
Member States Information Session on the Economics of Health for All Global Strategy

05 June 2025
09:00 – 10:00 CET

Overview of the information session

Timing	Item	Presenter
09:00 – 09:10	Opening remarks	Kalipso Chalkidou , Director, Dept. Health Financing and Economics
09:10 – 09:30	Updates on the development process of the global strategy on the economics of health for all	Anna Vassal , Dept. Health Financing and Economics
09:30 – 09:55	Member States Perspectives / Q&A Session	Edith Patouillard , Dept. Health Financing and Economics Bruno Meessen , Dept. Health Financing and Economics
09:55 – 10:00	Closing and next steps	Kalipso Chalkidou , Director, Dept. Health Financing and Economics

Objectives of this information session

1. Provide updates on the development process of the global strategy on the economics of health for all (GSEHfA)
2. Share the outline of the EHfA Strategy – Draft 0
3. Collect Member States' **perspectives, comments and questions** to refine the GSEHfA draft 0

Inputs we are looking for:

- **Does the strategy represent the core objectives and mandate established in the resolution?**
- **Does the strategy include all the relevant directions for countries to achieve its objectives, considering current global guidance and resources in this space?**
- **Are there important actions that are missed under each direction?**

The Council

- Established by DG in November **2020**
- Aim to rethink how health for all is valued, measured, produced and distributed across the economy
- Final Council report “*Health for All – transforming economies to deliver what matters*”, launched in May 2023 at the 76th World Health Assembly
- 13 recommendations under 4 pillars



A new understanding on health and the economy, structured across a new framework for reorienting our economies to deliver Health for All, is built on four interrelated pillars (28).



<https://www.who.int/groups/who-council-on-the-economics-of-health-for-all>

 VALUING HEALTH FOR ALL

 FINANCING HEALTH FOR ALL

 INNOVATING FOR HEALTH FOR ALL

 STRENGTHENING PUBLIC SECTOR
CAPACITY FOR HEALTH FOR ALL

WHA77.13 Resolution on the Economics of health for all

3. REQUESTS the Director-General:

(1) to develop, in consultation with Member States and within available resources as appropriate, **a strategy on how to implement an economics of health for all approach, including priority actions** for Member States and other actors, for consideration by the Seventy-ninth World Health Assembly in 2026, through the Executive Board at its 158th session;

(2) to **develop and sustain a cross-cutting programme of work on economics and health for all**, within existing resources as appropriate, including strategic, normative, advocacy, technical, analytical and engagement components, within the WHO Health Finance and Economics programme area, including increasing the expertise and capacity of the Secretariat at all levels on economic issues and cross-cutting issues, including gender equality and contributing to the eradication of poverty, inter alia;

(3) to consider, as appropriate, the final report of the WHO Council on the Economics of Health for All, with relevance at national, regional and global levels, **to advance an economics of health for all approach**;

(4) to support **strengthening the capacity of national health authorities** with the aim to **better engage and negotiate with finance and other sectors**, towards an economics of health for all in national policies, and **negotiations with regional and global actors**;

(5) to provide **technical support** to countries on **domestic resource mobilization** and **other fiscally sustainable ways** to finance the progressive realization of the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health, including **financing universal health coverage and primary health care**, as well as addressing **broader social determinants of health**, and ensuring **health systems strengthening, preparedness and resilience**;

(6) to work with Member States, the Secretary-General of the United Nations and other relevant United Nations specialized agencies to define key messages on the economics of health for all and to bring them into the preparation **process of future United Nations conferences, as critically important components of sustainable development**;

(7) to **strengthen country offices' access to expertise to provide technical support**, at the request of Member States, to engage with finance and other sectors, towards economics of health for all in national policies, including through capacity-building via the WHO Academy and WHO collaborating centres;

(8) to **report** on the implementation of this resolution to the Seventy-ninth World Health Assembly in **2026**, through the Executive Board at its 158th session, and then to submit progress reports to the Eighty-first and Eighty-third World Health Assemblies in **2028** and **2030**, respectively.



