USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Maternal and Child Survival Program

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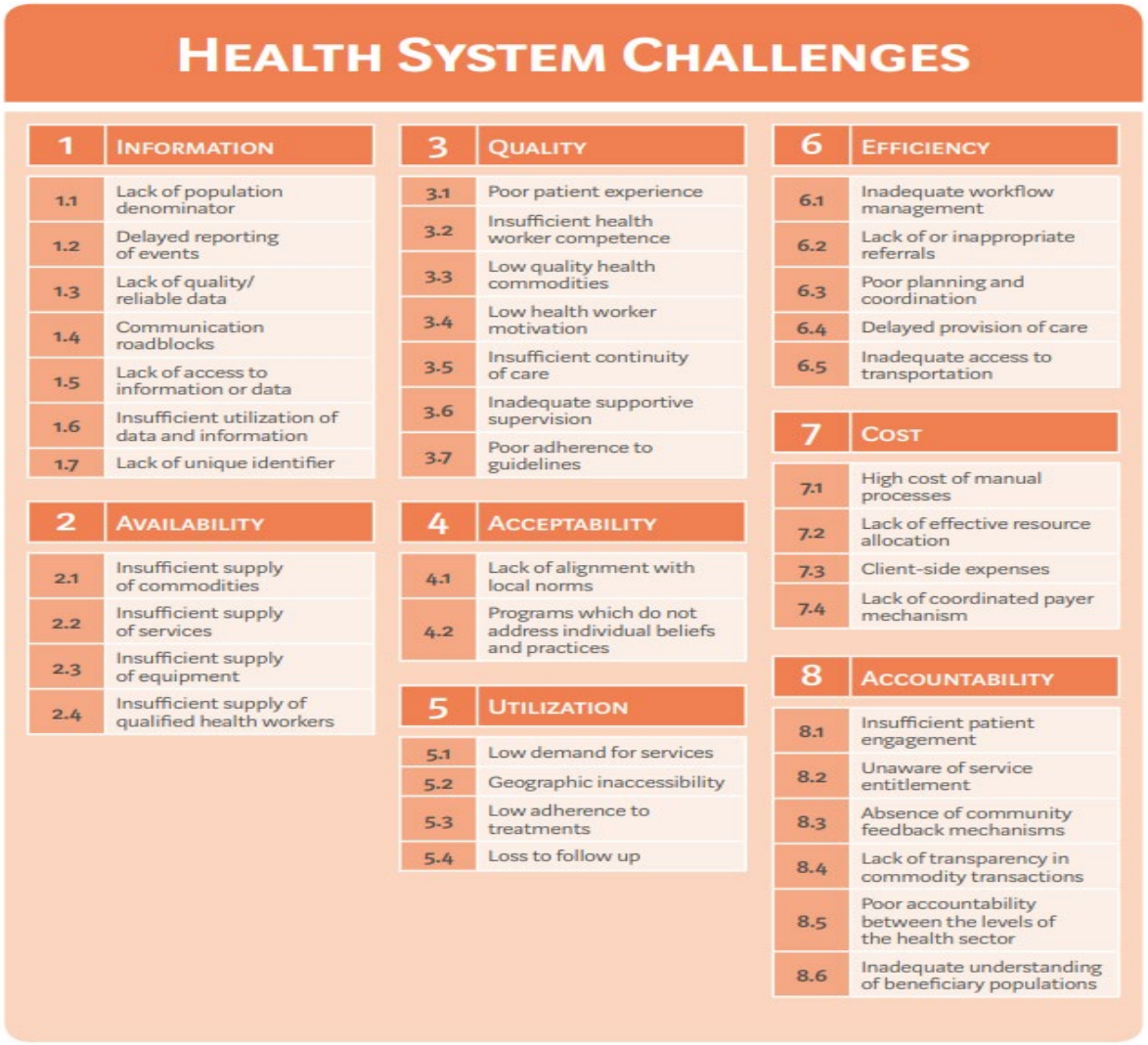
Maternal and Child Survival Program / John Snow Inc.

What is Digital Health?

