



IFHIMA
International Federation of
Health Information Management Associations

Strategic Plan

2020-2025



Mission

IFHIMA represents and advances the global Health Information Management (HIM) profession

Vision

A healthy world enabled by quality health information

Values

Leadership in quality health information management

Integrity, be principled, honest and ethical

Mutual Respect, to embrace diversity and treat all with dignity and respect

Collaboration, engage and maintain global partnerships

IFHIMA 1955-2019

Our Beginnings

IFHIMA's humble beginnings began in 1955 when four nations (USA, Canada, Great Britain, and Australia) first discussed an International Association. In 1968, a coalition of health record professionals with representation from the World Health Organization convened to promote the formation of the International Federation of Health Records Organizations (now International Federation of Health Information Management Associations - IFHIMA). In 1969, IFHIMA became a legal entity.

The Future: 2020-2025 and Beyond

The IFHIMA Board of Directors is committed to continuing to shape the Health Information Management (HIM) profession into 2025 and beyond with four Strategic Pillars and a strong Foundation.



By 2025, our members and key international stakeholders will look to IFHIMA for advice and expertise in Health Information Management best practices. We will accomplish this with four Strategic Pillars and a strong Foundation.



Member Engagement and Growth

IFHIMA will invest in its members and demonstrate the “Value of Membership.” We will grow our membership revenue and non-dues revenue.

In its 52 years, IFHIMA continues to have a limited worldwide membership, mostly from the developed nations. There continues to be strong support from these founding nations, and it is timely to embrace new members from developing nations, and to ensure we understand the needs of our members.

Related activities:

- Develop a communication strategy to better engage with regional and national directors, and associate members.
- Study the opportunities for a membership drive and new membership categories.
- Develop a communication package that will clearly define the Health Information Management (HIM) profession and value of membership.
- Publish the definition of HIM and the HIM roles and skillsets.

- Promote HIM as a critical asset for evidenced informed decision making.



Education, Training and Research

IFHIMA’s members and key international stakeholders will look to IFHIMA for advice and expertise in HIM best practices.

The HIM landscape has been undergoing major changes over the last decade. IFHIMA has strived to produce educational materials for its international membership. IFHIMA has produced a number of White Papers and educational sessions, including our triannual Congress. The Board of Directors is aware that timely and quality clinical information is critical. Results of IFHIMA member surveys has confirmed to the Board the need for continued support of educational materials.

While ICD coding is a major HIM capability in almost every nation, there are many other HIM capabilities throughout the “HIM Lifecycle” that need to be advanced and supported. The importance of data and HIM’s role in producing quality, trusted data must be emphasized.

Telehealth and digital health are the waves of the future and IFHIMA will embrace these approaches.

Related activities:

- Review the analysis of the member surveys and prioritize initiatives.
- Develop additional white papers for the HIM lifecycle.
- Prioritize the HIM capabilities within the HIM lifecycle and advance those initiatives.
- Conduct an environmental scan of countries that offer HIM certifications. Develop a short paper on this topic to share with nations wanting to pursue certification.
- Develop a strategy to encourage HIM research to inform the HIM body of knowledge.



Developing Nations

IFHIMA will strengthen its relationships with developing nations.

Over its 52 year history the IFHIMA Board of Directors has continued to reach out to developing nations to assist them with HIM advice and best practices. IFHIMA's lack of funding and permanent staff has limited its abilities and opportunities to go beyond the current situation.

IFHIMA will promote and continue to support developing nations to develop and enhance their HIM Strategy.

The Board will identify with the Regional Directors, nations that require a HIM plan. Contacts in these nations/ countries will need to be established.

Related Activities:

- Examine past practices to inform the approach for supporting developing nations with a HIM strategy.
- Conduct an environmental scan of select nations and survey them regarding their needs and viability of becoming members of IFHIMA.
- Develop marketing tools to assist developing nations to elevate the HIM profile.



Strategic Partnerships

IFHIMA will establish collaborative Strategic Partnerships, leveraging the knowledge and expertise of HIM professionals.

Collaboration is the foundation for developing strategic partnerships. This collaboration must be grounded in respect of each partner's contribution. IFHIMA has been a Non-Government Organization (NGO) of the World Health Organization (WHO) since 1979. The opportunity now is to strengthen and expand that relationship.

Now, more than ever, there is a need for timely, high quality and trusted clinical data. All countries and the WHO require health care data. IFHIMA can be a vehicle to advocate standardized data collection and reporting. It is the right time to strengthen the IFHIMA relationship with the World Health Organization and seek new partnerships.

Related Activities

- Widely share the IFHIMA 2020-2025 Strategic Plan with existing partners and explore new opportunities for collaboration.
- Identify partners with like interests and explore potential synergy.
- Utilizing a "Strategic Alliance Framework" arrange meetings with potential partners.
- Develop the business case to create Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) and work plans.



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To learn more about IFHIMA's mission, strategy, or additional information, please email contact@ifhima.org.