

Conference on Measuring and Achieving Universal Health Coverage with ICT in Asia Pacific

Making a business case for strategic ICT Investments for quality health care for all



Dates: 2–3 December 2014

Venue: Asian Development Bank, Auditorium, Manila, Philippines

Background

The Asia Pacific region has made considerable strides towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). However, the health-related MDGs are lagging behind in major areas. The Region continues to face complex public health challenges from widening social and economic inequities to escalating health-care costs from rising non-communicable diseases to infectious diseases spreading through increasing mobility of people. Aging populations, urbanization, climate change and changing lifestyles are adding complexity to the persisting public health challenges.

This is recognized in the discussion around the successor development agenda of the MDGs. Reforming and strengthening health systems toward universal health coverage (UHC) are now very high on the agenda of many governments.

Almost all the Asia-Pacific countries, irrespective of their level of development, have embraced the goal of UHC – *providing quality health services to all those in need without undue financial hardship*. Achieving these aspirations, however, will not be possible with 'business as usual' attitude, but will require innovative and integrated policies and solutions. Many countries are now exploring different ways to mobilize additional resources and how to use these more efficiently to move towards UHC within a wider social protection framework.

In this context, Information and Communication Technology (ICT)-based solutions not only offer to reduce costs, and improve the access and quality of service, but they also facilitate measurement of progress towards UHC and efficiently link UHC systems with integrated and comprehensive Social Protection programs. Evidence-based decision making in limited resource settings is needed. This requires access, analysis, and use of more reliable health information from multiple data sources to better inform policy and planning decisions.

ICT infrastructure is the backbone of any functioning UHC monitoring system since all three dimensions of UHC: (i) who is to be covered; (ii) which services are covered; and (iii) what proportion of the cost is to be covered, are data-intensive and require substantial data and information management to optimize the limited resources and investments available. ICT-enabled health information systems, if appropriately implemented may allow real time monitoring. However, benefits from ICT investments are not automatically guaranteed unless accompanied by requisite organizational changes and resources.

The ***Measuring and Achieving UHC with ICT Conference*** will be held in Manila, Philippines hosted by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and co-organized by the ADB, the World Health Organization (WHO), and the Asian eHealth Information Network (AeHIN). This *Conference* and the *AeHIN 3rd General Meeting* build on the September 2013 [Information Technology for UHC Conference \(IT4UHC\)](#), which spurred interest in ICT-enabled change in health services to achieve UHC goal.

The *Conference* will engage government officials from multiple sectors (health, finance, planning, statistics, ICT), development partners and experts to share experiences and review the current

evidence on cost-benefit and impact of various ICT-enabled health services and information systems. Around 125-140 participants from 20 Asia-Pacific countries will participate in plenary and panel discussions, parallel sessions, meet the experts open forum, displays to discover critical issues related to monitoring and evaluation of UHC and role of ICT-enabled health information systems may play in it.

Through sharing of experiences and evidence on various ICT-solutions in health services and information systems, the conference will enable countries to develop evidence-based business case for strategic ICT investments. This business case, hopefully, will be able to mobilize investments from multiple sectors beyond health and emphasize the accompanying organizational and process changes required to maximize the returns and ensure sustainability of ICT investments.

ICT is an effective tool for social and economic development for developing Asia and Pacific. The successful harnessing of ICT can help DMCs sustain their rapid growth rates through productivity gains, greater labour market flexibility, and the introduction of new products and value-added services. ICT for development (ICT4D) also promote inclusive economic growth and improved governance by enabling access, wider reach and transparency in delivery of public services effectively.

The *Asia eHealth Information Network (AeHIN) 3rd General Meeting* will be interlinked with the *UHC with ICT Conference* and will initiate a more technical series of presentations and panel discussions. There will also be an innovations fair, and several knowledge-sharing and learning sessions. The theme of the 3rd General Meeting will be on national eHealth capacity building to scale and sustain ICT investments, emphasizing specific techniques as part of national eHealth and HIS strategies and action plans that address better governance, enterprise architecture, standardization and interoperability, and program management that can effectively aid scaling and sustaining current and future investments.

Co-organizing the high-level, multi-sectoral UHC conference with the AeHIN 3rd General Meeting will provide a unique opportunity to explore breadth and depth of the realities, key challenges, opportunities, feasible solutions related to health and ICT investments. The multi-sector dialogue, consensus-where-feasible, and even country-specific factors and priorities declared will potentially influence short- and long-term health information systems and eHealth investments and capacity building actions underway impacting UHC. Improving the information culture, applying lessons learned in eHealth and mHealth through systematic and normative techniques and standards can potentially change behaviour and derive more effective, equitable, quality, and lower the costs of integrated patient-centred health services delivery. The AeHIN 3rd General Meeting will offer technical professionals an opportunity to understand in more detail what it will take to deliver results that are cheaper, faster and better using eHealth and mHealth.

