



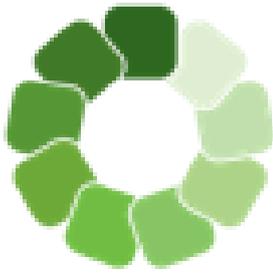
HEALTH DATA
COLLABORATIVE

LEADERSHIP EVENT

16 DECEMBER 2020



***"WE NEED A DATA HIGHWAY
WITHOUT SPEED LIMITS."***



LEADERSHIP EVENT OBJECTIVES

- 1 - To promote data as a public good;
- 2 - To commit to stronger coordinating data health-related SDGs; and
- 3 - To fill data gaps and better use of data through partnerships.

On December 16th, 2020, the **Health Data Collaborative (HDC)** invited its partners and leaders to renew political commitment to data for action, as set out in the HDC mission and objectives, and to renew focus on country impact and diversifying data perspectives from the seven HDC constituencies.

Two hundred people joined the 2-hour, virtual leadership event showcasing partnerships as key to build on the COVID-19 response and to accelerate sustainable support to drive Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as strengthen health information systems to produce **data for action**.

The event advanced conclusions from a 2020 stakeholder report, advising HDC to revise its governance structure, renew focus on country-level impact, adapt existing and future global tools to country-specific needs, and strengthen communications and advocacy to support the HDC mission and objectives.

The leadership event aligned with the **Global Action Plan for Healthy Lives and Well-being for All** (12 multilateral health, development, and humanitarian agencies brought together to better support countries to accelerate progress towards the health-related SDGs). In particular, the leadership event discussed the 7th accelerator theme, which focuses on data and digital health.

The accelerator themes represent catalytic opportunities for the signatory agencies, many of which are HDC partners, to combine resources, expertise, reach, and capacities in areas that are common challenges in many countries and that cut across the agencies' mandates.



Partners and leaders renewed political commitment to data for action by endorsing the HDC work plan for the next three years, 2020-2023. The first three of the work plan's four objectives are the HDC's objectives. The last objective supports the Governance and functioning of the HDC.

Objectives

To strengthen country health & civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) information systems by enhancing capacity to plan, implement, monitor and review progress.

To improve efficiency and alignment of technical and financial investments in health information and CRVS systems through collective action.

To identify and increase the impact of global public goods and tools on country health information and CRVS systems through increased sharing, learning, and country engagement.

To ensure HDC has governance processes and structures in place to provide transparent accountability mechanisms to all countries and partners, communications to all stakeholders and advocacy to strengthen political capital.

Milestones: 2020-2021

1. One data institute identified and supported in each region.
2. Two regional-hosted 'peer reviews' hosted.
3. For each focus country: i) identify 2-3 data priorities in the national plan that HDC partners commit to; ii) data and identified; subnational identified.
4. Review of COVID-19 related data best practices that can be incorporated into HDC country and digital 'champion' iii) national and data institutes partners efforts for stronger sustainable health information systems.
5. Review of best practices for community-generated data for tracking communities left behind.

1. Review of alignment of partners' technical & financial investments in data efforts in all focus countries;
2. For each focus country: i) identify national data institute, ii) identify & support Govt. led data coordination mechanism, iii) map partners, budget/planning cycle, iv) consider applying ToC / SCORE for aligning investments

1. All HDC WGs have i) representation from all 7 constituencies, ii) clear ToRs, iii) WPs & deliverables contributing to HDC mission / objectives / work plan.2. For each focus country: i) clear overview of data & digital tools being used, ii) consideration and prioritization of global tools and adaptation to local contexts (focus on SCORE, Community, HHFA & others)

1. Functioning secretariat to support: i) SRG & WG calls, ii) biannual HDC meetings, iii) functioning, accessible website & comms materials, iv) quarterly reviews of progress & constituency support / outreach.2. Increased HDC membership to 12 countries and 25% more members than 2020.3. Leadership event with renewed political and advocacy commitment for data and HDC translated into action in countries.4. HDC work plan efforts contribute to SDG GAP and UHC2030 goals.

[AGENDA LINK](#)

Kathryn Kross, Executive Director of Communications at the UN Foundation, welcomed participants and served as the mistress of ceremonies for the event. She highlighted that a data highway without speed limits requires a common agenda for measurement and accountability. Ms. Kross restated the meeting objectives: to promote data as a public good, to commit to stronger coordination around the health-related SDGs, and to fill gaps and better use data through partnerships.

