Why should advocates for specific health causes get behind UHC?
Achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) does not compete with, but instead makes meaningful and positive inroads for all areas of health. This includes improving more integrated coverage across wider populations and focusing national governments on domestic resource mobilization. This has the potential to free up limited donor resources for more targeted, last mile, vertical health programs. Furthermore, the human rights imperative of the SDGs implores us to support the notion that everyone is entitled to the quality health services they need without facing financial hardship.

UHC supports programme-specific health initiatives because:
• Availability of health services depends on a functioning health system and consequential government commitments to health. In many countries health services are poorly funded by public resources.
• The right to health means that access to quality, affordable services should be universal
• “Leave no one behind” is one of the key principles of the SDGs. This should underpin all work in health.
• UHC encourages governments to deliver health services based on principles of human rights, equity, and need. It also guides them to increase and/or make available the resources needed to achieve this.

We call on all health advocates to adapt political messages around UHC, alongside your programme-specific messages. It will help reduce fragmentation and competition among health initiatives, as well as simplify government prioritization efforts in the crowded and complex SDG space.

We recommend:
• When arguing for action on your specific health topic, also call for UHC that increases domestic and donor resources for health and promises to leave no one behind
• Encourage advocates and practitioners working on your specific health initiative to learn about UHC core messages and how to incorporate these into efforts to influence governments on your issue area
• Take part in global and country campaigns for International UHC Day on 12 December
• Ensure that governments are accountable for their commitments in health
• Prepare your arguments from an equity angle, integrating your issue area as an essential focus of a wider UHC benefit package, including health prevention and promotion
• Promote comprehensive—people centered primary health care rather than creating silos

UHC2030 has an advocacy guide with a social media toolkit.
Join us and spread the word! www.uhc2030.org/what-we-do/advocacy/

Strong health systems are everybody’s business. We all have a role to play in improving the access to and quality of health services that leave no one behind. #HealthForAll #UHC2030

Real people don’t experience health issues and costs in siloes. Health systems must see the whole person. #HealthForAll #UHC2030

We can all contribute to achieving universal health coverage. Let’s unite and work together towards good health and well-being for all. #leavenoonebehind #HealthForAll #UHC2030
Let’s work together towards good health & wellbeing for all.

UHC leaves no one behind.