



To: Allison Ekberg, WHO CO of Georgia Health Policy Advisor

From: Irina Karosanidze, National Family Medicine Training Center

Date: 16.11.2022

Subject: Report

on the progress of the Project “to support data and digital health activities in Georgia” in terms of understand the primary healthcare data flow in Georgia and provide recommendations for improving data integration and interoperability.

Reporting Period: 31.10.2022 – 16.11.2022

Location: Tbilisi, Georgia

Background

The Data and Digital Health unit (DDH) coordinates the Digital Health Flagship and provides technical and policy guidance and expertise on the safety and efficacy of digital health solutions; and preserving health equity, gender equality, equity and human rights as core values in their deployment.

Through its work it will support countries to leverage the use of digital technologies for improving the interface between people and health services; for improving health system performance; and for strengthening critical public health functions including disease surveillance, early warning and risk assessment. Furthermore, the unit is responsible for data collection, collation, analysis, presentation and dissemination. It will monitor and measure progress in achieving the SDGs and the triple billion goals whilst developing and implementing a measurement framework for the EPW1. It will provide strategic direction, technical assistance and tailored support to countries to strengthen their capacity to be able to generate timely, credible, reliable and actionable data. The priority will be to strengthen health information systems (HIS) in non-EU countries including Georgia.

¹ European Programme of Work (2020–2025) – “United Action for Better Health in Europe”. [Link](#)

Access to timely, high-quality health information is an integral component of a well-functioning and responsive national health system. A strong and integrated routine HIS which includes surveillance of diseases, of health and wellbeing of the population and of performance of the healthcare system is essential for evidence-based decision making. It enables the policymakers to effectively and timely recognise and address the needs of the population. The HIS in Georgia is fragmented, largely paper-based, lacking interoperability and integration and its content (data and final indicators) is of questionable quality.

For this WHO is committed to providing technical support to the government for HIS strengthening and digitalisation.

The WHO/CO Georgia implements its activities under the USAID-funded multidimensional program for strengthening digital HIS. In the scope of this program WHO is aiming to support the relevant institutions (MoIDPLHSA, National IT Agency) in strategy development and implementation of improvements to HIS to strengthen data sources, data management, and data quality through the provision of intensive technical assistance for

- a) mapping of all existing data systems and reporting forms with a view to reducing duplication in data collection;
- b) development of data input standards; and
- c) proposing a new lean health data structure to support optimization of data reporting.

To support these activities, under the USAID-funded project “WHO COVID-19 Response Program in Georgia”, the WHO is seeking technical assistance to support the data and information collection work for all existing data recording and/or data reporting forms and data systems in primary healthcare.

The collected information/data will be used for the HIS data flow analyses and mapping and strategy development for HIS strengthening. Specifically, this work supports **sub-activity 7.2.** mapping of all existing data systems and reporting forms.

Methodology

Identify all data management forms used by stakeholders and institutions involved in health data-management for Primary Healthcare level in Georgia.

Creating draft list in Excel format of all existing reporting and/or recording forms for primary health care services in Georgia.

Implementation

To develop the list all data management forms used by stakeholders and institutions involved in health data-management for Primary Healthcare level in Georgia, a technical working group was created.

Members of the technical working group were senior staff from principle departments including operational and project managers.

Overall management of the process was carried out by Head of MIS services N.Kirtadze and Project Director U.Kiladze leadership.

The technical working group has defined the goals, objectives and data collection assessment methods for each department (Clinical, financial, statistical, administrative, informational, Quality management etc.).

Group Leaders Set-up exercise for teamworking to develop a list of the existing data flow. An initial step was assessment of recent legislation and regulations, records, registers, reports and data flow pattern/procedures and monitoring and evaluation tools – which was clearly articulated and understood within team members.

Key vision elements (Action; Indicators/Data; Data Source; Timeline/schedule of reporting; Resolutions/Decrees/Contracts - Users/decision-makers and Other Stakeholders; Communication Channel etc.) were discussed in all levels and format:

- ✓ Country/Municipal level E-services
- ✓ Health facility-based health records – Routine/aggregated data data records and reports;
- ✓ a combination of paper-based forms and remote data entry within HMIS.

It was created a data collection form (Please, see the link below), which contains the basic requirements.

There are three sheets.

