

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Global Convening of the Global Initiative on Digital Health

**Coming together to build back better**

**14 – 18 July 2025 (Virtual)**

**Program**



**For more information**



Key
Opening and closing
Technical Session
45 min session - Panel or group work
15 min rapid presentations

## Day 1 – Monday 14 July

Time (CET)	Session #	Title	Speaker(s)
9:00 - 9.45 hrs	<b>Session 14.1</b>	Welcome and Opening remarks	<p><b>Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus,</b> Director-General, WHO, Geneva</p> <p><b>Dr George Sinyangwe,</b> Permanent Secretary, Donor Coordination, Ministry of Health, Zambia</p> <p><b>Dr. Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava, Director,</b> Telecommunication Development Bureau (BDT) of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Geneva</p> <p><b>Dr Alain Labrique</b> Director, Data, Digital Health, Analytics and AI (DDA), Health Systems Division</p> <p><b>Dr. Hemang Shah,</b> Children's Investment Fund Foundation, India</p> <p><b>Ms. Anaita Singh,</b> Program Officer, Digital &amp; AI (Health), Gates Foundation, India</p> <p><b>Segment Facilitated by</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Derrick Muneene,</b> Unit Head, Capacity Building and Partnerships, Department of Digital Health and Innovation, Health Systems, WHO HQ</p>

9:45-10:30 hrs	<b>Session 14.2</b>	Thematic areas - Anchoring digital health in global frameworks and priorities	<p><b>World Summit on the Information Society</b></p> <p><b>Gitanjali Sah</b>, Strategy and Policy coordinator International Telecommunication Union</p> <p><b>WHO – Common Wealth MoU on Digital Health Governance</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Layne Robinson</b>, Head of Social Policy Development, Commonwealth Secretariat</p> <p><b>WHO’s contribution to the Global Digital Compact</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Derrick Muneene</b>, Unit Head, Capacity Building and Partnerships, Department of Digital Health and Innovation, Health Systems, WHO HQ</p>
10:30 – 11:30 hrs	<b>Session 14.3</b>	Thematic areas - Regional priorities in digital health	<p><b>Reflections from Selected Regions:</b></p> <p>Moderator: <b>Dr. Derrick Muneene</b>, Unit Head, Capacity Building and Partnerships, Department of Digital Health and Innovation, Health Systems, WHO HQ</p> <p><b>Dr. Arash Rashidian</b>, Director of Science Information and Dissemination, WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean</p> <p><b>Marcelo D’Agostino</b>, Unit Chief, Information Systems and Digital Health, Department of Evidence and Intelligence for Action in Health, Pan American Health Organization / WHO Regional Office for Americas (pre-recorded)</p> <p><b>Oluwaseun Olufemi Pedro</b>, Digital Health Focal Point, WHO African Regional Office Coordinator- Health Information and Intelligence</p> <p><b>Dilip Hensman</b>, Data, Strategy and Innovation (DSI) Team, WHO- Regional Office for the Western Pacific</p> <p><b>Updates from Regional Digital Health Networks:</b></p> <p>Moderator: <b>Melissa Cederqvist Njihia</b>, Technical Officer, Strategy and Partnership, Department of Digital Health and Innovation, Health Systems, WHO HQ</p> <p><b>Jenna Wildeman</b>, Policy Officer International Digital Health, Ministry of Health, Welfare and</p>

