The World Health Organization (WHO) Digital Health Clearinghouse assesses, curates, and catalogues digital health solutions that meet minimum requirements in the delivery of digital health interventions at the primary health care level.

What is the Digital Health Clearinghouse?

The WHO Digital Health Clearinghouse is a platform where solution developers submit digital health solutions developed for specific health domains to be assessed by expert review based on criteria consistent with WHO recommendations and best practices.

Country governments, implementers, and other stakeholders know that digital health solutions hosted by the Clearinghouse have conformed to minimum standards for interoperability, scalability, privacy, security, and implementation in low-resource settings, among other criteria. The transparent, independent assessment process ensures that the digital health solutions funders invest in, have proven results and sustainability in the appropriate contexts.

Assessment process and criteria

Although the WHO Digital Health Clearinghouse will evaluate digital health solutions, it is not a regulatory mechanism. Through the Clearinghouse, WHO assesses technology applications against objective, transparent criteria but does not endorse or recommend individual solutions for specific contexts.

Applications submitted to the Clearinghouse first undergo a screening to ensure they meet minimum specifications. Those that meet the screening criteria progress to a subsequent stage, where they are vetted by expert reviewers in an impartial process based on more detailed assessment criteria. Submissions will be evaluated in five domains to determine whether they:

- Fulfill functional and nonfunctional requirements for reference applications within the health domain.
- Can exchange data with other systems using open standards for interoperability.
- Use health and data content that is consistent with WHO recommendations, including adherence to SMART Guidelines if relevant.
- Address the implementation needs and constraints of low-resource settings, meeting requirements for scalability, maintainability, and country-led extensibility and adaptability.
- Uphold standards for data privacy, data security, and patient safety.

How does the Clearinghouse benefit donors and funders?

As a central repository for reference applications developed for specific health domains and evaluated against standard assessment criteria, the Clearinghouse will shape the future design and development of investments in digital health. Donors and funders can use the Clearinghouse to identify and prioritize solutions that align with their investment goals and mission when making funding decisions. The Clearinghouse can also help donors identify investments that support country digital health strategies and align with the Digital Investment Principles.
The Clearinghouse will accept solutions for specific health domains in early 2023, starting with Digital Documentation of COVID-19 Certificates (DDCC). Funders can expect to find curated solutions available on the platform in the second quarter of 2023. Stay tuned for more updates and the launch of the platform.