

3rd CHF Conference: new commitments and resolute to grow health insurance for informal sector



Save for Health Uganda's Executive Director, Mr. Makaire Fredrick, with Hon. Dr. Bukenya Michael, Chairperson of the Health Committee of Parliament.



Hon. Ayaka Rose Atima, Woman MP Maracha District, contributes to the plenary at the conference.



L-R: Hon. Lydia Mirembe, Woman MP Butambala District, and Hon. Spellanza Baguma, Vice Chairperson, Health Committee of Parliament at the conference.

The 3rd National Community Health Financing Conference was held on 8th – 9th November, 2018 at Imperial Royale Hotel, Kampala under the theme, 'enabling effective participation of the informal sector in community health financing and other social protection initiatives'.

The conference attracted 189 participants from 26 districts. They included members of parliament, senior officials from government ministries, local government leaders, civil society actors, researchers, academicians, CHF schemes promoters, community health insurance beneficiaries, private companies, and healthcare providers, among others.

Several presentations were delivered on the current status of voluntary and mandatory community health financing (CHF) schemes, the content and implementation design of Luwero District Community Health Insurance Ordinance, and innovations and technology for enrolling and managing informal sector families in CHF schemes and other social protection initiatives.

Other presentations focused on regulations and preparedness for the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS), lessons from Social Assistance Grant for Empowerment (SAGE) for implementation of NHIS, and strategies for informal sector families to access community health insurance, NHIS and other Social Protection initiatives.

A special guest from Rwanda shared about the Ubudehe program used to determine health insurance premiums for different socio-economic categories of the population.

Key resolutions and actions

Participants agreed to undertake the following actions:

1. Form a committee to follow up on the NHIS Bill and ensure its enactment is expedited.
2. Develop a private member's Bill together with the Health Committee of Parliament introducing universal health insurance in Uganda.
3. Continue engagements and creating awareness about CHF.
4. Extend CHI to other regions of Uganda particularly the east and north.
5. Support Luwero District to get approval of the CHI ordinance from the Attorney General.
6. Develop an implementation strategy and guidelines for Luwero CHI ordinance.
7. Adopt technology and mobile telecom platforms to improve efficiency in CHF schemes.



Dr. Babyo Fatunmbi from World Health Organisation Country Office delivered the keynote address.



Dr. Olaro Charles, Director Clinical Services in the Ministry of Health, represented the State Minister for Health - General Duties, Hon. Sarah Opendi, at the official opening of the conference.



Mr. Mujuni Bernard, Commissioner Equity and Rights in the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, officially closed the conference on behalf of the State Minister for Gender and Culture.

PICTORIAL



Some of the conference participants in a group photo with the chief guest and other dignitaries after the opening ceremony.



Hon. Lillian Nakate (right), Luwero District Woman MP, with some of the leaders from Luwero stand up for recognition.



USAID/ Uganda Voucher Plus Chief of Party, Ms Christine Namayanja (left), with participants from northern and eastern Uganda representing healthcare providers serving mothers under the Voucher Plus project.



A section of participants on the second day of the conference.

Key quotations

"If we all commit that within the next three months, this (national health insurance) bill will go, it can happen with the amount of commitment that I have seen in Uganda, it can happen," Dr. Babyo Fatunmbi, WHO.

"The Cabinet Memo for the draft National Health Insurance Scheme Bill has been received by Cabinet and comments are being addressed and we expect to take it back to Cabinet and Parliament thereafter," Hon. Sarah Opendi, State Minister for Health – General Duties.

"On behalf of the Ministry of Health, I pledge to support Luwero District in implementing their CHI ordinance," Hon. Sarah Opendi, State Minister for Health – General Duties.

Conference partners



Ministry of Gender, Labour & Social Devt



UGANDA VOUCHER PLUS ACTIVITY

