



**World Health
Organization**

Global Knowledge Network for Health Equity

**WHO Collaboration Centre on
Health in All policies and the
Social Determinants of Health at
Tampere University**

Governance for Health Equity: *Insights from the WHO World Report on SDHE*

When: July 16, 2025

Time:

8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time

2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Central European Summer Time



Determine your [time zone here](#).

Register:

https://who.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_LHznpvgvRJeGpkN7DzSjOQ

Join the *WHO Global Knowledge Network for Health Equity* (GKNHE) and the *WHO Collaborating Centre on Health in All Policies and the Social Determinants of Health* for a webinar on governance for health equity. This session will explore the role of governance in addressing social determinants of health, and how effective structures, participation, and policy coherence can be leveraged to reduce health inequities.

Context

In 2021, the Seventy-fourth World Health Assembly adopted resolution **WHA74.16** on addressing the social determinants of health. This resolution urged Member States to integrate SDH into public policies, adopt multisectoral approaches, and promote health equity and gender equality. It also tasked the WHO Director-General with fostering knowledge exchange among Member States and stakeholders on best practices in intersectoral action.

In response, WHO—with funding from the Public Health Agency of Canada—established the **Global Knowledge Network for Health Equity (GKNHE)** to support this mandate. This webinar is part of a series organized in collaboration with the WHO Collaborating Centre at Tampere University, focused on deepening understanding of the findings and recommendations of the [WHO World Report on the Social Determinants of Health Equity](#) (2025).

This session will emphasize **governance for health equity**—a core theme of the report. Governance determines how power, resources, and decision-making are structured and implemented across sectors that shape health outcomes. Good governance fosters transparency, public participation, and policy coherence—creating the enabling conditions to tackle health inequities. Under the action area of “*Putting in place governance arrangements that will maximize the coherence and impact of action*”, the world report recommends to:

- Empower local governments to address health inequities;
- Support community engagement and civil society;
- Achieve universal health coverage through progressive health financing and primary health care approaches;
- Build and retain a health and care workforce capable of delivering equity;
- Strengthen focus on social determinants in health systems and policy platforms;
- Monitor social determinants of health equity.

About the webinar

This webinar will explore how governance structures, mechanisms, and practices impact health equity. It will highlight insights from the [WHO World Report on the Social Determinants of Health Equity](#), with emphasis on governance as a foundational enabler for health equity-promoting action. Country case examples from Australia, Canada, and Saudi Arabia will illustrate how different regions are strengthening governance to embed equity into national policies and institutions. Their experiences will highlight both systemic challenges and innovative practices in governing for health equity.

Webinar objectives

- Understand the role of governance in addressing the social determinants of health and advancing health equity.
- Learn how countries are building governance structures that support multisectoral collaboration, accountability, and public participation.
- Explore practical experiences, challenges, and innovations from Australia, Canada, and Saudi Arabia.
- Engage with experts and country partners through a panel discussion and Q&A.

Languages

This webinar will be conducted in English, with live interpretation available in French and Spanish.

Target audiences

This webinar is intended for policymakers, government officials, and other stakeholders interested in governance for health equity. It will also benefit researchers, practitioners, and advocates working on governance for health equity.

Proposed Program (60 minutes)

5 min.	Welcome and Opening Remarks Dr Etienne Krug Director, Department of Health Promotion and Social Determinants of Health, World Health Organization
10 min.	Key Findings and Recommendations of the World Report on SDHE Dr. Sudhvir Singh Unit Head, Equity and Health, Social Determinants of Health, World Health Organization
20 min.	Presentations on Experts and Country Experiences on Governance for Health Equity Facilitated by Dr Nicole Valentine Technical Officer, Equity and Health, Social Determinants of Health, World Health Organization Country example from Australia: Ross Hawkins First Assistant Secretary, Health Systems Strategy Division, Department of Health, Disability and Ageing Australia Country example from Canada: Ahalya Mahendra

	<p>Senior Policy Analyst, Health Equity Division, Public Health Agency of Canada Canada</p> <p>Kelsey Lucyk Manager, Health Equity Division, Public Health Agency of Canada Canada</p> <p>Country example from Saudi Arabia: Dr. Nouf Alnumair, Secretary General, Health in All Policies Ministerial Committee, Saudi Arabia</p>
20 min.	<p>Panel Discussion & Q&A</p> <p>Facilitated by Dr Gökhan Depo Coordinator, WHO Collaborating Centre on Health in All Policies and the Social Determinants of Health, Tampere University, Finland</p>
5 min.	<p>Wrap up</p> <p>Dr Omar Cherkaoui Coordinator, Global Knowledge Network for Health Equity, Equity and Health, Social Determinants of Health, World Health Organization</p>