



The ILO Turin Centre's facilities

Located in an attractive park on the banks of the River Po, the Centre's campus provides a congenial environment in which to live and study.

- It contains 21 pavilions with fully equipped modern classrooms, conference halls and meeting rooms fitted out for multilingual simultaneous interpretation, and a computerized documentation centre linked to various data banks.

The campus has 287 study/bedrooms, all with private bathroom, telephone, free access to internet and cable television. It also has:

- a reception desk open 24 hours a day;

- a restaurant, a self-service canteen and a coffee lounge, all catering for international dietary needs;
- a bank;
- a travel agency;
- a laundry service;
- a post office;
- an internet point;
- a recreation room;
- facilities for outdoor and indoor sports;
- medical service.

Social events are regularly held both on and off campus, so that participants from different cultural backgrounds can make the most of a stimulating international environment.

For more information on course content please contact:

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Social Health Protection: addressing inequities in access to health care

3 – 14 March 2014

Turin, Italy

English & French



International Labour Organization



International Training Centre

www.itcilo.org

Social Health Protection: addressing inequities in access to health care



Background

Social health protection is an important tool to reduce poverty and inequality. Healthier workers are more productive; labour supply increases when morbidity and mortality rates are lower. Conversely, the lack of access to medically necessary health care has significant social and economic repercussions, often driving people into poverty and out of the workforce.

As early as 1944 the International Labour Conference (ILC) defined adequate medical care as essential element in social security and adopted the Medical Care Recommendation calling for a medical care service covering all members of the community, whether or not in productive employment.

Reinforced by the ILC in 2012 through its Recommendation on Social Protection Floors, universal access to essential health care is defined as a basic service every person should enjoy.

Still, nearly 90 per cent of people living in countries with very high vulnerability levels are not covered formally by any scheme or system.

An effective Social Health Protection system provides universal access to health care that is affordable, available and offers financial protection in times of illness, injury and maternity.

The course will identify inequities in effective access and main causes, review the importance of universal access to health care in crisis and post crisis situations, issues related to the feasibility of introducing a scheme and planning for implementation; designing the appropriate contribution levels and benefits, monitoring the provision of services and ensuring the sound governance and financing of the scheme.



Objectives

This course enables participants to

- know about main determinants of inequities of social health protection systems
- identify and analyse root causes of inequities in access to health care
- recall main ILO concepts and definitions (coverage, effective access, affordability, quality, financial protection)
- assess (dis-)advantages of various financing mechanisms for social health
- evaluate impact and costs of social health insurance and government tax-funded systems

- respond to the specific needs of vulnerable groups to progress towards equity in access to health care
- gain an international perspective on global initiatives on access to health care



Participants

The course is designed for executives, managers, planners, financial officers and other responsible professionals of health care and health insurance schemes, both in government and non-governmental sectors. Representatives of employers' and workers' organizations are particularly welcome. The course primarily addresses the needs of practitioners and policy-makers; however, persons in research functions within health systems also benefit from participation in this training activity.

As an organization dedicated to fundamental human rights and social justice, the ILO is taking a leading role in international efforts to promote and realize gender equality. In line with this ILO focus, women candidates are especially welcome.



Contents

Analysis of issues related to gaps in access to health care

- Dimensions of effective access
- Gaps in statutory coverage
- Limitations in the scope of benefits
- Gaps in financial protection

Root causes for inequities in access to health care

- Fragmentation of social protection systems, multiplicity of actors
- Incoherence of policies and strategies
- Links to the socio-economic context
- Impacts of global crises on national policy-making

Developing and implementing responses to achieve universal access to health care

- Progressing towards universal and equitable access to health services
- Extension of social health protection coverage and its impact on poverty reduction
- Main financing mechanisms, collection of funds and creation of fiscal space
- Coordination of different health financing mechanisms for sustainable schemes
- Administration, cost control and good governance of social health protection schemes

- Developing coverage plans and national health budgets
- Affordability and availability of adequate benefits
- Provision of health care benefits
- National and community-based schemes

The multiple dimensions of inequity in effective access to health care for different population groups will be highlighted throughout the programme.



Methodology

Phase I: Pre-course e-learning on the internet-based learning platform – 17 – 28 February 2014.

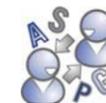
- During the initial on-line phase all relevant practical and organisational information about the activity is shared with participants on this platform. A pre-course survey is carried out to assess the specific learning needs and preferences which will be integrated in the face-to-face phase. Through modules and an assignment participants are introduced to the thematic focus of the learning activity.

Phase II: Face-to-Face workshop – two week course, 3 – 14 March 2014.

- Participants are expected to attend four sessions daily.
- During the course an action-oriented, highly participative approach is used with particular attention to presenting good practises reflecting experiences already gained locally and internationally. Training methods will combine lectures and discussions, case studies, open space discussions, group work and individual exercises.
- A visit to a health insurance scheme in Chambéry, France will allow participants on-site questions and answers on operational issues.
- All presentations as well as other relevant information and materials are uploaded on the online platform to facilitate that participants can share with their institutions what they have learned.

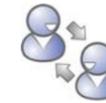
Phase III: Post-training on the internet-based learning platform – following the face to face course.

- During the follow up phase participants upload action plans and discuss their follow-up actions. New resources, expertise and knowledge about the topic of the activity are regularly linked to the platform.



Languages

To foster interregional experience-sharing, the course is offered in English and in French, with simultaneous interpretation. All course materials are provided in both languages.



Faculty and training team

Practitioners with a long standing experience in design, financing and administration of health care schemes from United Nations Agencies, social security institutions, well-known universities, recognized research institutes and senior consultants.

The course is implemented by an activity manager and a course assistant from the ITC-ILO's Social Protection Programme.



Cost of participation

Participation in the course costs **3,500 Euros** (course fees 2,150 Euros and participant subsistence 1,350 Euros), excluding travel expenses. The fee is payable in advance.

This covers: tuition fees; the use of training facilities and support services; training materials and books; study visit; accommodation and full board at the Centre's campus; emergency medical care and insurance.



Applications

Applicants should use the online nomination form (<http://socialprotection.itcilo.org>) to apply for the course. Application must be supported by a nomination letter from the sponsoring institution indicating how the participant will be financed. Applications need to be received **no later than 24 January 2014**.