

MAKING ME VISIBLE



13th International Conference on the Maternal & Child Health Handbook Program Book



13th International Conference on MCH Handbook World Program Book 2022

Dalla Lana School of Public
Health, University of Toronto

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Conference Theme: **“Making Me Visible”**
13th International Conference on the Maternal Child Health Handbook
Toronto, August 24-25, 2022



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Conference Theme: **“Making Me Visible”**

13th International Conference on the Maternal Child Health Handbook
Toronto, August 24-25, 2022





Dr. Shafi Bhuiyan

Chair, 13th International Conference on MCH Handbook (Toronto)



Excellencies, Ladies, and Gentlemen, dear friends,

It is my pleasure to welcome you all to the 13th International Conference on the Maternal Child Health Handbook. This event is being held at a very critical point in public health when the COVID-19 pandemic has revealed huge gaps in the provision of maternal and child health care. It has highlighted an urgent need to prioritize accessible and equitable maternal and child health care.

This conference is organized by the host team at the University of Toronto, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, with the theme to “make mothers visible.” I am very pleased to see more than 649 passionate participants from over 60 countries across the globe attending the conference virtually.

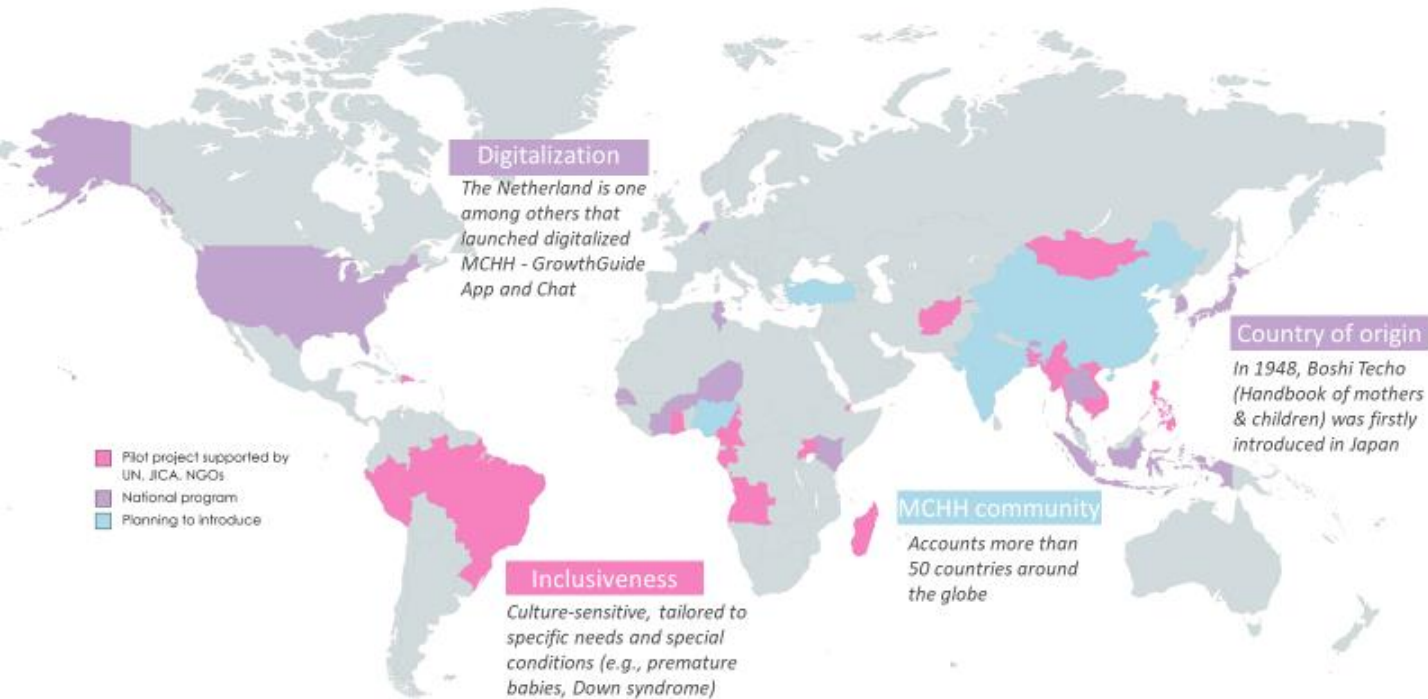
As some of you are aware, the MCH Handbook promotes health equity and aims to bring the health of mothers and their children to the forefront. I am happy to share that the handbook has been introduced in more than 50 countries, both developing and developed. This handbook is not only a home-based health record and information tool for mothers, but it also empowers parents. Parents take responsibility and become partners with the professionals; therefore, health is not created in the health center but at home and within the community.

Over the next two days, you will learn about global experiences related to the implementation of the MCH Handbook from over 12 countries; you will learn about the best practices, digitalization, and utilization of the MCH Handbook for minorities. You will also have the opportunity to contribute to the “2022 Toronto Declaration” for making mothers visible.

Details of the events for the next two days are available on the website. In order to ensure the rights of every mother and child in the world are realized, the implementation of the MCH Handbook as a global standard tool is an important step. I am hopeful that through the MCH handbook, we will be able to provide equitable holistic maternal and childcare around the globe.

Dr. Shafi Bhuiyan Ph.D., MPH, MD, MBA
Asst. Professor, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto, Canada
CONFERENCE CHAIR

MCH HANDBOOK



MCH Handbook is a home-based health record and information tool which supports women throughout their pregnancy, delivery, and the postnatal period, along with the first few years of their children's lives. The MCH Handbook strives to empower parents by strengthening communication between them and health professionals and encouraging them to be actively involved in decision-making and management of their family's health.

The primary objectives of this conference are to:

1. Advocate for social cohesion through equitable holistic maternal and child care around the globe
2. Promote the implementation of the MCH Handbook as a global standard self-care tool
3. Support the needs of underprivileged families, including refugees, migrants, and ethnic minorities

The 13th International Conference on the MCH Handbook promotes health equity, diversity, and inclusion and aims to bring the health of mothers and their children to the forefront as, too often, social barriers make mothers feel invisible.





