

What are IHP+ and JANS?

IHP+: International Health Partnership

The International Health Partnership (IHP+) is a group of organizations committed to improving the health of citizens in developing countries. They aim to do this by mobilizing international support around a single national health strategy, harmonizing donor funding, and improving the way that international and national partners work together to develop and implement national health plans. The partnership includes international organizations, bilateral agencies, country governments **and GAVI**. All partners have signed the IHP+ Global Compact for achieving the health Millennium Development Goals and promote internationally agreed principles for effective aid and development co-operation, including:

- ❑ *One Monitoring and Evaluation Framework*
- ❑ *One Country-led National Health Plan*

IHP+ Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

The IHP+ has developed an **IHP+ Monitoring and Evaluation Framework** that is designed to guide overall health sector review, planning and performance assessment. Currently, this framework lacks specificity for discrete program areas such as immunization. As a result, GAVI and the World Health Organization are collaborating to customize the IHP+ M&E Framework to address linkages between: (1) health system strengthening activities; (2) improved immunization outcomes; and (3) ultimate health impact.

Note: This is similar to the proposal template countries use to apply for GAVI HSS funding – intermediate results (required for the GAVI results chain) highlight the pathways leading from health system strengthening activities to improved immunization outcomes.

JANS: Joint Assessment of National Health Strategies

A Joint Assessment of National Health Strategies, or JANS, is a shared approach to assessing the strengths and weaknesses of a national health strategy or plan. It is a central element of the IHP+ approach – support to One Country-led National Health Plan.

Countries use JANS for three main purposes:

- *To enhance the quality and relevance of the national health strategy.* Using the JANS developmental tool during strategy development can help guide the process and content, see what else is needed, and review drafts as they emerge.
- *To increase confidence in the strategy and help inform decisions about funding, ensuring that funding is closely aligned to the national health strategy.* Using the JANS to assess a final or near final strategy can help potential funders decide how much confidence they have in the strategy and how to support it.

- *To reduce transaction costs at country level and cut down multiple assessments and review processes by different agencies.* Using the JANS can make developing the strategy and taking decisions about funding more efficient.

The IHP+ has agreed on the following principles for conducting a JANS:

- It should be driven and led by the country
- It should build on existing in-country processes and experiences
- It should have a strong independent element
- *It should be inclusive, involving civil society and other stakeholders in the health sector.*

To conduct a JANS, countries use **the Joint Assessment Tool**. The Tool examines the soundness and feasibility of a strategy in five areas:

1. ***Situation analysis and programming***: clarity and relevance of priorities and strategies selected based on a sound situation analysis
2. ***Process***: soundness and inclusiveness of development and endorsement processes for the national strategy
3. ***Costs and budgetary framework*** for the strategy: soundness and feasibility of the financial framework
4. ***Implementation and management***: soundness of arrangements and systems for implementing and managing the programs contained in the national strategy
5. ***Monitoring, evaluation and review***: soundness of review and evaluation mechanisms and how their results are used

Note: The output of the assessment is an analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the plan, not a pass or fail grading.

For more information

- [International Health Partnership \(IHP+\) website](#)
- [IHP+ Monitoring and Evaluation Platform](#)
- [IHP+ Monitoring and Evaluation Framework](#)
- [IHP+ Global Compact](#)
- [JANS tool](#)
- [How to Conduct a JANS](#)
- [Updated JANS Guidelines](#)
- [Individual Country Reports and Lessons Learned](#)
- [JANS Review of Stakeholders' Needs](#)

