

STRATEGIC PURCHASING FOR PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

ABOUT SP4PHC

The Strategic Purchasing for Primary Health Care (SP4PHC) project aims to improve how governments purchase primary health care (PHC) services, with a focus on family planning (FP) and maternal, newborn, and child health (MNCH). The project is implemented by ThinkWell in collaboration with government institutions and local research partners in five countries: Burkina Faso, Indonesia, Kenya, the Philippines, and Uganda. SP4PHC is supported by a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The purchasing context in these countries is quite different; large national health insurance schemes cover most of the population in some countries, while ministries of health at the national and sub-national levels dominate the purchasing landscape in others. Across these different geographies, the project is working to strengthen schemes that are critical for improving the delivery of PHC and addressing the needs of the poor, while also improving alignment across different purchasing arrangements within the health system. Through its learning agenda, the project aims to generate and diffuse knowledge about strategic purchasing for PHC to influence policy and practice at the country, regional, and global levels.

SP4PHC

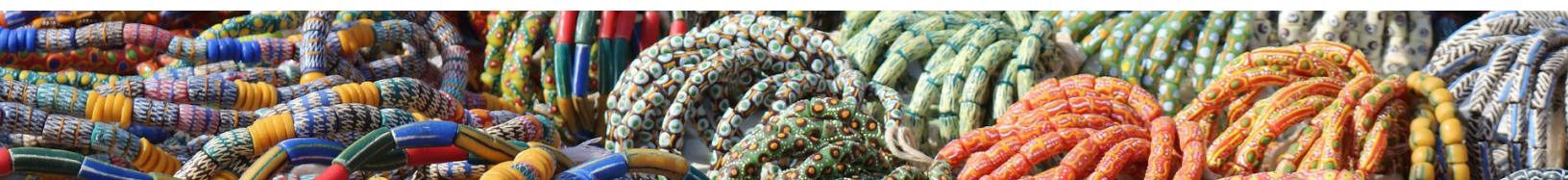
Strategic Purchasing for
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OUR APPROACH

- We implement strategies tailored to the country context.
- We have country-based teams in each of the five geographies, which are at the forefront of implementing country activities.
- We work with the public purchaser and other relevant government institutions in each of the countries to facilitate policy dialogue on strategic purchasing reforms.
- We use analytics to diagnose existing challenges, design potential solutions, and test the sustainability of those designs through pilot studies.

WHAT IS STRATEGIC PURCHASING?

As countries implement strategies to achieve universal health coverage, they are undertaking health financing reforms to mobilize more financing for health and ensure that available funds for health are used optimally and equitably. Strategic purchasing is linked to the second objective. Purchasing refers to how institutions controlling pooled funds – like ministries of health and health insurance agencies – allocate them to health care providers. Making purchasing strategic involves basing purchasing decisions on information about provider behavior and population health needs in order to improve health system performance in terms of equitable access, quality of care and financial protection.





SP4PHC is focused on improving the ways in which primary health care services are purchased by the Government of Indonesia (GOI), both through their national health insurance scheme, Jaminan Kesehatan Nasional (JKN), and other GOI mechanisms. The SP4PHC team in Indonesia is continuing to support the GOI to analyze and improve how JKN purchases PHC services from public and private providers and fostering the integration of telemedicine into PHC purchasing arrangements. Building on this, the team is currently supporting the GOI to set up and coordinate a catalytic learning platform, called the PHC Consortium. This will enable key national and subnational government, academic, and other partners to work together to diagnose and improve primary health care purchasing, with an increased focus on the subnational level and on performance management.

SUPPORT THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH'S CONSORTIUM TO STRENGTHEN INTEGRATED PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

SP4PHC has been supporting the GOI on its policy priority to transform how it finances and delivers PHC. At the MOH's request, SP4PHC is leading the coordination and management of a PHC Consortium - a platform where key national and subnational government, academic, and external stakeholders can diagnose and improve PHC performance and purchasing across Indonesia. Key activities include identifying the sources and types of funds that flow to facilities, potential bottlenecks, and usage of these funds, and building capacity and providing technical assistance for local institutions to support public financial management and financing, especially at the district and PHC facility levels. The Consortium will conduct such studies based on MOH priorities and inform evidence-based policy recommendations to improve PHC performance and outcomes.

IMPROVE HOW JKN PURCHASES PHC SERVICES

SP4PHC is supporting the MOH and BPJSK to analyze the performance of its JKN scheme and how it can be improved to ensure more effective coverage and greater sustainability. To this end, SP4PHC has strategically facilitated the reform of the JKN benefits package, including cost-benefit analyses for potential inclusion or exclusion of services (e.g., MNCH screening and immunizations) and scoping around a possible redistribution of JKN members from public to private PHC facilities. The team has also conducted a series of analyses to better understand the effect of JKN on OOP payments across provider and service types, geographies, and socioeconomic status. The team is currently helping to revise the JKN tariffs for capitation and case-based group payments and analyzing how special allocation funds affect maternal and infant mortality.

FOSTER INTEGRATION OF TELEMEDICINE AND DIGITAL HEALTH SERVICES INTO PURCHASING ARRANGEMENTS FOR PHC SERVICES

As digital health and telemedicine play a larger role in the Indonesian health system, SP4PHC is supporting the MOH and its Digital Transformation Office (DTO) to generate evidence on how the GOI can integrate telemedicine into its health system. The team is also designing and testing solutions around telemedicine within the DTO's regulatory sandbox launched in early 2023 and helping better understand how subnational authorities and facilities use data to make decisions.

For more information, visit <https://thinkwell.global/projects/sp4phc/> or write to SP4PHC@thinkwell.global.