August 24

Conference Program

8:50 AM	Opening Session	Moderator- Welcome from Dr. Shafi Bhuiyan	
8:55 AM		National anthem & Land acknowledgement	
8:58 AM		Message from Dr. Shafi Bhuiyan	
9:08 AM		Welcome speech from Prof. Yasuhide Nakamura	
9:16 AM		Message from Her Imperial Highness Crown Princess Akishino, Japan	
9:20 AM		Welcome from the Dean of DLSPH, U of T- Prof. Adalsteinn Brown	
9:23 AM		WHO Special Advisor to the Director General- Prof. Peter Singer	
9:25 AM		WHO's Assistant Director-General for UHC -Dr. Naoko Yamamoto	
9:35 AM		Message from UNICEF Rep. Dr. Anne Detjen	
9:38 AM		Message from UNFPA - Dr. Sathya Doraiswamy	
9:41 AM		Message from JICA- Mr. Jun Sakuma	
9:43 AM		Vote of thanks - Prof. Yasuhide Nakamura	
9:45 AM		Key Note Session	Moderator- Dr. Shafi Bhuiyan
9:45 AM			Keynote speech 1- Prof. Yasuhide Nakamura
9:55 AM	Keynote speech 2- Prof. Miriam Khamadi Were		
10:05 AM	Keynote speech 3- Dr. Anneke Kesler		
10:15 AM	Healthy Break	MCH HB Conference Memories Video	
10:25 AM	Global Experiences in the MCH Handbook	Moderator- Prof. Anna Banerji	
10:27 AM		Indonesia - Dr. Maria Endang Sumiwi	
10:36 AM		Pakistan - Dr. Sundas Saboor	
10:46 AM		Netherland- Jessica Jansen	
10:56 AM		Bangladesh- Khadija Islam Tisha	
11:06 AM		Ghana- Dr. Catherine Adu-Asare	
11:16 AM		Canada- Dr. Shawna Novak	
11:25 AM	Q&A	Discussant- Dr. Sathya Doraiswamy	
11:35 AM		Open Floor via Q&A	
11:45 AM	MCH HB Research Findings	MCH HB research presentation- Toronto Conference Host Team	
12:05 PM	E- Poster session	E- Poster session - Dr. Agafya Krivova	
12:15 PM	Closing & Announcement	Closing & announcement- Conference Chair Dr. Shafi Bhuiyan	



Conference Theme: **“Making Me Visible”**

August 25

Conference Program

8:50 AM	Opening Session	Briefing- Conference team (Dr. Shafi Bhuiyan et all)
8:55 AM		The Honourable Dr. Asha Seth (Senator)
9:09 AM		Moderators- Dr. Chandavone Phoxay
9:11 AM	MCH HB Symposium	Bangladesh- Dr. Syed Emdadul Haque
9:21 AM		Nigeria - Dr. Ogechi Akalonu
9:31 AM		UNRWA- Dr. Rami Mahmoud HABASH
9:41 AM		Palestine- Dr. Sawsan Abu Sharia
9:51 AM		Peru- Dr. Lourdes Herrera Cadillo
10:01 AM		Afghanistan- Dr. Salim Bahadury
10:10 AM		Discussion and Q&A
10:20 AM	Q & A	
10:35 AM	Healthy Break	Healing dance performance
10:45 AM	Good practices on MCH HB	Moderator- Dr. Anneke Kesler
10:46 AM	Digital MCH HB	Japan- Dr. Tomohiko Sugishita
11:02 AM	MCH HB and COVID-19	Thailand- Dr. Sarawut Boonsuk
11:18 AM	MCH HB for Minorities	Japan - Ms. Akemi Bando
11:33 AM	Discussion	Dr. Farah Shroff
11:43 AM	Making Me Visible Toronto Declaration	Moderator - Dr. Calvin S. de los Reyes
12:00 PM	International Committee Toronto Conference Host Team	International Committee and conference host team advisors- Prof. Yasuhide Nakamura, Dr. Shafi Bhuiyan
12:15 PM	Announcements	Post -test/survey/certificates- Dr. Sundas Saboor
12:20 PM	Next conference announcement	Prof. Yasuhide Nakamura, Dr. Shafi Bhuiyan
12:25 PM	Closing	Conference Chair- Dr. Shafi Bhuiyan



Our Special Guests



**Adalsteinn
(Steini) Brown**

Dean of the Dalla Lana
School of Public Health at
the University of Toronto



**Peter
Singer**

Special Advisor to the
Director General at World
Health Organization



**Dr. Naoko
Yamamoto**

WHO's Assistant Director-
General for Universal Health
Coverage - Healthier Populations



**Dr. Anne
Detjen**

Health Specialist, Child health,
integrated service delivery at
UNICEF



**Sathyanarayanan
Doraiswamy**

Country Representative United
Nations Population Fund (UNFPA),
Islamic Republic of Iran



**Mr. Jun
Sakuma**

Director General of the Human
Development Department at Japan
International Cooperation Agency (JICA)



I would like to extend a special welcome to the organizers and participants of the 13th International Conference on the Maternal Child Health Handbook. You are attending this conference and holding it at the DLSPH at a critical time for public health, when we urgently need sustained energy to support and improve maternal and child health. I do not need to tell you how the global pandemic has isolated us from each other in many ways, when we know that it takes a village to support parents and raise children. It is only fitting that you have chosen the conference theme “Making Me Visible” to amplify the voices of the oft-unheard, ever-accommodating mothers who are their families’ first health practitioners and promoters, and to children whose loud cries need responses of comfort and care.

I am confident you will benefit from this opportunity to collaborate, connect and engage with each other as you continue with your practices in providing and advocating for maternal and child health.

Congratulations to the conference organizers who are bringing together practitioners to reflect on ensuring a continuum of harmonized care for mothers and children. May your work continue to empower birthing people and their families to adopt culturally appropriate supports for maternal and child health care and well-being.

I wish you success through these two days and may the reflections from this conference bring about the impact you envision together.

Adalsteinn (Steini) Brown

Adalsteinn (Steini) Brown

Dean of the Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto



Prior to becoming Dean, Steini was the Director of the Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation and the Dalla Lana Chair of Public Health Policy. Other past roles include senior leadership roles in policy and strategy within the Ontario Government, founding roles in start-up companies, and extensive work on performance measurement. He received his undergraduate degree in government from Harvard University and his doctorate from the University of Oxford, where he was a Rhodes Scholar. He is a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences.



Since its publication, for more than seven decades, millions of families around the globe have used the MCH handbook. This is an example of innovation and adaptation across time, cultures, and settings.

This year, the theme of this conference is “making me visible”. It highlights the importance of giving voice and attention to those mothers and children, whose health has suffered setbacks in recent times.

Globally, maternal and child health outcomes have worsened due to the COVID-19 crisis, and conflict and war in many places have disrupted essential health care services. These dramatic circumstances push millions of people to migrate including many mothers and young children. The situation we face made it clear that health equity and social support must be the foundation for the health of women, and children, and all. The MCH handbook is the model for people-centered care and support. It puts pregnant women mothers and children at the center and facilitates the engagement of men and the community. The handbook is a tool to empower users, stimulate ownership, and build health literacy. The MCH handbook will have to further innovation to respond to the health and social needs of mothers and children.

I am convinced that the MCH handbook will continue to be a powerful tool to ensure that maternal and child health is a policy priority for national health and development and international cooperation.

I wish for a fruitful discussion at this conference.

Dr. Naoko Yamamoto

Dr. Naoko Yamamoto

WHO's Assistant Director-General for Universal Health Coverage - Healthier Populations



Dr. Yamamoto served as Senior Assistant Minister for Global Health in Japan's Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare. In this capacity, she hosted and organized the International Conference on Universal Health Coverage in 2015 and supported the compilation of the G7 Ise-Shima Vision for Global Health and Kobe Communique of the G7 Health Ministers' Meeting in 2016. She holds a medical degree, a Ph.D. in epidemiology, and a Masters in Public Health. Since 2021, Dr. Yamamoto is the Chair of UN Nutrition.