On the first sheet we have a 9-column table (#; Portal; Link to Portal/or reporting to; Reporting Form approved by decree of MoH/resolution of Georgian Government/NCDC/Local etc; subcomponent; Contract #; Form#; Timeline; combination of paper-based forms with e-portal), through which the information was collected. These columns allow us to get information for each form - where this form can be found, the name of the form, the deadline for submitting the form and is it paper-based or electronic). During data collection, we can add additional categories or functions to this form if needed. On the second sheet, you will see the description of e-portals in Georgian, and on the third sheet, the same information is in English.

Results

The link below contains all forms/data that are collected at the primary care level - both local and National Level/NCDC/Municipal Level/other contractor's requirements.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1QMdoAdOCjwM4RQhDRZxyxIGtupODMiWrHG2PrdkyXJA/edit#gid=0>

Forms are arranged vertically, sometimes data of one portal - medical, financial and statistical data are arranged separately in vertical line, which can be arranged horizontally if necessary.

At this stage, almost all forms are listed. We continue to work, and if something is missed, we will add it later.

The list is attached see annex 1.

Detailed information is shared on the mentioned link:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1QMdoAdOCjwM4RQhDRZxyxIGtupODMiWrHG2PrdkyXJA/edit#gid=0>



To: Allison Ekberg, WHO CO of Georgia Health Policy Advisor

From: Irina Karosanidze, National Family Medicine Training Center

Date: 30.01.2023

Subject: Report

on the progress of the Project “to support data and digital health activities in Georgia” in terms of understand the primary healthcare data flow in Georgia and provide recommendations for improving data integration and interoperability.

Reporting Period: 31.10.2022 – 25.12.2022

Location: Tbilisi, Georgia

Background

The Data and Digital Health unit (DDH) coordinates the Digital Health Flagship and provides technical and policy guidance and expertise on the safety and efficacy of digital health solutions; and preserving health equity, gender equality, equity and human rights as core values in their deployment.

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The collected information/data will be used for the HIS data flow analyses and mapping and strategy development for HIS strengthening. Specifically, this work supports **sub-activity 7.2**. mapping of all existing data systems and reporting forms.

The supplier worked in close collaboration with WHO CO of Georgia Health Policy Advisor Allison Ekberg (ekberga@who.int) and technical supervision and coordination of the technical officer of CPS/DDH(Karapet Davtyan (kdavtyan@who.int), responsible for the related project implementation and under the overall coordination of regional adviser and unit head of CPS/DDH David Novillo Ortiz (dnovillo@who.int).

Methodology

- Identify all data management forms used by stakeholders and institutions involved in health data-management for Primary Healthcare level in Georgia.
- Creating draft list in Excel format of all existing reporting and/or recording forms for primary health care services in Georgia.
- Collecting electronic information/data based on the adopted MS Access data collection instrument for each data reporting and/or recording forms for the primary health care services in Georgia.

Implementation

Deliverable 1. Creating draft list of all existing reporting and/or recording forms for primary health care services in Georgia.

To develop the list all data management forms used by stakeholders and institutions involved in health data-management for Primary Healthcare level in Georgia, a technical working group was created.

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Overall management of the process was carried out by Head of MIS services N.Kirtadze and Project Director U.Kiladze leadership.

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During data collection, we can add additional categories or functions to this form if needed.

On the second sheet, you will see the description of e-portals in Georgian, and on the third sheet, the same information is in English.

Deliverable 2. Collecting electronic information/data based on the adopted MS Access data collection instrument for each data reporting and/or recording forms for the primary health care services in Georgia.

After developing the list of forms we got also actual forms in order to collect information about each form.

To collect the information we were given database (MS Access data collection instrument) where the required information was entered directly.

The main information about the forms includes the following:

- a. Name of the form
- b. What is the form type / paper / electronic
- c. Healthcare level or facility using the form
- d. The form is used for individual data collection or aggregated data collection.
- e. From where is the data collected in this form
- f. Where is the collected data reported/used
- g. Who is responsible for entering data in this form.

We also collected specific data for each form in format such as:

Individual data examples

1. Gender – *“male/female” format etc.*
2. Name -*“text” format etc.*
3. Surname
4. Address
5. Diagnose
6. Date of disease, - *“date” format etc.*
7. Etc...

Aggregated data examples

8. Number of COVID Cases, *“Numeric” format etc.*
9. Number of patients
10. Etc.

The Data was developed in Georgian and then translated into English.

The next step is to analyze the data and developing report by WHO consultants.

Project consultants from Georgian side are ready continue working with colleagues in case of any question in this process and also to discuss draft report or preliminary finding if needed, to validate findings and recommendations.

Results

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The data collection (192) forms in Access (in Georgian) and Excel (In English) format attached to the report.