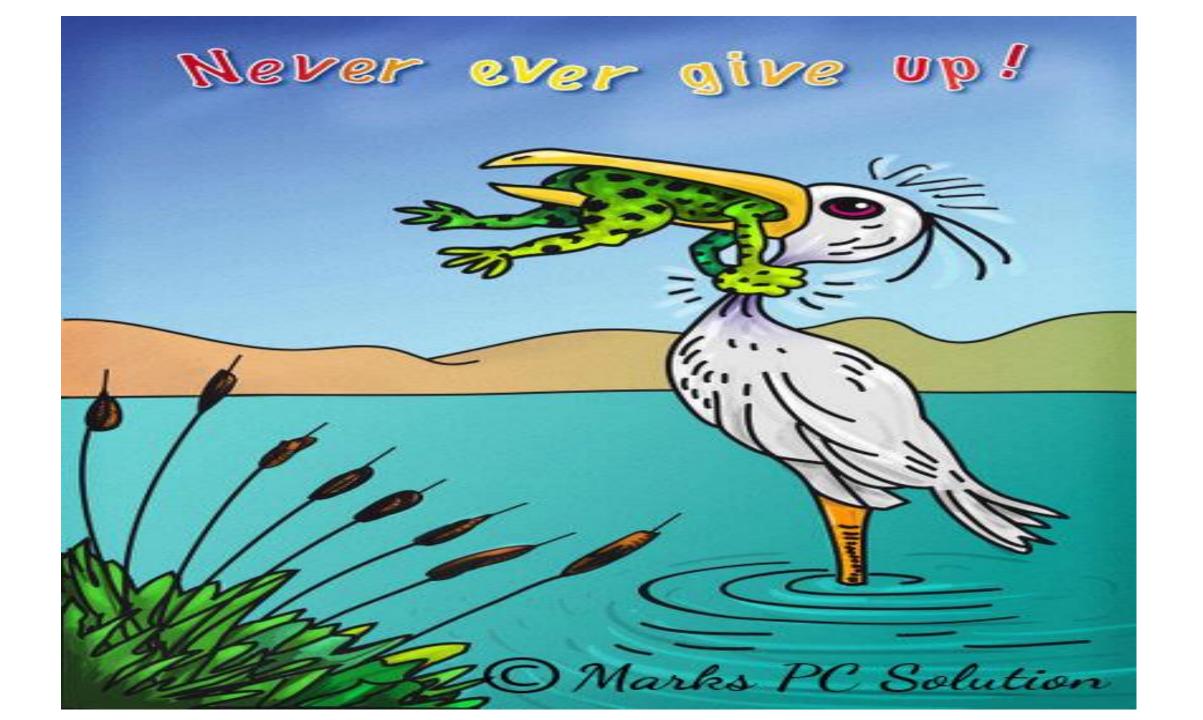
Health Financing Systems: Anticipating Challenges, Building Resilience

Panel Discussion at 15th Caribbean Conference on National Health Financing Bucaramanga, Colombia, October 4-7, 2023

Panelists:- Dr Ricky Braithwaite, Dr Victor Castillo, Ms Jeanine Kook, Dr Lex de Jong, Ms Charlene Bain

Moderators:- Dr Heather Harewood and Dr Stanley Lalta



HEALTH FINANCING SYSTEM: RESILIENCE vs FRAGILITY

- Capacity of heath system (actors, institutions, population) to prepare for and effectively respond to crises (sequential and simultaneous) by maintaining core functions and re-organizing for sustained services.
- Ability of the health system to protect human life, limit spread of disease, avoid systemic disruptions and collapse of basic services, respond to surge in demand and produce good health outcomes during a crisis. So:
- *Financial resilience*: protection of national funds for health and particularly resources for the vulnerable in the face of economic contraction.
- Adaptive resilience: managing the system (gov't & providers) with fewer resources through efficiencies without sacrificing key priorities, benefits, access, entitlements.
- *Transformatory resilience*: capacity to design and implement desirable and realistic reform when current organisation structures and strategies are no longer feasible.

Critical Capacities for Resilience

- Anticipate--Assess risks, capacity & weaknesses re: scenario analyses
- Absorb & Mitigate Crises and Shocks—
 >maintain core functions,
- Shift-generate resources to tackle specific crisis,
- >Invest in vulnerable components
- Adapt--Review and improve

'Perma/Poly-crisis' & Sources of Challenges in Health

Sources of Challenges	Point Person	Key Aspects
Health Systems Risk Analysis, Economics and Regulations	Dr Ricky Braithwaite	 Trade and financial shocks (Tourism market, Employment Patterns, Fiscal Space/Public Debt), Demand for vs Supply of Resources Gap Climate Change
Technological Innovations	Dr Lex de Jong	 AI/IT * Organ transplant, Medical Devices & Prosthetics, Diagnostics * Gene Therapy, Stem Cell, Robotics, Telemedicine * Anti-microbial Resistance,
Hospital Operations and Integrated Care	Dr Victor Castillo	 Role of Large General vs Specialised Hospitals vs Teaching Hospitals Hospital Franchises (Cross-border operations) Linkages with Primary/Community Care
Public Health and Social Determinants	Ms Charlene Bain	 Pandemics/Infectious Diseases, NCDs, Trauma/Violence Ageing, Social Determinants of Health * Human Rights Communications & Community Compliance
Politics of Health and Stakeholder Influences	Ms Jeanine Kook	 Governance; Changing governments and Ministers, * Migration Stakeholder (non-) Collaboration, * Workers rights/shortages

Improving Resilience

> Building resilience is context-specific and iterative rather than static.

So:-

- >Invest in strategic (crisis) planning and health in all policies (HIAP)
- >Increase role of public health and primary/community care/integrated care
- More Global alliances eg. vaccines, strategic supplies, research outputs, technology transfer, crisis funds
- Communication and Community mobilization/partnerships
- >Increase role of IT and digitization
- Efficiency imperative in small, resource-poor countries