



Note for the Record – Monthly HDC SRG Meeting		
Location: MS Teams (virtual)		
Date: 16 February 2023, 16:00-17:00 CET		
Meeting Chair: Stephen MacFeely (WHO)		
Co-Chairs	Stephen MacFeely (WHO), Tyler Andrew Porth (UNICEF)	
Participants:	Countries	
	Multilateral and Intergovernmental Organisations	Predrag Savic (UNSD) Denise Ferris (WHO) Johanna Belanger (WHO) Ana Lucia Raposo Da Costa Lourenco (WHO)
	Donors	Ernesto Lembcke (GIZ)
	GHIs	Heidi Reynolds (GAVI) Mark Herringer
	Civil Society	
	Research, Academia and Technical Networks	Pam Dixon (World Privacy Forum)
	Private Sector	Patricia Monthe (MedxCare)
	Observers	Xavier Bosch-CapBlanch (Swiss Tropical & Public Health Institute)
Working groups:	<i>CRVS</i> Bhaskar Mishra (UNICEF) Doris Ma Fat (WHO) Debra Jackson (LSHTM)	
	<i>Community Data</i> Remy Mwamba (UNICEF)	
	<i>GIS</i> Rocco Panciera (UNICEF) Ravi Santhana (WHO) Sainan Zhang (UNFPA)	
	<i>RHIS</i> Jean-Pierre de Lamalle (RHINO)	
HDC secretariat:	Craig Burgess, Mwenya Kasonde, Tashi Chozom, Carolina Futuro	
Objectives:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> To update on HDC evaluation bid To vote on forming a working group on GIS To update on Leadership Event 2023 and communications 		
Agenda:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome and introductions (chair) (5 mins) 		



2. HDC Governance (10 mins)

- Update on HDC Evaluation

3. Country Engagement Updates (10 mins)

- Update on Nepal CRVS and GIS mission
- Plans for Pakistan
- Mapping HDC partner's HIS investment in countries

4. Working Group updates (20 mins)

- Feedback on TORs and vote on GIS working group
- WG/Constituency skills mapping
- Update on RHIS investment case

5. Communications and events (10 mins)

- Update on Leadership event 2023
- Plans for September 2023 SRG

6. AOB (5 mins)

7. Next steps (chair)

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

HDC Governance (10 mins)

Update on HDC Evaluation

HDC Secretariat – Tashi Chozom

- RFP to evaluate HDC's work from June 2015 to December 2022 with three key deliverables:
 - Develop an evaluation framework based on OECD's evaluation criteria for SRG approval
 - Evaluation based on approved framework
 - Provide action-oriented recommendations to strengthen HDC's work from 2023 to 2030
- Evaluators are in the process of scoring the 2 top contenders. Selection and awarding of contract should be completed by early March.

Country Engagement Updates (10 mins)

Update on Nepal CRVS and GIS mission

Plans for Pakistan

Mapping HDC partner's HIS investment in countries

UNICEF – Baskar M

- 5-day mission to Nepal went very well. Had meaningful engagement with the government and stakeholders.



Health Data Collaborative

- Made a solid pitch for integrating GIS and CRVS within an overall stronger health and population data system.
- Discussed the need for safe, innovative and cost-effective ways for digitalization.
- Nepal's national identification program recently started and is moving ahead.
- Concerns noted:
 - Difficulty in translating frameworks, including directives and guidelines, to action.
 - Lots of restrictions for birth and registration.
 - Too many siloed systems within the health systems and subsystems, so the problem with integration and interoperability continues.
 - National statistics office has yet to analyze available health data.
- Working on the white paper and recommendations. Plan to provide to the Nepal government by March 10.

UNICEF – Rocco Panciera

- Limited GIS capacity currently but pleased to see that the GIS context in Nepal is quite mature.
- There are leading GIS agencies in the survey, health and population departments/agencies.
 - Departments and agencies have established interest and awareness in strengthening GIS in their programs, including having a strategic vision.
- Areas of opportunities to use GIS:
 - Mapping population distribution and movements.
 - Geo-enabling CRVS by mapping coverage of registering centres.
 - Support the planning for registration mobile camps to provide outreach support in remote areas.
 - Support visualization and monitoring of CRVS data and reporting.
 - Strengthen the census.
- Areas of support noted:
 - Strengthening coordination between the survey department and other health agencies that have a need and demand for GIS capacity.
 - Supporting and upgrading to DHIS2 in the department of health services.
- Good attendance at the workshops from local universities and GIS-skilled graduates, which could address the capacity issues in other departments.

WHO - Ravi Santhana

- To be successful, the following are needed:
 - Infrastructure to host the GIS components.
 - Capacity.
 - Rich data set.
 - Motivation from the country and senior management.
- These 4 are present in Nepal. Nepal can be a very successful use case.



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UNFPA – Sainan Zhang

- Echo what Ravi and Rocco said. Huge opportunity for GIS.

World Privacy Forum – Pam Dixon

- There's an immense body of work around GIS and CRVS across multiple organizations. It's important to leverage the work that has already been done.
- There's a good conference this year in May in Kenya held by ID for Africa on the topics of GIS, CRVS and identity ecosystems.

HDC Secretariat – Mwenya Kasonde

- Mission to Pakistan was due to take place on the 13-17th of March; however, the 3 country representatives (WHO, UNCIEF and UNFPA) decided to postpone to mission. New date to be confirmed.
- Preparation activities for Pakistan still continues. We are still finalizing the agenda, concept notes, etc.
 - Call scheduled in the coming weeks with partners to discuss.

