

Enhancing health information systems and digital health at national level

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Outline



Status of data on health in EMR countries



WHO strategies: enhancing information systems for health



WHO strategies: fostering digital health



WHO strategies: institutionalization of evidence-informed decision making



WHO report on the progress on health-related SDGs in EMR countries, 2023

- Presents progress on the health-related SDGs in the EMR
- Complements the [Regional health profile](#)
- Slow progress to achieve health related SDGs
- Lack of adequate data at national level to assess priorities, and evaluation impact
- <https://applications.emro.who.int/docs/9789292742126-eng.pdf>



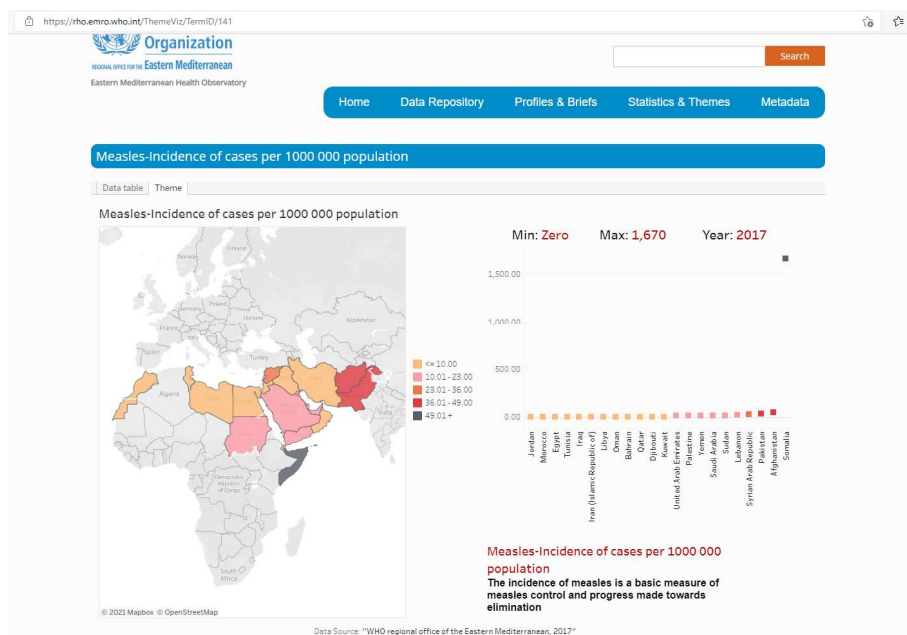
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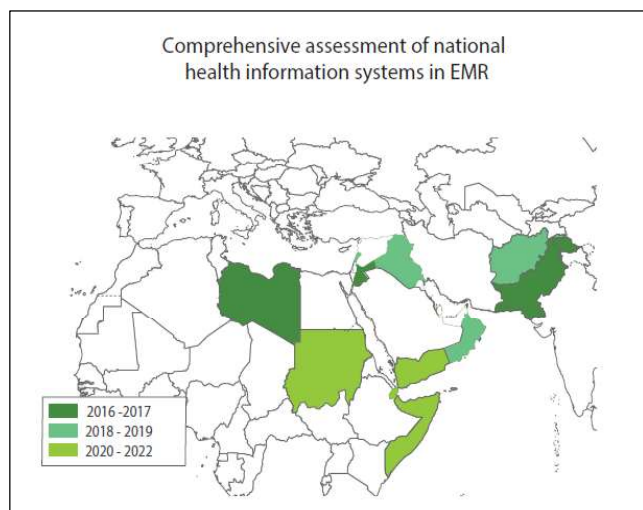
<https://rho.emro.who.int/>

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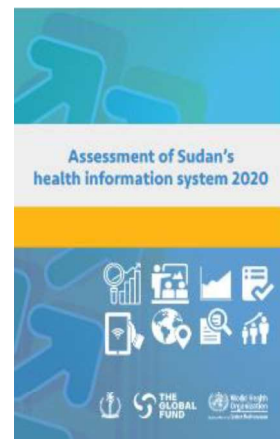


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Comprehensive national HIS assessment - a key strategy to support countries address data gaps



