



The openIMIS Initiative

Strategic Principles

(January 2022)

The openIMIS initiative aims to leverage the advances in digital technology to provide sustainable and affordable solutions for reaching Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and Universal Social Protection (USP). As a digital global good supported by a strong community of practice, the openIMIS initiative is guided by an unwavering vision and mission and abides by a set of strategic principles.

Vision

The implementation of a continuously improved open source Management Information System for social (health) protection schemes (openIMIS) will lead to effectively managed health financing and social protection mechanisms, and ultimately contribute to universal health coverage and universal social protection.

Mission

Our mission is to ensure that our open source community continuously improves the openIMIS software and its implementations to efficiently manage health financing and social protection schemes.

Strategy

In its efforts to develop and promote the openIMIS global good through an open community of practice, the openIMIS initiative has established strategic principles by which it will be guided. These principles honor and build on the [Principles for Digital Development](#) and the [Digital Investment Principles](#).

Core functionality

As a digital health core intervention 3.5 (according to [WHO's Classification of Digital Health Interventions](#)) originally focused on health financing, the openIMIS Initiative seeks to provide a comprehensive system linking beneficiary, provider and payer data. Beyond use cases in health openIMIS serves other schemes in social protection e.g. employment injury insurance and cash transfer.

Use of open source software and standards

- The openIMIS initiative commits to releasing all software and its source-code that it develops through open source licenses approved by the [Open Source Initiative \(OSI\)](#).
- openIMIS initiative commits to being open in its' community of practice, including in the governance and decision making, in addition to releasing the source-code of the software through an opensource license.
- The openIMIS initiative commits to implementing open standards in the design and development of openIMIS.
- openIMIS Initiative commits to be part of global networks discussing and developing normative standards in digital health and will adhere and promote specific standardized approaches and tools.

Collaboration

- The openIMIS initiative commits to collaborating with its community of practitioners, external experts, and stakeholders to improve the functionality and reach of openIMIS.
- openIMIS Initiative establishes and facilitates the community of practice for software developers, implementing partners and end users.
- openIMIS Initiative provides capacity development services on local, regional and global level;
- The openIMIS initiative will share publicly its experiences with a global good and engage in discussions to promote the improvement and use of other global goods.
- openIMIS Initiative is a global community, which is open to all stakeholders interested in exchanging and collaborating in the area of health financing and social protection for UHC and USP.

Transparency

- In the spirit of being a global good, the openIMIS initiative keeps discussions on the initiative, software, and community of practice open and transparent.

Interoperability

- openIMIS initiative will ensure that the openIMIS product is interoperable, using globally accepted standards, with other digital health systems.

- The openIMIS product will reuse and further develop on other global goods for added functionality rather than duplicating efforts.
- The openIMIS initiative will leverage existing systems (digital and other) in partner institutions for new implementations.
- The openIMIS product has a modular build, allowing it to be interoperable with existing systems, to meet the needs of variety of schemes.

Adaptability and Learning

- The openIMIS product is adaptable to serve different country and scheme-specific needs through its modular build.
- The openIMIS initiative encourages adaptations that are driven by local developers and implementors and supported by the global openIMIS community
- The openIMIS initiative encourages learning in the community and improvement of openIMIS product from experiences gained through implementations at the local level.

Security and Privacy

- The openIMIS initiative ensures the openIMIS product adheres to globally accepted data protection and security standards.
- The openIMIS initiative ensures all the data in the various communication platforms used by the initiative and the community of practice adhere to the applicable data privacy and security requirements.

Sustainability

- openIMIS product is continuously improved through experience from implementations;
- openIMIS product is designed according to user needs and scale;
- openIMIS product has a modular build, allowing it to be adapted to the needs of a variety of health financing schemes;
- openIMIS initiative builds various capacities (IT, implementation, health financing) at implementation level to ensure the scale-up and sustainability of the openIMIS implementations.