			Sports, Department of Health Information Policy/CIO, International Team, The Netherlands / Global Digital Health Partnership Secretariat <b>Steven Wanyee</b> , President, Health Informatics in Africa (HELINA) <b>Jai Ganesh Udayasankaran</b> , Executive Director, Asia eHealth Information Network (AeHIN)
11:30- 12:30 hrs	Session 14.4	<b>Technical Session:</b> Operationalization of the Global Initiative on Digital Health	<b>Dr. Derrick Muneene</b> , WHO HQ <b>Melissa Cederqvist Njihia</b> , WHO HQ <b>Oluwaseun Olufemi Pedro</b> , WHO African Regional Office <b>Dr. Zahidul Islam</b> , Deputy Program Manager (DPM), Management Information System (MIS), Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Bangladesh <b>Zambia</b>
12:30-13:00 hrs	Lunch break		
13:00 – 14:00 hrs	Session 14.5	<b>Technical Session:</b> Financing and Tracking of Digital Health Investments	<b>Dr. Derrick Muneene</b> , WHO HQ <b>Melissa Cederqvist Njihia</b> , WHO HQ <b>Dongxue (Wendy) Li</b> , Technical Officer, Global Health Expenditure Tracking, Health Financing, Health Systems, WHO HQ <b>Kirsten Mathieson</b> , Deputy Director and Policy Lead, Transform Health
14:00 – 15:00 hrs	Session 14.6	<b>1. Georgia’s Digital Health Strategy: From Vision to Implementation with WHO Support</b> <b>2. Digital health literacy and capacity for health workforce - a spotlight on digital health curriculum development in Ecuador and Indonesia</b>	<b>1. Mariam Beridze</b> , Data and Digital Health Project Officer WHO Country Office Georgia <b>2. Organized by Transform Health Kenya</b>
15:00 – 16:00 hrs	Session 14.7	<b>Technical Session:</b> <b>Building robust foundations - Digital Public Infrastructure and Standards</b>	Reference Architecture for DPIs for Health Technical Working Group HL7 Dr. Garrett Mehl, Unit Head, Digital Health Systems, Department of Digital Health and Innovation, Health Systems, WHO HQ
16:00 – 16:15 hrs	Session 14.8	<b>CLOSING DAY 1</b>	

## Day 2 – Tuesday 15 July

Time (CET)	Session #	Title	Speakers
8:55-9:00 hrs	<b>Session 15.1</b>	<b>Opening of Day 2</b>	
9:00 – 10:00 hrs	<b>Session 15.2 -</b>	<b>Technical Session: Safe and responsible use of artificial intelligence</b>	Organized by AI for Health Team, Department of Digital Health and Innovation, Health Systems, WHO HQ
10:00 – 11:00 hrs	<b>Session 15.3</b>	<b>1. Scaling Intelligent Automation to Strengthen Digital Infrastructure for Equitable and Sustainable Health System Transformation -</b> Organizer: New Zealand  <b>2. Streamlining of National Telemedicine Practices via the development of Telemedicine guidelines -</b> Organizer: Health Information Unit, Sri Lanka Ministry of Health  <b>3. Strengthening the digital and data governance ecosystem - the case of Kenya -</b> Organizer: Transform Health Kenya Coalition	1. <b>Parag Bhatnagar</b> , Intelligent Automation Product Owner, Health New Zealand (New Zealand)  2. <b>Dr. G.G.A.K Kulatunga; Dr. Palitha Karunapema; Prof. Vajira Dissanayake</b>  3. <b>Transform Health Kenya National Coalition representative; Chief Executive Officer, Digital Health Agency, Kenya</b>
11:00 – 12:00 hrs	<b>Session 15.4</b>	<b>PANEL DISCUSSION: From Promise to Practice: Integrating Responsible AI into Country-Led Digital Health Systems -</b> Organized by Intelhealth	1. <b>Shekar Sivasubramanian</b> , Wadhwani AI, India 2. <b>Neha Verma</b> , Intelhealth, India 3. <b>Rachel Sibande</b> , Gates Foundation, South Africa 4. <b>Shri Madhukar Kumar Bhagat</b> , Indian Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, India
12:00 – 13:00 hrs	Lunch break		

