



Civil Society and Community Perspectives on Reaching UHC

Carthi Mannikarottu

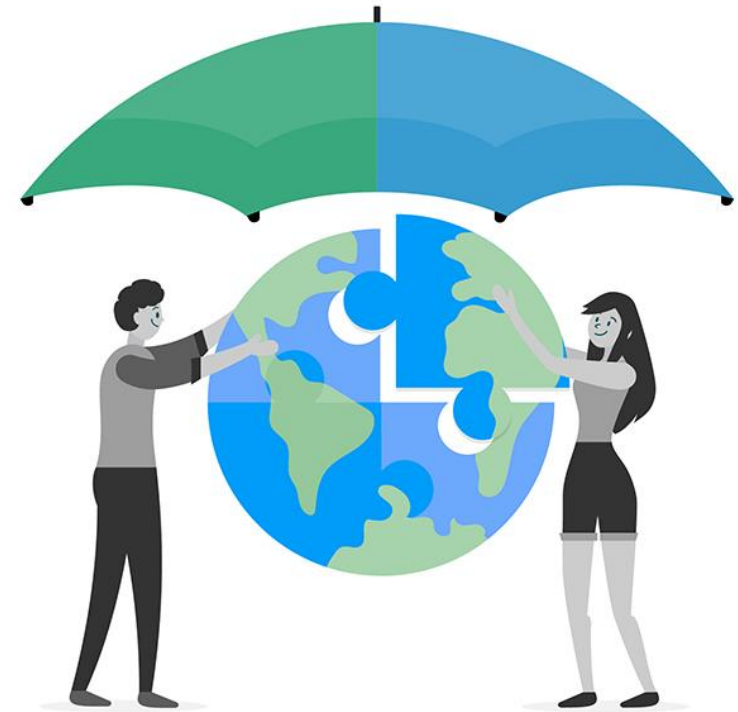
Communications Officer, CSEM Secretariat

carthi@wacihealth.org

About CSEM



From Commitments to Action: Civil Society Perspectives on Reaching Universal Health Coverage



Background

- **Objective:** Capture insights from health system end users and communities on progress made toward universal health coverage (UHC) in the country
 - Understand which populations have been most left behind and challenges for UHC
 - Build/strengthen in-country coalitions of health advocates
- **Participants:** Representatives of civil society organizations (CSOs), networks of communities often left behind, independent advocates
 - Community members and leaders
 - Civil society advocates involved in global, regional and country level advocacy
 - Adolescents and young people
 - Marginalized communities including people with disabilities, women and girls, LGBTQ+ members, migrants/ refugees, the elderly etc.
 - Advocates across disease and health issues, and SDGs beyond health
 - Research institutions and community health providers

Methodology

- Focus group discussions with a facilitator
 - Set of guiding questions collaboratively developed by global partners and adapted by country partners
 - In local languages where possible with final reports translated to English
 - Structure dependent on number of participants (i.e. breakout rooms vs full plenary discussions)
- The focus groups addressed issues in health care access and equity.
 - What is working in terms of UHC policies/programs in your country?
 - Which populations are most left behind by policies and programs?
 - Who is not captured in UHC data and what are ways to include their voices in progressing toward UHC?
 - What impact has COVID-19 had on UHC and access to quality health services?

2021 Country Consultations

Global partners: APCASO, Global Health Council, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Living Goods, NCD Alliance, People's Health Movement, UNAIDS

Focus groups were held in:

Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Colombia, Egypt, Georgia, India, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lao PDR, Mexico, Nepal, Niger, Pakistan, South Africa, United States, Vietnam

A separate focus group included participants from seven countries in the Caribbean region:

Antigua & Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Haiti, St. Vincent & the Grenadines

Key Messages

- Commitments to UHC must be multidimensional – with a specific focus on equity.
 - Populations facing additional vulnerabilities must be prioritized in UHC programs.
- Social participation in health cannot be an afterthought.
 - Civil society must be partners in creating strong health systems that are responsive to the needs of people.
- Governments must increase public financing for health systems.
 - We need more investments in primary health care and community systems for health.

2022 Planning

- **Countries submitting VNRs in 2022**
Target timeline: May - June
- **Countries submitting VNRs in 2020 or 2023**
Target timeline: July - August
- **Follow-up Consultations**
Target timeline: August - October

Asia-Pacific:

Singapore, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, Bangladesh, PNG, Mongolia, India, Nepal

Latin America and the Caribbean:

Argentina, Dominica, Uruguay

West Africa:

Cameroon, Ghana, Liberia, Mali, Senegal

East and Southern Africa:

Eswatini, Ethiopia, Malawi, Botswana, Uganda, Kenya, South Africa

Europe and Central Asia:

Switzerland, Italy, Jordan, Belarus, Latvia

Thank you to our partners!

- Bhutan: Lhak-Sam – Bhutan Network of People Living with HIV (BNP+) with APCASO
- Burkina Faso: Réseau Accès aux Médicaments Essentiels (RAME)
- Cambodia: Khmer HIV/AIDS NGO Alliance (KHANA) with APCASO
- Caribbean Region: Healthy Caribbean Coalition (HCC) with NCD Alliance
- Colombia: Mesa Colombiana de Incidencia por las Enfermedades Crónicas (MECIEC) with NCD Alliance
- Egypt: UNAIDS
- Georgia: Georgia Red Cross Society with IFRC
- India: National Coalition of People Living with HIV India (NCPI+), Gujarat State Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS (GSNP+) with APCASO
- Japan: Africa Japan Forum, Chie Matsumoto
- Kazakhstan: National Red Crescent Society of Kazakhstan with UNAIDS and IFRC
- Kenya: Health Rights Advocacy Forum (HERAF), Health NGOs Network (HENNET), Living Goods, People's Health Movement Kenya, WACI Health, White Ribbon Alliance Kenya
- Lao PDR: Community Health & Inclusion Association (CHIAs) with APCASO
- Mexico: México Salud-Hable Coalition with NCD Alliance
- Nepal: Trisuli Plus with APCASO ● Niger: Plateforme Démocratie Sanitaire et Implication Citoyenne (DES-ICI) with RAME
- Pakistan: Association of People Living with HIV & AIDS (APLHIV) – Pakistan, Health Services Academy Islamabad with APCASO
- South Africa: South African NCDs Alliance (SA-NCDA) with NCD Alliance
- United States: Global Health Council (GHC), CORE Group
- Vietnam: Centre for Supporting Community Development Initiatives (SCDI) with APCASO

Thank you!

Please contact us to learn more or join the country consultations in 2022.

csem@msh.org

Join the CSEM: www.csemonline.net/join-csem

Civil Society Perspectives on Reaching Universal Health Coverage:

<https://csemonline.net/civil-society-perspectives-souhcc-2021/>