It's a real pleasure for me and a privilege in fact to give welcoming remarks for The 13th International Conference on Maternal and Child Health Handbook.

Maternal and Child Health is really at the heart of the health-related Sustainable Development Goals. Halfway through the 15-year period of SDGs but unfortunately the progress is only about one-quarter of the pace needed to reach the SDGs by 2030. So, the world needs to regulate through more rigorous delivery and the guidelines like the handbook can certainly contribute to that through innovation, incentives for multilateral collaboration, and more integrated approaches like primary healthcare. Above all, the top lessons that the pandemic has taught us and these have been difficult lessons to learn are equity, equity, and equity. This is the single most important lesson of the pandemic and something to implement and reflect upon through your conference. Let's work together to accelerate the health-related sustainable goals because that is the challenge that lies before us, lies before you, and a challenge that you will help to meet in this important meeting.

Peter Singer

Peter Singer

Special Advisor to the Director General at World Health Organization



Dr Peter Singer is Special Advisor to the Director General and Assistant Director General of the World Health Organization. Dr. Singer received the Michael Smith Prize as Canada's Health Researcher of the Year in Population Health and Health Services. Dr. Singer was appointed Officer of the Order of Canada for his contributions to health research and bioethics, and for his dedication to improving the health of people in developing countries. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, Foreign Secretary of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences, U.S. National Academy of Medicine, and The Academy of Sciences for the Developing World (TWAS).



As the world recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic, the theme of the conference, “making me visible,” cannot be more appropriate! The sheared magnitude of the novel COVID-19 pandemic has rented invisible to the perennial pandemic of maternal death the world continues to breach. It is time to make visible the child and women’s faces in enjoying the basic right of safe and dignified childbirth. It is not sufficient to make challenges visible. It is more important to make solutions visible for the sake of preventing women from losing their lives and leaving family shelter when merely experiencing the physiological processes of pregnancy and childbirth. The MCH handbook is one of the low-cost solutions to the problem of addressing maternal mortality, strategically deployed, scaled up, and sustained. The MCH handbook can be an effective tool in promoting equity and quality in the provision of maternal and child health services. I learned about the MCH handbook during the 10th international conference in Tokyo in 2016. The conference encouraged me to introduce the handbook for the marginalized tea garden worker of Bangladesh which today remains one of the best tools of empowerment for the women left behind. I hope the 13th conference inspires more of you to make this world free of maternal deaths.

Sathyanarayanan Doraiswamy

Sathyanarayanan Doraiswamy

Country Representative United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Islamic Republic of Iran



Dr. Sathya Doraiswamy is the United Nations Population Fund Country Representative in the Islamic Republic of Iran. He has over 20 years of experience in academia, government, NGOs, and the United Nations. Until recently, he was the Assistant Director of the Institute for Population Health (IPH) at Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar. Dr. Doraiswamy has worked in Asia, sub-Saharan Africa, and Europe with several governmental and non-governmental organizations, including the United Nations. His special interests include refugee health, sexual and reproductive health, and strengthening health systems, particularly in fragile settings.



Health Specialist, Child health, integrated service delivery at UNICEF



Dr. Anne Detjen

Dr. Anne Detjen works as Health Specialist in the Child and Community Health unit at UNICEF's New York HQ. She focused on integrated child health service delivery and quality of care. In her role, she represents UNICEF efforts to accelerate progress for child survival and address key causes of under-five deaths, while at the same time providing guidance and support to advancing and expanding child health programming towards more comprehensive approaches for healthy growth and development throughout the life course. Anne trained in pediatrics in Germany before moving to the Desmond Tutu TB Centre at Stellenbosch University, South Africa to provide clinical care and perform research on improving the diagnosis of childhood tuberculosis. She then joined the International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease as a child lung health specialist, providing technical and research support on childhood TB to countries and working closely with the Global Child and Adolescent TB Working group and WHO on improving guidance and capacity building for pediatric TB.

MAKING ME VISIBLE

Director General of the Human Development Department at Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

Mr. Jun Sakuma has been a Director General of the Human Development Department JICA since 2018. Before assuming this post, he was Chief Representative of JICA Nepal. Mr. Sakuma started his career with JICA in 1989 and built his career mainly in education and human resource development. He served as a JICA expert on basic education development and supported the effort of the Ministry of Education of the Indonesian Government (1998-2001), Director for Human Resources Development (personnel) Dept (2006-2010), Group Director for Basic Education the Human Development Department again (2010-2013) and Deputy Director General of Southeast Asia and Pacific Department of JICA HQs (2013-2016). He has rich experience in JICA's several departments.



Mr. Jun Sakuma

Our Keynote Speakers



Chair, International MCH Handbook Committee



Dr. Yasuhide Nakamura

Professor Emeritus of Osaka University, President of Friends of WHO Japan, National College of Nursing senior fellow professor of at National Center for Global Health & Medicine in JAPAN

Member of the MCHH International Committee, 2022 Nobel Peace Prize Nominee



Dr. Miriam Khamadi Were

Chair of Kenya's National AIDS Control Council (NACC), the Board of AMREF (Africa Medical & Research Foundation), Member of the Board of Global Health Workforce Alliance, and Chancellor of Moi University

Chair, 12th International Conference on MCH Handbook



Dr. Anneke Kesler

Medical Doctor from the University of Leiden, The Netherlands, specialized in Public Health & Society and Infant Mental Health

Chair, 13th International Conference on MCH Handbook (Toronto)



Dr. Shafi Bhuiyan

Asst. Professor, Clinical Public Health and Social & Behavioural Health Sciences Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto, CANADA

**13th International Conference on the Maternal Child Health Handbook
Toronto, August 24-25, 2022**



Dr. Shafi Bhuiyan PhD, MBBS, MPH, MBA is an internationally-recognized leader in global public health and education initiatives, with diverse experience in both developed and developing countries. He is an Asst. Professor at the University of Toronto's Dalla Lana School of Public Health. Co-creator of MScCH pilot program for internationally trained physicians at DLSPH, U of T. In Toronto, Dr. Bhuiyan is co-founder & program manager of the innovative Internationally Trained Medical Doctors (ITMD) Bridging Program. Dr. Bhuiyan holds positions as Adjunct Professor at the Faculty of Community Services at Toronto Metropolitan University University, Canada, and Bangladesh University of Health Sciences.

MAKING ME VISIBLE

Chair, 13th International Conference on MCH Handbook (Toronto)



Dr. Shafi Bhuiyan

Ph.D., MPH, MBBS, MBA

“The main focus of my career is refining global health to improve health system performance and the equity of the health system in local and global contexts.

MCH handbook saves the lives of women and children around the globe by bringing health care to the most vulnerable population. MCH handbook is a tool for equity, diversity, and inclusion in global health to strengthen the health system by empowering women, children, and families.”



