



Note for the Record – Monthly HDC SRG Meeting		
Location: MS Teams (virtual)		
Date: 20 April 2023, 16:00-17:00 CET		
Meeting Chair: Tyler Andrew Porth (UNICEF)		
Co-Chairs	Tyler Andrew Porth (UNICEF)	
Participants:	Countries	Mwango Mutale (MoH Zambia)
	Multilateral and Intergovernmental Organisations	Joao Pedro Azevedo (UNICEF)
	Donors	Ernesto Lembcke (GIZ)
	GHIs	Heidi Reynolds (GAVI)
	Civil Society	Maxwell Antwi (PharmAccess)
	Research, Academia and Technical Networks	Christopher Murrill (US CDC) Olga Henao (US CDC)
	Private Sector	Patricia Monthe (MedxCARE)
	Observers	Christian von Drehle (CEPA) Laura Grobicki (CEPA) Xavier Bosch-CapBlanch (Swiss Tropical & Public Health Institute) Christian Auer (Swiss Tropical & Public Health Institute) Donnela Besada (South Africa Medical Research Council-SAMRC)
Working groups:	<i>Community Data</i> Remy Mwamba (UNICEF) <i>RHIS</i> Jean-Pierre de Lamalle (RHINO) <i>Data and Digital Governance</i> Vikas Dwivedi (Palladium Group) <i>CRVS</i> Doris Ma Fat (WHO) Hong Anh Chu (WHO) Debra Jackson (LSHTM)	
HDC secretariat:	Craig Burgess (WHO), Tashi Chozom (WHO), Pandula Siribaddana (WHO), Isabella Maina (WHO)	
Objectives:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To introduce regional consultants and present initial thinking on expanded country engagement 2. To update on Leadership event 3. To discuss plans for September SRG 		
Agenda:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome (5 mins) 2. Country Engagement Updates (20 mins) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introducing regional consultants 		



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- Initial thinking on expanded country engagement
- 3. Working Group Updates (10 mins)**
 - Update on RHIS investment case
- 4. Communications and events (20 mins)**
 - Update on Leadership event 2023
 - Discussion on plan for September SRG
- 5. Next steps and AOB (5 mins)**

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Welcome (5 mins)

US CDC – Christopher Murrill

- Introduced Dr. Olga Henao, who oversees that Global Heather Center at US CDC and Global EpiLabs of the Global Health Surveillance branch in the division of Global Health Protection.
- Kathy Gallagher has moved onto another position. She may join at times, but Olga will be stepping into the role that Kathy had.

Country Engagement Updates (20 mins)

Introducing regional consultants

Initial thinking on expanded country engagement

HDC Secretariat – Pandula Siribaddana

- Recently joined the Coordination and Governance unit with Craig and the team on a short-term basis.
- Isabella Maina and I are tasked with supporting the HDC and partner alignment activities in the Asian and African regions.
- Initial thinking on expanded country engagement:
 - Scale up how countries make use of the HDC platform.
 - Develop country profile to open up dialogue with regions, countries and partners to understand the needs and priorities.
 - Mapping partners for investments, technical inputs and advocacy to better under roles and their engagement and contributions.
 - Develop of “Success Matrix” for each country.

Questions

RHIS Working Group – Jean-Pierre de Lamalle

- Would the “Success Matrix” measure the success of the HDC or the country towards making a better health information system?



- Our working group is planning to have matrix relating to the maturity model of RHIS. It would be good to have a generic matrix in place that is focus on countries rather than HDC.

UNICEF – Tyler Porth

- Are the country profiles based on the SCORE assessment that have already taken place, or will there be a new rollout of SCORE assessments?
- The country profiles and mapping of partners are important developments. The challenges we have had with country engagement in the past has been around lack of clarity of our offer. Helping them to have a thorough assessment and maturity of HIS would be a valuable asset to countries and provide incentive to engage more robustly with the HDC. This in turn helps us collaborate.
- How many countries have already done the assessment? Are you focusing on all of them or prioritize a subgroup?

In response:

HDC Secretariat – Pandula Siribaddana

- The initial development is for us to measure how the HDC has been doing in terms of country engagement. It looks at the components of theory of change to see what the successes may look like, which may vary depending on the country.
- At this stage, we are not trying to replicate the work that has already been done. This work is based on the SCORE and whatever strategy or partner documents that are already available. Country profiles will be based on what is already available.
- The thinking is that the profiles can be made clearer and more refined when countries, regions and partners are engaged.
- Mapping is also SCORE-based. It will help us see which partners are active and what resources they bring with them.
- For practical purposes, we will be prioritizing countries; however, it would be worth doing this for most of countries that have done the SCORE.

HDC Secretariat - Isabella Maina

- The Matrix is to support what success will look like in each country, which will depend on the needs of the countries.
- Basically, generic thoughts depending on the status of HIS and based on existing reports and country plans.
- A further definition of the Success Matrix will be done after in-depth country engagement.
- The existing SCORE reports are more of a tool of engagement.



