



DEVELOPMENT OF AN INTRODUCTORY MODULE ON SOCIAL INNOVATION IN HEALTH (SIH): AN ALTERNATIVE LENS FOR VIEWING AND ADDRESSING HEALTH CHALLENGES IN THE COMMUNITY

NOEL R. JUBAN, MD MSC | HARROUN VALDIMIR T. WONG, MD | ANTHONY H. CORDERO, MD | ERLYN A. SANA, PHD
UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES MANILA

WWW.SOCIALINNOVATIONINHEALTH.ORG

PHILIPPINES@SOCIALINNOVATIONINHEALTH.ORG

FB.COM/SIHIPH

CONTACT US AT:

INTRODUCTION

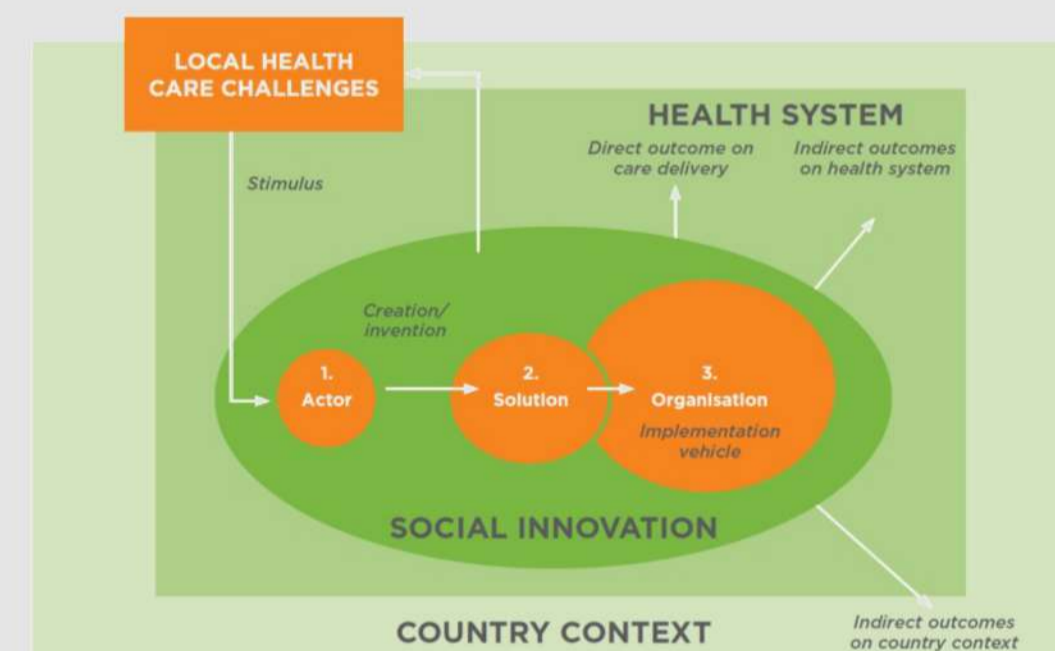
Social Innovation in Health Initiative (SIHI)

In 2014, the Special Program for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases, hosted at the World Health Organization (WHO TDR) spearheaded the establishment of Social Innovation in Health Initiative (SIHI). SIHI is a network of passionate individuals and institutions combining their skills and resources in support of key activities to promote social innovation in health.



SIHI's implementing partners, the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, the University of the Philippines, the University of Malawi, Makerere University, Uganda, the University of Cape Town and the Pan American Health Organization joined in 2017.

The initiative aims to advance social innovation in health in developing countries, with the ultimate goals to achieve the SDGs and improve the lives of communities in the south through the following thrusts: (1) Promote and Support Social Innovation Research, (2) Strengthen Country Capacity, and (3) Exert Global Influence.



Concept of Social Innovation

Social innovation is:
 • Defined as a solution (process, product, practice, market mechanism) implemented through diverse organizational models
 • A response to a systemic health challenge within a geographic context developed by a range of actors through engagement and collaboration within the community.

- It is a creative approach that profoundly challenges the current system status quo and enables healthcare to be more inclusive, effective and affordable.
- It improves the health and well-being of people in the community and has a transformative potential to enhance resilience of the health system.

OBJECTIVES & PURPOSE

The introductory module on SIH is developed to educate students and mentors in the health professions on the concept of social innovation as it is adopted to health, and to help them identify existing solutions and initiatives in addressing local health challenges they meet in the community. It is also envisioned to be used in SIH advocacy and training of practicing primary care physicians, community health workers, policy makers, local chief executives and communities.

MODULE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS



- The SIH case study videos were informative and provided diverse examples
- It can help with the participant's creativity in their community immersion, helping in generating ideas for solutions to address community health problems
- It will deepen their community immersion experience.

