

# Advocacy Plan for Ethiopia Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Coalition

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**CSO-UHC Coalition, Ethiopia**

**2022**

Ethiopia

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## **Who can use this advocacy plan?**

This advocacy plan has been developed to support CSOs in Ethiopia to plan and prepare an advocacy agenda and activities at the national and regional levels to address issues of financing universal health coverage (UHC) in Ethiopia. This plan outlines the fundamental thematic areas which can help strengthen the health financing agenda for UHC. The plan can guide other UHC implementers and advocates, in addition to CSOs, to focus on financing UHC advocacy issues and address the issues and challenges highlighted in this advocacy plan.

## **1. Introduction**

This advocacy has been developed based on the outputs of a training provided to CSOs in Ethiopia on UHC, health financing, and budget advocacy, in October 2021. Executive directors of 17 CSOs participated in the training. This plan has been shaped by discussion among the training participants and the established coalition at the end of the training. Hence, the Ethiopia UHC coalition will be guided by this plan to advocate for the identified issues through recommended activities. This advocacy plan is for the period of July 2022 to July 2023.

## **2. Ethiopia UHC Coalition**

The Ethiopia UHC coalition is a network of more than 40 CSOs in Ethiopia, established in October 2021 and serves as the CSO constituency engagement mechanism. The coalition provides a common space for CSOs working in Ethiopia on health related issues or with vulnerable communities for the greater health problem through development programs such as education, gender, and in particular, health services.

The CSOs play a crucial role in achieving UHC specially by providing service to disadvantaged and marginalized populations, and by advocating for financing for UHC through primary health care in Ethiopia. Progress in reaching UHC will need greater coordination and collaboration among CSOs in the country, the government, and funding agencies through harmonization of activities, information, and data sharing to highlight recommendations for action and discuss achievements and challenges in approaching UHC.

### **2.1 Goal of UHC Coalition**

To provide a platform for CSOs to share best practices, coordinate activities on advocacy, and support improved service delivery to disadvantaged and marginalized populations.

### **2.2 Objectives of UHC Coalition**

- To improve the coordination of CSOs in Ethiopia at all levels
- To strengthen the capacity of CSOs to understand budget cycle for effective advocacy,



- To strengthen M&E capacity of CSOs to track commitments towards a functioning UHC are met, and
- To create a CSOs finance pool to supplement financial and technical needs towards a sustainable health financing
- To envision the forward-looking role of CSOs in the health sector agenda

### **3. Key advocacy issues and challenges**

Issues raised by CSOs are concerned with the role of CSOs in health planning, implementation, and decision making; in addition to lack of evidence for advocating and/or supporting the government in the health sector activities which could help toward the achievement of the UHC.

The coalition needs to consider the following issues and challenges in its advocacy plan at national and regional levels:

- Need for capacity development for CSOs to better engage in advocacy issues
- Lack of evidence required for advocacy activities
- Access for data to CSO is limited, and CSO's capacity to understand and utilize data is minimal
- Lack of CSO and community engagement in health planning and decision making
- Lack of coordination and information sharing among relevant stakeholders

### **4. UHC Coalition advocacy plan and proposed interventions**

Based on the available resource and timeline, the Coalition will work to realise the above mentioned objectives through the following interventions:

1. Re-orient advocacy efforts towards the realization of the Abuja 15% budget allocation which is 8% at the moment.
2. Promote multi-sectoral collaboration among the different government agencies, CSOs and other international organizations to identify and address budgetary gaps and inefficient utilization of resources.
3. Increase and promote the collaboration between the private sector and communities to come up with an investment case to ensure a sustainable corporate social responsibility where the private sector is at the centre.
4. Follow-up on the tax levy commitment on tobacco and alcohol products and ensure a portion of it is allocated towards Health.

5. Ensure the rollout of a functioning and broad CBHI through a joint advocacy effort led by the Coalition.
6. Engage and train the media to use evidence-based advocacy to create awareness in the general public, to hold governments accountable and promote UHC at national level.
7. Ensure participation of CSOs during budget preparation, budget authorization and budget execution process to ensure accountability.

## Annex I: UHC Coalition Ethiopia Advocacy plan and required budget

UHC Coalition Ethiopia 2022/2023 Advocacy plan detailed activities					
S.No.	Objectives and Activities	Indicator	Out put	MOV	Budget
<b>Objective one: To Strengthen the capacity of local CSOs and Media organizations for effective advocacy</b>					
1.1.	Provide capacity building training for local Civil Society organizations through training on Health Financing and budget advocacy for 3 days	# of training sessions	1	Training report	6,000.00
		# of participant	25 participants	Photographs	
1.2.	Provide capacity building training on health financing and budget advocacy for mainstream media professionals for 3 days	# of training sessions	1	Training report	5,000.00
		# of participant	15 participants	Photographs	
1.3.	Provide training on evidence generation and utilization for advocacy for advocators from CSOs in Ethiopia for 3 days	# of training sessions	1	Training report	6,000.00
		# of participant	16 participants	Photographs	
<b>Total Objective one</b>					17,000.00
<b>Objective two: To implement advocacy strategies to influence decision making on selected health issues</b>					
2.1	Conduct advocacy through targeted media broadcasting on leveraging the taxation from tobacco and alcohol products to be allocated for health.	# of advocacy Media sessions conducted	10 sessions of 1 minutes each	records of the broadcast	12,000.00

2.2	Conduct a policy dialogue with officials and decision makers from MOH and Minister of Finance on allocating the taxation from tobacco and alcohol products for health.	# of sensitization workshops	2	Policy dialogue records	6,000.00
		# of participants from decision makers	30	Photographs and videos	
2.3.	Produce policy brief on increasing health spending to attaing the SDG targets in UHC	# of policy briefs produced and disseminated	1	# of policy briefs produced	3,000.00
<b>Total Objective Two</b>					21,000.00
<b>Administration and other indirect costs</b>					12,000.00
<b>Total cost</b>					<b>50,000.00</b>