Assessments conducted in half of EMR countries



Sample report

Key challenges from comprehensive assessments of HIS in EMR countries

Strengthening is required in all areas assessed

Policies, regulations and use of data

- Review of related laws, regulations and coordination mechanisms
- Lack of functioning national HIS coordinating mechanisms
- Infrastructure and retention of capable human resources
- Strengthening institutional analytical capacity in MoHs
- Enhancing use of national health observatory

Routine facility and community reporting systems

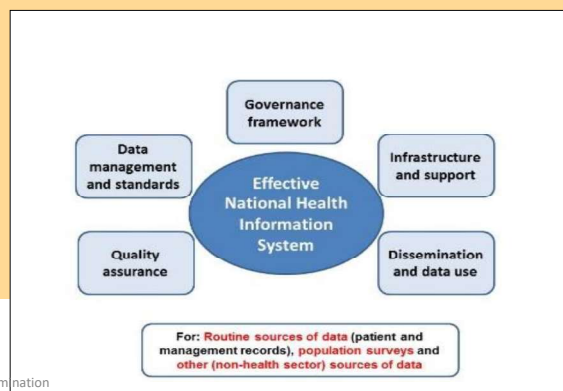
- Commitment to an integrated health management information system
- **Inadequacy of disease surveillance systems**
 - Limited examples of effective disease surveillance systems
- Chronic infrastructure issues (IT, computers, electricity, ...) affecting many low- and middle-income countries
- Lack of reverse reporting of the data to the facilities and community
- Data linkage issues and challenges

Household surveys and health facility surveys

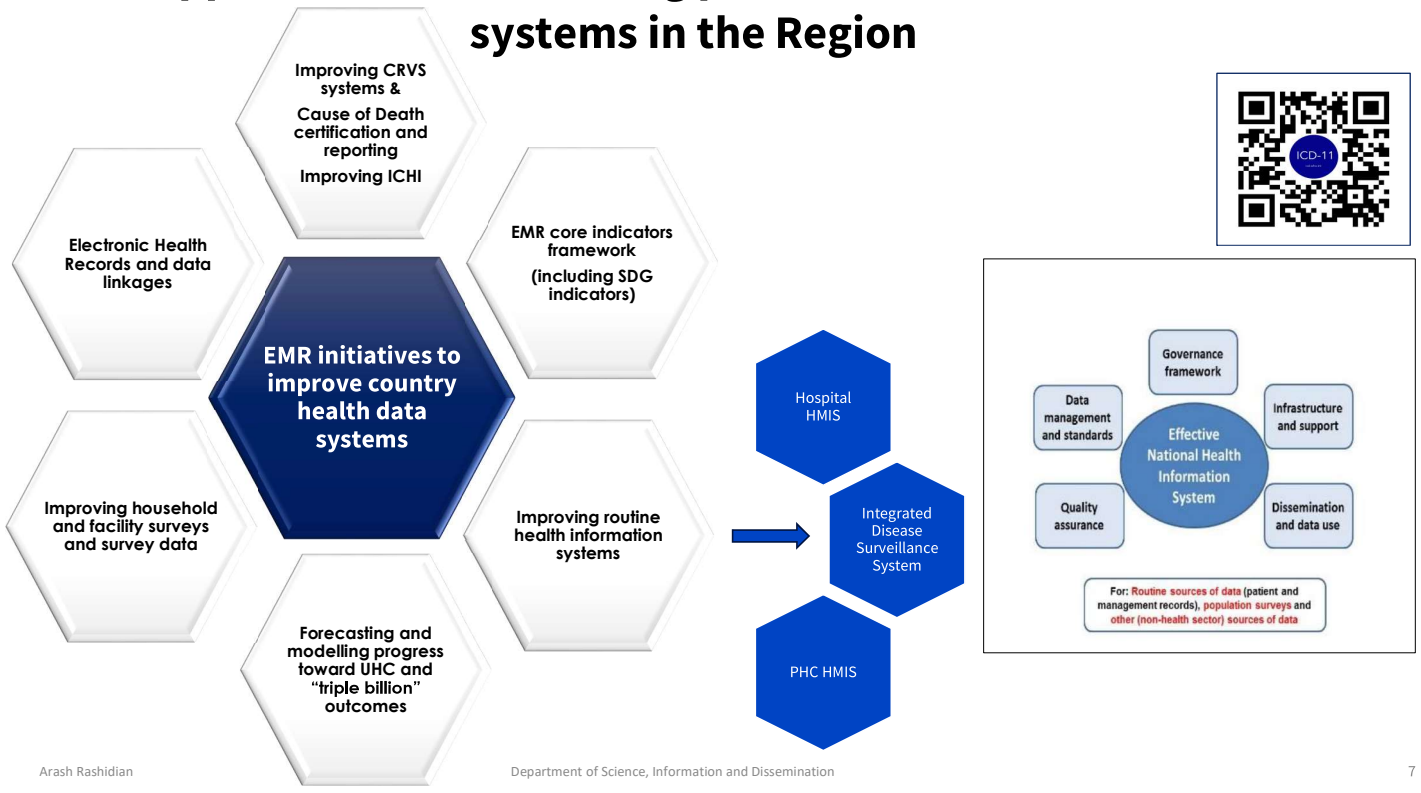
- Ad-hoc nature of many national household and facility surveys
- Use of existing

