

UNU Gender and Health Hub

Annual Forum

7-9 December 2021

Background

The UNU Gender and Health Hub (GHH) was established with the aim to bridge the gap between people, evidence, policy, and action and contribute to more evidence-based and better-resourced integration of gender in health policies and programmes.

In 2021, GHH focused on convening technical expertise with political leadership and consolidating evidence-based solutions to encourage concrete commitments to turn the COVID-19 crisis into an opportunity for gender equality in health.

Over the next year, GHH will continue to develop and engage its growing global network of policymakers, researchers, practitioners and thought leaders with the aim to improve the evidence base on what has worked in the past and translate that evidence and practice-based learning into collective action and concrete commitments for the future.

Objectives

Our intention is to look back at efforts to date and look forward as a community. We hope that these three days of focused dialogue culminate in a better-connected community where knowledge and learnings are shared, partnerships are forged and grown, and coordinated action is paramount.

Programme

Date/ Time	Programme	Partners
7. 12. 2021 Time: 9 – 10:30 PM (GMT+8) Duration: 90 mins	<p>Inaugural Session</p> <p>Report launch "What Works in Gender and Health in the UN: Lessons Learnt from Successful Case Studies of Gender Integration Across Five UN Agencies"</p> <p>The United Nations University International Institute for Global Health (UNU-IIGH), in collaboration with five UN agencies with a health mandate, completed a major project identifying <i>what works, where, for whom, why and how</i> across a series of successful agency-specific case studies of gender mainstreaming in health.</p>	<p>UN Women and Gender Equality Group of the SDG3 GAP</p>

	<p>This session launches the consolidated report in conversation with Agency Principals and Gender Leads focusing on our commitment to advancing gender equality and strengthening collaboration between the agencies.</p> <p>Moderator: Dr Geeta Rao Gupta Senior Fellow, United Nations Foundation</p> <p>Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus Director-General World Health Organization (WHO)</p> <p>Mr Achim Steiner* Administrator United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)</p> <p>Dr Lauren Rumble Associate Director Gender Equality, Programme Division, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)</p> <p>Dr Princess Nothemba Simelela Assistant Director-General Special Advisor to the Director-General, Strategic Priorities, World Health Organization (WHO)</p> <p>Dr Nafissatou J. Diop Chief Gender and Human Rights Branch Technical Division United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)</p> <p>Mr Kenechukwu Esom Policy Specialist Human Rights, Law and Gender, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)</p> <p>Ms Sarah Hendriks Director Policy, Programme and Intergovernmental Division UN Women</p>	
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<p>8.12. 2021</p> <p>Time: 5- 6 PM (GMT+8)</p> <p>Duration: 60 mins</p>	<p>Gender Equality and Health in Africa:</p> <p>Creating a collaborative platform to identify research priorities and best practices in the wake of COVID-19</p> <p>In Africa, like in other regions globally, the COVID-19 pandemic has had devastating effects on communities not only in terms of health, but also economically and socially. As COVID-19 response efforts continue and work begins on recovery and building back better, opportunities arise to ensure gender equality and women's rights remain at the centre of these efforts. Several major initiatives are already underway in this arena. Creating a collaborative platform with key groups on the continent already working in the space would avoid duplication, foster synergies, and help create collective priorities given already strained resources and capacity.</p> <p>This session invites key stakeholders and leaders in the region to jointly form a collaborative platform focusing on identifying research priorities and best practices related to gender equality in the public health response to COVID-19 and beyond.</p> <p>Moderator: Dr Johanna Riha Research Fellow, United Nations University's International Institute for Global Health (UNU-IIGH)</p> <p>Prof Asha George South African Research Chair Health Systems, Complexity and Social Change University of the Western Cape</p> <p>Dr Lwazi Manzi Head of Secretariat AU Commission on Africa's COVID-19 Response Strategy</p> <p>Prof Agnes Binagwaho Vice Chancellor and Professor of Pediatrics University of Global Health Equity</p> <p>Dr Kéfilath Bello Researcher Centre de Recherche en Reproduction Humaine et en Démographie</p>	<p>University of Western Cape; African Academy of Sciences; African Population and Health Research Centre (APHRC); -AU Commission*</p>
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	<p>Dr Olive Sentumbwe Advisor Family Health and Population World Health Organization (WHO)</p>	
<p>8.12.2021</p> <p>6:30 – 7:30 pm (GMT+8)</p> <p>Duration: 90 mins</p>	<p>Gender and Digital Health: New partnerships and future directions</p> <p>The <i>Gender and Digital Health Webinar Series</i> is a platform to foster new partnerships and co-create knowledge on the gendered dimensions of digital technologies for health, with a focus on translation of evidence to policy and practice-based learning in low- and middle-income countries. Co-organised by a consortium between UNU IIGH, The University of Cape Town, and BBC Media Action, the series featured 40 speakers on 10 topics and was attended by about 2500 participants in 2021.</p> <p>This session celebrates the series, launches the Gender and Digital Health Policy Brief Series, and looks ahead at new partnerships and research directions in 2022.</p> <p>Moderator: Dr Ronald Musizvingoza Postdoctoral fellow, United Nations University's International Institute for Global Health (UNU-IIGH)</p> <p>Dr Amandeep Singh Gill Project Director/CEO, I-DAIR</p> <p>Dr Mehdi Snene Research & Development Director I-DAIR</p> <p>Dr Demetrios Sarantis Postdoctoral Fellow, UNU-EGOV</p> <p>Dr Serge Stinckwich Head of Research United Nations University Institute Macau</p> <p>Mr Calum Handforth Advisor Smart Cities and Digitalisation, Global Centre for Technology, Innovation and Sustainable Development UNDP</p>	<p>BBC Media Action; University of Cape Town (UCT)</p>

