**Setting up an adequate information solution to strengthen primary health care in Mauritius.**

**DR. Laurent MUSANGO****¹; Mr. Premduth BURHOO****²; Dr. Faisal SHAIKH¹; DR. Maryam TIMOL³**

**¹ World Health Organisation, Country Office of Mauritius.**

**² Mauritius Institute of Health (MIH)**

**³ Ministry of Health and Quality of Life (MOHQL)**

**Introduction**

Mauritius has one of the best civil registration systems in Africa with almost 100% births and deaths recorded. Morbidity conditions and mortality causes are coded according to the 10th Revision of the WHO International Classification of Diseases (ICD-10). The Health Statistics Report published annually contains information on population and vital statistics, infrastructure and personnel, morbidity, mortality and the activities of almost all health services pertaining to the Republic of Mauritius. Health Services Statistics Reports are compiled yearly. At the PHC level, a registry is maintained which contains demographic and clinical information on patients attending health facilities. However, it was noted that the information collected are not designed to provide data for detailed analysis and are not made public for appropriate use by decision makers. Reason why an assessment on an adequate information solution to strengthen primary health care in Mauritius was initiated.

**Methodology**

The country assessment starts with a thorough analysis of the situation of health information system over the past 15 years. Challenges or present opportunities for improving health information system were then carried out. A participatory and flexible approach was used for this assessment; a multidisciplinary team was set up to carry out the assessment. A Working Group (WG) of 5 members was constituted to review and to validate the report. The report identified keys opportunities that the country may continue to build on as well as challenges and possible solutions for adequate information solution to strengthen primary health care in Mauritius.

**Results**

The assessment identified opportunities mentioned above and challenges that need to be mitigated for improving PHC in the countries. The challenges identified are: data generated by the health system is not exploited to its full potential, there is inadequate monitoring and evaluation of health interventions, modern information solutions are not available for better analysis of the existing information, and the quality control measures have not been designed to measure the outcomes at individual and facility levels.

**Conclusion and recommendations**

The assessment recommended to implement strong integrated Health Management Information Systems by introducing e-health whereby all health information systems are integrated with an effective interoperable patient data transfer system, considering introduction of a smart health card concerning all personal health information at the different levels of the health system including peripheral level and setting up a strong monitoring and evaluation systems to strengthen primary health care.