



Hadiza Galadanci – Steering Committee Co-Chair

Director, Bayero University

- Africa Center of Excellence for Population Health and Policy, Bayero University Kano
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Biography

Hadiza works at Bayero University Kano, where she leads research, education, and policy initiatives to improve maternal and reproductive health in Nigeria and globally.

- Professor Hadiza Shehu Galadanci is a pioneering Nigerian obstetrician-gynecologist, academic, and global health leader. She was educated in Nigeria and abroad, earning qualifications including an MBBS (ABU Zaria), FWACS, DLSTM&H, MSc from University College London, and Fellowships of both the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and the West African College of Surgeons. She is currently a Director of a World Bank supported Africa Center of Excellence for Population Health and Policy, Bayero University Kano
- A committed educator, researcher, and clinician, she has trained generations of doctors and led numerous programs, including training over 2000 undergraduates and postgraduates students. Her research focuses on feto-maternal health, reproductive health, and cervical cancer, with over 150 publications and leadership roles in major global studies such as EMOTIVE Trial. Prof. Galadanci has served on more than 50 national and international committees, consulted for leading global health agencies, and received numerous awards, including TIME Magazine’s 2024 “100 Most Influential People in Health” and FIGO Women’s Award 2018.



Caroline Homer - Steering Committee Co-Chair

Deputy Director, Burnet Institute

- Gender Equity, Diversity and Inclusion at the Burnet Institute in Melbourne and Emeritus Professor of Midwifery at the University of Technology Sydney.
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Biography

Caroline works at the Burnet Institute, where she leads research, policy, and advisory efforts to improve maternal, newborn, and women's health globally.

- Professor Caroline Homer AO is a midwife and Deputy Director, Gender Equity, Diversity and Inclusion at the Burnet Institute in Melbourne and Emeritus Professor of Midwifery at the University of Technology Sydney.
- Caroline has led research and development in midwifery, maternal and newborn health including immunisation and health system strengthening for more than 25 years in Australia and across the Asia-Pacific region. She is Chair of WHO's Strategic Technical Advisory Committee for Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health and Nutrition (STAGE) and a member of WHO's Scientific and Technical Advisory Group (STAG) for the Human Reproduction Program (HRP). Caroline has been part of WHO guideline panels for many years including the postnatal care guidelines and recent updates to postpartum haemorrhage guidelines.



Sir Sabaratnam Arulkumaran

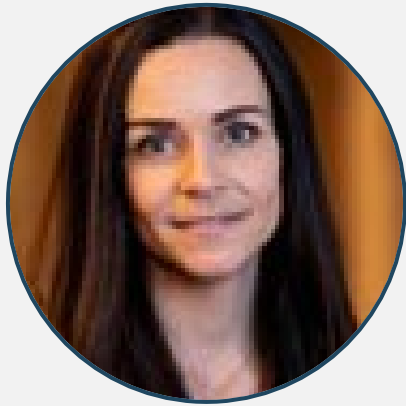
Professor, University of London

- Professor Emeritus of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (O&G) at St George's University of London
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Biography

Arul is a globally distinguished leader in obstetrics and gynaecology, former President of FIGO, and a knighted contributor to medicine and health care with a long-standing career across leading universities.

- Professor Sir Sabaratnam Arulkumaran is Professor Emeritus of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (O&G) at St George's University of London from 2013 after being Professor & Head from 2001-13. Prior to this, he was Professor in the University of Nottingham (1997-2001) and National University of Singapore (1993-97).
- He was appointed as Foundation Professor of O&G, University of Nicosia from 2014 where he continues to teach undergraduates. He is Visiting Professor, Institute of Global Health Policy Innovation, Imperial College, London from 2012 where he is involved in research with the Imperial staff.
- He was President of the International Federation of Obstetrics & Gynaecology (2012-15), of the British Medical Association (2013-14) and the Royal College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists of the UK (2007-10). He has published over 300 peer reviewed indexed papers, was Editor in Chief of Best Practice of Clinical Practice and Research in Obstetrics & Gynaecology for 20 years and Global Library of Women's medicine (www.glowm.com). He has edited over 30 books including the Oxford Textbook of Obstetrics & Gynaecology.
- He was appointed Knight Bachelor by Her Majesty the Queen in Her Birthday Honours List in June 2009 in recognition of his services to Medicine and Health Care; National Active citizen award by the President of Cyprus in 2019, and the Ranjana award by the President of Sri Lanka in 2019.