Dr. Shafi Bhuiyan
Ph.D., MPH, MBBS, MBA

Asst. Professor, Clinical Public Health and Social & Behavioural Health Sciences Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto, CANADA



Dr. Yasuhide Nakamura MD, Ph.D. is a Professor Emeritus of Osaka University and President of Friends of WHO Japan. He started global health to encourage maternal and child health in Indonesia as a Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) expert and to promote the refugee health program in UNHCR Pakistan Office. He was a Takemi Fellow at Harvard School of Public Health for international health. He is conducting research on MCH Handbook Programs in many countries, humanitarian relief for refugees and victims of natural disasters, medical interpreting in hospitals, and the health care system in Japan. Dr. Nakamura is the president of the Japan Association for International Health (JAIH), the representative of the International Society of Volunteer Studies, and the WHO Association of Japan president. He got the 43rd Medical Achievement Award in 2015 for his promotion of the MCH handbook in the global setting.

MAKING ME VISIBLE

Chair, International MCH Handbook Committee



Dr. Yasuhide Nakamura

MD, Ph.D

“In the 21st century, the MCH Handbook is reevaluated from the viewpoint of global health.

The MCH Handbook program guarantees the continuum care of maternal, neonatal, and child health across time and locations. It endorses the human security approach, enabling individuals and communities to have more control over their own health and ensuring the quality of lives of mothers, children, and families in the world.”



Dr. Yasuhide Nakamura MD, Ph.D

Professor Emeritus of Osaka University, President of Friends of WHO Japan, National College of Nursing senior fellow professor of at National Center for Global Health & Medicine in JAPAN



Professor Miriam Khamadi Were MD, MPH, Ph.D. is a Kenyan public health advocate, academic, and recipient of the first Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize, Nobel Peace Prize nominee in 2022 for her work in public health. She is a member of the Champions for AIDS-Free Generation in Africa. Prof. Were is a Co-sponsor of UZIMA Foundation focused on empowering youth to successfully address the challenges. Prof Were has been Chair of Kenya's National AIDS Control Council, Chair of African Medical and Research Foundation Board, Member of the Board of Global Health Workforce Alliance, and Chancellor of Moi University. Honours bestowed on Prof Were include Elder of the Order of the Burning Spear due to outstanding contributions to the Kenyan nation, Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize by Japan, and Queen Elizabeth II Gold Medal for Public Health.

MAKING ME VISIBLE

Member of the MCHH International Committee, Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize Recipient, 2022 Nobel Peace Prize Nominee



Dr. Miriam Khamadi Were

MD, MPH, Ph.D.

“The global health promotion movement makes visible changes around the globe.

MCH handbook is one global health promotion tool that embraces the community health care approach, ensures every family has access to the MCH services, and improves future generations' health and quality of life.”



Dr. Miriam Khamadi Were MD, MPH, Ph.D.
Chair of Kenya's National AIDS Control Council (NACC), the Board of AMREF (Africa Medical & Research Foundation), Member of the Board of Global Health Workforce Alliance, and Chancellor of Moi University



Dr. Anneke Kesler is a Medical Doctor from the University of Leiden, The Netherlands, specialized in Public Health & Society and Infant Mental Health. She started a multidisciplinary team to examine children with developmental delays. She was also coordinator of a youth health doctors team, which issues social medical indications for children who grow up in unfavorable circumstances. Anneke Kesler was involved in the development of the Parent and Child Centers in Amsterdam. As the editor-in-chief, she developed the new version of the Dutch MCH Handbook: the GrowthGuide, booklets, website, and app. Anneke Kesler was appointed as an ambassador for Birth and Maternal Care. She was honoured with a Knight in Order of Oranje Nassau.

MAKING ME VISIBLE

Chair, 12th International Conference on MCH Handbook, Member of International MCH Handbook Committee



Dr. Anneke Kesler

MD

“A child's health before, during, and after birth has been shown to be a significant predictor of physical, mental, and social problems in later life. (Expectant) parents, wherever they are in the world, need to be well prepared and receive information about nutrition, healthy lifestyle, and attachment so that their children can grow up safe and healthy.

This is what we can achieve with the MCH Handbook.”



Dr. Anneke Kesler, MD

Medical Doctor from the University of Leiden, The Netherlands, specialized in Public Health & Society and Infant Mental Health



Our Moderators/ Discussants



**Dr. Anna
Banerji**

Faculty Lead, Indigenous and Refugee Health, Post MD Education, Faculty of Medicine, Associate Professor, Clinical Public Health and Social & Behavioural Health Sciences, DLSPH, University of Toronto, CANADA



**Dr. Calvin S.
de los Reyes**

Academic Fellow (Global Health) Graduate School of Health Sciences University of the Ryukyus, Japan & Coordinator Graduate Program in Health Policy Studies College of Arts and Sciences University of the Philippines - Manila



**Dr. Chandavone
Phoxay**

Medical doctor; Master of Health Science field International Health, from The University of Tokyo; Doctor of Philosophy on Human Sciences, from Osaka University, Japan



**Dr. Farah
Shroff**

Professor, Department of Family Practice and the School of Population and Public Health at the University of British Columbia (UBC), Faculty of Medicine, Canada

Advisors



**Dr. Matthieu
Kamwa**

Senior Advisor in Global Health with the WHO; Adjunct Professor, Faculty of Health, York University



**Dr. Shawna
Novak**

Executive Director of the Canada International Scientific Exchange Program (CISEPO)



**Dr. Karline
Wilson-Mitchell**

Director Midwifery Program, Toronto Metropolitan University, Doctor of Nursing Practice



Moderator and Advisor of the Host Conference Committee



Dr. Anna Banerji

MD, MPH, FRCP(C), DTM&H

Dr. Anna Banerji MD, MPH, FRCP(C), DTM&H is a Faculty Lead, Indigenous and Refugee Health, Post MD Education, Faculty of Medicine, Associate Professor, Clinical Public Health and Social & Behavioral Health Sciences, DLSPH, University of Toronto, CANADA. She created the Immigrant Health and Infectious Disease Clinic, a clinic for immigrant and refugee children. Dr. Banerji created the Canadian Refugee Health Conference which evolved with its American counterparts to become North American Refugee Health Conference. She created the inaugural Indigenous Health Conference: Challenging Health Inequities.

Dr. Banerji was inducted to the Order of Ontario, she is also a recipient of the Dr. Peter Henderson Bryce Award and the Phoenix Award for Community Service.

MAKING ME VISIBLE

Moderator, Discussant, International MCH handbook Committee Board Member

Dr. Calvin S. de los Reyes Ph.D. serves as an Academic Fellow (Project Adjunct Senior Lecturer) at the School of Health Sciences at the University of the Ryukyus in Okinawa, Japan. He is also affiliated with the Graduate Program for Health Policy Studies at the University of the Philippines Manila. His academic interests include maternal and child health, indigenous people's health, health disaster preparedness, school health, and community nutrition. He is involved in several research projects addressing the health needs of marginalized populations in the Philippines. Dr. de los Reyes is also a founding board member of the International Committee on the MCH Handbook. For more than a decade, he worked on numerous JICA projects and training programs. He obtained his Ph.D. in Human Sciences (International Health) from Osaka University in Japan



Dr. Calvin S. de los Reyes
Ph.D.



