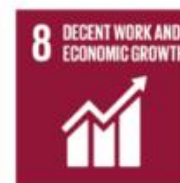




**HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

2025



2025 HLPF Thematic Review

**Briefing on the outcomes of Expert Group Meetings on in-focus SDGs
in preparation for the 2025 High-level Political Forum**

**27 February 2025
New York**



Sustainable Development Goal 3 Expert Group Meeting

Key messages & solutions

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SDG3- EXM - the promise of healthy lives & well-being for everyone at all ages



- **SDG3 indicators off-track** to meet 2030 targets
- **4.5 billion** people lacking essential health services – stagnant x 10 years!
- **2 billion** people suffering financial hardship to access health – worsening x 20 years
- **Inequities in access** to health within and between countries
- **Fragile, conflict-affected & vulnerable settings (FCVs)** need a fit-for-purpose approach to UHC

SDG3- EXM - Strengthen Health Financing and Investments



Reform health financing systems to increase efficiency, equity, and sustainability, including increasing domestic financing and integrating health financing with social protection systems.



Advocate for increased and **more efficient domestic and international investments** in health systems to alleviate the burden of out-of-pocket expenses.



Prioritize investments in primary health care, particularly in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), and ensure funding decisions align with national health priorities.



Encourage mixed financing models to improve access to essential health services and medicines, ensuring greater financial protection.

SDG3- EXM - Strengthen the Health Workforce

- Urgent need for policies that **improve workforce training, deployment, retention, fair compensation, and safe working conditions**, as well as address gender barriers, for a motivated health workforce, indispensable for advancing Universal Health Coverage.
- **Improve cross-sector collaboration** and support the alignment of health financing with broader economic growth goals.
- Advocate for **adequate investments in the health workforce** and ensure their representation in decision-making processes.
- Governments should ensure that **health and care workers' rights are protected**, and their voices are heard



SDG3- EXM - Re-prioritize SRHR and Maternal Health

- Emphasize gender equality, social justice, and rights-based approaches to **ensure health systems better respond to women's needs.**
- Ensure **adequate financing of maternal health and other sexual and reproductive health (SRH) essential services,** Including midwives and life-saving health products.
- Ensure both **coverage and quality of services.**
- **Integrate maternal health and other SRH essential interventions** into UHC packages and PHC programmes.
- **Address social determinants and vulnerabilities,** including those due to emergency/humanitarian settings, gender, poverty, hunger, and climate change.



SDG3- EXM - Close Data Gaps for Informed Decision-Making



Promote disaggregated data to understand who is being left behind and why and strengthen national data systems.



Use analytics to better understand underlying causes and interactions, focusing on solutions.



Enhance data collection and evidence on healthcare spending to guide resource allocation and inform policy decisions.



Strengthen **routine data systems**

SDG3- EXM - Leverage Science, Innovation and Technology

Leverage innovative methods and digital tools to scale proven solutions and facilitate access to scientific outputs and health innovations.

Call for **responsible frameworks** that maintain patient safety, uphold ethical standards, and accelerate equitable access to high-impact technologies.

Expand use of practical innovations, such as telemedicine or cost-effective diagnostic tools, which can dramatically expand access to care, especially in remote or underserved communities.

SDG3- EXM - Foster Collaboration Beyond the Health Sector



- **Urge policy coherence** across finance, education, social services, and environment portfolios to **address the multifaceted drivers of poor health** and foster health promotion and disease prevention.
- Demonstrate how **aligning health strategies with broader development goals** yields better outcomes for entire populations.
- **Strengthen integrated policies** for ensuring the health of humans, domestic and wild animals, plants, and the broader environment.
- Highlight the **importance of cross-disciplinary collaboration** for prevention, from tackling environmental pollutants and ensuring pandemic preparedness to ensuring active lifestyles for addressing NCDs.
- **Encourage social participation** to improve equity and accountability.