VCE Health and Human Development (2025–2029)

World Health Organization (WHO) Goal and Objectives (formally ‘priorities’) 2025–2028

VCAA advice August 2024

Introduction

In May 20224, the World Health Organization (WHO) met to approve the Fourteenth General Programme of Work (GPW 14) effective for the period 2025 – 2028. GPW 14 replaces the [Thirteenth General Programme of Work](https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/324775/WHO-PRP-18.1-eng.pdfhttps%3A/apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/324775/WHO-PRP-18.1-eng.pdf) (GPW 13) one year early in a bid to reinvigorate actions needed to get Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on track and future proof health and health care in the face of challenges such as climate change, aging and evolving geopolitics.

In 2025, students undertaking the revised VCE Health and Human Development (2025–2029) will study and be assessed against the following key knowledge and key skills in Unit 4, Area of Study 2: Health and Sustainable Development Goals:

* goal and objectives of the WHO as outlined in the Fourteenth General Program of Work (GPW 14)
* explain the goal and objectives of the WHO as outlined in GPW 14 and analyse how the WHO goal and objectives are reflected in different scenarios.

Relevant changes to revised study VCE Health and Human Development 2025 – 2029 for WHO

The revised study has removed the reference to the ‘work of the WHO’. The scope of study is narrowed to understanding the goal and objectives set out in the GPW 14 which is the WHO’s roadmap for global health.

Fourteenth General Programme of Work (GPW 14) 2025–2028

The Fourteenth General Programme of Work 2025–2028 (GPW 14) sets the strategic direction of the WHO for 2025–2028 and specifically details the objectives in achieving the overarching goal to ***promote, provide and protect*** the health and wellbeing for all people, everywhere.

There are six objectives that underpin the overarching goal of GPW 14 and these act as the areas for the WHO to collectively action and advance health and well-being at the national, regional and global level.

The objectives reflect the emerging threats to health, are mapped to a specific aspect of the overarching goal (promote, provide and protect) and will have their impact measured against **revised triple billion targets (see Figure 1)** and relevant SDGs.

The WHOs overall goal is to promote, provide and protect health and wellbeing for all people, everywhere.

For each of the three parts of the goal there are ambitious targets for achievement by 2028:

1.     **Promote health**: Healthier populations - 6 billion people will enjoy healthier lives

2.     **Provide health**: Universal health coverage – 5 billion people will benefit from universal health care without financial hardship

3.     **Protect health**: Health emergencies – 7 billion people will be better protected from health emergencies

How does GPW 14 apply to VCE Health and Human Development?

The overarching goal of GPW 14 to promote, provide and protect health and well-being for all people, everywhere and the priorities that underpin this goal, is the foundation of study for VCE Health and Human Development. This knowledge allows students to analyse how the goal and objectives are reflected in different scenarios.

Figure 1 illustrates GPW 14 and specifically:

* The overarching goal (including the three specific components; promote, provide and protect)
* The 6 WHO objectives that are linked to the three specific components of the overarching goal
* The relevant and revised triple billion targets that will be used to measure the impact of WHO’s work

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| **GPW 14 – Overarching goal** *To promote, provide and protect health and well-being for all people, everywhere.* |
| **Promote health** | **Provide health** | **Protect health** |
| **GPW 14 - Objectives** to achieve the overarching goal  |
| Respond to climate change,an escalating health threat in the 21st century. | Address health determinants and the root causes of ill health in key policies across sectors.  | Advance the primary health care approachand essential health system capacities for universal health coverage. | Improve health service coverage and financial protection to address inequity and gender inequalities.  | Prevent, mitigate and prepare for risks to health from all hazards.  | Rapidly detect and sustain aneffective response to allhealth emergencies |
| **Triple billion target***6 billion people will enjoy healthier lives* | **Triple billion target***5 billion people will benefit from universal health care without financial hardship* | **Triple billion target***7 billion people will be better protected from health emergencies by 2028* |

 Adapted from [WHO 2025-2028 Report](https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA77/A77_16-en.pdf)

For further contextual information on the above content see [WHO 2025-2028 Report](https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA77/A77_16-en.pdf). Particular focus p.17 – p.30 and p.56 – p.64.

Conclusion

For the purposes of VCE Health and Human Development (2025–2029), students are expected to explain the goal and objectives of the WHO and analyse how the WHO goal and objectives are reflected in different scenarios.

In demonstrating and applying this knowledge, students should use their understanding of the goal and objectives noted in Figure 1 and to analyse different case study information to identify how the goal and objectives are reflected.

References

The Fourteenth General Programme of Work 2025-2028 https://www.who.int/about/general-programme-of-work/fourteenth

 The Fourteenth General Programme of Work 2025 – 2028 can be accessed at [WHO 2025-2028 Report](https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA77/A77_16-en.pdf)