The GHWN Data and Evidence Hub (the Hub) was established in November 2017 to operate as a global network for stakeholder consultation, dialogue and coordination around HRH data and evidence activities. The objective of the Hub is to serve as a platform for information exchange, coordination and alignment of efforts around strengthening HRH data and evidence between various organisations and actors; to promote availability, analysis, dissemination and use of sound health workforce data and evidence for decision making; and to maintain a high level of focus on HRH data issues by promoting standardization of definitions and indicators, systematic data collection, synergies and collaboration. The Hub has almost 150 members representing various stakeholders reflecting a diversity of backgrounds, geographical location, gender, and professions. The Hub is currently operating through thematic working groups (TWG) on 1. Methodology, tools, guidance and capacity building; 2. Implementation and country support; 3. Education; 4. Labour market, planning and projection; and 5. Equity (gender, age, geographic distribution), each led by a technical lead. The TWG leads together with WHO form the Hub Secretariat.

In 2018, under the leadership of the WHO Health Workforce Department, the Hub has been collaborating on the development of operational tools and guidance for the countries on implementation of National Health Workforce Accounts (NHWA). Work has also been initiated on conceptualization of key definitions around NHWA and identification of facilitation mechanisms for NHWA implementation in countries. An introductory webinar on NHWA was organized to all Hub members gathering over 30 participants. A meeting of the Data and Evidence Hub Secretariat took place on 14 and 15 November 2018 in Geneva, where the technical leads of the Thematic Working groups (TWG) discussed a two-year-workplan and deliverables. Other GHWN Hub coordinators were invited to discuss synergies and alignment of work of their Hubs with the Data and Evidence Hub. A session was also organized with key partners working on the area of HRH data and evidence, including ILO, OECD, HDC and UHC2030.

During next biennium, more focus will be on country support. One key deliverable of the hub in 2019 includes a compilation of best practices from different thematic angles on HWF data and evidence to support countries in NHWA implementation and strengthening collection, analysis and use of HRH data. The TWGs have also their own thematic workplans with defined activities and deliverables.

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