

SOCIAL  
INNOVATION  
IN HEALTH  
INITIATIVE

# Q2 2025 NEWSLETTER

The second quarter of 2025 saw us advancing our advocacies in social innovation in health and strengthening community capacity through purposeful, on-the-ground work.

## SIHI SWEDEN SUCCESSFULLY CONDUCTS PHD COURSE IN SOCIAL INNOVATION

**S** [IHI Sweden](#) has successfully conducted a PhD course in Social Innovation which ran from March to April 2025. The course was attended by six students from various universities in Sweden, with backgrounds in public health, mental health, education, and gender studies. The first two sessions tackling fundamental theories of social innovation were taken online, while the last two were interactive in-person sessions. There was a workshop where the students had the opportunity to brainstorm and co-create innovative ways to improve their own PhD projects. The last session was dedicated to the important takeaways the PhD students had from the course, and how these can be integrated into their actual work.



PhD students tackle a group activity during one of the interactive sessions of SIHI Sweden's first PhD course in social innovation held from March to April 2025. (*SIHI Sweden, 2025*)

## SIHI SOUTH AFRICA BUILDS CAPACITY AMONG YOUTH THROUGH ENTREPRENEURSHIP BOOTCAMPS

**F**rom March to April 2025, the [SIHI South Africa](#) (Bertha Centre) team ran week-long entrepreneurship bootcamps with a focus on primary health care to build capacity among youth in the Western Cape, South Africa. The target group for the bootcamps were unemployed or out-of-school youth in Philippi, Saldanha Bay, and Knysna in the Western Cape. Twenty-five students attended each bootcamp and about 75 students graduated from the programme. Through challenge-based innovation, the students identified solutions for mental health, addiction, sanitation, sports and recreation, and

early childhood development centres. They were encouraged to apply for the next phase of the programme.

Between May and June 2025, the Bertha Centre ran a 5-week intensive online Venture Launch course, pitched at postgraduate level to support students in building business models that strengthen primary health care. Students will progress to a 12-week venture scale course where they will receive mentorship and coaching from experts.

## BRIDGING THE HEALTHCARE GAP: ADVANCING RURAL HEALTH IN SOUTH AFRICA

In collaboration with the South African Red Cross Air Mercy Service, the Bertha Centre had the privilege of hosting an event on 10 April 2025 in KwaZulu-Natal, which focused on strengthening rural health systems and driving equity where it is needed the most.

**“This event created a vital space for all stakeholders to come together in a spirit of constructive engagement with one clear objective—that the people must benefit,”**

said keynote speaker Prof. Kovin Naidoo. It marked a meaningful step in shaping the future of rural healthcare in the province, with actionable steps emerging to foster deeper collaboration and innovation.



The Bertha Centre and South African Red Cross Air Mercy Service joined hands to advance rural healthcare with a collaborative event in KwaZulu-Natal in April 2025. (SIHI South Africa, 2025)

## WYN ACADEMY HOSTS THE FIRST SIHI HUB IN THE MIDDLE EAST

On 16 April 2025, WYN Academy hosted the launch of the [SIHI Kuwait](#) Hub at the Sanctuary Business Club, bringing together healthcare professionals and innovators. The event highlighted WYN Academy’s commitment to advancing healthcare education through accredited training, research support, and community programmes. A key moment was a video message from Dr. Meredith del Pilar-Labarda, who leads the SIHI Secretariat, marking the hub’s official launch. The evening also showcased impactful initiatives like the Youth Medical Forum and explored future collaboration opportunities to drive innovation in health.

## SIHI KUWAIT GRACES THE KUWAIT PHARMACEUTICAL ADVANCEMENT CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION

On 20 April 2025, SIHI Kuwait (WYN Academy) proudly participated in the Kuwait Pharmaceutical Advancement Conference and Exhibition, a premier event bringing together leading minds in the pharmaceutical sector.

The Academy contributed to the conference with a dynamic workshop titled *“Elevating Clinical Interactions and Building Resilience in Healthcare Teams,”* led by Dr. Afrah Alkazemi and Sharifah Hilal Almutairi. The session highlighted practical strategies for strengthening collaboration and mental resilience within healthcare settings, reinforcing WYN Academy’s ongoing commitment to shaping effective and empathetic medical professionals.