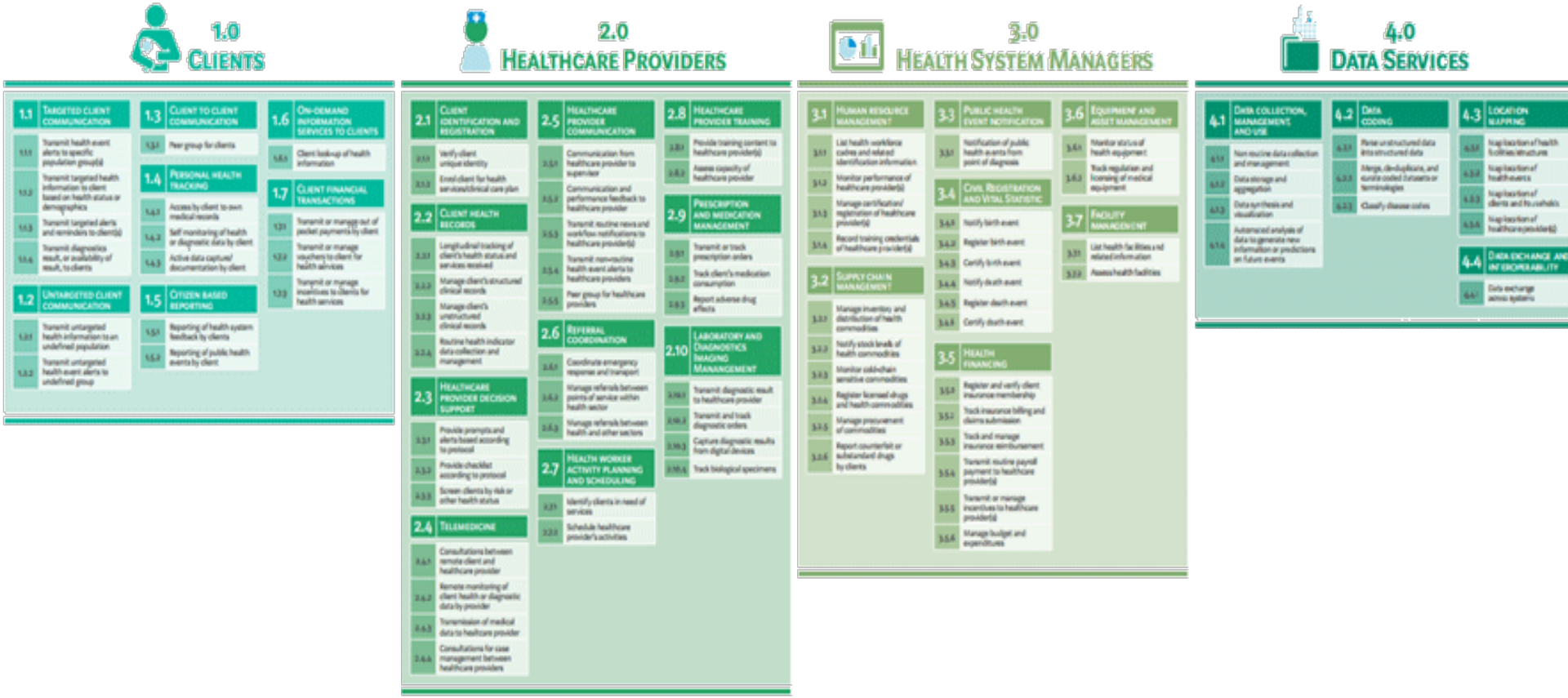
- (Digital Health, eHealth) Umbrella terms to encompass all concepts and activities at the intersection of health and information and communications technologies (ICTs), including mobile health (mHealth), health information technology, electronic health records (EHRs), and telehealth, and encompassing three main functions:
  - the **delivery of health information, for health professionals and health consumers**, through the Internet and telecommunications media,
  - using **ICTs to improve public health services** (e.g., through the education and training of health workers), and
  - **using health information systems (HIS)** to capture, store, manage or transmit information on patient health or health facility activities.

Broadband Commission Working Group on Digital final report "**Digital Health: A call for Government Leadership and Cooperation between ICT and Health**" http://broadbandcommission.org/workinggroups/Pages/digitalhealth.aspx

What problems are we trying to address?



