

Special Issue

Systems Thinking for District Health Systems: Applications, Issues and Challenges

Message from the Guest Editors

There is an unprecedented increase in the application of systems thinking to the many ongoing and emerging health system challenges we face at present. An arsenal of systems thinking approaches and methods is now being applied. Applications are typical at global and national policy levels, as well as at institutional levels. However, more recently, subnational district health systems in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) are applying systems thinking with the potential to improve health outcomes and advance overall health system performance significantly. This Special Issue seeks scientific contributions that examine the practical implementation of systems thinking in district health systems, as well as those that critically reflect on its limitations and potential for improving health outcomes in low- and middle-income countries. Our goal is to foster a deeper understanding of systems thinking methods and approaches in district health systems in low- and middle-income countries and to highlight its potential for improving health outcomes and health equity in these settings.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 January 2024)



Systems

an Open Access Journal
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Impact Factor 3.1
CiteScore 4.1



mdpi.com/si/164183

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Systems is a leading venue for the quick and global dissemination of results of cutting-edge research in various areas of systems science and systems-related fields. An increasing number of researchers are realizing the enormous potential of systems thinking in managing the many unprecedented and complex issues in all areas of need. The *Systems* journal provides a home of exceptional quality for the manuscripts of these researchers who often find it difficult to publish their work in conventional discipline focused journals.

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