

## **Invitation to a joint workshop on Universal Health Coverage in Low and Middle Income Countries**

The UK Academy of Medical Sciences and the InterAcademy Partnership are jointly organising a workshop on Universal Health Coverage in low and middle income countries (LMICs) to tackle global health challenges, which will be held in **London** on **29-30 May 2018**.

The World Health Organization estimates that at least half of the world's population still lack full coverage of essential health services. Achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) has been included as a critical part of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). UHC will ensure that all individuals and communities have access to the full spectrum of essential and effective health services including promotion, prevention, treatment, rehabilitation and palliative care without suffering financial hardship. This workshop will:

- Bring together evidence from all regions of the world on what progress has been made towards achieving UHC, especially in LMICs.
- Identify country/region specific and shared challenges and barriers to achieving UHC.
- Provide a platform for different regions/countries to share their experiences, challenges and successes to allow countries to learn from one another.
- Agree on a list of priorities and solutions to overcome the identified barriers which can be addressed on a global but also on a country and regional level.

The output of this meeting will be a written report, and will inform future work by the Academy, IAP and others. The meeting will be conducted in English.

**Funding is available to support one representative from IAP for Health member academies from low or middle income countries.\* The UK Academy of Medical Sciences will arrange up to three nights of local accommodation for these participants and provide funding of up to £1800 per person, which can be used for:**

- **One economy class return flight to London.**
- **Costs of a visa to visit the UK, if required** (participants will be responsible for arranging their own visas, but the UK AMS and IAP can provide invitation letters and reimburse costs).
- **Airport transfers and up two evening meals** (which should not exceed a total of £100).

**In addition, during the concluding session of the workshop, we will have formal discussions for attendees from IAP member academies,** to discuss the outcomes of the workshop, consider how those outcomes relate to your own countries, and share ideas about how you will apply the outcomes when you return home.

**If you would like to apply for this funding, please submit a statement, endorsed by your academy, of no more than 400 words; noting your name, job title and affiliation, and outlining the following:**

- **Why your academy and your country would benefit from your attendance.**
- **How your academy will make use of your participation in the workshop in its own activities.**

**All statements must be received by 9am (UK time) on Friday 15 February,** and should be sent to Sabina Caris at the IAP Secretariat ([scaris@twas.org](mailto:scaris@twas.org)) with a copy to Alex Hulme at the UK Academy ([alex.hulme@acmedsci.ac.uk](mailto:alex.hulme@acmedsci.ac.uk)). Applicants will be informed by Friday 8 March regarding whether they will receive this funding. In addition, one expert from each region of the South (Asia, Africa, Latin America) will be invited to join the steering committee for the project.

Please note that all costs will be reimbursed after the event on presentation to the UK Academy of Medical Sciences of boarding passes, and receipts for flights, visas and other valid expenses as outlined above.

We look forward to hearing from you. If you would like any information in the meantime or would like to attend from a non-LMIC academy (and cover your own costs), please contact [alex.hulme@acmedsci.ac.uk](mailto:alex.hulme@acmedsci.ac.uk).

\* As defined by the DAC List of ODA Recipients: <http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/daclist.htm>