

# Japan's Global Health Strategy Outline

Health is an essential basis for development and economic policies, and is fundamental to human security, of which Japan has been a strong proponent. The COVID-19 pandemic renewed our awareness of global health as a global public issue that should be viewed from a broader perspective, including from the economy, society and security, and from living in harmony with the planet. Enhanced global health not only advances recovery from the pandemic crisis, it promotes a sustainable and inclusive global society. With this recognition, Japan will continue to take a lead in the global health agenda, from a broad perspective of diplomacy, economy and security, by formulating and implementing its Global Health Strategy which focuses on the following two main policy goals.

## Policy Goals

- To contribute to developing resilient Global Health Architecture for international health security and strengthening PPR (Prevention, Preparedness, and Response) for public health crises;
- To accelerate the efforts to achieve more resilient, equitable, and sustainable Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

## Guiding principles

● **Strengthening Global Health Architecture** To realize adequate prevention and preparedness in peace time as well as rapid response in emergency, strengthening international coordination and finance mechanisms is essential.

● In accelerating its efforts to achieve UHC, the followings should be taken into consideration:

- **Health systems strengthening at the country level** To meet the demand for health services, based on country's ownership, by ensuring equitable access and prioritizing health promotion and PHC with empowered community
- **Resilience** that enables health systems to maintain essential service provision while responding to public health crises, including early detection of health threats, surge capacity and financing for emergency response.
- **Equity** to eliminate the gaps in access to health services and health outcomes by strengthening financial protection, and by meeting the specific needs of vulnerable groups, women, youth, minorities and others.
- **Sustainability** to make health systems adaptable to changes in medium to long-term such as demographic change, shift in burden of diseases, innovative technology and climate change, and to ensure sustainable financing and human resources for health.

● **Cross-sectoral approach** Above-mentioned actions should be made in alignment with those in related sectors such as education, water and sanitation (WASH), nutrition, population and development, gender equality and the empowerment of women.

### ● **Global Health Architecture**

- Lead and facilitate discussion on global coordination mechanisms among stakeholders, including finance and health authorities, and related international organizations.
- Contribute to establishing an effective international financing mechanism as well as international norm-setting, including a new international instrument, on PPR.
- Continue advocating for UHC as a foundational investment for people's better health and enhanced PPR.
- Engage in international initiatives such as 100 Days Mission to fight against cross-border health threats.

### ● **Partnership with multilateral organizations**

- Provide financial contributions and technical support to multilateral organizations to leverage each organization's expertise and capacity for maximum outcomes.
- Foster experts of global health in Japan and to promote deployment of Japanese experts and professionals in international organizations.
- Set up a task force to materialize the establishment of a WHO's "UHC Center" in Japan to contribute to promote UHC globally.

### ● **Bilateral cooperation**

- Utilize various schemes (grant aid, ODA loan, technical cooperation etc.) and encourage private investments to deliver effective outcomes to support partner governments' efforts, including those toward achieving UHC.
- Strengthen "partnership" initially with Ghana, India, and Viet Nam.

### ● **Multi-stakeholder engagement**

- Promote multi-stakeholder engagement with CSOs, private sectors, academia and research institutions to strengthen collaboration and to utilize specialized knowledge and lessons learnt gained through implementation.
- Facilitate private sectors to participate in international public procurement processes.
- Measure the social impact of investments by private sector in global health.

### ● **Response to various challenges in global health**

- Take necessary measures to respond to new and various challenges such as: epidemiological transition expected alongside the population aging, One Health Approach including AMR, digital solutions to improve health service delivery, and the impact of climate change on health.

### ● **Cross-sectoral approach**

- Promote cross-sectoral approach in order to address a wide range of factors that influence health, known as the social determinants of health (SDH).
- Align health interventions with programs in other related sectors such as education, water and sanitation (WASH), nutrition, population and development, gender equality and empowerment of women to promote synergies.