

WomenLeaders in Global Health Conference

Day 1 Agenda



OCTOBER 13, 2020

SPOTLIGHT ON SOUTH ASIA

10:00AM – 1:00PM UTC

10:00am-10:40am UTC – Opening and Fireside Chat

Opening Remarks by **Barkha Dutt**, Award-winning TV Journalist; Washington Post Columnist

She Leads: South Asian Women Shaping Health

This fireside chat will focus on the journeys of two of the most accomplished and visible South Asian women in the health field – the barriers they've faced, the successes they've had, and what their paths to the top have taught them about the value of women in global health.

- **Sara Saeed Khurram**, Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Sehat Kahani
- **Soumya Swaminathan**, Chief Scientist, World Health Organization
- Moderated by **Barkha Dutt**, Award-winning TV Journalist; Washington Post Columnist

10:45am-11:40am UTC – Breakout Sessions

Resilient State of Mind: Prioritizing the Mental Health of Women in the Workforce During Emergencies

COVID-19 has taken an unprecedented psychological toll on women, especially those working on the frontlines of the pandemic. While grappling with the myriad impacts of this global emergency, these women have also faced harassment and discrimination – deepening mental health crises in the South Asia region and worldwide. This session will explore the unique mental health needs of women in the health workforce during emergencies, why mental health must be integrated into the COVID response moving forward and how women are leading this charge.

- **Gracy Andrew**, Vice President, CorStone
- **Prabha S. Chandra**, Professor of Psychiatry, The National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences, Bangalore
- **Nazla Rafeeg**, Head of Communicable Disease Control, Health Protection Agency, Maldives
- Moderated by **Daanika Kamal**, Founder, The Colour Blue

Community Engagement: Health from the Ground Up

Health systems around South Asia rely heavily on female community health workers (CHWs), who are frequently the first point of contact for those seeking care. Despite their vital role, these women often receive significantly less pay, support and recognition than other health providers. In this session, community health researchers and advocates will dive into the challenges that female CHWs face on the ground and examine strategies to strengthen their capacity, better meet their needs and ensure their voices are included in decision making.

- **Priya Karna**, Technical Officer – Reproductive Health, World Health Organization, India
- **Nerges Mistry**, Director, The Foundation for Medical Research
- **Sabina F. Rashid**, Dean & Professor, BRAC James P. Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University
- **Shanta Laxmi Shrestha**, Immediate Past President, Beyond Beijing Committee (BBC) Nepal
- Moderated by **Vinoj Manning**, CEO, Ipas Development Foundation

Representation Matters: Elevating Women's Voices in Popular Culture and the Media

Media in South Asia faces a two-fold challenge: Sparse coverage of key women's issues, including women's health, and a lack of women in leadership positions. In this session, leading media personalities will share their successes in helping to bring women's stories to the fore and charting a path forward to break down barriers to gender equal representation in media and popular culture.

- **Anubha Bhonsle**, Editor, NewsWorthy
- **Shaili Chopra**, Founder, SheThePeople.TV
- **Munizae Jahangir**, Journalist & Editor in Chief, Voicepk.net, Pakistan's First Digital Media Platform for Human Rights
- **Jaya Luintel**, President and CEO, The Story Kitchen
- Moderated by **Sapna Kedia**, Technical Specialist, International Center for Research on Women, Asia

Raise the Volume: Learning How to Advocate for Change

Women and men looking to fight for the issues they care about often face a range of barriers – from self-doubt to prohibitive social norms around engaging in activism. In this interactive session, participants will engage with the leader of the Change.org Foundation – known for engaging millions of citizen-activists around the world – to share and learn about how to find your voice and mobilize communities for change.

- **Preethi Herman**, Global Executive Director, Change.org Foundation

Leadership During Crisis: A Conversation

COVID-19 continues to strain public health systems and cause economic disruption across South Asia, posing unprecedented challenges to those in leadership positions. This session will highlight two of the most critical forces in India's response to the pandemic – across the public and private sectors – to understand the ways in which they are adapting their leadership to meet people's need amid crisis.

- **Shobana Kamineni**, Executive Vice Chairperson, Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Limited
- **Renu Swarup**, Secretary, Department of Biotechnology Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India
- Moderated by **Nandini Oomman**, Global Health & Development Specialist and Founding Curator & CEO, The Women's Storytelling Salon

11:45am-12:45pm UTC – Plenary Panel

Making Policy with a Gender Lens

Over the past decade, there have been important advances in addressing gender inequality in countries in South Asia, yet steep barriers remain to women setting the policy agenda. This panel will bring together some of the most powerful women in South Asia's public sector to explore how gender influences their work, how they have helped advance the equality agenda, and what having women at the decision-making tables means for people's health and wellbeing across the region.

