THET’S COMMITMENTS TOWARDS UHC

THET believes that we can greatly improve the chances of achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) by actively championing new forms of development such as the health partnership approach and by sharing the experience gathered from our country programmes.

Last UHC day THET published a UHC Annual Report Card highlighting what we’d achieved over the year against the commitments we’d made. One year on we check on progress made and explore what further actions can be taken in the year ahead.

EVIDENCE

Commitment 1
THET will identify and disseminate evidence of how health partnerships are enhancing the training and education of health workers for the benefit of health systems and host countries.

THET dissemination of evidence
In February THET held its first Health Partnerships Symposium in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. The event supported the sharing of good practice amongst health partnership representatives from 14 countries in Africa, Asia and the UK with the participation of members of the Government of Tanzania, INGOs and the multilateral and donor communities.

In October the THET Annual Conference 2017, From National to Universal, was held in London providing insight into the power of global health collaboration and partnership working. The conference was held over three days, involved 350 delegates and 98 speakers from across sectors and was addressed via video message by the Director General of the WHO, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

HPS impact
In July THET published the HPS Impact Report, 2011-17, designed as a factual account of the achievements made to-date.

Commitment 2
THET will work with UK governments and the NHS to identify and disseminate evidence on how health partnerships benefit UK health workers, the NHS, and the UK as a whole.

From In Our Mutual Interest to The Transition from Aid
One year on and In Our Mutual Interest continues to prove influential. THET made progress in realising recommendations on scale-up of investment in health partnerships, nurturing a culture of global health learning and partnership quality. THET wrote The Transition from Aid which asks the question ‘when does aid end, and commercial opportunity begin?’ exploring the implications for UK engagement in middle-income country health systems.

Global Citizenship
In May the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow launched the Global Citizenship Report for Scotland. THET contributed to the development of the report, which addressed the common challenges of global health work and provided evidence of the mutual benefits to individuals and the Scottish NHS. THET continued to work with the Scottish Global Health Collaborative to support the realisation of the report’s recommendations.

Commitment 3
THET will work with DFID, LMIC governments, the World Health Organization (WHO) and other organisations to explore how THET’s experience can inform Universal Health Coverage strategy and implementation.

WHO
THET supported the Workforce 2030 strategy and promoted the health partnership model as a vehicle for scaling-up UHC actions. To this end, THET participated in both the World Health Assembly in Geneva in May and led a side event and an official session at the HRH Global Health Forum in Dublin in November.

Ministries of Health
This year, THET has continued to strengthen our advisory roles to Ministries of Health. In particular THET has worked with both the Tanzanian and Zambian Ministries to review national plans and provide advice to health system strengthening programmes for district and regional health services, as well as Health Technology Management.

Commitment 4
THET will look for opportunities to replicate this approach through south-south partnerships exploring the role middle-income countries can play in the development of low-income and fragile states.

South-South
THET’s Symposium in Dar es Salaam stimulated the development of a network of mental health partnerships between Uganda, Tanzania and Ghana to support sharing and learning. In Tanzania, THET’s programme focus on community health workers has led to exchanges with THET’s Ethiopia programme.

SCALE UP

HPS IMPACT

“The HPS has proven itself to be an important vehicle for helping poor countries to improve their health systems. In 2011, we set a target to train 13,000 overseas health workers. By 2015, 38,701 had been trained. By 2017, and following a two year extension of the scheme awarded by my successor Justine Greening, 84,000 health workers have been trained, many of whom have gone on to train others.”

Rt Hon Andrew Mitchell MP
Commitment 5
As ‘proof of concept’ is achieved for the health partnership approach THET will seek further government funding to take the HPS to the next level.

HPS Evaluation response
THET continued to address the recommendations included in the HPS Evaluation Synthesis Report conducting social inclusion and gender studies to deepen THET’s understanding of how gender inequality and social exclusion can affect efforts to enhance human resource capacity and skills or improve people’s access to and use of services. THET also developed a simplified partnership health check to support health partnerships to improve the way that they work.

The health partnership movement
In July DFID granted an Accountable Grant extension to the HPS until February 2019 to sustain partnership momentum with a particular focus on sustainability, scale-up and ensuring accessibility to the poor, vulnerable and most marginalised groups. A successor programme to HPS was announced in October the DFID Minister of State the Rt Hon Alistair Burt MP at the THET Annual Conference 2017.

Commitment 6
Official development assistance (ODA) has catalysed an enormous scale up of transformative health partnerships. THET will unlock funding to match ODA commitment and so deliver the step change we need to achieve Universal Health Coverage.

Africa Grants Programme
During 2017 the Africa Grants Programme (AGP), funded by Johnson and Johnson and managed by THET, supported the training of health workers in LMICs. In September, a second round of the AGP was announced. Projects under this programme operate within LMICs in Africa and focus on strengthening the healthcare workforce in surgical and anaesthetic care and community healthcare.

THET’S UHC ACTION PLAN FOR 2018

Commitment 1
THET will identify and disseminate evidence of how health partnerships are enhancing the training and education of health workers for the benefit of health systems and host countries.
THET will research and write a new policy report exploring how the UK can contribute towards building the global health workforce of the future and move from competition to collaboration.

Commitment 2
THET will work with UK government and the NHS to identify and disseminate evidence on how health partnerships benefit UK health workers, the NHS as well as the UK as a whole.
THET will work towards realising the recommendations set-out in its new discussion paper, The Transition from Aid and will continue to progress In Our Mutual Interest’s recommendations.

Commitment 3
THET will work with DFID, LMIC governments, WHO and other organisations to explore how THET’s experience can inform Universal Health Coverage strategy and implementation.
Using THET’s position as an NGO in Official Relations with WHO, THET will support WHO’s increasing focus on partnership working as a means to delivering training and education.

Commitment 4
THET will look for opportunities to replicate this approach through south-south partnerships exploring the role middle-income countries can play in the development of low-income and fragile states.
THET will encourage further south-south partnership working between our priority countries and will capture learning from HPS to explore how to encourage south-south working in future health partnership programmes.

Commitment 5
As ‘proof of concept’ is achieved for the health partnership approach THET will seek further UK government funding to take the HPS to the next level.
THET will disseminate HPS learning and practical advice to influence the quality of the growing number of programmes delivered by organisations new to development.

Commitment 6
Official development assistance (ODA) has catalysed an enormous scale up of transformative health partnerships.
THET will unlock funding to match ODA commitment and so deliver the step change we need to achieve Universal Health Coverage.
THET will champion the health partnership approach to a diverse range of donors to seek funding for UHC programmes.