

INVESTING IN PEOPLE: SCALING UP EDUCATION FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONALS IN AFRICA CONFERENCE

IFC Headquarters, Washington, D.C.

March 31, 2010

IFC and the World Bank¹, in conjunction with the Global Health Workforce Alliance (GHWA) and CapacityPlus (USAID), will host a two-day conference to discuss some of the critical issues surrounding the production of health professionals in Africa and the potential contributions that could be made by greater public sector engagement with private and non-governmental institutions.

According to the World Health Organization, 36 countries in Africa are facing a critical shortage of health workers, which threatens to undermine the achievement of health developmental goals. There is now general consensus that unless this shortfall of health personnel is addressed, the health-related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and other population targets will be difficult to achieve by 2015. As a result, major investments by both the public and private sectors would have to be made in training teachers, strengthening infrastructure, improving pedagogical material and overall quality of the education process to meet desired targets.

The event is an important step by the World Bank Group and its partners to move this important agenda forward. It will showcase lessons learned in Ghana, Mali, and Kenya and will create an opportunity for African government officials, deans of training institutions, WBG colleagues, donors, and investors to learn about the issues and challenges surrounding the production of human resources for health (HRH) in Africa. Emphasis will be placed on identifying concrete steps and innovative approaches to mitigating the situation.

¹ In partnership with Health Systems for Outcomes, Health in Africa, HDNHE, and HDNED

Specifically, the objectives of the conference are to:

- Deepen understanding of the challenges and innovative approaches which are needed to accelerate the training of skilled health workers in Africa.
- Review the historical context surrounding the training of skilled health professionals in Africa (Francophone and Anglophone experiences).
- Identify key milestones in the three countries.
- Identify impediments to rapid expansion (e.g., policy, resources, innovations, etc.) and sustainable solutions.
- Discuss successful business models in the three countries, the role of the private sector, and key lessons learned.
- Review role/performance of development partners in both traditional and innovative financing.

The event will provide African participants with the opportunity to:

- Share African perspectives and experience: challenges, opportunities, and options.
- Share lessons on successes/failures in both public and private sectors.
- Role of private sector, business approaches by public institutions (including PPP).
- Network with other participants.
- Discuss next steps and the level of political leadership needed to accelerate training of HRH.
- Initiate preparations for the upcoming regional conference to be held in Africa in September 2010 on the training of health professionals.

SESSION BRIEFS

Financing: Session will focus on new and innovative funding mechanisms that could be used to complement existing scarce public resources.

Business Models: Session will focus on sustainable business models and public-private partnerships that could contribute to the agenda of scaling up the education of health workers.

Governance: Session will discuss governance arrangements used for public, private, and non-governmental institutions engaged in the production of health professionals. Attention will be given to the aims of education, models of governance, and ways to strengthen oversight responsibility and stewardship in the production of health professionals.

Role of Donors: Session will review and discuss the role of donors and development partners in addressing HRH training in Africa and identify ways to improve gaps in knowledge, policy, and funding. An action plan for future donor involvement will also be discussed.

AGENDA

Wednesday March 31, 2010

IFC Headquarters
Auditorium
2121 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. (K Street Entrance)
Washington, D.C. 20433, USA

8:30-9:00am ***Continental Breakfast and Registration***

OPENING SESSION

9:00 -10:00am **Welcome and Introductions**
Guy Ellena, Director, Health and Education, IFC

Opening Remarks and Discussion

Hon. Julio Frenk, Dean, Harvard School of Public Health and Former Minister of Health, Mexico

Hon. Arthur T. Porter, Director-General and CEO, McGill University Health Centre; Member of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada

Hon. Robert Joseph Mettle-Nunoo, Deputy Minister for Health, Ghana

Open Discussion

SESSION 1: FINANCING

10:00-11:00 am **Chair**
Hon. Robert Joseph Mettle-Nunoo, Deputy Minister for Health, Ghana

Presenter

Alexander S. Preker, Head, Health Investment Policy Analysis, CIC

Panelists

Jamil Salmi, Lead Education Specialist, World Bank

Scott Featherston, Head, Health in Africa and Senior Investment Officer, IFC

Peter Materu, Lead Education Specialist, World Bank

Marko Vujicic, Senior Economist (Health), World Bank

Wrap Up

Agnes Soucat, Adviser, World Bank

SESSION 2: BUSINESS MODELS

11:00am-12:00pm

Chair

Hon. Arthur T. Porter, Director-General and CEO, McGill University Health Centre; Member of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada

Presenter:

Howard P. Tuckman, Former Dean, Graduate School of Business, Fordham University

Panelists

Victor Gadzekpo, President, Central University College, Ghana

Thumbay Moideen, President, Gulf Medical University, U.A.E.

Mutuma Mugambi, Vice-Chancellor, KEMU, Kenya

Firoz Rasul, President, Aga Khan University

Ogobara Doumbo, Head of Department and Director, Malaria Research and Training Center, University of Bamako, Mali.

Wrap Up

Marie-Odile Waty, Lead Health Specialist, Health in Africa

12:00-2:00pm

Lunch and Networking Break

SESSION 3: GOVERNANCE

2:00-3:00pm

Chair

Khama Rogo, Lead Health Specialist and Head of Policy, Health in Africa

Presenter

Hortenzia Beciu, Public Health Specialist, World Bank

Panelists

Everett Sanda, CEO, Commission for Higher Education, Kenya

George Magoha, Vice-Chancellor, University of Nairobi, Kenya

Aaron Lawson, Provost, College of Health Sciences, University of Ghana

Seth Ayettey, Reverend; Chair, Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital, Ghana

Wrap Up

Kate Tulenko, Deputy Director, CapacityPlus (USAID)

SESSION 4: ROLE OF INVESTORS AND DONORS

3:00-4:30pm

Chair

Hon. Julio Frenk, Dean, Harvard School of Public Health and Former Minister of Health, Mexico

Panelists

Guy Ellena, Director, Health and Education, IFC

Gloria D. Steele, Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Global Health, USAID

Bjarne Garden, Assistant Director, Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad)

Joseph C. Kolars, Consultant, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Eva Jarawan, Sector Manager, World Bank

Christopher Thomas, Sector Manager, World Bank

CLOSING SESSION

4:30-5:00pm

Wrap Up

Pierre Guislain, Director, IFC