



UHC Journey to Actions Workshop 2026:

“Achieving More Health for the Money through Strategic Financial Management”

19–22 OCTOBER 2026 | BANGKOK, THAILAND

CO-HOSTS

National Health Security Office, Thailand (NHSO) • The Partnership Project for Global Health and Universal Health Coverage (GLO+UHC) Phase 3 • IHPP Foundation • PMAC Strategic Institute: Global Health and UHC Hub • Thai Health Promotion Foundation (ThaiHealth) • National Health Commission Office, Thailand (NHCO)

1. Workshop at a Glance

Workshop title	UHC Journey to Actions: Achieving More Health for the Money through Strategic Financial Management
Dates	19–22 October 2026
Location	VIC3 Bangkok Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand
Format	Four-day onsite workshop combining policy dialogue, peer learning, practical exchange, a study visit, and policy dialogue sessions.
Target group	Mid-career to senior-level policymakers and practitioners working in health financing, public health insurance, health policy, health governance, or Universal Health Coverage (UHC).
Expected cohort	Approximately 25–30 participants from Asia, with priority given to ASEAN Member States and other low- and middle-income countries (LMICs)

2. Background and Rationale

Many countries have made substantial progress toward Universal Health Coverage (UHC) by expanding access to essential health services and strengthening financial protection. However, sustaining that progress is becoming increasingly difficult amid rising health needs, fiscal constraints, population aging, and escalating healthcare costs.

The central challenge is no longer simply how to expand coverage, but how to achieve better health outcomes, greater equity, and stronger financial protection with limited resources. Governments must make difficult choices on resource mobilization, budget prioritization, provider payment systems, benefit package design, and investments that offer the greatest value for population health.

Countries are therefore exploring approaches that can maximize value from limited resources: expanding fiscal space for health through health taxes, strengthening public financial management, advancing strategic purchasing and value-based healthcare, and reducing low-value care, waste, and inefficiency.

There is no single pathway to successful UHC reform. Countries must continually balance competing priorities while keeping health systems Sustainable, Adequate, Fair, and Efficient (S-A-F-E). Achieving this balance requires technical solutions, political commitment, good governance, social participation, and the capacity to translate policy commitments into action.

The UHC Journey to Actions Workshop will bring together policymakers, health financing practitioners, public health insurance professionals, researchers, and development partners from across Asia and other low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). Through country experience sharing, policy dialogue, study visits, and Policy dialogue sessions, participants will exchange experiences and explore practical approaches to advancing Sustainable, Adequate, Fair, and Efficient (S-A-F-E) Universal Health Coverage through strategic financial management.

3. Objectives

Overall Objective

To provide a platform for policymakers and practitioners to exchange experiences, reflect on lessons learned, and explore practical approaches for advancing Sustainable, Adequate, Fair, and Efficient (S-A-F-E) Universal Health Coverage.

Specific Objectives

- To facilitate peer learning and policy dialogue on emerging UHC challenges, reform priorities, and positive and negative lessons from country implementation experiences.
- To exchange experiences on strategic financial management, including fiscal space for health, public financial management, strategic purchasing, value-based healthcare, and approaches to low-value care.
- To explore how governance, social participation, and accountability can support UHC implementation and improve health-system performance.
- To identify practical policy insights, common pitfalls, and actionable lessons that can inform future UHC reforms in participating countries.

4. Who Should Apply

The workshop is designed for mid-career to senior-level professionals who are directly involved in health financing, public health insurance, health-system governance, health policy, or UHC reform. Applicants may come from:

- National health insurance agencies
- Ministries of health
- Health financing and budgeting units
- Public health insurance organizations
- Health promotion agencies
- Health policy and planning units
- Academic and research institutions
- Development partners

Ideal applicants are professionals who can share a real policy challenge from their country and actively contribute to peer learning and action-oriented discussions.

5. Learning Approach

The workshop emphasizes practical exchange and collaborative problem-solving rather than one-way lectures. Learning methods include:

- Country experience sharing
- Facilitated policy dialogue sessions
- Small-group problem-solving exercises
- Study visits
- Peer feedback and collaborative learning

Participants will work with real policy challenges and identify reform options that can be adapted to their own national contexts.

6. Four Key Themes

THEME 1 UHC at a Crossroads Emerging challenges, changing financing conditions, and difficult policy choices for sustainable UHC.	THEME 2 Health Financing Resource mobilization, fiscal space, health taxes, pooling, budgeting, and public financial management.
THEME 3 More Health for the Money Strategic purchasing, value-based healthcare, provider payment, priority setting, and reducing low-value care.	THEME 4 From Policy Dialogue to Action Governance, participation, accountability, policy translation, and country-level implementation.

7. Tentative Programme

The four-day programme progresses from understanding emerging challenges to developing practical country-level actions.

