

African Collaborative for Health Financing Solutions

The African Collaborative for Health Financing Solutions (ACS) is a new 5-year (2017-2022) USAID-funded project working with regional bodies and country-level multi-stakeholder platforms to share knowledge, strengthen accountability and promote health financing policies and processes that advance universal health coverage (UHC) in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA).

HEALTH FINANCING POLICY that is sound, actionable, and makes efficient use of domestic resources is critical to ensuring that country movement towards UHC can be effectively and equitably achieved and sustained. Despite the unprecedented political commitment to UHC on the continent and at the global level, and widely available tools and evidence-based solutions, countries are still struggling to advance toward UHC. There is often a breakdown in the process of transforming evidence into actionable policy decisions, and then translating these decisions into known solutions within the country and regional context to spur progress. Moreover, the lack of involvement of vested stakeholders (such as civil society, the private sector and ministries of finance) in the UHC agenda

at the regional and country-level hampers implementation and opportunities to strengthen advocacy and accountability.

THE ACS PROJECT WILL PROVIDE SUPPORT to country and regional stakeholders to better navigate their own path to UHC. ACS aims to avoid redundancies and find synergies with existing initiatives working on UHC and health financing. As such, we will work with partners to amplify existing efforts and respond to demand for bolstering skills in facilitation, learning processes, communication and accountability that will help evidence-based solutions gain traction.

Working closely with local and regional organizations and building on existing initiatives,

ACS AIMS TO:

- Support transparent and inclusive country platforms for accountability and knowledge to identify challenges, test solutions, and spur implementation.
- Build capacity and collective stakeholder commitment for a structured, iterative learning process at the national level, and between countries in a sub- region that can help to translate tools to country contexts.
- Leverage regional networks, organizations and institutions to advocate for accountability in health financing and share knowledge to support countries in reaching their UHC goals.

Led by Results for Development, ACS mobilizes a diverse team of African experts and international organizations, including Duke University's Global Health Innovation Center and Feed the Children, to support learning and accountability for UHC at the national and regional levels. At the outset, ACS will embark on a consultation phase, engaging a multitude of stakeholders to better understand both country-level and regional partner priorities and implementation challenges to shape our interventions and assess demand.

AT THE END OF FIVE YEARS, ACS aims to have supported dynamic, inclusive processes at the country and regional level that have advanced implementation of health financing solutions and accelerated movement towards UHC.

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