World Health
Organization

SEVENTY-SEVENTH WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY
Agenda item 15.5

WHA77.13
1 June 2024

Economics of health for all

The Seventy-seventh World Health Assembly,

Having considered the consolidated report by the Director-General,¹

Recalling the Constitution of the World Health Organization, which recognizes that health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity, and that the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition;

Recalling also United Nations General Assembly resolution 70/1 (2015) and the commitments made to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner through the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular Goal 3 (Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages), including indicator 3.8.2 (Proportion of population with large household expenditures on health as a share of total household expenditure or income), as well as the pledge to leave no one behind;

Recalling further the political declaration of the high-level meeting on universal health coverage, entitled “Universal health coverage: expanding our ambition for health and well-being in a post-COVID world”, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly through resolution 78/4 (2023);

Also recalling the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the Global Framework on Chemicals – For a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste, and taking note of the Declaration on Climate and Health endorsed at the twenty-eighth Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, including by implementing a One Health approach, for their respective area of application;

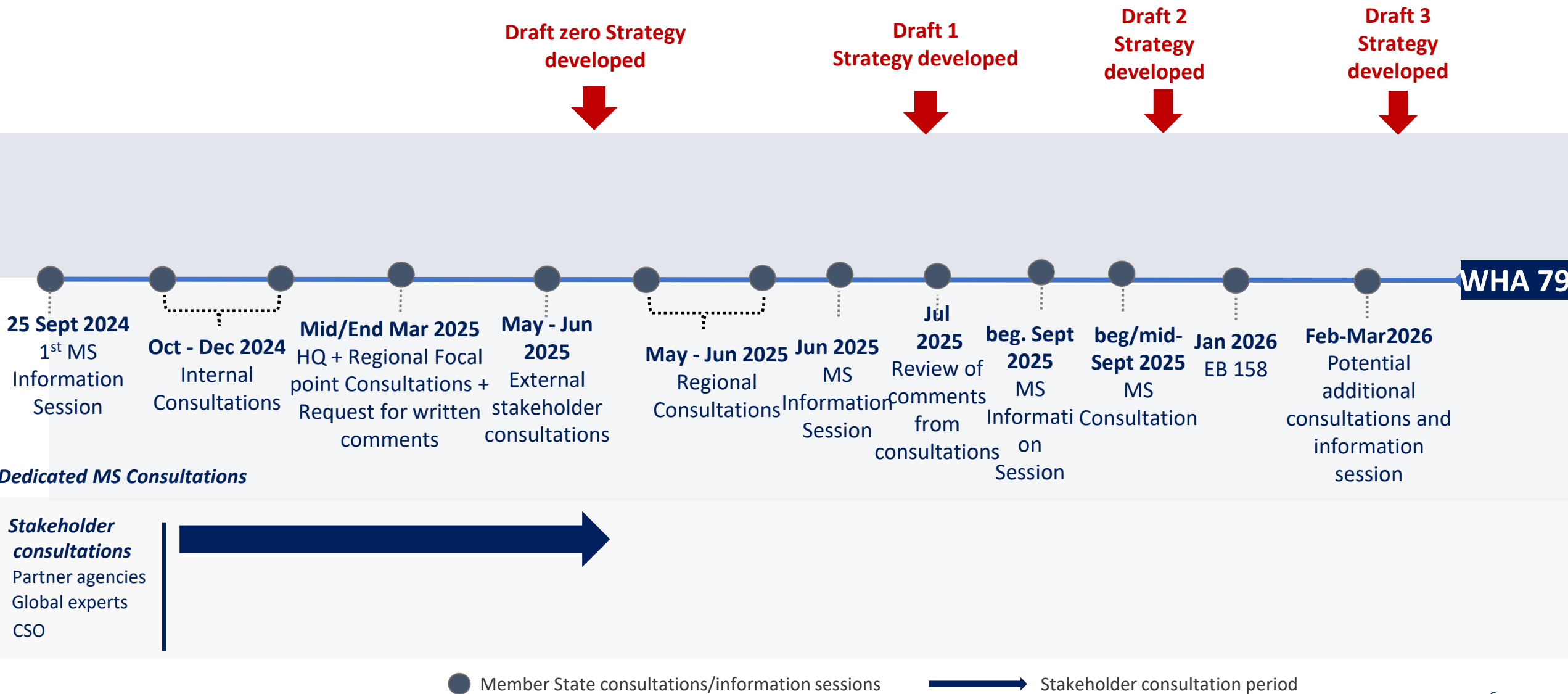
Further recalling the Thirteenth General Programme of Work, 2019–2025 and its strategic priorities, requiring a shift in the ways of working across health and other sectors and new partnerships and areas of collaboration;

Noting resolutions WHA58.33 (2005) on sustainable health financing, universal health coverage and social health insurance, WHA62.14 (2009) on reducing health inequities through action on the social determinants of health, WHA64.9 (2011) on sustainable health financing structures and universal coverage, WHA72.8 (2019) on improving the transparency of markets for medicines, vaccines, and other health products, WHA73.8 (2020) on strengthening preparedness for health emergencies: implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005), WHA74.6 (2021) on strengthening local

¹ Document A77/4.

