

A Civil Society Learning and Advocacy Programme on Health Financing in Africa





IN SUMMARY

Joint Learning Agenda is a joint learning programme on health financing and Universal Health Coverage (UHC)

This programme was established through a consortium of global health organizations - the Global Financing Facility (GFF), the Global Fund, the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health, WHO, the World Bank, GAVI, and CSU2030 - coordinated by regional civil society partners - Impact Santé Afrique (ISA) and WACI Health.

Started 2 years ago, more than 400 Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) from 20 anglophone and francophone countries in sub-Saharan Africa have been trained: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Liberia, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Togo and Uganda.

Creating a movement to drive real change for the betterment of people by getting governments to fund and implement quality health care for all by all is the main objective of the JLA programme.

The programme was articulated in two phases and three pillars: a learning/training phase for CSOs on health financing advocacy, followed by an implementation phase.

Phase 1 - LEARNING

PILLAR 1:

Regional (Anglophone and Francophone) online Training of

PILLAR 2:

In-country practical and action oriented trainings focusing on building CSO's capacity on advocacy and accountability for health financing for UHC

Phase 2 - SUPPORT

PILLAR 3:

Putting learning into practice with the support of tailored capacity building, technical assistance, mentoring and grants.

This monthly newsletter will allow us to follow the evolution of advocacy and accountability activities by the CSOs in their countries during Phase 2. But first, let's look back at Phase 1.



BACK-TO-BACK PHASE I

This phase was successfully carried out in two stages and resulted in the training of over 400 CSOs.

Indeed, during the 1ère stage, 40 representatives of civil society «trainers», hand-picked, were trained on advocacy, health financing and Universal Health Coverage.

In the second stage, they in turn trained local CSOs in their countries, taking into account the political, environmental and societal context:

COUNTRIES	TOTAL OF CSOs REPRESENTED	TOTAL PARTICIPANTS	
Benin	18	23	
Burkina Faso	19	22	
Cameroun	23	20	
Chad	19	25	
Democratic Republic of Congo	14	17	
Ethiopia	18	19	
Ghana	14	21	
Ivoiry Cost	16	19	
Kenya	42	100	
Liberia	15	30	
Madagascar	15	15	
Malawi	20	22	
Mozambique	16	29	
Niger	17	32	
Nigeria	26	26	
Senegal	21	22	
Sierra Leone	24	25	
Tanzania	28	28	
Togo	20	19	
Uganda	21	21	
TOTAL	385	514	

Special guests took part in this stage (youth parliamentarian, WHO national focal point, CCM representative, GFF national representative, representatives of the CSU inter-ministerial cell, representatives of other ministries and even the private sector), sometimes resulting in the birth or consolidation of certain multi-stakeholder coalitions.

During this stage, divided into 5 training sessions, several specific topics related to the country context were addressed. For example:

In Madagascar, «Key concepts on UHC financing convergences, challenges and opportunities to achieve UHC» and «Knowing the budget cycle calendar: the process of preparation, development, execution and control of the state budget» can be cited as topics covered.

In Tanzania, «Tanzania: The Race to UHC» and «From an intelligent advocacy perspective, influencing the financing of universal public health in Tanzania» were among the topics discussed.

In addition to these training sessions, in order to build capacity, inspire and mobilize Francophone CSOs, a kit called «Health for All Advocacy Kit» was developed by the Civil Society Engagement Mechanism (CSEM) and presented to them during a webinar.



EMSC Webinar Flyer

Many of the participants' testimonies reflect their appreciation of this phase.

THEY TALK ABOUT PHASE I

« The training introduced me to the world of health advocacy in order to achieve the goals set under the UHC2030 initiative. Since then, I have returned home with concrete results-oriented activities that need to be reflected in our organization's action plans, thanks to this training, we are developing a strategy for our advocacy project in which some of the knowledge gained will be integrated.»

