

48th TDR Joint Coordinating Board

June 2025, Geneva

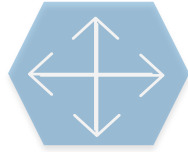


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Context



Climate change is increasing global health risks, mortality, disease spread, economic impact, and vulnerability of communities.



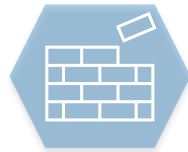
Conflict and fragility is proliferating and intensifying, with 25% of global population living in fragile or conflict-affected settings.



Risk of future pandemics is rising, with 38% probability that another pandemic could take place within the next 20 years.



Shifting disease epidemiology means in addition to shifting patterns of infectious diseases like NTDs, TB and malaria, LMICs face growing mental health and NCD burdens.



Persistent innovation and access gaps for LMIC health technologies are compounded by this rapidly evolving context, leaving ministries of health ill-equipped to respond to new and existing health challenges.



Declining ODA and financing overall is disrupting health systems and risking setbacks in progress, exacerbating already limited access to essential health services in many circumstances.

UNDP Priorities in HIV and Health

- UNDP is an integrator, has ability to scale and focuses on strengthening policies, institutions, systems and capacities across sectors.
- UNDP's work in HIV and Health contributes to our core mission of tackling poverty and inequalities, building resilience and ensuring no one is left behind.
- UNDP HIV & Health Strategy 2022–2025 :
 - *Building resilient and sustainable systems for health*
 - *Promoting effective and inclusive governance for health*

UNDP contributes to TDR's goal of research-driven strengthening of health system resilience to address global health challenges relating to infectious diseases of poverty across thematic priorities:



Equitable access to control and eliminate diseases of poverty



Pandemic prevention, preparedness and response

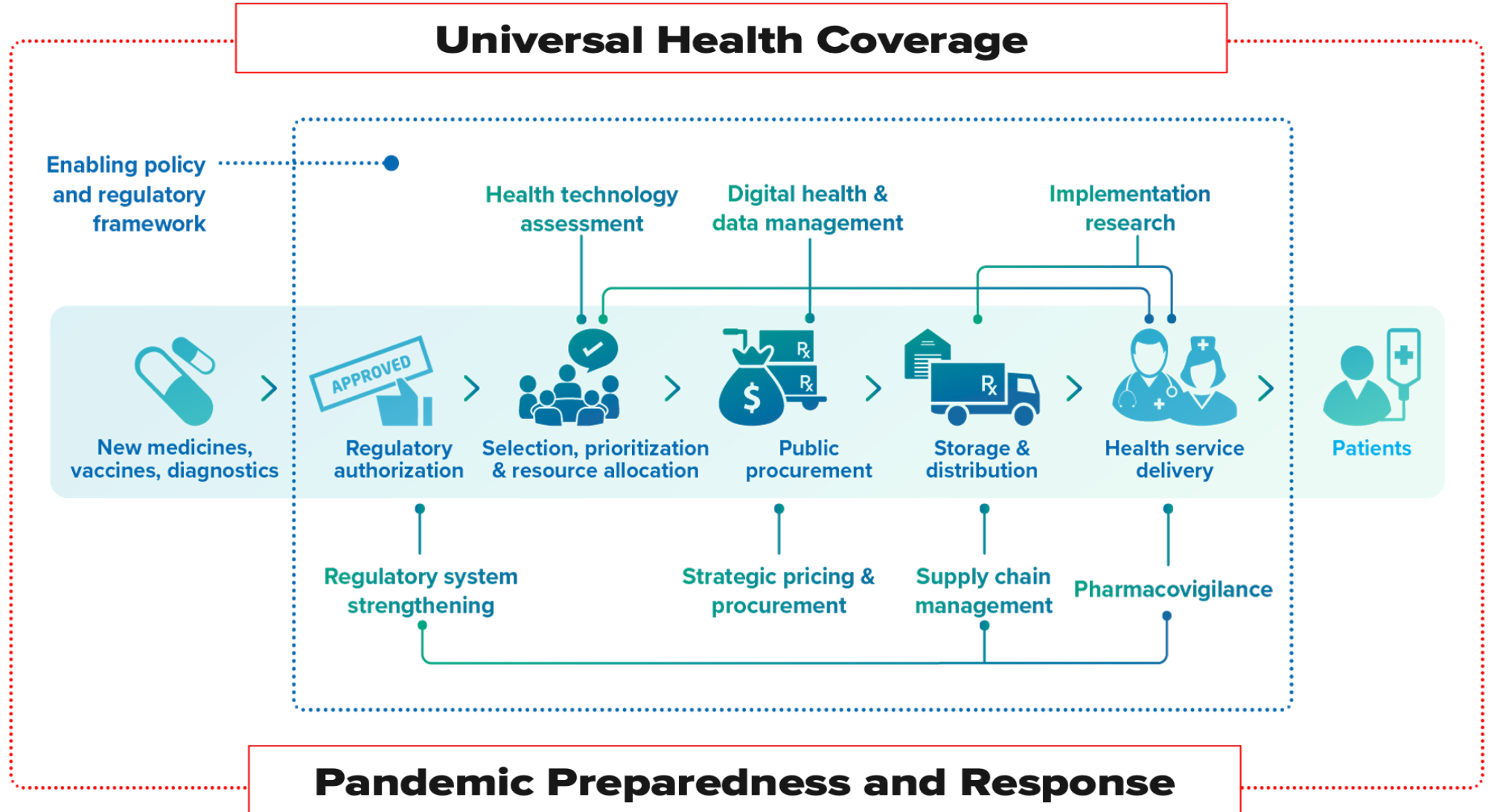


Addressing climate impact on health



Accelerating digital transformation of the health system

Promoting equitable access to control and eliminate diseases of poverty: Access and Delivery Partnership



Highlights of ADP-TDR initiatives

1. Promoting research and evidence-generation to improve health service delivery and equitable access:

Developed research protocols and conducted pilot studies to optimize delivery strategy for maximum impact: **arPZQ** (schistosomiasis), **RTS,S / R21** (malaria), **moxidectin** (onchocerciasis), **azithromycin** (yaws).

Enhanced use of digital tech to improve disease management and promote access and delivery: e.g. **Video Observed Therapy** (TB treatment adherence), **MedSafety app** (monitoring and reporting of adverse events); **Skin-NTD app** (disease detection and surveillance).

2. Research training for capacity building and development of innovative research tools, strategies and intervention:

Enhanced TDR's **IR Toolkit**: new modules on Gender, One Health and digital; conversion into online resource with extensive global reach; guided the training of health researchers in over 60 countries.

Piloted the **CIRT-M** initiative: integrated training package that bridges theory with practice through: MOOC; P2P learning and mentorship; IR competency self-assessment tool; small research grants for 'demonstration' projects.

3. Facilitating the use of scientific evidence to inform health policy and practice:

Conducted research to inform normative guidelines for new health technologies: e.g. evaluation of treatment acceptability and feasibility of moxidectin MDA will inform future WHO guidance for inclusion in onchocerciasis treatment programmes.

Shaped national health research priorities and strategies, and translated research evidence into national policy and practice e.g. accelerating the national adoption of the WHO NTD Roadmap 2021-2030.