Guiding Questions

How do we work in partnership to strengthen country health information systems? What is required to align partner resources in support of country plans? And how do we adapt global tools for local contexts?

Welcome Remarks

Dr. Bernhard Schwartländer, Chef de Cabinet, World Health Organization

“The Health Data Collaborative was created to reduce the (data) burden by bringing together tools, technologies, and partnerships. It’s a foundation for promoting data as a global public good and reflects our shared values of trust, transparency, and accountability for results.”



Hon. Bhanubhakta Dhakal, Minister for Health and Population - Nepal

“Accelerating progress through partnership is timely and rational. We acknowledge health data is a global public good helping us for measurement of health outcomes.”

PANEL ONE: Country driven data and digital efforts

This panel explored HDC's constituency-based governance structure, with countries at the centre to align partner investments for county-owned data and digital plans and adapt data and digital tools to local contexts.



Hon. Chitalu Chilufya, Minister of Health - Zambia

"Information Management Systems are the top priority in our health system strengthening agenda. Data is important in our planning and in monitoring key public health programs such as maternal and child health, TB, malaria, and HIV, and including NCDs."



Hon. Edwin Dikoloti, Minister of Health & Wellness - Botswana"

"The aim of the Botswana Health Data Collaborative aim was to bring all M&E and health information together to have a common system for purposes of efficiency, transparency, accountability and ultimately leading to a better-improved health system."



Hon. Mercy Mwangangi, Health Chief Administrative Secretary - Kenya

"Kenya has made great strides in ensuring that we're able to make advancements when it comes to civil registration and vital statistics interventions... We're working to roll out an end-to-end solution across all health facilities within the country."



Allan Maleche, Executive Director, The Kenya Legal & Ethical Issues Network on HIV and AIDS and Board Member, The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria

"Governments and countries need to invest in a strong legal and ethical framework because they are both needed to create the parameters and the environment for the collection of the data, the use of data, and the accessibility of data."

PANEL TWO: Renewing commitments for data and digital efforts

This panel highlighted how partners can respond more effectively to address country and community needs for data and digital efforts, as well as what needs to be done differently.



Tore Godal, Special Adviser on Global Health, Ministry of Health and Welfare - Norway

"We very clearly heard from the first panel that one has to have an attitude of humility. We are all very excited about the recent developments in technology, and we tend to bring them without thinking about the demand from the countries as well as the importance of local innovations."



Marijke Wijnroks, Chief of Staff, Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria

"The Global Fund's strategy prioritizes strengthening countries' data systems for health as well as countries' capacities for data analysis to use as critical elements for targeted programs, as well as improving program quality and providing for more efficient service delivery."



Kevin Cain, Principal Deputy Director, Center for Global Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

"Data should guide the actions of all partners so that everyone can have a common understanding of needs...countries and partners must come together to address key gaps."



Monique Vledder, Head of Secretariat and Practice Manager, Global Financing Facility

"In countries, we collectively analyze the data to influence how we support better implementation and better results. Because in the end, whether it's about partnership or investments in systems, what we are collectively interested in is showing impact and results."



Rachel Snow, Chief, Population and Development, UNFPA

"I just want to underscore that the Health Data Collaborative, in our view, absolutely has it right. The focus needs to be on strengthening local institutions and national systems."

PANEL THREE: “The right ingredients’: Data governance, open data, digital health, partnership, gender awareness & disaggregated data

This panel highlighted what ingredients need to be present to support data and digital efforts to achieve the health-related SDGs. Panelists shared their views on governance, open data partnership, gender awareness, and disaggregated data, among other topics.



Data Governance: Francesca Perruci, Chief of Development Data and Outreach Branch, UN Statistics

"82% of countries were involved in collecting data about COVID-19. The main challenge was the lack of a collaborative framework. Data is a public good. We must leave no one behind."



Open Data: Shaida Badiee, Managing Director, Open Data Watch

"If data is truly meant to be a public good then there should be public funding. Open data brings values like transparency, accountability, and trust."