Moderator and International MCH handbook Committee Board Member



Dr. Chandavone Phoxay

MD, MSc, Ph.D.

Dr. Chandavone Phoxay MD, MSc, Ph.D. is a medical doctor with a Master of Health Science field International Health, from The University of Tokyo and; a Doctor of Philosophy in Human Sciences, from Osaka University, Japan. She is a former Assistant professor, at Osaka University, Japan, and a lecturer at the University of Health Sciences, Laos. Dr. PHOXAY served as Deputy Director General in the Hygiene Health Promotion Department; Deputy Permanent Secretary, Cabinet; and Director of National Nutrition Centre. She was a member of the Southeast Asian Minister of Education, Regional Center for Food and Nutrition governing board.

She worked as a consultant of the Country Coordinating Mechanism of the global fund against HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria; WHO Consultant on Noncommunicable disease in Lao PDR, National senior advisor on newborn and child health for USAID Lao Maternal Child Health and Nutrition project, in Lao PDR, in Program Appropriate Technology for Health (PATH).

MAKING ME VISIBLE

Discussant at MCH handbook Conference

Dr. Farah Shroff MEd, Ph.D. is a Harvard School of Public Health Takemi Fellow in Global Health (2021-2022) at Harvard University. Dr. Shroff is a professor, in the Department of Family Practice and the School of Population and Public Health at the University of British Columbia (UBC), Faculty of Medicine, Canada. Dr. Shroff's passion for the health and human rights of women, children, and the environment led her to found Maternal and Infant Health Canada (MIHCan), a global public health collaborative that focuses on improving the lives of women and young ones through education, research, and innovation.

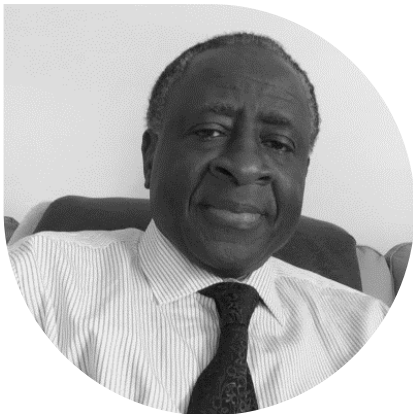


Dr. Farah Shroff

MEd, Ph.D.



Member and Advisor of the Host Conference Committee



Dr. Matthieu Kamwa
MD, DPH

Dr. Matthieu Kamwa, MD, DPH is a Senior Advisor in Global Health with the WHO, an Adjunct Professor in the Faculty of Health at York University, and an External Reviewer at the Canadian Institutes of Health Research & Grand Challenges Canada. He is a Senior Global Health Consultant at Health Development & Management Consulting: an organization he has founded. Dr. Kamwa is a treasure of the Canadian Association for Global Health. He has served as a WHO Representative, Head of WHO Sub-Regional Office & Team (17 countries), WHO Regional Program Officer

(46 countries), Coordinator of Polio Eradication Initiative in Africa, Senior WHO Epidemiologist and Health Advisor, Director of Medical Services, Deputy Director and Medical Officer, Ministry of Public Health, Cameroon.

MAKING ME VISIBLE

Member and Advisor of the Host Conference Committee

Dr. Shawna Novak MD, MA, MMCs-GHD

(Candidate) is a physician trained in health diplomacy, conflict resolution, humanitarian and disaster relief, and global health. She discovered in far-flung regions of the world, that medicine and medical education could be a powerful complementary tool to building bridges. She has translated her clinical interests to non-profit work with organizations affiliated with the University of Toronto and York University such as CISEPO, Doctors against Racism and Anti-Semitism (DARA), and Save a Child's Heart; that focus on capacity building in marginalized populations and under-

resourced regions. Dr. Novak is the Executive Director of the Canada International Scientific Exchange Program (CISEPO). She is pursuing her Master of Medical Sciences in Global Health Delivery at Harvard Medical School.



Dr. Shawna Novak
MD, MA, MMCs-GHD (C)



Member and Advisor of the Host Conference Committee



Dr. Karline Wilson-Mitchell

RM, RN, DrNP, MSc, BSN, FACNM

Dr. Karline Wilson-Mitchell RM, RN, DrNP, MSc, BSN, FACNM is a Director Midwifery Program, Toronto Metropolitan University, Doctor of Nursing Practice focused on Respectful Maternity Care, Global Health from Frontier Nursing University. Karline has worked as a midwife, educator, global leadership trainer, and curriculum developer in the US, Canada, Jamaica, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Burundi. Her research partners include the University of West Indies, Jamaica; Ryerson Centre for Immigration and Settlement; Rights for Children and Youth Partnership: Strengthening Collaboration in the Americas. She has worked for the Canadian Association of Midwives Global, developing Tanzanian Respectful Maternity Care and South Sudanese Leadership workshops for nurses and midwives.

MAKING ME VISIBLE

assures access to a holistic maternal & childcare and continuum of care



global standard self-care tool

promotes health equity, diversity, and inclusion



MCH HANDBOOK





Our MCH Handbook Presenters Global Experiences Presenters



**Dr. Sundas
Saboor**

MD, MPH Candidate Harvard
T.H. Chan School of Public
Health, USA



**Dr. Khadija
Islam Tisha**

Research physician (MBBS, MPH) at the
International Centre for Diarrhoeal
Disease Research, Bangladesh



**Jessica
Jansen**

MSc International Public Health and
Youth Healthcare Nurse and the project
advisor at GroeiGids app at GGD
Amsterdam, Netherlands



**Dr. Shawna
Novak**

Executive Director of the
Canada International Scientific
Exchange Program (CISEPO)



**Catherine
Adu-Asare**

Nutrition Program Manager-diet
And Healthy Lifestyle
Ghana Health Service



**Dr. Maria
Endang Sumiwi**

Director General of Public Health
Department, Ministry of Health,
Indonesia



Dr. Sundas Saboor

*MD, MPH Candidate Harvard
T.H. Chan School of Public
Health, USA*

Dr. Sundas Saboor is doing her MPH in Social and Behavioral Sciences (Maternal Child Health) from Harvard University. She graduated from Khyber Medical College, Peshawar, Pakistan in 2015 and came to Canada with her family. She has diverse clinical and research experience in USA, Pakistan, and Canada in the mental and psychological health of children. She has more than 15 publications and poster presentations in reputed journals and conferences. She aspires to be a medical health professional with expertise in child health.



Title: Why does Pakistan need MCH Handbook?

Antenatal care (ANC) is critical to reduce maternal and neonatal mortality rates in Pakistan. However, the percentage of women who receive WHO-recommended four or more ANC visits is very low in Pakistan as compared to other countries. There are also discrepancies among women receiving ANC in rural and urban areas of Pakistan. The culturally tailored maternal child health (MCH) Handbook is a two-way communication platform that has already increased the ratio of ANC visits in different parts of Indonesia, Cambodia, Vietnam, Bangladesh, etc. The implementation of the MCH Handbook will not only assist in increasing ANC visits but will also improve the lack of a data collection system regarding MCH in Pakistan.