Civil registration and vital statistics system

- updated death registration is a positive development – coordination outside MoH is the key
- Clinicians' capacity in ICD compliant certification of death
- Training of coders on coding and analysis of mortality data



WHO approaches for enhancing products on health information systems in the Region

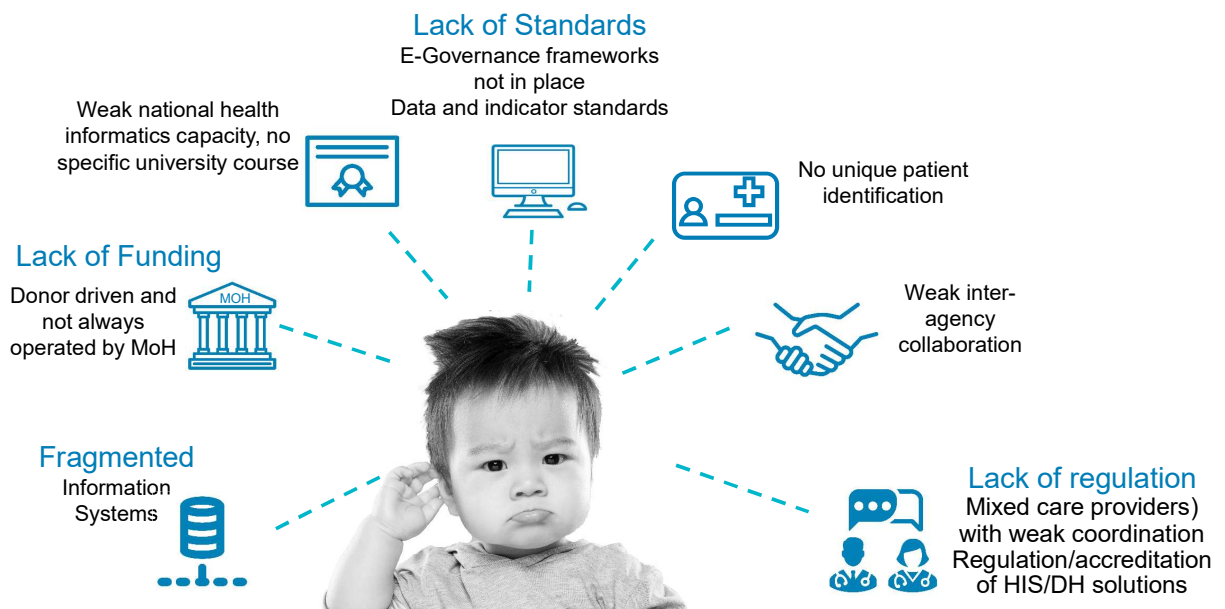


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7

Addressing the key issues



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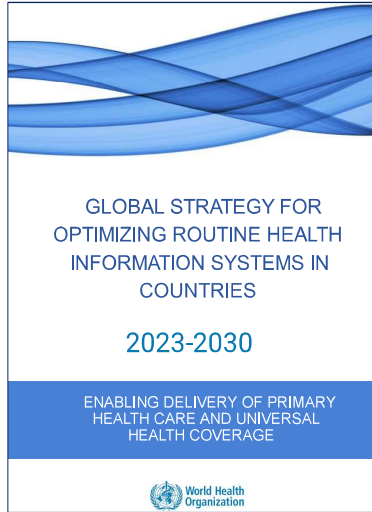
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8

