

UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL ON HEALTH

WHAT ARE THE UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS?

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs) are a set of global goals that aim to **end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities and tackle climate change**, while ensuring that **no one is left behind**. The UN SDGs serve as a framework to guide global and national action and consider the **economic, social and environmental** dimensions of sustainable development.

As part of the 2030 sustainable development agenda, there are **17 goals** as well as specific targets to be achieved over 15 years (2015-2030). The UN SDGs were adopted by world leaders in September 2015 and seek to build on the Millennium Development Goals and complete what these did not achieve.



LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND – AT THE CORE OF THE 2030 AGENDA

The UN SDGs pledge to leave no one behind, with a vision of a “just, equitable, tolerant, open and socially inclusive world in which the needs of the most vulnerable are met” and “a world in which every country enjoys sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and decent work for all”.

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



WHAT IS THE UN SDG ON HEALTH ABOUT?

The third UN SDG is about **ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages** – an essential component of sustainable development. One of the targets of the health goal is to **achieve universal health coverage (UHC), including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all**.

WHAT IS UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE?

Universal health coverage is where **“everyone has access to quality health services that they need without risking financial hardship from paying for them”**.
World Health Organization

WHAT IS EPF ADVOCATING FOR?



The reduction of health inequalities, by promoting sustainable and patient-centred universal access to healthcare



EU Member States to implement equity of access and universal health coverage for all patients in the EU, through a detailed roadmap for UN SDG implementation, supported by accountable and robust monitoring mechanisms



Common standards for basic access to quality healthcare and services across the EU and improved measurement frameworks



A transparent, inclusive and collaborative working process for the implementation of universal health coverage



Inter-sectoral action for health and international collaboration



WHAT'S REQUIRED TO REACH THE UN SDG ON HEALTH AND UHC?

Targets need to be accompanied by good policy design, governance structures and adequate financing to achieve results. EPF's Roadmap on universal health coverage identifies the challenges that need to be addressed and proposes political steps and actions in the form of recommendations that EU decision-makers and Member States need to take in order to achieve universal health coverage for all patients in the EU by 2030.

ACHIEVING THE GOAL ON HEALTH AND UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE WILL ULTIMATELY SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIFE AND CARE OF PATIENTS



WHO'S RESPONSIBLE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UN SDGs?

While the UN SDGs are not legally binding, governments are expected to establish national frameworks for the achievement of the goals and have the responsibility to review and monitor the progress made in implementing the goals and targets. The European Commission has also committed itself to implementing the 2030 Agenda while supporting EU Member States in this task. However, for the goals to be reached, everyone needs to do their part: governments, the private sector and civil society.

WHAT CAN PATIENTS AND PATIENT ORGANISATIONS DO TO SUPPORT PROGRESS?

1.



Hold governments accountable for the implementation of the UN SDG on health and use EPF's Roadmap to engage with governments

2.



Raise awareness by organising annual multi-stakeholder meetings in national parliaments on the topic of universal health coverage

3.



Engage in the development of national UN SDG implementation strategies

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

EPF's Roadmap :
'Taking Action - A
Roadmap to Achieving
Universal Health Coverage
for All by 2030'



EPF



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