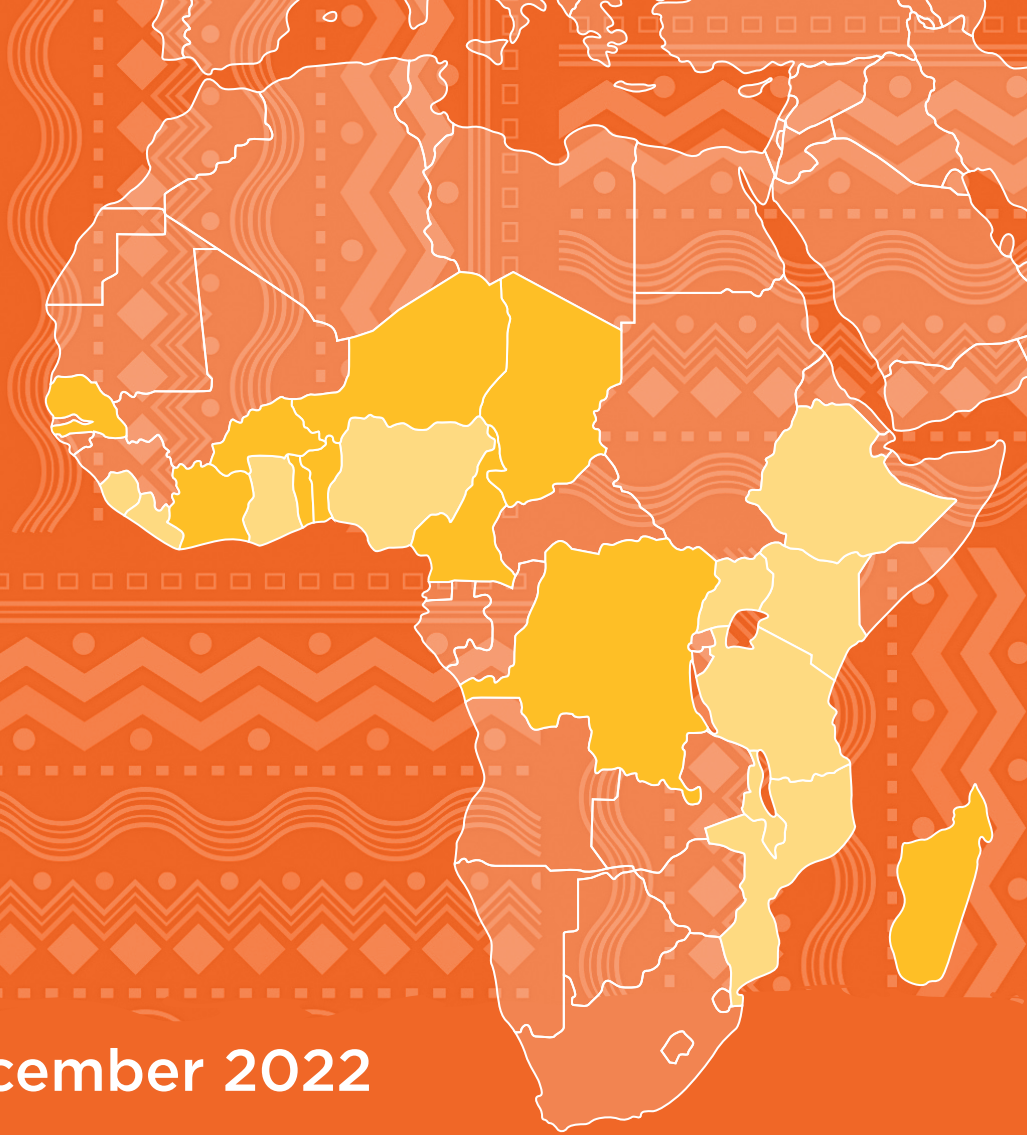




November - December 2022

NEWSLETTER

Joint Learning Agenda

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

coordinated by  **ISA**
IMPACT SANTE AFRIQUE and  **WACI HEALTH**
Champions for Health

IN SUMMARY

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

This program 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 two years ago, more than 400 civil society organizations (CSOs) in 20 English- and French-speaking countries in sub-Saharan Africa have been trained: **Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Ivory Coast, 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 goal of the JLA program.

