

Symposium Speakers



Don de Savigny,
*Swiss Tropical Institute,
Basel, Switzerland*

Don de Savigny is Professor and Head of the Health Systems Interventions Unit in the Department of Public Health and Epidemiology at the Swiss Tropical Institute, University of Basel. He is also an Honorary Professor and former Health Clark Lecturer at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. As an epidemiologist and public health specialist he has extensive experience in conducting and facilitating health research in developing countries and has lived and worked for many years in Africa. He currently sits on a number of advisory panels including the Chairs of the Health Metrics Network Technical Advisory Group, the Roll Back Malaria Working Group on Scalable Malaria Vector Control, and the WHO TDR Scientific Advisory Committee for Evidence for Anti-malarial Policy and Access. His current research focuses on interventions to strengthen health systems in developing countries, and on the health system effects of Global Health Initiatives for scaling up access.



David Evans,
*World Health Organization,
Geneva, Switzerland*

David Evans is Director of the Department of Health Systems Financing in the Cluster on Health Systems and Services at the World Health Organization. He has a PhD in economics and worked as an academic in Australia and Singapore before joining WHO in 1990, initially working on social and economic aspects of tropical disease transmission and control. Subsequently his work has covered a variety of areas including the assessment of health system performance and the generation, analysis and application of evidence for health policy. This work now focuses specifically on the development of effective, efficient and equitable health financing systems. He has published widely in these areas.



Andreas Kalk,
*GTZ,
Eschborn, Germany*

Andreas Kalk is Head of the Health Section of GTZ. He has a degree in General and Orthopaedic Surgery and worked as a surgeon in Germany, Mozambique and Nigeria. From 1999 to 2002, he worked as Medical Advisor/ Director for the NGO German Leprosy and TB Relief Association. He helped to improve concepts for the successful integration of leprosy and TB control into general health services. From 2003 to 2007, he was responsible for the German Health Program in Rwanda. His particular interest was to improve sector coordination and health financing. He played a leading role in assuring GFATM support for health system strengthening (i.e. subsidizing health insurance) in the country. Together with Belgian Cooperation, he developed the Rwandan concept for the SWAp and sector budget support. Presently at GTZ he intends to capitalize experiences made in health systems development and in health financing, and to bring them into the international discussion.



Kaspar Wyss,
*Swiss Tropical Institute,
Basel, Switzerland*

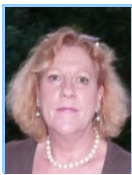
Kaspar Wyss is Head of the Health Systems Performance Unit of the Swiss Centre for International Health at the Swiss Tropical Institute. He is also Associate Professor at the University of Basel and holds a doctoral degree in epidemiology and a Masters in Public Health. He directs a number of research and implementation projects, including the "Tajik-Swiss Health Reform and Family Medicine Support Project" and various other projects in Switzerland, Eastern Europe and Africa. His research interests focus on successful approaches to strengthening health service delivery and human resource development as well as the role and importance of managerial, policy and governance processes.

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Paul Smithson,
*Ifakara Health Institute,
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania*

Paul Smithson is a highly experienced development professional with a unique mix of business management, policy-planning and public health expertise. He has a 20 years' track record in health and development in Tanzania, Sudan, Ghana, Uganda, Pakistan, Nepal and Vietnam. He played a key role in the design, monitoring and mentoring of the social marketing of ITNs in Tanzania. He has an extensive experience with national level policy dialogue, sector-wide approaches, PRSPs and public expenditure analysis and has a strong multi-disciplinary skill-set including public sector policy and management, business management (especially business strategy and marketing), economic analysis and institutional development.



Judith Cowley,
*SDC/SCIH Health System
Support Programme,
Burundi*

Judith Cowley is a nurse-midwife graduate of St. George's Hospital, London and has many years experience managing public health programmes in East and West Africa. The early part of her career was as a maternal and child health specialist with Save the Children UK, working for them in Uganda, Rwanda, Burkina Faso, the Gambia, Burundi and Somalia, but with time also spent working in midwifery in the UK. She has more recently worked for SDC monitoring health interventions implemented by the MOH in Rwanda as well as helping to develop SDC's health strategy for Rwanda. Her current support to the provincial health authorities includes piloting the process of decentralization, capacity building, results based financing and improving the quality of health interventions.



Bonaventure Savadogo,
*SDC/SCIH Health System
Support Programme,
Rwanda*

Bonaventure Savadogo is a health economist with experience in Public health. He has worked successively at operational, intermediate and central level of Ministry of Health of Burkina Faso where he was responsible for the planning, monitoring and evaluation health programs and projects. He has experience in management of health services and health sector financing, health systems development, planning, particularly in the countries of Saharan Africa. He has also worked in several low income countries since 1992 on behalf of the World Health Organization, World Bank, UNDP, CIDA, the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and the projects financed by the European Union, SDC and the Swiss Tropical Institute. He is a researcher with extensive experience in the use of the quantitative and qualitative methods for Monitoring & Evaluation.