WHO Digital Health Taxonomy

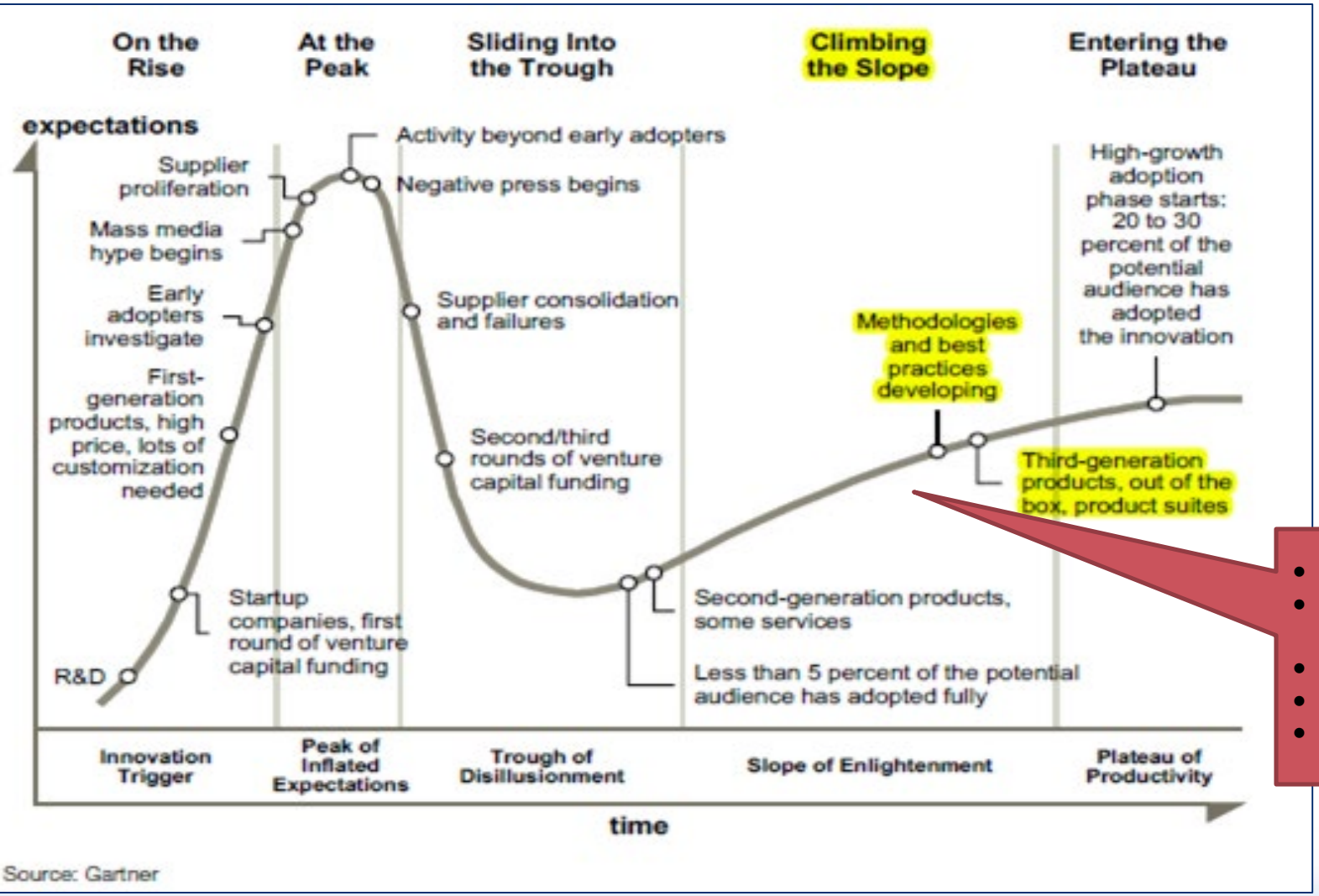


World Health Organization (WHO). Classification of Digital Health Interventions V1.0. Geneva, Switzerland: WHO; 2018. License: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/mhealth/classification-digital-health-interventions/en/

A brief history

- Proof of concept
- Pilot-itis
- Scale-up!
- Enterprise thinking
- Building blocks
- eHealth => iHealth
- Balancing scale and innovation while ensuring no one left behind

