

WHO Digital Health Strategy and Priorities in the Western Pacific Region

Data, Strategy and Innovation
WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific

Nadi, Fiji
29th March 2023

Digital health initiatives must address health priorities

Digitalization brought by the fourth industrial revolution will fundamentally transform our society and digital health is **an enabler** and even **a changer** to reshape the future of health.

Digital health initiatives must be part of the wider **health needs** and the digital health **ecosystem** and guided by a robust **strategy** addressing **health priorities**, and led through strong **governance structure**.



Global Strategy on Digital Health 2020 – 2025 :

Vision

To improve health for everyone, everywhere by:

- accelerating the development and adoption of appropriate, accessible, affordable, scalable and sustainable **person-centric digital health solutions** to prevent, detect and respond to epidemics and pandemics,
- **developing infrastructure and applications** that enable countries to use health data
 - to promote health and well-being, and
 - to achieve the health-related Sustainable Development Goals and the triple billion targets of WHO's Thirteenth General Programme of Work, 2019–2023



4 Strategic Objectives



SO1 Promote **global collaboration** and advance the **transfer of knowledge** on digital health



SO2 Advance the **implementation** of national digital health strategies



SO3 Strengthen **governance** for digital health at global, regional and national levels



SO4 Advocate **people-centred health systems** that are enabled by digital health

WHO Western Pacific Regional Office (WPRO)'s role

Translate global strategy into concrete regional action based on WPR context to achieve “for the future” vision.

Support countries using Digital health as an **enabler and changer** by promoting **digital health ecosystem** establishment to connect all actors both **health and non-health, human and non-human** to better mobilize diverse resources, maximize opportunities, and achieve **people-centralized health care to cover the whole life cycle** through institutionalize, scale up and sustain implementation.



WHO digital health strategies and action plan



2030 SDGs

WHO and ITU: National eHealth Strategy Toolkit

provides governments, their ministries and stakeholders with a solid foundation and method for the development and implementation of a national eHealth vision, action plan and monitoring framework



WHO: Global strategy on digital health

Improve health for everyone...affordable, scalable digital health and wellbeing...support equitable access to quality health services...implication for access, cost, quality of digital solutions"



2012

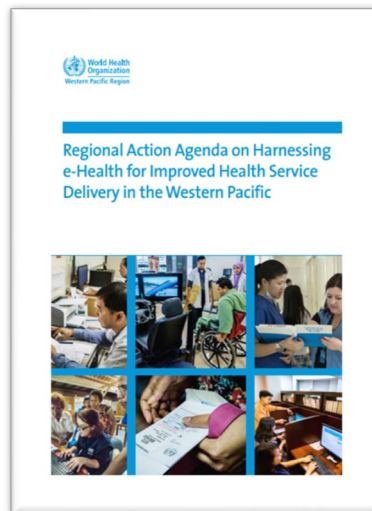
2018

2021

NOW

2023/2024

2030



WPRO: Regional action agenda on harnessing e-health for improved health service delivery in the Western Pacific

Take stock of developments across the Region and in countries, and provides a systematic framework for the deployment of e-Health for improved service delivery

Current status: Digital health maturity assessment, non-health sector involvement

Collect evidence to update the regional digital health action plan

Future: a vision for future health and its digital change and enablement in WPR

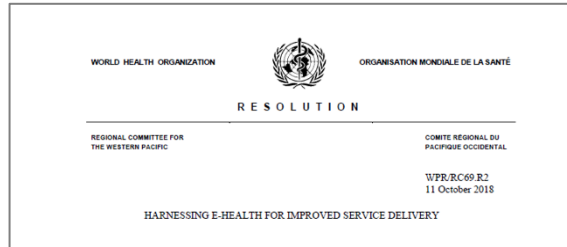
Current state: digital maturity assessment

Regional digital health action plan

Further vision

4 key activities are ongoing

WPR Regional action agenda on harnessing e-health for improved health service delivery (2018)



Resolution

69th WHO Regional Committee for the Western Pacific (2018) endorsed the **Regional Action Agenda on Harnessing E-Health for Improved Health Service Delivery in the Western Pacific (RC69.R2)**.