[WHA77.13 Resolution on the Economics of health for all](#)

2026 Strategy development process and timeline (revised)



Updates



Strategy Draft 0 Content

Introduction

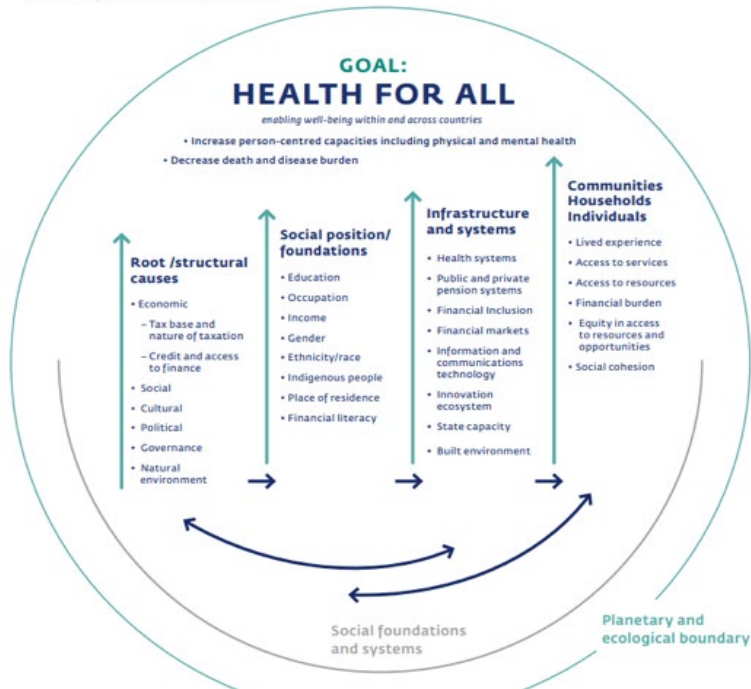
- Persistent inequalities challenge the achievements of Agenda 2030
 - Status of progress towards SDG3 – access and financial hardship, and other health-related goals
 - Contribution of health to poverty reduction
 - Contribution of health to economies, including in emergencies
- Interdependence between health and economic systems between and within countries

What's new in this global strategy?

- Transformative potential of an Economics of Health for All (EHfA) approach
 - EHfA shapes how economic systems influence health, and vice versa, providing a foundation for effective policy and action.
 - The EHfA recognizes economics as being essential to shaping and assessing policies that advance health and health equity.
 - It promotes coordinated actions across all sectors and levels of government and with non-government actors to develop and implement economic and health policies that mutually strengthen each other while minimizing bi-directional harm.
 - EHfA requires fundamental shifts for the long-term transformation of economic and health systems, but immediate actions guided by EHfA objectives can also make a difference, not just for today but also for future generations.

