

HSAN Member Bios

Matthew O. Azoji, CHAN Medi-Pharm Ltd/Gte, Nigeria



Matthew O. Azoji, Managing Director/CEO of CHAN Medi-Pharm Ltd/Gte, is a pharmacist with close to 20 years experience in sales, marketing, business development and strategic management in the pharmaceutical industry. Mr. Azoji also has considerable expertise in Procurement, Supply Chain Management and Distribution of Medicines particularly for geographically and economically disadvantaged people of Nigeria. As Managing Director/CEO of CHAN Medi-Pharm Ltd/Gte, Jos Nigeria and also a Director of Essential Medical Bulk Store Ltd, Makurdi Benue State Nigeria- a public private partnership enterprise established in Nigeria with the support of the UK Department for International Development (DFID), Mr. Azoji is currently involved in strengthening systems to enhance access to essential medicines in Nigeria and environs.

Arvind Betigeri, PATH, India



Arvind Betigeri, Program Officer in the SRH/HIV department of PATH, is a Public health professional with 4 yrs of experience in health communication, reproductive health and public private partnerships in HIV/AIDS and TB. He provides technical assistance on Health communication to Transport Corporation of India Foundation which implements the HIV prevention program among truckers in India.

Edwin Vicente Cinco Bolastig, Ministry of Health, Trinidad and Tobago



Edwin Bolastig is a UN Volunteer Health Policy, Planning and Financing Specialist, currently attached to the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. He provides technical support to the Directorate of Health Policy, Research and Planning on areas such as health policy review and development, health needs assessment, and health research system development, among others, as part of the "Institutional Strengthening of the MOH Project", a collaboration between UNDP-Trinidad and Tobago, and T&T's Ministry of Health.

Prior to this international posting, Dr Bolastig has been involved, over the past 10 years, in the development and management of various public health policies and programmes in the Philippines, starting from grassroots, community-based health work, to academe-attached, community-based health programmes (CBHPs), and culminating in national health policy-making work at the Philippines' Department of Health. He has likewise been involved in health sector reform work in the Philippines, including crafting of the National Objectives for Health (NOH), and drafting of the implementation frameworks of the following: the second phase of the Health Sector Reform Agenda (HSRA); the Sector-wide Approach, locally known as Sector Development Approach for Health (SDAH); harmonization of the health regulatory system, including pharmaceutical reforms; and other related policies.

Mushtaque Chowdhury, BRAC University, Bangladesh



Mushtaque Chowdhury MSc PhD is a Deputy Executive Director of BRAC (www.brac.net) in Bangladesh and Dean of the BRAC University James P. Grant School of Public Health (www.bracuniversity.net). He is the founding Director of BRAC's Research and Evaluation Division which is one of the largest and most active research unit in NGOs (www.bracresearch.org). He played an important role during the broad introduction of Oral Rehydration Therapy (ORT) by BRAC in Bangladesh, and has also worked on community-based health care for diarrhoeal diseases, Directly Observed Therapy Short Courses (DOTS) for tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, immunization, as well as prevention programmes in sexual and reproductive health. He has also published extensively on the role of women in community-based health care, nutrition, primary education, and poverty alleviation.

Dr. Chowdhury is also a Professor of Population and Family Health at the Mailman School of Public Health of Columbia University in New York, and serves on the boards of many international initiatives and journals. He is a co-recipient of the 'Innovator of the Year 2006' award given by the Marriott Business School of Brigham Young University in USA. He is the Coordinator of Education Watch and Member-Secretary of the Advisory Group for Health Watch in Bangladesh. Dr. Chowdhury is the Director of the recently established Centre for Health Systems Studies (CheSS) at the BRAC School of Public Health in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Lalit Dandona, Administrative Staff College of India, India

Professor Lalit Dandona is Chair of Health Studies and Director of the Centre for Human Development at the Administrative Staff College of India, Hyderabad. He took his medical degree from the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India and public health degree from the Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health, Baltimore, USA. His major area of professional interest is to contribute to the development of a systematic evidence base for effective health systems and policies that would facilitate optimal health for populations in less developed settings. The major research projects that he is currently conducting include those on HIV/AIDS, health economics, health system functioning and impact assessment of public health interventions. He is interested in contributing to the integration of health development with other aspects of socioeconomic and human development. He has served on the editorial boards of six scientific journals and as a member of the board of editorial consultants for The Lancet. He has over 100 publications in peer-reviewed professional journals.

