AGENDA

Building Economies for Health for All

PMAC 2023 side meeting SMB312

DATE: 24 January 2023, 14:00 – 17:30 Bangkok (8:00 – 11:30 CET)
ORGANIZED BY: WHO secretariat, Council on the Economics of Health for All
LOCATION: Lotus 3 room, Bangkok Convention Center at Central World (in person and on line participation possible)

Registration for on-site participation in SMB312 here.
Registration for virtual participation here.
After registering, a confirmation email will be sent with a link to join the side meeting.

See the Council’s website for all background documents.

OBJECTIVES:

- Introduce the main themes of the WHO Council on the Economics of Health for All and its efforts to change the narrative from “health for economic growth” to “economies of health and well-being” for all people and the planet – as noted in its Manifesto.

- Discuss key actions for Ministries of Health, Ministries of Finance, and international financial and development organizations, and other stakeholders, emerging from the 4 key themes the Economics Council has offered evidence on ways to reorient economies for health (valuing health for all, financing health for all from a whole of society approach, governing health innovation for the common good, and strengthening public sector capacity to shape this reorientation). Also discuss the Council’s on going global engagement projects that illustrate contemporary challenges that can benefit from the Council’s narrative and reorientation of financial and economic policies toward Health for All.

- Discuss, prioritize, add to and refine the Council’s preliminary recommendations. This will build on its work during the first year (see progress report) and inform the Council’s deliberations as it prepares its Final Report to be released in May 2023.
AGENDA:

14:00 – 14:30 Introduction

- Introduction on the Council’s values and mission-oriented approach to ensuring common goods
  Jayati Ghosh, Council Member
- Introduction to the Council’s Framework to Reorient Economies for Health for All
  Ritu Sadana, WHO, and session moderator
  Spotlight: Intersection of economics, health and climate
  Q & A

14:30 – 17:00 Key themes

The WHO Secretariat including its team of macroeconomists, will briefly introduce the 4 working themes of the Council, followed by an open discussion on each theme.

14:30-15:00 Measuring Health for All: Rethinking and building a whole-of-society approach
  Spotlight: Financing the right to health
  Spotlight: Dashboards and alternative approaches such as time use
  Discussion

15:00-15:30 Financing Health for All: Increase, transform and redirect
  Spotlight: Financing Pandemic Preparedness and Response
  Spotlight: Making Health a visible part of ESG investments
  Discussion

15:30-15:40 Break

15:40-16:10 Governing health innovation for the common good
  Spotlight: new case for the mRNA vaccine hub
  Spotlight: lessons from Brazil’s industrial policy in the health sector
  Discussion

16:10-16:40 Strengthening public sector capacity, budgets, and dynamic capabilities
  Spotlight: Multi-sectorial budgeting to address antimicrobial resistance (AMR)
  Spotlight: Developing a course for senior to mid-level policy makers
  Discussion

16:40-17:00 Open Discussion: Ways to increase communication and relevance of these issues to decision makers, such as:
- Ways to accelerate for a change in narrative and increased momentum to reorient economies for health
- Making health matter to Ministries of Finance and Economies.
- Moving away from austerity measures
- Understanding the challenge many countries are facing to maintain current levels of health service delivery and financial protection in the current context.

17:00 – 17:25 Refining Recommendations

- Introduction on proposed top 10 Recommendations and Open Discussion

An interactive web-based poll will be open during the session, to allow all participants, in person and online, to contribute their views on prioritizing and refining potential recommended actions to reorient economies for health for all.

17:25 – 17:30 Next steps
SPEAKERS:

Professor Jayati Ghosh
Professor of Economics, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, USA

Jayati Ghosh taught Economics at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, and is now Professor of Economics, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, USA. She has authored and/or edited 19 books and nearly 200 scholarly articles. She has received several national and international prizes, including the International Labour Organisation’s Decent Work Research Prize for 2010. She has advised governments in India and other countries, including as Chairperson of the Andhra Pradesh Commission on Farmers’ Welfare in 2004, and Member of the National Knowledge Commission of India (2005-09). Having worked for many years with various United Nations agencies, UN organisations, she is currently a member of the UN High-Level Advisory Board on Economic and Social Affairs.

Dr. Ritu Sadana
Head, Secretariat for the Council on the Economics of Health for All, WHO, Geneva, Switzerland

Ritu Sadana is Head of the Secretariat supporting the WHO Council on the Economics of Health for All, based at the World Health Organization in Geneva, Switzerland. She also manages its research team and ensures the development of the Council’s products and engagements. Ritu is also Head, Ageing and Health Unit, at WHO, where she was lead author of WHO’s baseline report for the UN Decade of Healthy Ageing and is principal investigator of WHO’s efforts to connect healthy development and healthy ageing, to put in practice a life course approach. Ritu also led the evidence arm of the WHO Commission on Social Determinants of Health, worked in WHO’s Regional Office for Europe, with UNFPA and the Ministry of Health in Cambodia, and in the private sector in the USA. She holds a Doctor of Science from Harvard University and Master of Science from UCLA, with expertise in economics, epidemiology, demography and health policy, and has over 200 policy and scientific publications.

