

# An International Framework for Pandemic Preparedness: Emerging Collaborative Models for Implementing Health Information Technology

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# The Emerging Framework

- **Private sector viewed as essential**
- **Association of associations**
- **Similarities drive innovation - not differences**
- **Customers as active participant/developers**
- **IT as the integrative enabling process**
- **Near real-time conversation everywhere**
- **Process is as important as event**
- **Balanced donor ethic drives the solutions**



# What does a global IT community actually do?

- Gets people focused around a set of problems
- Creates a culture for reaching a common understanding
- Shares commonalities, not differences
- Becomes a “group” advocate for change



# Public-Private Partnerships The New Model for Collaboration?

- “system of systems” notion
- “standards based approach”
- “global is not good enough”
- “basket approach is hurting efforts”
- “its not about technology but people”
- “network of networks idea”



# Is a “global-wide” implementation of HIT possible?

- Details will trump concepts
- Marathon training - not sprints
- Relevant results obvious?
- Local is “king”
- Scale is relative
- Can it accelerate?



## ...What's the challenge?

- No international law to make us work together
- The “squeaky” disease gets the donor
- IT not viewed as “essential” competency
- Categorical governmental funding
- Digital divide generation in charge
- Private sector essentially left out of solution



# ...It's more than technology

**“the principal barriers to improved information systems however are human, not technological. Substantial investments in training and technical support must accompany the introduction of any new technology. If an HIS is not functionally solid, introducing ICT will likely only worsen existing problems”**

*DCPDC Report, p. 1022*



# Pandemic Preparedness at Global Scale

- **Political will...and sustainable budgets?**
- **Technological capacities match voice?**
- **Organizational readiness?**
- **Workforce IT skill levels?**
- **Common understanding of problems?**





# But first, do the math...please

- On the entire continent of Africa Internet usage represents about 1% of the global traffic. And 80% of that traffic is in South Africa. Less than 1/100 of a percent represents health traffic!

*page 1022 DCPDC*

- Only 68 countries (50%) use the National Health Accounts - a data model that is 50 years old.
- Costs to implement HIS range from .53 cents to 2.99 dollars
- 90% of IT costs are human costs (labor)



# Information Technology ... is now a verb!

- Convening people around a specific technology focus
- Prototyping solutions around unique needs
- Building networks of technology
- Crossing technology boundaries



# Success factors for creating this new IT collaboration on a global scale

- Seek high level commitment linked to change
- Create an organizational champion for IT
- Design simple IT architecture
- Make information drive decision making
- Reward performance and link sub-systems
- Make investments in training



# The Private Sector's 100% Skills

- Building sustainability
- Marketing an idea, product or service
- Creating meaningful jobs
- Understanding customer needs
- Creating “communities”
- Remaining politically neutral
- Transverse geopolitical boundaries
- Providing customer service
- Managing exceptions
- Global citizenship



# ...ESRI Global Footprint in Health

- **63 National Health Ministries** (including US)
- **100% of US State Health Departments**
- **1,000+ “Local” Health Agencies** (cities/counties/districts)
- **Major Governmental, UN Agencies & Affiliates** (WHO, PAHO, FAO)
- **Major NGO’s** — (Red Cross, Pacific Disaster Center)
- **200+ Hospitals & Major Medical Centers**
- **85% of EU Member Nations**



# Global Health Initiatives

(since 1996)

- **1,000,000 copies of CDC's EpiMap Program**
- **10,000 copies of WHO's HealthMapper**
- **1,000 copies of PAHO's SigEpi**
- **10,000+ copies of ArcView to NGO's world-wide**



# Thank you!

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