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Working Group updates (10 mins)

RHIS Working Group – Jean-Pierre de Lamalle

- At our last meeting, the question of fundraising of resources to support the implementation of the activities in our work plan was discussed.
- We are planning to have an in-person meeting in Geneva or somewhere to discuss the strategy for fundraising for the working group.
- Work streams include:
 - Global resources, country specific documents and how to make those accessible and be regularly updated
 - Integrating public health intelligence into RHIS
 - RHIS investment case
 - Data use – we are gathering case studies to identify best practices and guidelines

Community Data Working Group – Remy Mwamba

- We are trying to strengthen country engagement. Thanks to the help of HDC Secretariat, we are in contact with a few countries in HIS.
- We are organizing a community information academy in the last week of June in Tanzania to discuss how to strengthen CHIS and leverage resources of the working group to improve processes and tools.
- This is funded by the Global Fund.
- We have been in touch with Jean-Pierre and the RHIS Working Group to see if we can leverage their work on data use at the community level.

CRVS Working Group – Debra Jackson

- Our working group met to discuss the mission to Nepal and the follow up on that. Various partners will follow up in countries.
- We were requested to provide comments on the UN Digital Compact. Comments to be provided from the working group by the end of the June, and then compiled by the Secretariat.
- Tanzania requested comments on their mortality report which several partners assisted with.
- Meeting again next week to work on the work plan.
- We are excited to starting working with regional colleagues on CRVS.

CRVS Working Group – Doris Ma Fat

- Pakistan trip has been cancelled.
- Tried to get more partners to join us to be more inclusive.



Update on RHIS investment case

Swiss TPH – Xavier Bosch-Capblanch

- Work package 2 focuses on case studies for 6 countries and 2 sub-national regions.
 - Completed all the data collection and most of the analysis.
 - Minor issues with a few countries. They are being addressed.
 - Biggest issue is data collection from South Sudan and Western Cape in South Africa. Working with the Ministry of Health in South Sudan.
- Work package 2 methods:
 - Could not engage with Switzerland and Catalonia.
 - Have data coming from expert opinions.
- Work package 2 Findings
 - RHIS is present across all tiers and facilities.
 - Estimated range for total annual costs of RHIS on a national level. Median of \$0.5 USD per capita.
 - Human resources are the largest portion of RHIS costs.
 - More than 80% of expenses for RHIS is at the peripheral level.
- Work package 3
 - Synthesis of evidence gathered.
 - Address mismatch between RHIS role and current attention and investment.
 - How much and where to investment in RHIS and research.

SAMRC - Donnela Besada

- Looked at existing works regarding the value of lost welfare due to amenable mortality.
- Investment in system is below 1% - shows that more investment is needed in information systems, including optimize how we're collecting information systems to contribute to the improvement of quality of care.

Questions

HDC Secretariat - Isabella Maina

- Was there any triangulation on the level of investment at different levels of health systems and the value of lost welfare? To understand which level requires more investment or analysis.

UNICEF – Tyler Porth

- Regarding the 6 different case studies, they were proportionately different from one another. I would be interested in seeing those domains calculated as a per capita value to see if some domains are consistent from country to country, or if there are some countries that are over- or under-expensed relative to other country case studies. Have you made effort to do this?



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In response

SAMRC - Donnela Besada

- We did not triangulate where the investments are relative to the value of lost welfare.
- What is driving the cost differential for the levels of care is the number of facilities and personnel working in those sites. Costs are driven by workloads and the number of people seen at those levels of care.
- There wouldn't be a clearcut analysis of where costs are going. Would need to look at more nuanced data from those facilities.

Swiss TPH – Xavier Bosch-Capblanch

- The median across the 6 entities per capita is quite consistent. It was between 0.3 and 0.7 USD per capita. The median was 0.5 USD per capita.

Communications and events (10 mins)

Update on HDC Evaluation

CEPA – Laura Grobicki

- Inception phase concluding this week. Then core phase will focus on gathering data and analyzing.
- Questions set out on the Terms of Reference included in the Evaluation Framework.
- Will conduct desk-based document review.
- Conduct interviews or focus group discussions.
- Will look at country case studies of active, inactive and “never active” countries.
- E-survey sent to a larger group of stakeholders.
- Comparator analysis against organizations similar to HDC.
- Counterfactual analysis – looking at what might have happened in the absence of the HDC.

Update on Leadership event 2023

Discussion on plans for September SRG

HDC Secretariat – Craig Burgess

- Hybrid HDC event planned for the 18th and 19th of May which aims to make a better investment case for good data governance and investing in HIS.
- Event could lead to advocacy work.
- Plans for in-person SRG meeting in September.
 - Dates to be confirmed.



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- Requesting feedback on agenda and meeting objectives.

HDC Secretariat – Tashi Chozom

- E-Survey on HDC Partners' HIS Investment in countries launched. Please complete the survey by the deadline of 28th of April.

Next steps and AOB (5 mins)

UNICEF – Tyler Porth

- Thank you everyone for your active participation. Look forward to moving these efforts forward.