

## Data for health and sustainable development

The vision of the Sustainable Development Goals is a world with zero poverty, shared prosperity and security and where no one is left behind. Ensuring healthy lives and promoting wellbeing for all at all ages is essential to sustainable development.

Around the world today, many countries don't accurately count who is born, who dies, and other important details about people's health. Recent global health emergencies demonstrate why accurate and timely data is so important.

Knowing who is left behind, and where and why, is essential for monitoring progress, discovering the true scale of a challenge, making decisions and coming up with breakthrough solutions that prioritize health and wellbeing.

That is why data matters. Without data, it's hard to make good decisions on where to commit resources to improve health, guard against threats and help people live longer, healthier and more productive lives. Data is our roadmap to achieving human progress.

Better data will be crucial to staying on track and achieving a fairer, healthier and safer world.

## Who will benefit?

- **The poorest and most marginalised populations** will be counted and important health metrics will be measured
- **National governments** will strengthen their evidence-based planning, budgeting and implementation
- **Civil society organizations** will be given a more prominent role in gathering, analysing and using data, and holding governments and international partners to account
- **Donors** will ensure a more efficient use of their investments
- **Academics and innovators** will be able to contribute and engage constructively in data collection and analysis, leading to smarter use of technology and better quality data
- **The global and national statistical community** will benefit from statistical capacity-building and system strengthening
- **Global citizens** will benefit from a more timely identification and response to public health crises that have serious social, economic and political consequences



HEALTH DATA  
COLLABORATIVE  
DATA FOR HEALTH AND  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

[www.healthdatacollaborative.org](http://www.healthdatacollaborative.org)



HEALTH DATA  
COLLABORATIVE

# ... ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages.

## Country data. Country results.

Comprehensive health information, if well harnessed and transparent, can lead to more inclusive and informed decision-making. It gives people the potential for more and better control over their health and well-being.

The Health Data Collaborative is a response to a call by global health leaders to work together on a common agenda in health measurement and accountability. Over the next 15 years, this collective action will be anchored in national plans to improve the quality of health data and track progress toward the health-related Sustainable Development Goals.

By working together the Health Data Collaborative can assist countries collect and analyse timely data and create an environment for better use of information. The Health Data Collaborative will enable better decision-making that will lead to better health.

## What will the Health Data Collaborative do?

The Health Data Collaborative will address current challenges by:

- **Strengthening** national health-related statistical systems and capabilities
- **Increasing** efficiencies of investments in health information systems
- **Aligning** ad hoc donor funding to national plans and facilitating coordination of donor support for health information systems
- **Improving** the harmonisation of data collection, sharing and use
- **Ensuring** international standards and methodologies
- **Establishing** open data platforms for rapid sharing and analysis of quality-assured health data
- **Using** new technologies to fill data gaps and harness the data revolution
- **Engaging** a wider set of players, from the private sector, academia and civil society
- **Cooperating** with existing initiatives designed to improve the use of data
- **Learning** and sharing lessons and best practices
- **Tracking** progress in country capacity to monitor the health-related Sustainable Development Goals

The Health Data Collaborative has already made progress in prioritising a Global Reference List of 100 Core Health Indicators, which will be used to measure the health situation and trends at national and global levels.

## How will it work?

As a global network of national governments, UN agencies, philanthropies, academics, companies, civil society and aid organizations working together in support of country-led health data systems, the Health Data Collaborative will establish links with other data efforts and health initiatives.



Margaret Chan  
Director-General, WHO

*Accurate and timely health data are the foundation for improving public health. What gets measured gets done.*

*Today's investments in country health information systems will lead to a better tomorrow for billions of people.*



Jim Yon Kim  
President, World Bank

*An investment in measurement is an investment in people, communities, and a healthier world.*



Gayle Smith,  
Administrator, US Agency for  
International Development