Kirill D. Danishevskiy, School of Public Health Moscow, Russia



Dr. Kirill D. Danishevskiy is a public health consultant from Russia. He is holding an associate professorship at the Moscow Medical Academy School of Public Health and leads the Russian Society for Evidence-Based Medicine. From 2001 until May 2006 he was coordinating a Department for International Development Health Systems Development knowledge program in Russia working half-time for the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine which led the research consortium. He

has development experience in a number of transitional countries and implemented a broad range of public health projects concerning with health reforms, advocacy, HIV/AIDS and TB, tobacco and medical journalism.

Biobele Da-Wariboko, West Africa Democracy Radio, Senegal



Over 16 years of professional experience in agriculture, journalism, and public affairs, at both the local and international levels. The first three years were concentrated in the fields of agriculture and administration, after which I became more engaged in journalism, communication, and public information management. Though an agriculturist by initial training, and moved to journalism and media management, where I have concentrated my efforts in the past 15 years. Strongly convinced in the rule of law, social justice, transparent and accountable administration, in the wake of the Third Republic politics in my country, Nigeria, I decided to go into public affairs, serving as Special Assistant to the Commissioner for Information, and Director of Communications and Publication, Peoples Democratic Party, Rivers State, Nigeria. However, in 2002 I left Consultant/Administrator, and thereafter in January 2004 I proceeded to Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa, for a masters degree in Journalism and Media Studies. In 2004 I was nominated for the International Visitors Programme (IVP) by the US Department of State. Currently, I work at the West Coordinator of Programmes.

Meenakshi Gautham, Public Health and Policy, India



Dr. Meenakshi Gautham is a public health professional with a special interest in rural health systems, non-formal health care providers and evidence-based policy. She has over 10 years of programmatic and research experience with rural health services and health providers in the Indian sub-continent, and is particularly concerned with how to better connect, better inform and better support health systems and the health workforce in rural, poor and low resource settings. Dr. Gautham is a social scientist with a PhD in Public Health and Policy from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. She is currently leading the development of an innovative social enterprise in ICT mediated rural healthcare with the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, India.

Lee-Nah Hsu, National Institute of Child & Family Development, Thailand



Lee-Nah has a doctoral of public health degree from Harvard University and a master's degree from Yale University. She is a transdisciplinary systems and policy specialist with over 20 years experience in strategic planning, programme design, monitoring and evaluation in health and development covering Africa, Asia, America and Europe. In addition to research and teaching, she led in designing the Early Warning Rapid Response Systems applied to HIV, HPAI, mobility and vulnerability. She initiated health sector collaborations with multiple development partners (infrastructure construction, transport, maritime industry, labour, poverty reduction, etc.) in South East Asia. She was a fellow at the Oslo Governance Centre, Norway, 2003 and introduced governance principles in dealing with HIV, gender, health

and development. She is a cross-cutting issues expert on the Technical Review Panel of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB and Malaria.

Khaleda Islam, CARE-Bangladesh



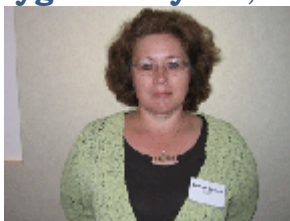
Khaleda Islam, public health specialist and medical educationist working in health nutrition and population sector for last 23 years. She is experienced in designing, implementation, and evaluating poverty alleviation programs for ultra poor and is working for the socioeconomic development addressing health, poverty & empowerment. She is also actively involved in reform of medical education and health personnel development and is a member of the executive committee of South East Asia Regional Association for Medical Education (SEARAME). Her commitment in health system reform ensured her active involvement in Health System Action Network.

Vishnuvardhan Kamineni, International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease, India



Vishnuvardhan Kamineni, Programme Development Officer in The Union's India office is responsible for development of new initiatives and fundraising primarily with foundations funding international health projects, serves as technical monitor for The Union's international TB project- Fidelis and also as faculty member in the management development courses offered by the Union. He represents the Union in the TB and Poverty Subgroup of the WHO DOTS Expansion Working Group. Prior to joining the Union, Dr. Kamineni was a senior medical advisor for TB working with the Damien Foundation in the state of Bihar in India, and has worked in World Bank's health systems development projects in Karnataka, India.

Bahtygul Karryeva, WHO EURO, Turkmenistan



Alexa Khan, National Health Insurance Technical Secretariat, Trinidad and Tobago



Alexa Khan, Programme Director, NHI Technical Secretariat in the Ministry of Health is responsible for coordinating all activities related to the development and implementation of a National Health Insurance System for Trinidad and Tobago. Alexa has worked in the public sector for 17 years and specialises in social sector related policy development, management and monitoring and evaluation. She has previously been involved in monitoring Trinidad and Tobago's Health Sector Reform Programme, Local Government Reform and Education Decentralization. Alexa is also a Board member of the International Development

Evaluation Association (IDEAS, www.ideas-int.org) a global 'virtual' network focused on building capacity and dialogue on development evaluation.