Lina Bergman

Associate professor, University of Gothenburg

- Sahlgrenska Academy, University of Gothenburg
- Email: lina.bergman@obgyn.gu.se

Biography

Lina is a senior obstetrician and associate professor whose internationally funded research focuses on understanding, predicting, and developing novel treatments for pre-eclampsia through translational science and global collaboration.

- Dr Bergman is a senior obstetrician and Associate professor at University of Gothenburg in Sweden and Stellenbosch University in South Africa. She focuses on a translational approach to understand underlying causes to complications in preeclampsia. Her research also focuses on prediction of preeclampsia and its complications and discovery of novel treatment to prevent and/or treat preeclampsia. Her research is funded largely by the Wallenberg Foundation, the European Research Council and the Swedish Research council. Lina serves on several scientific committees and is an active member of CoLab for international collaboration in preeclampsia research. Lina is also a group member of the FIGO Committee on the impact of pregnancy on longterm health.



Gagan Gupta

Senior Advisor, UNICEF

- Lead for the Maternal and Newborn Health team at UNICEF headquarters in New York
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Biography

Gagan is a global leader in maternal and newborn health at UNICEF, driving policy, programmes, and data-driven impact across 100+ countries.

- Dr. Gupta is Senior Adviser and Unit Lead for Maternal and Newborn Health at UNICEF’s Global Program Division. A paediatrician by training, he began his career in 2001 teaching paediatrics and neonatology at a university hospital in Mumbai, India. He brings nearly 25 years of experience across maternal, newborn, and child health, spanning government, academia, professional bodies, and the United Nations—from subnational to global levels. His expertise includes programme design, policy influence, and implementation.
- He represents UNICEF as co-chair of the Every Newborn Action Plan (ENAP) country implementation group and its advocacy and accountability working groups, contributing significantly to shaping the global newborn health agenda and aligning it with maternal and child health priorities. He has served on multiple global technical advisory groups, often co-chairing with WHO, and leads the joint EWENE-CSA progress tracking report, compiling data from over 100 countries to identify gaps and drive action.
- In India, he is recognized for scaling up small and sick newborn care at district level, establishing transport systems for mothers and newborns, and pioneering a major online inpatient newborn care database. He also led UNICEF’s analysis of COVID-19 disruptions to MNCH services across 50 countries, informing global recovery strategies.



Solomon Hailemeskel

Midwifery Advisor, International Confederation of Midwives

- International Confederation of Midwives (ICM)
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Biography

Solomon Hailemeskel is a midwifery scholar and global health expert, advancing evidence-based, woman-centred care and strengthening midwifery education, regulation, and practice worldwide through research, policy, and leadership.

- Solomon Hailemeskel (RM, MSc, PhD) is a midwifery scholar and global health professional with more than 15 years of experience across clinical practice, education, leadership, and implementation research. He joined the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) in January 2026 as a Midwifery Advisor.
- Solomon is a registered midwife and holds a PhD in Midwifery and Women’s Health from the University of Gondar. Within ICM’s Midwives Team, he provides professional and technical expertise to support the development and implementation of global strategies aimed at strengthening midwifery education, regulation, and practice. His work promotes evidence-based, rights-based, and woman-centred models of care, with a particular focus on low- and middle-income and humanitarian settings. He collaborates closely with ICM Member Associations, partners, and stakeholders to support policy development, capacity building, programme implementation, and advocacy in line with ICM global standards.
- Prior to joining ICM, Solomon led and contributed to more than ten national and international research projects funded by organisations including the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the Swedish Research Council, and the Laerdal Foundation. He has published over 30 peer-reviewed articles and supervised postgraduate and doctoral students. He had contributed as a core member of the WHO STAGE Midwifery Group, contributing to global technical guidance and WHO position papers on Midwife Model of care.