How to benefit health gain

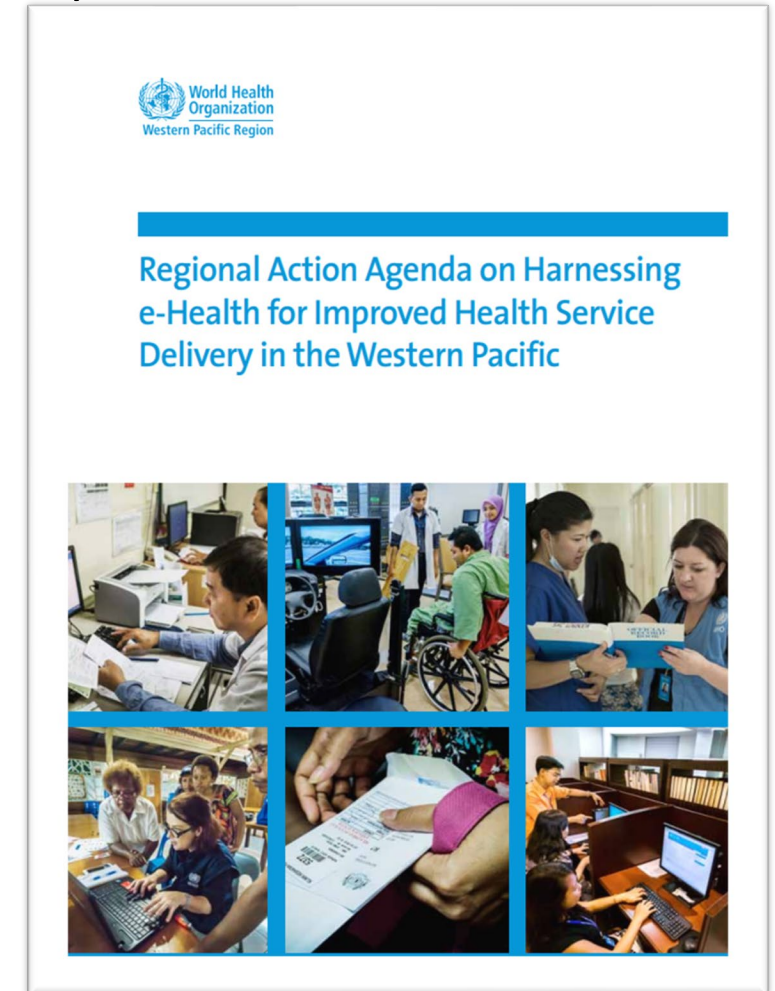
- Individual
- Service provider
- Health organization

Recommend policies, actions and essential tools for countries in different stages

