

WHAT IS THE EVALUATION APPROACH FOR THE MDE?

- **Study Setting:** The districts of Ziniaré and Ténado were selected by the Ministry of Health (MSHP) for their diversity and proximity to Ouagadougou, while Manga and Sapouy were selected as control districts.
- **Conceptual Framework:** A comprehensive framework that combines different approaches to address the evaluation questions specific to each phase of the deployment of the Minimum Digital Ecosystem (MDE).
- **Study Design:**
 - Implementation research approach, combining qualitative, quasi-experimental, and mixed methods, adapted to the different phases of the deployment of the MDE.
 - The dynamic deployment and presence of tools in the control DS call for a pragmatic evaluation approach that involves regularly adapting the methodological approach to ensure robust results
- **Sampling:** Stratified selection of 20 health facilities (HFs) in Ziniaré and Manga, and 16 HFs in Ténado and Sapouy, based on efficiency and representativeness.
- **Data Collection:** Longitudinal process from January 2024 to December 2025 involving various health actors, using the "ODK Collect" application and followed by rigorous analysis.

CONCLUSION

With rigorous implementation and evaluation, the MDE is positioned as a key pillar to optimize the national free healthcare policy, ensuring a more equitable primary healthcare system for all Burkinabè.

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OPTIMISING PRIMARY HEALTHCARE DELIVERY AND NATIONAL FREE HEALTHCARE POLICY: RESADE EVALUATES THE IMPLEMENTATION AND EFFECTS OF THE MINIMUM DIGITAL ECOSYSTEM IN BURKINA FASO

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CONTEXT

Project Launch. In July 2023, the Ministry of Health and Public Hygiene (MSHP) of Burkina Faso, with the support of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, introduced the Minimum Digital Ecosystem (MDE) in the Ziniaré and Ténado districts.

Integration of Digital Tools. The MDE integrates eight key digital tools designed to improve governance, efficiency, quality, and equity in primary healthcare services and the free healthcare policy.

Included Digital Tools:

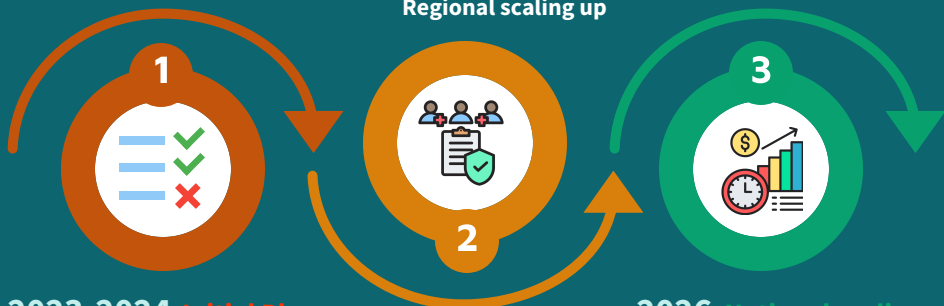
- **Individual Digital Care Invoice (FIS):** Facilitates billing and reimbursement management.
- **REC-Maternity and REC-PCIME:** Improves the delivery of health services for maternity and child care.
- **NetSigl:** Manages stocks and distributes medicines.
- **E-Quality:** Assesses the quality of care.
- **Electronic Financial Flow (E-financial flow):** Manages the financial operations of health facilities.
- **E-Gratuité:** Allocates resources to health facilities.
- **E-Santé Com (m-Health Communautaire):** Improves the delivery of services by community health workers.
- **Data-Driven Decision Making:** Key indicators from these tools are compiled into a dashboard to facilitate decision-making based on evidence.





HOW IS THE MDE DEPLOYED?

2025-**Transition Phase**
Regional scaling up



2023-2024-**Initial Phase**
Testing in the Ziniaré and Ténado
health districts

2026-**National scaling up**
Countrywide deployment

Opportunistic EDM tool deployment driven by MSHP and tool promoters, posing methodological challenges for intervention evaluation.

"FOR WHAT PURPOSE IS THE EDM BEING EVALUATED?"

- Provide the Ministry of Public Health (MSHP) with evidence-based data on optimizing primary healthcare delivery and the efficiency of the free healthcare policy.
- Inform decision-making based on evidence.



WHAT ARE THE OBJECTIVES OF THE EDM EVALUATION?

The EDM is evaluated using a three-dimensional and holistic approach that revolves around the following axes:

1

Analysis of the design and implementation process

- **Assessment of the Deployment Process:** What are the strengths and weaknesses of the EDM design process? What are the implementation costs of EDM, and are the allocated resources adequate? Is the use of EDM tools effective?
- **User Experience and Performance Management:** How is the user experience of EDM tools evaluated in terms of acceptability, adoption, ease of use, and satisfaction?
- **Improvement of Performance Management:** Is EDM effective in improving performance management in health districts and supporting decision-making?
- **Factors Influencing the Use and Scaling of EDM:** What are the technological and security challenges influencing the use and scaling of EDM? What conditions are necessary for successful scaling?



Evaluation of Short-Term Effects of MDE on:

2

- **Resource Allocation:** Does EDM promote a more equitable and efficient allocation of financial resources for health facilities?
- **CHW Services:** Does EDM improve the availability, accessibility, and utilization of services offered by CHWs?
- **Financial Management:** Does EDM improve the planning, budgeting, debt recovery, expenditure execution, and transparency of financial management for health facilities?
- **Financial Situation:** Does EDM improve the solvency, liquidity, and profitability of health facilities?
- **Availability and Quality of Data:** Does EDM improve the collection, analysis, and utilization of health data for decision-making?

Evaluation of the medium-term effects of MDE on :

3

- **Effectiveness of the Free Care Policy:** What is the effect of the EDM on financial balance (FS balance), essential drug expenditure (MEG), healthcare payments revenue, monitoring via the FIS, and service costs.
- **Drug Management:** What is the effect of the EDM on drug availability, reduction of stockouts, and satisfaction of orders for essential health inputs.
- **Decision-making and Service Utilization:** What is the effect of the dashboard on improving decisions in healthcare services and on the utilization of SRMNEA services.
- **Patient Referral and Counter-referral:** What is the effect of the EDM on the efficiency of the referral/counter-referral system and patient flow management?

