Information Systems for Health (IS4H) Initiative

Marti, M; Done, D; Otero, P; Gerger A.; Ruiz; P; Brooks, I.; Ordonez, M.A.; Nelson, J.; D’Agostino, M.
PAHO/WHO – Hospital Italiano de Buenos Aires – University of Illinois – International Development Bank

ABSTRACT: Preconceptions of information systems are mainly focused on software development, isolated electronic health records, or vital statistics. However, they must be conceived as an integrated mechanism of interconnected and interoperable systems and processes that ensure the convergence of data, information, knowledge, standards, people, and institutions. These preconceptions do not consider the current context established by the information society and the data revolution; therefore, they cannot provide a general and realistic framework for policy development and decision-making.

IS4H Toolkit

The IS4H Toolkit presents a set of tools for supporting the implementation of an integrated National Information Systems for Health. It is composed by several tools that respond to the application of the IS4H Maturity Model.

Maturity is assessed against key capability characteristics for each strategic goal at each level of the Maturity Model. It is possible for an organization to demonstrate different maturity levels within each strategic goal.

Results and testimonials

1. Adopt the 8 principles of Open Government Data
2. Focus on ethical principles for data use
3. Unlock the value of unstructured data
4. Promote quality data as a critical factor of success
5. Adopt standards as much as possible
6. Always strengthen the management of vital statistics
7. Align your data governance within the Data Revolution for Sustainable Development
8. Adopt a national framework for IS4H to efficiently and effectively address common data, information and ICT challenges
9. Emphasizes multi-sectoral collaboration
10. Focus on sub regional action or bilateral collaboration for addressing shared challenges
11. Use always a standardized assessment tool and method
12. Consider “build on what already exists” as a critical factor of success
13. Promote a Knowledge sharing and learning environment
14. Ensure the participation of Academic and Research Institutions
15. Adopt always Knowledge Management methodologies for supporting IS4H implementation
16. Implement a Change management Strategy
17. Ensure integration and convergence with the eGovernment initiative
18. Adopt the IS4H Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for a nation-wide implementation