By fostering inclusive, skills-based approaches that respond to the evolving needs of healthcare teams, the workshop exemplified the kind of socially driven innovation in health that aligns with SIHI’s mission.

## SIHI KUWAIT HOLDS ADVANCED TRAINING IN SWALLOWING ASSESSMENTS

Continuing its efforts to upskill healthcare practitioners, WYN Academy delivered an advanced Fiberoptic Endoscopic Evaluation of Swallowing (FEES) Workshop on 31 May 2025.

This blended training program featured nine pre-recorded clinical lessons followed by hands-on small group training sessions, offering participants an in-depth exploration of swallowing assessments and the clinical use of FEES. The workshop aimed to enhance diagnostic precision and clinical confidence in evaluating dysphagia, further contributing to safer, evidence-based patient care.

By improving access to specialised, context-relevant training, this initiative reflects the core values of social innovation in health, promoting strengthening local capacity and supporting equitable health service delivery.

## SIHI INDIA CO-HOSTS NATIONAL HACKATHON ON HEALTH INNOVATION

**S** [IHI India](#) (DERBI Foundation) successfully co-hosted the National Hackathon on Health Innovation on 31 May-1 June 2025. More than 100 student innovators, public health professionals, and mentors gathered for an intensive, two-day innovation sprint to tackle pressing healthcare challenges.

The hackathon, led by the DERBI team alongside faculty and student innovation leaders from Ramaiah, exemplified student-led energy, problem-solving, and grassroots innovation—core values that SIHI champions. The event resulted in ideas on low-cost, tech-enabled health solutions tailored to rural and underserved communities, with select teams being shortlisted for DERBI’s ongoing mentoring and pre-incubation support.

**“What made this hackathon special was the sheer drive among students to solve real healthcare issues—not just for marks or medals, but for meaningful change,”**

said Shujay Ravi, a Dayananda College of Engineering student and hackathon participant.

## SIHI MALAWI LEADS PANEL DISCUSSION AT 4TH INT’L CONGRESS ON INNOVATIONS FOR GLOBAL SURGERY

**O**n 4-6 May 2025, [SIHI Malawi](#) took part in facilitating the 4th International Congress on Innovations for Global Surgery (ICIGS) which Kamuzu University of Health Sciences hosted in Blantyre, Malawi. The event brought together a diverse and multidisciplinary audience, with the Minister of Health in attendance. SIHI Malawi led an insightful and engaging panel discussion on social innovation in global surgery as one way of raising awareness and highlighting the power social innovation approaches hold in ensuring that patients receive safe, affordable, and accessible surgical care.



SIHI Malawi leads the Social Innovation Panel Discussion at the 4th International Congress of Innovation for Global Surgery. (SIHI Malawi, 2025)

## FOUR FINALISTS EMERGE FROM SIHI CHINA’S YOUTH CO-CREATION GLOBAL CROWDSOURCING CALL

**F**rom December 2024 to January 2025, SESH and the Social Innovation in Health Initiative (SIHI) jointly organised a global crowdsourcing open call to identify good practices and practical strategies for youth co-creation in health programs and research. In the 2nd quarter of 2025, four outstanding entries were selected as finalists and will be invited to participate in an in-person participatory workshop in Montreal, Canada later in the year. Insights from the open call will also be the basis of a practical guide on youth-inclusive co-creation, co-endorsed by TDR and UNICEF.

In parallel, the [SIHI China](#) team is conducting a systematic review and building a conceptual framework on co-creation processes and methods. Together, these efforts will ensure the guide is grounded in both evidence and real-world experience, supporting more inclusive and effective health research and service design.

## SIHI CHINA RE-IMAGINES INCLUSIVE HEALTH MENTORSHIP IN LMICS

**O**n 20-21 May 2025, a participatory designathon on equity in research mentorship was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Organised by the Armauer Hansen Research Institute (AHRI) with support from SESH, the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), and TDR, the two-day event brought together scientists, implementers, and public health leaders from diverse low- and middle-income country (LMIC) settings. Dr. Alemseged Abdissa (AHRI) and Dr. Eneyi Kpokiri (LSHTM) co-led the designathon. Dr. Edlawit Mesfin shared AHRI’s experience applying the initial HERMES mentorship guide, while Dr. Ogechukwu Aribodor, SIHI Fellow at Nnamdi Azikiwe University, presented on strengthening mentorship for early-career women researchers in Nigeria.