Jessica Jansen

Jessica Jansen is MSc International Public Health and Youth Healthcare Nurse and the project advisor at GroeiGids/Growthguide app at GGD Amsterdam, the Netherlands. She has also been the policy advisor at GGD Amsterdam for JGZ Youth Healthcare where she coordinated education programmes for Youth Healthcare professionals, policy development and implementation, as well as prevention programme and research on infant nutrition. She has also worked in the Social Development Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

the Netherlands where she analyzed policies for Non-communicable diseases in low- and middle-income countries.



Title: The GrowthGuide is responsible for the development of the MCH Handbook in the Netherlands.

The GrowthGuide platform focuses on providing off- and online preventive information during all life stages from pregnancy till 18 years. One of the main functions of the GrowthGuide app, a mobile application, used by over 108.000 parents in the Netherlands. This presentation gives an update on the research and development of the app. Key functions are a (push) message service and a diary function to track growth and development. But we keep improving and recently added a chat function and community.



Dr. Khadija Islam Tisha

MBBS, MPH

Dr. Khadija Islam Tisha is a young researcher from Bangladesh who has completed her MPH in Epidemiology from the National Institute of Preventive and Social Medicine. She also completed her MBBS in Bangladesh.

Currently, she works as a research physician at the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh. Her research interests include maternal and child health, digitalization of healthcare, strengthening the health system, and urban health.



Title: Digitalization of Antenatal Care with the Inclusion of the MCH Handbook: An Innovative Model from Bangladesh

Antenatal care (ANC) is transforming because of the remarkable expansion of mobile technology, as well as advancements in its creative potential to solve health concerns. Since 2017, the 'Kapasias Model' has aimed to bring all pregnant women under the digital service umbrella. Innovative concepts like the MCH handbook ("Gorvobotir Goyna") with a unique code connected to MCH software ("Gorvobotir Ayna") text messages, and voice calls make it simpler to access information, promote openness and service simplicity, and increase overall service quality. The purpose of this research was to assess the utilization of digitalized antenatal care services of Kapasias model. 89.1% of the pregnant women utilized the digitalized ANC services. This study found statistical significance among the utilization of digitalized ANC services and women's educational qualifications, husband's educational qualifications, mobile phone ownership, mobile phone operating knowledge, and service receiving phone owner. This study provides an insight into the digitalization of ANC with the inclusion of the MCH handbook. The positive response among the beneficiaries reflects the acceptance of digitalized antenatal care services among rural people.



Catherine Adu-Asare



Catherine Adu-Asare is a Nutrition Program Manager-Diet and Healthy Lifestyle and Technical Assistant to the Director General, Ghana Health Service (GHS). She is also Nutrition Specialist/ public-private partnerships (PPP) Coordinator for the joint GHS and The Ajinomoto Foundation Nutrition Improvement Project. She is a former National Program Officer JICA MCH RB Project and Consultant for Maternal And Child Health and Nutrition Improvement Project by World Bank, scaling up Nutrition Consultant -UNICEF, Ghana, and Nutrition Program Coordinator for the USAID/FHI 360 FANTA Project.

Title: National Rollout and achievement of MCH Record Book in Ghana

Authors: Catherine Adu-Asare Program Head, Diet & Healthy Lifestyle, GHS;
Akiko Hagiwara, Senior Advisor (Health), JICA

Background: The Ministry of Health and Ghana Health Service have developed the Combined Maternal and Child Health Record Book (MCH RB), an integrated home-based record to respond to emerging challenges and expanding package of services for maternal and child health with technical and financial support from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Following the launch, the book has been rolled out across the country.

Objective: To promote continuum of care for RMNCAH&N services

Method: This implementation program included development of technical materials, capacity building through training and mentoring, printing of the books, sensitization of relevant stakeholders and procurement of other essential logistics.

Results: National M&S in 2021 showed that the health workers used MCH RB effectively for the provision of RMNCH& Nutrition services and mothers gained knowledge and positive experiences.

Conclusion: The Ghana MCH RB has been successfully rolled out and institutionalized within the Ghana Health system.



MCH HB research presentation- Toronto Conference Host Team



**Saida Fathima
Azam**



**Mahima
Mehrotra**



**Yasmine
Shalaby**



**Nao
Yoshida**



**Mithila
Orin**

Title: A global perspective of the role of maternal and child health handbook in health promotion: Systematic review

Dr. Shafi Bhuiyan, Saida Azam, Mahima Mehrotra, Nao Yoshida, Anuradha Dhawan, Yasmine Shalaby, Eman Radwan, Mithila Orin, Walaa Al-Chetachi, Agafya Krivova, Tasmia Tazrin, Hana'a Badran, Nida Fathima

The MCHHB has been essential in highlighting health promotion factors that have been shown to improve maternal and child health outcomes. Forty-two studies found a beneficial impact on various aspects of health promotion, while one study found no meaningful effect after the MCHHB was implemented. We have also discovered a favourable influence on breastfeeding, immunization, child health, family planning, antenatal care, maternal nutrition, maternal TT Immunization, vitamin A and iron supplements, smoking and drinking throughout pregnancy, safe delivery, understanding of pregnancy complications, and child growth.



The Honourable Asha Seth



The first Indo-Canadian female appointed to the Senate of Canada

The Honourable Asha Seth Chair of Seth Foundation For Health and Human Welfare, Honorary Patron of MIH, The University of British Columbia, Canada, and Patron of Canadian Council of the Blind. She is a Physician in Obstetrics and gynecology in family practice and a Member of the Canadian Medical Association. Dr. Asha Seth served on multiple Senate standing Committees of Aboriginal, Social Affairs, Science and Technology, National Finance, Internal Economy, Budgets, and Administration. She is a Council Award recipient from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, Canada, and the "Peace Dreamer" Award recipient in 2014 from the Sri Chinmoy Foundation of Canada, awarded to politicians and diplomats for their service to their country and the world.

Good Practice Speakers



MCH HB for minorities



**Akemi
Bando**

*Secretary General of the MCH Handbook
International Committee and Secretary
General of the Support of Vietnam Children
Association*

Digital solutions for MCH services



**Dr. Tomohiko
Sugishita**

*President and Director, Yakushima
Onoaida Clinic; and Visiting Professor,
Tokyo Women's Medical University*

MCH Handbook in COVID-19 era



**Dr. Sarawut
Boonsuk**

*the Deputy Director-General of
the Thai Department of Health*

Moderator



**Dr. Anneke
Kesler**

*Medical Doctor from the
University of Leiden, The
Netherlands, specialized in
Public Health & Society and
Infant Mental Health*

**13th International
Conference on the
Maternal Child Health
Handbook
Toronto, August 24-25,
2022**



Akemi Bando

Master in Human Sciences

Akemi BANDO is a Secretary General of the MCH Handbook International Committee and Secretary General of the Support of Vietnam Children Association.