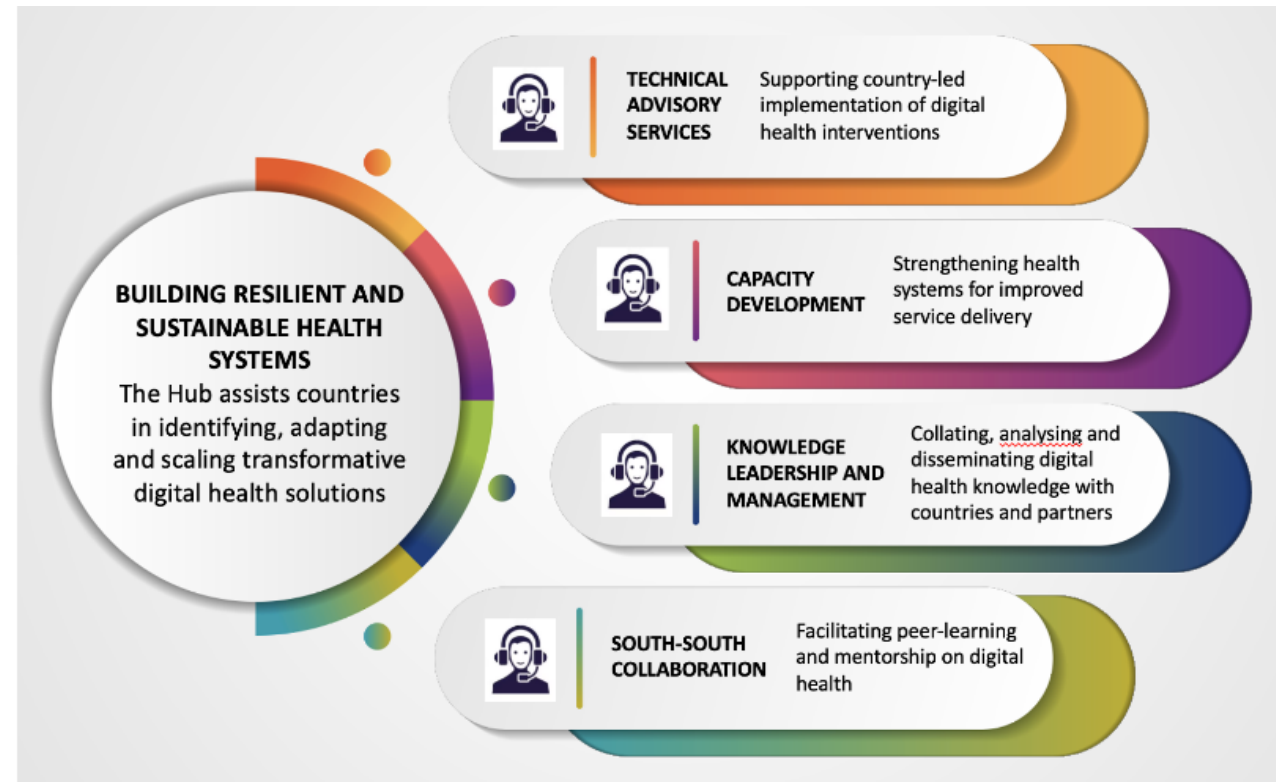
Accelerating digital transformation of the health system

