

METS WATCH

Advancing health information security, privacy and confidentiality



Commissioner DHI addressing stakeholders at the HIE and Health Security Validation workshop at Paradise Hotel in Jinja

Government of Uganda through the MOH is committed to utilizing Information and Communications Technology (ICT) to improve healthcare service delivery. This is evidenced by the inclusion of ICT as one of the priorities in the Health Sector Development Strategy. This has been expounded in the Health Information and digital health strategy whose goal is 'To strengthen the health information system and promote digital health to optimize healthcare service delivery by 2030'.

Support from the Makerere

University School of Public Health (MakSPH) – METS Program and other partners, the MoH has developed the national Health Information Exchange (HIE) and Interoperability guidelines that will guide the implementation of HIE initiatives within the health sector.

Additionally, there is on-going development of the Health Information Security, Privacy, and Confidentiality guidelines that shall guide national efforts on patient identification, health data protection, privacy, and confidentiality concerning data

collection, processing, storage, and use.

The two guidelines are awaiting the final documentation stage and are awaiting MoH approval. We will continue to collaborate with the MoH to ensure these documents are disseminated for use.

Going forward, METS Program will work with MoH Uganda to develop Electronic Medical Record (EMR) guidelines and standards to support the implementation of EMR within the health sector.