System Initiative

Shaping the Future of Health and Healthcare

The World Economic Forum has developed System Initiatives to serve as platforms to bring together leaders and experts to tackle global issues that require public-private collaboration to find viable solutions. Each initiative is comprised of bodies of work with results-oriented projects and activities that mobilize leadership, expertise and resources from business, government, civil society and international organizations.

How the world can deliver healthy lives and healthcare for 9.7 billion people by 2050

By 2050, the world’s population is expected to rise to 9.7 billion, with 2 billion over the age of 60. However, the global health and healthcare system is still ill equipped to deal with this demographic transformation. To keep populations healthy and to treat patients more effectively, solutions need to come from outside traditional healthcare.

The World Economic Forum’s System Initiative on Shaping the Future of Health and Healthcare provides a unifying framework for health preservation and improved healthcare delivery. The effort brings together stakeholders from the public and private sectors to catalyse opportunities to accelerate these goals. Specifically, the System Initiative aims to:

- Better manage future epidemics
- Promote healthy behaviours
- Improve financial efficiencies and sustainability
- Accelerate access to healthcare in emerging economies.

Core Activities

The System Initiative focuses on two main bodies of work: health and healthcare. The portfolio of projects and activities under these issues includes:

Human-centric Health

This project is designed to deepen understanding of how a human-centred approach to a healthy lifestyle can transform the health ecosystem, particularly in the prevention of non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Areas of focus include:

- Development and dissemination of critical knowledge and tools that focus on triggers for long-term behavioural change in individuals, policy-makers and business leaders, leading to healthier lifestyles
- Catalysing concrete public-private cooperation opportunities across sectors by leveraging the Forum as a platform to maximize impact in the NCDs agenda

Managing the Risk and Impact of Future Epidemics

This project aims to mitigate and contain the threat of global disease outbreaks to prevent the development of public health emergencies. The areas of focus include:

- Regional: Public-private collaboration models for national and sub-regional preparedness and response schemes in high-risk geographies
- Global: Vaccine innovation where there are opportunities to create alignment between participants in the vaccine innovation ecosystem, with a view to combat ignored pathogens

Value in Healthcare

This project aims to improve the efficiency of healthcare delivery, cost and outcome. The areas of focus include:
Reduction of waste in healthcare systems

Acceleration of personalized and precision medicine to improve outcomes and adaption of payment models to spur innovation while ensuring access and financial sustainability

Leveraging consumerisation to improve healthcare provision and patient empowerment

Global Platform for Access to Care

This project strives to accelerate the access to healthcare in emerging economies through public-private cooperation for universal health coverage. The areas of focus include:

- Development of technical parameters for a virtual marketplace where country needs, private-sector offerings and new financing mechanisms can be matched

- Synthesis of sources of learnings on business models, financing mechanisms and partnership approaches

How to Engage

Companies, governments and organizations have multiple opportunities to engage in the initiative.

Stewardship Board: Nominate the global chief executive or chair for consideration on the Stewardship Board. This principal-level, multistakeholder body of 20-40 members provides strategic guidance to the system. The Stewards are automatically members of the Core Community.

Core Community: Appoint senior executives or experts to participate in the multistakeholder Core Community comprised of approximately 100 to 150 leading actors and experts. The Community engages directly in System Initiative activities and advances broad public-private cooperation on the given topic.

Project Steering Committees: Each project is guided by a Steering Committee that includes appointed experts and senior executives from partnering organizations.

Partnering Organisations

- AARP
- African Development Bank
- ArcelorMittal
- BCG
- Becton, Dickinson and Company
- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Brigham and Women's Hospital
- Cardinal Health
- Carlsberg Group
- CDC UCA
- Centene Corporation
- Dangote Group
- Dignity Health
- Duke University Health System
- Edelman
- European Commission
- Food and Drug Administration USA
- Fortis Healthcare
- GAVI
- GE Healthcare
- GlaxoSmithKline
- Government of Guinea
- Government of Liberia
- Government of Mali
- Government of Nigeria
- Government of Norway
- GuideWell Group Inc.
- Harvard School of Public Health
- Heineken
- Henry Schein
- Hikma Pharmaceuticals
- Home Instead
- Institut Pasteur
- International AIDS Vaccine Initiative
- Johnson & Johnson
- Jubilant Bhartia Group
- Kaiser Permanente
- London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
- Mailman School of Public Health
- Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals
- Mayo Clinic
- Médecins Sans Frontières
- Medtronic Inc.
- Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
- Merck KGaA
- Ministry of Social Affairs of France
- MSD
- National Academy of Medicine
- National Institute of Health, USA
- Nestlé
- Neusoft
- NewYork-Presbyterian
- NHS England
- NMC Healthcare
- Northwell Health
- Novartis AG
- Novo Nordisk A/S
- NYC Dep. of Health
- PATH
- PepsiCo
- QIAGEN GmbH
- Qualcomm
- Quest Diagnostics
- Resolve
- Rio Tinto
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- Rockefeller Foundation
- Royal Philips
- Sanofi
- Save the Children International
- Serum Institute of India Ltd
- SwissRE
- Takeda
- Technogym
- Teva Pharmaceutical Industries
- Texas Medical Center
- The Coca-Cola Company
- The Wellcome Trust
- Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc.
- Toshiba Corporation
- UN Economic Commission for Africa
- UNICEF
- Unilever
- Union for International Cancer Control
- United Nations Development Programme
- UNOCHA
- UPS
- VPS Healthcare
- Walgreens Boots Alliance
- Wellcome Trust
- Welltower
- Willis Tower Watson
- World Bank Group
- World Food Programme
- World Health Organization
- World Heart Federation

**Key Dates**

**September 2016**
- Global Health Insurance Leadership Summit, London, United Kingdom (8-9 Sept.)
- High-level session prior to the G7 Health Ministers’ meeting, Kobe, Japan (10 Sept.)
- Health and Healthcare Systems Strategic Workshop, New York, USA (27-28 Sept)

**October**
- Value in Healthcare Panel and Workshop at the World Health Summit, Berlin, Germany (11 Oct.)
- Human-centric Health Steering Committee Meeting, New York City, USA (25 Oct.)

**November**
- Leading Hospitals Conference, Value in Healthcare Workshop, Leuven Belgium (22 Nov.)

**December**
- Partners Steering Committee Meeting, Amsterdam, the Netherlands (2 Nov.)
- Meeting of High-Level Working Group for Value in Healthcare, New York, USA (date TBD)

**January 2017**
- World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2017, Davos-Klosters, Switzerland (17-20 Jan.)

**Contact**

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