Piloting mobile technologies and GIS in the capture and reporting of National Health Information System data in Papua New Guinea

There is growing demand for timely and accurate health-related data at the global, country, and local levels. However, this is constrained by the many limitations influencing the ability of country information systems to supply data required. The demand for timely and accurate data and statistics in the post-2015 era is a great opportunity to build stronger health information systems. Changes in population access to mobile networks, adoption of new technologies, measurement priorities, and national and international commitments to strengthening sustainable health information systems present a major opportunity.

Alex’s presentation describes the process of piloting mobile technologies and GIS in the capture and reporting of National Health Information System (NHIS) data in Papua New Guinea. The initiative illustrates how the country may soon harness the information they need to plan, manage, and account for the results of their health policies, to respond to inequities in health, and to measure progress in achieving subnational and national global health goals, and better orient international donor support.

About Dr Alex Rosewell
Alex is a field epidemiologist with experience in infectious disease prevention and control with state health authorities in Australia and with the World Health Organization (WHO) in a variety of international contexts. He regularly deploys through WHO’s Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network (GOARN) and facilitates GOARN outbreak leadership training for Member States. Alex’s previous research has investigated the role of mobile technologies in strengthening disease surveillance in Papua New Guinea. He is currently looking at how information and communication technology and GIS can improve the national health information system and health outcomes in this setting.