Muhammad Khan, Association for Social Development, Pakistan

George Khechinashvili, Welfare Foundation, Georgia



Medical Doctor by background, George Khechinashvili moved to health policy field after several years of clinical practice in intensive care medicine and cardiology. He holds MSc degree in Community Health and Health Management from the Heidelberg University, and MSc in Public Policy and Administration from the London School of Economics. George's work track record includes positions such as Chief Specialist for the NCDC, Component Coordinator for the World Bank supported PHC

development project, Project Manager for Welfare Foundation, Health Director for the Mercy Corps East Georgia Community Mobilization Initiative, short term consultancies for various INGOs. His interests and experience cover wide array of issues such as coordination and harmonization of development assistance at a country level, health sector reform, development project planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, health financing, community based health insurance, evidence based medicine, rational drug management, non-communicable diseases prevention and epidemiology. Currently George on behalf of Welfare Foundation / Oxford Policy Management serves as a Policy Advisor for The Georgian Ministry of Labor, Health and Social Affairs.

Samson Kironde, JSI, Uganda



Samson Kironde, Chief of Party for the Uganda Program for Human and Holistic Development (UPHOLD) has wide experience in project management, research and the monitoring and evaluation of public health programs. UPHOLD is a five-year \$96 million USAID funded five year program that aims at making a difference in the lives of Ugandans through supporting interventions in the fields of education, child and reproductive health as well as HIV/AIDS. This program is managed by a

consortium of six partners led by JSI Research & Training Institute. As part of its work in health systems strengthening in Uganda, UPHOLD supports an annual survey in 29 districts that utilizes the Lot Quality Assurance Sampling (LQAS) survey methodology. LQAS is a simple, low-cost data collection methodology that has been institutionalized at district level and has increased the capacity of the lower levels of governance to carry out evidence-based planning and decision-making, which leads to better allocation of scarce resources.

Since 2003, UPHOLD has also trained and supported over 25,000 community volunteers in 19,000 villages in Uganda to have greater involvement in the fight against malaria by equipping them with the skills to carry out and monitor the home-based management of fever (HBMF) strategy. This has enabled over 1.6 million episodes of malaria in children under-five years to be promptly and effectively treated. Additionally, UPHOLD also supports the strengthening of the routine Health Management Information System (HMIS) in Uganda and during 2005 successfully

negotiated with the Ministry of Health to incorporate into HMIS those indicators that monitor the HIV/AIDS epidemic more effectively.

Soyapi Lungu, Technical Cooperation Network, Malawi

Mr. Lungu's qualifications include degree in Public Administration, Certificate in Project Management and his specialty is human resources for health, in which he holds a masters degree. He has worked as a project administrative officer in the Population Health and Nutrition Project of the World Bank in Malawi, as Human Resources Planning Officer for the Ministry of Health in Malawi, and as a Management Development Consultant with the Malawi Institute of Management. He has also done international assignments with the European Union in Sierra Leone as a Human Resources Management Development Adviser to the Ministry of Health and as a visiting consultant to restructure Ministry of Health human resources department in Swaziland under USAID- Capacity Project. He is currently involved in another assignments with USAID in Lesotho aimed at restructuring the Ministry of Health in view of decentralisation (devolution) that the government has embarked upon.

Giovanni Márquez Loyola, Marquez/Paez Association, Costa Rica



Public health and economics specialist with more than 10 years of experience in the identification, design and management of health sector strengthening and modernization projects with multilateral organization financing; and in the promotion and implementation of knowledge exchange programs, with scientific institutions, universities and non-governmental agencies.

David McCoy, People's Health Movement, South Africa

Grace Murindwa, Ministry of Health, Uganda



Dr. Grace Nyerwanire Murindwa is a Health Planner and Management Specialist. He has worked at various levels and in different capacities in the health system. He has over the last several years been actively involved in the implementation of the various health sector reforms that were introduced in the country. Notable among these reforms were Sector – Wide Approaches to health development and the decentralization of health service delivery. Working as a Senior Health Planner, Dr. Murindwa has been a key player in the implementation of these reforms. He was the Head of Secretariat for the Government of Uganda and Development Partners advisory committee for the implementation of SWAs and in the organization and coordination stakeholders Joint Review Mission on the implementation of the Health Sector Strategic Plans. He has been actively involved in providing technical backstopping to the districts and in particular technical support in supervision and monitoring of the performance of district health services and providing capacity building training in health planning, organization and management to the new health management teams at the Health Sub-Districts.

