**Leveraging Regulatory Sandboxes to Enhance Governance and Stewardship of Digital Health Innovation: Insights from Indonesia's e-Malaria Initiative**

With the rapid advancement of digital technologies, including AI and telemedicine, how can countries develop governance frameworks to ensure responsible and equitable implementation? In this session, we will describe how Indonesian health sector successfully introduced regulatory sandbox for disruptive technologies, aimed at supporting the national malaria elimination program. Globally, and also in Indonesia, regulatory sandboxes were initially introduced in the financial sector.

The initiative, led by the Ministry of Health in collaboration with academia, industry, healthcare professionals, and civil society, provided a controlled environment to test and refine digital health technologies before nationwide adoption. The e-malaria regulatory sandbox served as a pioneering model that addressed the challenges of integrating disruptive technologies into existing health systems while ensuring alignment with national health policies.

The term e-malaria includes various innovation encompassing e-consultation, e-surveillance, and e-external quality assurance, including e-crosscheck and e-panel tests aimed to support malaria programs. The sandbox allowed for testing the reliability, feasibility, and safety of these innovations in a controlled environment.

Key outcomes included the establishment of a governance model, the development of policy briefs and implementation guidelines, the creation of a website to facilitate communication between innovators and the review committee, and the execution of live testing.

The trial involved 18 digital health innovations, divided into four distinct clusters: external quality assurance, telehealth, surveillance, and supporting technologies. This initiative has informed the Ministry of Health to implement similar regulatory sandboxes for telehealth and other digital health innovations.

As Indonesia progresses in its digital health journey, the e-malaria regulatory sandbox highlights the critical role of governance, collaboration, and stakeholder engagement in supporting the digital health ecosystem. This approach mitigates risks, addresses potential digital solutions for health problems, and ensures that digital health technologies contribute to improved health outcomes across diverse populations.

The insights gained from this initiative offer valuable guidance for policymakers to establish effective governance frameworks for the ethical and safe implementation of disruptive health innovations, including AI.