Selected WHO products on health information systems

Presents :

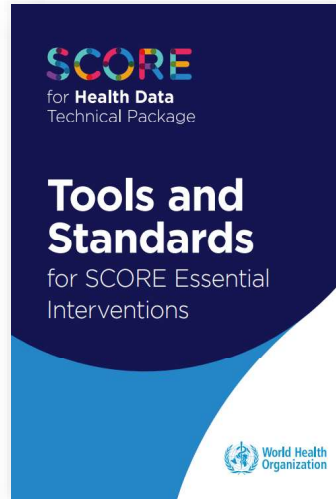
- Vision, purpose, strategic goals & principles
- Overview of 5 strategic objectives/actions
- Modality for country support



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Collection of tools and standards that can be used to improve the health information system. Online database:

<https://www.who.int/data/data-collection-tools/score/tools>



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The rationale behind SCORE, SCORE Indicators and actions that need to be taken to have a sustainable health information system



9

Enhancing digital health and digitalization of HIS

Digital health governance

- Norms & standards
- Evidence generation
- Mechanisms (laws, ethics, etc.)

Digital health strategies

- Situation analysis, action plans, road maps
- Digital health architecture and indicators
- Inventory of digital solutions

Enabling people-centred health systems

- Priorities for action
- Public health and clinical interventions
- Health promotion interventions
- Monitoring trends

Collaboration for digital health

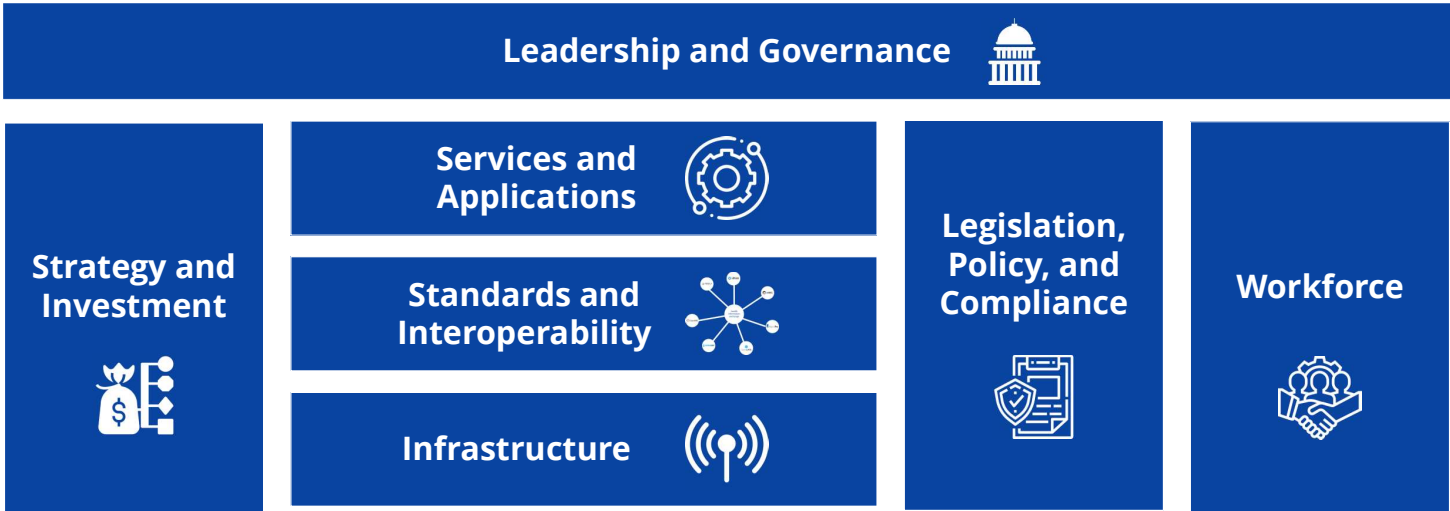
- National and international stakeholders
- Collaborative structures and activities

