Newsletter December 2019

Season's greetings and latest updates on openIMIS

The openIMIS team wishes you a joyful holiday and all the best in the year to come.

But what would be this holiday without a gift? From our side, we would like to announce the release of a new version of openIMIS, which includes a NEW interface of the claims module. Read more about it below and tell us what you think. Also, we would like to update you on some of the activities of openIMIS during November.

The openIMIS team wishes you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

openIMIS

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openIMIS October 2019 Software Update Release

Just in time for Christmas, the openIMIS Developer Committee announces the release of the October version of OpenIMIS. Although we clearly missed the deadline, it was worth waiting: the new release contains most of the programming work that was invested into modularising the architecture of openIMIS and opening up the system for interoperability with other eHealth systems. That's a major breakthrough for the project and we are all happy that we have seen the results operate successfully during a number of hack-a-thons and conferences in the last two months.

Particularly the package includes:
- The new core of openIMIS that is based on pure open source technologies such as Python/ Django and Javascript/React
- A rewrite of the claims module with shiny new user interfaces based on Material-ui for beautiful interface design
- Framework for beautiful interface design
- A set of HL7 FHIR APIs (interfaces) that allow other systems (e.g. OpenMRS, BAHMNI, Odoo, DHIS2) to connect to openIMIS for data synchronisation

- Bug-fixes and performance improvements in the legacy system

Check out the usual links for further information and downloads. Kindly be aware of the service desk as well to report issues that you might experience with the new version:

- [Demo server](#)
- [Downloads](#)
- [Documentation](#)
- [Service Desk](#)

We wish joyful holidays and a good start into the New Year to everybody, who might be celebrating these events in the next weeks!

OpenHIE Community Meeting 2019

In the beginning of November, the different developer's teams supporting openIMIS met at the OpenHIE Community Meeting in Addis Abeba, Ethiopia. At the week-long event, open source developers currently working in the area of digital health in developing countries, were present. They worked, amongst other things, on defining standards for the development of digital infrastructure in digital health.

At the Community Meeting, openIMIS was established as a new OpenHIE component. Moreover, representatives from Djibouti, Uganda und Ethiopia approached the openIMIS Team and expressed their interest in the openIMIS software. Similarly, the University of Mekelle in Ethiopia indicated they would like to advise the regional government of Tigray on utilizing openIMIS as a potential instrument for management of their health insurance scheme.

Developer's Workshop

The openIMIS Developers Workshop was linked to the OpenHIE Meeting. The workshop gave openIMIS developers the possibility to discuss acute openIMIS issues in the developer's community and test run openIMIS interoperability with other Global Goods. Furthermore, the openIMIS team presented the October release to the OpenHIE Community. More information about the workshop can be found here.

Notice D1

The results from the Notice D1 have been published. For the next phase, two applications will be funded. The developments will be focused on the following topics:

- Building the openIMIS community of developers for the next phase of growth
- Migration of the Beneficiary Enrollment Workflow to the modular platform
- Claim categorization using Artificial Intelligence. It includes a research, development and testing phase.

To know more about the current funded development projects, visit the wiki.

Implementer's Committee

The Implementers Committee (IC) has been conducting calls on a weekly basis during 2019. Members, who participate on a regular basis, are Swiss TPH, EPOS, Jembi,

AeHIN and GIZ. During these calls, the Implementers Committee discusses potential implementations of openIMIS in interested countries. They have also worked on the ranking of features requested from users of the openIMIS software. This prioritization process of features requests was necessary as preparation for the openIMIS Steering Group Meeting. To know more about the IC calls, feel free to read our minutes in our Meeting overview.

Steering Group Meeting

The third openIMIS Steering Group Meeting took place on the 25th of November in Geneva, parallel to the Global Social Protection Week. For the first time, the two funding entities, Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (SDC) and German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) were joined by two user organizations being National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) from Tanzania and Health Insurance Board (HIB) from Nepal.

In the first part of the meeting, experts in the area of Social Health Protection and Health Financing from ILO, WHO, AFD, UNICEF and Global Fund joined as observers. GIZ as Coordination Desk of the openIMIS Initiative gave a short introduction on openIMIS and provided the participants with a review of the outcomes in the period 2017-2019. In the second part, the representatives from Nepal and Tanzania updated the Steering Group on the current state of the openIMIS implementations in their respective countries as well as the next steps and priorities for the next years. Moreover, feature requests, changes to the mission, vision and terms of references figured among the list of discussed points.

Workshops and Conferences

In September and November, AEHIN conducted two openIMIS Training of Trainees (ToT) Workshops at the University of Philippines Manila and at St. Luke's College of Medicine. Among the participants were graduate students of Health Informatics and of the faculty of the College of Medicine. The attendees received an overview on Digital Health, the importance of Health Information Systems in health insurance management and the openIMIS software. With these workshops, AeHIN continues to contribute to the formation of an openIMIS Community of Practice (CoP) in Asia. To learn more about these workshops, you can visit the AeHIN website.

Furthermore, openIMIS was showcased at the the 13th OpenMRS Implementers Conference which was held under the theme "Harmonizing and strengthening the

OpenMRS ecosystem" in Maputo, Mozambique from 2-6 December. Daniel Futerman and Rhonwyn Cornell from Jembi Health Systems, openIMIS's regional hub in Africa, represented openIMIS at this conference. More information on the conference can be found here.