Ananth Karumanchi

Professor, Cedars-Sinai Medical Centre

- Medallion Chair in Vascular Biology, Director of Renovascular Research and Professor of Medicine at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles
- Email: SAnanth.Karumanchi@csmc.edu

Biography

Ananth works at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, where he leads translational research to uncover disease pathways and develop therapies for hypertensive disorders of pregnancy and kidney disease.

- Dr. Ananth Karumanchi, Medallion Chair in Vascular Biology, is Director of Renovascular Research and Professor of Medicine at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles. Dr. Karumanchi's laboratory is focused on discovering pathogenic pathways and bringing therapies to patients in the areas of hypertensive disorders of pregnancy and chronic renal disease. Dr. Karumanchi's research activities are vertically integrated, ranging from molecular and cell biological studies to animal models to first-in-class human clinical trials.
- Dr. Karumanchi has published >350 papers (with several publications in NEJM, JAMA, Circulation, Nature, Nature Medicine, and JCI). He has received prestigious awards such as the the International Society for the Study of Hypertension in Pregnancy – Chesley Award (2010), the Gregory Pincus Memorial Medal from Worcester Foundation for Biomedical Research (2021), and the Jean Hamburger Prize from the International Society of Nephrology (2022). He was also elected to the American Society for Clinical Investigation (ASCI) in 2007 and Association of American Physicians (AAP) in 2015. Dr. Karumanchi's research has been funded by the NIH, AHA, Howard Hughes Medical Institute and the Gates Foundation.



Duncan Shikuku

Technical Specialist, UNFPA

- Midwifery and Women's Health Specialist, UNFPA, Headquarters
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Biography

Duncan is a globally recognized midwifery and women's health specialist and Technical Specialist at UNFPA Headquarters, with over a decade of experience in clinical practice, academia, research, and global health programming, leading efforts to strengthen maternal, newborn, and child health systems and advance midwifery education, policy, and practice worldwide.

- Duncan Shikuku is a distinguished Midwifery and Women's Health Specialist currently serving as the Technical Specialist – Midwifery at UNFPA Headquarters. With over a decade of experience across clinical practice, academia, research and global health programming, he is a recognized leader in maternal, newborn, and child health (MNCH) programming and health systems strengthening. His work drives equity and excellence in midwifery education and practice globally. Duncan represents UNFPA on high-level global technical working groups, including the Lancet Stillbirths Series and WHO norms for Emergency Obstetrics and Newborn Care (EmONC).
- Duncan holds a PhD in Global Health from the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, where he remains an Honorary Academic, alongside a Master's in Midwifery and Women's Health. He is a prolific researcher whose work has directly shaped international policy and national midwifery education standards. He has been instrumental in institutionalizing EmONC into national curricula and developing Continuous Professional Development frameworks for midwifery educators. His career also spans strategic MNCH programming roles at Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine and Save the Children International. He is an active contributor to the global health evidence base, where he provides expert peer review for top-tier global maternal and newborn health and midwifery journals.



Koiwah Koi-Larbi

Action on Pre-eclampsia (APEC), Ghana

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Biography

Koiwah Koi-Larbi is a dynamic maternal and newborn health advocate and legal ethicist, bridging law, ethics, and public health to drive global and community-level change.

- Koiwah Koi-Larbi is a passionate advocate for maternal and newborn health, global health ethics, and community engagement. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Accountancy, a Bachelor of Laws (LLB), and a Master of Laws (LLM) in Medical Law and Ethics, bringing a unique legal and ethical perspective to public health advocacy.
- She is the Founder of Action on Preeclampsia Ghana (APEC Ghana), a national advocacy organization dedicated to reducing maternal and infant deaths associated with hypertensive disorders of pregnancy through education, research, and support. Koiwah has represented Ghana and the sub-region internationally, including at the International Maternal & Newborn Health Conference (IMNHC) 2023 in South Africa and the 13th European Congress on Global Health in the Netherlands. She continues her advocacy as a speaker at IMNHC 2026.
- She contributes to global health policy and research as a Patient/Consumer Representative for the WHO Maternal and Perinatal Health Living Guidelines (2023–2025), a member of the NIHR Public Advisory Group, and a steering committee member for the PEARLS Trial and the WHO-HRP Global Preeclampsia Summit Steering Committee.
- Outside her professional work, she is a devoted single mother who enjoys dancing, cooking, travelling, and volunteering in her community.



