

8th Global Patients Congress

24 - 26 May, 2018



International Alliance of
Patients' Organizations

A global voice for patients

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Rwanda

A new universal health
coverage

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Our Objective 2018-20

- Rwanda set-up its community-based health insurance programme (Mutuelle de Santé) around 2001
- Mutuelle de Santé now covers more than 90% of the population, and has reduced out-of-pocket spending for health from 28% to 12% of total health expenditure
- It is a rare example on the continent

Background

- Rwanda saw a devastating genocide in 1994
- The Nation was traumatised. 12 million population, 80% rural based
- Similarities existed to that of post 2nd World War Europe
- Health was seen as unifying factor, and a universal health coverage a positive democratization force for social cohesion and equity

Good governance

- After peace and security, good governance comes first
- The post-genocide government of national unity and the people set about ensuring that good governance principles are institutionalised and promoted in national culture
- Transparency International Corruption Index and the Ibrahim Index of African Governance reveal Rwanda is ranked amongst the top 50 best governed countries out of 194 UN member States!

Patient engagement in health

- Rwanda believes health is fundamental human right, echoing WHO "...the highest attainable standard of health as a fundamental right of every human being."
- Rwanda holds true Human rights are universal and inalienable; indivisible; interdependent and interrelated.
- The State wants to promote, respect and protect the right to health
- This it does by having the health system and decision making participatory, transparent and accountable
- The State has created an enabling environment for patients

Success factors

- The State saw UHC as an investment and linked it to SDG 2030
- They found local low-cost solutions and increased community ownership
- They led training and capacity building programmes for local communities on health care governance, management and planning
- Find international partnerships and new donors like Gates, World Bank and others

Challenges

- Slow economic growth
- The great lakes region is still unstable. National security expenditure competes with health expenditure
- Great need for expenditure on health infrastructure
- Acute need for health workforce strengthening
- Super critical need for essential medicines that are quality and safe

Contact us

Please visit our website to find out more:

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Thank you!