- Initial stage
- Developing stage
- Advanced stage

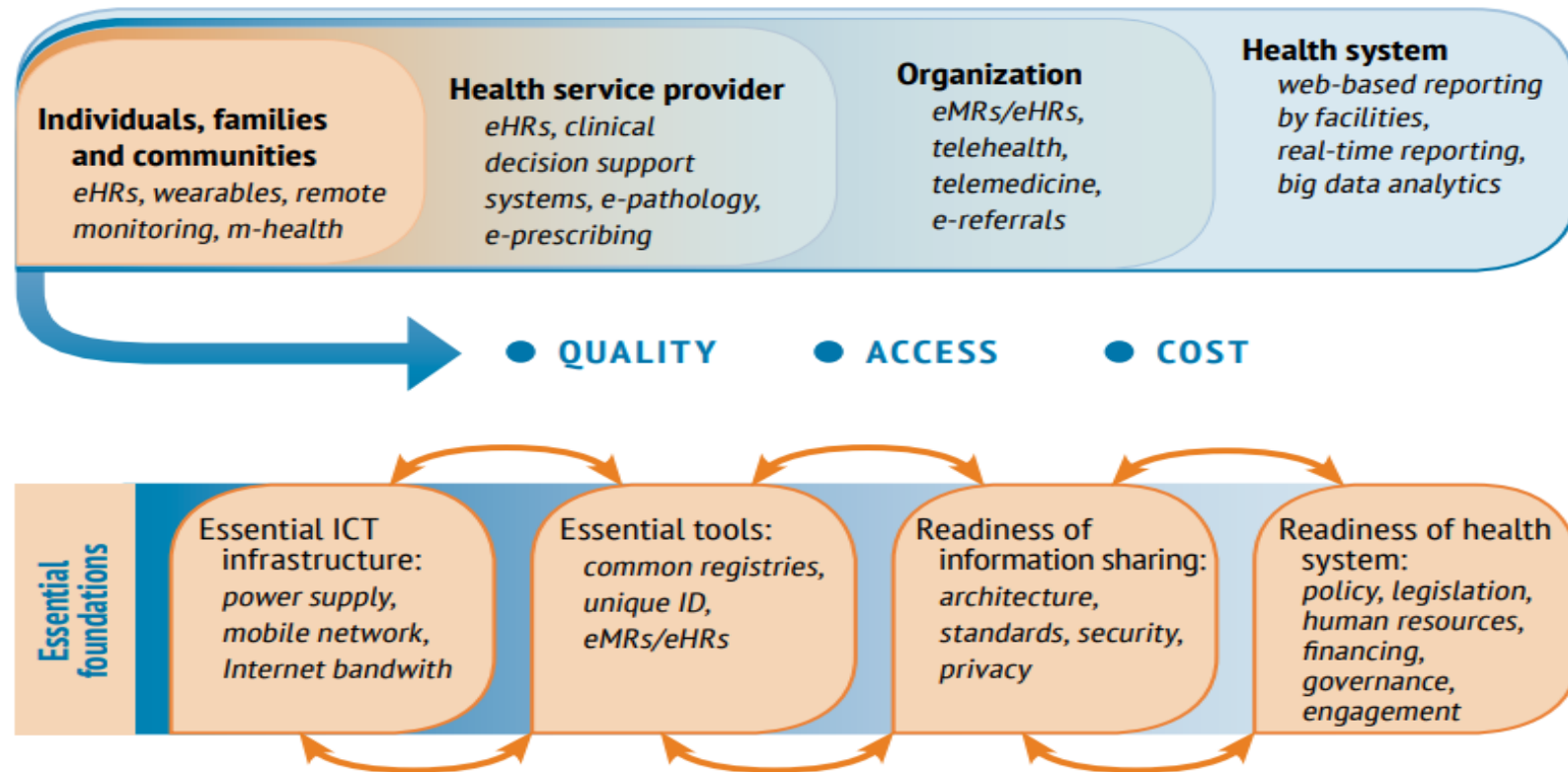
Successful stories from Member States

- System transformation
- Operational transformation
- Stakeholder engagement
- Monitoring and evaluation



