

ITU

Committed to connecting the world

ITU Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

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[ITU Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific](#)



ITU is the United Nations **specialized agency for information and communication technologies (ICTs)**



Our sectors

*Each sector has a **separate mandate**, but all work towards **connecting the world***

ITU Radiocommunication

Coordinating radio-frequency spectrum and assigning orbital slots for satellites

ITU Standardization

Establishing international standards

ITU Development

Bridging the digital divide



DRAFT NEW RESOLUTION WGPL/2

Role of telecommunications/information and communication technologies in mitigating global pandemics

The Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (Bucharest, 2022),

instructs the Directors of the three Bureaux

- 1 to continue facilitating ITU activities to help respond to the global COVID-19 pandemic;
- 2 to provide assistance, if requested, to Member States in updating their national telecommunication emergency plans, taking into account the COVID-19 pandemic and future pandemics,

instructs the Director of the Telecommunication Standardization Bureau

- 1 to institute a framework for achieving the objectives of this resolution and continue to update Member States on how to tackle future and emerging global pandemics using telecommunications/ICTs;
- 2 to facilitate the exchange of best practices to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic with all relevant standards development organizations and entities to create opportunities for cooperative efforts to support the active deployment and use of telecommunications/ICTs;
- 3 to develop and disseminate standards, guidelines and best practices in cooperation with other stakeholders for the use of telecommunications/ICTs in response to the COVID-19 and other pandemics,



BHBM HANDBOOKS



mHypertension



mTobacco Cessation



mDiabetes



mCervicalCancer



mAgeing



mDementia



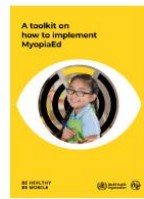
mTB-Tobacco



mBreatheFreely



mOralHealth



mMyopia

DIGITAL HEALTH STRATEGIES



Comprehensive Digital Health strategy plays a central role in setting the right foundation for transforming the health sector and making it future-ready. [MORE...](#)

DIGITAL HEALTH FOR AFRICA | PROJECT



Harnessing Africa's digital revolution to improve health & well-being for all, the project promotes use of ICTs to transform health systems. [MORE...](#)

STUDY GROUP | EHEALTH (QUESTION 2/2)



Dedicated to Digital Health and emerging trends in the ecosystem, the aim is to accelerate impact on national development priorities of Members. [MORE...](#)

MHEALTH FOR NCD – BE HE@LTHY BE MOBILE



BeHe@lthy BeMobile – Helping countries deliver, scale and institutionalize mHealth solutions for noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) at the national level. [MORE...](#)

EU MHEALTH INNOVATION & KNOWLEDGE HUB



The hub is dedicated to knowledge sharing about mHealth initiatives, and to support implementation and scale at national level. [MORE...](#)

AI4HEALTH FOCUS GROUP



Open to all interested parties, the focus group aims to leverage the power of AI for the health sector and bring impact to global scale. [MORE...](#)

Broadband access, advanced education, income, and ability to work from home are negatively correlated with Covid mortality.

Independent Variable	Dependent Variable	Correlation
Broadband Access	COVID mortality	-0.1346
Advanced Education		-0.35
Ability to work from home		-0.32
Income		-0.33

A 1% increase in broadband availability in the US lead to 0.1% decline in Covid mortality, all else equal.¹

e.g. 1% increase in broadband access could reduce Covid mortality by approximately 19 people per 100,000 people across the US.



Non Metro Areas: Broadband access does not significantly affect Covid mortality

Metro Areas: 1% increase in broadband access could lead to a decline of 0.24% (by 36 deaths per 100,000) in Covid mortality across metro counties

Source: <https://sites.tufts.edu/digitalplanet/the-impact-of-internet-access-on-covid-19-deaths-in-the-us/>

¹Controlling for county-level characteristics: crowded living conditions, type of transportation used, barriers to social distancing, access to health care, comorbid conditions, age and gender, poverty indicators, and structural racism

Project Area/Sectors

Sustainable Post COVID-19 recovery and development of resilient digital infrastructure

Project objectives

- leverage digital technologies in establishing and expanding resilient ICT connectivity to establish hospital connectivity in the selected countries in Southeast Asia.
- Build upon the Last-mile Connectivity Internet Solutions guide of ITU to support the design and development of programmes and interventions that addresses the lack of internet infrastructure availability

Key outputs

Output 1: Provision of ICT connectivity to selected hospitals

Output 2: Strengthening enabling policy environment for sustaining hospital connectivity

Output 3: Capacity development of government officials, medical professionals and healthcare workers

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Innovating for Digital Health in Asia-Pacific

Project Objectives

- **Improve the ability for digital health innovators to become social entrepreneurs and deploy their solutions in Asia-Pacific.**
- **Enhance capacity among patients and medical practitioners about digital health, including through emerging technologies**
- **Increase awareness of digital health innovations in Asia-Pacific through enhanced academia and innovator knowledge exchange.**

Output 1: Improved digital health innovation entrepreneurship.

Digital health innovation challenges, mentorship programmes, co-creation workshops, capacity building, innovation framework technical assistance

Output 2: Improved digital health capacity among rural patients and medical practitioners.

For patients, it will focus on basic levels of digital skills, especially in rural areas. For medical practitioners, it will include both basic and intermediate levels of digital skills, including how to deliver medical services through digital health activities.

Output 3: Enhanced awareness of digital health by academia and innovator networks.

Linking academia and innovator support networks (entrepreneurial support networks, technoparks, etc) to highlight and improve sharing of information on digital health innovations. Create a regional cooperation mechanism focused on digital health innovations



The World Health Organization and the ITU jointly developed the **Be Healthy Be Mobile (BHBM) mAging Handbook**. It elaborates on how mobile phones may be used as an effective medium for delivering health information, advice, and reminders at a community-level to “encourage healthy behaviours and help older people to improve and maintain their intrinsic capacity.”



Thank you!

United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies – ITU



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