

BREAKING THE HEALTH FINANCING DEADLOCK IN LOWER INCOME COUNTRIES

HEALTH FINANCING FUNDAMENTALS

HEALTH FINANCING FUNDAMENTALS (HFF) offers health policymakers and other sector experts the opportunity to make inroads into the world of health financing. In the HFF coursework, they will gain a solid command of health financing objectives, concepts and functions and come to understand the most pressing issues and policy solutions in lower income countries. Participants will learn to appreciate how health financing decisions impact progress toward universal health coverage (UHC) and health outcomes, providing them with a new perspective to explain the performance of health systems.

Health Financing Fundamentals is a product series of TEKANO Group. HFF courses and materials have been developed and continuously refined by a group of health financing experts, public financial management specialists, economists, and health policymakers working closely with adult learning experts. Health Financing Fundamentals is one of several TEKANO Group initiatives to break the health financing deadlock in lower-income countries and unlock progress toward better and more equitable health and well-being.

COURSE VERSIONS

TEKANO Group currently offers Health Financing Fundamentals in a short (four sessions) and full version (11 sessions).

HFF SHORT COURSE: In this four-session course, participants gain an overview of health financing objectives, concepts and functions and a solid understanding of the most critical issues and policy choices in lower income countries. The short yet rich curriculum enables participants to enter with other stakeholders into health financing conversations and critically follow the policy discourse.

HFF FULL COURSE: In this 11-session, participants gain a comprehensive overview of health financing objectives, concepts and functions and a firm grasp of key issues and policy options in lower income countries. In addition, they acquire a solid understanding of different health financing arrangements, for example, social health insurance, first insights into key operational processes, and some basic skills in the analysis of health financing data. The full HFF curriculum empowers participants to engage with key stakeholders into health financing conversations and participate in policy discussions.

LEARNING APPROACH

HFF courses offer a customized, problem-centered, highly interactive learning experience for health professionals ready to make inroads into health financing. After an overview session, the course structure follows the three core health financing functions of resource mobilization, pooling and purchasing. Prior to the course, participants take part in a short test to gauge their health financing exposure and inform the final course content and design.

Each course session includes a series of segments, each segment focusing on a key issue. Following a brief framing of these issues and the introduction of relevant concepts, participants work together through a series of real-world questions and exercises, drawing on their own experiences, course pre-readings and faculty to deepen their understanding of challenges and solutions. In closing, faculty summarizes these conversations and offers key take aways, reinforced through post-readings and recall exercises in consecutive sessions.

FORMAT AND EFFORT

Both the short and full version of Health Financing Fundamentals are available in the following virtual and in-person formats. Independent of the mode of delivery, participation is capped at 20 people to allow for an intimate and highly interactive learning experience.

	Virtual	In-person
Short version	One session per week, four weeks	Two days
Full version	One session per week, three months	Five days

In addition to attending course sessions, participants are expected to study a short pre-reading prior to each session (virtual) or day (in-person). Pre-readings introduce relevant concepts, issues, and policies to facilitate active course participation. Pre-readings are complemented by short quizzes to assess comprehension.

FACULTY

Christoph Kurowski and David Evans are the technical directors of health financing fundamentals. Both are distinguished global health financing experts. Christoph is best known for his role as Global Lead for Health Financing at the World Bank Group and David as the Director of Health Financing and Governance at the World Health Organization. Christoph and David have been instrumental in the design of the Health Financing Fundamentals curriculum and are co-authors of the course reading materials. For each HFF course, Christoph and David invite experienced policy makers, scholars, and experts from relevant fields to join them and contribute and facilitate sessions.

ALUMNI

Health Financing Fundamentals Alumni include more than 500 health policymaker and health system experts from more than 60 lower income countries. Among them are 60 World Bank staff. The first ever Health Financing Fundamentals course benefited senior executives from the Ministries of Health, State Health Insurance Schemes and State PHC Development Agencies of Ekiti and Ondo State in Nigeria. Most recently, Health Financing Fundamentals has been delivered as part of a Master’s Course in Global Health.

TESTIMONIALS

“Thanks so much for an excellent 5-star course! It is well-developed and well-run. This was one of my best education experiences (of a complicated subject matter) and I have enjoyed every session.”

M. L., Health Specialist, World Bank

“I am committed to studying HF further and would be interested in attending an Advanced HFF course.”

N.M. Senior Public Health Specialist. Somalia

“Thank you for this great course! The course and the interaction with you all were fantastic!”

J. P., Senior Health Specialist, World Bank

“I am highly satisfied with the course. The country cases and data analytics helped me understand the health financing functions, contextualize them, and think about how to bring and apply the knowledge in my country.”

P.B.A., SPHCDA, Ondo State, Nigeria