Framework of e-health for improved health service delivery

FIG. 1. Framework of e-health for improved health service delivery



Recommended actions



Evidence-based
strategic planning



Use of essential
digital health tools



Capacity-building



Cross-sectional
involvement



Engagement of
different
stakeholders

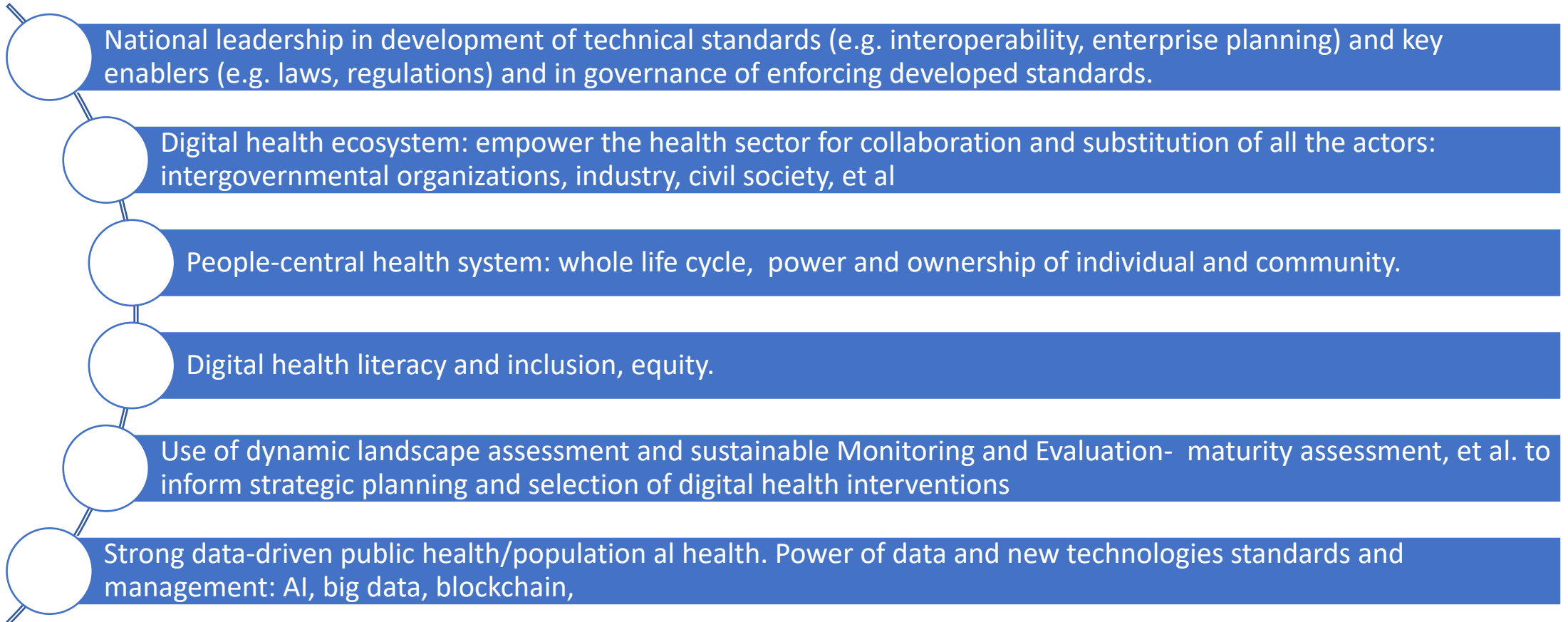


Ensuring privacy and
security



Monitoring and
evaluation

Key missing areas should pay more attention during national digital health governance and implementation



WPRO's priorities and ongoing activities

Regional level

- Disseminate and develop WHO strategy/framework/guidelines/tool.
- Promote and advocate national governance and enterprise planning
- Take the unique role to better mobilize resources and maximize opportunities to support digital health ecosystem establishment among health and non health sectors.
- Promote institutional and sustainable capacity building and improve digital health literacy, inclusion and equity.
- Map and monitor country's current situation and progress.

Country tailored supports

- Support to develop and update national digital health strategy/roadmap/action plan
- Institutional and health workforce capacity building
- Capacity building to strengthen and scale-up health innovation
- Innovative and digital solutions/interventions for better service delivery

Tailored country support: Cambodia example



- Assessment of Cambodia's national digital health strategy 2022-2030.
- Digital health landscape assessment
- Develop national digital health action plan

