

## CONCEPT NOTE

POLICY DIALOGUE EVENT “Strategic Health Purchasing for Universal Health Coverage in Rwanda:  
March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Where Are We and What We need to DO?

### What adjustments are required to make health and health financing system in Rwanda more resilient to pandemics?

#### 1. Background

Over the past two decades, Rwanda has made tremendous progress in improving the health status of the population. These attainments are the result of innovative health strategies and financing reforms undertaken by the Government of Rwanda. The reconstruction of the health system infrastructure as well as the setup of the community health workers network improved access to healthcare services while contributing to reducing travel time from 57 to 50 minutes in 2014 and 2017 respectively. Similarly, the roll-out of a community-based health insurance (CBHI) scheme allowed financial access to health services while ensuring financial risk protection to more than 80% of the population.

Overall, this progress is mainly attributed to good governance and increased investment in health. Rwanda is already allocating 17% of its national budget to the health sector, reaching the Abuja declaration target. Likewise, health expenditures increased steadily over time from USD 43 per capita to USD 56 per capita in 2017-2018 and 2019-2020 respectively.

Rwanda is still looking forward to improving population health outcomes and achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC). To sustain these gains, Rwanda needs to allocate more efficiently the scarce resources available. Therefore, the Ministry of Health and the Rwanda Social Security Board (RSSB) with the technical support of the Strategic Purchasing Africa Resource Centre (SPARC)- resource hub hosted by Amref Health Africa - and the School of Public Health at the University of Rwanda, started the process of documenting country policies and progress in Strategic Health Purchasing (SHP) while providing support in capacity development in the area of SHP in Rwanda and opportunities for learning exchanges across Sub-Saharan (SSA) countries.

It is in this regard that the University of Rwanda in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Rwanda Social Security Board (RSSB) and other stakeholders from the Strategic purchasing sub TWG is organizing a **one-day workshop on 30th March 2022**, to share and reflect upon findings and to spark dialogue among stakeholders on how to translate these results into action for continued progress on SHP for health system improvement.

#### 2. Objectives of the workshop

- a. Introduce the SHP progress tracking framework and how it can be used to describe and assess SHP systems based on functions rather than schemes or specific instruments
- b. Disseminate and discuss the results of the SHP functional mapping
- c. Highlight evidence and lessons from the Evidence Synthesis report
- d. Demonstrate the importance of SHP functions working together holistically to bring health system results
- e. Discuss the ongoing SHP reforms (capitation and Health Benefits Package design) and how they address the gaps identified in the SHP functional mapping.

- f. Identify a further SHP learning agenda to support dialogue between policymakers and technical partners to continue to drive progress on SHP in SSA.

### 3. Expected outcomes of the Workshop

- A common language on SHP functions created, to describe purchasing systems, identify priorities for improvement, and track progress
- Disseminated outputs and shared lessons learned using evidence for SHP functional mapping
- Stronger dialogue between technical partners and policymakers leading to actions for further progress on SHP at the country level
- Commitment from development partners to reflect on the impact of pushing specific schemes or instruments for SHP in countries and to better align their practices with country priorities
- Next SHP learning agenda

### 4. Workshop participants

	<b>Institutions</b>	<b>Number of participants</b>
1	Ministry of Health	5
2	Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning	1
3	Rwanda Biomedical Centre	1
4	Rwanda Medical Supply Ltd	1
5	Rwanda Food and Drug Authority	1
6	Rwanda Social Security Board	6
7	University of Rwanda	4
8	Development Partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WHO</li> <li>• UNICEF</li> <li>• World Bank</li> <li>• USAID-RHISA</li> <li>• ENABEL</li> <li>• CHAI</li> <li>• PIH</li> <li>• R4D</li> </ul>	8
9	District representatives: 5 Directors of Health Unit GASABO District KICUKIRO District GAKENKE District NYAGATARE District RUBAVU District	5
10	Members of the CBHI Benefit Package Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MINALOC</li> <li>• Head of Musambira Health centre</li> <li>• CHUB</li> <li>• Private Sector Federation (PSF)</li> <li>• Rwanda NCD Alliance</li> </ul>	5

	Director General of District / Provincial Hospitals Masaka District Hospital Nyamata District Hospital Rwamagana Provincial Hospital Ruhango Provincial Hospital Kibuye Referral Hospital Musanze Referral Hospital	6
10	National health Insurers Association (RHIA)	1
11	UR Medical Insurance Scheme	1
12	Rwanda Private Medical Facilities Association (chairperson)	2
13	One Family Health- Country Director	1
14	Society for Family Health (SFH)-	1
15	SPARC	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>

### 5. Workshop logistics

Venue of the meeting: The policy dialogue will take place at Radison Blue Hotel & Convention Centre - Kigali City

### 6. Other Expenses

The University of Rwanda- the organizer- will cover the logistics costs of the meeting including the COVID 19 rapid test.

The University of Rwanda will cover the mission fees/allowances from representatives of districts / Provinces outside of Kigali City.

### 7. Proposed Agenda

Time	Session title/topic	Responsible
08:00 – 8:30	Participant registration and Presentation of the agenda	SPH
8:30- 8:45	Welcome remarks	UR/ CMHS
08:30 – 09:00	Opening remarks	MOH & RSSB
09:00 – 09:20	Introduction to the SHP functional approach	SPARC & R4D
09:20 – 10:00	SHP functional mapping results Q&A	UR-SPH
10:00 – 10:30	*Coffee-break	
10:30 – 11:00	Strategic Purchasing during Covid-19 Response in Rwanda	RBC/ MOH
11:00 – 11:30	Capitation: progress update	RBC
11:30 – 12:00	Health Benefits Package Review: progress update	MoH
12:00 – 13:20	<b>Panel Discussion</b> “discuss shared lessons and how they should translate into policy (actions).  ○ Discuss how to strengthen sustainable health financing system in Rwanda to support longer-term preparedness for pandemic and building health system resilience for UHC.	Representatives of MOH, RSSB, RBC, SPARC, DP, Providers and UR
13:20- 13:40	Next Steps and closure	MOH, UR, RSSB

13:40 – 13:55	Group Photo	UR/SPH
13:55 – 15:00	& Lunch	
	MODERATOR: MOH	

\*. All blogs and policy briefs will be printed in the booklet and displayed.

Prepared by: XXXXX

15<sup>th</sup> March 2022

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