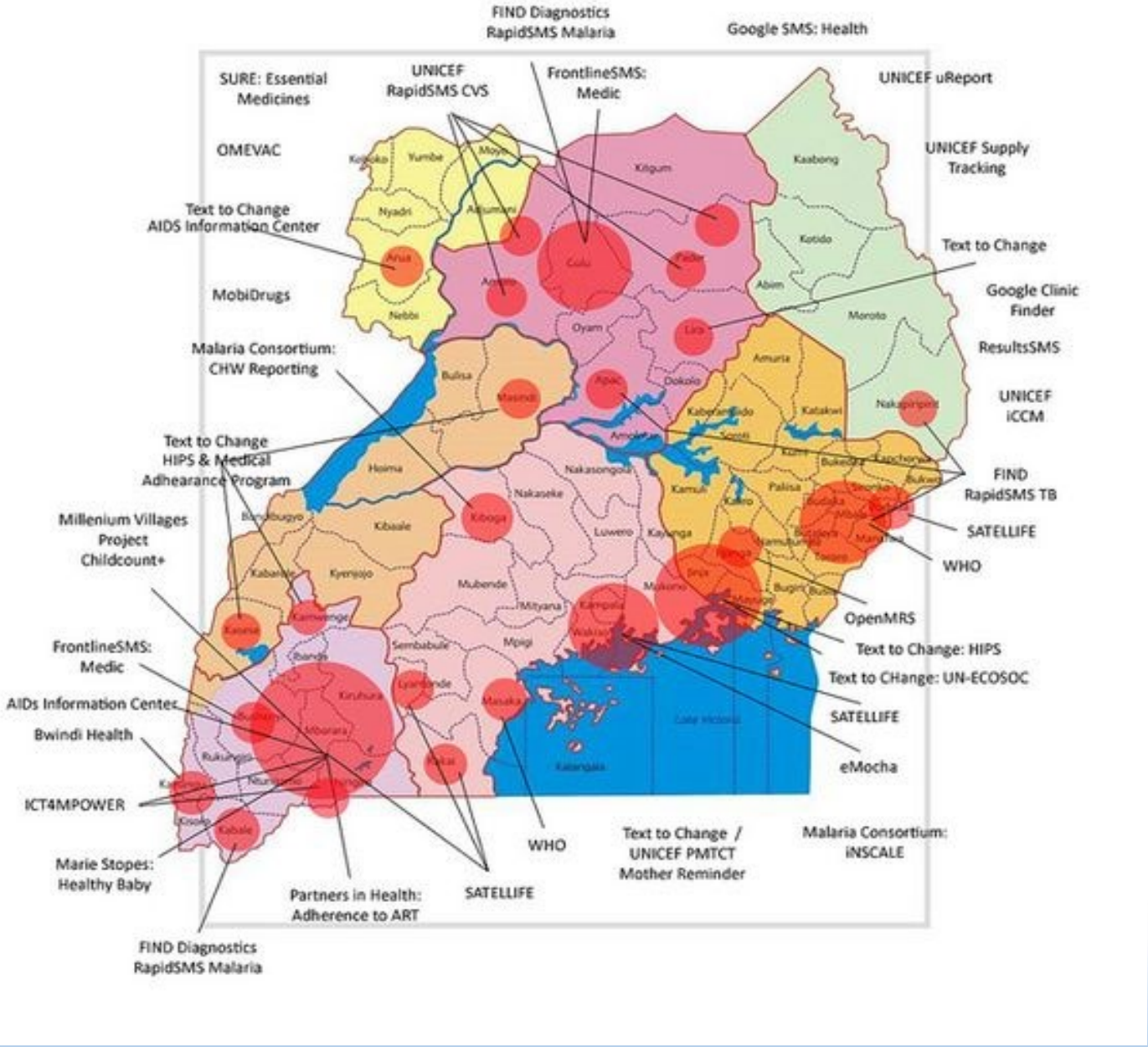
Trends in Digital Health



- Toolkits/Frameworks
- Standards and Interoperability
- Collaboration
- Global Goods
- Productization

Climbing the slope?

Pilotitis!


FIND Diagnostics
RapidSMS Malaria
Google SMS: Health
SURE: Essential
Medicines
UNICEF
RapidSMS CVS
FrontlineSMS:
Medic
UNICEF uReport
OMEVAC
UNICEF Supply
Tracking
Text to Change
AIDS Information Center
Text to Change
MobiDrugs
Google Clinic
Finder
Malaria Consortium:
CHW Reporting
ResultsSMS
UNICEF
iCCM
Text to Change
HIPS & Medical
Adhearance Program
FIND
RapidSMS TB
Millenium Villages
Project
Childcount+
SATELLIFE
WHO
OpenMRS
FrontlineSMS:
Medic
Text to Change: HIPS
Text to CHange: UN-ECOSOC
AIDs Information Center
SATELLIFE
Bwindi Health
eMocha
ICT4MPOWER
WHO
Text to Change /
UNICEF PMTCT
Mother Reminder
Malaria Consortium:
iNSCALE
Marie Stopes:
Healthy Baby
Partners in Health:
Adherence to ART
SATELLIFE
FIND Diagnostics
RapidSMS Malaria

Principles for Digital Development

Donor Investment Principles

DIGITAL INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES

1. Collaborate

Collaborate to align investments with national digital health strategies.

2. Invest in national plans

Prioritise investments in **national plans that incorporate "digital global goods**" and avoid bespoke systems.