- **Hon. Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury**, MP, Speaker, Bangladesh Parliament
- **Suraya Dalil**, Director, Special Programme on Primary Health Care, World Health Organization
- **Sania Nishtar**, Special Assistant of Pakistan's Prime Minister and Federal Minister, Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Ministry/Chairperson BISP
- **Poonam Khetrpal Singh**, Regional Director for South-East Asia, World Health Organization
- Moderated by **Barkha Dutt**, Award-winning TV Journalist; Washington Post Columnist

12:45pm-1:00pm UTC – Closing

- **Barkha Dutt**, Award-winning TV Journalist; Washington Post Columnist

WomenLeaders in Global Health Conference

Day 2 Agenda



OCTOBER 14, 2020

SPOTLIGHT ON AFRICA

12:00PM – 3:00PM UTC

12:00pm-12:40pm UTC – Opening and Fireside Chat

Opening Remarks by **Zain Verjee**, Founder & CEO, Zain Verjee Group

She Leads: African Women Shaping the Continent

Health and development is in the midst of a global reckoning, and African women are at the center of the push for change. In this conversation, hear how two women are challenging the power dynamics that have defined the field for so long, and where we can go from here.

A conversation between:

- **Senait Fisseha**, Director of Global Programs, Susan Thompson Buffett Foundation
- **Rumbidzai Chisenga**, Director of Leadership Programs, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf Presidential Center for Women and Development

12:45pm-1:40pm UTC – Breakout Sessions

Embracing Change: Dismantling Gender Discrimination in the Workplace

African organizations have made notable progress on diversity and inclusion, resulting in more women becoming CEOs, joining boards and in high-level government positions. Yet, women's prospects in the workplace are far from equal to men's, and women's increased power may not always equal increased influence in decision making. This session will draw on experiences in the private sector, media and health community to explore steps African organizations must take for a new workplace normal grounded in equality.

- **Ayoade Alakija**, Former Chief Humanitarian Coordinator, Nigeria
- **Joan Benson**, Executive Director, Public Health Partnerships, Global Vaccines Public Policy, MSD
- **Sazini Mojapelo**, Managing Executive, Corporate Citizenship, Absa Group
- **Kiki Mordi**, Journalist & Filmmaker
- Moderated by **Joannie Bewa**, Family Medicine Physician & Research Associate, University of South Florida College of Public Health; Board Chair, Women in Global Health

African Women in Tech: Innovating to Break Barriers

There is growing attention to the role that technology can play in improving access to health care and driving social inclusion in Africa – but to benefit women, these technologies must be designed for and by them. This session will engage African women leading cutting-edge innovations, to discuss how technology can transform lives across the continent.

- **Temie Giwa-Tubosun**, Founder & CEO, LifeBank Nigeria
- **Cathy Mwangi**, Founder & CEO, mHealth Kenya
- **Nneile Nkholise**, Co-founder, iMed Tech
- **Nekesa Were**, Director of Strategy, AfriLabs
- Moderated by **Bonita Beatrice Nanziri**, Founder, AfriGal Tech

From Hidden Figures to Prominent Leaders: Advancing Women in Africa's Scientific Institutions

Despite their critical role in Africa's health and development, women remain significantly underrepresented in the continent's leading scientific institutions. This session will explore barriers that women face to entering and staying within the scientific field, incentives for young women to pursue a scientific career, and the importance of scientific innovations for and by women.

- **Quarraisha Abdool Karim**, Associate Scientific Director CAPRISA & Professor in Clinical Epidemiology, Columbia University
- **Tom Kariuki**, Director of Programmes/AESA Platform, The African Academy of Sciences
- **Catherine Kyobutungi**, Executive Director, African Population & Health Research Center (APHRC)
- **Yumna Moosa**, PhD Student, KwaZulu-Natal Research Innovation and Sequencing Platform (KRISP)
- Moderated by **Alex Coutinho**, Chair of the Board, International Partnership for Microbicides

Silent No More: Breaking Taboos on Gender, Sex and Health

Taboos around key issues including sexuality, menstruation and female genital mutilation/cutting continue to hinder progress toward gender equality and health goals. This session will engage leading activists and media personalities on how they have helped bring these "unmentionable" subjects into the light, and why continuing to do so is imperative to advancing and reaching more women in global health.