In-person attendees collaborated in three working groups focused on: (1) integrating equity and inclusion throughout the guide;

## SIHI CHINA... *continued from page 3*

(2) developing video and media outputs; and (3) designing implementation tools, including a website and a charter system to track mentorship activities. A parallel virtual group explored implications for training, research, and policy. Together, these groups proposed actionable strategies that will shape HERMES 2.0, a revised practical guide offering tools to support inclusive, equity-driven mentorship in global health.

## SIHI LAC VIRTUAL CAFÉS EXPLORE GENDER EQUITY AND INTERGENERATIONAL INNOVATION

In the second quarter of 2025, the [SIHI Latin America and the Caribbean](#) Hub began finalising its new virtual course on Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR). This training, scheduled for the last quarter of the year, is designed to provide practical tools and conceptual foundations to promote more inclusive, collaborative, and community-led health research.

On 23 April, the hub contributed to the [BMJ Innovations special collection](#) with the article *Equitable community participation in health initiatives among indigenous women in Latin America: a systematic review*. In the same period, new sessions of the Café Virtual were held, focusing on critical dimensions of social



Bienvenidos a nuestro



E-Silver: Jóvenes y Mayores  
Impulsando la Innovación  
Social en Salud.

One of SIHI LAC's Virtual Cafe sessions features E-Silver, a SIHI LAC-identified social innovation. (SIHI LAC, 2025)

On 9 April, E-Silver was presented—a virtual community and multisectoral alliance that addresses challenges related to aging through intergenerational collaboration.

On 12 June, a dialogue was held with Mariam Otmani del Barrio, TDR gender expert and social scientist, who shared tools and insights on integrating gender equity into health research and practice. Furthermore, on 17 June, the SIHI LAC Hub submitted a proposal to the Global Development Network (GDN) call for proposals on Digital Transformation for Universal Health Coverage. The proposal aims to generate evidence on how digital tools can enhance participatory and community-centered approaches in health systems across the region.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**JULY-SEPTEMBER 2025 HEALTHY FUTURES VENTURE SCALE 12-WEEK COURSE AND MENTORSHIP SIHI SOUTH AFRICA**

**JULY-SEPTEMBER 2025 SOCIAL INNOVATION IN HEALTH SOUTH AFRICA REVIEW SIHI SOUTH AFRICA**

**SUMMER 2025 SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME SIHI KUWAIT**

WYN Academy, in collaboration with Sumou Academy and The Scientific Center-Kuwait, will launch a summer internship for high school students exploring medical careers. The programme includes educational content, expert trainers, and enriched learning materials.

**JULY-SEPTEMBER 2025 MENTORSHIP SERIES FOR SOCIAL INNOVATORS SIHI INDIA**

This will be a series of 1-on-1 mentorship sessions and group workshops for innovators currently in the idea and early-development stages. Open to selected startups across DERBI's incubation and partner networks.

**27 JULY-SEPTEMBER 2025 YOUTH CO-CREATION WORKSHOP SIHI CHINA**

Finalists from the global Youth Co-Creation Open Call will gather in Montreal, Canada, for a participatory workshop to refine and finalise practical recommendations of youth co-creation.

**Q3 2025 LAUNCH OF HERMES 2.0 GUIDE SIHI CHINA**

Publication and dissemination of the updated HERMES 2.0 Practical Guide

**AUGUST 2025 REGISTRATION OPENS FOR TDR MASSIVE OPEN ONLINE COURSE ON IMPLEMENTATION RESEARCH SIHI LAC**

This MOOC is aimed at Latin America and offered entirely in Spanish

## EXPANDING THE SIHI FOOTPRINT: A NEW HUB IN THE CARIBBEAN IS JOINING SIHI LAC

A new hub is joining the SIHI LAC network after exchanges were made with the SIHI Secretariat in May 2025, marking an exciting step toward greater regional collaboration.

The hub emerges from ongoing partnerships between the SIHI LAC hub, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. It will be hosted by the University of the West Indies (UWI), St. Augustine Campus, based in Trinidad and Tobago.

This development expands the reach of SIHI LAC into Caribbean contexts, reinforcing the network's

commitment to advancing inclusive, culturally grounded, and community-led solutions to health challenges.