HDC Secretariat – Tashi Chozom

- Main action of SRG is to map out support from HDC partner's HIS investment in countries and manage it.
- Propose doing an online survey via Survey Monkey with 10 HDC countries and 23 HDC partners to map the different types of investments, such as political/advocacy, financial, technical and/or in-kind.
 - Timeframe: Jan-Dec 2022.
 - 2 questions on type of investment and areas of support.

Questions

World Privacy Forum – Pam Dixon

- For the mapping, I recommend getting a global snapshot to ensure it is inclusive. This might mean that there will be mapping done with smaller organizations.

LSHTM - Debra Jackson

- The partners listed are not all of the partners in HDC. It looks like a subset. For example, GAVI is missing from Global Health Initiatives, and some big donors are missing.
- How were the partners selected?

UNICEF – Bhaskar Mishra

- Should also look at the existing landscape before committing to anything, including the funding commitments in countries such as Malawi.



Health Data Collaborative

In response

HDC Secretariat – Tashi Chozom

- We recognize that it's important to be inclusive.
- List is an initial list. There are no criteria adopted. The list is made up of partners we work closely with. We are open to suggestions.
- We missed GAVI on the list and will add. Happy to include other organizations on the list.

Working Group updates (20 mins)

Feedback on TORs and vote on GIS working group

HDC Secretariat – Mwenya Kasonde

- Discussed having a working group on GIS at the September SRG. Draft TORs were circulated and members submitted comments. Should the HDC use its platform to create this working group?

WHO – Ravi Santhana

- Objective of this working group is to bring everyone together for consultation, collaboration and coordination.
- TORs were developed based on other working groups' TORs. The main organizations can get together to revise the TORs as necessary based on comments from this meeting.

UNICEF – Rocco Panciera

- There's a need for this working group. WHO and UNICEF and other partners have already worked productively in a similar structure, but it is focused on COVID-19.
- These groups are looking at how we can replicate this level of coordination on GIS more broadly for health.
- Would be good to spend time working on the TORs among the main organizations.
 - Current TORs focus on support to countries. I would like to see it more general in nature to serve beyond those 3 specific countries in the future, once the effectiveness of the working group in the 3 countries have been tested.
 - The main objective could be promoting a standardized approach to strengthen GIS in countries. The 3 organizations have different but complimentary approaches to capacity for sustained utilization in country.
 - Wondering if this working group can have a widened scope and be program agnostic by focusing on processes, capacity, and cross-sectoral data collection and analysis.
 - There are a lot of specific activities in the TORs that require funding. It would be good to clarify if there is a pool of resources to support the activities.



UNFPA – Sainan Zhang

- Agree that this working group leverages the strengthen and collaboration between organizations in a complimentary way. By joining, we can offer more.
- Agree with Rocco that the scope should be broadened. We should not just focus on RHIS and family planning.
- On the 3 deliverables and countries, should we consider a guidance from the working group to enhance the overall HIS system or CRVS?
- On a practical level, how will staffing work? Will it be internal?

UNICEF - Remy Mwamba

- Great to have this working group.
- I don't think the objective of the working group is to have a GIS system. I would like to see how the GIS system can support the countries and their planning in countries. They exist to strengthen the programming.
- On the scope, I agree with Rocco. The focus should be must broader.

World Privacy Forum – Pam Dixon

- I support this group. It's important, I would love to join as a member.
- Would it be possible to work with the Data Governance group to look at developing principles for the governance of health GIS systems? Adding this solely to the TORs is a lot, but if we can leverage and share GIS work with other working groups, that would be beneficial.

WHO – Stephen MacFeely

- Seeing no objections to the GIS working group, **the SRG agrees to establish a GIS working group pending revising the TORs.**
- Collaboration with the Data Governance group is a good idea, I would support this.

WG/Constituency skills mapping

HDC Secretariat – Mwenya Kasonde

- As a follow up to the September 2022 SRG, we are in the process of mapping technical assets for the working groups and constituencies. Topic deferred for when more updates are available.

Update on RHIS investment case

Swiss Tropical & Public Health Institute – Xavier Bosch-CapBlanch

- Update on work package 1
 - Well advanced in the scoping review. Have more than 1,000 references that we've been analyzing and extracting the main studies. Extraction of data being finalized.



Health Data Collaborative

- Results so far have been heterogenous in scope, depth and methods. There does not appear to be a well-established best practice for doing return on investment for intervention.
- Update on work package 2
 - Protocol for data collection in 6 countries to understand current state of HIS finalized: Colombia, Cote d'Ivoire, Nigeria, South Africa, South Sudan and potentially Laos.
 - Built data collection forms and incorporated any comments received into them.
 - Having training sessions on data collection with teams in the countries to do the data collection.
 - Expect to be in a position to analyze data in March.
- Work packages 3 and 4 are contingent work packages 1 and 2 so no progress so far.

Communications and events (10 mins)

Update on Leadership event 2023

Plans for September 2023 SRG

HDC Secretariat – Mwenya Kasonde

- Plans for the next SRG meeting in September deferred to the next meeting.

HDC Secretariat – Mwenya Kasonde

- Leadership advocacy event hosted by WHO. Potential dates are 18-19 May.
- Objectives:
 - advocate for health data and global goods.
 - present findings the work of Swiss TPH.
 - Further political advocacy in 2023 could lead to an agenda item in at the World Health Assembly in 2024.
- Leadership group meets every once or two weeks with WHO and co-hosts.
- Updates to be provided to the SRG as it progresses.

Action Points

Action	Person Responsible	Timeframe
Submit partner suggestions to include the mapping survey.	SRG members	
Revise GIS working group TORs as discussed.	HDC secretariat	
Share survey and code for the RHIS investment case with SRG members.	Xavier Bosch-Capblanch	