Her specialty is the education of children with disabilities. She considers the MCH handbook to have a meaningful effect on prevention, early detection, and intervention of disability. She supported the development and revision of the MCH Handbook in Asia and Africa. Her current work focuses on developing the Little Baby Handbook in Japan.



Title: Inclusiveness of the MCH Handbook for “No one left behind” strategy in Japan

During the 10th International Conference on MCH Handbook in 2016, TOKYO Declaration was issued. It states: “The MCH Handbook should meet the emerging demands from those with specific needs, such as low-birth-weight babies, children with developmental disorders, and those affected by public health emergencies and disasters. Embracing this concept, we developed “Little Baby Handbook (LBH)” for low-birth-weight babies (LBW) and their family. 8 / 47 prefectures in Japan have issued LBH already, and now 25 more prefectures are developing LBH collaboratively with medical experts, primary health care professionals, and families. The future trajectory is to embed a tailored approach of the MCH Handbook with respect to diversity, even if they form a minor part of the society.



Dr. Tomohiko Sugishita

MD, Ph.D., MPH

Dr. Tomohiko Sugishita is President and Director, Yakushima Onoaida Clinic; and Visiting Professor, Tokyo Women's Medical University. Prof. Sugishita is a health systems specialist who extensively works on strengthening national and local health systems in more than 30 countries in Africa, Asia, and India. He recently received the Social Business Grand Prix in 2014 and the Honorable Award for Distinguished Medical Services in 2016.



Title: A global perspective on digital solutions for MCH services

The world is about to reach a major turning point with the COVID-19 pandemic. It seems as if the values that have prevailed in modern society are collapsing, and future societies are groaning for new solutions. Social and economic megatrends emerged, such as decentralized cities, human traceability, new realities, job-dwelling integration, contactless tech, digital lending, and frugal innovations are about to have a profound impact on health sector. The presentation will provide concrete examples in Africa, including accessibility for the hearing and visually impaired, wearable devices, individual and organizational health tracking, mental health care, FemTech focusing on women's health, and fitness and other wellness industries, to illustrate the technological transition (singularity) in the post-pandemic era in health. I would like to discuss with you the technological innovations and future challenges in the health sector in the post-pandemic era.



Dr. Sarawut Boonsuk

MD, MPH, Ph.D.

Dr. Sarawut Boonsuk is the Deputy Director-General of the Thai Department of Health, specializing in maternal and pediatric health care. He promoted and contributed to the MCH handbook, known as the "Pink book" in Thailand. It has proven effective in increasing pregnancy safety knowledge, particularly among Thai hill tribes and migrant workers. "Pink book" also demonstrated its effectiveness in reducing maternal and newborn mortality in the country. Thailand is on the way to transformation into Digital Health in order to keep up with digitalization in society.



Title: Role of MCH HB in a COVID-era, Thailand experience

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected the lives of many families in Thailand. As of Aug 2022, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused more than a million deaths in Thailand. Although with the precautionary measures, the infection rate is getting better, however, maternal and child health (MCH) suffered a huge loss. The number of antenatal care visits decreased, and there was a lack of sufficient manpower. The general MCH Handbook could not be used to address this precarious situation. To address this, the digital MCH Handbook "Pink Book" has been introduced in Thailand in collaboration with Maemo University. It has been pilot tested in three provinces with promising results. Although there are internet access and database challenges, we believe that the Pink Book will improve maternal health disparities in Thailand by empowering healthcare workers and mothers



Our MCH HB Symposium Presenters



**Dr. Syed
Emdadul Haque**

Country Representative
UChicago Research Bangladesh

Bangladesh



**Dr. Salim
Bahadury**

MD, MPH, MCH-HB Project Manager
Directorate, Kabul Afghanistan

Afghanistan



**Dr. Ogechi
Akalonu**

Public Health Nutritionist, Deputy Director
of the National Primary Health Care
Development Agency, Nigeria

Nigeria



**Dr. Rami
Mahmoud
HABASH**

Chief Health Protection &
Promotion UNRWA/ Health
Department, HQ - Amman

UNRWA



**Dr. Lourdes
Herrera Cadillo**

Associate Professor, Otemae
University, Faculty of Global
Nursing

Peru



**Dr. Sawsan
Abu Sharia**

Director of Community Health
Department - Ministry of Health,
Palestine

Palestine



Dr. Ogechi Akalonu

Ph.D., MSc, MSc, MBA, MPH



Dr. Ogechi Akalonu is a Public Health Nutritionist, Deputy Director of the National Primary Health Care Development Agency (NPHCDA), Nigeria. She is a member of the Nutrition Society of Nigeria, Nigerian Institute of Food Science and Technology, National Committee on Food and Nutrition (NCFN) National Council on Nutrition (NCN), Association of Women Nutritionists, National Council for Women Societies Nigeria, and Federation of African Nutrition Societies Congress (FANUS). Dr. Ogechi served as the focal person in the 2018 UNICEF-sponsored pilot on Patient-Held Smart Card for tracking and referral of new cases of Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) in children 6 – 59 Months using a customized Vitira Health Mobile App.

Title: Update on the Development of MCH HB in Nigeria

In response to the complexity of Primary Health Care (PHC) cards, nonuniformity, inadequate information, and clarity, NPHCDA, in collaboration with Partners, reviewed the PHC single cards to improve the content, design, and durability and upgrade them to an integrated handbook and to entrench the PHC revitalization effort of the Nigeria federal government by making it accessible, available and linking it to the communities. Studies showed that women valued the combined handbook (MCH HB) and tended to keep it longer as a reference for themselves and their children; educative and informative, it improves the continuum of care from perinatal to infant care. The development and introduction of a national integrated MCH handbook in all PHCs in Nigeria will have a favorable impact on the utilization of health care services and continuity of women's health care during their reproductive period. The MCH HB succeeds in promoting self-care by mothers and their families and in enhancing the timely identification of at-risk cases that need a referral and special care.



**Dr. Sawsan Suliman
Abu Sharia**

MD, MPH

Dr. Sawsan Suliman Abu Sharia is an MD in General Medicine, OBG Doctor, and MS in Public Health. She has been a Director of the Community Health Department at the Ministry of Health since 2015. Dr. Abu Sharia served as Director of Communicable Diseases and Chronic Center, Director of the Center for the Medical Treatment and Rehabilitation Alternatives (for drug addicts), MoH, and Director of the Medical Licensing Department (Private Hospitals- Laboratory- Clinics). She worked as an OB-G doctor at MoH PHC centers in the Ramallah PHC district office. Dr. Abu Sharia is working as a Doctor in the OB-G Department at the Palestinian Red Crescent Hospital – Ramallah and in the OB-G Department at AL-SHIFA Medical Center-Gaza.