The Caribbean hub will work to support local initiatives, connect key stakeholders, and foster innovation that is both equitable and sustainable. While its formal launch is still to come, the integration of this new hub already signals a deepening of SIHI's presence and impact in the region. It sets the stage for greater knowledge sharing, capacity building, and participatory research across Latin America and the Caribbean.

## SIHI UGANDA LAUNCHES THE SOCIAL INNOVATION IN HEALTH INITIATIVE COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE (SIHICOP)



Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe, Vice Chancellor of Makerere University, signs the official banner at the launch of SIHICOP on 9 April 2025 as Dr. Phyllis Awor, SIHI Uganda director, looks on. (SIHI Uganda, 2025)

On 9 April 2025, the Social Innovation in Health Community of Practice (SIHICOP) was officially launched by Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe, Vice Chancellor of Makerere University, during the national dissemination

## SIHI UGANDA HOLDS NATIONAL AND REGIONAL DISSEMINATION WORKSHOPS TO ADVANCE SOCIAL INNOVATION IN HEALTH

On 9 April 2025, [SIHI Uganda](#) organised its 6th Social Innovation in Health Stakeholders' Workshop at Hotel Africana in Kampala. The national dissemination workshop, attended by 60 participants, provided a platform to showcase social innovation projects identified by SIHI Uganda in May 2024, and to celebrate the completion of the 2024-2025 cohort of the Makerere University Social Innovation in Health Fellowship Program, which ran for six months. Central to the discussions was the sustainability of social innovation health projects in Uganda, with key strategies identified including institutional integration,

community ownership, local fundraising, and capacity building for long-term impact.

In addition, a regional dissemination workshop for Eastern Uganda was held on 5 June 2025 at Mbale Courts View Hotel in Mbale City. The workshop, which brought together social innovators and district officials, aimed to increase awareness and understanding of community-led innovations and their impact while promoting collaboration and support for social innovation in health at the district level. Discussions focused on strengthening partnerships, leveraging local resources and capacities, scaling up successful innovations, sustaining district-level leadership and support, and addressing challenges and opportunities in advancing social innovation.

SIHICOP is a regional, multidisciplinary learning network that brings together community-based health innovators, researchers, policymakers, and other stakeholders to share experiences, foster collaboration, and promote sustainable, locally driven health innovations.

The first virtual session was held on 7 May 2025, with the theme *The Dynamics of Effective Project Management for Community Health Innovations*. Key speakers included Prof. Elizeus Rutebemberwa (Deputy Dean, MakSPH), Dr. Aloysius Ssenyonjo (Senior Lecturer, MakSPH), Dr. Phyllis Awor (SIHI Uganda Director), and Dr. Beatrice Halpaap (SIHI Co-founder and Lead).

The second virtual session was held on 12 June 2025 and was focused on *Identifying Potential Grant Opportunities and Writing a Winning Proposal*. It featured Associate Prof. David Musoke from Makerere University School of Public Health and Mrs. Sarah Kintu, Executive Director of Action 4 Health Uganda.



Participants, including SIHI Uganda staff, celebrate at the national dissemination workshop held in Kampala, Uganda on 9 April 2025. (SIHI Uganda, 2025). Story in page 5.

## SIHI PHILIPPINES ORGANISES GCARSIH 2024 AWARDING CEREMONY FOR OPEN CALL FINALISTS

As the 2024 Gelia Castillo Award for Research on Social Innovations in Health (GCARSIH) drew to a close, the GCARSIH Secretariat, led by [SIHI Philippines](#) and the project team, organised its flagship activity: the *GCARSIH Culminating Activity and Awarding Ceremonies*. Various online training sessions for awardees on implementation research and innovation led to this face-to-face event on 16 May 2025 in Manila. The event gathered finalists, mentors, lecturers, partners, funders, and innovators, celebrating community-driven social innovations addressing key health challenges across the country.

The activity opened with pre-recorded messages from TDR Director Dr. John Reeder and Department of Science and Technology-Philippine Council for Health Research and Development Executive Director Dr. Jayme Montoya. Seven finalists presented pitches to a panel of health research and innovation experts, and then a “marketplace” of social innovations allowed finalists to connect with potential partners. Participants in the GCARSIH finalist innovations training and mentoring program were recognised with awards for attendance, participation, and pitch presentations. Mentors and resource persons were also honored.