	<p>Ms Caroline Sugg Director of Strategy and Partnerships BBC Media Action</p> <p>Dr Amnesty LeFevre Associate Professor University of Cape Town</p> <p>Ms Sara Chamberlain Director of Digital BBC Media Action, India</p>	
<p>9.12.2021</p> <p>9 – 10:00 PM (GMT+8)</p> <p>Duration: 60 mins</p>	<p>Closing Session</p> <p>Launch Event A shared Gender & COVID-19 Research Agenda</p> <p>The Gender and Health Hub at UNU-IIGH and the School of Public Health at the University of the Western Cape co-convened a collaborative Gender and COVID-19 research agenda-setting exercise in 2021. The process was co-developed through real-time learning, and open calls with a broad range of stakeholders contributing to its design, scope and content, through webinars and a community discussion board. Over the last year, this crowd-sourced collaborative process, anchored in the Global South, engaged with nearly 900 global participants through stakeholder outreach, research protocol development, thematic group formation, online regional and global consultations, and prioritisation surveys.</p> <p>This session launches the consolidated output which is a shared, policy-relevant and people-centred research agenda for funders, researchers, civil society, programme implementers, and policy-makers to guide the application of a gender lens to COVID-19 research investments and subsequently policy and programming actions.</p> <p>Moderator: Prof Pascale Allotey Director United Nations University International Institute for Global Health (UNU-IIGH)</p>	University of Western Cape

	<p>Prof Asha George South African Research Chair Health Systems, Complexity and Social Change University of the Western Cape</p> <p>Prof Gita Sen Director and Distinguished Professor Ramalingaswami Centre on Equity & Social Determinants of Health Public Health Foundation of India</p> <p>Dr Karla Berdichevsky Director Gender Equity and Reproductive Health Mexico Federal Ministry of Health</p> <p>Prof Gabriel Leung Dean, Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, University of Hong Kong</p> <p>Dr Ana Maria Henao-Restrepo Co-lead of the R&D Blueprint Lead COVID - 19 vaccines research World Health Organization (WHO)</p> <p>Dr Soumya Swaminathan* Chief Scientist World Health Organization (WHO)</p>	
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Speakers