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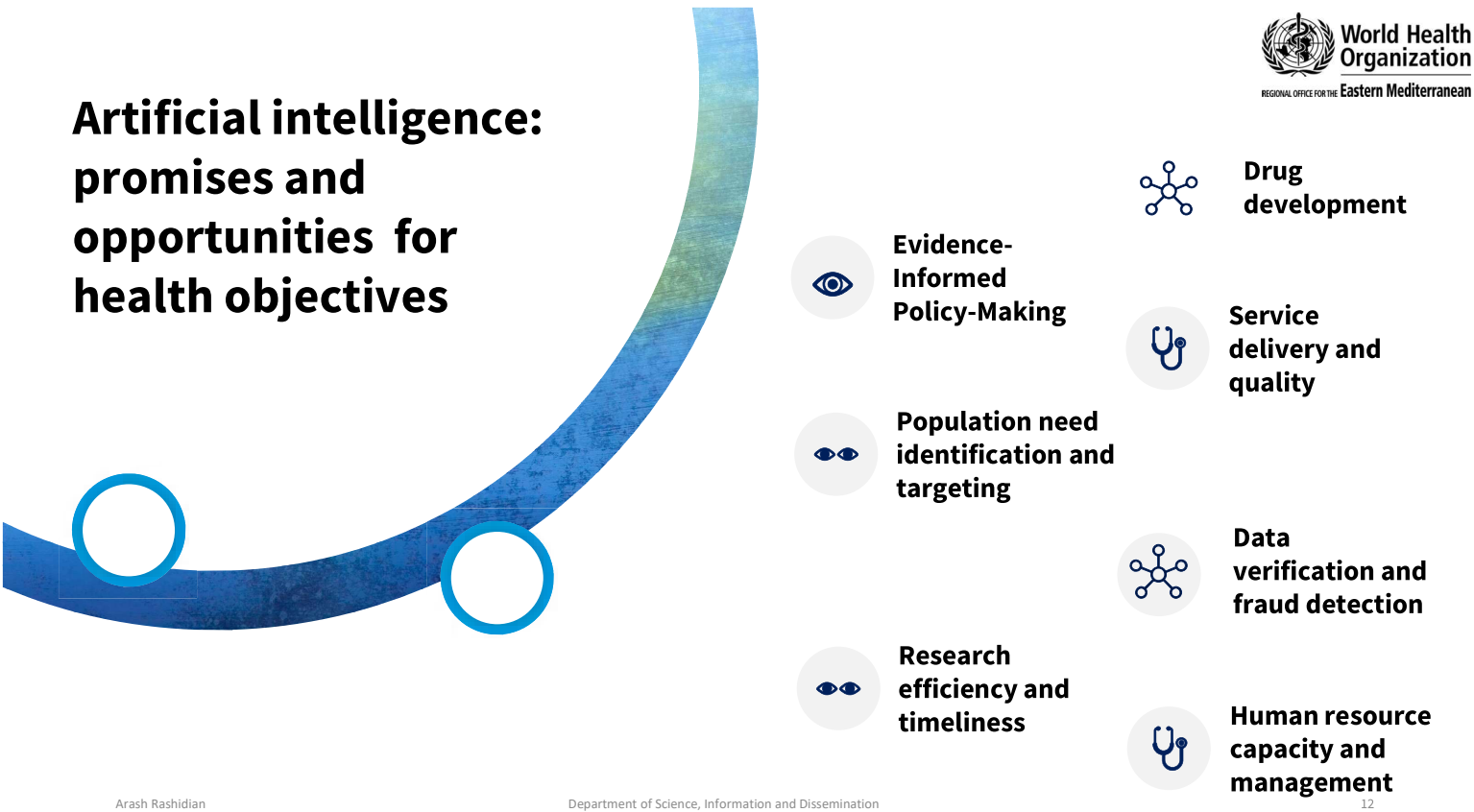
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10