Gender Awareness: Roopa Dhatt, Executive Director & Co-Founder, Women in Global Health

"Making disaggregated data a global public good ensures data gets into the hands of all communities – especially girls & women to not only keep them informed but also equipped to engage in shaping the health agenda as decision-makers and leaders."



Focus on Equity: Mark Hereward, Associate Director for Data and Analytics, Division of Data, Analytics, Planning, and Monitoring, UNICEF

"The feedback loop within the countries down to the district level is a really important accountability mechanism to be able to help identify inequities and make sure that they get addressed as well."

PANEL FOUR: Practically making collaboration & partnership work for data and digital

This panel of HDC stakeholders representing countries, donors, NGOs, multilateral, private sector, and academia shared their views on how to make collaboration work.



Donors: Neil Jackson, Chief Statistician, Foreign Commonwealth, and Development Office - UK

"Information Systems are one of the key building blocks for a strong health system. Through our investments and health system strengthening, the UK has a strong focus on supporting national statistical systems."



Global Health Initiatives: Heidi Reynolds, Head of Country Performance, Gavi

"There are still 10.6 million children who do not receive vaccines. Using data and digital tech we can sustainably reach these children and their communities."



Global Health Initiatives: Peter Hansen, Lead, Results and Monitoring, Global Financing Facility

"Structured collaboration mechanisms such as the HDC are really, really important for enabling collaboration in support of a country's data system."



Private Sector: Ruchika Singhal, Vice President, Medtronic USA

"As we are overcoming barriers, the HDC is a great format to build trust and understand the needs of stakeholders. We all have to sit around the table and understand how to use these technologies."



Multilaterals: Taavi Erkkola, Senior Adviser, UNAIDS

"One of the things that we've discovered in our journey on data use has really been to engage civil society leaders and civil society partners. The Health Data Collaborative has been speaking on the topic of promoting community-led monitoring initiatives across countries."



Research, Academia and Technical Networks: Debra Jackson, Takeda Chair in Global Child Health, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)

"Lack of public health data sharing can inhibit accountability. A new focus on partnership principles is needed and all stakeholders must work together."

LEADERSHIP EVENT: CLOSING REMARKS

EVENT PAGE



Dzinkambani Kambalame, Senior Research Officer, Ministry of Health - Malawi

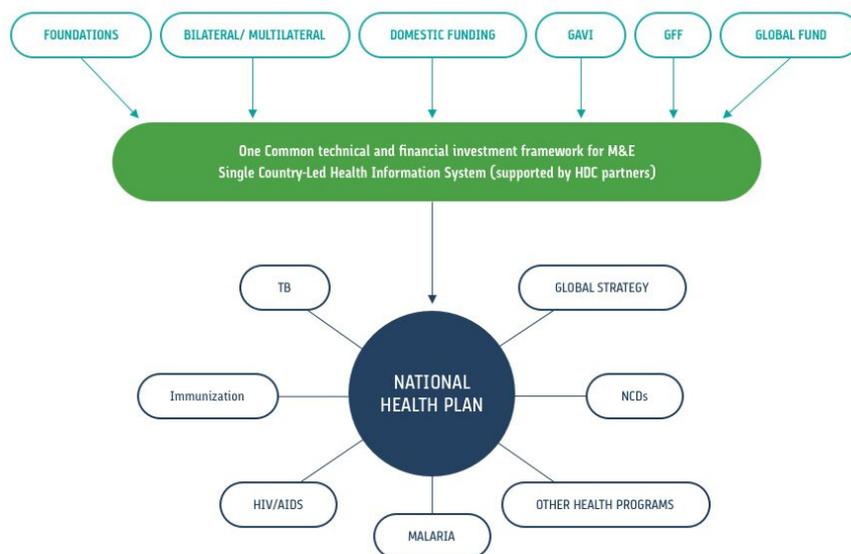
“In Malawi, the government endorsed the national health information system policy for monitoring and evaluation... We are striving towards open data, open-source, and open innovation.”



Samira Asma, Assistant Director-General for Data, Analytics, and Delivery, WHO

“The Health Data Collaborative anchors us all towards a common goal: using data to improve health for everyone, everywhere. The HDC is uniquely poised to take us further and faster together.”

HDC APPROACH



#SDGDataHighway
@HDC4SDGs

www.healthdatacollaborative.org