Civil Society and Community Perspectives on Reaching UHC

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About CSEM
From Commitments to Action: Civil Society Perspectives on Reaching Universal Health Coverage
• **Objective:** Capture insights from health system end users and communities on progress made toward universal health coverage (UHC) in the country
  o Understand which populations have been most left behind and challenges for UHC
  o Build/strengthen in-country coalitions of health advocates

• **Participants:** Representatives of civil society organizations (CSOs), networks of communities often left behind, independent advocates
  o Community members and leaders
  o Civil society advocates involved in global, regional and country level advocacy
  o Adolescents and young people
  o Marginalized communities including people with disabilities, women and girls, LGBTQ+ members, migrants/ refugees, the elderly etc.
  o Advocates across disease and health issues, and SDGs beyond health
  o 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?
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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Countries</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asia-Pacific</td>
<td>Singapore, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, Bangladesh, PNG, Mongolia India, Nepal</td>
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<td>Latin America and the Caribbean</td>
<td>Argentina, Dominica, Uruguay</td>
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<td>West Africa</td>
<td>Cameroon, Ghana, Liberia, Mali, Senegal</td>
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<tr>
<td>East and Southern Africa</td>
<td>Eswatini, Ethiopia, Malawi, Botswana, Uganda, Kenya, South Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Europe and Central Asia</td>
<td>Switzerland, Italy, Jordan, Belarus, Latvia</td>
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**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
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
- 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.

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Civil Society Perspectives on Reaching Universal Health Coverage:
https://csemonline.net/civil-society-perspectives-souhc-2021/