Franco Pagnoni,
*WHO TDR,
Geneva, Switzerland*

Dr. Franco Pagnoni is a medical doctor, with specializations in Tropical Medicine and Community Medicine in Developing Countries. He is currently the acting Leader of the Business Line on Evidence for Antimalarial Policy and Access in the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (WHO/TDR), in Geneva, Switzerland. He has lived and worked for over 20 years in Africa as head of several public health projects for the Italian Cooperation. Between 1993 and 1999 he was Head of the Technical Assistance Programme to the National Centre for Malaria Research and Training in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. He joined WHO in 2000, first as epidemiologist in the Malaria Unit in the Regional Office for Africa, and since 2003, as Manager of the Home Management of Malaria programme in TDR, Geneva.

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Christian Lengeler,
Swiss Tropical Institute,
Basel, Switzerland

Christian Lengeler is a Professor of Epidemiology at the University of Basel and a senior scientist at the Swiss Tropical Institute. He has been working for the past 20 years on the epidemiology and control of tropical diseases, with a main focus on malaria. He was instrumental in developing insecticide-treated nets (ITNs) as a malaria control tool and has pioneered many developments in large-scale vector control in sub-Saharan Africa. Since 1999 he has been involved in the establishment and running of the national ITN programme in Tanzania. Currently his group is also involved in understanding and improving access to malaria treatment, as well as the introduction of improved diagnostic strategies.



Kara Hanson,
*London School of Hygiene
and Tropical Medicine,
London, UK*

Kara Hanson is a Senior Lecturer in Health Economics in the Health Economics and Financing Programme at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. She is the Director of the Consortium for Research on Equitable Health Systems, a UK DFID-funded research programme which includes 7 institutions in 7 countries in Asia and Africa. Her research interests include: the economics of financing and organising health services in low- and middle-income countries; the delivery of malaria interventions; and the development of innovative methods for researching health systems. She has conducted research on health financing, hospital organisation, and the role of the private sector. She has also been involved in large scale research programmes on the delivery of insecticide-treated nets and antimalarial drugs. She is a member of the Resources Working Group of the Roll-Back Malaria Partnership, and has undertaken consultancy and advising roles for WHO and UNICEF on equity and the role of the private sector in health systems.



Abbas Bhuiya,
*International Centre for
Diarrhoeal Disease
Research,
Dhaka, Bangladesh*

Abbas Bhuiya is head of the Poverty and Health Programme and Social and Behavioural Sciences Unit at the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR,B). He has over 25 years of professional experience in the field of community health and health system research with special focus on informal healthcare provider, equity issues, behaviour change, and community development for the improvement of health of the population, especially of the marginalized groups and poor. He is experienced in designing and conducting large surveys, evaluation of health and development programmes, and monitoring of outcomes with equity focus. He is an adjunct professor to the BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health and convenor of the working group of Bangladesh Health Watch, a civil society initiative launched in 2006.



Flora Kessy,
*Ifakara Health Institute,
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania*

Flora Kessy is the Senior Social Scientist at the Ifakara Health Institute (IHI), Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. She holds a PhD in Household and Consumer Economics from University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, USA. She has researched, published and done consultancy work on poverty, gender and development, reproductive health, resource estimation, tracking and budget analysis, and project evaluation. She has published several book chapters and journal articles in local and international journals on areas of gender, comparative poverty reduction strategies, reproductive health and HIV and AIDS financing. Her current research focus is on social protection in line with the Tanzania Social Protection Framework.

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Raffael Ayé,
*Swiss Tropical Institute,
Basel, Switzerland*

Raffael Ayé is a PhD candidate in epidemiology, Swiss Tropical Institute. His work is focused on tuberculosis control and on access to medical care. He has successfully designed, implemented and analysed a number of studies. These included a qualitative study on determinants of access to diagnosis and treatment for tuberculosis, studies on household costs of tuberculosis, and operational research on food supplements for tuberculosis patients. The geographical focus of his PhD and of a majority of consultancies is Tajikistan. Previously he has worked as a consultant on operational research and on Health Management Information Systems.



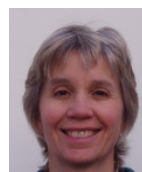
Tessa Tan Torres,
*World Health Organization,
Geneva, Switzerland*

Dr. Tessa Tan-Torres Edejer is the Coordinator of the Unit on Costs, Effectiveness, Expenditures and Priority Setting which is part of the Department of Health Systems Financing in the World Health Organization. For nearly ten years now, she has been working with the WHO-CHOICE (CHOosing Interventions that are Cost-Effective) project, leading the standardized application of cost-effectiveness analysis to major causes of burden of disease. Other work in the unit includes the up-dating of national health expenditures, costing and budgeting in the health sector and determining economic burden of disease and injury. Prior to her work in WHO, Dr. Tan-Torres worked as a clinician-researcher in the University of the Philippines.



