



## **PLENARY SESSION 2**

**MAKING HEALTH FINANCING FOR UHC SAFE**

## | BACKGROUND

The world has advanced towards UHC, but not fast enough. More than half the world's population still does not have access to a basic package of health services, and more than 100 million individuals annually are impoverished due to high out-of-pocket (OOP) spending. Political commitment is the first step to mobilize more funding. Health can be a winning argument to raise more revenues in a pro-health and pro-poor manner. But countries also need to achieve more health for the money, i.e. to use the funds efficiently and equitably. It is essential to encourage and learn from new approaches, such as those involving digital, technological, financial and social innovations to raise and use funds for UHC. Progress requires consolidating and expanding existing strategies that reflect principles of good practice, while managing the political as well as technical challenges to implementation. The SAFE (Sustainable, Adequate, Fair, Efficient) approach to health financing offers useful guidance for the way forward.

## | OBJECTIVES

The plenary session will introduce the subtheme and set the stage for the following parallel sessions by (a) conveying key technical messages on health financing; (b) framing a debate among high-level panelists representing different stakeholders and thematic viewpoints, and (c) eliciting reactions and responses from the audience.



Moderator

## Kara Hanson

*Professor*

London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine  
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Kara Hanson is Professor of Health System Economics at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. She has over 30 years' experience working on health system financing and organisation in low- and middle-income countries. Her research has addressed resource mobilisation and strategic purchasing, the role of the private sector in health systems in low- and middle-income countries and the economics of malaria and malaria control interventions. She has led a number of large multi-country research programmes and consortia, including RESYST, a DFID-funded research programme consortium. She is co-chair of the Lancet Global Health Commission on Financing Primary Health Care, and of the UHC2030 Transition and Sustainability Working Group.