13:00 – 14:00 hrs	Session 15.5	<b>PANEL DISCUSSION: Addressing Gender, Equity, Rights and Inclusion in National Digital Health Strategies to Leave No One Behind</b> - Organizer: Centre for Interdisciplinary Methodologies, University of Warwick	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>James Kiilu</b>, Digital Health and Rights Project, Kenya Community Advisory Team (KCAT)</li> <li>2. <b>Alia El-Yassir</b>, Director, Gender, Equity, Diversity and Rights for Health, WHO</li> <li>3. <b>Dr. Derrick Muneene</b>, Unit Head, Capacity Building and Partnerships, Department of Digital Health and Innovation, WHO HQ</li> <li>4. <b>Professor Sara (Meg) Davis</b>, Centre for Interdisciplinary Methodologies (CIM), University of Warwick</li> </ol>
14:00 – 15:00 hrs		No session	
15:00 – 16:00 hrs	Session 15.7	<b>Technical Session: Joining Forces for Digital Health Competency: The development and application of Global Digital Health Competencies and Learning Frameworks</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Dr. Jennifer Shivers</b>, Strategic Technical Advisor, Regenstrief Institute (Moderator)</li> <li>2. <b>Dr. Derrick Muneene</b>, Unit Head, Capacity Building and Partnerships, Department of Digital Health and Innovation, WHO HQ</li> <li>3. <b>Dr. Zlatan Sabic</b>, Senior Public Information Systems Specialist, The World Bank</li> <li>4. <b>Dr. Tessa Lennemann</b>, Project Lead Digital Innovation in Pandemic Control (DIPC), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)</li> <li>5. <b>Dr. Innocent Chiboma</b>, Principal ICT Officer Digital Health, Ministry of Health Zambia</li> <li>6. <b>Dr Osama ElHassan</b>, Chairman, The International Digital Health Workforce Development Collaborative (ZIMAM)</li> <li>7. <b>Dr Dessislava Dimitrova</b>, Technical Officer, Capacity Building and Partnerships, Department of Digital Health and Innovation, WHO HQ</li> </ol>
16:00 – 16:15 hrs	Session 15.8	<b>CLOSING DAY 2</b>	

## Day 3 – Wednesday 16 July

Time (CET)	Session #	Title	Speakers
9:55-10:00 hrs	<b>Session 16.1</b>	<b>Opening of Day 3</b>	
10:00 – 11:00 hrs	<b>Session 16.3</b>	<b>PANEL DISCUSSION: Public-private partnerships supporting open-source tooling ecosystem to strengthen the digital health transformation in LMICs -</b> Organizer: Sri Lanka College of Health Informatics and Ministry of Health, Sri Lanka	<b>1. Dr. Chaminda Weerabaddana</b> MBBS, MSc(BMI), MD (Health Informatics) President, Sri Lanka College of Health Informatics Specialist in Health Informatics Ministry of Health, Sri Lanka <b>2. Jorn Bettin</b> , S23M/ANZIL, Senior Partner/Model-based Analyst/Business Model Designer <b>3. Adrian Floor</b> Managing Director Symbionix, South Africa <b>4. Keith Duddy</b> , S23M/ANZIL, Senior Advisor/Health Informatics Standards Specialist. <b>5. Chris Seebregts</b> , PhD, John Lemuel Dalisay
11:00 – 12:00 hrs	<b>Session 16.4</b> -	<b>PANEL DISCUSSION: Multi-stakeholder partnerships to drive digital transformation for health system reforms -</b> Organizer: GIZ/OpenIMIS	<b>1. Mr. Roshan Koju</b> , Director ICT, Social Security Fund Nepal <b>2. Representative from EMR Vendor (Private sector)</b> , TBD <b>3. Representative from Digital Health, MoHP Nepal</b> , TBD <b>4. Mr. Jai Ganesh Udaikrishnan</b> , Executive Director, AeHIN <b>5. Saurav Bhattarai</b> , Team Lead - openIMIS, GIZ (Moderator)
12:00 -13:00 hrs	Lunch break		
13:00 – 14:00 hrs	<b>Session 16.5</b>	<b>Technical Session: Sandbox interoperability, regulatory</b>	Organized by Digital Health Systems Unit, Department of Digital Health and Innovation, Health Systems, WHO HQ
14:00 – 15:00 hrs	<b>Session 16.6</b>	<b>PANEL DISCUSSION: Accelerating Health Equity: Leveraging Private Digital Health for Public Personalised Care with the MomConnect Programme -</b> Organized by Reach Digital Health	Moderator: Debbie Rogers, CEO of Reach Digital Health  Panellists: <b>1. Sister Jane Sebidi</b> , Deputy Director of MomConnect at the South African National Department of Health <b>2. Zodwa Mbamo</b> , Director, Programs - Health, ELMA <b>3. Jacaranda Health</b>