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

Phase 1 – LEARNING :	Phase 2 – SUPPORT :
• PILIER 1 : Regional (Anglophone and Francophone) online Training of Trainers.	PILIER 3 : Putting learning into practice with the support of tailored capacity building, technical assistance, mentoring and grants.
• PILIER 2 : In-country practical and action oriented trainings focusing on building CSO's capacity on advocacy and accountability for health financing for UHC.	

This monthly newsletter will allow us to follow the evolution of the advocacy activities carried out by the CSOs trained in their countries during Phase 2. But first, let's start with a summary of Phase 2

SUMMARY AND EXPECTATIONS OF PHASE 2

Phase 2 of the JLA program aims to intensify its support to all 20 countries enrolled in the JLA program since the first Phase. Participants will put their learning into practice by implementing their advocacy and accountability plans of health financing priorities for their countries.

In the last quarter of 2022, Trainers from participating countries have finalized their national advocacy and accountability plans and organized sessions to validate them by other local CSOs enrolled in the JLA program. JLA CSOs have actively participated in advocacy for health and UHC financing in their countries according to their advocacy and accountability plans (respond to calls for proposals for grants or research opportunities, participate in information and training webinars for partners, and started implementing their advocacy on health and UHC financing).

In this newsletter we will see during the months of November and December 2022 :

- CSOs were able to not only build their capacity to develop advocacy and accountability plans, but also finalize and validate the plans
- The program has seen the birth of a new collaboration
- High-impact actions were carried out to mark International Universal Health Coverage Day on December 12, 2022.

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

THEY TALK ABOUT COACHING

« The call was welcome, especially as we were already close to the validation workshop. We needed to revisit some aspects of the advocacy plan. We needed a refresher. Even at the validation workshop, we came back to these aspects, in order to allow the participants to better evaluate the plan, for a better contribution. »

Focal point, Togo



« This coaching came right along with the validation workshop. We integrated the elements received from this coaching during the validation workshop. It was really very beneficial. We should repeat these coaching sessions from time to time. It could also be extended to other CSOs. »

Focal point, DRC



«The coaching consecutive online meetings were very much supportive and helpful during the planning process. We had multiple and supportive meetings to come up with a plan document that represent our work in Ethiopia. Besides, it gave us an opportunity to interact with colleagues from WACI health to present any concerning issues regarding this collaboration and the activities planned.»

Focal Point, Ethiopia



« I benefited immensely from the mentorship series conducted by WACI Health on developing country advocacy plans. During the mentorship sessions, I was empowered to support the development of a country advocacy plan on UHC, and domestic health financing aligned to GFF Uganda's case for investment. I also learned from the experiences of other Anglophone countries concerning evidence-based and strategic advocacy activities. To this end, our advocacy plan has four pillars, including money for health, more health for money, equity, and good governance and leadership which were informed by mentorship sessions conducted by WACI Health. »

Focal Point, Uganda



ADVOCACY AND ACCOUNTABILITY PLANS FINALIZED AND VALIDATED

Following capacity building workshops, trainers organized workshops to validate the advocacy and accountability plans. During these workshops, the country trainers also strengthened the capacity of local CSOs.

Distinguished guests were present, for example in **Madagascar** we had the presence of a former Minister of Health or in Cameroon with the participation of the WHO Civil Society representative.

In some countries, the media also attended these workshops:

→ **Madagascar:** <https://fb.watch/gYMh90cqKM/>

→ **Togo:** <https://www.societecivilemedias.com/2022/11/11/togo-20-osc-elaborent-un-plan-de-plaidoyer-pour-relever-les-defis-du-financement-de-la-sante-et-la-csu/>

The validated plans were finalized, reviewed, and transmitted to the partners.

BIRTH OF A COLLABORATION WITH A KEY PARTNER: POPULATION ACTION INTERNATIONAL (PAI)

Population Action International (PAI), an international non-governmental organization and the GFF CSO Host launched two funding opportunities in November 2022 to support country-level advocacy on GFF policies and funding, and to monitor progress and encourage accountability for quality, access and equity. The deadline for registering for these grant offers was 04 December 2022. These funding offers were an opportunity for JLA CSOs to access funds needed to implement their advocacy and accountability activities.