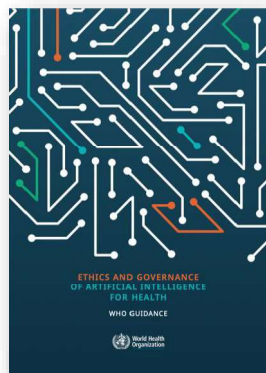
The Enabling Environment



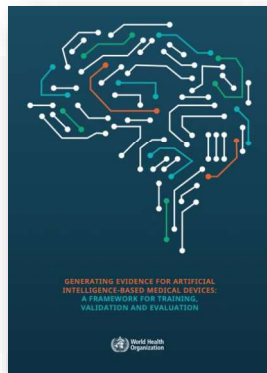
Source: National eHealth strategy toolkit



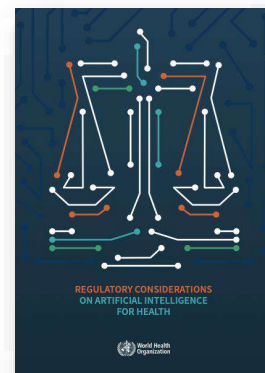
Enable: WHO Normative guidance



Ethics and Governance of Artificial Intelligence for Health



Generating Evidence for Artificial Intelligence-based Medical Devices



Regulatory Considerations on Artificial Intelligence for Health



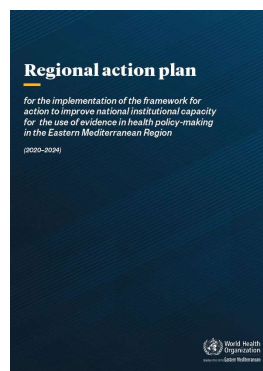
WHO Online introductory course on Ethics and governance of AI for health



Enable

Using Artificial Intelligence for evidence-informed policy-making for health

- Lessons learnt during COVID-19 pandemic
- 3 key innovations to provide better evidence support for policy-making:
- **The expansion and streamlining of “living evidence” and “living guidance” approaches**
- **Enhanced use of digital technologies and AI for rapid contextualized evidence syntheses**
- **Expanded use of a ‘general contractor’ model of evidence support**



<https://applications.emro.who.int/docs/9789290229124-eng.pdf>



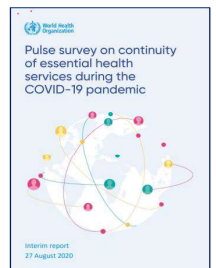
WHO EMR strategy for institutionalizing evidence-informed policy-making for health in EMR countries

See: Lavis JN, Kheirandish M, Al-Ansary L, Basaleem H, Hajjeh R, Al-Mandhari A, Rashidian A. Next generation support and stronger institutions for evidence-informed policy-making. East Mediterr Health J. 2023;29(7):495–497. <https://doi.org/10.26719/2023.29.7.495>

Country focused priorities (2024-2025)

Strategic area	AFG	BAH	DJI	EGY	IRN	IRQ	JOR	KUW	LEB	LIY	MOR	OPT	OMN	PAK	QAT	SAA	SOM	SUD	SYR	TUN	UAE	YEM
• Support the development and enhancing of national health information systems (including HIS action plans)	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X			X		X		X	X	X	X		X
• Enhancing cause of death registration and data quality assessment		X			X		X		X	X			X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X
• Technical capacity building on analysis of routine health information system	X	X				X		X		X			X				X	X	X		X	X
• Supporting PHC and community information systems and integrated disease surveillance including DHIS2	X		X		X	X	X	X		X				X			X	X				X
• Hospital information system improvement	X							X											X			
• Enhancing data standards and quality including ICD-10, ICD-11, ICHI	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X			X	X		X	X		X	X		
• Technical capacity building and support for enhancing national health observatories							X		X													
• Support for reporting and analysis of national key indicators	X						X	X	X		X					X						X
• Support the implementation and analysis of household and facility surveys					X			X			X			X		X	X			X		
• Reporting on SDGs and key indicators and development of profiles and briefs	X				X	X	X								X				X	X		
• Supporting delivery for impact to achieve measurable results through efficient and effective planning and implementation	X	X		X	X		X	X						X								X
• Enhancing national strategies and capacities for digital health at regional and national levels	X	X	X				X	X	X		X	X	X			X				X	X	

Thank you



Health information systems and core indicators booklets

<https://applications.emro.who.int/docs/9789292740542-ara.pdf>

<https://applications.emro.who.int/docs/9789290223399-eng.pdf>



Comprehensive assessments of health information systems

