
HEALTH SYSTEMS INNOVATION CONFERENCE

CALL FOR PAPERS



29th - 30th April 2025

University of Ghana

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We are delighted to announce the upcoming Health Systems Innovation Conference, to be held in Accra, Ghana. The conference is being organised by the Sustaining the African Health Initiative Community of Practice Secretariat at the Regional Institute for Population Studies, University of Ghana in collaboration with the Ghana Health Service.

This conference aims to bring together researchers, policymakers, practitioners, and other stakeholders to share knowledge, experiences, and best practices in health systems innovation. We invite submissions from individuals and organizations who are actively engaged in advancing health systems performance and addressing health challenges.

Sustaining the African Health Initiative Community of Practice project is funded by the Doris Duke Foundation.



Background

Health systems worldwide face numerous challenges, including resource constraints, inequities in access to care, and the need for continuous improvement in quality and efficiency. In sub-Saharan Africa, these challenges are often exacerbated by limited infrastructure, workforce shortages, and the double burden of communicable and non-communicable diseases. It is further compounded by the injuries, accidents and complications during pregnancy prevalent in conflict-prone and poverty-stricken contexts. To address these issues, innovative approaches are essential to strengthen health systems and improve health outcomes.

The Sustaining the African Health Initiative Community of Practice (AHI CoP) programme seeks to sustain and expand a network of practitioners and researchers, continued capacity building, and foster continuous learning and exchange of best practices in health systems developments in the different countries while benefiting from the expertise of external specialists and consultants. Ultimately, we aim to foster innovation, develop peer-support systems while creating an avenue for mentoring of health practitioners and young health systems and policy researchers.

The AHI CoP project Secretariat at the Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS), University of Ghana in collaboration with the Ghana Health Service is organising a Health Systems Innovation Conference that will bring health systems practitioners (researchers, policymakers, and other stakeholders) and young scientists (students and early career scholars) to carry out the AHI CoP programme mandate of sharing innovations in health systems development in order to foster cross-learning and exchange of best practices in health development in Africa. It will provide a platform for interdisciplinary collaboration and the exchange of ideas to drive transformative change in health systems. In particular, it would showcase lessons learned from AHI-funded projects across the continent.

The conference is necessitated by the complex and evolving challenges faced by health systems, particularly in low- and middle-income countries. Therefore, it seeks to highlight successful health systems innovations that have demonstrated positive impacts on health outcomes that can be adapted or scaled in different contexts; provide a forum for researchers, policymakers, and practitioners to share insights, experiences, and evidence-based solutions to common health systems challenges; and enhance the skills and knowledge of participants through training sessions, and networking opportunities. The conference will feature a series of presentations and panel discussions that highlight innovative approaches and best practices in health systems strengthening. It would also provide capacity-building and networking opportunities for early career scholars. The impact of the conference is expected to be significant, as it would facilitate knowledge exchange, inform policy decisions, and inspire new research initiatives aimed at improving health systems globally.

Themes and Topics

We welcome submissions on a wide range of topics related to health systems innovation, including but not limited to:

1. Digital Health and Telemedicine

- Innovations in telehealth and telemedicine
- Use of mobile health (mHealth) applications
- Integration of electronic health records (EHRs)

2. Health Systems Strengthening

- Strategies for improving health system resilience
- Innovations in health workforce development
- Strengthening health infrastructure and supply chains

3. Universal Health Coverage (UHC)

- Approaches to achieving UHC
- Financing models for sustainable health systems
- Equity and access to healthcare services

4. Health Policy and Governance

- Innovative health policy frameworks
- Governance and leadership in health systems
- Role of public-private partnerships

5. Community Health and Primary Care

- Innovations in primary healthcare delivery
- Community-based health interventions
- Role of community health workers

6. Health Policy and Systems Research

- Health systems research methodologies
- Evidence-based decision making
- Use of big data and analytics in health systems research

7. Quality Improvement and Patient Safety

- Strategies for improving healthcare quality
- Patient safety initiatives
- Innovations in clinical practice guidelines

8. Health Systems and Climate Change

- Impact of climate change on health systems
- Sustainable healthcare practices
- Resilience to environmental health threats

9. Health Systems Financing

- Innovative financing mechanisms
- Economic evaluations of health interventions
- Cost-effectiveness analysis

Submission Guidelines

Types of Submissions

We encourage submissions in the following formats:

- Research Papers: Original research findings that contribute to the understanding of health systems innovation.
- Case Studies: Detailed examinations of innovative health systems projects or interventions.
- Workshops and Panels: Proposals for interactive sessions that engage participants in discussions and skill-building activities.
- Posters: Visual presentations of research projects, case studies, or innovative solutions.

Submission Requirements

- Abstract: A concise summary of your submission (maximum 300 words) outlining the objectives, methods, results, and conclusions.
- Extended abstract/full paper/proposal: A detailed description of your submission, including background, methodology, findings, and implications.
- Author information: Include the names, affiliations, and contact details of all authors.
- Keywords: Provide up to five keywords that best describe your submission.

Submission Process

- Submissions should be made electronically via <https://forms.office.com/r/D0VEKvJyuy>.
- All submissions must be in English.
- The deadline for submissions is 15th March 2025.
- Authors will be notified of the acceptance of their submissions by 31st March 2025.
- Deadline for registration is 18th April 2025.



Conference Participation

Accepted submissions will be presented at the conference in either oral or poster format. Presenters are expected to register for the conference and attend in person. Registration details and will be made available on the conference website.

We look forward to your valuable contributions and to seeing you in Accra for an engaging and impactful conference on health systems innovation.

Contact

Information

**For any inquiries or further
information, please contact
the Conference Organizing
Committee at
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