It ended with a message from Dr. Eva Cutiongco de la Paz, executive director of the UP Manila-National Institutes of Health, stressing the importance of institutionalising social innovation for health and future capacity-building.



Participants and organisers gathered for a meaningful and collaborative event during the 2024 GCARSIH culminating activity and awarding ceremonies, held on 16 May 2025 in Manila, Philippines. (SIHI Philippines, 2025)

## SIHI NIGERIA FORGES AHEAD WITH NATIONAL COLLABORATION AND CAPACITY-BUILDING INITIATIVES

It was a fulfilling second quarter for [SIHI Nigeria](#). A virtual meeting was held with the Federal Ministry of Innovation, Science, and Technology (FMIST) on 16 June 2025 to collaborate on the upcoming crowdsourcing open call which is proposed to run from 15 July to 15 August 2025.

In addition, Dr. Ogechukwu Aribodor represented SIHI Nigeria at the Re-imagining Health Mentorship in LMICs for a *More Inclusive Future: A WHO TDR Participatory Designathon* held on 20-21 May 2025 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. She also presented key insights on mentorship and capacity-building for early-career women in academia at the EDCTP Forum held on 15-20 June 2025 in Kigali, Rwanda. These contributions align with the hub’s commitment to strengthen equitable research leadership and innovation capacity.

The SIHI Nigeria hub has also identified Unizik Business School as the most appropriate unit within the academic structure to house the social innovation in health curriculum. Initial engagement commenced and, following a change in leadership, the team has met with the new director to continue discussions.



### GENDER AND SOCIAL INNOVATION MICROSITE NOW LIVE ON THE SIHI WEBSITE

The gender and social innovation microsite on the SIHI website features the work of three SIHI hubs in exploring the gender aspects of social innovation in health at the community level, including publications launched as the [BMJ Innovations Collection on Gender and Social Innovation](#).

Discover how gender equity shapes health innovation. Explore the microsite at [gender.socialinnovationinhealth.org](https://gender.socialinnovationinhealth.org).

## SIHI PHILIPPINES' SKIN HEALTH PROJECT CONCLUDES PILOT COMMUNITY IMPLEMENTATION



Project implementers engage in consultation with community participants for SIHI Philippines' skin health project in Tarlac, Philippines. (SIHI Philippines, 2025).

The Community-Based Integrated Skin Health Approach for the Detection and Management of Skin Neglected Tropical Diseases in the Philippines - Identifying Factors for Sustainability (CommSkin) project recently concluded its pilot implementation in April 2025 in Sta. Ignacia, Tarlac, Philippines.

## SIHI SECRETARIAT HOLDS IN-PERSON KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT & COMMS WORKSHOP

The [SIHI Secretariat](#), led by Dr. Meredith del Pilar-Labarda, held an in-person training workshop on knowledge management and communication in Manila, Philippines on 26-30 May 2025. The workshop was facilitated by Tina Fourie, co-founder of Because Stories, as part of their TDR-funded project providing communications support and development to the SIHI network.

With the goal of strengthening the foundation for teamwork, communication, and SIHI's operational processes, the group tackled various topics covering knowledge management (KM), knowledge sharing, and KM tools and workflows during the five-day workshop. The group was also joined by members of SIHI Philippines for a courtesy visit to University of the Philippines

The project was led by SIHI Philippines' Dr. Meredith del Pilar-Labarda and co-led by Dr. Belen Dofitas of the Philippine Leprosy Mission, Inc. It successfully provided capacity-building activities and materials to local health staff and community health workers, conducted community- and school-based screenings, and organised a day for free skin consultations.

The project team also developed the Community Skin Health Implementation Guide containing lessons and insights gained during the program's pilot implementation. The guide has been validated through expert consultations and stakeholder meetings and is meant to be a manual for local government units and local health stakeholders in implementing and sustaining a community-based integrated skin health program.

Manila Chancellor Michael Tee and innovation hubs inside the campus. At the end of the workshop, the team was able to kickstart the KM process for the SIHI network.



