



WORLD
HEALTH
SUMMIT
2022

OCTOBER
16-18
BERLIN,
GERMANY
& DIGITAL



CONCEPT NOTE: WORLD HEALTH SUMMIT SIDE EVENT

HARNESSING DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY WITHIN SURGICAL CARE SYSTEMS

AN INVESTMENT CASE FOR HEALTH SYSTEM
STRENGTHENING

MONDAY OCT 17, 2022
AT 18:30 – 20:00

WORLD HEALTH SUMMIT
CONFERENCE CENTRE

MANILA ROOM



RATIONALE FOR SIDE EVENT

THE PREMISE: SURGICAL CARE FOR HEALTH SYSTEM STRENGTHENING

- The pandemic has laid bare the gross weaknesses of health care systems globally, making the need for health system strengthening an imperative.
- Surgical care saves lives, prevents disabilities and is the bedrock of functional health systems, addressing the full extent of human disease. **Lessons from the pandemic show** that surgical systems can provide that extra critical care capacity that can make a huge difference in case of health emergencies. When properly resourced, it plays a fundamental role in every health system providing a clear pathway towards Health System Strengthening and Universal Health Coverage (UHC).
- Inequity in access to surgical care is one of the biggest global health gaps today. To achieve UHC, safe, affordable, and timely surgical care must be accessible in all countries.
- The opportunity for positive social and economic impact is massive. A third of all disease burden requires surgical treatment; but over **two-thirds of the world's people** (i.e., 5 billion) lack access to safe surgical care, and **17 million deaths** could be averted each year with better surgical care access in low- and middle-income countries.
- The need is well established (Lancet Commission on Global Surgery). The political mandate has been established with WHA Resolution 68.15. Action is now needed.

THE ENABLER: LEVERAGING DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY AS AN INNOVATIVE ACCELERATOR

- The pandemic catalyzed a remarkable adoption of digital technology in healthcare globally.
- The current global debate on post-pandemic recovery and preparedness has highlighted the importance of innovative approaches in health system strengthening as a critical pathway towards UHC.
- New digital technologies within surgical care systems offer solutions to the challenges of workforce shortages, skill gaps, maldistribution, and inefficiencies, making quality and affordable surgical care accessible in low-cost and low-income settings as well as in significantly optimising costs in developed economies.
- Focused attention is urgently needed to expand and strengthen the surgical care system workforce. Leveraging innovative digital solutions will accelerate this process, while ensuring efficiency and quality improvement.
- Economic benefits implementing digital technology solutions will reach beyond the surgical care system, into the entire health system and indeed, the whole community it services.

THE PATHWAY: PARTNERSHIPS TOWARDS ACTION

- Private sector, international organizations, academia, and governments have collectively turned to new digital technologies to provide timely solutions to address the above challenges, driving greater efficiency, effectiveness and equity in the delivery of health services.
- Implementation of these solutions at scale have been lacking, thereby stalling the progress towards effectively realized Health System Strengthening, UHC and indeed, pandemic preparedness.
- There is a great opportunity for private sector industry and investors to partner with governments and international organizations to enable scalable and sustainable growth through the intersection of surgical care strengthening and new digital technologies.

Event aims

Confirm the critical importance for surgical care system strengthening in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) and how it is fundamental to overall health system strengthening and pandemic preparedness, as well as to achieve UHC and the SDGs.

Showcase a proven model of how digital technology enables the acceleration of the scale up of workforce capacities needed for strengthening surgical systems where needed most.

Highlight the tremendous opportunity for partnerships between governments, international organizations, private industry, investors, philanthropy, and frontline health care providers to enable the acceleration of surgical system strengthening through the use of innovative digital technology.

Share what is required to achieve these goals, both in terms of design and resources. Highlight how leveraging innovation and technology will accelerate the pace at which this can be done.

Event “take-away” items

Surgical Care Systems are the backbone of any strong health care system, offering a clear pathway towards health system strengthening, pandemic preparedness and UHC.

New digital technologies in surgical care systems offer innovative and accelerated solutions to the challenges of workforce shortages, skill gaps, maldistribution, and inefficiencies. A scalable model in Kenya will be presented for discussion - demonstrating how a novel digital solution has strengthened the workforce to deliver decentralized obstetric surgical care.

Great opportunity exists for governments and international organizations to partner with private sector, industry, and investors in a verified model that offers an excellent return on investment through the intersection of surgical care strengthening and new digital technologies.

Opportunity to participate and invest in the global scale-up of this model as a pathway towards achieving the SDGs.

Event Co-Hosts



Moderator: Dr Shannon Shibata-Germanos Proximie Global Health, Vice Chairman of the Board HIEx

Session Opener: Pradeep Kakkattil HIEX + Representative of the Government of Germany



Keynote speakers

Dr. Alfredo Borrero Vega, Vice-President of Ecuador (confirmed)

Hon. Mutahi Kagwe, Cabinet Secretary for Health (TBC)

Dr. Ifereimi Waqainabete, Minister of Health Fiji (confirmed)

Ms. Helga Margarete Barth, Federal Foreign Office Germany (TBC)

Mr. Roland Göhde, Chairman of the Board, German Health Alliance (confirmed)

Round Table Discussion with Key Stakeholders

Dr. Axel Klaphake, German Agency for International Cooperation (confirmed)

Dr. Geoff Ibbotson, The Global Surgery Foundation (confirmed)

Dr. John Varallo, Global Director Safe Surgery, Jhpiego (confirmed)

Celia Stafford, Harvard Business School (confirmed)

Jin Jeong, Partner, APS Partners (confirmed)

Lawrence Okiror, Guy's & St. Thomas' Trust NHS (confirmed)

Dr. Nadine Hachach Haram, CEO, Proximie (confirmed)

Dr. S. Kaliti, Head of Maternal and Reproductive Health, Kenya

Joe Stringer, Partner, Octopus Ventures

Johnson & Johnson

Microsoft

Vodafone

Google

BtoV Ventures

Other as confirmed

Member States invited:

- Ecuador
- Fiji
- Germany
- Japan
- Kenya
- Ghana
- Malaysia
- Switzerland
- USA
- Zambia
- Other (as confirmed)

Non-State Co-participants

- Harvard Business School / PGSSC
- Harvard Health Systems Innovation Lab, Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health
- Jhpiego
- Johnson & Johnson
- United Nations Institute for Training and Research
- Other (as confirmed)