Objectives

- Review current evidence on cost, benefit and impact of ICT solutions in health systems for better monitoring and faster progress towards UHC.
- Facilitate development of evidence-informed country specific business case of ICT-enabled health systems that maximize value for money

Profile of Participants

- 200 representatives from 25+ countries and development partners consisting of:
 - Key government officials involved in planning, financing or regulating social health protection (Health, Social Welfare, Finance, Planning, ICT Ministries)
 - Social Health Insurance Agencies
 - Academic institutions (health informatics, health financing)
 - Multilateral agencies and donors

FINAL PROGRAM

2-3 December 2014

Time	Tuesday, 2 December 2014		
08:00	Registration		
08:30	Conference Overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alvin Marcelo, Co-Chair, Asia eHealth Information Network (AeHIN) Jost Wagner, Lead Facilitator, The Change Initiative 		
09:00	Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Takehiko Nakao, President, Asian Development Bank (ADB) 		
09:10	Setting the stage: UHC in the post-2015 Development agenda: global vision, trends and M&E framework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> David Evans, Director, Health Systems Governance & Financing, WHO Ali Ghufroon Mukti, Chairman of Health Care Finance and Insurance Study Center, Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia Vivian Lin, Director, Health Systems, WHO WPRO Moderator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vinod Thomas, Director General, Independent Evaluation Department, ADB 		
10:15	Introductions		
10:30	Break (National UHC Dashboards—Bangladesh, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Philippines)		
11:00	Parallel Sessions: Framing the context: ICT-enabled health systems: A luxury, an option or a necessity for achieving UHC? Two parallel sessions: <table border="1"> <tr> <td> (1) Ministries of Finance, Planning, ICT, and Development Agencies <i>Chair: Eduardo Banzon, ADB</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building a Digital Health Platform as a Way to Maximize Returns on ICT Investments (Aurora Rubio, ITU) Sustaining HIV Financing Using Evidence (Ma. Elena G. Filio-Borromeo, UNAIDS) Strengthening civil registration and vital statistics – a necessity for the Asia Pacific Region to overcome socio-economic and health challenges. (Lene Mikkelsen) Donor perspective: Strategy for global health diplomacy & health systems monitoring (Naoyuki Kobayashi, JICA) </td><td> (2) Ministries of Health, Social Protection Agencies, eHealth experts <i>Chair: Mark Landry, WHO-WPRO</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operationalizing the E-Governance Framework for health (Gu Il Kang, NIA, Korea) Bangladesh UHC Indicators and Digital Health Strategy (Professor Azad, MoH, Bangladesh) Partnerships for advancing UHC using digital health solutions (Kate Wilson, PATH, Joint Learning Network) Donor perspective: Reaching the hard to reach with mHealth (Haitham El-noush, Norad) </td></tr> </table>	(1) Ministries of Finance, Planning, ICT, and Development Agencies <i>Chair: Eduardo Banzon, ADB</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building a Digital Health Platform as a Way to Maximize Returns on ICT Investments (Aurora Rubio, ITU) Sustaining HIV Financing Using Evidence (Ma. Elena G. Filio-Borromeo, UNAIDS) Strengthening civil registration and vital statistics – a necessity for the Asia Pacific Region to overcome socio-economic and health challenges. (Lene Mikkelsen) Donor perspective: Strategy for global health diplomacy & health systems monitoring (Naoyuki Kobayashi, JICA) 	(2) Ministries of Health, Social Protection Agencies, eHealth experts <i>Chair: Mark Landry, WHO-WPRO</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operationalizing the E-Governance Framework for health (Gu Il Kang, NIA, Korea) Bangladesh UHC Indicators and Digital Health Strategy (Professor Azad, MoH, Bangladesh) Partnerships for advancing UHC using digital health solutions (Kate Wilson, PATH, Joint Learning Network) Donor perspective: Reaching the hard to reach with mHealth (Haitham El-noush, Norad)
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13:00	Lunch								
14:00	ICT for Development to Achieve UHC – Reaching the Next Level Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vivian Lin, Director, Health Systems, WHO WPRO • Haitham El-Noush, Senior Health Advisor, Norad • Rajendra Pratap Gupta, Public Policy Expert, India • Fazilah Binti Shaik Allaudin, Deputy Director, Telehealth Division, MoH, Malaysia • Teodoro Herbosa, Undersecretary, Department of Health (DoH), Philippines • Shivnay Naidu, President, Pacific Health Information Network Moderator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patricia Moser, Lead Health Specialist, ADB 								
15:00	Break (National UHC Dashboards—Bangladesh, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Philippines)								
15:30	Evidence and Innovation Fair Method: Market Place (Revolving 30 minute programmes) <table border="1"> <tr> <td> Measuring UHC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional UHC Dashboard using the Health Intelligence and Information Platform (WHO) • National UHC Dashboards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Lao PDR dashboard using DHIS2 (U.Oslo) ◦ Philippines "KP Dashboard" (DoH) ◦ Cambodia HMIS dashboard(PBH) </td><td> eHealth Standardization and Interoperability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Data Standards (ISO TC215, SNOMED-CT, OpenEHR, IHE) • Thailand national ID system • eBook on standards and interoperability (JLN) </td></tr> <tr> <td>ICT for Development (ADB)</td><td>Health Information Exchanges (HIEs) & Terminology Services, OpenHIE</td></tr> <tr> <td>Informing Policy / Building Partnerships: Asia Pacific Observatory on Health Systems and Policies</td><td> mHealth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MoTECH Suite Platform—India (Dimagi) </td></tr> <tr> <td> Communities of Practice: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint Learning Network (JLN) for UHC • AeHIN • Hong Kong eHealth Consortium </td><td> Evidence for UHC and eHealth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health research portals (Lao PDR, Mongolia—MongolMed) • Regional landscape analysis of eHealth investments and impacts (WHO) </td></tr> </table>	Measuring UHC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional UHC Dashboard using the Health Intelligence and Information Platform (WHO) • National UHC Dashboards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Lao PDR dashboard using DHIS2 (U.Oslo) ◦ Philippines "KP Dashboard" (DoH) ◦ Cambodia HMIS dashboard(PBH) 	eHealth Standardization and Interoperability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Data Standards (ISO TC215, SNOMED-CT, OpenEHR, IHE) • Thailand national ID system • eBook on standards and interoperability (JLN) 	ICT for Development (ADB)	Health Information Exchanges (HIEs) & Terminology Services, OpenHIE	Informing Policy / Building Partnerships: Asia Pacific Observatory on Health Systems and Policies	mHealth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MoTECH Suite Platform—India (Dimagi) 	Communities of Practice: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint Learning Network (JLN) for UHC • AeHIN • Hong Kong eHealth Consortium 	Evidence for UHC and eHealth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health research portals (Lao PDR, Mongolia—MongolMed) • Regional landscape analysis of eHealth investments and impacts (WHO)
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17:30	End of Day Wrap up								
Evening	Networking Reception AeHIN Working Council Meeting								

