

The course, Digital Health: Planning National Systems, is designed to empower ministry leadership with the foundational and technical concepts and planning tools necessary to steer and orient national digital health stakeholders towards an enterprise planning approach. The course has been packaged in different ways to appeal to different learner preferences (self-paced, instructor-led, or a combination of all of the above), but all with the same content that can be taken individually or with a broader cohort. The course across all languages include nine core modules (though the English version has one more on digital financial services), a variety of interactive case study activities, knowledge checks, and instructional videos and animations to guide the learners through key concepts. Each module's learning content is about 1.5 hours, and the cohort-based, facilitated versions of the course include another 1.5 hours of group activities per module.

The curriculum has been developed by USAID, Digital Square, and TechChange and is based on content compiled by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Telecommunications Union (ITU). All content is creative commons licensed meaning that TechChange acts as a steward of the content and are not the owners. Learners and trainers can share and adapt the material for any purpose, even commercially, as long as the license terms are adhered to.

This course is currently available in English, French and Spanish, and Portuguese. It has also since been translated into Mongolian by a team at Mongolian society of Artificial Intelligence in Medicine on their own platform.

General Details

PRIMARY USERS:

The course is best suited for leaders and managers from health, ICT, and finance ministries who work in Digital Health (eHealth, mHealth, HIS, CHIS, etc) in low and middle income countries. It would also be applicable for in-country stakeholders who work with these ministries such as donors, multi-laterals and UN agencies, and large implementing NGOs to ensure conceptual and planning alignment.

The course is designed to empower ministry leadership with the technical concepts and planning tools necessary to steer and orient national digital health stakeholders towards an enterprise planning approach. The curriculum features critical technical concepts, existing best practices, and pragmatic methods, all framed according to the national planning cycle that Ministry of Health officials manage.

LANGUAGES:

English, French, Spanish, Portuguese

TYPE:

Content

OPEN SOURCE LICENSE:

