

Introduction:  
**WHO support tool**  
 to assess health information  
 systems and develop and  
 strengthen health information  
 strategies



Tina Dannemann Purnat,  
 WHO Europe  
 Marieke Verschuuren, RIVM,  
 the Netherlands



## Summary

1. Context and content of the tool
2. Use in practice
3. Recommendations for improvement



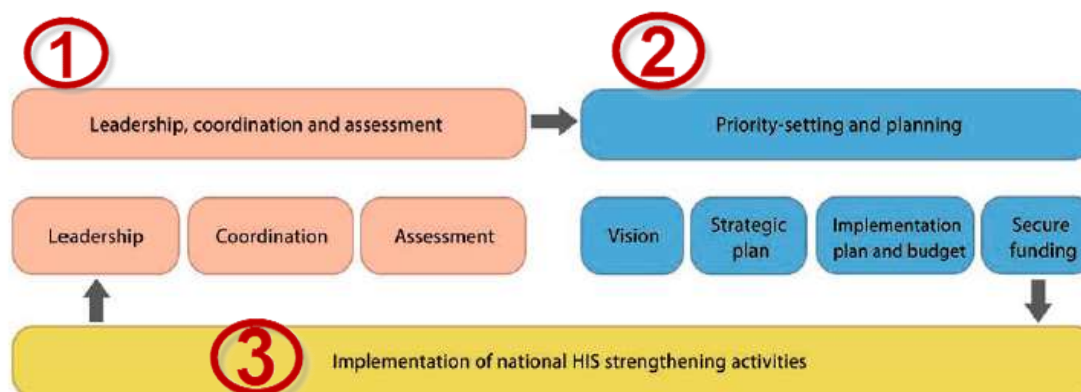
## Context

- A practical support tool for strengthening HIS
- Based on tools by **former WHO Health Metrics Network**
- For HIS assessment & strategy development
- Emphasizes stakeholder involvement



## Content and structure

### 3 phases of design and implementation



# HIS domains covered

## Components and standards of HIS



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## I. Resources (7)

### Policy & planning (4)

- legal framework
- national HIS strategy
- multisectoral HIS coordination mechanism
- M&E of HIS

### HIS institutions, human resources and financing (2)

- adequate capacity in core health information sciences
- adequate and sustainable financing

### HIS infrastructure (1)

- adequate ICT infrastructure and support

## II. Indicators (4)

1. Core indicators selected
2. Regularly reported
3. Regularly evaluated
4. Alignment between national and subnational levels

### III. Data sources (20)

#### Census (1)

- Adequate **capacity** to conduct, process, analyze, disseminate

#### Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) (4)

- High coverage of registered deaths and causes of death; high quality of death registration (low ill-defined causes); adequate capacity to process, analyze and disseminate

#### Population-based surveys (2)

- Adequate capacity to process, analyze and disseminate; cooperation in study design

#### Health and disease records (including disease surveillance systems) (3)

- Adequate capacity to diagnose, record, report, transmit data and respond to outbreaks; High implementation of ICD; adequate resources for national cancer registry

#### Health service records (3)

- System on discharge, diagnosis, procedures, treatments, costs; trained health information staff; data verification and feedback to facilities

#### Resource records (4)

- Health facility database; human resources database; database on graduated health professionals; financial records on health expenditure

#### Data sources general (4)

- Adequate HR and equipment; adequate timeliness and periodicity; data available for PH monitoring and secondary research; regular assessments of completeness and quality

### IV. Data management (3)

1. Written set of **procedures** from collection to analysis and presentation
2. Integrated data warehouse
3. Unique patient identifier to **link data sources; integrated analysis** performed

### V. National HIS data quality/information products (9)

1. Policy-makers have **access** to information they need
2. Data **collection method** is in line with (inter)national standards
3. Able to meet collection **requirements from international organisations**
4. **Timeliness** of collection and computation meets the need of policymakers
5. **Periodicity** of collection and computation meets the need of policymakers
6. **Consistency** over time across datasets is high
7. **Coverage** of major data sources is high
8. Official indicators can be **disaggregated** (demographic, socioeconomic, locality)
9. In-country **adjustments use transparent, well-established methods**

## VI. Dissemination and use (4)

1. Senior managers **demand** reports and know how to use and interpret
2. Integrated reports are **publicly distributed** regularly
3. Integrated reports are **demonstrably used** in policy-making
4. Adequate mechanisms for **knowledge translation**



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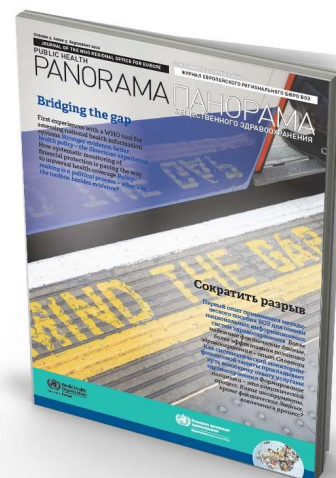
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## Piloted in Albania, Bulgaria, Moldova, Ukraine

HIS assessment visit

Condensed scoring sheet and individual interviews with stakeholders

Joint stakeholder meeting at conclusion of visit



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## Main findings usability tool

- Condensed score sheet works well for quick scanning HIS performance
- HMN framework = somewhat unbalanced;
  - + focus on data and indicators
  - focus on analysis, reporting and knowledge translation.
- Confusion on definition/scope HIS
- European context needs strengthening (e.g. eHealth)



## Further improvement content tool

- Improve balance score sheet (use DIKW framework?)
- Further align to European context, include eHealth
- Add better description of what constitutes a HIS and HIS governance





## Further improvement application tool

- Development of a) short version for easier localization and uptake in policy development, b) version for self-assessment
- Expand number of recommended days for HIS assessment mission → broader inclusion stakeholders
- Facilitation of intercountry exchange of experiences and solutions



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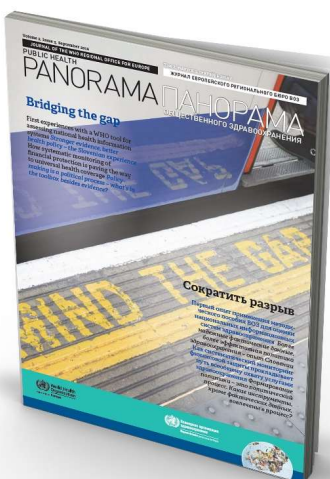
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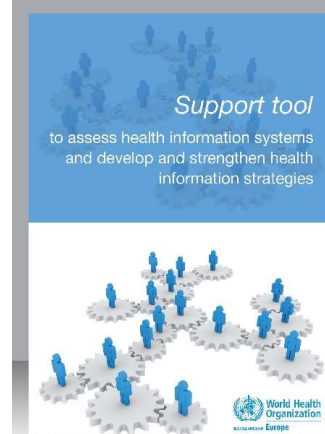


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<http://www.euro.who.int/en/publications/public-health-panorama/journal-issues/volume-2,-issue-3,-september-2016>

Thank you!  
Available online at  
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<http://www.euro.who.int/en/publications/abstracts/support-tool-to-assess-health-information-systems-and-develop-and-strengthen-health-information-strategies>



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