3. Enable sustainable investment

Engage early to **determine and quantify long-term costs** of operating, maintaining, and supporting digital health systems for sustainable country ownership.

4. Track & measure

Track investments, progress, learnings and successes in digital health systems in a transparent manner.

5. Strengthen skills

Strengthen donor technical skills and core capacities, including awareness of the Principles for Digital Development.

6. Creation and evolution

The **creation and evolution** of a country's national digital health strategy, policies and regulatory framework. Strategies include components such as architecture, standards, investment frameworks, privacy protection, and detailed operational and monitoring plans.

7. Maturity continuum

Systems at a level appropriate to the country's progress along the **digital health maturity continuum.**

8. Country capacity

Sustainable country capacity for digital health leadership, governance, implementation, oversight, global good adoption, and donor coordination.

9. Global goods

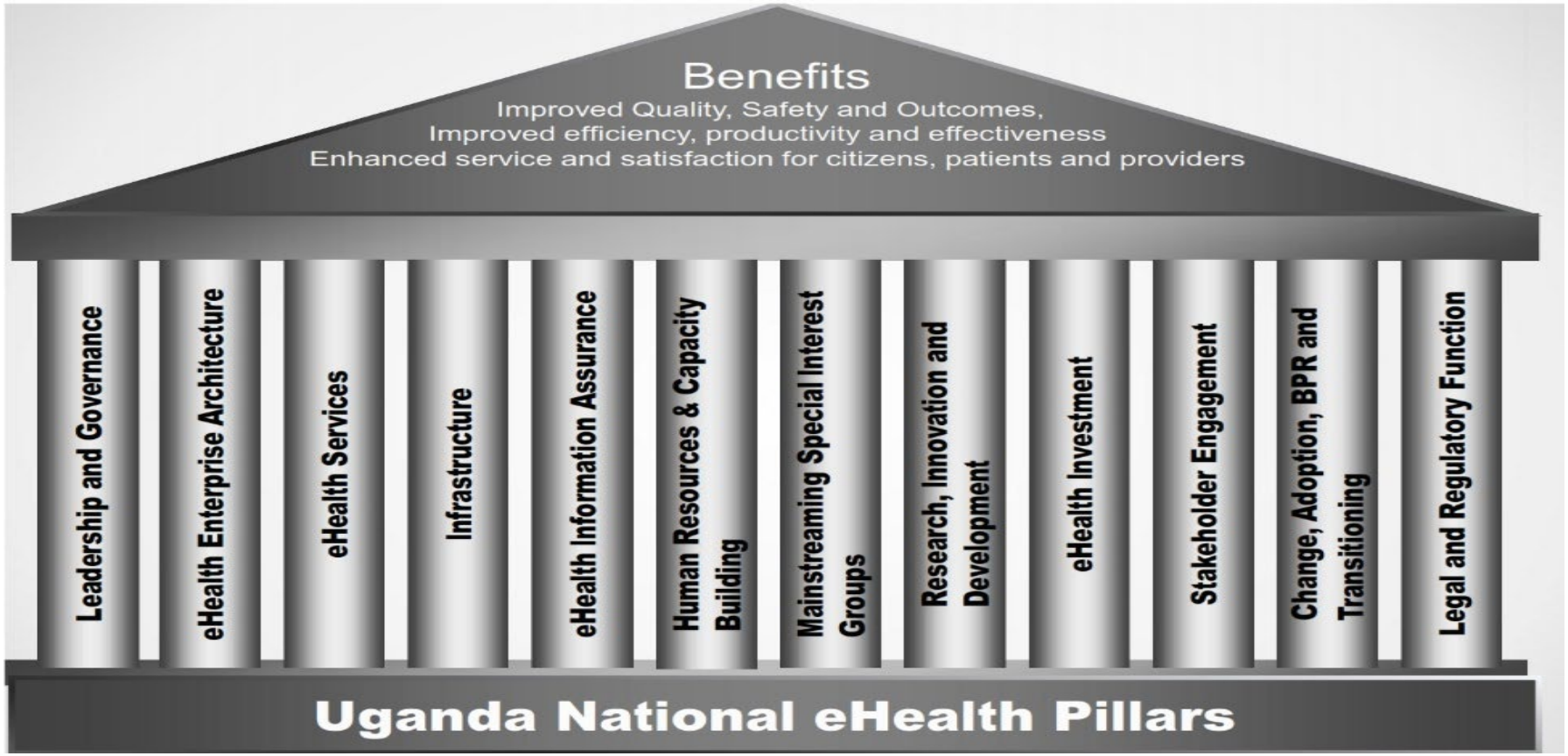
Scalable, sustainable, accessible, interoperable, and evidence-based **digital health global goods** that meet country priorities.