Lucy Koechlin,
*Basel Institute on
Governance,
Basel, Switzerland*

Lucy Koechlin is Head of Public Accountability at the Basel Institute on Governance, lecturer of Development Studies at the Institute of Sociology and the Centre for African Studies Basel (CASB), University of Basel, Switzerland. She graduated in sociology, political economy and international law at the University of Basel and holds an MSc in development studies from the London School of Economics and Political Science. Her main research interests include political order, governance, corruption, civil society, and social marginalisation, with a geographical focus on Eastern and Southern Africa. She has undertaken evaluations and assessments for development agencies on a wide range of governance issues, and conducted and facilitated workshops, seminars and training sessions on governance and anti-corruption policies for the public sector, business and civil society in countries ranging from Afghanistan to Switzerland. Currently a major research project is on the governance of health systems conducted jointly with the Swiss Tropical Institute.



Lucy Gilson,
*University of Cape Town,
Cape Town, South Africa*

Lucy Gilson is Professor of Health Policy and Systems at the University of Cape Town and at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK & honorary professor at The University of the Witwatersrand. She has a background in health and development economics and works as a health policy and systems researcher. Lucy Gilson has lived in South Africa for the last thirteen years, but has also worked in other parts of Eastern and Southern Africa, with some experience in South-east Asia. She has a particular interest in health and health care equity, and her research has focussed on issues of health care financing, organisation, management and policy change. She is currently the Associate Director of the Consortium for Research on Equitable Health Systems. She is currently the convenor of the Oliver Tambo Fellowship programme at the University of Cape Town, a post-graduate diploma course in health management for senior South African public health managers. Lucy's involvement in international processes includes, recently, coordinating the Knowledge Network on Health Systems for the Commission on the Social Determinants of Health.

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Carla AbouZahr,
*World Health Organization,
Geneva, Switzerland*

Carla AbouZahr is Coordinator for Statistics, Monitoring and Analysis in the Department of Health Statistics and Informatics at the World Health Organization. She has a background in social statistics, public health and health systems management. She is currently Coordinator for Statistics, Monitoring and Analysis in the Department of Health Statistics and Informatics at WHO and has been a WHO staff member of WHO since 1989. Since joining WHO she has worked extensively in the area of monitoring and evaluation in reproductive health, focusing particularly on the challenges of measuring and monitoring maternal mortality. At the launch of the Health Metrics Network in 2005, she took the role as interim Executive Secretary, steering the Network through the initial phase of collaboration with countries and partners and spearheading the collaborative development of the HMN Framework and Standards for Country Health Information Systems.



Andy Oxman,
*National Institute of Public
Health,
Oslo, Norway*

Andy Oxman is at the Norwegian Knowledge Centre for Health Services at the National Institute of Public Health in Oslo. He completed his medical training in the USA in 1979 and moved to Norway where he worked as a general practitioner in northern Norway. From 1984 to 1994 he was at McMaster University in Canada. He moved back to Norway in 1994 and began work at the Health Services Research Unit at the National Institute of Public Health in Oslo. His research interest is in developing and evaluating methods of helping patients, healthcare professionals and policy makers to make informed choices about health care.



Mylene Lagarde,
*London School of Hygiene
and Tropical Medicine,
London, UK*

Mylene Lagard is an economist by training has worked on health issues since 2003, when she took a position as health financing advisor in the Ministry of Health in Cameroon where she worked on issues such as community-based insurance and social insurance. Before joining the Health Economics and Financing Programme at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in 2005, she contributed to the analysis of a KABP survey on HIV and AIDS in France. One of her primary areas of research relates to health financing issues in developing countries. She has been involved in systematic reviews of health financing mechanisms and their impact on access to care. She is also currently involved in a multi-country research project investigating health workers career paths and their preferences for various types of incentives.



Marcel Tanner,
*Swiss Tropical Institute,
Basel, Switzerland*

Marcel Tanner is Director of the Swiss Tropical Institute in Basel. He obtained a PhD in medical biology from the University of Basel and a MPH from the University of London. His is also Professor of Epidemiology and Medical Parasitology at the University of Basel and at the Federal Institute of Technology. Since 1977, His research ranges from basic research on the cell biology and immunology on malaria, schistosomiasis, trypanosomiasis and filariasis to epidemiological and public health research on risk assessment, vulnerability, health impact and district health planning. His research, teaching and health planning expertise are based on substantial long term experience from working in rural and urban areas in Africa (mainly Tanzania, Chad, Burkina Faso and Côte d'Ivoire) and Asia (China, Thailand, Laos). He also acts as advisor to various national and international agencies/bodies and in boards/committees such as e.g. WHO/STAC-TDR, DNDi, Wellcome Trust, INCLIN-Trust.