



Dying for life ***Are mothers still a global health priority?***

27th November 2023, 12:15-13:45 - Auditorium A1A, Geneva Graduate Institute

BIOGRAPHIES

Speakers

Metin Gülmezoğlu

Executive Director, Concept Foundation



Metin Gülmezoğlu is an obstetrician-gynaecologist who worked in Turkey, South Africa, United Kingdom and Switzerland. He is currently the Executive Director of Concept Foundation, a nonprofit nongovernmental organization working on improving access to quality-assured sexual and reproductive health medicines and technologies in low- and middle-income countries worldwide, based in Geneva, Switzerland and Bangkok, Thailand.

Prior to joining Concept Foundation in 2019, Metin was working at HRP (the UNDP/ UNFPA/ UNICEF/ WHO/ World Bank Special Programme of Research, Development and

Research Training in Human Reproduction), World Health Organization, as the Coordinator for Maternal and Perinatal Health and Abortion.

Metin published more than 300 articles and book chapters and gave numerous presentations in global, regional and national conferences and meetings. Metin is an Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists in the UK, Honorary Professor in the Institute of Metabolism and Systems Research within the College of Medical and Dental Sciences at University of Birmingham, UK, and honorary member of The Society for Maternal Fetal Medicine in the U.S.A.

Femi Oladapo

Head, Maternal and Perinatal Health Unit, WHO Department of Sexual & Reproductive Health & Research



Dr Olufemi (“Femi”) Oladapo is the Head of Maternal and Perinatal Health Unit at the UNDP/UNFPA/UNICEF/WHO/ World Bank Special Programme of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction (HRP), Department of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Research, World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland. He qualified as an obstetrician-gynaecologist in Nigeria, and holds a postgraduate degree in public health and the Fellowships of the West African College of Surgeons and International College of Surgeons.

From 2000, he led the clinical research and training activities of the Centre for Research in Reproductive Health, Sagamu, Nigeria (a centre collaborating with WHO in reproductive health research and training) and was the Centre’s Director of Clinical Research until 2013. He joined the WHO Department of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Research in 2013, where he provides managerial and technical leadership in research, evidence synthesis and guideline development to improve global maternal, perinatal and newborn health. He has played a lead role in evidence syntheses and development of the WHO recommendations on: augmentation of labour; interventions to improve preterm birth outcomes; prevention and treatment of maternal peripartum infections; pregnancy management in the context of Zika virus infection; antenatal care for a positive pregnancy experience; intrapartum care for a positive childbirth experience; and uterotonics for prevention of postpartum haemorrhage. From 2017 until 2021, he was the Co-Chair of the WHO Guidelines Review Committee (GRC) where he provided methodological and technical support to the development of guidelines across WHO. Dr Oladapo has published over 200 papers in peer-reviewed scientific journals and was admitted as a Fellow ad eundem of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists in 2022.

Shirin Heidari

Senior Researcher, Gender Centre, Geneva Graduate Institute; Founder and Director of GENDRO



Dr Shirin Heidari is Senior Researcher at the Gender Centre, the Geneva Graduate Institute, where she is the principal investigator of the Liminality Research Consortium, leading a multi-country research on sexual and reproductive health and rights in forced displacement and humanitarian settings. She is also the founding president of GENDRO, a Geneva-based international organization with the mission to advance gender-sensitive research. In addition, Dr Heidari serves as Senior Technical Consultant to the Department of Gender, Rights and Equity as well as Department of Immunizations, Vaccines and Biologicals at the World

Health Organization.

Previously, Dr Heidari was the Executive Director of Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters and Editor-in-Chief of its peer-reviewed journal. Prior to that, she led the Research Promotion department of the International AIDS Society and was the Executive Editor of the Journal of the International AIDS Society (JIAS).

She has served as a board member of several organisations, including European Association of Science Editors, where she founded and co-chaired the Gender Policy Committee and led the development of the widely cited Sex and Gender Equity in Research (SAGER) guidelines.

At Amnesty International, Sweden, she was an elected board member and the spokesperson for sexual and reproductive rights and the right to health. She contributed to drafting and supporting the resolution on women's right to safe abortion at Amnesty's International Council Meeting and engaged in Amnesty's global campaign Stop Violence Against Women.

Dr Heidari received her doctorate at Karolinska Institute in 2001. She is the author of several publications and has been a TEDx speaker. She has been a commissioner to the Lancet Commission on Women, Power and Cancer, and is currently a member of the Foundation Board of the Geneva International Film Festival and Forum for Human Rights (FIFDH).

Maya Hidayati

Midwife, Tamiajeng village, Trawas subdistrict, Mojokerto district, East Java Province, Indonesia



Maya Hidayati is a dedicated village midwife with a career spanning over 25 years. She started her career as a midwife assistant in 1997 and currently is a registered midwife after earning her Bachelor of Applied Science in Midwifery degree in 2014. She previously worked at a hospital and a community health center in Surabaya. From 2005 to present, she has been working at the Tamiajeng village health post in Trawas, Mojokerto District, East Java. Maya is an active member of the Indonesian Midwives Association and served as one of the branch board committee members for two periods. She also has been

assigned as the chairperson of the Basic Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (BEMONC) Committee at the Trawas Health Center. To support her role, Maya has completed trainings on the care of normal childbirth, modern contraceptive technique updates, and health education counselling. Her competency in BEMONC includes providing care for infants with asphyxia, handling shoulder dystocia cases and breech births, and performing both internal and external bimanual compressions for the management of Postpartum Hemorrhage (PPH). She is committed to work along with her colleagues of village midwives to maintain zero maternal mortality in their area.

Eric Comte

Executive Director, Geneva Health Forum, Faculty of Medicine, University of Geneva



Eric Comte is a medical doctor with a speciality in public health, working for 18 years in humanitarian medical organizations. He was acting as the medical director for MSF (Doctors Without Borders) in Geneva from 2010 to 2014.

He is currently working for the University Hospitals of Geneva (HUG) as executive director of the Geneva Health Forum.

He is also administrator of ASCRES (Association de Soutien des Centres de Recherches, d'Enseignements et de Soins). ASCRES is the main partner in Europe of

CIRES, a medical NGO located in Cameroon that develops projects in partnership with local and international organisations. The main areas of focus are: wound care, Buruli ulcer, snake bite, and gynaecological consultations (female genital Schistosomiasis and cervical cancer).

Moderator

Claire Somerville

Executive Director, Gender Centre, Geneva Graduate Institute



Claire Somerville joined the Geneva Graduate Institute in 2012 and has taught courses on gender, global health, qualitative and mixed methods approaches to research, and applied research in environment and sustainability, gender, race, and diversity.

Claire studied anthropology at the University of Sussex, SOAS, and completed her doctoral research at St John's College, University of Cambridge before going on to post-doctoral research and teaching at the University of Newcastle, Australia; Queen Mary, London; and, Trinity College Dublin.

Her research critically examines the circulation and transformations of knowledge(s) between global processes and local contexts bridging theory, policy, and practice in gender, health, and digitalization.

Research grants and projects include studies on diagnostic taxonomies, risk and body politics; the double burden of disease in Mozambique, Nepal and Peru; unmet health needs of LGBTQ communities, and the rise of non-communicable diseases in sub-Saharan Africa. More recently, she has developed research and pedagogical activities on digital gender gaps and the role of applied research and navigating policy-world decision-making.

Claire serves on the Policy and Practice Committee of the Royal Anthropology Institute and numerous advisory and expert groups on gender and health across the UN and International Organizations.