15:00 – 16:00 hrs	<b>Session 16.8</b>	<b>PANEL DISCUSSION: Localization of Capacity Building on Digital Health: Need, Experience, Examples and Lessons - UNICEF South East Asia Regional Office</b>	<p>Moderator: Vikas Dwivedi, Digital Health Analyst, UNICEF Regional Office of South Asia</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <p><b>1. Matt Hulse</b>, Lead Digital Health, The World Bank</p> <p><b>2. Zlatan Šabić</b>, Digital Health and Social Protection Information Systems Specialist, The World Bank</p> <p><b>3. Ajay Trakroo</b>, Health Systems, Innovations, and Digital Health, UNICEF, India</p> <p><b>4. Dr Sutapa</b>, Director, Indian Institute of Health Management Research, New Delhi, India</p> <p><b>5. Meredith Dyson</b>, Health System Specialist, UNICEF Regional Office of South Asia</p>
16:00 – 16:15 hrs	<b>Session 16.7</b>	<b>CLOSING DAY 3</b>	

## Day 4 – Thursday 17 July

Time (CET)	Session #	Title	Speakers
8:55-9:00 hrs	<b>Session 17.1</b>	<b>Opening of Day 4</b>	
9:00 – 10:00 hrs	<b>Session 17.2</b>	<b>BREAKOUT GROUP DISCUSSION: Data use for action: Improving Health Data Governance in the Digital Age</b> - Organizer: UNICEF Southeast Asia Regional Office	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Vikas Dwivedi</b>, Digital Health Analyst (Consultant), UNICEF Regional Office of South Asia</li> <li>2. <b>Dr Pandula Siribaddana</b>, Consultant, Data Coordination and Governance (CNG) Unit, WHO</li> <li>3. <b>Dr Craig Burgess</b>, Unit Head Data Coordination, Governance and Partnerships, WHO</li> <li>4. <b>Dr. Chamika H Senanayake</b>, Health Data Governance Consultant, Health Data Collaborative</li> <li>5. <b>Dr. Pradeep Sylva</b>, Consultant in Health Informatics, Office of DDG (Planning), MDPU, Ministry of Health, Sri Lanka.</li> <li>6. <b>Dr Abner Daniel</b>, Health &amp; Nutrition Manager, UNICEF Sri Lanka</li> </ol>
10:00 – 11:00 hrs	<b>Session 17.3</b>	<b>Technical Session:</b> The GIDH Transformation Toolbox - Digital Health Maturity Digital Health Atlas/Digital Health Monitor/Implementome	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Dr. Derrick Muneene</b>, Unit Head, Capacity Building and Partnerships, Department of Digital Health and Innovation, WHO HQ (moderator)</li> <li>2. <b>Dr. Caroline Perrin</b>, Executive Director, Geneva Digital Hub</li> <li>3. <b>Dr. Mirana Michelle Randriambelonoro</b>, Geneva Digital Hub</li> <li>4. <b>Dr Janneth Mghamba</b>, Health Adviser, Social Policy Development, Commonwealth Secretariat</li> <li>5. <b>Prof Vajira Dissanayake</b>, Chair, Commonwealth Centre for Digital Health (CWCDH)</li> <li>6. <b>Innocent Chiboma</b>, Principal ICT Officer Digital Health, Ministry of Health Zambia</li> <li>7. <b>Dr Dessislava Dimitrova</b>, Technical Officer, WHO</li> </ol>