- **Jaha Dukureh**, CEO and Founder, Safe Hands for Girls
- **King Kaka**, Rapper and Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) Activist
- **Barbara Kemigisa**, Motivational Speaker and Activist
- **Alesandra Ogeta**, Director of Programs, Jinsiangu
- **Redi Tlhabi**, Journalist, Moderator and Author
- Moderated by **Adelle Onyango**, Founder, Adelle Onyango Initiative

So You Have a Great Idea: The ABCs of Getting Grant Money to Test It

Great ideas come from many sources: working in the field and clinic, reading and just experiencing life. Being able to test those ideas, however, requires raising funds. This session will engage participants in how to operationalize their ideas and present them in a convincing format to funding agencies.

- **Pam Factor-Litvak**, Professor of Epidemiology, Vice Chair for Research of the Department of Epidemiology and Associate Dean for Research Resources at the Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University

1:45pm-2:45pm UTC – Plenary Panel

Health for African Women, by African Women

Women's health is the foundation for development across Africa, yet women themselves – especially African women – are starkly underrepresented in leadership and decision making across global health institutions on the continent and around the world. Bringing together some of the leading African women in the health space, this panel will examine the critical role that African women must play in shaping the health agenda and what it means to meaningfully center the needs of women and girls in funding, policies and programs.

- **Winnie Byanyima**, Executive Director, UNAIDS
- **Her Excellency Monica Geingos**, First Lady, Republic of Namibia
- **Hon. Dr. Wilhelmina Jallah**, Minister of Health, Republic of Liberia
- **Matshidiso Moeti**, Regional Director for Africa, World Health Organization
- Moderated by **Zain Verjee**, Founder & CEO, Zain Verjee Group

2:45pm-3:00pm UTC – Closing

- **Zain Verjee**, Founder & CEO, Zain Verjee Group

WomenLeaders in Global Health Conference

Day 3 Agenda



OCTOBER 15, 2020

GLOBAL DIALOGUE

1:00PM – 4:00PM UTC

1:00pm-1:40pm UTC – Opening and Fireside Chat

Opening Remarks by **Aya Chebbi**, African Union Special Envoy on Youth

She Leads: Navigating Power in a Sexist World

Women leaders are perceived and treated differently, with significant research to prove it. Drawing on personal experience and conversations with other leading women around the world, this conversation will focus on the unique challenges that women leaders face, and the ways women can persevere to shatter the glass ceiling in global health, and further succeed when they do.

- **The Hon. Julia Gillard AC**, 27th Prime Minister of Australia and Chair of the Global Institute for Women's Leadership
- **Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala**, Board Chair – Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, WHO & AU Special Envoy on COVID-19 & Former Finance Minister, Nigeria
- Moderated by **Aya Chebbi**, African Union Special Envoy on Youth

1:45pm-2:40pm UTC – Breakout Sessions

Decolonizing Global Health: Dismantling Power Imbalances

Global Health continues to be marked by deep-set power imbalances, rooted in colonial history, that undermine efforts to improve health around the world. This conversation will explore intersecting geographic, gender and racial/ethnic disparities across the field, and highlight efforts to ensure that global health leadership and institutions meaningfully reflect and represent the communities they serve.

- **Sarah Hawkes**, Director, Centre for Gender and Global Health, University College London
- **Anu Kumar**, President & CEO, Ipas
- **Tlaleng Mofokeng**, UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health, Commissioner at the Commission for Gender Equality
- **Nathalie Pambrun**, President of the Canadian Association of Midwives, Indigenous Registered Midwife
- Moderated by **Renzo Quinto**, Chief Planetary Doctor, PH Lab

The Art of Leaning Out: A Conversation about Male Allyship

Women are leading the charge in calling for a more equal and diverse representation in global health leadership, but men – who hold a vast majority of the positions of power – are critical to shifting the status quo. This session will be a provocative conversation on men's journeys to become male allies, the role men can play in supporting normative and institutional changes, and creating the space needed for more women to advance and excel.

- **Jeremy Farrar**, Director, Wellcome Trust
- **Githinji Gitahi**, Global CEO, Amref Health Africa
- **Madhukar Pai**, Canada Research Chair in Epidemiology & Global Health; Director, McGill International TB Centre
- **Ravi Verma**, Regional Director, International Center for Research on Women
- Moderated by **Tracy Kobukindo**, Technical Coordinator (East & Southern Africa), Community Health Academy, Last Mile Health

The Power of the Mentor: How to Be One, How to Get One and Why it Matters

Effective leaders are championed by networks of both mentors and mentees. Institutions in the global health field must support a broader culture of mentoring and learning. This interactive session will focus on the importance of mentorship for women in health – how mentorship allows both mentees and mentors to grow as they learn more about themselves, build trust, build confidence, and increase their understanding of what good leadership looks like.

