



HEALTH ECONOMICS AND FINANCING: ACHIEVING EQUITABLE RESULTS FOR CHILDREN

“Excellent, brilliant actually. I thoroughly enjoyed it & learnt a great deal”

2012 PARTICIPANT



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COURSE OBJECTIVES

The primary goal of the Health Economics and Financing course is to provide participants with the knowledge, skills, and basic economic arguments that are central to discussions about health policy options and resource allocation choices in developing countries. More specifically, this course aims to share knowledge and policy experience on how health systems can improve equity in the financing and delivery of health care services by exposing the participants to key theoretical and empirical knowledge in the field of health care financing and equity.

The course does not assume prior training in economics and is designed to highlight those aspects of health economics and health financing that will be most useful in an applied policy setting. The course provides a brief introduction to the theoretical and conceptual underpinnings of health economics, but the greatest emphasis is on practical application to health financing and equity, such as understanding the efficiency and equity outcomes of policy options including user fees, cash transfers, performance-based financing, or social insurance; understanding how health care resources are generated, pooled and used to purchase services; and the related effects on health system performance.

The specific objectives of the course are to enable participants to:

- Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the main functions of health systems, trends in health policy reforms and key challenges facing health systems of low and middle income countries today
- Apply their knowledge and skills to formulate and evaluate health policies and their implications in terms of efficiency and equity; and;
- Show written and verbal competence in consolidating and critically appraising debates relevant to issues of health policy, health financing, and equity.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the course participants will be able to:

- Explain the basic concepts of health financing and health equity;
- Formulate health financing and health equity arguments using a shared common language;
- Use health finance concepts more effectively for the formulation and evaluation of health policies and plans;
- Formulate policy arguments and strategies for improving the efficiency and equity of health systems.

“
We're delighted to be partnering with a world-class institution - and outstanding faculty - with the credibility necessary to deliver on UNICEF's strategic learning objectives. This programme fulfils our desire to strengthen our [Health] staffs' substantive capacity.
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DAWN DENVIR, CHIEF, ORGANIZATIONAL LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT SECTION

“
A great course that is bound to positively change health care financing.
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2012 PARTICIPANT



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COURSE CONTENT

This course examines health systems from a financing and equity lens, looking at the latest evidence base on alternative policies and delivery strategies. It consists of the following modules:

- Course Roadmap: Overview and Objectives of the Course
- Principles for health care financing and delivery: equity and efficiency
- Health Systems: Policies and Challenges
- Demand, Supply and Markets: Application to the Health Sector
- Failing Markets: Government Intervention in Health
- Measuring efficiency: Economic evaluation in the health sector
- Measuring equity: Assessing the performance of health systems in terms of equity in health, equity in financing and equity in access
- Health Systems Financing: Creating Fiscal Space for Health
- Health Systems Financing: Purchasing Health Services
- The Big Picture: Macroeconomic Considerations

COURSE STRUCTURE

This program is delivered through a blended-learning approach consisting of two phases:

PHASE 1

A moderated e-learning course, Health Economics and Financing: Achieving Equitable Results for Children comprising two parts;

Part 1 contains 5 modules looking at health systems from a broad perspective, introducing core economic concepts which can be used to understand and plan within health systems. It also explores the actors involved in the provision and the financing of health interventions and the concepts of market failure, government intervention and public-private partnerships.

Part 2 also contains 5 modules. It begins by exploring methods used for measuring the equity and efficiency impact of health care reforms. It then goes on to examine specific issues in health systems financing, and strategies for reaching the poor more effectively. Finally it explores some of the bigger picture considerations including the macroeconomic environment and globalisations impact on health and health systems.

PHASE 2

A two-week face-to-face workshop to be delivered in London. The workshop offers a forum to consider how to practically apply what has been learnt in the E-learning phases. Sessions will include lectures delivered by leading experts in the key themes of the course, as well as skill building activities. Along with resource persons, participants will work on projects to tailor their learning and apply to their own contexts. Activities will be group-based allowing for sharing of participants' experience and learning from others.

“ a wonderful period of learning, which was intellectually challenging without being overbearing... ”

DR. ASIF ASLAM



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COURSE INFORMATION

Course Duration

12 weeks online
2 weeks face to face

Dates & Location

E-learning Programme
Part 1: 29 April - 31 May 2013
Part 2: 17 June - 26 July 2013

Face-to-face workshop, London UK:
09 - 20 September 2013
London School of Hygiene & Tropical
Medicine (LSHTM)
15-17 Tavistock Place
London WC1H 9SH

Who will benefit?

Senior UNICEF programme staff
in Health, Nutrition and HIV/AIDS
(Pediatric Care, PMTCT and Care and
Support)

Nomination process

Staff must be nominated by their
office management to participate. The
sponsoring office will be responsible
for travel and DSA. The deadline
for nominations is March 22, 2013.
Nominations to be sent to Waithira
Gikonyo, Senior Learning Officer, OLDS
(wgikonyo@unicef.org) with a copy to
Angela Salazar (asalazar@unicef.org)

NOTE:

All participants are expected to meet
the performance criteria for the first
phase in order to graduate to the
second phase. The quality of the
e-learning courses depends greatly
on the inputs and interactions of
participants, so weekly contributions
to online discussions are required
for completion. Participants are also
expected to pass at least 80% of the
quizzes overall.

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*This course should be compulsory to all
health specialists in UNICEF - one of my
best learning experiences.*

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2011 PARTICIPANT

CONTACTS

UNICEF

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LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE & TROPICAL MEDICINE

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