



Cambodia Newsletter

Greetings from P4HC+ Secretariat!

This newsletter provides you with a few updates, concerning the implementation of National Social Protection Policy Framework. The first section features recent news such as the adoption of draft law on Social Security by the National Assembly and government's plans on expanding financing risk protection to vulnerable population groups such as beggars and migrant workers.

P4HC+ secretariat is pleased to welcome the new co-conveners: Zia from the World Bank, Robert from USAID and Kumanan from WHO. We wish to express our sincere appreciation and thanks to our former co-conveners, Somil (World Bank) and Tina (USAID) for their valuable contribution to the network operations and coordination.

We hope you find interesting information in this newsletter.

P4HC+ Secretariat

Secretariat contact

Secretariat:

Bart Jacobs at
bart.jacobs@giz.de
 Kouland Thin at
koulandthin@hotmail.com
 Sokunthea Koy at
sokunthea.koy@giz.de

Co-convenors:

Ziauddin Hyder at
zhyder@worldbank.org
 Robert Stanley at
rostanley@usaid.gov
 Kumanan Rasanathan at
rasanathan@who.int

Cambodia News

Monitoring for UHC - putting Cambodia in the driving seat

The Government of Cambodia embarked on Universal Health Coverage (UHC) with the endorsement of the National Social Protection Policy Framework in July 2017. To monitor the implementation of the National Social Protection Policy, the National Social Protection Council (NSPC) and associated structures, the Executive Committee and General Secretariat (GS NSPC), have been established.

The World Health Organization and World Bank jointly released a common framework for monitoring progress towards UHC (Sustainable Development Goal indicator 3.8) that recommends focusing on coverage with essential health services together with a degree of financial risk protection. These two measures are interrelated and should be

measured at the same time, at all levels of the health system. Coverage with financial risk protection is measured by the incidence of “catastrophic” health expenditures and the incidence of impoverishment because of out-of-pocket health payments.” [Read more](#)

Parliament adopts law in bid to protect civil servants

Khmer times, October 9, 2019: “The National Assembly yesterday adopted a law on the National Social Security Fund in a bid to provide a financial security net for civil servants, and those in the private and informal sectors. CPP lawmakers voted in favour of the law comprising of 11 chapters and 106 articles to create a social security fund to ensure social equity, social solidarity and to promote people’s living standards, including through pensions and healthcare.” [Read more](#)

Read also [“Social security law talks urged”](#)

Prime Minister’s ambitious plan for migrant benefits endorsed

Phnom Penh Post, 17 Sep 2019: "Prime Minister Hun Sen’s ambitious roadmap to extend social security benefits to migrant workers was endorsed at the 3rd Ministerial Conference on Labour Cooperation in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam (CLMTV) in Siem Reap on Tuesday." [Read more](#)

Gov’t: Beggars to be given free hospital treatment



The Phnom Penh Post, 3 May 2019:

"BEGGARS will be given free hospital treatment in a move to help society’s poorest, as the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) is extended to help the most impoverished receive medical care, the government said on Monday." [Read more](#)

P4HC+ Brown Bag Lunch Meeting



On May 1, 2019, bearing in mind the true spirit of labour, 35 committed people including partners of the P4HC+ network, H-EQIP mid-term review team and other guests headed to the World Bank office for the second thematic meeting of 2019. The topic on Labour Day was monitoring financial risk protection with the objective of taking stock of scheduled activities related to SDG indicator 3.8.1 and making suggestions for the way forward.

[Read more](#)

Featured Articles



“When ‘substandard’ is the standard, who decides what is appropriate? Exploring healthcare provision in Cambodia”

Author(s): *Charlotte Gryseels, Laura Maria Francisca Kuijpers, Jan Jacobs and Koen Peeters Grietens. (2019)*

Description:

“The article explores what practices constitute healthcare in urban and rural Cambodian settings; what differentiates these practices from clinical ‘good practice’ guidelines in conventional medicine; and which mechanisms patients, drug sellers and medical doctors have developed to navigate a health care system that at the same time enables, encourages, and sanctions such unregulated practices.” [Read more](#)



“From primary health care to universal health coverage—one step forward and two steps back”

Author(s): *David Sanders, Sulakshana Nandi, Ronald Labonté, Carina Vance Wim Van Damme. (2019)*

Description:

“Primary health care (PHC), codified at the historic 1978 Alma Ata Conference, was advocated as the means to achieve health for all by the year 2000.¹ The principles of PHC included universal access and equitable coverage; comprehensive care emphasising disease prevention and health promotion; community and individual participation in health policy, planning, and provision; intersectoral action on health determinants; and appropriate technology and cost-effective use of available resources.” [Read more](#)



“Leaving no one behind? Social inclusion of health insurance in low- and middle-income countries: a systematic review”

Author(s): *Suzanne G. M. van Hees, Timothy O’Fallon, Miranda Hofker, Marleen Dekker, Sarah Polack, Lena Morgon Banks & Ernst J. A. M. Spaan. (2019)*

Description:

“One way to achieve universal health coverage (UHC) in low- and middle-income countries (LMIC) is the implementation of health insurance schemes. A robust and up to date overview of empirical evidence assessing and substantiating health equity impact of health insurance schemes among specific vulnerable populations in LMICs beyond the more common parameters, such as income level, is lacking. We fill this gap

by conducting a systematic review of how social inclusion affects access to equitable health financing arrangements in LMIC.” [Read more](#)



“A Legal and Regulatory Assessment of Private Healthcare Provision in Cambodia: Private Providers’ Perceptions”

Author(s): *HP+ Policy Brief, March 2019*

Description:

“Cambodia’s private healthcare sector is the first point of contact for most Cambodians within the health system and, as such, plays an important role in increasing access to health services. However, the current policy and regulatory environment is oriented more toward the public sector. HP+ collected perspectives from private health facility owners and managers to gain insight into how existing laws and regulations are implemented and perceived.” [Read more](#)

Documents

P4HC+ Regular Meeting 18 September 2019

- [Minutes](#)

P4HC+ Special Meeting 1 May 2019

- [Presentation on “Development of the National Social Protection M&E System” by Robert Kolesar](#)
- [Presentation on “Monitoring Universal Health Coverage” by Bart Jacobs](#)

[P4HC+ Mailing list \(updated October 2019\)](#)