



Data for Forecasting a Healthier Future

27 May 2024, 13:00 - 14:30 CEST Auditorium A1B, Geneva Graduate Institute, Maison de la Paix and online on Webex

SPEAKERS' BIOGRAPHIES

Speakers

Emmanuela Gakidou

Co-Founder, Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME)



Dr. Emmanuela Gakidou is a co-founder of IHME. She is Associate Chair for Academic Programs at the Department of Health Metrics Sciences, and Senior Director of Organizational Development and Training at IHME. Dr. Gakidou has over 20 years of research experience in the areas of monitoring and evaluation, health disparities, and the social determinants of health. She has been working on the Global Burden of Disease project since its original iteration in 1994.

Dr. Samira AsmaAssistant Director-General, Division of Data, Analytics and Delivery for Impact, World Health Organization (WHO)



Dr Samira Asma, from the United States of America, is the Assistant Director-General for Data, Analytics and Delivery for Impact where she leads WHO's transformation into a data-driven organization with a focus on results. Dr Asma is accountable for developing the tools and policies to strengthen health information systems and to monitor how progress is being made towards the Triple Billion targets and health-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Dr Asma brings more than 25 years of experience in building country capacity and meaningful partnerships that lead public health programmes to catalyze long-term measurable impact.

Dr Asma re-joined WHO in 2018 as the Director for Health Metrics and Measurement and led an organization-wide and multi-partner engagement to develop the 13th General Programme of Work (GPW 13), the WHO results framework and the SDG Global Action Plan with UN partners.

The COVID-19 pandemic has underscored the urgency to strengthen country health information systems. By aligning with countries and partners, Dr Asma is working to ensure every country has robust data surveillance to make health data accessible and equitable and to use data to improve health. These efforts are essential to making a measurable difference to enhance the lives of everyone, everywhere.

Prior to joining WHO, Dr Asma served in leadership positions at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for over two decades. By building successful collaborations, she established global programmes on tobacco control, noncommunicable diseases, environmental health, and injuries. Dr Asma is recognized for leading the establishment of a reliable, sustained surveillance system for tobacco control in 180 countries, using innovative technologies to monitor health, generating epidemiologic and economic evidence for policy interventions, and launching a global initiative to reduce heart attacks and strokes – all through global networks and partnerships. Dr Asma has contributed to more than 100 publications, books and policy papers on global health and public health surveillance, and is internationally recognized as a scientific and policy expert on preventing leading risk factors that cause premature deaths and making a measurable impact in countries.

Kalipso Chalkidou

Head of the Department of Health Finance at the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria



Kalipso Chalkidou is the founding Head of the Department of Health Finance at the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, based in Geneva, Switzerland. She is a Visiting Professor of Global Health at the School of Public Health, Imperial College London. Prior to the Global Fund, she was Director of Global Health Policy and a Senior Fellow at the Center for Global Development, based in London. Her past work has concentrated on helping governments build technical and institutional capacity for using evidence to inform health policy as they move towards Universal Healthcare Coverage. She is interested in how local information, local expertise and local institutions can drive scientific and legitimate healthcare

resource allocation decisions. She has been involved in the Chinese rural health reforms and in national health reform projects in Colombia, Turkey and the Middle East, working with the World Bank, PAHO, DFID and the Inter-American Development Bank as well as national governments.

Between 2007 and 2008, she spent a year at the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, as a Harkness Fellow in Health Policy and Practice, studying USG drug pricing policies. Kalipso founded NICE International which she led for 8 years, and, more recently, the international Decision Support Initiative (iDSI) which she directs and which is a multi-million dollar, multi-country network working towards better health around the world through evidence-informed spending in healthcare in low to middle income countries. With iDSI, she has been involved in national reform projects in China, India, Vietnam, Ghana, Indonesia, Rwanda, and South Africa working together with key national organisations such as the Thai Health Intervention and Technology Assessment Program (HITAP) and the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI).

She holds a doctorate on the molecular biology of prostate cancer from the University of Newcastle (UK), an MD (Hons) from the University of Athens and is a Visiting Professor at King's College London and an adjunct professor at Griffith University in Australia. She has held visiting

positions at the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, sits on several journal editorial boards and has published over 150 peer reviewed papers and book chapters. She sits on the Board of Consilium Scientific.

Moderator

Richard Horton
Editor-in-Chief, The Lancet



Richard Horton is Editor-in-Chief of *The Lancet*. He qualified in physiology and medicine with honours from the University of Birmingham in 1986. He joined *The Lancet* in 1990, moving to New York as North American Editor in 1993. In 2016, he chaired the Expert Group for the High Level Commission on Health Employment and Economic Growth, convened by Presidents Hollande of France and Zuma of South Africa. From 2011 to 2015, he was co-chair of the UN's independent Expert Review Group on Information and Accountability for Women's and Children's Health. In 2011, he was elected a Foreign Associate of the US Institute of Medicine and, in 2015, he received the Friendship

Award from the Government of China. In 2019, he was awarded the WHO Director-General's Health Leaders Award for outstanding leadership in global health and the Roux Prize in recognition of innovation in the application of global health evidence. In 2021, he received the Physicians for Human Rights Award in recognition of extraordinary leadership in advancing health and human rights. He now works to develop the idea of planetary health – the health of human civilizations and the ecosystems on which they depend. In 2020, he published *The COVID-19 Catastrophe: What's Gone Wrong and How to Stop It Happening Again.* A revised, updated, and expanded second edition was published in 2021. As part of the UK's 2023 Honours, Dr Horton was awarded the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in recognition for services to Health and Medical Journalism.