

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.

The WHO's global strategy on digital health 2020-2025 was endorsed by the Seventy-third World Health Assembly in decision WHA73(28) (2020). 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.

This document offers a summary of the key information for Member States on implementation of the global strategy on digital health.

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



SO1 Global collaboration and knowledge transfer

Develop partnership 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

Stimulate 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

Place people at the centre of digital health and advance health literacy, 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 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 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

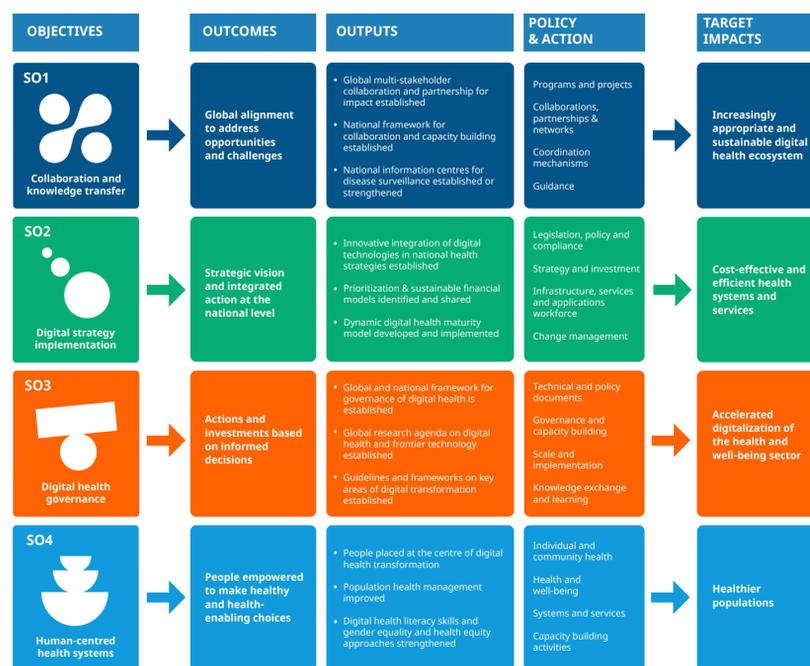
Member States and WHO will dynamically monitor the maturity level of digital health in countries and institutions and assess the implementation of digital health initiatives through standard agreed-upon metrics. These measures should include both the status and performance of digital health interventions and include established monitoring and evaluation models to facilitate monitoring of 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 outlined for each of the strategic objectives are interdependent and are categorized into short-term, medium-term, and long-term implementation to help inform prioritization and planning by all stakeholders.



Resources



Global strategy on digital health

English | French | Spanish | Arabic | Russian | Chinese



Digital Health Platform Handbook

A WHO and ITU handbook for health sector planners, enterprise architects and software developers



WHO Guideline: recommendations on digital Interventions for health system strengthening



Digital Implementation Investment Guide (DIIG): Integrating Digital Interventions into Health Programmes

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