

**THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA**



**FINANCING HEALTHCARE IN AFRICA: CHALLENGES  
AND OPPORTUNITIES**

**MINISTRY OF FINANCE –TANZANIA**

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# EXPERIENCES AND GOOD PRACTICES IN FINANCING OF HEALTH SYSTEMS: THE CASE OF TANZANIA

## PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- ❖ Overview for Health Sector in Tanzania
- ❖ Health Financing System in Tanzania
- ❖ Successes
- ❖ Challenges
- ❖ Health Financing Strategy
- ❖ Financing Universal Health Coverage (UHC)
- ❖ Conclusion

# Overview for Health Sector in Tanzania

- Tanzania has a health Sector Policy (2007) that covers Tanzania mainland (25 Regions and 166 LGAs).
- At the National level, the Ministry of Health administers and supervises the National, Referral and Special Hospitals; Training Institutions; Executive Agencies and Regulatory Authorities.
- At the Regional level, provision of health services is vested to the Regional Administrative Secretary with technical guidance of Regional Health Management Team.
- At the LGAs, the responsibility is vested on their respective Council Authorities, Health Service Boards, Facility Governing Committees and Health Management Teams.

# Overview of Health Sector in Tz....cont

- Since independence in 1961 the Government has been striving to provide quality and affordable health care services by allocating resources through taxation and some out of pocket (OOP);
- Later on in 1993 due to increased population, the Government introduced cost sharing system so as to mobilize additional resources for health care;
- In 2001 prepayment scheme (NHIF for the formal sector and CHF for the informal sector) were introduced to mobilize more resources and protect the community from catastrophic expenditure and donors started contributing to health budget through BF and vertical program;
- The main objective is to ensure that quality health care services is affordable and accessible to everyone according to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Health Sector Strategic Plan.

# Successes

Due to the number of reforms that Tanzania has been undertaking the following have been achieved;

- Increased number of population covered in the prepayment scheme from 8% in 2008 to 22.8 percent in 2015 although it is still far from achieving Universal healthy coverage;
- Community Health Fund is currently managed by National Health Insurance Fund making it easy to operate and reduce operational cost;
- Implementation of fiscal decentralization through Comprehensive Council Health Plans.

# Challenges

1. The health financing landscape in Tanzania is heavily fragmented with many financiers,
  - Insurance schemes (NHIF, CHF/TIKA, SHIB and private insurance)
  - User fees/Out of Pocket
  - Donors through vertical project,
  - Donors through basket funds and
  - Decentralized plan through Comprehensive Council Health Plan
  - Government budgetary funds to central and lower levels.
2. Donor dependence is high on health development projects;
3. Government Health Expenditure is 10% lower than the Abuja target of 15% of the National Budget;
4. overlapping and duplicative Regulatory Health system.

Based on these challenges the Government is in the process of developing Health Financing Strategy VI as way towards UHC.

# Health Financing Strategy (HFS)

- The Health Sector Strategy 2015 – 2020 is being developed together with its implementation plan. The focus is on;
  - Raising new/ alternative resources for health,
  - Creating a mandatory Single National Insurance,
  - Focusing on coverage strategies of the informal sector and the poor,
  - Linking to quality improvement methods via strategic purchasing (e.g. RBF).



# HFS Vision, Mission, Goal and Objectives



## Vision

- Cost-effective, quality health services are available to all Tanzanian residents without financial barriers at the time of need

## Mission

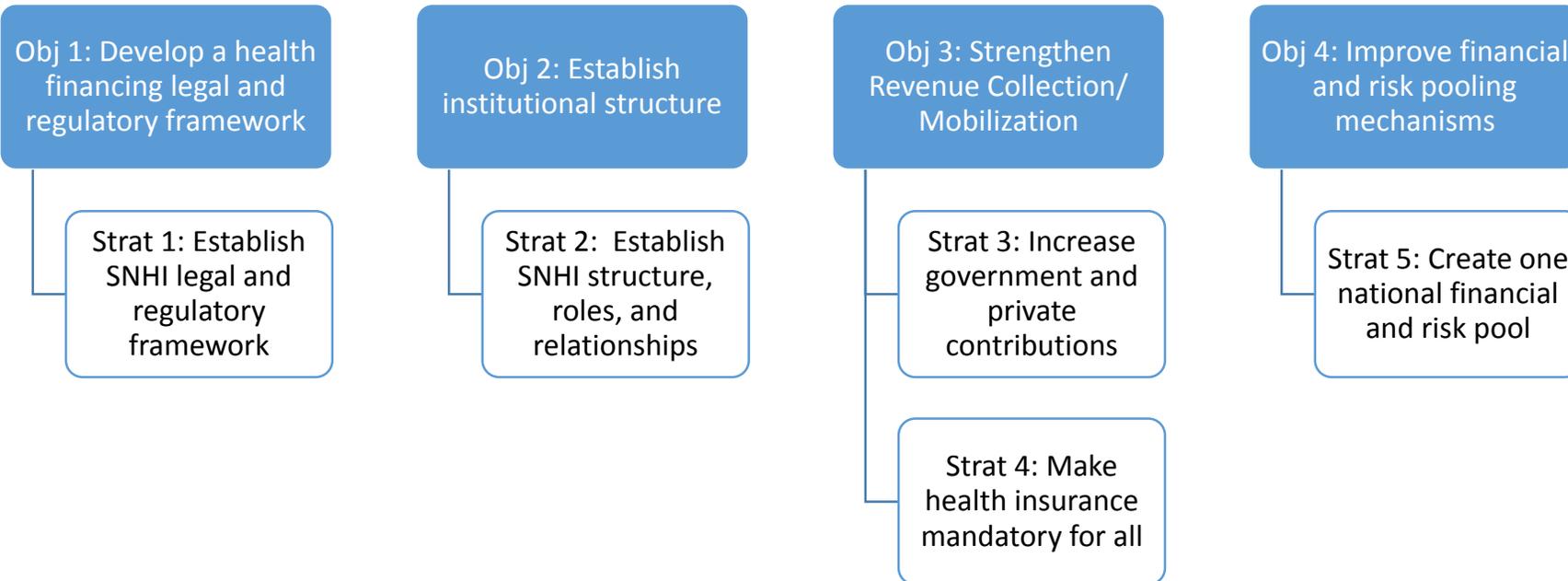
- Put in place a Single National Health Insurance program that will enable all Tanzanian residents to access appropriate and affordable health care at the time of need