On 29 November 2022, the CSOs in the program were given an information webinar on the mechanism for awarding these grants. This was an opportunity for CSOs to exchange directly with the PAI partner and submit their applications for the grants offered by PAI.

Of the sixteen countries that applied, five projects were selected: Burkina Faso, Senegal, Chad, Ethiopia and Malawi. Other applications are put on hold for the next round of grants expected in Q1 of 2023.



Presentation of the information webinar on the PAI grant allocation mechanism

UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE DAY CELEBRATIONS

The International Universal Health Coverage Day was celebrated on December 12, 2022 under the theme «Building the world we want: a healthy future for all».

On this very important day for massive advocacy on UHC, some actions were carried out within the JLA program. In addition to their participation in the various webinars held for this purpose and the dissemination of Hashtags such as #HealthForAll or #UHCday on social networks, the CSOs of the program were very involved and wished to mark the event by carrying out activities around this date. Here are some of them.



Benin: A high-level panel on CSU

On 08 December 2022, the Benin Coalition of CSOs for Universal Health Coverage (COBCUS) participated in a panel discussion on the theme «Place of Universal Health Coverage in the second Government Action Programme (PAG II)». The Ministry of Health, the National Agency for Social Protection and the Private Health Sector Platform, and the Centre for Research in Human Reproduction and Demography (CERRHUD) were present at this panel.



UHC Day - Benin: Poster of the High Level Panel on CSU



Cameroon: An explanatory section on health

On December 12, 2022, on its Facebook page, Thirteen Degrees in the Shade, a CSO participating in the JLA program, which is a health information platform with UHC at the forefront of its strategy, made a special edition on UHC. Three experts (a UHC expert, an expert in health financing and social protection and a health economist) spoke on the theme «UHC in Cameroon, why has it stalled for 12 years?»

➔ <https://www.facebook.com/13degresalOmbre>



UHC Day - Cameroon: Special edition on CSU



Ethiopia: A high-level panel on health

On 20 December 2022, the UHC Coalition participated in a panel discussion with the Minister of Health, his team of relevant directorates, the delegate from the Ministry of Women and Social Affairs, the Deputy Director of the Ethiopian Health Insurance Agency, partner organizations such as Save the Children, JSI and CSO members of the Consortium of Christian Relief and Development Associations (CCRDA) and the Consortium of Reproductive Health Associations (COHRA).

Under the theme «Building the world we want: a healthy future for all», the highly interactive discussions were led by five high-level experts from the Ministry of Health, the health insurance agency, and the partner organizations involved in this program.



Malawi: Media coverage of the CSU International Day

The Health and Rights Education Programme (HREP Malawi) and WACI Health together with the Malawi media celebrated Universal Health Day 2022 in Blantyre, Malawi, which was attended by leading Malawian media such as the Malawi Broadcasting Corporation (MBC, the national broadcaster), the Nation newspaper, The Times News 360, ZODIAK Broadcasting Cooperation, Capital Radio, among others.



UHC Day - Malawi: Page from THE NATION newspaper



Niger: A high-level panel on the road to CSU

On 12 December 2022, the Organisation Nigérienne des Educateurs Novateurs (ONEN), a CSO participating in the JLA program, took part in a high-level panel on the road to UHC in Niger. The theme was «For UHC to succeed, civil society must be active at all stages of the design, implementation and monitoring of national health policies».

The Secretary General of the Ministry of Public Health, the Director General of Social Protection and the Country Representative of WHO Niger, the Country Representative of the Belgian Development Agency (ENABEL) Niger and the Civil Society were part of this panel.

➔ <https://www.lesahel.org/panel-sur-la-couverture-sanitaire-universelle-mobilisation-des-acteurs-pour-une-construction-a-la-vision-commune/>



UHC day - Niger: High-level panel on the road to the CSU



Nigeria: A Conversation via Twitter Space

On 13 December 2022, in the spirit of #UHCDay2022, the West African Institute of Public Health hosted a Twitter conversation on how to achieve the #UHC2030 goal in the context of a continued decline in the annual health budget.