- **Alaa Murabit**, *United Nations High-Level Commissioner on Health, Employment & Economic Growth*
- **Lucy Lu Wilson**, *Gender and Inclusion Lead and Programme Development and Funding Officer, Teach A Man To Fish; Project Leader, Hablemos Ingles*
- **Umba Zalira**, *Co-Founder, Growing Ambitions*

Powering Women in Organizations: Tackling Gender Inequality Head On

For long-term and sustainable change around gender equality in global health, health institutions must act to reshape the systems, policies and dynamics that disproportionately privilege men. Drawing on the experience of some of the leading ‘disrupters’ from diverse fields, this session will explore specific ways health institutions can overcome inertia and tackle gender inequality head on – and the role that women leaders can play in demanding and driving this change.

- **Rohini Anand**, *Principal, Rohini Anand LLC*
- **Sally Saba**, *Chief Inclusion & Diversity Officer, Medtronic*
- **Hannan Sulieman**, *Deputy Executive Director, Management, UNICEF*
- **Jane Wanyama**, *Chief Executive Officer, Aga Khan Hospital, Kisumu Cluster*
- Moderated by **Pat Milligan**, *CEO, EDGE Americas*

Grand Challenges: Enabling Women to Transform Science and Innovation

The session will explore how the Grand Challenges model helps to address the challenges of building vibrant local and global innovation ecosystems that engage women, men and non-binary genders through case studies of recent Grand Challenges programs. The session will introduce WLGH conference participants to Grand Challenges and share its approach to enabling women to bring their perspective and expertise to solve the world’s most pressing health and development challenges through research and innovation.

- **Moses Aloba**, *Programme Manager, Grand Challenges Africa*
- **Nisia Trindade Lima**, *President, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation*
- **Claude Pirmez**, *Program Manager, Grand Challenges Brazil*
- **Karlee Silver**, *Co-CEO, Grand Challenges Canada*
- **Kedest Tesfagiorgis**, *Deputy Director, Global Partnerships & Grand Challenges, Discovery & Translational Sciences, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation*
- **Clare Wenham**, *Assistant Professor, London School of Economics & Political Science*

Succeeding as a Woman in Academia: Battling a Pandemic and the Patriarchy

Women scientists and researchers continue to be underrepresented in academic institutions, despite earning the majority of doctoral degrees, and COVID-19 has further exacerbated barriers that hold women back or render their expertise invisible. Four prominent voices in global health academia will share their experiences, the challenges they face and guidance to help fellow academics navigate their careers.

- **Michele Barry**, *Founder, WomenLift Health; Senior Associate Dean & Director, Stanford Global Health*
- **Agnes Binagwaho**, *Vice Chancellor, University of Global Health Equity*
- **Gagandeep Kang**, *Professor at Wellcome Trust Research Laboratory, and the Division of Gastrointestinal Sciences at the Christian Medical College (CMC) in Vellore*
- **Heidi Larson**, *Director, The Vaccine Confidence Project*
- Moderated by **Christine Ngaruiya**, *Assistant Professor, Section of Global Health and International Emergency Medicine, Department of Emergency Medicine, Yale School of Medicine*

2:45pm-3:45pm UTC UTC - Plenary Panel

Gender & Power in COVID: Two Steps Forward or Two Steps Back?

Women have driven extraordinary efforts at every level of the COVID-19 pandemic response, and there is growing recognition that 'building back better' must include a focus on gender. At the same time, COVID-19 has posed significant new challenges to women's participation and leadership, with the potential to set back gender equality goals for years. Spotlighting some of the leading voices in health and gender equality, this panel will explore the small and revolutionary steps governments, institutions and UN agencies must take to break away from "business-as-usual" and shape a post-pandemic future with women at the helm.

- **Amie Batson**, Executive Director, WomenLift Health
- **Anita Bhatia**, Assistant Secretary-General for Resource Management, UN System Coordination, Sustainability and Partnerships and Deputy Executive Director of UN Women
- **Carissa F. Etienne**, Director, Pan American Health Organization
- **Amina J. Mohammed**, Deputy Secretary-General, United Nations
- **Anita Zaidi**, Director of Vaccine Development & Surveillance, Enteric & Diarrheal Diseases, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- Moderated by **Geeta Rao Gupta**, Senior Advisor, 3D Program for Girls and Women, Global Advisory Board Chair, WomenLift Health

3:45pm-4:00pm UTC - Closing

- **Amie Batson**, Executive Director, WomenLift Health