



Photo credit: Ayenew Haileselassie | Beshir Mohamed presents during the TOT session organized by the USAID Health Financing Improvement Program and Addis Ababa City Administration Health Bureau.

USAID Health Financing Improvement Program Assists in Transferring Health Care Financing Reform Implementation Training to Government Counterparts

Beshir Mohamed, head of the new Partnership and Cooperation Directorate in the Addis Ababa City Administration (AACAA) Health Bureau, is one of the faces of first-generation health care financing (HCF) reform institutionalization in Addis Ababa.

The USAID Health Financing Improvement Program (the Program) worked with the bureau to facilitate the creation of the new directorate which is responsible for HCF reform activities in the city administration. To further institutionalize reforms, the Program also supported the directorate to put in place capacity building arrangements so that the AACAA health bureau can conduct first-generation HCF reform implementation training without the involvement of implementing partners, including the Program. Until 2021, training on how to implement first-generation HCF reforms across Ethiopia had relied heavily on external technical support.

To transition the training role from the Program to local counterparts, the Program is assisting regional and city administration health bureaus to establish a pool of trainers in their localities. These trainers can be tapped through continuous professional development centers to train health facility finance staff, health facility

“From here on the health bureau will take over the trainings from the Program.”

– Beshir Mohamed, Head, AACAA Health Bureau, Partnership and Cooperation Directorate

USAID Health Financing Improvement Program Assists in Transferring Health Care Financing Reform Implementation Training to Government Counterparts

management committee members, and health facility governing board members on first-generation HCF reform implementation. An important aspect of this work is conducting training of trainers (TOT) sessions to develop the knowledge and training skills of individuals who will be members of these pools so they can cascade the training.

One such TOT session was held in July 2021. Beshir was one of 14 participants from Addis Ababa who participated in the session which was co-organized by the AACA Health Bureau and the Program. Participants at the training included staff from the AACA Health Bureau and Bureau of Finance, sub-city health offices, and the Yekatit 12 Medical College Hospital. The training covered training facilitation using the first-generation HCF reform training material produced by the Ethiopian Ministry of Health with technical support from the Program, and facilitation skills using training material fully developed by the ministry.

The AACA trainees, including Beshir, went on to use the knowledge and facilitation skills gained during the TOT to successfully cascade first-generation HCF reform implementation training to more than 200 health facility finance staff and sub-city HCF focal persons in 2021 and 2022.

The Program has also organized TOT sessions in Dire Dawa, Harari, Oromia, and SNNP in collaboration with local health bureaus. These events trained 90 staff from regional and city administration health bureaus, universities, continuing professional development centers, and bureaus of finance to be trainers. To date, they have cascaded the reform implementation training to nearly 300 personnel. Additional TOTs are planned to develop trainer pools in Amhara, Sidama, and the South West Ethiopian People's regions in 2022 and 2023.

Together, these efforts are contributing to the institutionalization of HCF capacity-building activities at the Ministry of Health and, ultimately, to the sustained continuation of HCF implementation in regions across Ethiopia.



Photo credit: Ayenew Haileelassie
Participants and trainers at the first-generation HCF reform implementation TOT training held in Addis Ababa in July 2021.

Article from **Health Financing**, a newsletter produced by the **USAID Health Financing Improvement Program**. The Program collaborates with the Ethiopian government to further strengthen health financing functions and systems to support universal health coverage of quality primary health care services for Ethiopian citizens with reduced financial barriers. Abt Associates implements the Program in collaboration with core partners Breakthrough International Consultancy, the Institute for Healthcare Improvement, and Results for Development, and resource partner Harvard School of Public Health. Cooperative Agreement No.: 72066319CA00001. [USAID Health Financing Improvement Program \(hfip-newsletter.com\)](https://www.usaid.gov/health-financing-improvement-program/hfip-newsletter.com)

This document is made possible by the support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.