## Goal

- To enable equitable access to affordable and cost-effective quality care and financial protection in case of ill health, according to a nationally defined minimum benefit package

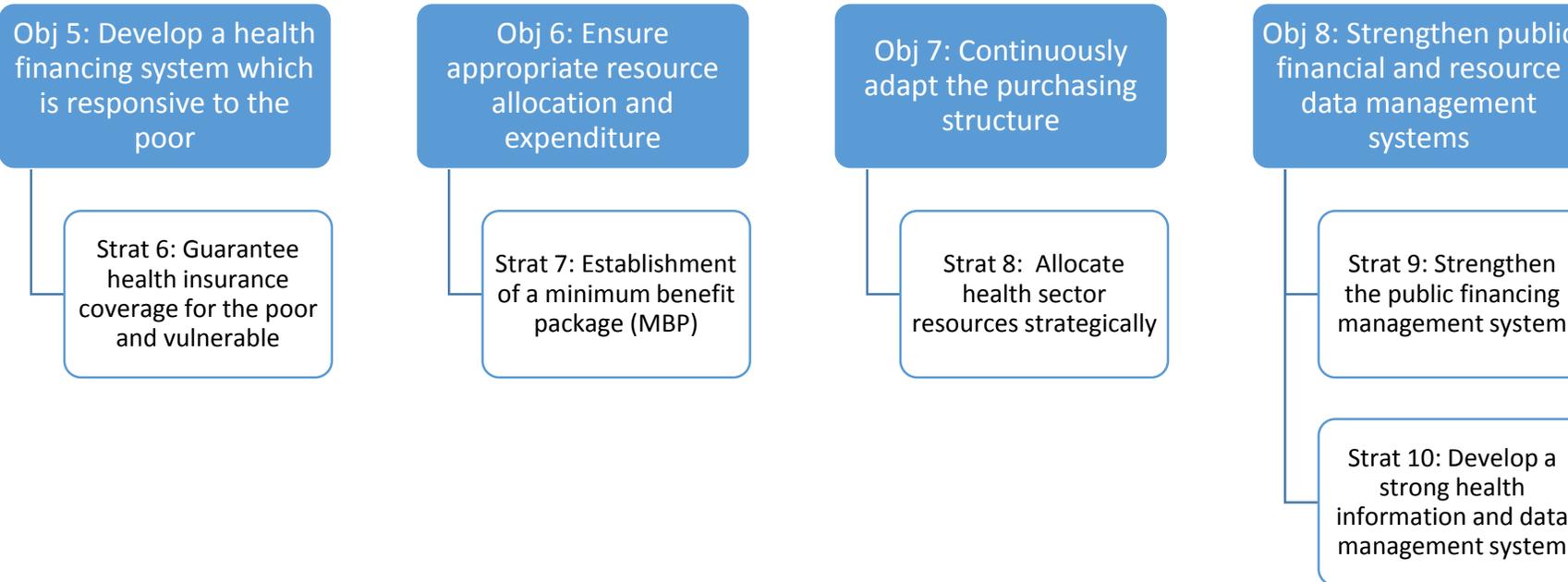


# Objectives & Strategies





# Objectives & Strategies





# Financing Universal Health Coverage



1. Implementation of Tanzania Health Financing Strategy will make it feasible through establishment of Single National Health Insurance (SNHI);
2. Financial resources (existing and new sources) will be enhanced;
3. Political will is supportive to Universal Health Care;
4. The proposed reforms are implemented (Establishment of Health Regulatory Authority, Creation of Single National Health Insurance);
5. Enhance existing Financing sources:
  - Government Budget
  - Development Partners



# Conclusion



- There is no single way of reaching UHC, different reforms can give path towards it;
- Government subsidies for the poor and vulnerable is important;
- Needs to learn from each other, a lot has been done;
- Sharing experience and progress is a better way of understanding your system achievement and failure.

Thank you for listening