Dr. Roberto Duran
Assistant professor of economics at the School of Government of Tecnológico de Monterrey, Mexico

Dr. Roberto Duran-Fernandez is assistant professor of economics at the School of Government of Tecnológico de Monterrey with more than 15 years of experience as public policy consultant. He was managing director at the public finance and infrastructure practice of Evercore, associate partner at the public and social sector practice of McKinsey & Co, and Chief of Staff to the Deputy Ministry of Finance in Mexico. His work on public health emergencies and economic policy bring a new framework for the analysis of the economic impact of pandemics. He is also a member of the research team for the WHO Council on Economics of Health for All.

Dr. Devika Dutt
Lecturer in Development Economics at King’s College London, UK

Dr. Dutt is a Lecturer in Development Economics at King’s College London. She holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She brings in relevant academic and research background focuses on economic theory and international economics. She has a strong knowledge of economic theory and policy engagement. She has completed several projects and written outputs as reports and publications on macroeconomics, including policy review on practices relating the IMF and its country reports related to its Article IV consultation reports; review of trade and fiscal stability, including government tax revenue, expenditure and debt, and review of government-ownership of banks and the role of the private banks in tax avoidance by multinational corporation. She also has experience in engaging with a range of academic partners and stakeholders health programmes. She is also a member of the research team for the WHO Council on Economics of Health for All.
Mr. Alberto Huitron
Consultant, WHO

Mr. Huitron is a development economist specialized in data-driven public policy analysis, environmental, and health economics. He is a full-time member of the research team supporting the WHO Council on the Economics of Health for All. He worked as an economic advisor in the Ministry of Finance and Public Credit and in the National Council for Regulatory Innovation in Mexico and has research experience in industrial policy and decarbonization of hard-to-abate sectors. He has benefited from diverse internships including with the Bezos Earth Fund and Innovation for Poverty Action. He holds a Master in Public Administration in International Development from the Harvard John F. Kennedy School of Government, a BS in Economics, and a BS in Political Science from ITAM, Mexico.

Dr. Şerife Genç İleri
Assistant Professor, Ibn Haldun University, Istanbul, Türkiye

Dr Şerife Genç İleri is an Assistant Professor, Ibn Haldun University. She holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Pittsburgh and is based in Istanbul, Türkiye. Dr Genç İleri has worked as a research economist at the Central Bank of the Republic of Türkiye as well as a stint at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. She teaches macroeconomics at all levels as well as money and banking, development economics and mathematical methods in economics. Her paper on the banking system during COVID-19 crisis in Türkiye provides a quantitative assessment of a unique policy (asset ratio) introduced in the country as part of measures to stimulate the economy and impact on credit risk allowances of banks, as a successful approach to increase liquidity without jeopardizing financial stability. She has also published work on private pension systems, gender wage gap and immigration. She is also a member of the research team for the WHO Council on Economics of Health for All.

Dr. Maksym Obrizan
Associate Professor at Kyiv School of Economics (Ukraine)

Dr Maksym Obrizan is an Associate Professor at Kyiv School of Economics, Ukraine, which he joined after receiving a PhD in Economics from the University of Iowa, USA. Maksym has substantial consultancy experience in the area of global health and development. In particular, he worked in multi-disciplinary teams of researchers in the projects by the WHO, the World Bank, USAID, and the Economist Intelligence Unit as well the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine. He is also a member of the research team for the WHO Council on Economics of Health for All.

Dr. Els Torreele
Independent consultant and Visiting Fellow, Institute for Innovation and Public Purpose, University College London (UCL), UK

Dr Els Torreele is a health and innovation expert, focusing on transforming medical R&D to address priority health needs and ensure equitable access to knowledge and technologies. A Bio-Engineer and PhD from Brussels University (VUB), for over 20 years she has combined medical R&D work, policy research, and advocacy at Brussels University, Médecins Sans Frontières, Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative, Open Society Foundations and is now independent consultant and Visiting Fellow at the Institute for Innovation and Public Purpose, University College London. A recent Rockefeller Bellagio Centre resident (March 2022), she’s also an Honorary Science Fellow at the VUB, author on over 50 international journal publications, and regular contributor to the societal debate through media and social media.