Professor Pascale Allotey

Director
United Nations University International
Institute for Global Health (UNU-IIGH)



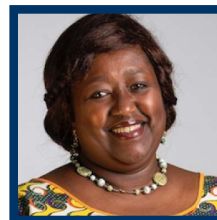
Dr Kefilath Bello

Researcher
Centre de Recherche en Reproduction
Humaine et en Démographie



Dr Karla Berdichevsky

Director
National Center for Gender Equity &
Reproductive Health
Mexico Ministry of Health



Professor Agnes Binagwaho

Vice Chancellor and Professor of
Pediatrics
University of Global Health Equity



Ms Sara Chamberlain

Digital Director
BBC Media Action, India



Dr Nafissatou J. Diop

Chief
Gender and Human Rights Branch
Technical Division
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)



Mr Kenechukwu Esom

Policy Specialist
Human Rights, Law and Gender
United Nations Development Programme
(UNDP)



Dr Amandeep Gill

CEO/Project Director
The International Digital Health & AI
Research Collaborative (I-DAIR)



Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

Director-General
World Health Organization (WHO)



Professor Asha George

South African Research Chair in Health
Systems, Complexity and Social Change
University of the Western Cape



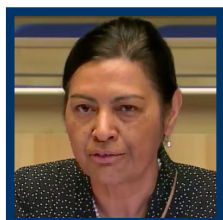
Dr Geeta Rao Gupta

Senior Fellow
United Nations Foundation



Mr Calum Handforth

Advisor, Smart Cities and Digitalisation
UNDP Global Centre for Technology,
Innovation and Sustainable Development



Dr Ana Maria Henao-Restrepo

Co-lead of the R&D Blueprint
Lead COVID - 19 vaccines research
World Health Organization (WHO)

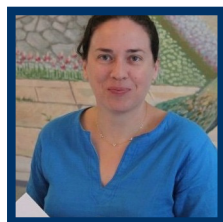


Ms Sarah Hendriks

Director
Policy, Programme and Intergovernmental
Division
UN Women

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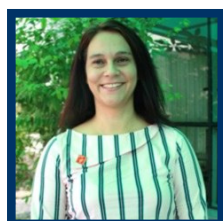
Dr Amnesty Lefevre

Associate Professor
University of Cape Town



Professor Gabriel Leung

Dean, Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine
University of Hong Kong



Dr Claudia Abreu Lopes

Research Fellow
United Nations University International
Institute for Global Health (UNU-IIGH)



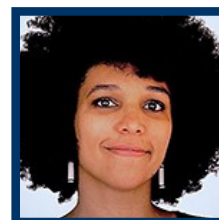
Dr Lwazi Manzi

Head of Secretariat
AU Commission on Africa's COVID-19
Response Strategy



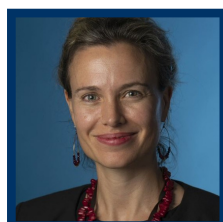
Dr Ronald Musizvingoza

Post Doctoral Fellow
United Nations University International
Institute for Global Health (UNU-IIGH)



Dr Johanna Riha

Research Fellow
United Nations University International
Institute for Global Health (UNU-IIGH)



Dr Lauren Rumble

Associate Director
Gender Equality, Programme Division
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)



Dr Demetrios Sarantis

Postdoctoral Fellow
UNU-EGOV



Professor Gita Sen

Distinguished Professor and Director
Centre on Equity and Social Determinants
of Health
Public Health Foundation of India



Dr Mehdi Snene

Research & Development Director
The International Digital Health & AI
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Dr Olive Sentumbwe

Advisor
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Assistant Director-General
Special Advisor to the Director-General
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Ms Caroline Sugg

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Dr Serge Stinckwich

Head of Research
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