

Financial Protection and Improved Access to Health Care: Peer-to-Peer Learning Workshop Finding Solutions to Common Challenges

Closing Session February 19, 2016 Accra, Ghana



Expected results of the workshop

- **Deeper understanding** of how to grow and use financial resources to:
 - Increase financial protection
 - Improve equitable access to priority health services
 - Achieve financial sustainability in a trajectory towards UHC
- Identification of concrete actions to take health financing and insurance program to next level
- Strengthened partnerships and coordination across countries, within countries, and between partners



Some key takeaways from the week

1. Financial protection is a key UHC goal

- Health financing as a powerful tool to increase equity
- Pro-poor UHC: including poor in the outset of the design
- Range of approaches to get there (including insurance models)

2. Financial sustainability is achievable, with focus on efficiency

- Two sides of the coin: DRM and expenditure management
- Improved MOH/MOF dialogue is crucial
- Pharmaceuticals as a major source of inefficiency

3. Private sector can be a key partner in public reforms

- Important role of community and private sector actors in reaching hardto-reach populations
- Great potential for mobile technology solutions through public-private partnerships



Some key takeaways from the week (cont'd)

4. Intelligent health systems lie at the heart of evidence-based decisions

- Global M&E framework for UHC, but "don't let it get in the way of what you need" (Joe)
- Health insurance programs sitting on huge batches of data
- "Decision-making must be evidence-based to lead to strategic purchasing" (Lydia)
- 5. Commitment generation and behavior change are new tools that can contribute to success
 - Progress on all of the above requires strong political will and changes in behaviors of providers and populations
 - Behavior change- recognizing the human factor is crucial
- 6. Ghana's NHIS is an inspiring model
 - Provides learnings for health system transformation
 - A continuously evolving and improving system