

mHealth Working Group

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- Formed in 2009 by global health organizations for global health organizations
- Collaborative forum for members to share, engage, partner and provide leadership in mHealth
- Over 1100 individual members representing 350 organizations in 48 countries
- Monthly meetings in Washington DC since August of 2009



Principles:

- Frame mHealth within/as part of global health strategies
- Apply public health standards and practices to mHealth activities
- Emphasize appropriate, evidence-based, scalable, sustainable and interoperable approaches
- Build capacity of implementing agencies



Core Functions:

- Convening
- Knowledge sharing
- Identifying and sharing promising practices
- Collaboration
- Capacity building
- Advocacy
- Member leadership



Activities

- **Monthly meetings** since August 2009
 - Topics include: evidence, national strategies, organizational strategies, M&E, HIV, mLearning, IT partnerships, research
- **mBCC Field Guide**: Developed by Abt Associates in collaboration with mHealth Working Group
<http://www.mbccfieldguide.com/>



Activities (continued)

- **mHealth Working Group listserv** –an active listserv with 1,149 members representing 350 organizations in 49 countries
- **mHealth Inventory**: Developed and updated an Inventory of 250+ mHealth projects funded by USAID and other donors
- **Global Health Track at mHealth Summit**: Helped to organize a new “global health” track at the 2012 mHealth Summit, sponsored two sessions

mHealth Toolkit www.k4health.org/toolkits/mhealth

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mHealth Toolkit

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mHealth Toolkit

Welcome to the mHealth Toolkit. Also, please visit the [new mHealth Working Group website](#) for more on our activities.

What is mHealth? mHealth is the use of **mobile technology to support health outcomes**. The varied definitions and opportunities of mHealth are evolving rapidly, but they all provide a tool to support your goals: improving health outcomes in developing countries.

Mobile technology is a tool with many uses, which can complement or perhaps transform current methods. The explosive growth of mobile phones in the developing world provides new opportunities for the **design, management and measurement of health programs**. The expanding adoption of mobile phones can facilitate scale-up of mHealth in health programs. Wide adoption also implies that mobile phones are **culturally-appropriate technology**.

Programs in mHealth can leverage the tens of billions of dollars invested in mobile phone markets in developing countries. In this regard, mobile phone companies and consumers have done much of the difficult work for mHealth, providing the necessary infrastructure, adoption, and informal training on popular devices. More advanced mobile devices and programming also offer technological transfer to build local

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www.mHealthWorkingGroup.org



TRANSLATE

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Phone charge service

A sign in Malawi advertises mobile phone charging services. © 2008 Josh Nesbit, Courtesy of Photoshare

mHealth is the use of mobile technologies in public health and health service settings. The mHealth Working Group builds **capacity**, encourages **collaboration**, and shares **knowledge** to frame mobile technology within a larger **global health strategy**.

Join the mHealth conversation.

[Learn More](#)

The mHealth Working Group, which started in 2009 with 20 members in Washington, DC, is now an international community of over 1100 members representing more than 350 organizations in 48 countries. Our mission is to frame mobile technology within a **larger global health strategy**. By applying **public health standards and practices** to mHealth, we promote approaches that are **appropriate, evidence-based, scalable and interoperable** in resource-poor settings. The goals of the mHealth Working Group are to build capacity, encourage collaboration and share knowledge. Please join us for our monthly meetings held in Washington, DC with the option to participate virtually. Past presentations and minutes are posted under [Resources](#). Additional resources can be found on our [Toolkit](#).

Latest Updates

OUR PARTNERS





Advisory Board

- Abt Associates
- FHI 360
- Georgetown Institute for Reproductive Health
- Jhpiego
- JHU Center for Communication Programs
- John Snow Inc.
- Management Sciences for Health
- Population Services International (PSI)
- Save the Children
- USAID



USAID Support for mHealth

- Development of a High Impact Practices (HIP) in FP/RH Emerging Practice brief
- mHealth implementation guide, evaluation handbook, eLearning course
- mHealth evidence database
- Support for WHO mTAG group & mHealth Alliance Evidence Working Group



High Impact Practices Brief

- Defines mHealth
- Provides background on the growth in the use of mobile phones
- Explains why mHealth applications have the potential to be important
- Reviews the evidence to date
- Includes implementation tips
- http://www.mhealthworkinggroup.org/sites/mhealthwg.org/files/draft_mhealth_fp_hip.pdf



mHealth Implementation Guide

1. Planning and design (partnerships, content, usability)
2. Technological considerations (global & local partners, protocols/approaches, phones, devices)
3. Scalability (national policies, integration, coordination)
4. Sustainability (costs, financial considerations, PPPs)
5. Evaluation (managing and using data, mHealth indicators)



Evaluation Handbook

- Indicators specific to mHealth
- Templates for formative research & usability testing
- Traditional & new research designs
- Treatment of “big data” from mHealth programs --how to use these data for monitoring and evaluation
- Conducting costing and cost effectiveness analysis for mHealth programs
- Glossary of evaluation terms for mHealth program implementers and technologists

mHealth Evidence Database

- <http://www.mhealthevidence.org/>
- Will catalog, categorize and grade all of the known peer-reviewed and gray literature on mHealth
- Developed in collaboration with the WHO Technical Advisory Group on mHealth Evidence, Impact and Scale in Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health



To join the mHealth Working Group listserv:
<http://knowledge-gateway.org/mhealth>

For more information on the working group,
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