10. Information and peer-learning

Diverse stakeholder **information-sharing and peer-learning networks** at country and regional levels to foster coordination and alignment of implementation activities.

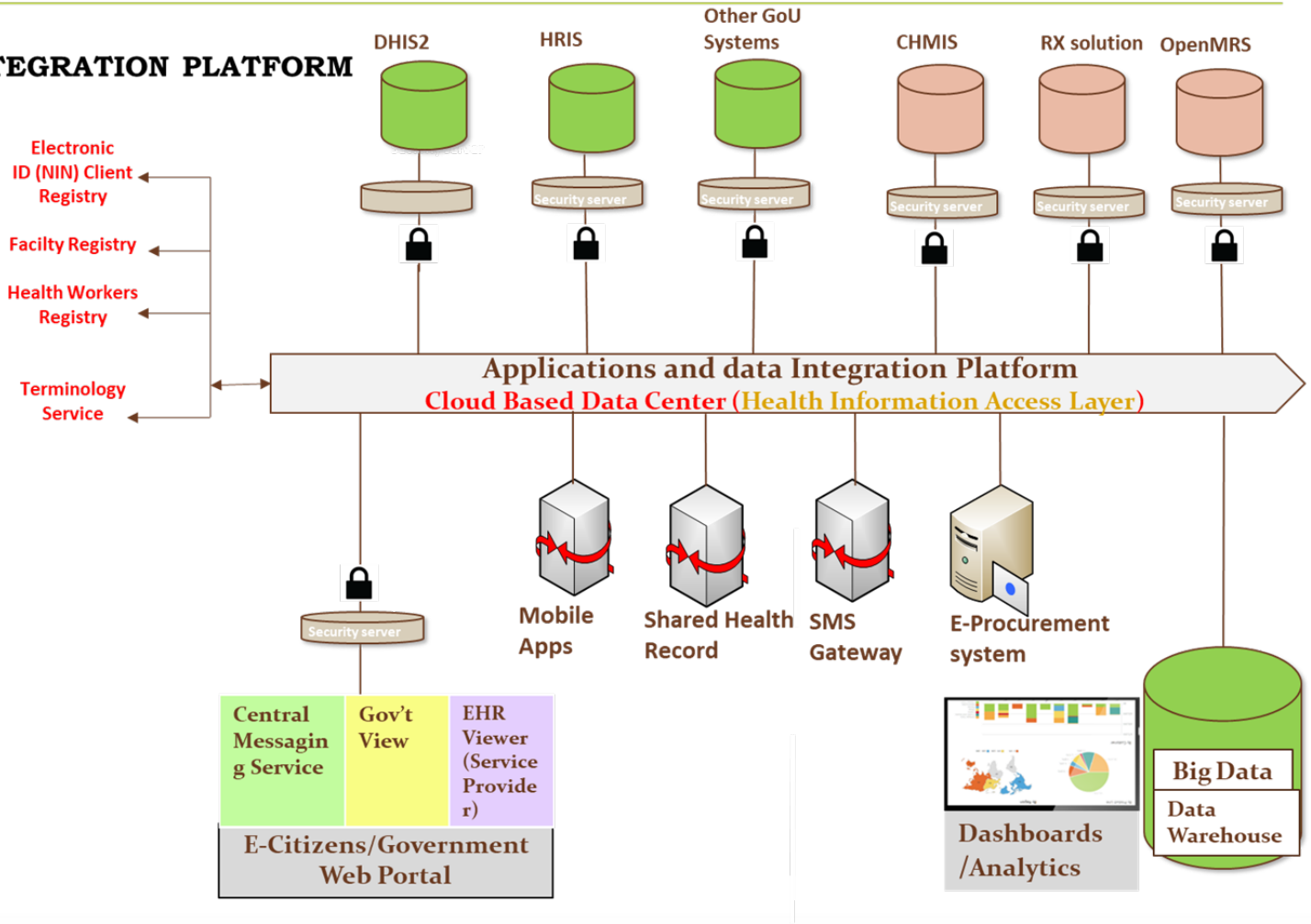
THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

