What

The WHO State of the World’s Nursing report will describe how the nursing workforce will help deliver Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and highlight areas for policy development for the next three to five years. It will also provide a technical description of the nursing workforce in Member States, including the number and types of nurses, education, regulation, practice, leadership, and gender issues. The State of the World’s Midwifery 2020 report will report on the progress and future challenges to deliver effective coverage and quality midwifery services. This will be the third State of the World’s Midwifery report. Previous iterations were published in 2011 and 2014.

Why
Drive investment in nursing and midwifery workforces to help achieve UHC and the SDGs

The reports will inform national policy dialogue on strengthening nursing and midwifery and accelerating progress across the SDGs. The evidence base on the role of nurses and midwives can help drive the development of national workforces and unlock investment in nursing, midwifery, and the gender equity agendas for generations.

How
National Health Workforce Accounts, Government Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officers, and Partners

Both the reports will primarily use the National Health Workforce Accounts (NHWA) as the main source of data. NHWA are country-led systems that aim at improving availability, quality, analysis and use of health workforce data for policy development. NHWA maximizes the use of routine and ad-hoc country level data collection via a national focal point mechanism who is responsible for validating and reporting health workforce data.

In many countries, NHWA data collection efforts can be enhanced by contributions from regulatory councils, education institutions, professional associations, employers, population-based surveys and others. Global Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officers (GCNMOs) and partners (associations, unions, councils, educators) are encouraged to coordinate with NHWA focal points to drive the data validation and reporting efforts, using processes established for NHWA reporting.

When
Data collection, validation, and policy dialogue in 2019 for launch in May 2020

All data must be collated and validated by the mid-point of 2019. The second half of 2019 will be dedicated to data analysis and report writing to be ready for a launch during the 73rd World Health Assembly.

With whom
WHO Member States, Nursing and Midwifery Leaders, and Stakeholders

WHO’s State of the World’s Nursing report will be developed in close collaboration with the International Council of Nurses (ICN) and the NursingNow campaign. The State of the World’s Midwifery 2020 report will be a joint endeavor of United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

To present the most robust evidence base for the State of the World’s Nursing and the State of the World’s Midwifery 2020 reports, broad engagement of nursing and midwifery leaders and stakeholders is needed. Government officials have an important role in leading the data collection, validation, and policy dialogue processes, with the support of WHO and UNFPA, and engaging relevant stakeholders.
Get engaged!

Nursing leaders and their in-country networks will be integral to the processes of ensuring the quality and validity of data, and participating in policy dialogue. Communications, advocacy, and coordination will be crucial to maximizing in-country engagement.

**Government**

+ GCNMOs can work closely with the identified focal point for NHWA to help improve the availability, reporting and use of data for the two reports.
+ GCNMOs can expand the NHWA stakeholder network to identify potential actions and providers of additional data, good practices, and or case studies to describe the national nursing workforce.
+ Ministries of Health, Education and Finance are important contributors of data about nurses and midwives in public sector environments of practice and education.
+ National Statistical offices conduct national population surveys and labour force surveys that provide unique information on the labour market activity of health workers.

**Other Stakeholders**

- Regulatory councils with active registers have valuable information on the number of nurses and midwives, their demographic information and education levels, as well as migration and mobility.
- Health professional associations and unions can contribute rich data to the validation and policy dialogue process about employment settings, titles, salary, and practice issues, and leadership.
- Private sector employers have important data on nurse and midwife employment, remuneration, retention and turnover, and vacancy rates.
- Non-governmental organizations, including civil society organizations, and regional economic areas have a critical role in advocacy, coordination, and communication processes around the data validation, and policy dialogue processes, as well as contributing valuable information on nursing and midwifery.
- The network of nursing leaders and stakeholders behind national NursingNow! campaigns can contribute to the advocacy and communications efforts for data validation and policy dialogue.

**Educators and Training Institutions**

+ Education institutions can contribute information around the number of applicants, graduates, degree levels, faculty qualifications, and accreditation mechanisms.
+ WHO Collaborating Centers for Nursing and Midwifery (WHO CC) in-country or within the region are resources for assisting with data validation exercises with GCNMOs and in-country leaders. The Secretariat of the Global Network of WHO CCs can mobilize and coordinate at the global level.

**WHO and UNFPA**

+ The WHO and UNFPA country offices can assist with the efforts of GCNMOs and other ministry of health colleagues and support the NHWA processes to validate and incorporate diverse data sources.
+ The WHO and UNFPA regional offices can assist with regional-level coordination and communication, including information sharing, and supporting the work of WHO CCs in-country.
+ The WHO HQ and UNFPA will assist with coordination of partners and support at the global level, including an online platform for GCNMOs, nursing and midwifery partners, and guidance for NHWA.

For more information

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