

THE HEALTH SYSTEMS FLAGSHIP PROGRAM



The World Bank's Health Systems Flagship Program is a tool to improve policy dialogue and technical capacity to facilitate a strategic and systemic approach to health systems reforms that move countries to Universal Health Coverage (UHC).



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**HEALTH
SYSTEMS**
Flagship Program

WHAT



Tool to improve policy dialogue and technical capacity.

WHY



To facilitate a strategic and systemic approach to planning health systems reforms that will move countries to Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

OPERATIONAL VALUE



Builds technical capacity in health globally and locally.

ADDITIONAL VALUE



Provides a way to support World Bank task teams actively engage relevant stakeholders on UHC centered policy dialogue and reform implementation.

“The Flagship course will not offer you a silver bullet solution to take home. No such thing exists. Instead, it will provide you with the tools and analytical capacities necessary to better understand and improve the health systems in your country.”

Juan Pablo Uribe

Global Director for Health Nutrition and Population, the World Bank, Director of the Global Financing Facility for Women Children and Adolescents (GFF)

96%

▶ of participants plan to use the knowledge gained from the course in their work

95.5%

▶ of participants would recommend the flagship course to their colleagues

- Running over two decades.
- In high demand by national governments and development partners.
- Over 36,000 participants in over 70 countries.
- Course content customized to country and regional contexts.
- Course offered in the working language of the client country.



THE FLAGSHIP PROGRAM OFFERS FOUR TYPES OF COURSES

Core Course is a structured health systems literacy course to update and share high-level knowledge about health sectors. It helps participants better understand the complex interactions between policies, stakeholders, and determinants of health.

Deep Dive Courses provide policymakers with a more focused approach on "how to" address the implementation challenges they face in achieving health system reforms and Universal Health Coverage.

Self-Paced E-Learning Modules provide a concise overview on specific health system topics with suggested assignments. 7 modules are offered in English and additional languages:

- Gender and Universal Health Coverage (UHC)
- Social Health Insurance (SHI)
- Addressing Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) - available in French and Spanish
- Attacking Inequalities in Health - available in French and Spanish
- Behavior Change for Health System Strengthening - available in French and Spanish
- Decentralization to Enhance Health System Performance (forthcoming)
- Human Resources for Health (forthcoming)

Webinars provide ongoing professional development, learning and sharing opportunities for Flagship Course Alumni.



SAMPLE TIMELINE



SPOTLIGHT

▶ Global Flagship

The Health System Flagship Core Course was held virtually in October 2022. The course was offered in 5 languages to 400 participants from 69 countries. It included a wide range of policy makers from Ministries of Health, health authorities, public and private sector health staff, and health researchers. During its two weeks, the course maintained a high participation rate with participants actively sharing lessons learned with their peers. Through guided discussions of theory and country experiences, participants were taught to use a system thinking approach to health to achieve UHC and considered the advantages and disadvantages of different options for improving the performance of a health system.

▶ Country Flagship: Argentina

The National Ministry of Health in **Argentina** is undertaking reforms to strengthen its health system: to reduce fragmentation, improve quality, and increase efficiency. In May 2022, the World Bank delivered a two-week virtual Health Systems Flagship Course, to 137 high-level officials from the national and provincial obras sociales and ministries of health in Argentina. They reflected upon the health system's challenges, viable solutions, necessary reforms, and considered international experience and evidence relevant to their health sector. A post-course evaluation revealed that 91% of participants found the content highly useful and 97.5% planned to use the acquired knowledge in their work.

▶ Country Flagship: Ecuador

The World Bank delivered a 3-day in-person workshop in January 2023 to support the Government of **Ecuador's** efforts in sustaining its progress toward Universal Health Coverage. The content of the course was adapted around Ecuador's health challenges and included a special focus on financing and payment systems while also considering case studies from Argentina, Poland, Chile, Uruguay, Brazil and China. Discussions considered Ecuador's planned reforms and engaged 70 senior policymakers from various ministries. A pre- and post-course survey revealed a 42% increase in the number of participants who responded being moderately or extremely familiar with health system thinking and tools to improve health outcomes.



PARTICIPANT TESTIMONIALS



"The translation made it possible to follow every participant in another language. Gives us the feeling of inclusion of more experiences from different country settings."

"Although challenging due to different perspectives, working in groups demonstrates the very nature of health systems challenges in terms of their diversity and why a systems approach that seeks divergent viewpoints promises the best approach to try and solve them."

"The ease with which global experts and former politicians were able to shed light on the practicality of the theories we were being taught was very valuable."

"The facilitators are subject matter experts, the training materials are in-depth, and overall coordination was top-notch."



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For more information, visit <https://www.worldbank.org/healthsystemsflagship/>.



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