National trainer, Nigeria

« It was a great opportunity to dive into the policy and legal framework of health financing in Uganda, and to understand how health financing can influence other socio-economic aspects, such as poverty, income inequality and overall human capital development. I am very much looking forward to seeing our local trainers use the knowledge and skills they have gained to advocate for the CSU and national health financing in Uganda. »

National trainer, Uganda

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« The Joint Learning Agenda is a step in the right direction! In addition to the knowledge gained and shared, which was then shared at the state level, I had the opportunity to meet brilliant and passionate advocates across the region and in Nigeria. This has catalyzed collaborations and partnerships. A big thank you to all the donors who made this possible! »

National trainer, Nigeria

« This course in health financing is very interesting, especially the sharing of experiences with our counterparts in other francophone countries, who often work in similar contexts. I recommend joining this first batch of trainers in the dissemination of learning across countries. »

National trainer, Senegal

« The JLA training on universal health, health financing and fiscal responsibility in Nigeria was a real eye-opener for me as a development journalist. With the knowledge I gained, I began to explore health financing trends, track government spending and conduct advocacy. »

National trainer, Nigeria

«I learned a lot from the course; although it was intensive, each online session was explicit and based on practical examples. The sharing of country experiences was also very rich and allowed us to learn from each other. »

National trainer, Ivory Coast

JLA COUNTRIES: ADVOCACY FOR CIVIL SOCIETY HEALTH FINANCING UNDERWAY

BENIN: A High Impact Meeting

COBCUS (Coalition of CSOs of Benin for Universal Health Coverage) was received in audience by the President of the National Assembly, President Louis VLAVONOU, on October 3rd as part of the advocacy for a better management of Neglected Tropical Diseases. During this audience, the spokesperson of the coalition pleaded with the President of the National Assembly for an increase in the budget reserved for the Ministry of Health in general and for neglected tropical diseases in particular.



The President of the National Assembly in the centre surrounded by the members of the COBCUS



CAMEROON: A close and sustainable collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health has been established

Thanks to the JLA programme, in addition to a pool of leaders formed by 21 CSOs, a framework for dialogue between CSOs and the Ministry of Health around the issues of Health Financing (HF) and UHC has been created.

Two CSO representatives participated in the capacity building workshop on the integration of the strategic purchasing mechanism in the management of public finances for Universal Health Coverage with the Ministry of Health and addressed issues such as:

- Payment of counterpart funds
- · CSO involvement in the Planning-Programming-Budgeting System (PPBS) chain for health.

KENYA: A major breakthrough!

Thanks to the JLA Programme, a national coalition of over 100 civil society members on health financing for Universal Health Coverage and budget advocacy has been formed!

The coalition is made up of highly qualified individuals who are able to influence health financing policy at national and county level and has contributed to the development of a new approach to health financing:

To the National Health Insurance Fund Bill for the year 2021 following an official invitation to a public hearing sent by the Senate (hearing on 17 November 2021).



CSOs trained in Phase 2 of the JLA programme in Kenva

 The national transition roadmap for sustainable health financing for UHC (2022-2030), which has been approved by the Ministry of Health and adopted by the development.

The coalition also developed the national work plan for civil society advocacy to support the 47 counties over the next three years, to the tune of approximately \$580,000.

A civil society advocacy programme on primary health care and the budget, involving over 100 CSO coalitions and members from across the country, was developed and adopted.

The Principal Recipients of the Global Fund have initially signaled their commitment to allocate an initial sum of \$170,000 to the project.



MALAWI: Dialogue on the National Health Financing Strategy

On 24-26 October, the first national dialogue on health financing was co-organized and facilitated by the Health and Rights Education Programme (HREP), a CSO formed under the JLA programme, and the Government of Malawi. The dialogue brought together over 100 people, under the auspices of the African Union (AU) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC), with support from the Global Fund, among others. The President of Malawi was represented, while the Ministers of Health, Finance and Local Government actively participated. The Reserve Bank/Treasury, major banks and service providers represented the private sector, while parliament was led by the chairperson of the health committee. Civil society and the media joined the parliament in predialogue meetings that started a week earlier. Each stakeholder (executive, legislative, private sector, civil society, media and development partners) read a statement of commitment to ensure equity, increased funding for health and good governance of the health financing process.



Maziko Hisbon Matemba of HREP at the first national dialogue on health financing in Malawi

The dialogues are managed by the AU's African Leaders' Meeting Committee. Progress will be monitored on an annual basis by the AU, where the chairpersons will report on progress.

In addition, there are other high impact CSO activities that will be detailed in the next newsletter...

What's next?

- Coaching webinar «Civil Society Capacity Building on Health Financing Advocacy Plan» planned for November 2022
- Validation workshops of the advocacy and accountability plans in each country to be organised by the CSO trainers planned for November 2022
- PAI's grant opportunities

https://www.csogffhub.org/fr/grantmaking/

Important Event

	December 2022							
Мо	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su		
			1	2	3	4		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11		
(12)	13	14	15	16	17	18		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
26	27	28	29	30	31			

 12 December 2022: International Universal Health Coverage Day https://universalhealthcoverageday.org/



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Together for Quality Health for All by All















