

Tool 2: Advocacy Asks Matrix

Advocacy Ask	Questions to think about	Answers
1. Leave no one behind	How does your government define 'universal coverage'? Target: 100% of the population	
	How is UHC being measured?	
	Do health plans and policies identify which populations are currently left behind and have insufficient access to health services; do these plans and policies explicitly target those populations most in need?	
	Are health data disaggregated by sex, age, gender identity, race, ethnicity, income, disability and migratory status to accurately identify who is being left behind?	
	How does your government define marginalized and vulnerable groups?	
	Does this definition include people who use drugs, sex workers, prisoners, migrants etc.?	
	Do health insurance schemes cover these groups? If not, why not?	
	Are there laws and policy frameworks that explicitly support vulnerable groups to access health services? Are there quotas or earmarked services?	
	Do health policies and plans address the social and environmental determinants of health?	
2. Increase public financing for health	What is the current percentage of the health budget in relation to the overall government budget? Over the past few years, has there been any increase? Target: 15% (Abuja Declaration)	
	What is the current percentage of annual GDP spent on health? Over the past few years, has it progressively increased? Target: At least 5% Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is a standard measure of a country's total wealth.	
	What proportion of health funding comes from external donors?	
	Do donor governments provide funding in alignment with countries' plans, the aid effectiveness principles and the WHO recommendation that funding levels are not below 0.1% of GNI?	
	Does the government still rely on patient fees/OOP payments to fund the health system?	
	Do UHC plans include specific action points to abolish patient fees/OOP payments?	
	What steps have been taken to phase out patient fees/OOP payments?	
	Do UHC plans include specific action to address tax evasion and avoidance?	
	What steps have been taken to address tax evasion and avoidance?	
If the government is not increasing its spending on health services, what is preventing this?		

3. Improve involvement of CSOs and citizens, transparency and accountability at all levels	Is civil society engaged at all stages of UHC decision-making, from design and budgeting through to implementation, monitoring and evaluation?	
	At the national level, are there opportunities for people, civil society organizations, and the private sector in your country to be engaged in planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluating the health sector?	
	At the community level, are communities engaged in local level health planning, budgeting and accountability processes, and are there feedback mechanisms for communities to assess the quality of services provided by local authorities?	
	What steps have been taken to ensure the voices of the most marginalized and vulnerable communities are included and heard?	
	Are country health plans and policies accompanied by a health care financing strategy supported by the Ministry of Finance?*	
	Are CSOs engaged in expanding health services to reach marginalized and vulnerable groups?	
	Are community-led monitoring approaches recognized and valued?	
	Are civil society accountability mechanisms included in UHC implementation plans?	
4. Support health workers	Are there sufficient numbers of health-care workers in the health care system?	
	Do health workers have decent working conditions and levels of pay?	
	Does health policy acknowledge that women make up 70% of the health workforce but only 25% of senior roles?	
	Do health workers receive training on how to support the health needs of marginalized and vulnerable groups?	
	Are training and capacity-building for both government and community health workers earmarked and adequately funded by the government?	
	Do UHC policies, plans, and reports include a focus on investing in the health workforce?	

**This guarantees the resources to implement the national health plans and policies and cements the role of civil society in holding governments to account for what they have promised to deliver.*