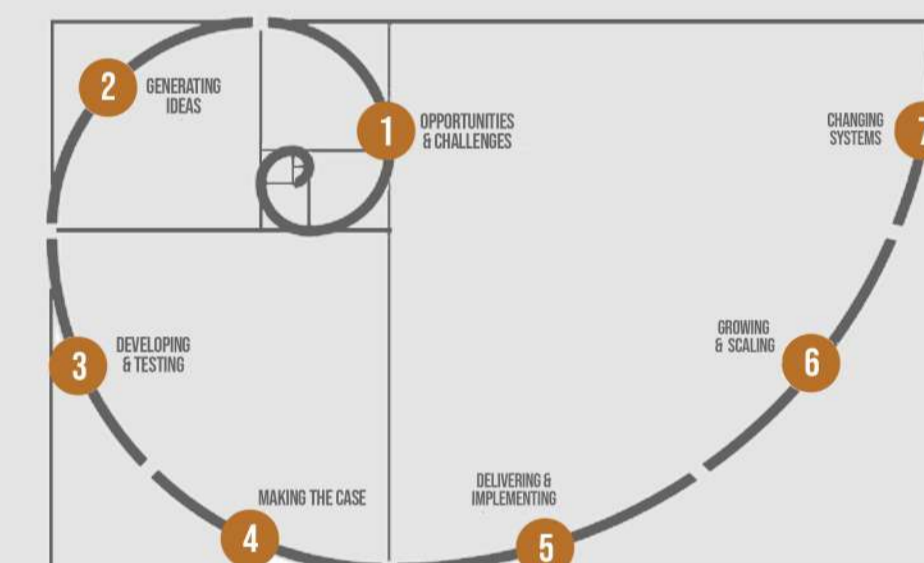
Suggestions for improvement:

- The SIH concept should be introduced in their first year of their medical education since this will give them a different way of approaching everyday healthcare problems at the start of their training.
- A more thorough description of SIH and the difference between programs (interventions) and innovations should be emphasized.
- The module can potentially be integrated into their community medicine rotation through their evidence-based medicine journal activity.

Next steps for the module

Next steps for the module is to conduct formal validation activities with different groups and organizations. Discussions on an evaluation plan for the module and a supplemental field guide are underway. Ongoing collaboration with partners in the university (NTTC-HP and CHDP) to institutionalize and disseminate the module are also being done.

The team is also presently conceptualizing subsequent modules which will tackle deeper and more advanced SIH concepts on financial sustainability, upscaling, and implementation research on social innovation in health. In the end, the hub envisions to have its SIH module series for sharing through trainings and a SIH short course.



RESULTS

Validation activity

Fifteen participants, consisting of graduate students (physicians, public health, researchers, dentist, business, psychiatry, nutrition and communication) taking up health profession education class, participated in the evaluation of the module.

Assessment of the activity:

- The module was adequate, meeting the set objectives.
- Comprehensive & concise content with good selection of SIH cases.
- The activity design and facilitators were very helpful in understanding the topic.
- The group activities facilitated the understanding of the concept and effective sharing of thoughts.
- The videos used were helpful in integrating theory and real-life practices.
- Good facilitating skills and more time allocation are required for activities to be effective.

Suggestions for improvement:

- Mention the time needed for browsing through the pre-activity materials.
- Allot more time for each of the activities/unit.
- Provide local SIH cases to highlight the different stages of SIH.
- More creative transition from the format for succeeding definition of SIH to the different stages of SIH.
- List in-depth materials on SIH for further readings.
- Similar format for the future modules on succeeding topics on SIH.

Co-creation and design activity

To gain thoughts and insights on the module, a two-hour collaborative session was done. Participants (n=10) consisted of medical interns in their community medicine rotation, a second-year family medicine resident, and the chief resident of the Department of Family and Community Medicine.



Assessment of the module:

- "Innovative" in the way it approached healthcare delivery challenges
 - Relevant in the country's setting, especially in the rural and geographically isolated and disadvantaged (GIDA) areas
 - Can aid in formulating programs tailored to the needs of the community
- Positive aspects of the module:*
- Participants were able to appreciate SIH and provide them with a new perspective by promoting out of the box thinking
 - The concept was consistent with the primary healthcare approach, relevant and applicable in both their hospital and community rotation

CONCLUSION

The use of the module on social innovation in health as a source material for professionals and educators involved in teaching health professionals, workers, and students can help identify social innovations in health, explain the various stages and forms of social innovation in the real-world setting. These social innovations can be the possible models for other communities to help address their health care concerns. Social innovation in health provides a lens through which transformation and change in health delivery and health systems can be viewed and approached.



A PROUD PARTNER OF

SOCIAL INNOVATION IN HEALTH INITIATIVE