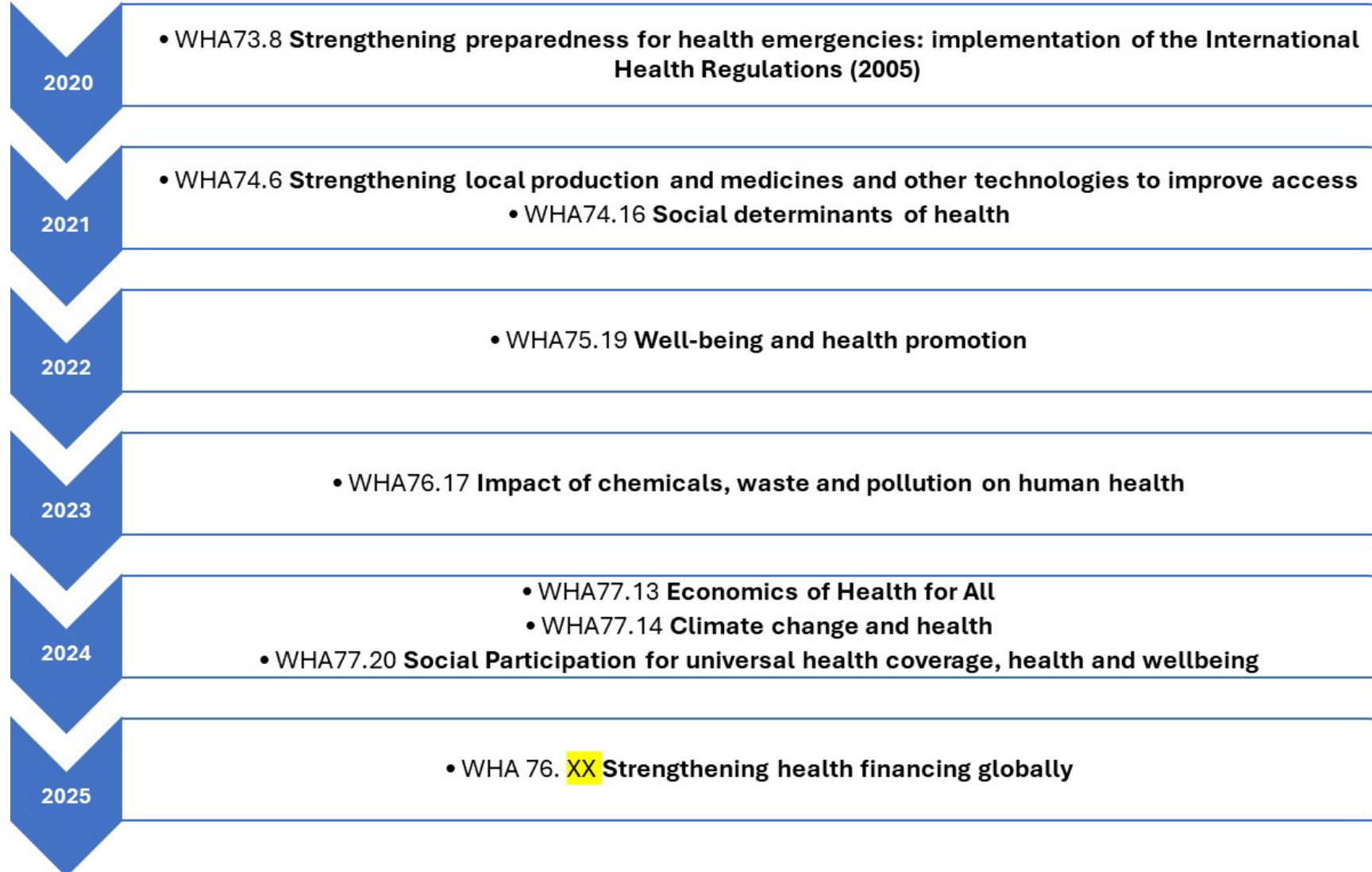
Foundations

FIGURE 9: The Council's preliminary framework for building up an economy for health



2020	Launch of a WHO global strategy on health, environment and climate change: the transformation needed to improve lives and well-being sustainably through healthy environments - to transform the way environmental risks to health are tackled, by accounting for health in all policies and scaling up disease prevention and health promotion.
2021	Coordination of 10 th Global Conference on Health Promotion to advance wellbeing and equity, cumulating in the Geneva Charter for Wellbeing.
	Launch of a multi-country initiative to address the social determinants of health equity, by rallying stakeholders to come together on a common approach.
2022	Creation of a programme of action on the Commercial determinants of health to strengthen the evidence base, develop tools and capacity, convene partnership and dialogue and raise awareness and advocacy.
2024	Publication of a Global framework for integrating wellbeing in public health utilizing a health promotion approach to foster development of wellbeing societies for all.
	Publication of a new Operational Framework for Monitoring the Social Determinants of Health Equity to provide countries with globally applicable and harmonized guidance for monitoring and using data for action to improve health equity.

Related WHA resolutions



Vision

“A world in which the economy serves health for all”

- EHfA envisions the economy as a **people-centred system**. Economic policies are designed with **sustainable health and wellbeing for all now and in the future** as a primary concern. Public policy looks **beyond average** measures to unveil disparities and are designed to reflect the **values of the population** they serve, ensuring that both public and private investments today secure a **healthy, sustainable future for the next generations**.