Day / Theme	Session	Key Topics
Day 1 19 Oct	Morning	Opening Ceremony and Orientation; Keynote on global and regional UHC trends; Country perspectives on UHC reform
	Afternoon	Panel on emerging UHC challenges and policy choices; Policy exchange: What works, what does not, and why?
Day 2 20 Oct	Morning	Health financing for sustainable UHC; Domestic resource mobilization; Public financial management
	Afternoon	Health taxes as sustainable financing mechanisms; Country cases from Thailand and the Philippines; Interactive exchange on fiscal space
Day 3 21 Oct	Morning	Value-based healthcare; Strategic financial support to providers; Purchasing of medical products; Benefit package design and priority setting
	Afternoon	Reducing low-value care; HTA and resource allocation; Digital innovations; Participatory governance and accountability
Day 4 22 Oct	Morning	Study visit
	Afternoon	Policy Dialogue; Group/country presentations; Certificate conferral and closing ceremony

8. Expected Outcomes

1. Enhanced understanding of emerging UHC challenges, policy choices, and reform experiences across participating countries.
2. Shared lessons and practical insights on strategic financial management for Sustainable, Adequate, Fair, and Efficient (S-A-F-E) UHC.
3. Policy recommendations on priority health financing, governance, and implementation challenges relevant to participating countries.
4. A strengthened regional network and peer-learning platform among health financing, public health insurance, and UHC practitioners.

9. Application Guidelines

APPLY NOW! | Application Deadline: 4 September 2026

How to Apply

- Complete the online application form. Please scan the QR code below to access the workshop website and the form.



- Submit all required documents together with the online application form.

Who should apply?

The workshop is designed for participants who:

- Are **mid-career to senior-level policymakers or practitioners** in health financing, public health insurance, health policy, health governance, or Universal Health Coverage (UHC).
- Are preferably under 45 years of age.
- Are currently involved in the design, implementation, management, or evaluation of UHC-related policies or programmes.
- Are committed to sharing country experiences and learning from regional peers.
- Can participate throughout the entire workshop.
- Can communicate effectively in English.
- Are from Asia, with priority given to applicants from ASEAN Member States and other low- and middle-income countries (LMICs).

Important Dates

4 September 2026	Application deadline
7 September 2026	Announcement of selected participants by website and email
25 September 2026	Deadline for attendance confirmation
9 October 2026	Online pre-workshop orientation
19–22 October 2026	Onsite workshop in Bangkok

10. Financial and Logistical Information

Expenses Covered by the Organizers

The organizers will cover the following expenses for all participants:

- Workshop meeting package, including meeting facilities, two coffee breaks, and lunch each day.
- Local transportation between official workshop venues during the program.

Scholarship Support

A limited number of scholarships will be available through the GLO+UHC Phase 3 Project for selected participants from Asia. The scholarship covers:

- Round-trip economy-class airfare (direct flights, where available).
- Hotel accommodation for the duration of the workshop.

Applicants requesting financial support are required to indicate their funding needs in the application form. Scholarship awards are subject to the selection process and available funding.

Expenses to Be Covered by Participants

Unless otherwise specified, participants are responsible for:

- Round-trip airfare to and from Thailand (for non-scholarship participants).
- Hotel accommodation during the workshop (for non-scholarship participants).
- Local transportation, including airport transfers.
- Passport, visa, travel insurance, health insurance, medical certificates, and other travel-related expenses.
- Meals other than those provided during the workshop.
- Daily living and personal expenses.

Workshop Venue

- Hotel/venue: VIC 3 Bangkok Hotel
- Location: 89 Phahon Yothin Soi 3, Phaya Thai, Bangkok Thailand (near BTS Sky Train Station: Sanam Pao)
- Hotel Website: <https://vic3bangkok.com/>



Entry to Thailand and Visa Procedures

- **Visa requirement:** Applicants are responsible for checking the visa requirements applicable to their nationality and travel documents. For current information, please consult the official Thailand e-Visa website and the nearest Royal Thai Embassy or Royal Thai Consulate-General.

Thailand e-Visa: <https://www.thaievisa.go.th/>

- **Thailand Digital Arrival Card (TDAC):** All non-Thai nationals entering Thailand are required to complete the TDAC online within three days before arrival, including the date of arrival. Requirements and submission timeframes may be updated by the Thai authorities; applicants should verify the latest information through the official TDAC website before travelling.
Official TDAC portal: <https://tdac.immigration.go.th>
English user guide: <https://tdac.immigration.go.th/manual/en/>

Official information sources: Royal Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Thailand Immigration Bureau. Applicants should verify the latest requirements before travel.

11. Contact

Ms. Kullaya (Amy) Petchkanokpraw

IHPP Foundation

Email: pmacsi@ihpp.thaigov.net