

QUESTIONNAIRE

**SPACE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR GLOBAL HEALTH**

1. Please describe existing or planned formal cooperative agreements and other institutional arrangements (MoUs, letters of agreement, frameworks of collaboration etc.) between health sector and all sectors directly linked to space activities at the national level.

**Answer**

The Saudi Space Commission (SSC) has started the "Space Generations (Ajyal) program" which is an SSC program focused on nurturing national human capital in the field of space science and technology which may develop a health - space activities.

2. Please provide recommendations regarding the establishment of a dedicated platform for effective coordination among United Nations entities, other international organizations and relevant actors, on space and global health issues.

**Answer**

The Saudi Ministry of Health (MOH) as a stakeholder would recommend an online forum as a useful platform for communication. The platform should allow for; programs/issues/updates in the field to be posted and discussed as they arise.

3. Please describe existing or planned policy-enabled environment and governance mechanisms, for removing barriers to the effective use of space-based technologies in support of global health.

**Answer**

The Saudi Ministry of Health (MOH) is in the process of developing governance mechanisms, for removing barriers to the effective and efficient delivery of public health in accordance with the **Saudi 2030 Program**. Once this is completed it will be integrated with other programs such as The Saudi Space Commission's (SSC) "**Space Generations (Ajyal) Program**" and the "**Orbital Slots Project**" in accordance with the guidelines of the Saudi 2030 program.

The Orbital Slots Project seeks to meet the need for satellite orbital slots for Saudi Arabia now and in the future to develop projects to improve the health and welfare of all citizens in the country.

4. Please describe existing or planned open data-sharing policies and participatory approaches to developing and improving access to geospatial information relevant to global health.

**Answer**

Saudi Arabia is in the planning stages of developing open-data sharing policies. The COVID-19 pandemic has facilitated the beginning of some basic systems to report and share data. There are plans to enhance and developed more robust systems in the future.

5. Please describe existing or planned efforts related to the geotagging of all assets relevant to health systems, including health information systems.

**Answer**

The Saudi Ministry of Health (MOH) has recently deployed massive numbers of healthcare assets (ie. Medical devices) throughout the kingdom. These assets are currently tracked in a traditional manner. However the MOH is currently looking at a more appropriate system which will cover the entire Kingdom using realtime data and geotagging.

6. Please describe existing or planned intersectoral coordination and cooperation for effective international, regional, national and subnational capacity-building.

**Answer**

This project is currently underway as part of the Saudi 2030 Project which will address national, regional and international capacities.