UHC Day - Nigeria: conversation flyer via Twitter Space

HIGH IMPACT ACTIVITIES FOR A UHC ON THE MOVE



Senegal: Participation in the 5ème of the Galien Forum whose theme was Universal Health Coverage

From December 6 to 10, 2022, the CSOs of the JLA program participated online via Zoom and YouTube in the fifth consecutive year of the Galien Africa Forum held on Senegalese soil. During these days, Dakar was the African capital of health, innovation and leadership of women and youth.

Placed under the effective presidency of His Excellency, Mr. Macky SALL, President of the

Republic of Senegal, for the 2022 edition of the Galien Africa Forum, the central theme chosen is «Accelerating Africa's march towards Universal Health Coverage».

➔ <https://www.rfi.fr/fr/science/20221209-s%C3%A9n%C3%A9gal-le-forum-galien-afrique-consacre-sa-5e-%C3%A9dition-au-d%C3%A9fi-de-la-couverture-sant%C3%A9>



Ivory Coast: A regional mobilization for children under 5 and women of childbearing age

A regional workshop on nutrition and health issues for children under 5 years of age and women of childbearing age was organized at ASAPSU, a member of the JLA program, in December 2022. Several countries participated in this workshop, namely **Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Tunisia, and Tanzania**. The workshop was highlighted by the presentation of a study conducted by Côte d'Ivoire on these countries. The representatives of the Presidency of the Republic and the Ministry of Health, Public Hygiene and Universal Health Coverage were present at this workshop. The resolution taken during this meeting is that the civil society must mobilize during the next summit of the Heads of State in Ethiopia in order to plead for better financing of the nutrition of children of less than 5 years and women of childbearing age.



Kenya: A Civil society advocacy charter for the coalition was developed and shared on 29 December 2022.

The purpose of the civil society and private sector health financing advocacy consortium is to actively advocate : More money for health – (10% progressive annual increase in the national health budget towards attaining 15% of national budget and 5% of GDP to health), More health for the money (efficiency and better use), Increased equity and financial protection, Improved leadership, governance, and coordination of

the health financing process and is aligned to the African Union leadership commitments and the consortium's joint advocacy plan. The civil society coalition charter will be reviewed and adopted during a first workshop in January. Civil society will adopt the civil society health financing advocacy coalition charter and accelerate its legal and administrative hosting process.



Malawi: Certificates hand over on Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Health Financing Training for twenty one Malawi Non – State Actors, on December 23rd

“Civil Society Organizations (CSO’s) play a critical role in running affairs of government and also assist in delivering essential health services to the masses.” Has declared the Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Health Dr. Charles Mwansambo, underlying the relevance of a health sector development strategy, that can produce tangible results through the involvement of more players. The training received by the 21 non-state actors, will help in supporting the capacity building of communities in Malawi on health financing and has also helped graduates to understand best practices and experience in relation to advocacy and accountability,

including identification of key stakeholders, allies and partners at country level in advancing health financing in Malawi.



What are the next steps?

- Bootcamp «Engaging CSOs in Advocacy for Health Financing and Sustainability in the Global Fund NFM4 Process in Africa»
- Bootcamp “UHC HLM UN meeting and advocacy planning for CSOs’
- Launch of the first batch of GFF CSO grants in Senegal, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia and Chad - February 2023
- Regional quarterly meeting of country trainers planned for 1er quarter 2023
- Advocacy and accountability stories to be collected from participating countries

Important Event

JANUARY						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						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	1	2	3	4	5

FEBRUARY						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		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					

MARCH						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		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		

• **30 January 2023** : World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day (NTD day)

• **6 February 2023 14:30 - 16:30 CET** : «Sixteenth meeting of the WHO Council on the Economics of Health for All» organized by WHO

• **18-19 February 2023** : 36th Ordinary Session of the African Union Assembly

• **March 2023** : SADC High level Health Financing Dialogue in Mozambique



Contact us

Coordination Afrique francophone JLA
Olivia NGOU
Executive Director



IMPACT SANTE AFRIQUE

☎ (+237) 678 87 30 75
✉ olivia.ngou@impactsante.org
🌐 www.impactsante.org

Coordination Afrique anglophone JLA
Rosemary MBURU
Executive Director



☎ (+254) 711 308858
✉ rosemary@wacihealth.org
🌐 wacihealth.org

Together for Quality Health for
All by All