will be a prelude to the Private Sector Pre-Symposium Session at HSR2020 in Dubai, with one of the objectives of the unconference being to set the agenda and topics of focus for the pre-symposium. Lead: Priya Balasubramaniam, Uranchimeg Tsevelvaanchig, Cicely Thomas & others

Sessions at HSR2020 in Dubai

The PSIH TWG is planning on organising sessions at HSR2010. At this stage, plans include organising a Pre-Conference Session to build on what came out of the satellite session on ‘Engaging with Private Providers in Low and Middle Income Countries - Strengthening Quality of Care and Effective Regulation’ held at HSR2018 and the Un-conference planned for later this year, which aims to set the agenda for this pre-conference. Leads: Desta Lakew, Priya Balasubramaniam, Meenakshi Gautham, Cicely Thomas & others.

A side event, which is part of a project on networks and vested interests influencing provision of private health services, is also being organised. Leads: Meenakshi Gautham, Catherine Goodman, Mishal Khan, Jo Hanefield

Private sector engagement in UHC2030 in fragile and conflict-affected contexts

Objectives:
• Enhance awareness among private sector stakeholders of opportunities represented by fragile and conflict-affected States (FCAS) to strengthen and deliver viable solutions to health systems in these contexts;
• Promote increasing ownership of FCAS policy-makers, practitioners and scholars in the quest for home-grown solutions.

A series of events on the role of the private sector in the achievement of UHC in fragile and conflict-affected contexts will build momentum for the debate at a global level and culminate with a restitution of the main conclusions and actions resulting from 2019 debates and partnerships at the 2020 edition of the World Economic Forum. The events will be held on the sidelines of key convenings on the African continent. Events include Sankalp Africa Summit 2019 (21-22 February 2019, Nairobi); Africa Health Agenda International Conference (5-7 March 2019, Kigali); and Africa Health Business Symposium, (October 2019, Nairobi). **Leads: Barbara Profeta and Desta Lakew**

**Accountability of Private medical sector**

The objective of this work is to promote exchange and collaborations on social accountability of private health care and strategies to improving social responsiveness of private sector actors via COPASAH’s [Accountability of Private medical sector Thematic Hub](#).

The main TWG activity involves contributing to the Private medical sector track for the [Global symposium on Citizenship, Governance and Accountability in Health](#). The symposium is organised by COPASAH and will take place in Delhi, India, in October 2019. Activity **Lead: Dr. Abhay Shukla**.

**Research agenda development, identifying partners, developing joint proposals**

**Lead: Phyllis Awor**

One activity under this work stream is on the [Corporatisation of private medical sector in India and LMICs](#). SATHI is planning to explore opportunities of collaboration with the PSIH-TWG for a study of the formal private sector at national level to build on a study carried out in Maharashtra State – such as states of India – and in LMICs, such as in Malaysia, South Africa, Brazil; and to look at experiences of corporate sector presence in some HICs. **Lead: Shweta Marathe**.


The objective of this webinar is to share learning from a research project, which sought to understand the regulation of e-pharmacy in 3 LMICs (Kenya, Nigeria, and India). The webinar will cover the regulatory risks and opportunities that e-pharmacy presents (as identified by key informants); the regulatory response to date to e-pharmacy in Kenya, Nigeria, and India; and comparative perspectives from two high-income countries (UK and Germany) and one middle-income country (Thailand). Finally, it will propose a research agenda going forward. **Lead: Kara Hanson, Frank Wafula, Chima Onoka, Prasanna Saligram**

**Informal providers 2019 forum** **Lead: Meenakshi Gautham**. Details to follow.

For more information on these activities, please contact the activity leads directly or email psinhealth@gmail.com