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## The Problem

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- At least half of the world's population still do not have full coverage of essential health services.
- About 100 million people are still being pushed into extreme poverty (living on 1.90 USD or less a day) because they have to pay for health care.
- Over 800 million people (almost 12% of the world's population) spent at least 10% of their household budgets to pay for health care.
- All UN Member States have agreed to try to achieve universal health coverage (UHC) by 2030, as part of the Sustainable Development Goals.

## What is UHC?

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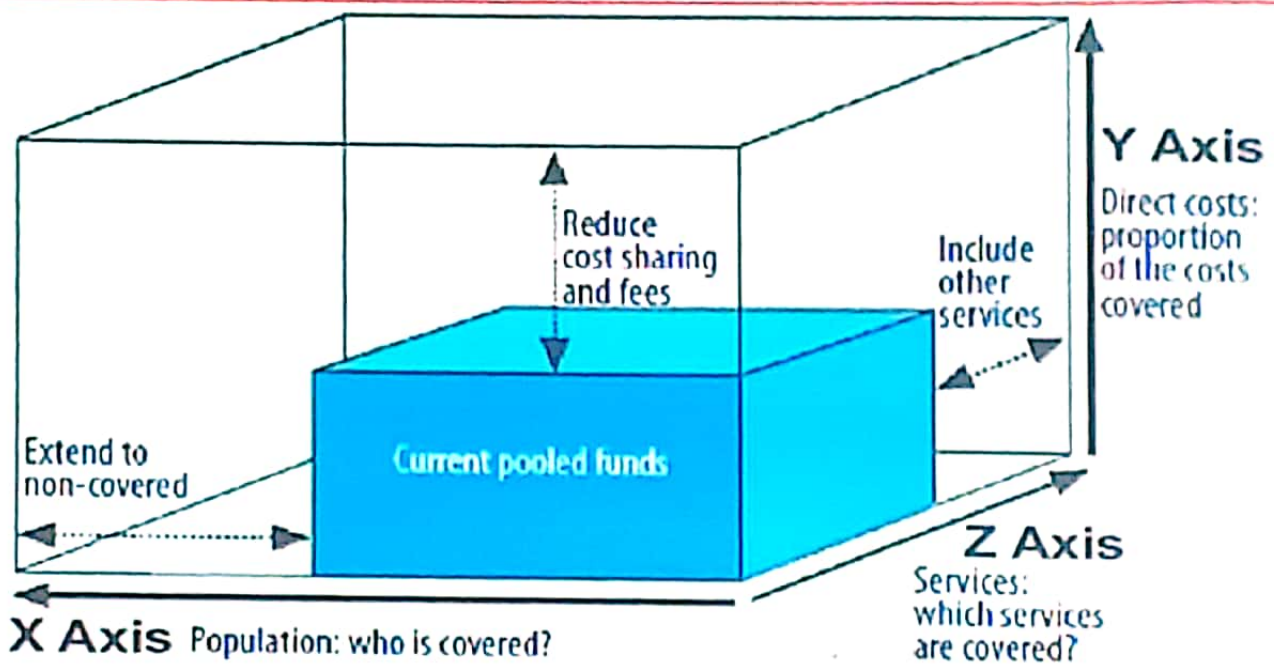
- UHC means that all individuals and communities receive the health services they need without suffering financial hardship.
  - It includes the full spectrum of essential and quality health services; health promotion to prevention: treatment: rehabilitation: palliative care
  - UHC enables everyone to access the services that address the most significant causes of disease and death
  - Ensures that the quality of those services is good enough to improve the health of the people who receive them.
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## What is UHC?

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- Protecting people from the financial consequences of paying for health services out of their own pockets
- Reduces the risk that people will be pushed into poverty because unexpected illness requires them to use up their life savings, sell assets, or borrow – destroying their futures and often those of their children
- Achieving UHC is one of the targets the nations of the world set when adopting the Sustainable Development Goals in 2015

# The UHC Cube



## UHC is not?

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- UHC does not mean free coverage for all possible health interventions, regardless of the cost, as no country can provide all services free of charge on a sustainable basis
- UHC is not just about health financing. It encompasses all components of the health system:
  - health service delivery systems, the health workforce, health facilities and communications networks, health technologies, information systems, quality assurance mechanisms, and governance and legislation.

## UHC is not?

- UHC is not only about ensuring a minimum package of health services, but also about ensuring a progressive expansion of coverage of health services and financial protection as more resources become available.
- UHC is not only about individual treatment services, but also includes population-based services such as public health campaigns, adding fluoride to water, controlling mosquito breeding grounds etc

## UHC is not?

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- UHC is comprised of much more than just health
- Taking steps towards UHC means steps towards equity, development priorities, and social inclusion and cohesion.

## How can countries make progress towards UHC?

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- Moving towards UHC requires strengthening health systems in all countries.
- Robust financing structures are key.
- Out of pocket payment for health care - the poor are often unable to obtain many of the services they need - even the rich may be exposed to financial hardship in the event of severe or long-term illness.
- National Insurance Schemes can spread this financial risk



## How can countries make progress towards UHC?

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- **Skilled workforce:** Improving health service coverage and health outcomes depends on the availability, accessibility, and capacity of health workers
  - Delivery of quality **people-centred integrated** care
  - Investments in quality primary health care is the cornerstone for achieving UHC around the world.
  - Investing in the primary health care workforce is the most cost-effective way to ensure access to improved essential health care
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## How can countries make progress towards UHC?

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- Good governance – leadership, decision making
  - Sound systems of procurement and supply of medicines: central-procurement Vs de-centralized. Push and Pull systems
  - Health technologies eg telemedicine,
  - A well-functioning health information systems – use of data for decision making
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## How can countries make progress towards UHC?

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- Primary health care is the most efficient and cost effective way to achieve universal health coverage around the world.

## Health Workforce and UHC

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To meet the health workforce requirements of the Sustainable Development Goals and universal health coverage targets:

- Over 18 million additional health workers are needed by 2030
- The growing demand for health workers is projected to add an estimated 40 million health sector jobs to the global economy by 2030.
- Investments are needed from both public and private sectors in health worker training

## Health Workforce and UHC

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- UHC emphasizes not only what services are covered, but also how they are funded, managed, and delivered
- A fundamental shift in service delivery is needed such that services are integrated and focused on the needs of people and communities.

# Measuring UHC

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## Two Main Indicators

- The proportion of a population that can access essential quality health services
- The proportion of the population that spends a large amount of household income on health

## Measuring UHC

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WHO/World Bank uses 16 essential health services in 4 categories as indicators of the level and equity of coverage in countries:

- Reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health:
- Infectious diseases:
- Noncommunicable diseases:
- Service capacity and access:

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## Measuring UHC

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### Reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health

- family planning
- antenatal and delivery care
- full child immunization
- health-seeking behaviour for pneumonia.

### Infectious diseases

- tuberculosis treatment
- HIV antiretroviral treatment
- Hepatitis treatment
- use of insecticide-treated bed nets for malaria prevention
- adequate sanitation



## Measuring UHC

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### Noncommunicable diseases

- prevention and treatment of raised blood pressure
- prevention and treatment of raised blood glucose
- cervical cancer screening
- tobacco (non-)smoking.

### Service capacity and access

- basic hospital access
  - health worker density
  - access to essential medicines
  - health security: *compliance with the International Health Regulations.*
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## UHC in Kenya

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- How do you apply the UHC cube for UHC in Kenya?