08:30 Developing the Investment Case for ICT for Achieving UHC: Plenary Panel Session

- Improving health financing for UHC: the role of ICT (Xu Ke, WHO WPRO)
- Strategic investments in ICT leading to better analysis and use of health information for decision-making (Tsolmongerel Tsilaajav, Ministry of Health, Mongolia)
- Multi-sector approach to target effective ICT for UHC in the Philippines (Alvin Marcelo, National eHealth PMO, Philippines)
- Strengthening health systems: some lessons learned on the potential of ICT for UHC (Inge Baumgarten, Head of Health Section, GIZ Germany)

Moderator:

- Kelvin Hui, Senior Advisor, GIZ Bangladesh

10:30 Break

11:00 How to Address our Challenges?

Parallel cross-sectoral working groups to identify priority actions:

<p><i>Health</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Framing the issue • Entry points • Health service delivery and systems performance • NHAs, policy dialogue • eHealth capacity <p><i>Moderators:</i> Kelvin Hui (GIZ) & Jost Wagner</p>	<p><i>Planning/Finance</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UHC economic/social development value add • Increasing % GDP on health • Health systems performance <p><i>Moderators:</i> Eduardo Banzon & Rie Hiraoka, (ADB)</p>	<p><i>ICT</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • e-Governance • Connectivity, Telco PPP • Federated architectures • Standardization and interoperability <p><i>Moderators:</i> Lori Thorell (UNICEF), Aurora A. Rubio, (ITU)</p>
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13:00 Lunch

14:30 ‘iCTen Steps’ (Interventions with Impacts for Informing ADB/WHO Policy Brief)

- Video: Impacts of ICT investments on health of your people
- Feedback from the Break-out Sessions

15:00 Break

15:15 Commitments from the Countries, Experts, Partners

16:00 Moving Forward: Measure UHC better and achieve more with ICT?

16:15 End of Conference and Coffee

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Supporting Organizations

