Global health strategy on digital health

To improve health for everyone, everywhere by accelerating the development and adoption of appropriate digital health solutions to achieve the health-related SDGs.

**What are the objectives of the digital health strategy 2020-2025?**

- **SO1** Global collaboration and knowledge transfer: Develop partnerships at national, regional, and global levels in order to align resources and investments that will ensure sustainability and growth of digital health.
- **SO2** Digital strategy implementation: Simulate and support every country to own, adapt, and strengthen its digital health strategy in a way that best suits its vision, national context, health situation and trends, available resources and core values to advance implementation of the national digital health strategies.
- **SO3** Digital health governance: Create sustainable and robust governance structures and capacity for digital health at global and national levels.
- **SO4** Human-centred health system enabled by digital health: Plant people at the centre of digital health and advance health democracy, gender equality and women’s empowerment and inclusive approaches through the adoption and use of digital health technologies in scaling up and strengthening health service delivery.

**How will the strategy be implemented?**

- Responding to countries’ health priorities: The strategy will support and respond to the growing needs of countries to implement appropriate digital health technologies to address their health priorities and to advance progress towards universal health coverage and health-related Sustainable Development Goals.
- Collaborating with multilateral stakeholders: WHO will work closely with the Member States, other bodies of the United Nations system, international partners, and other stakeholders to implement the global strategy. WHO will also engage with various stakeholders to take forward the strategic objectives at national, regional, and global levels.
- Shaping the digital health ecosystem: WHO and the Member States will develop an evidence-based research agenda on the application of digital health solutions in the health sector and will guide the development and testing of technologies, methods, and infrastructures that overcome obstacles for the application of digital health to health priorities.
- Developing investment strategies: Financing for implementation of the global digital health strategy will require specific resource mobilization. For Member States, this implies developing investment strategies to allow new capital expenditures in addition to reprogramming existing funds for maintenance and periodic updating of operating environments.
- Monitoring digital maturity level: Member States and WHO will dynamically monitor the maturity level of digital health across countries and institutions and assess the implementation of digital health initiatives through standard agreed-upon metrics. These measures, including digital health maturity indicators, will help strengthen digital health interventions and accelerate increased investment and innovation to further monitoring and the contribution of digital health to health system processes, health-workforce processes, and individual health needs. Indicators and other measures should be identified and agreed upon by the Member States as a basis for monitoring and evaluating progress in the adoption and use of digital health.

**What is included in the strategy’s framework for action?**

The strategy’s action plan includes an implementation framework with impact targets, key policy options, and a proposed set of actions by the Member States, WHO, and partners. Policy options and proposed actions are organized within five areas of digital transformation and by the Member States, WHO, and partners into specific targets, actions, and indicators. The strategy sets out a vision, the strategic objectives and a framework for action and implementation to advance digital health, globally and within countries at national and subnational levels.

Contact Information
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**Resources**

- Global health strategy on digital health
  - [WHO Guideline: recommendations on digital interventions for health system strengthening](https://www.who.int/health-topics/digital-health)
  - [A WHO and ITU handbook for health sector planners, enterprise architects and software developers](https://www.who.int/health-topics/digital-health)