DIGITAL HEALTH FOR DEVELOPMENT HUB

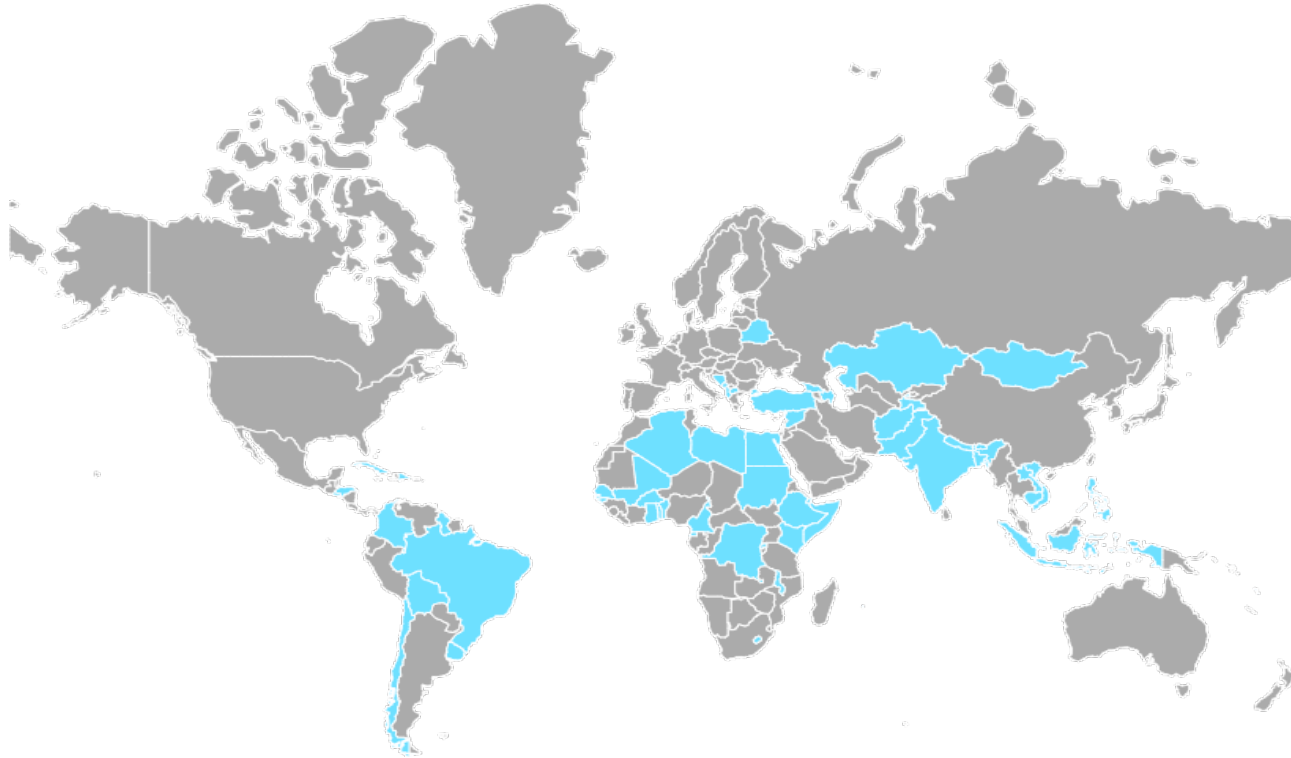
A one-stop shop with technical, advisory and partnership support for the introduction and scale up of digital and AI health solutions.



What the Hub does



Coverage of UNDP's Digital Health Support



Sustaining Health Services in Fragile and Conflict-Affected Settings

In 2023, UNDP digitalized Chad's national malaria bednet campaign, enhancing governance, building local capacity, and scaling digital tools. Over 9 million bednets were distributed to 4 million households, improving malaria prevention coverage nationwide.



Strengthening Pandemic Preparedness through Scalable Digital Infrastructure

In India and Indonesia, digitalizing vaccine logistics improved availability across more than 45,000 public health facilities. These systems formed the digital backbone for a rapid pandemic response, supporting vaccination of over 1.2 billion people during COVID-19.

The climate and health nexus



Climate change mitigation

- **Reducing healthcare sector emissions** through sustainable procurement, waste management, and clean energy solutions.
- **Scaling Solar for Health across 15 countries** for climate-resilient, low-emission healthcare and reducing reliance on fossil fuels.
- **Tackling air pollution** with an EU-backed toolkit driving action in Ethiopia, India, Mongolia, Ghana and South Africa, including costed national action plans for air pollution and health.

Climate change adaptation

- **Integrating health into climate adaptation plans**, focusing on vulnerable and marginalized populations (Bhutan, Papua New Guinea).
- **Improving health system resilience** through water management, disaster preparedness and food security (Kiribati, Maldives, Pakistan).
- **Strengthening climate-resilient health systems** in least developed countries with WHO and GEF support.

One Health

- The 'Nature for Health' [global initiative](#) supports countries on reducing the risk of pandemics by strengthening environmental aspects of One Health.
- E.g. in **Ecuador**, UNDP leads the project implementation with the objective to develop a coordinated surveillance system for three ministries - of Environment, Health and Agriculture - to collaboratively prevent zoonotic diseases with pandemic potential.

THANK YOU

