Advancing Digital Health Transformation and Health for All in Singapore, Asia, and Beyond: An NUS–WEF Collaboration

Project Overview

Prepared by NUS Centre for Research in Health Systems Performance (CRiHSP) | 18 September 2026

About the Collaboration

This is a collaboration between the **National University of Singapore (NUS) Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine** and the **World Economic Forum (WEF) Centre for Health and Healthcare**. It aims to advance meaningful digital health transformation and to enable health for all in Singapore, Asia, and beyond, through research, evidence-informed use cases, and stakeholder engagement.

This project has **three phases**:

1. June 2026 – 2027: Production of a white paper about digital health transformation and health for all in Singapore and Asia
2. 2027 – 2028: Dissemination of the white paper and engagement of stakeholders for Phase 3
3. 2028 – 2029: Implementation of specific use cases that leverage public-private partnerships

The partnership is organized into **two distinct but coordinated workstreams** that address the same underlying problem through different but complementary areas of focus and analytical perspectives.

This project overview focuses on **Workstream 2 – Health for All**.

	Workstream 1 — Digital Health Transformation	Workstream 2 — Health for All
NUS partner	NUS Institute for Digital Medicine (WisDM)	NUS Centre for Research in Health Systems Performance (CRiHSP)
WEF partner	WEF Digital Health Transformation	WEF Health for All
Focus	Emerging, individual-level digital innovations for proactive, personalized healthcare	Evidence-based, population- and system-level digital tools deployed at scale for prevention, health promotion, and wellness
Central question	How can digital health technologies help advance proactive and personalized healthcare? What factors can enable this transition?	How can evidence-based digital tools strengthen health system value, why does implementation succeed, for whom, and how can lessons be adapted across contexts?

The Problem and the Vision

Health systems across Singapore and Southeast Asia face a rising burden of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), aging populations, and escalating healthcare expenditure. Yet most systems remain reactive and treatment-oriented. The shared vision of this project is a purposeful, strategic shift toward **more proactive, resilient, and cost-effective health systems** that deliver more participatory and equitable health journeys for all populations. Digital health is the key enabling strategy for this transformation.

Workstream 2 (CRiHSP): Health for All

CRiHSP leads Workstream 2, which examines how the **population- and system-level deployment of evidence-based digital health tools** for health and wellness can strengthen health system performance, value, and resilience. This workstream focuses on tools that already have substantial efficacy and effectiveness evidence and real-world deployment at scale, and asks why real-world implementation

succeeds in some contexts, for whom, and how those lessons can be transferred equitably across diverse Southeast Asian health systems.

Research aims

- Characterize the **current and projected disease burden** in Singapore and Southeast Asia, and articulate a vision for **health- and wellness-oriented, value-based health system transformation enabled by digital health**, including the political, economic, and systemic conditions required to shift from reactive to proactive models.
- Identify the most promising evidence-based **digital health use cases for health and wellness**; evaluate their outcomes across **value-based domains** (care experience, health outcomes, provider experience, cost, equity); and analyze **implementation outcomes**, determinants, and mechanisms, with particular attention to **equity**.
- Assess and showcase **adaptation pathways** for transferring use cases and lessons to other Southeast Asian countries with diverse health systems, demographic profiles, and digital maturity levels, ensuring no population is left behind.

Scope

- **In scope:** evidence-based digital health tools supporting health and wellness, spanning primary prevention (e.g., health and mental health promotion, healthy diet and lifestyle) and, where evidence supports, secondary prevention (e.g., screening, early detection, diagnosis).
- **Out of scope:** precision medicine, tertiary prevention, treatment, chronic care management, rehabilitation, palliative care, and non-health-sector interventions (e.g., workplace safety, water and sanitation).

Approach and methods

The workstream triangulates evidence from a rapid desk review (peer-reviewed and grey literature, policy documents, existing WEF knowledge products), key informant interviews to shape scope and identify partners, in-depth interviews with those closest to specific use cases, and policy dialogues for broad stakeholder engagement and validation. Analysis is guided by value-based care outcomes and by implementation science and equity frameworks, with findings synthesized into practical, transferable lessons and visualizations.

Key Deliverables (Phase 1)

- The joint WEF–NUS white paper and peer-reviewed journal articles
- Policy dialogues, conferences, and dedicated workshops for dissemination and stakeholder engagement