

The next webinar of our webinar series "From Evidence to Policy" is coming up on June 25th.

The webinar topic is: **How to leave no one behind in the strive towards UHC? Lessons learnt from the national health insurance scheme in Ghana**

Ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being at all ages is essential to sustainable development and part of the 2030 Agenda. As the Covid-19 crisis illustrates all too vividly, achieving **universal health coverage (UHC) is critical to ensuring social protection and that no one is 'left behind'** in accessing quality health services because of who they are, where they live or their socio-economic situation. Access to health services ensures healthier people; while financial risk protection prevents people from being pushed into poverty. Therefore, UHC is a critical component of sustainable development and poverty reduction, and a key element to reducing social inequities.

In several low and middle income countries the major challenges are to understand **how to increase and sustain coverage, expand the benefits package for people in the informal sector, and ensure effective coverage with services and financial risk protection** to the poorest segments of the population. In addition to the need for more funding, it is important to develop effective approaches to define eligibility criteria, to better identify the excluded population groups, and to ensure that the rights of citizens who are less likely to be covered are properly addressed. This **requires a health system governance conducive and responsive to all population groups**. A research project supported by the Swiss Programme for Research on Global Issues for Development (r4d) investigated how to promote inclusive social health protection systems in Ghana and Tanzania. The objective of this webinar is to learn from **the experience in Ghana, where a national health insurance scheme has been implemented for over 15 years**. Drawing from the results of the r4d programme, we will discuss:

- How to expand the health insurance coverage and to reduce out of pocket payments
- How the Ghana Health Service and the National Health Insurance Authority promote uptake of research findings to inform policy decisions
- The expected implications of the current Covid-19 crisis for the social health protection systems in Ghana.

Date: June 25th, 2020 from 14h - 15h CET

Who should attend? The webinar is intended for researchers, policymakers and other stakeholders interested in the area of financial protection mechanisms and universal health coverage.

Registration: The webinar is free to attend. Please register here and then simply click on the following Zoom link at the time of the webinar: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/swiss-tropical-and-public-health-institute-27879869469>

Format: 1 hour, with four speakers – discussion around specific questions with a 15 minutes Q&A.

Facilitator: Séverine Erismann, Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute

Speakers:

- **Dr. Fabrizio Tediosi**, Principal Investigator of the r4d project "Health system governance for an inclusive and sustainable health protection in Ghana and Tanzania"
- **Dr. Patricia Akweongo**, r4d Research Team Member, Head of Department for Health Policy Planning and Management, University of Ghana
- **Dr. Koku Awoonor**, r4d Country Advisory Board Member, Director for Policy Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Ghana Health Service
- **Dr. Francis Asenso-Boadi**, r4d Country Advisory Board Member, Acting Director for Provider Payment - National Health Insurance Authority Ghana