Dr. Murindwa has been actively involved in the documentation of health sector performance and in particular the preparation of Annual Health Sector Performance Reports and operational research initiatives. He has, along with colleagues published a book on Health System Reforms in Uganda: Process and Outputs.

Dr. Murindwa's educational background includes: MA Health Management, Planning and Policy from Nuffield Institute for Health, Leeds University and Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery from Makerere University - Uganda and with extensive short course trainings especially on health systems development and strengthening.

Wasai Jacob Nanjakululu, ACORD, Kenya



Wasai Jacob Nanjakululu, Partnership Development Officer at the Agency for Cooperation and Research in Development (ACORD) is a Social Scientist with over ten years experience in strategic planning, programme design, monitoring and evaluation particularly in the area of HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa. Today, he is in charge of partnership building and resource mobilization for an 18 country programme portfolio in Africa of over £9 million and oversees also an HIV/AIDS

programme funded by the Ford Foundation focusing on empowering PLWHA organizations in Africa to hold their governments to account for their commitments to fight HIV/AIDS.

Frank Nyonator, Ghana Health Service, Ghana



Dr. Frank Kwadjo Nyonator is a public health physician - specialised as a health systems expert - with management and organisational development experience including in-service training, capacity building and project management skills. He has extensive experience, with leadership and teamwork, in planning, formulating and translating policies on health services delivery at international, national, regional and district levels. He has been advisor to Governments, Ministries of Health and Development Partners in Health Sector Reforms in Africa at both policy and practical levels.

He is currently the Director for Policy, Planning Monitoring and Evaluation of the Ghana Health Service with the responsibility for planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation of country specific programs including that of monitoring the Ghana Global Fund for HIV/AIDS programming at the district, region, and national level. Dr. Nyonator is a Lead Member of the Health Service Technical Team in the development of the Ghana Macro-Economics and Health Initiative (GMHI) to review and increase investment for health within the Ghana Poverty Reduction Strategy (GPRS). He is currently monitoring and evaluation countrywide implementation of the Community-based Health Planning and Services (CHPS) in Ghana – an innovative and efficient way of bridging the access gap in health service delivery and the efficient use of available Human Resource for Health that has attracted international attention.

Cavin Otieno, KEC-Catholic Secretariat, Kenya

Cavin Otieno, National Coordinator, HIV/AIDS at KEC-Catholic Secretariat in Nairobi, is a programme specialist with five years experience in the design, implementation, reporting and evaluation of programmes and projects. He has wide experience in

health policy and health systems management and analysis gained partly from routine office responsibilities and from active participation in national and international level platforms for the formulation, implementation, review and evaluation of health policies and addressing challenges in the management of health systems for improved health services delivery in resource constrained settings. Cavin's most recent experience is from active participation in Kenya's Health Sector-Wide Approach process and the African Christian Health Associations (CHA) Network.

Daniel Osei, Ghana Health Service, Ghana



Dan Osei, Deputy Director for Planning and Budget in the Policy Planning Monitoring and Evaluation with a specialty in Health system, financing and financial management with 14 years in health sector reforms, health financing and developing financial management systems. He is currently a member of the Strategic and Technical Advisory Group on TB and a member of the Task force on Health Systems Strengthening. Dan has been involved in a number of health financing and health systems including Independent Review Committee of GAVI, development of the Financial Sustainability Planning for Immunisation. He is responsible for the development of planning systems in GHS and is presently coordinating the development of a five-year strategic plan for the Ghana Health Service. Presently he is engaged in health systems strengthening initiatives from the Global Fund, GAVI and WHO (TB).

Moustapha Sakho, Groupe ISSA, Senegal



David Sanders, School of Public Health University of Western Cape, South Africa



David Sanders, founding Professor and Director of the School of Public Health (SOPH) at the University of the Western Cape, (U.W.C.), South Africa, is a specialist paediatrician with postgraduate qualifications in Public Health. David Sanders has 25 years experience of health policy and program development in Zimbabwe and South Africa, having advised both governments as well as OXFAM, WHO, UNICEF and FAO in the areas of primary health care, child health and nutrition, and health human resources as part of health systems development. He has published extensively in these fields as well as on the political economy of health, including on structural adjustment and development aid, having authored or co-authored three books: "The Struggle for Health: Medicine and the Politics of Underdevelopment", "Questioning the Solution: the Politics of Primary Health Care and Child Survival" and "Fatal Indifference: the G8, Africa and Global Health". He has a long involvement in capacity development of health personnel, having previously worked in the Universities of Zimbabwe and Natal. He is on the Global Steering Group of the Peoples Health

Movement, the Steering Committee of the United Nations Standing Committee on Nutrition and the Global Health Watch Steering Committee. He was Heath Clark visiting lecturer at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in 2004/5 where he is also an Honorary Professor. The UWC SOPH is a WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Human Resources for Health.