11:00 – 12:00 hrs	<b>Session 17.4</b>	<b>TECHNICAL SESSION:</b>  <b>1. 15 min presentation - “Youth-Led Digital Health Labs: Training the Next Generation of Interoperability Innovators”</b> - Chandigarh University Uttar Pradesh, INDIA  <b>2. 45 min Technical session- How do we build the next generation of digital leaders?</b>	<b>1. Prof.(Dr.) Rajesh Kumar Sinha,</b> Chandigarh University Uttar Pradesh, INDIA  <b>2. Organized by Digital Health Systems Unit,</b> Department of Digital Health and Innovation, Health Systems, WHO HQ
12:00 -13:00 hrs	Lunch break		
13:00 – 14:00 hrs	<b>Session 17.6</b>	<b>PANEL DISCUSSION: Scaling Country Lessons: How Digital Health Convergence Workshops can inform Global Strategy</b> - Organized by AeHIN	<b>1. Jai Ganesh Udayasankaran,</b> Executive, Director, AeHIN <b>2. Dr. Boonchai Kijsanayotin,</b> Mahidol University, Thailand <b>3. Dr. Alvin Marcelo,</b> University of the Philippines, Manila <b>4. Dr. Fazilah Allaudin,</b> Penang State Health Department, Malaysia <b>5. Anis Fuad,</b> University of Gadjah Mada, Indonesia; <b>6. Kristin Chloe Pascual,</b> AeHIN; <b>7. Dr. Sunny Ibeneme,</b> UNICEF EAPRO
14:00 – 15:00 hrs	<b>Session 17.7</b>	<b>WHO Technical Session:</b> The GIDH Transformation Toolbox: Capacity Building and Country Digital Health Strategies	<b>1. Dr. Derrick Muneene,</b> Unit Head, Capacity Building and Partnerships Unit, Department of Digital Health and Innovation, Health Systems, WHO HQ <b>2. Professor Sara (Meg) Davis,</b> Centre for Interdisciplinary Methodologies (CIM), University of Warwick <b>3. Isca Amanda,</b> Technical Officer, Capacity Building and Partnerships Unit, Department of Digital Health and Innovation, Health Systems, WHO HQ <b>4. Dr Dessislava Dimitrova,</b> Technical Officer, Capacity Building and Partnerships Unit, Department of Digital Health and Innovation, Health Systems, WHO HQ
15:00 -15:15 hrs	<b>Session 16.2 -</b>	<b>Technical Session: Case study - Regional Innovation</b>	Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Innovation Hub
15:15-15:30 hrs	<b>Session 17.8</b>	<b>CLOSING DAY 4</b>	

## Day 5 – Friday 18 July

Time (CET)	Session #	Title	Speakers
8:55 – 9:00 hrs	<b>Session 18.1 -</b>	<b>Opening of Day 5</b>	
9:00 – 10:00 hrs	<b>Session 18.2</b>	<b>Technical Session:</b> Towards the Next Global Strategy on Digital Health	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Dr. Derrick Muneene</b>, Unit Head, Capacity Building and Partnerships, Department of Digital Health and Innovation, WHO HQ</li> <li><b>Dr. Ibrahima Khaliloulah</b> Dia, Head of Digital Health Department, Ministry of Health Sénégal</li> <li><b>Dr. Yunkap Kwankam</b>, Executive Director, International Society for Telemedicine and eHealth (ISfTeH)</li> <li><b>Ms. Lucía Pérez Gómez</b>, Vice President for External Affairs, International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA)</li> <li><b>Ms. Mathilde Forslund</b>, Executive Director, Transform Health</li> <li><b>Mr. Hani Eskandar</b>, Head, Digital Services Division at the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)</li> <li><b>Dr. Jai Ganesh Udayasankaran</b>, Executive Director, AeHIN</li> <li><b>Dr. Dessi Dimitrova</b>, Technical Officer, Capacity Building and Partnerships, Department of Digital Health and Innovation, WHO HQ</li> </ol>
10:00 – 11:00 hrs	<b>Session 18.3 -</b>	<b>PANEL DISCUSSION:</b> <b>Digital first health systems: Key recommendations from youth at the regional and country levels</b> - Organizer: DTH Lab	<p>Moderator: <b>Enow Awah Georges Stevens</b>, DTH-Lab</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Lucía Pérez Gómez</b>, International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA)</li> <li><b>Tobias Silberzahn</b>, BSt Gesundheit gGmbH Bertelsmann Stiftung</li> <li><b>Katherine Feng</b>, Accenture &amp; GHWN Youth Hub</li> <li><b>Nojus Saad</b>, Youth For Women Foundation</li> <li><b>Yifan Zhou</b>, International Pharmaceutical Students' Federation (IPSF)</li> </ol>
11:00 – 12:00 hrs	<b>Session 18.4</b>	<b>Technical Session:</b> Implementation Research in Digital Health	Co-organized by WHO and UNICEF
12:00 – 13:00 hrs	Lunch break		
13:00 – 14:00 hrs	<b>Session 18.6</b>	<b>Technical Session:</b> How to finance a shift to DPIs	Organized by Capacity Building and Partnerships Unit, Department of Digital Health and Innovation, Health Systems, WHO HQ

14:00 – 15:00 hrs	<b>Session 18.7</b>	<b>Closing of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Global GIDH Convening</b>	WHO UHC2030 Co-Chairs
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