

The World Health Organization Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean in partnership with the Social Research Center of the American University in Cairo (SRC/AUC) is pleased to announce the piloting of a workshop on health equity and human rights that is expected to take place at SRC/AUC New Cairo Campus, Cairo, Egypt on 2–6 November, 2014. Based on the results of the piloting, the course is expected to roll-out in December 2014.

The course illustrates that the human rights based approach is central to strengthening health governance, thus improving equitable access to quality health services, with emphasis on the marginalized and the vulnerable, while strengthening health systems and actively contributing to the progressive realization of universal health coverage.

This 5-day introductory training course will equip participants with the knowledge, skills and tools to incorporate a human rights-based approach in their health-related work, in order to promote health, equity and social justice.

The course encompasses the following four blocks:

Block 1: What is the human rights-based approach to health and how does it link to health equity discourse?

Block 2: How to assess the realization of the right to health and health inequities

Block 3: How to move from health policies and actions to policies and multisectoral actions for public health

Block 4: How to enhance accountability

The course aims at strengthening participants' contributions to their respective national public health response through:

- raising health and human rights as a value in approaching public health and improving equity in health sector response
- equipping participants with skills to apply a human rights-based approach in different settings and respective fields of work
- enabling participants to integrate human rights principles, values and elements in respective public health policies, planning and programmes.

Specific skills to be strengthened by the course are:

- analyzing health issues through a human rights lens
- running a risk-vulnerability and equity analysis to detect gaps in the realization of the right to health, identifying entry points for change and informing policies and actions
- selecting indicators, setting targets and monitoring progress in progressive realization of the right to health and health equity
- involving different sectors and different players while effectively managing tension and conflict
- promoting good governance through accountability and managing conflict of interest

Participants

This course is a multidisciplinary training that caters to the different needs of those advocating, setting health-related policies, designing plans for health delivery, as well as monitoring performance and ensuring health governance. These include legislators, policy-makers, parliamentarians, civil society actors, health advocates, rights defenders, health planners, academics and public health monitors and evaluators.

The course targets mid- to high-level participants that are likely to influence how policies are developed and how work is managed.