DH&I WG all-member call
October 26, 2017

You can access a recording of this call here.

Participants: Lauren Wall (Digital Square at PATH), Amanda BenDor (PATH), Lisa Spellman (Rapid Creek Group), Vikas Dwivedi (MCSP/JSI), Steve Ollis (MCSP/JSI), Sam Wambugu (MEASURE), Christina Villella (MEASURE), Kristen Wares (USAID/MEASURE), Carl Leitner (PATH/Digital Square), Kyle Duarte (PSM), Manish Kumar (MEASURE), Emily Nicholson (IntraHealth), Donna Medeiros (IRC), Tigest (WHO) , Tamara Goldschmidt (Blue Square), Paul Biondich (Regenstrief/OGAC), Jonathan Payne (Regenstrief/OCL/DIAL), Steven Uggowitzer (eSHIFT / HISP Geneva), Dr. Roshan Hewapthirana (Health Informatics Society of Sri Lanka), Dominic S. Haazen (World Bank, joined late), Rita Sembajwe (RTI International), Josephine Nabukenya (Makerere University)

Agenda:
Resources for this meeting referenced by MEASURE, AeHIN, and BlueSquare can be found here.

- **Maturity Model v 0.5 update** (referenced documents) –MEASURE (Sam Wambugu) and Paul (25 mins)
  - Paul: During last year's in-person meeting with different MoH representatives, the DH&I WG observed the different maturity levels of digital health in countries. We wanted to understand better where countries fit into an interoperability continuum. MEASURE developed an early version of this model and the DH&I WG maturity model small working group (with about 15-25 participants) have contributed to a pre-release of this model and the supporting documents.
  - **The model:** Sam Wambugu: The toolkit contains 3 pieces: the maturity model, the maturity assessment tool, and the user guide. View Sam's presentation here.
  - The Maturity Model addresses three domains:
    - Leadership and governance
    - Human Resources
    - Technology
  - How do countries assess their current level of interoperability maturity?
    - There are assessment tools to enable country self-assessment
    - The country maturity level is a cumulative assessment of various domains
  - MEASURE piloted the model with advisory groups in Kenya and Ghana
    - Participants were from the private sector, government, and academia.
    - The model garnered a lot of excitement.
  - Next steps:
    - The current version is 0.5, as it has not yet been tested. We expect to pilot in 2-3 countries in the coming months. Results from pilot will be used to improve the toolkit. We then intend to translate it into French.

- Our intent is for this to become a global public good.
- **The glossary**: Lisa Spellman has worked to develop [a glossary](#) accompanying the maturity matrix.
    - Lisa did this by leveraging different standards bodies and work products - in working across different standards bodies looking to harmonize terms and definitions. ISO has an online browsing platform that lists all their 25k+ standards published, also terms and definitions. Based on those terms and definitions, she developed the glossary for the matrix. Input is welcome.
- Group collaboration also surfaced that helping countries identify where they are along the maturity matrix alone might be insufficient - an early activity that is continuing is work to match some of the pre-existing documents and tools/resources to specific cells in the maturity model.
    - Suranga Kasthurirathne (Regenstrief) has helped to lead this work, linking tools to domains and subdomains. He asks for volunteers to [try out the tools and provide feedback](#).
    - Amanda BenDor (PATH): Sees the tools as an annex to the user guide that MEASURE is producing, so that as users need specific resources they have a map of available resources.
    - Tigest Tamrat (WHO): There is an effort by ITU/WHO/PATH to develop definitions for these terms across different resources - this glossary work can be useful to build on in these other projects so that we have consistency in terms across various upcoming publications
- Questions:
    - Jon Payne: (1) We need alignment in terms/lexicon between tools, but also to define what the relationship is between this maturity model and others that have been/are being developed. For example the MAPS toolkit, eHealth toolkit, ISO TR-14639 Capacity-based eHealth Roadmap, and others. Within the document, would be helpful to see that mapping. (2) Maturity models/pathways being developed within subcommunities, i.e. OpenHIE terminology management at the country level. What makes sense to do with respect to specific categories of platforms? How would tools align with maturity model?
        - Paul: This will be a broader discussion at December in-person meeting. We've received some requests to contemplate broader HIS maturity, as well as to think about the level of depth within interoperability re: what makes interoperable systems work. We will be continuing the conversation about where to go next. We call this v0.5 because we believe it's ready for testing, but not yet a full release. We request the WG members to share these early

versions for testing only, and to provide feedback re: whether way material presented makes sense and how it can be revised over time. Please reach out to WG on Slack channel to participate. (dhiwg.slack.com)