Sangeeta Saxena, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, India



Dr Saxena has a public health background with additional specialization in management. She is currently working as an Assistant Commissioner with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India. Her specific area of interest is child health. She has been a part of the team for authoring various government publications including being a member of three working groups for the Eleventh Plan of the Government of India. Dr Saxena has written a chapter in the recently bought out book on Adolescent Health and has also been active in various shows on health on television and radio.

Eid Muhammad Shamas, AIDS Prevention & Education Society, Pakistan



Eid Muhammad Shamas has a profound knowledge and expertise on HIV/AIDS related projects especially on Care and Support of People Living with HIV/AIDS. He has done master in Social Sciences and from almost one decade working with different PLWHA groups and National and International organizations on HIV/AIDS. He has been implemented many HIV/AIDS and PLWHA related projects in Pakistan funded from different international agencies i.e. UNDP, CRS, USAID, AFAO etc. He is one of among very few young people who have been working with PLWHA from grass-root level to policy making. His several abstracts have been published and discussed in International HIV/AIDS and TB conferences. In view of his commitment, knowledge and expertise on HIV/AIDS he has been awarded scholarships to participate international conferences. He has great experience to conduct trainings on HIV/AIDS with different target groups like youth, general communities, high risk groups and teachers. He was selected action partner for 2004 by OXFAM International. While working with PLWHA he has been noticed that it is great need of time to have a proper and strengthen health system which could achieve its objectives

Vincent Shaw, Health Information Systems Programme (HISP), South Africa



After graduating from medical school, Vincent spent a number of years in Namibia in both the public and private sectors. It was here that his interest in PHC developed, and in particular in the role that the doctor plays as a member of the PHC team. In 1988 he and his family moved to Queenstown, in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa, to take up a position in a private practice. After two years he decided to return to the public sector where he worked at Hewu Hospital in the then Ciskei Homeland initially and later in clinics in and around Queenstown, in the Eastern Cape. From 1992 onward, during the restructuring of the health services in South Africa, he worked in numerous positions in the regional, and district offices, before taking up a position as Acting Director for District Hospitals in the provincial office of the Eastern

Cape Department of Health. He occupied this position for 5 years during which he became involved in the development of an information system for the district hospitals in the Eastern Cape Province.

Vincent is a specialist family physician, currently completing his PhD programme in Information Systems through the University of Oslo, Norway. He has been working for the Health Information Systems Programme, South Africa, for the last three years, as manager and team member. His area of interest is in hospital information systems in developing countries, and besides extensive experience in South Africa, he has also worked in Malawi, Nigeria and Tanzania.

Jitendra Nath Srivastava, European Commission Technical Assistance, India

Tana Susilowati, Center for Health Policy and Social Studies, Indonesia



Susilowati, Director and researcher in Center for Health Policy and Social Studies Indonesia is a health system and policy specialist with 10 years of experience in researching, designing, implementing and evaluating public health project, program and organizations to improve health and reduce inequities in Indonesia. In TB control, she is doing social mobilization of privates to implement DOTS in TB control in Central Java. In Gender and Reproductive Health, she is working with

government and policy force to strengthen gender mainstreaming and human resource capacity of health system institutions. She is researching the impact of conflict and natural disaster to the resiliency of health system in Aceh.

Mamadou Traore, Ministry of Health, Mali



Peter Yeboah, Diocesan Health Services, Ghana



Peter Yeboah, Director of Diocesan Health Services in the Catholic Diocese of Goaso in the Brong Ahafo Region of Ghana, is a Principal Health Service Administrator with ten (10) years of experience in Hospital Administration and Management for health care delivery. He is responsible for health policy formulation/planning and facilitative supervision of 4 Health Facilities, comprising 2 Level-C District Hospitals and 2 Level-B Health Centres, with a total catchment population of about

295,000 located in 3 administrative/political districts in rural Ghana. At the national level, he has been actively involved in negotiations leading to the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding and Administrative Instructions between the Ghanaian Ministry of Health (MOH) and the Christian Health Association of Ghana (CHAG), which seeks to formalize/regulate the relationships between the MOH and CHAG in the areas

of health service provision, finance, human resource, information sharing and reporting.