

Implementing the SDG 2030 agenda - Health Law Institute, Geneva, Switzerland

The Health Law Institute (HLI) envisions a world where “All health workers will be supported and motivated to provide care commensurate with their skills, in safe environments, under decent working conditions, and empowered to be true stakeholders in the development of sustainable healthcare systems”.

Investment in the health workforce has been shown to deliver concrete returns not only on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3 to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages, but on SDG 1 on poverty elimination, SDG 4 on quality education, SDG 5 on gender equality, SDG 8 on decent work and economic growth, and SDG 10 on reduced inequalities by the High level Commission Report on Health Employment and Economic Growth (*World Health Organization, International Labour Organization, Organization of Economic Co-operation and Development, 2016*).

However, health workers are too often treated instrumentally in efforts to achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and improve health system performance. In turn, the data collected on health workforce too often reflects overly narrow measures of efficiency that fail to appropriately consider social costs and context. Therefore, as a first step, HLI is working with allies to promote awareness of health workers' rights as well as concerns at international, regional, national and grassroots levels and developing evidence-based analysis and recommendations (achieving SDG 16 and SDG 17 in addition to above mentioned SDGs).