Guiding Principles

- People centred
- Social participation
- Equity
- Gender equality
- Country-led
- Evidence-informed
- Environmental sustainability

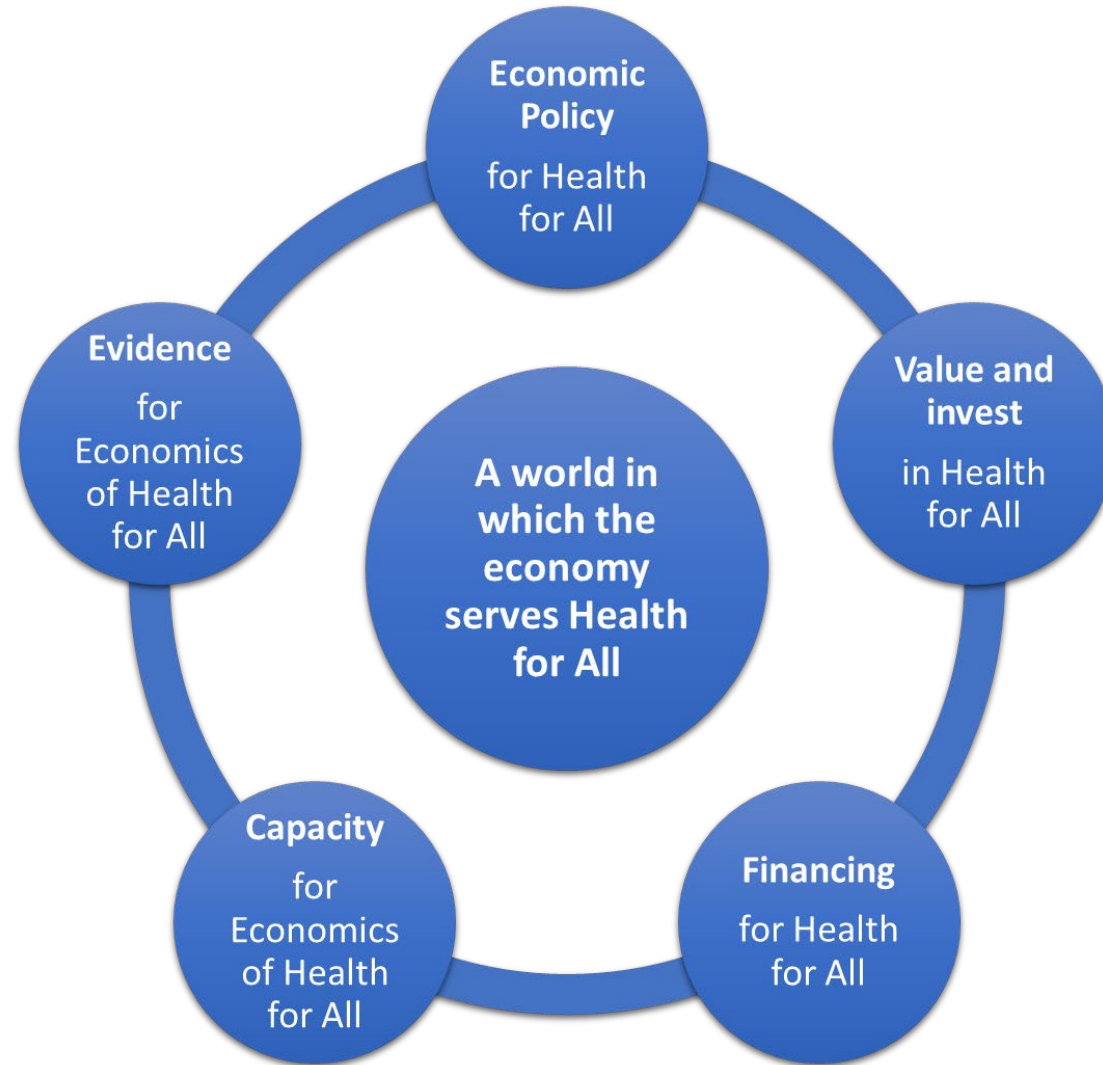
Audience

- All those in a position to incorporate HfA in national and global economic policy: heads of state, prime ministers, ministers and governmental officials at ministries of health, finance/treasury, economic planning/development, industry and other ministries and public institutions whose policies affect health and the determinants of health equity.
- The wide array of stakeholders who can play a role in driving change by promoting and adopting EHfA: citizens, civil society organizations, economic and statistical offices, think-tanks and academia, international organizations, development banks, aid actors, medias, networks, and private sector and industry representatives.