- **Event updates** (15 minutes)
  - **Commonwealth Digital Health Conference and Award** ([Documents](#)) -(Dr. Roshan Hewapathirana, CEO of the Health Informatics Society of Sri Lanka)
    - 2nd Commonwealth Digital Health Conference & Awards was held from 10 to 12 October 2017 in Colombo, Sri Lanka. The Call to Action 2017, following the declaration, called for the establishment of the Commonwealth Institute for Digital Health at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in London in April 2018 and the commencement of key digital health initiatives of the Institute aimed at combating antimicrobial resistance, supporting other initiatives to eradicate polio, and improving maternal and child health.
    - The Commonwealth Digital Health Awards will be the platform where frugal innovations (i.e. extremely low cost but highly effective innovations) that could be scaled up in commonwealth countries are identified. The innovations identified this year would be presented in Geneva at a side meeting of the World Health Assembly.
    - The 3rd Commonwealth Digital Health Conference and Awards will be held in Colombo, Sri Lanka in October 2018 parallel to the biennial conference of the Asia Pacific Association of Medical Informatics (APAMI 2018), the International Medical Informatics Association (IMIA) General Assembly and the Asia eHealth Information Network (AeHIN) General Assembly. These conferences would take place between 8 to 15 October 2018 in Colombo, Sri Lanka.
  - **AeHIN in Vietnam** - AeHIN (Donna Medeiros, IRC)
    - National conference, AeHIN and ADB with government of Vietnam, celebrating 5 year anniversary. Hosted a Practical Solutions to Interoperability one-day workshop, link: http://moh.gov.vn/news/pages/tinhoatdongv2.aspx?ItemID=2284
    - The HIS team funded by ADB on the ground is working on EA, EHR TA, disease surveillance.
    - An EpiHack was held on October 9 and developed prototypes for 4 products that will move forward as a national product. This was funded by Skoll Global Threats Foundation.
    - Vietnam is working on getting their EA in EHRs. The Minister has called for fast-tracking.
    - Graham Grieve, father of FHIR, presented and generated a lot of excitement.

- - - A lot of DHIS2 work is being done by the University of Oslo and HISP Vietnam, including Tracker for commune level and SDG reporting. We want to get HISP in Geneva to help out.
    - There is a focus on leadership by the government in digital health investments. Peter Drury, one of the authors of the eHealth Strategy Toolkit, was present. Regarding ISO eHealth architecture and capacity building, we would love to see the Maturity Model worked through from in the country/region and welcome the MEASURE folks/Sam.
  - **Africa Regional Workshop on Routine Child Health Data** ([Website](#) - Presentations and Country Action Plans) (Vikas Dwivedi, JSI; Steve Ollis, JSI)
    - The conference took place in Jo'burg in September. It was organized by USAID MCSP, and focused on child health data systems from community to national - different levels of the health system. Participation from WHO, Unicef, Harvard University, and USAID.
    - Countries: Mozambique, Nigeria, Uganda, DRC, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe where MCSP has ongoing work, as well as Malawi and Tanzania to share examples of indicator harmonization, interoperability, and governance.
    - Three aspects discussed: indicators, digital health, governance. There were between 4-8 participants/country. Each country is working on a work plan or next steps. The focus is shifting from surveys to strengthening more routine information systems. There is a huge interest in digital tools. Around 7-8 systems shown to the participants - excitement about how these tools can be used and scaled at the national level.
    - Large interest from countries to link community and facility health information systems in terms of continuity of care in terms of child health across various technical areas.
    - Link to conference website [here]; spectrum from paper-based HIS to TZ presenting their digital and interoperability work, focus on data for decision-making, and recurring need for this regardless of the system available. This is still a key challenge. People are focused on indicators getting exposure to interoperability and tools available - capacity building important, and evangelism needed in different program areas / areas of government.
    - Need for bringing in the private sector was also highlighted.
- **Member updates** (5-10 mins)
  - **Discussion of hackathons** ([Documents](#)) - Blue Square (Tamara Goldschmidt, Blue Square)

Next meeting: Thursday, November 16 at 10am Eastern time
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