Members of the SIHI Secretariat met with Tina Fourie for a 5-day training workshop in May 2025, in Manila, Philippines. (SIHI Secretariat, 2025)

## SIHI INDONESIA'S VOLUNTEER TRAINING FOR POSYANDU JALANAN STRENGTHENS COMMUNITY HEALTH WORK

The volunteer training for Posyandu Jalanan held on 24 May 2025, was a key milestone in strengthening [SIHI Indonesia's](#) community health work with underserved street populations. Attended by 10 volunteers from diverse educational backgrounds, the training was facilitated by a collaborative team of six—two from Harapan Fian; one from BIYO, a group of volunteer midwives; and three from SIHI Indonesia. Through simulations and reflective sessions,

participants deepened their understanding of the life-cycle-based Posyandu model and enhanced their skills in empathic communication, health data recording, and holistic maternal care.

This training not only built technical capacity but also nurtured a strong sense of commitment and purpose among volunteers. As one team member reflected,

## SIHI INDONESIA'S... *continued from page 7*

**“We now see that empathic, context-aware communication is essential, and that every data point we collect matters in sustaining community support. We understood that maternal checkups in Posyandu Jalanan encompass both physical and emotional aspects of care. A reflective and evaluative approach is needed when facing rejection from beneficiaries or their families.”**

All participants reported that the knowledge gained was highly relevant and immediately applicable to their volunteer roles.



Lively discussions took place between participants and facilitators during the Posyandu Jalanan volunteer training on 24 May 2025. (SIHI Indonesia, 2025).

## IMPACT STORIES

*These stories highlight how a recognised local social innovation has made a meaningful difference in the life of an individual or a group—showcasing real-world change within the community or country.*

### FOI SCIENCE A YEAR AFTER TAKING UP BERTHA CENTRE'S VENTURE COURSES

**F**oi Science, an emerging health innovation venture founded by Nomahlubi Nompunga, has demonstrated impressive momentum since progressing from the Healthy Futures South Africa Venture Launch and Venture Scale programme facilitated by the Bertha Centre in 2024. It was recognised for their impactful and scalable solutions in pioneering biopolymer technology that transforms waste into high-value, sustainable products while reducing environmental impact. The team is also exploring biosensor technology to revolutionise healthcare diagnostics, and aims to develop precision sensors for early diagnosis and personalised treatment.



A look back to when Foi Science won the final pitch competition in 2024 after taking up the Healthy Futures South Africa Venture Launch and Venture Scale programme facilitated by the Bertha Centre. (SIHI South Africa, 2025).

Since winning the final pitch competition in 2024, Foi Science is set to open a Nairobi office with support from Villgro Africa. It has also been formally registered in Rwanda and has joined the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Timbuktoo Health Hub in Kigali, with ongoing support. These strategic developments reflect Foi Science's commitment to fostering regional collaboration and advancing scalable health innovations.

**“I loved the assignments, even though they were tough. What it did for us as a team was allow us to engage and think much more deeply about our strategy. It also helped us dream and create our pilot and know that we are now ready to scale,”**

says Lynda Smith, CEO of 50Plus Skills.

## KALINGA HEALTH: A SOCIAL ENTERPRISE MODEL FOR TB CARE

**K**alinga Health, developed by Innovations for Community Health (InnovationsCH) in the Philippines, is a government-accredited facility for tuberculosis (TB) care that uses a hub-and-spoke model. The central hub provides consultation, diagnostics, treatment, and follow-up, while a network of private providers refers patients through public-private mix strategies. Community engagement is strengthened through “K! Leaders” and partnerships with private physicians.

The facility sustains 100% of its operations through income from clinic services and reimbursements from the national health insurance program. Its work has shown that private sector case notification in Marikina City rose by 13.24%, with a 147% increase in private sector TB cases, 68% of

which were registered by Kalinga Health. By early 2020, it recorded 83.33% of the TB cases notified by the private sector.

**“Kalinga Health has helped me a lot, because first of all, for the average Filipino, these medications are expensive. Instead of buying medications, I get to spend them on other things. Moreover, I was able to recover completely and no longer worry about (TB). I now keep track and am more mindful of my health,”**

a patient from Marikina City said.

Learn more about Kalinga Health [here](#).

