



FACT SHEET

WORKSHOP ON MANAGING CHILD HEALTH FOR HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE



Child health remains a critical issue in developing member economies, as it directly shapes the wellbeing and productivity of future generations. Recognizing this shared challenge, APEC member economies convened over three days in the Workshop on Managing Child Health for Healthcare Workforce to exchange experiences, examine common constraints, and identify practical solutions. Through plenary discussions, focused group dialogues, and cross economy knowledge sharing, participants collectively highlighted key lessons learned, priority issues, and actionable recommendations to strengthen child health systems across the APEC region.

KEY TAKEAWAY

01

ADDRESSING HEALTH DISPARITIES

Identifying gaps in child health indicators, particularly Infant Mortality Rates (IMR), and the social determinants that drive these outcomes.

02

SHARING GLOBAL BEST PRACTICES

Our top priorities are market expansion in Southeast Asia and a 15% improvement in operational efficiency.

03

STRENGTHENING HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE

Implementing evidence-based strategies and strategic steps to reinforce robust and effective child health systems.

04

CONTEXT SPECIFIC PROGRAMMING

Prioritizing the design and implementation of health initiatives tailored to local needs and contextual realities.

05

ACCELERATING DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

Integrating appropriate digital solutions and modern technology to enhance the delivery of child health services.

06

FOSTERING CROSS SECTOR COLLABORATION

Building sustainable partnerships between government, academia, the private sector, and NGOs to ensure long-term program effectiveness.

ISSUE PRIORITY

Issue 1



Stunting and malnutrition; childhood obesity; low parental health literacy; socio-cultural and gender related barriers; vulnerable populations in urban slums and remote areas, weak referral systems

Issue 2



Fragmented service delivery; weak interprofessional collaboration; socio-economic and geographic disparities; access barriers for migrants and marginalized groups

Issue 3



Fragmented health information systems; limited continuity of care; digital divide between urban and remote areas; weak use of data for planning and monitoring

Issue 4



Workforce shortages; uneven skills among health workers; limited digital literacy

Issue 5



Weak linkage between research, policy, and practice; limited applied and context-specific evidence; gaps in innovation translation

Issue 6



Short-term pilot projects; limited scalability; technology need to be adapted to local contexts; funding constraints

WORKSHOP RECOMENDATION

STRENGTHEN CHILD HEALTH SYSTEMS INCLUDING INTERPROFESSIONAL COLLABORATION

APEC economies should strengthen evidence-based strategies, policy and promote community-level parental empowerment to address malnutrition, stunting, prevent childhood obesity and support optimal early childhood growth and development, particularly among vulnerable populations and diverse socio-cultural settings including quality of child health services and interprofessional collaboration.

Possible Activity : 1000 days of life initiatives; strengthened primary care and referral systems; community led growth and development monitoring through MCH handbooks; parental education and engagement; integrated nutrition and early childhood development interventions; and interprofessional collaboration models

STRENGTHEN CROSS-SECTOR COLLABORATION

APEC economies should promote stronger coordination and collaboration among government agencies, healthcare providers, academic institutions, community organizations, and multisectoral approaches to address child health challenges.

Possible Activity : Cross-sector coordination frameworks; community outreach and school health collaboration, universal health coverage and subsidized care.

ADVANCE TECHNOLOGY, DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AND DATA INTEGRATION IN MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH SERVICES

Expand the adoption and transfer of technology the digital health solutions, including mobile health applications and telehealth, digital MCH handbooks, integrated health information systems, and institutionalized data use for planning, continuity of care, and regional knowledge sharing across APEC economies.

Possible Activity : Digital MCH handbooks; integrated EHR and referral systems; mobile health applications and telemedicine; institutionalized health data governance; regional digital learning and knowledge-sharing platforms

ENHANCE HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE CAPACITY

Health authorities, professional associations, and training institutions should strengthen continuous professional development, and digital competencies among healthcare workers to ensure quality, people-centred, and resilient child health services.

Possible Activity : Continuous professional development programs; updated IMCI and child health training modules; digital literacy and task-sharing approaches to improve the community health workers capacity.

INTEGRATE CHILD HEALTH ISSUES PRIORITIES INTO HIGHER EDUCATION, APPLIED RESEARCH, AND POLICY-RELEVANT INNOVATION

Universities and academic institutions should integrate child health issues priorities into teaching, applied research, and community service, ensuring that evidence-based solutions are generated and translated into practical policies, programs, and scalable interventions.

Possible Activity : University led applied research; co-designed curricula for child health; community based research and service learning; translation of research findings into policy and program design

SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE, SCALABLE, AND CONTEXT-ADAPTED CHILD HEALTH INTERVENTIONS THROUGH REGIONAL COOPERATION

APEC member economies and regional partners should prioritize sustainable, scalable, and culturally appropriate child health interventions, supported by regional cooperation mechanisms for capacity building, best practice exchange, and collaborative learning.

Possible Activity : APEC regional platforms for knowledge exchange, capacity building, and shared learning; pilot before scale approaches; sustainable financing models; Sustainable budget planning.