eHealth policy and strategy pillars

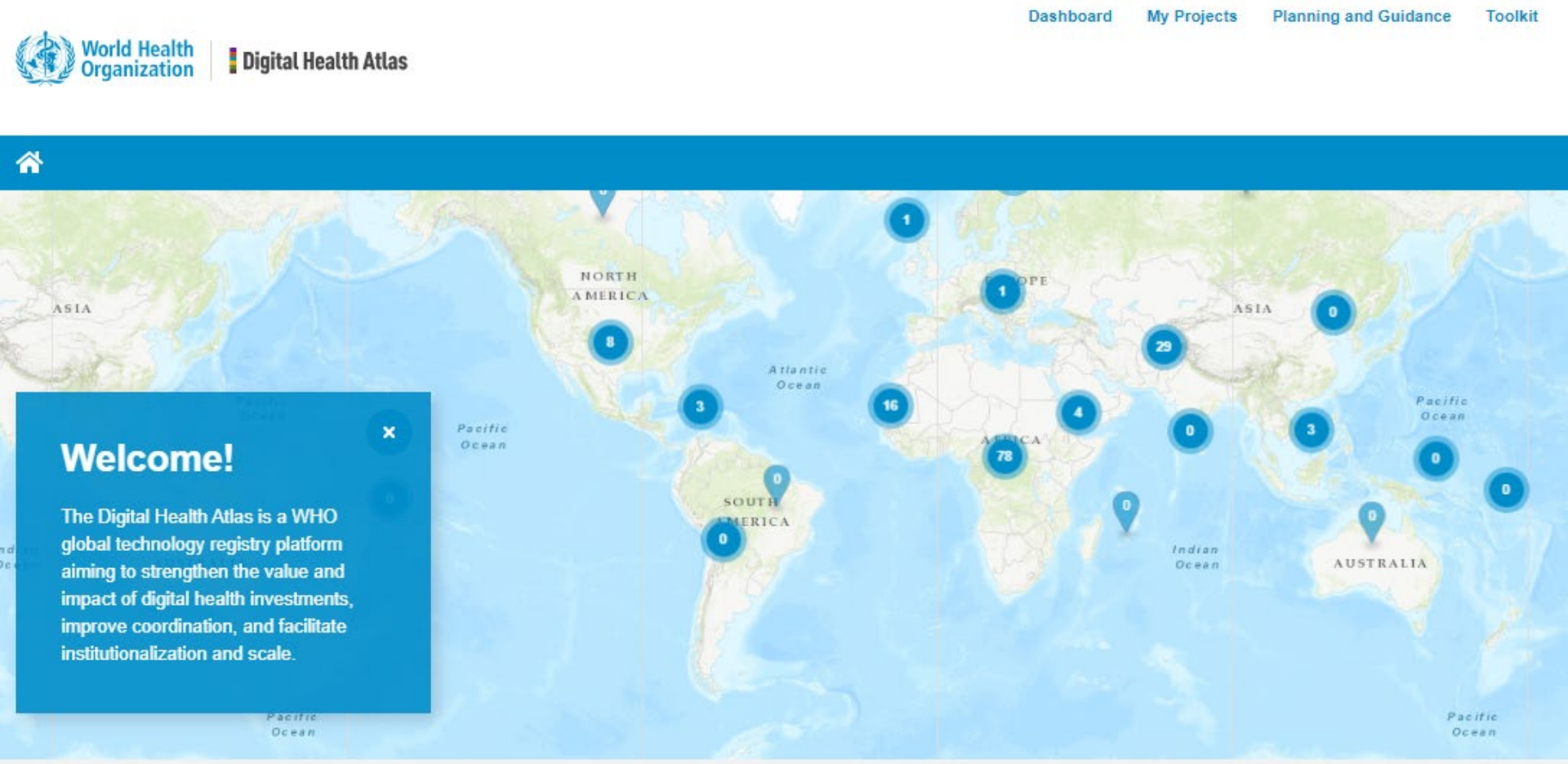


THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH

SYSTEM INTEGRATION PLATFORM

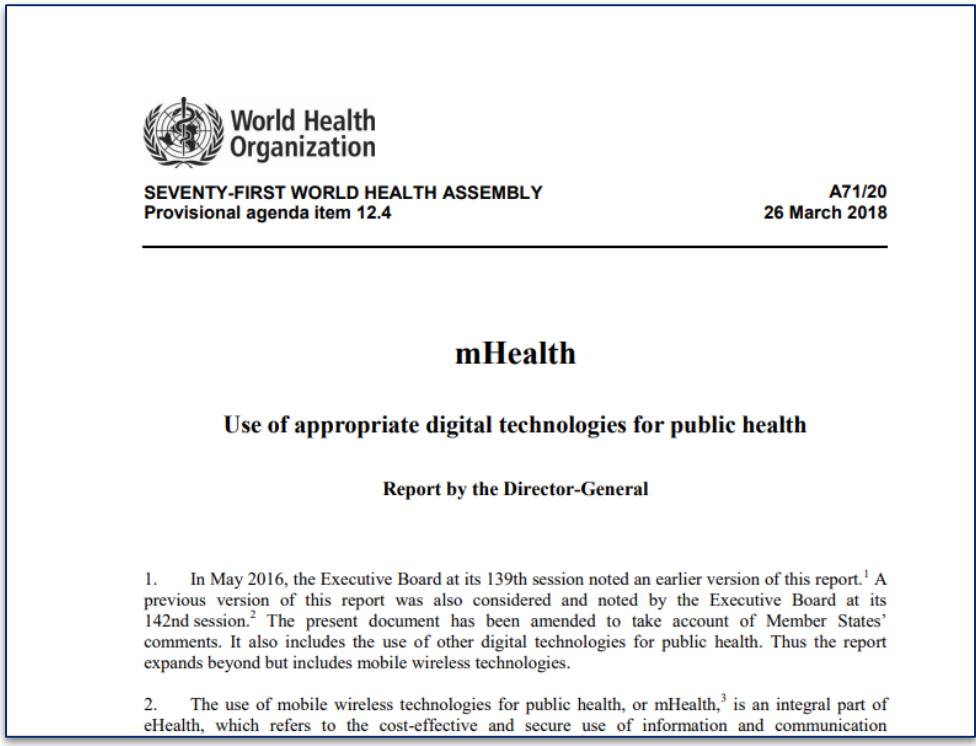


WHO Digital Health Atlas



WHA Resolution

- Urges Member States **to prioritize the development and greater use of digital technologies in health** as a means of promoting UHC and advancing the SDGs
- WHO develop a global strategy on digital health and **supports the scale-up of these technologies in countries** by providing technical assistance and normative guidance, monitoring trends and promoting best practices



World Health Organization

SEVENTY-FIRST WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY
Provisional agenda item 12.4

A71/20
26 March 2018

mHealth

Use of appropriate digital technologies for public health

Report by the Director-General

1. In May 2016, the Executive Board at its 139th session noted an earlier version of this report.[1] A previous version of this report was also considered and noted by the Executive Board at its 142nd session.[2] The present document has been amended to take account of Member States' comments. It also includes the use of other digital technologies for public health. Thus the report expands beyond but includes mobile wireless technologies.

2. The use of mobile wireless technologies for public health, or mHealth,[3] is an integral part of eHealth, which refers to the cost-effective and secure use of information and communication

http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA71/A71_20-en.pdf

WHO Re-organization

- Establishes office of Digital Health
- Division of Data, Analytics and Delivery

World Health Organization | Health Topics | Countries | News | Emergencies

WHO unveils sweeping reforms in drive towards "triple billion" targets