## SIHI CHINA HOSTS GAMIFIED CO-CREATION WORKSHOP FOR MSM COMMUNITY HEALTH

**O**n 7 June 2025, SESH hosted a *Gamified Co-creation Workshop for MSM Community Health* that significantly impacted community-based organisations supporting MSM communities across China. The event brought together 19 participants, including six representatives from MSM-focused community-based organisations (CBOs), eight medical students, and five public health researchers. Topics addressed during the workshop were broad-ranging and highly relevant to the MSM community health and engagement, and included innovative technological applications. The CBO leader from Shenzhen Province highlighted the experience, saying,

**“This event really opened my eyes. Normally, we stick to familiar ways of doing things, but this workshop pushed us to see beyond that. The fresh ideas from everyone helped us notice issues we hadn’t even considered before, reminding us why we started this work in the first place.”**



Community representatives, medical students, and public health researchers participated in the Gamified Co-creation Workshop for MSM Community Health hosted by SESH on 7 June 2025. (SIHI China, 2025).

Through interactive and practical activities like asset mapping, a dynamic needs auction, and collaborative solution design, the workshop fostered collaboration, effectively mobilised community knowledge, and provided meaningful insights into community-specific needs.



Join SIHI Talks, SIHI’s monthly learning and partnership webinar, available on SIHI’s [YouTube channel](#) and [Facebook page](#).

## SIHI INDONESIA'S POSYANDU JALANAN IS A STREET-BASED SOLUTION FOR MOTHERS AND CHILDREN

**P**osyandu Jalanan (Street-Based Posyandu) is an initiative by the non-profit organisation Harapan Fian to address the gap of healthcare access for people living in the streets. This community-driven health service is designed to reach individuals who are frequently excluded from formal healthcare systems due to their lack of legal documents. This initiative was developed in response to the challenges faced by this particular population, mainly women, in accessing contraception to prevent unintended pregnancies. A beneficiary mentioned

**“Many of us already have babies and toddlers. We need facilities that can check our baby’s growth, development, and health status. Posyandu Jalanan gave us the information that we need about our children’s development.”**

A mother of one has also stated that she feels more comfortable being included in the Posyandu Jalanan program than attending a conventional Posyandu because of discrimination from neighbors and people around the area.

## EMPOWERING JORDANIAN PHARMACISTS FOR GLOBAL PRACTICE



SIHI Kuwait staff attend the Jordanian Pharmacy Licensure Pathway (JPLP) Competency Assessment in Amman, Jordan on 16-17 May 2025. (SIHI Kuwait, 2025).

**I**n May 2025, WYN Academy implemented the Jordanian Pharmacy Licensure Pathway (JPLP) simulation-based competency assessment in Amman, identifying 25 high-potential

pharmacists for enrolment in a Canadian training programme. This initiative marks a significant step in bridging local talent with international opportunities, using Entrustable Professional Activities (EPAs) to evaluate key competencies such as patient counselling, medication therapy management, and interprofessional collaboration. For many participants, this was the first exposure to international standards of pharmacy practice. By aligning with international competency frameworks, the JPLP not only empowers individual professionals but also strengthens Jordan’s role in the global pharmacy workforce. As a context-driven, locally adapted model that expands access to professional development while enhancing health system responsiveness, it also reflects the principles of social innovation in health championed by SIHI.

## EMPOWERING WOMEN, ADVANCING HEALTH: THE IMPACT OF POWER IN UGANDA

**P**roviding Opportunities for Women in Entrepreneurship and Reproductive Health (POWER) by Action 4 Health Uganda (A4HU) is a 3–6-month accelerator program that nurtures young women entrepreneurs aged 18–35 to build sustainable startups in sexual and reproductive health rights (SRHR) and family planning (FP).

Through onboarding, tailored mentorship, access to finance, and market incubation, POWER empowers women to lead innovation and deliver vital health services to their communities.

Since 2022, thirty-two women-led startups supported by POWER have reached more than 10,700 young people across 12 Ugandan districts, generating UGX 1.2 billion in revenue and creating 96 jobs. These enterprises enhance healthcare

access by offering decentralised SRHR services and using ICT solutions to reach underserved areas. One beneficiary shared,

**“When we started, we had no capital, but POWER gave us the mentorship and funding we needed to launch and grow. Now, I mentor other women entrepreneurs, spreading impact beyond myself.”**

By combining entrepreneurship with health innovation, POWER not only improves young people’s access to family planning but also boosts economic empowerment for women, demonstrating the changemaking potential of social innovation in Uganda.