Objectives

- Orientate economic systems and institutions to the benefit of health and prosperity of populations
- Improve health and reduce health inequality by ensuring economic policies and investments value health.
- Empower countries to make informed policy choices and take concrete actions that consider both health and the economy.
- Coordinate global, regional and domestic health and economic actors behind the common goal of health and wellbeing for all.

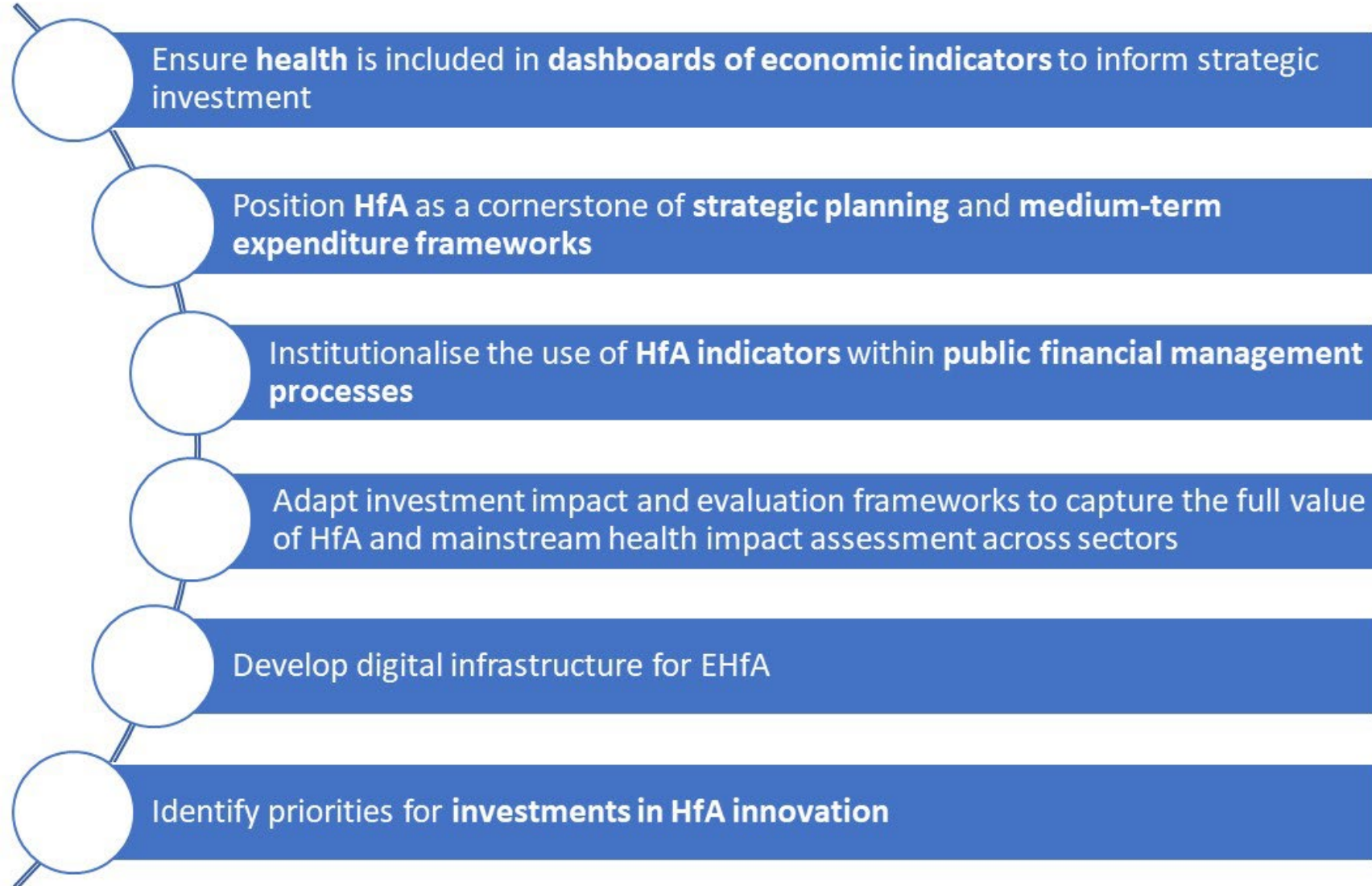
Five strategic directions



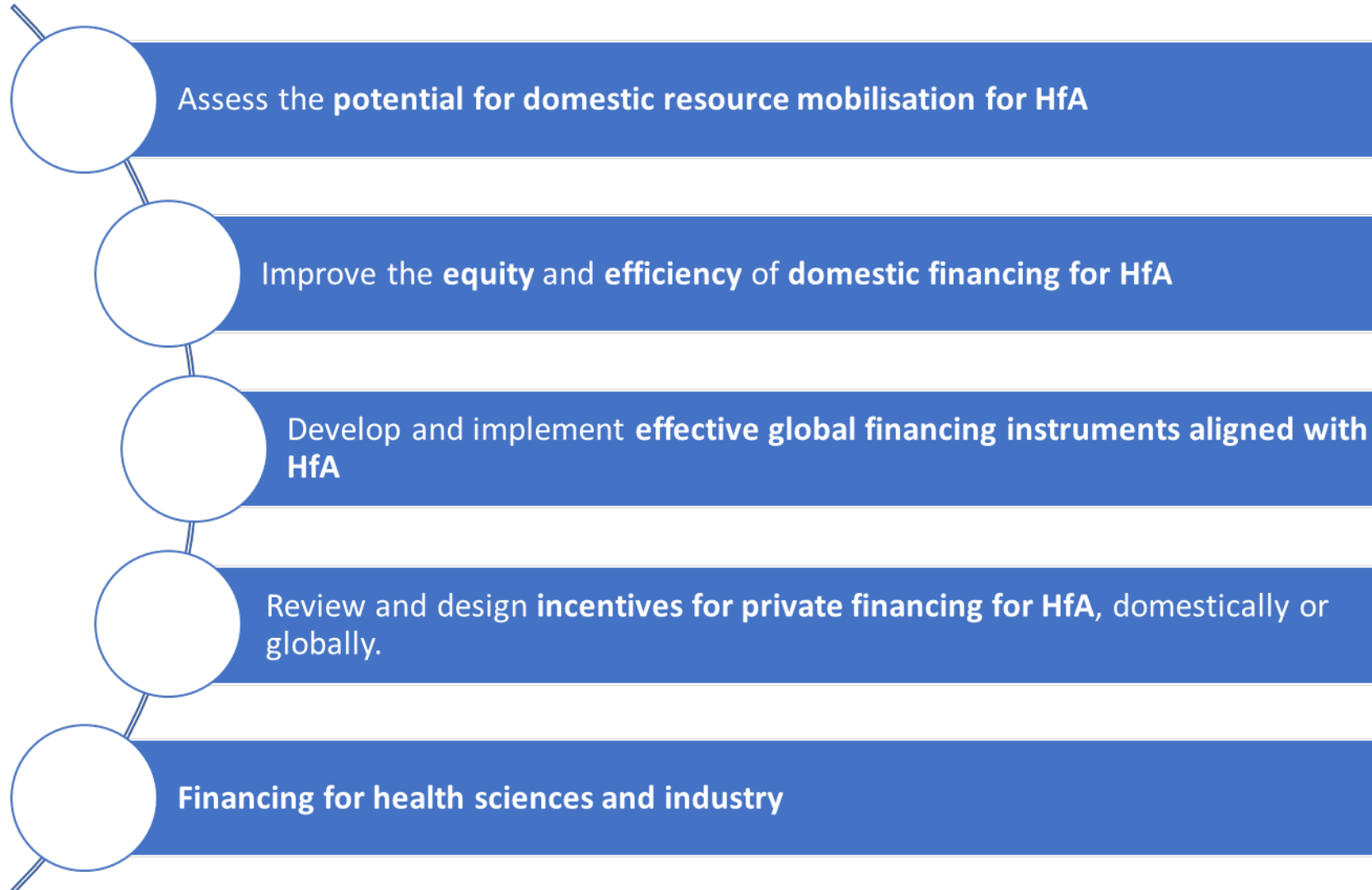
Economy policy for HfA



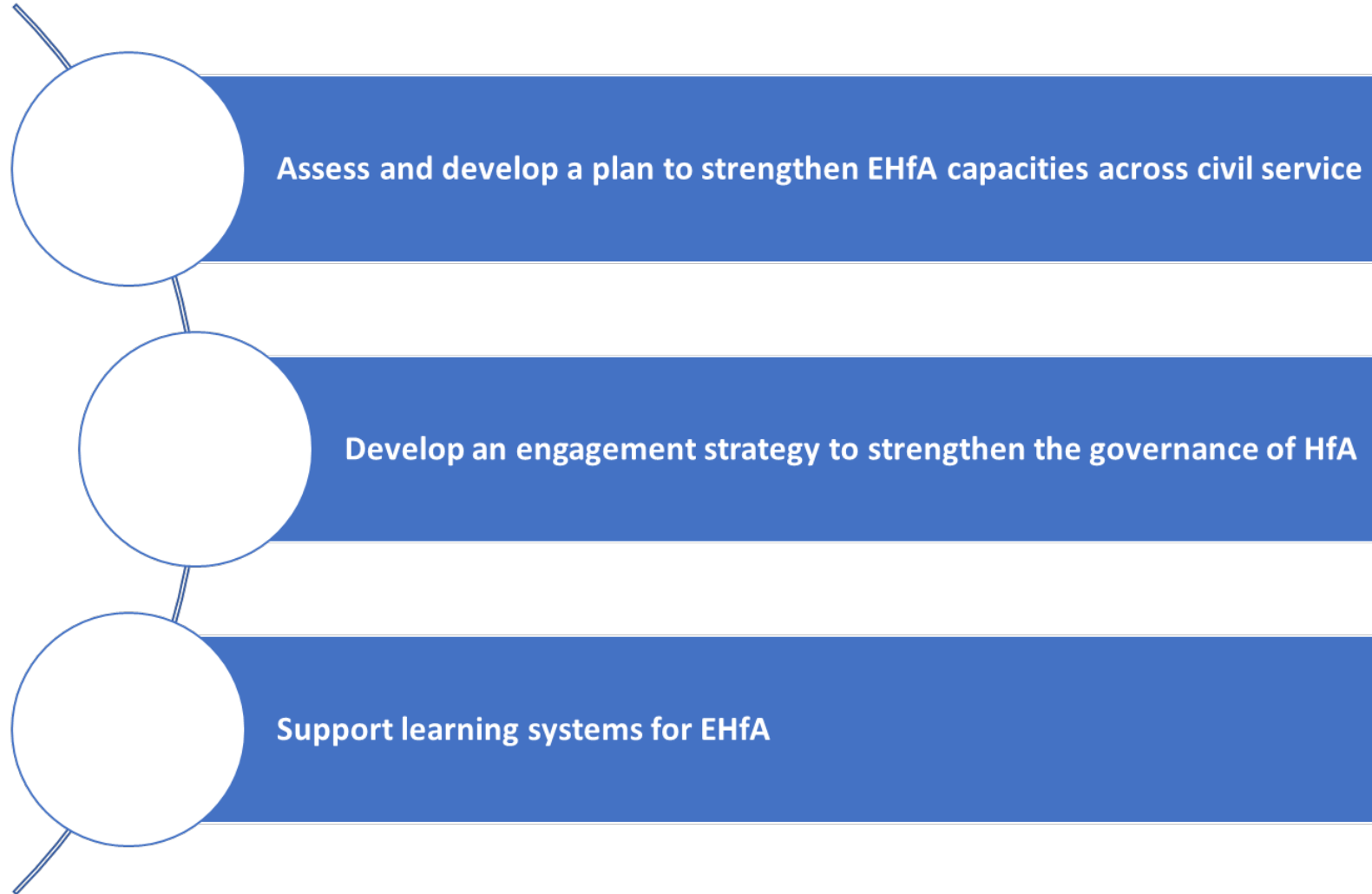
Value and invest in HfA



Financing for HfA



Capacity for EHfA



Evidence for EHfA



Implementation / priorities for WHO

- **Co-ordinate across WHO to work with MS to develop actions and assess capacities to implement EHfA.**
- **Establish a network of stakeholders working on economic policy, investment and financing.**
- **To develop relevant normative products.**