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Access Information

WEBSITE

<https://www.digitalhealthtraining.org/>

CONTACT

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WHO System Classification

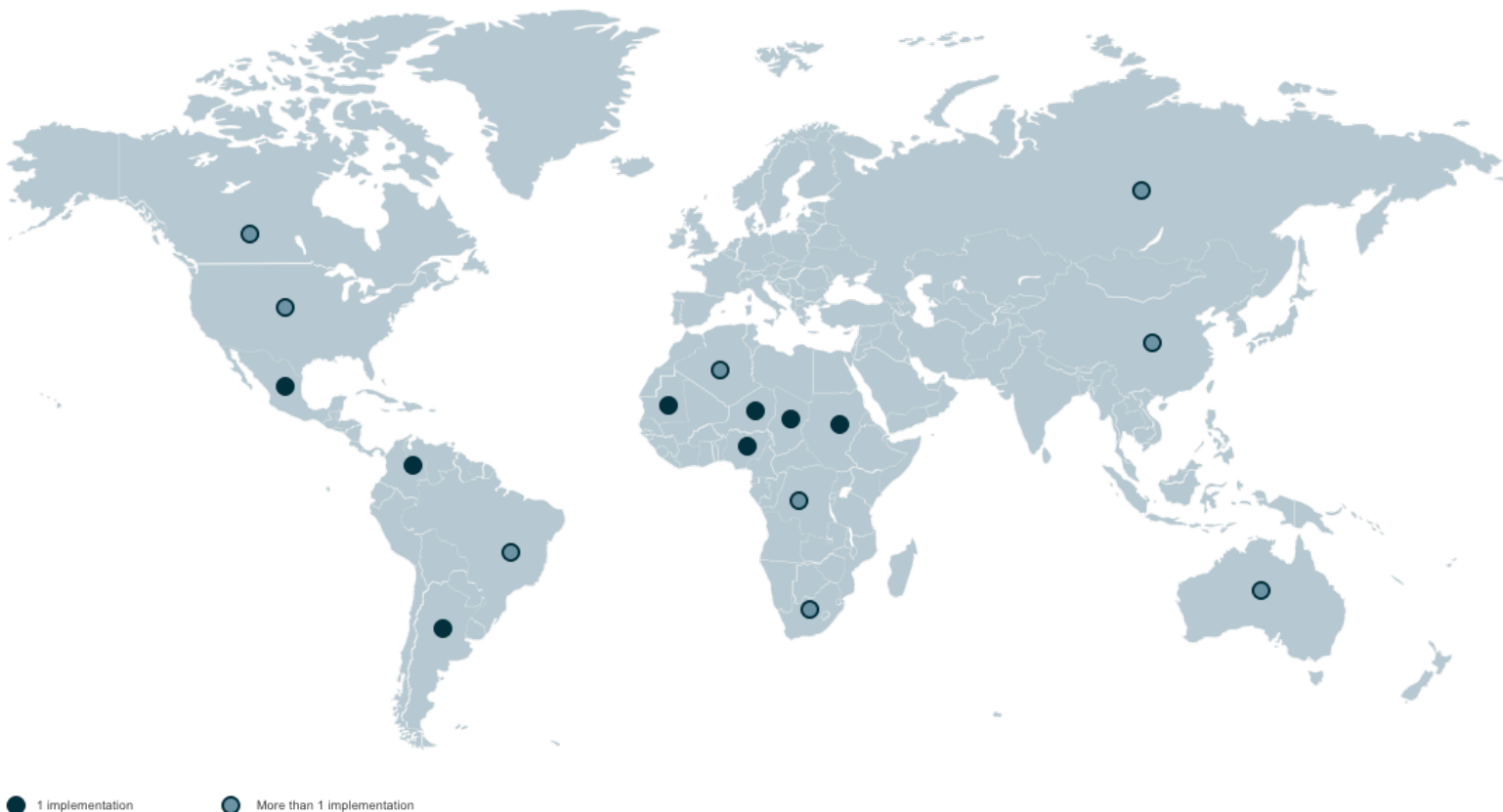
PRIMARY

B5 | B5 Learning and training systems

ADDITIONAL

Geographic Reach & Impact

As of December 2023, the facilitated versions of the course have a total of 696 graduates (with a completion rate of ~66%) across 93 countries, who have applied their knowledge in their work in-country, and most have leveraged it to contribute to their digital health strategies, training others in their teams, and supporting digital health intervention design and investment. We have compiled 4 case studies that describe these examples in more detail – one in Lao, another in Uganda, another in Bangladesh, and another in Montenegro. See the Resources section below for links.



Standards & Interoperability

The content includes information on health standards i.e. semantic and syntactic standards which are discussed in the context of designing systems to be interoperable.

Architects of Digital Health board game at GDHFTThe content includes information on interoperability standards: across all modules, the concept of interoperability is discussed, and specifically, a health information exchange is described in detail in Module 4.

OPENHIE COMPONENT

Not Applicable

Maturity

All maturity model assessments are self-reported by the funded organization leading the content development of the global good.

Maturity Matrix: 2023

Global Utility

Country utilization	Medium
Country strategy	Medium
WHO Classifications mapping	High
Content accessibility	High
Sustainability & ongoing support	Medium

Community Support

Organizational and Community Engagement	Medium
Content Governance	Medium
Content Roadmap	Medium
Resources to Support Use	Medium
Multi-Lingual Support	High

Software Maturity

Content Productization	Medium
Content Reuse / Adaptability	Medium
Content Alignment to Global Normative Agencies	High

Resources

Country case studies

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1M_BVhfyAre16m4ikQzVFt78DVsyjTvTP

Videos: Global Goods Playlist

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLITZ64izC0jxKgWBSCTdXOIzzyuDDM_je

Video: Standards and Interoperability in Digital Health: Explained

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KSEUh-wj7Y0&t=101s>

Community

The course Alumni Network's Community of Practice for global graduates from the Digital Health: Planning National Systems (DHPNS) course is just beginning to be established. The mission is to provide a space where course alumni can connect and support one another by exchanging knowledge, lessons learned, and experiences related to applying digital health course concepts in their work planning national digital health systems to promote better health outcomes. There are currently 696 members of the DHPNS Alumni Network. They are globally distributed with the vast majority coming from LMICs in the Global South.

The goals of the global Alumni Network's Community of Practice are to:

- 1) Connect with and support fellow DHPNS course alumni network to apply course learnings and achieve their desired outcomes and impact.
- 2) Share and exchange knowledge on the application of digital health concepts, contextualized adaptations, identified 'best practices,' and lessons learned.
- 3) Expand on DHPNS course learnings by updating resources and advising on emerging digital health trends and technologies.

This course also has partnerships to continue to support the development, design, maintenance and updating of the course and its alumni network, including the WHO, UNICEF, DICE, DSQ, and USAID. A governance body to help manage these partnerships, priorities, and funding resources is also in development.

PLATFORMS / MAILING LISTS

The Community of Practice space is located on the DHPNS platform, but can only be accessed by course alumni, key partners and facilitators. This Community of Practice is alumni driven. You must be a graduate of the Digital Health: Planning National Systems course to participate. The alumni community was initially engaged in participatory ideation and design sessions, facilitated by TechChange, to support the community to coalesce on a vision and objectives for the community going forward, including the identification of key topics they would wish to speak to and/or learn more about. We worked collaboratively to collect all the "asks" and "offers" of participants and make a proposal for the top 10-12 sessions. The community is engaged in an ongoing manner through the planned quarterly live sessions, which although are supported and facilitated by TechChange, are sourced from the community itself - both in terms of topics and the speakers themselves. The community is also able to post topics and interact with discussions on the forum and engage with one another in either group settings or make one-on-one connections through the directory.

EVENTS & CONFERENCES

A community events calendar is available to registered members on the community website. These events are coordinated by TechChange with the community - they determine the topics and the speakers come from within the community. Most of the events are intended to begin in the next quarter. The longer term plan is that the community will take on increasing ownership of these sessions as the community grows.

Sustainability

The content has been developed by USAID, Digital Square, and TechChange and is based on content compiled by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Telecommunications Union (ITU). The WHO has taken an active role in reviewing and approving any new content as it gets added to the courses on the TechChange platform. The content has been supported primarily through funding from USAID , UNICEF/DICE and The Global Fund funding via Digital Square since 2017. A Total Cost of Ownership model is available.



Linked Registries & Initiatives

