



African Contributions to Global Health

Video Transcript

Learning from health financing in Africa

DORIS: This week, we examined health financing in Africa. We explored Universal Health Coverage, different ways of raising revenue, and Results-Based Financing. We saw that financing healthcare systems in Africa is challenging because of its high informal employment and unemployment rates. Universal Health Coverage means that access to high-quality essential healthcare services is available to the entire population without causing financial hardship for those in need of such services. The amount of money raised for healthcare services is important. The essential question, however, is how this money is spent in terms of pooling and purchasing services. Focusing on vulnerable populations and essential services is critical. We learned how, in Zambia, the government is attempting to achieve Universal Health Coverage through its national health insurance scheme. We also investigated how low- and middle-income countries raise revenue to finance Universal Health Coverage.

GUENTHER: We introduced Results-Based Financing and saw that it can improve the quantity and quality of the healthcare services that are delivered. However, it is important to note that the design of Results-Based Financing is complex and that its focus on financing targets can reduce healthcare workers' intrinsic motivation. We hope that you have gained new insights into healthcare financing strategies in Africa and have seen how these can be applied in different contexts.

DORIS: Thank you all for your lively participation and interesting comments!