



# CHISU Annual Report

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## Conclusion

October 2022–September 2023

The Country Health Information Systems and Data Use (CHISU) program is USAID's flagship data and information system project to strengthen host country capacity and leadership to manage and use high-quality health information systems to improve evidence-based decision making.

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Cover photos:

Top: CHISU Ghana

Bottom right: CHISU Eastern and Southern Caribbean

Bottom left: CHISU Indonesia

# Conclusion



Photo: CHISU

Over the past year, CHISU continued to build on the three themes described in the semiannual report: engagement, growth, and learning. At the national, regional, and international levels, CHISU engaged in many meaningful collaborations. At the national and subnational levels, CHISU is engaging with 30 coordinating and technical bodies in 11 countries to enhance their HIS; the program is also engaging with 18 regional and international bodies to strengthen international standards for HIS governance and data use. Of note, CHISU's role as coordinator for the RBM SMEWG, continued participation in the HDC DH&I working groups, and work with the Africa CDC's flagship initiatives are ensuring that country-level HIS strengthening efforts that consider gender feed into international deliberation on HIS standards.

CHISU's growth over the past year has been remarkable, having expanded from nine countries and regions at the beginning of the year to 16 at the end of the year. CHISU engaged in 10 core-funded activities at the beginning of the year, and 26 at the end of the year. This growth allows CHISU to reflect, learn, and implement interventions which best enable HIS progression in different settings.

Drawing on these reflections, learning, and implementation experiences, CHISU is reflecting on the following themes as the project moves forward:

- **Use of the HIS SOCI tool (developed with USAID investment) has been indispensable.** in helping us to evaluate the state of countries' health information systems and to understand areas that need improvement. These assessments have informed countries' efforts to achieve lasting results in a short amount of time and have paved the way for their digital transformation journey.
- There is a **greater appreciation for the role HIS leadership and governance play in HIS strengthening.** There was a call for action, prompted by previous USAID HIS investments, to focus on HIS leadership and governance. USAID Missions and country governments from all 18 CHISU-supported countries and regions understood the role of HIS leadership and governance—and they answered that call by engaging CHISU to provide support for HIS leadership and governance.

- **HIS strategic plans are a key output** of leadership and governance interventions. Even though such plans exist in many of the 22 countries and regions CHISU supports, their implementation requires oversight and adaptive management processes that change within the context of each country. Another key output is enterprise architecture, which is the blueprint for the HIS—but it's not commonly available in countries and, where it exists, there are limited governance structures to support it.
- **ICT equipment and infrastructure are essential** for a functioning HIS. There seems to be little disagreement about this, but no one seems to be in charge of ensuring their existence. While not originally part of CHISU's technical approach, ICT procurement has required dedicated resources from CHISU across many countries. Thus, despite ideas to the contrary, ICT is not a given; it needs to be a deliberate intervention.
- **CHISU is a trusted partner** in-country and globally. Collaboration is an integral part of the CHISU approach, whether through participating in technical working groups or engaging

with stakeholders at all levels and sectors of the health system. Results show the positive impact and relevance of CHISU's approach.

- **Data demand is driving system development and deployment.** Where there are gaps in governance, fragmented systems exist.

There is a demonstrated need to continue HIS support beyond the current project timeline. CHISU has shown that implementation within countries requires substantial time, coordination, and support. While there has been significant progress in different settings, further investment and continued technical assistance will be needed to sustain impact.

CHISU's work extends far beyond the numbers and figures presented in this report. CHISU is making health care more accessible, efficient, and equitable for individuals and communities, one health system at a time. As CHISU supports countries on their journey to digital transformation, the continuous learning gleaned from our implementation progress will help countries achieve the promise of healthier and more effective health systems in the future.

[www.chisuprogram.org](http://www.chisuprogram.org)

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