Title: Sharing experience of expansion of MCH HB in Palestine

MCH handbook (MCH HB) was first piloted in Palestine in 2005 and implemented as a national program in 2008. It is the first of its kind in the region and was translated into Arabic. MCH HB was developed by the Palestinian Ministry of Health (MOH) together with JICA and UNRWA. MCH HB is used at all public and UNRWA health facilities in Palestine, and it provides portable health records for referral, emergency, and regular follow-ups, as well as health information related to antenatal, postnatal, and delivery information. Also, it has information on children (growth chart, vaccine, health states). Today, MOH is expanding the use of MCH HB at private clinics by advocating its use through a variety of channels in the private sector, including the Obstetric and Gynecology (OBGY) Association, Pediatric Association, and Medical Association, for further scaling up nationwide



Dr. Rami Mahmoud Habash

Chief Health Protection & Promotion UNRWA/ Health Department, HQ - Amman

Dr. Rami Mahmoud Habash is a Public Health specialist who worked in national and international positions, NGOs in Palestine, the Saudi Ministry of Health, and currently with UNRWA. He has experience in quality improvement through institutions' capacity building, supportive supervision, and continuous monitoring and evaluation. Including epidemiological experiences in communicable diseases. At UNRWA – HQ is responsible on improve the quality of services by updating, implementing assessment, monitoring, and evaluating new policies and capacity building regarding MCH, nutrition, and School Health.



MAKING ME VISIBLE

Dr. Lourdes Herrera Cadillo is a Peruvian midwife, Doctor of Health Sciences by Hiroshima University. She is an Associate Professor at the Otemae University Faculty of Global Nursing, Osaka, Japan, where she radicates for over 20 years and conducts activities to support migrant health.

Lourdes was a consultant for the Japan Program of the Inter-American Development Bank in 2003, which led to the introduction of the MCH Handbook in the Dominican Republic.



Dr. Lourdes Herrera Cadillo



International MCH Handbook Committee

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Dr. Miriam Khamadi Were
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Dr. Shafi Bhuiyan
Canada



Dr. Sarawut Boonsuk
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Prof. Agustin Kusumayati
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Chair, 13th International Conference on MCH Handbook (Toronto)



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**Mushtary
Momotuj Mimi**



**Stefan
Aguiar**



**Shameemah
Khan**



**Angela
Abenoja**



**Tasdeed
Aziz**



**Saida Fathima
Azam**

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Our MCH Handbook Conference Team



**Agafya
Krivova**



**Nao
Yoshida**



**Mithila
Orin**



**Yasmine
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**Mahima
Mehrotra**



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**Eman
Radwan**



**Nida
Fatima**

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Our Conference Participants Map



705 participants from > 61 countries and territories

“We would like to extend our gratitude to all the organizations and universities that promote our conference to their auditory on their websites.”

MCH Handbook Conference Team



Pre-Conference Survey Results

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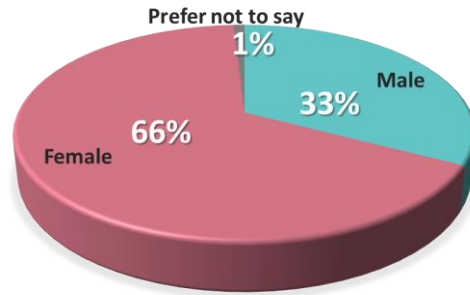
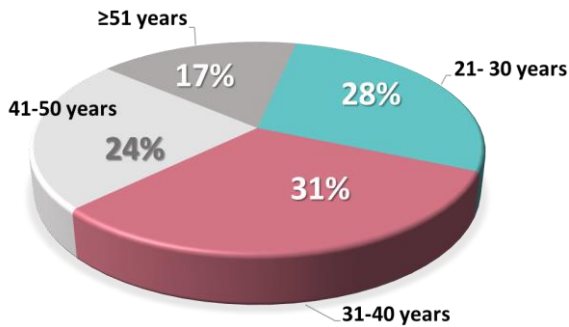
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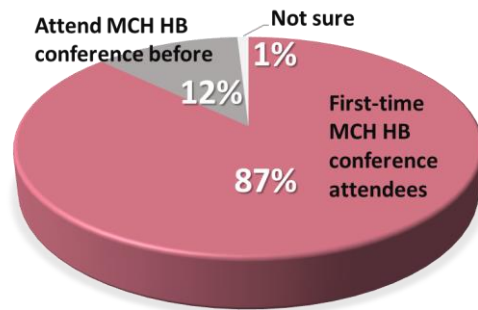
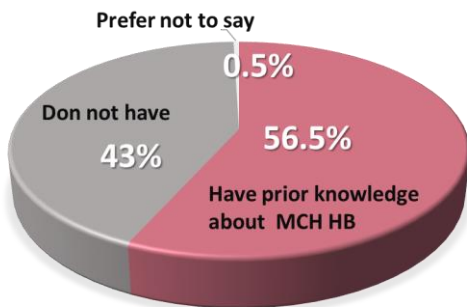
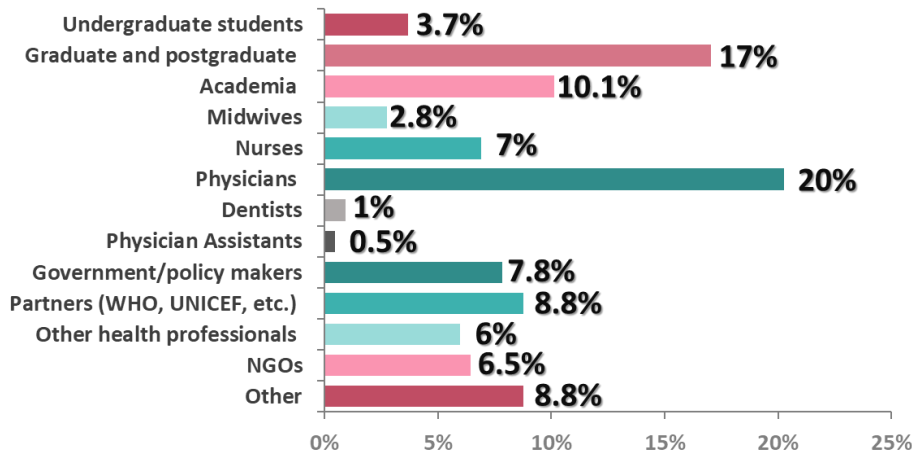
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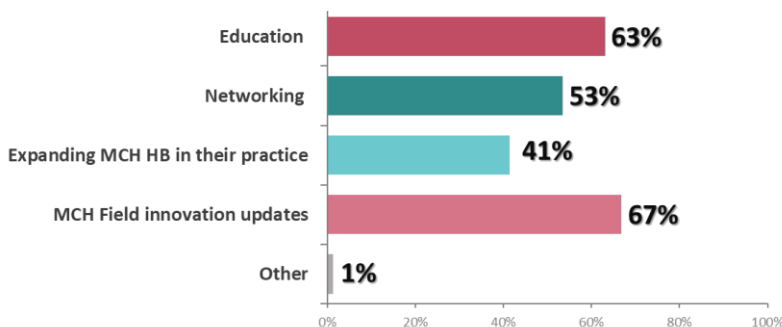
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Participants' professional profiles



Participants' main conference expectations



MAKING ME VISIBLE



13th International Conference on the Maternal & Child Health Handbook Program Book