Form for the national focal point of vertical health programmes

1. Basic information

1.1 Name: _____

1.2 Email: _____

1.3 Phone: _____

1.4 Address: _____

1.5 Country: _____

1.6 Date: _____

1.7 Other: _____

1.8 Signature: _____

1.9 Stamp: _____

2. Key, Access, Server Infrastructure and Architecture Information

2.1 Do you have a digital information system plan/strategy/roadmap? (Yes/No)

2.2 If Yes, please provide the following information:

2.2.1 Name of the system: _____

2.2.2 Version: _____

2.2.3 Start year: _____

2.2.4 End year: _____

2.2.5 Description: _____

2.2.6 Main components: _____

2.2.7 Key stakeholders: _____

2.2.8 Funding source: _____

2.2.9 Other: _____

2.3 If No, please provide the following information:

2.3.1 Reason: _____

2.3.2 Other: _____

2.3.3 Other: _____

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60% Keep

Stick to the original actions with comments

30% Adapt

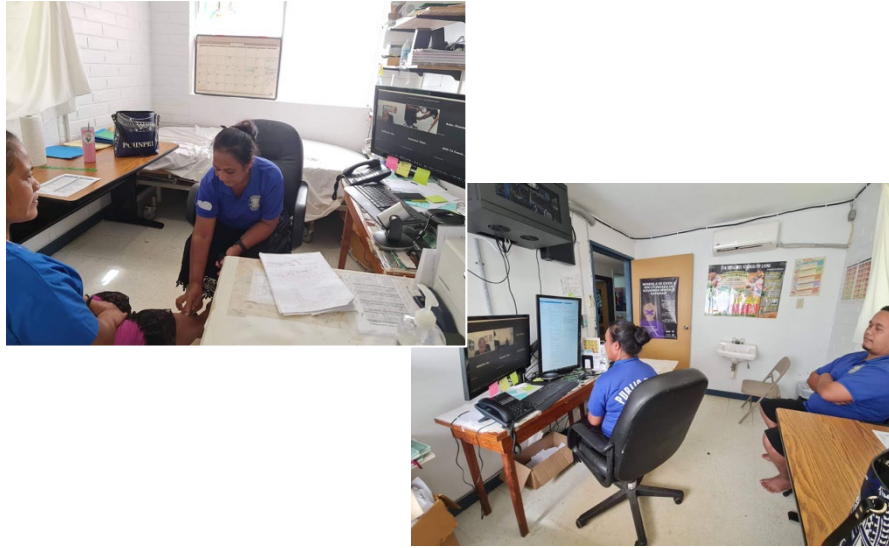
Adapted from the GSDH

10% Transfer or remove

Move to the action plan

In the Pacific, supporting development or update of national digital health strategic plan in 3 PICs and development of digital health roadmap in 5 PICs.

Tailored country support: Pacific examples



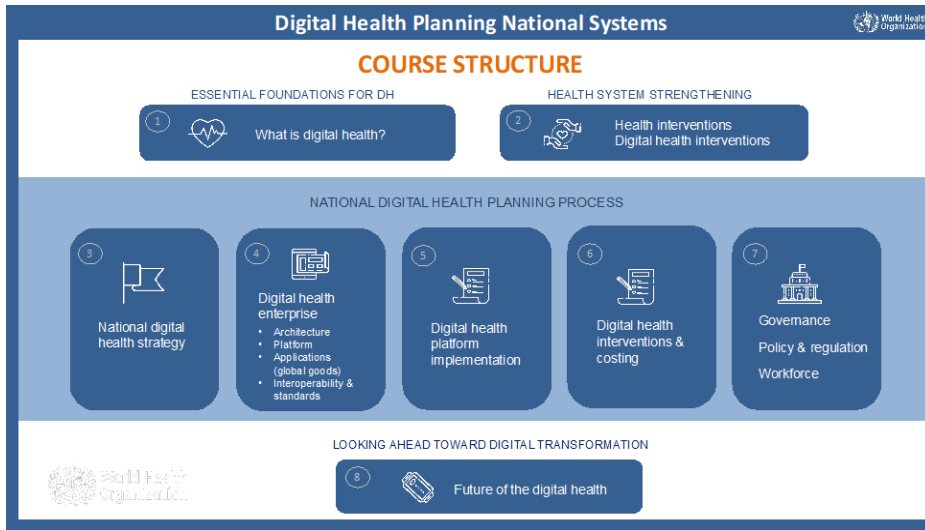
Pilot of telemedicine hub

- Connected hospital clinicians in main hospital to outer dispensary assistants
- Improved remote management of patients diagnosed with chronic non-communicable diseases

Expanding implementation of Go.data

- To retain skills gained during the COVID-19 pandemic, building capacity to use of Go.data, a digital contact tracing tool, in communicable diseases such as tuberculosis and dengue

Digital Health Training and online course 2021-2023



Digital Health: Planning National Systems
Blended Course

DICE Digital Health Centre of Excellence
unicef World Health Organization

digital square

A network diagram with a central heart icon containing a pulse line. It is connected to various icons representing digital health components: a hospital, a mail envelope, a storefront, a person, a smartphone, a laptop, a server rack, a camera, a microscope, and a building.

OpenWHO.org

Access essential knowledge for managing public health emergencies

Open to all, anytime, from anywhere

World Health Organization

Additional resources

