



The ILO Turin Centre's facilities

Located in an attractive park on the banks of the River Po, the Centre's campus provides a congenial environment in which to live and study.

It contains 21 pavilions with fully equipped modern classrooms, conference halls and meeting rooms fitted out for multilingual simultaneous interpretation, a computer laboratory, and a computerized documentation centre linked to various data banks.

The campus has 287 study/bedrooms, all with private bathrooms, telephones and cable television. It also has:

- a reception desk open 24 hours a day;
- a restaurant, a self-service canteen and a coffee lounge, all catering for international dietary needs;

- a bank;
- a travel agency;
- a laundry service;
- a post office;
- an internet point;
- a recreation room;
- facilities for outdoor and indoor sports;
- an infirmary.

Social events are regularly held both on and off campus, so that participants from different cultural backgrounds can make the most of the stimulating international climate.

For further information, please contact:

International Training Centre of the ILO

Social Protection Programme

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Social health insurance

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ITC 
International Training Centre

www.itcilo.org

Social health insurance



Background

This two-week course, delivered annually by the International Training centre of the ILO, has evolved constantly throughout the last ten years. This allowed for adapted knowledge transfer on the changes, reforms and strategies developed to enhance the management of social insurance schemes and developed to provide timely access to quality health services aiming towards universal coverage of the population in each country.

At national level, social health insurance contributes to the improvement of the health status, of wider access to health care and sound financing of health services. In many countries, under-funding and bad management of health services lead to dissatisfaction with the quality and quantity of the health services provided by public systems. In other countries, user fees are a major impediment to access to health care. Social health insurance schemes are part of the reforms of health systems.

On an international level, the UN Chief Executives Board (CEB) grouping the heads of UN agencies, committed in April 2009 to decisive and urgent multilateral action to address the global crisis - deploying all UN resources and capacities to rapid and effective responses. An agreement was reached on nine joint initiatives. The sixth initiative is the Social Protection Floor Initiative providing a minimum level of access to essential services and transfers to all in need of such protection in order not to fall into abject poverty. Universal access to health services is a key component of the social protection initiative.

The workshop will review the importance of social health insurance in crisis and post crisis situations, issues related to the feasibility of introducing a scheme and planning for implementation; designing the appropriate contribution levels and benefits, monitoring the provision of services and ensuring the sound financing of the scheme.

The workshop will be well documented so that participants can share with their institutions what they have learned.



Objectives

The aim of the workshop is threefold:

- to enhance the capacity of planners and managers to design, implement and manage a social health insurance scheme,
- to increase understanding of the financial aspects of health insurance,
- to develop an international perspective on social health insurance through comparative analysis, by sharing experiences from other countries and via interactive discussions.



Participants

The workshop is aimed at executives, managers, planners, financial officers and other responsible professionals of health care and health insurance schemes, both in the government and non-governmental sectors. The workshop primarily aims at addressing the needs of practitioners; however, persons in research functions within health systems also benefit from participation in this workshop.



Structure and contents

As part of the workshop, participants will engage in a comparative analysis of different national situations and in discussions on the options for health system reform. This analysis and discussion will be based on case studies of recent experiences in selected countries that have undertaken such reforms. Special attention will be devoted to financial aspects such as financial viability, controlling finances, provider payments, contributions and their impact, as well as

experiences with populations in formal and informal economies.

The contents consist of the following topics:

- The social protection floor initiative and access to health care
- Health care financing policy and social health insurance
- Designing a social health insurance scheme
- Providing health care benefits
- Financing social health insurance
- Administration and governance of social health insurance schemes
- Community-based health insurance



Methodology

An action-oriented, highly participative approach will be employed throughout the workshop, with particular attention paid to sharing international experience with a view to adaptation and practical application.

- Training methods will combine lectures and discussions, case studies, open space discussions and group work.
- A visit to a health insurance scheme will allow participants on-site questions and answers on operational issues.

Cost of participation

The cost of participation, excluding international air travel, is 3,250 Euros (course fees 1,570 Euros and participant subsistence 1,680 Euros) payable in advance by the participant's sponsoring organization. This covers: tuition fees; the use of training facilities and support services; training materials and books; accommodation and full board at the Centre's campus; a lump sum for incidental expenses; emergency medical care and insurance.

Applications

Applications to participate in the workshop, using the attached nomination form, should be addressed to:

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no later than 1st of February 2010

A nomination letter from the sponsoring institution, indicating how the candidate will be financed is also essential.

As an organization dedicated to fundamental human rights and social justice, the ILO is taking a leading role in international efforts to promote and realize gender equality. In line with this ILO focus, women candidates are especially welcome.