

SBO Network on Health Expenditures: Next Steps

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Senior Budget Officials' Network on Health Expenditures

- **Purpose:** To support the fiscal sustainability of public health and long-term care through :
 - a) addressing the consequences of increasing health and long-term care expenditures, in particular for economic growth, public finances and solidarity arrangements; and
 - b) identifying appropriate solutions for the challenges faced by member countries through international comparison and exchange of good country practices.
- **Approach:** The Network aims to support member countries by providing analytical tools to compare institutional and governance arrangements, indicators of outputs and outcomes, and case studies and analysis presenting good national practice as well as successful implementation. It will draw on work from the OECD Health, Economic Policy and Public Governance Committees in order to promote cross-sectoral discussion – in particular linking health economics with public finance – and a more common understanding of challenges and solutions.
- **Format:** The Network is a sub-body of the OECD Senior Budget Officials Working Party, and will bring together health budget examiners, with close co-ordination with the OECD Health Committee.

Senior Budget Officials

Parliamentary Budget Officials

Public Private Partnership Officials

Performance and Results Officials

Health Budget Officials

Financial Management Officials

Latin American SBO

Middle East/
North African SBO

Asian SBO

African SBO (CABRI)

Eastern European SBO

Proposed scope of work for the SBO Network on Health Expenditures

I. Institutional arrangements for health care: institutional characteristics and health system performance/efficiency, including financing arrangements (both public and private) and their consequences for governments' ability to control health care expenditures, including through the use of market mechanisms.

- Mapping health financing and decision-making arrangements
- Decentralisation and fiscal federalism
- Forecasting health expenditures

II. Health and long term care expenditure control strategies: fiscal strategies for estimating, monitoring, and controlling health expenditures, including through regulation of third-party payers.

- Macroeconomic context
- Fiscal space for health
- Roles and tools of Ministries of Finance
- Consequences of microeconomic approaches to improving health system performance (drawing on the Value for Money work of the Health Division)

Possible longer term deliverables

Within two years of launching the Network, analysis discussed and facilitated by the Network could be used to support the following possible deliverables:

- Report analysing the fiscal outcomes of different financing arrangements for health and long term care systems, with country case studies illustrating specific issues and finance strategies for clusters of countries defined by common health financing and delivery arrangements (*prepared jointly by GOV and ELS*)
- Report on country use of fiscal arrangements and budget mechanisms for managing health expenditure, with country case studies illustrating specific issues and approaches. (*Prepared jointly by GOV and ELS*)
- High-level meeting to raise awareness of issues and to develop elements of a consensus for action.
- Increased engagement with non-member countries, including through expansion of participation in the SBO Network on Health Expenditures and through discussions of Health issues in SBO regional networks

- What are Member countries' top priorities for analysis in this area?
- Where are your reform / decision-making bottlenecks? (e.g. analysis, data, international benchmarking, political awareness, co-ordination, domestic dialogue *etc.*)
- What deliverables would you like to see from the SBO Network on Health Expenditures?