6 March 2019 | News Release | Geneva

WHO today announced the most wide-ranging reforms in the Organization's history to modernize and strengthen the institution to play its role more effectively and efficiently as the world's leading authority on public health.

The changes are designed to support countries in achieving the ambitious "triple billion" targets that are at the heart of WHO's strategic plan for the next five years: one billion more people benefitting from universal health coverage (UHC); one billion more people better protected from health emergencies; and one billion more people enjoying better health and well-being.

These changes include:

- Aligning WHO's processes and structures with the "triple billion" targets and the Sustainable Development Goals by adopting a new structure and operating model to align the work of headquarters, regional offices and country offices, and eliminate duplication and fragmentation.
- Reinforcing WHO's normative, standard-setting work, supported by a new Division of the

https://www.who.int/news-room/detail/06-03-2019-who-unveils-sweeping-reforms-in-drive-towards-triple-billion-targets

Key challenges

- Ensure technology helps us close, not widen gaps in
  - Gender[1]
  - Urban/rural
  - Network coverage
- Unique identifiers
- Power
- Data Use
- Data quality - especially in age of AI and ML!
- Move from how much does this cost to how much can we save?

[1]https://www.gsma.com/mobilefordevelopment/connected-women/the-mobile-gender-gap-report-2018/

To learn more

- Global Digital Health Network
- WHO Digital Health Atlas
- African Alliance of Digital Health Networks
- Asian eHealth Information Network
- Health Data Collaborative

Stay in touch

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For more information, please visit
www.mcsprogram.org

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