

**TICAD8 side-event**

# **Digitalization of Maternal and Child Health Handbooks and Information: Benefits to Mothers and Children and Contributions to Public Health in Africa**



**Organizers:**  
**Nagasaki University,**  
**NPO Rocinantes,**  
**Friends of WHO JAPAN**



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President, Friends of WHO Japan  
(Chair, International Committee on MCH Handbook)

# Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Handbook

The MCH Handbook was born in Japan in 1948.

## The Characteristics of the MCH Handbook

1. Integrated health records of both a mother and a child
2. Essential health information available at home



MCH Handbooks in many countries

# 13<sup>th</sup> International Conference on MCH Handbook (TORONTO)

**Time:** August 24-25, 2022

**Place:**

Online/ Toronto University

**Participants expected:**

1,049 participants from 61 countries  
of Asia, Africa, Europe and  
America

**Organizers:**

International Committee on  
MCH handbook, Toronto University

**Collaboration:**

WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, JICA



**Conference on MCH Handbook  
Toronto University, Aug. 2022**



# Toronto Declaration (August 2022)

**The MCH Handbook integrates Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) principles into healthcare:**

**Equity-** improve access to quality care for underserved populations

**Diversity-** culturally sensitive services tailored to the need of the population and its subgroups by embracing a bottom-up approach

**Inclusion-** special editions for specific needs and conditions (low-birth-weight newborns, children with developmental disorders, etc.)

**The digitalization of the MCH Handbook supports:**

- Establishing a population database to enhance social accountability towards healthcare education, research, and service activities and facilitate knowledge translation
- Tackling health myths and misinformation
- Improving adherence to health management and prevention measures (e.g., screening reminders)



## **Digitalization of the MCH Handbooks**

**Integrated health records of both mothers and children and essential health information are available in digital technology including mobile phones, applications, you-tube, SNS, and cloud computing.**

## **Mother and Child (MC) Registration**

**to identify all mothers and children**

**to collect and analyze anonymized data of mothers and children**

**to utilize data for the quality of lives of mothers and children through public health research and policy-making channels**