Pete Lambert

Associate Professor, Monash University

- Director of the Monash Quality of Medicines Initiative, Monash University
- Email: pete.lambert@monash.edu

Biography

Pete works at Monash University, where he leads pharmaceutical research and global health initiatives to improve access to quality medicines for maternal health.

- Associate Professor (Practice) Pete Lambert, MPhil, is a pharmaceutical scientist and global health researcher. Originally trained as a pharmacist at the Liverpool School of Pharmacy in the UK (1990), he has approaching 20 years' experience in the pharmaceutical industry developing novel drug delivery systems for conditions of high need. After working with an NGO in KwaZulu Natal, he completed his Master of Philosophy in HIV/AIDS Management at Stellenbosch University (2013). On arrival in Australia, he worked as the Director of Development at Medicines Development Limited (now Medicines Development for Global Health) before joining Monash University in 2012.
- A/Prof Lambert co-leads the inhaled oxytocin program at Monash developing a novel heat-stable, non-injectable, and affordable oxytocin delivery system for the prevention and treatment of PPH. In addition, he is the Founder and Director of the Monash Quality of Medicines Initiative, a research group dedicated to addressing issues of medicines quality in low- and middle-income countries with a specialty in the area of maternal health medications. Finally, Pete co-coordinates the Global Health Therapeutic Program Area at the Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences.



Alison Morgan

Technical Lead, Global Finance Facility

- Global Financing Facility, World Bank, Washington D.C.
- Email: amorgan3@worldbank.org

Biography

Alison works at the Global Financing Facility, where she leads technical work on measurement, quality improvement, and innovation to strengthen maternal and newborn health globally.

- Dr Alison Morgan has over 30 years' experience in global health research and practice with a focus on quality maternal and newborn health care. A medical practitioner with a doctorate in health systems strengthening for quality maternal care, her interest is in measurement and indicators for maternal and newborn health, quality improvement within complex health systems, and how national governments can reach health development goals. She is currently the technical lead for maternal and newborn health at the Global Financing Facility (GFF) based at the World Bank in Washington, D.C. Prior to that she was an Associate Professor at the Nossal Institute for Global Health, University of Melbourne.
- Alison is a member of the Every Woman Every Newborn Everywhere (EWENE) Management Committee and the EWENE Country Implementation Group. She co-chairs the AlignMNH and IMNHC2026 Steering Committee, and was a co-chair of the Country Engagement Committee for IMNHC2023. She was a founding co-chair of the WHO advisory group Mother and Newborn Information for Tracking Outcomes and Results (MoNITOR). She has conducted health service analyses in Ghana, Tanzania, Nepal, China (Tibet), Ethiopia, Kenya, Zambia, Indonesia and a number of countries in the Pacific region. In her role at the GFF she is the focal point for Ethiopia and leads a program for maternal and newborn innovations across the GFF countries.



Rachel Msimuko

Acting Director, Zambia Medicines and Medical Supplies Agency (ZAMMSA)

- Supply Planning at the Zambia Medicines and Medical Supplies Agency (ZAMMSA)
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Biography

Rachel works at the Zambia Medicines and Medical Supplies Agency, where she leads national supply planning efforts to improve access to essential medicines and health commodities.

- Rachel Msimuko Muyoma is a pharmacist and public health supply chain specialist with over 14 years of experience strengthening health systems and improving access to essential medicines and medical supplies. She currently serves as Acting Director – Supply Planning at the Zambia Medicines and Medical Supplies Agency (ZAMMSA), where she works closely with government institutions, cooperating partners, and other stakeholders to coordinate national efforts in forecasting and supply planning for essential health commodities across Zambia’s public health sector.
- Rachel has extensive experience working with government and global health partners to improve commodity security and strengthen supply chain performance. Her work focuses on supporting ongoing efforts to strengthen resilient systems that ensure the timely availability of life-saving medicines, including maternal and reproductive health commodities. She is a 2017 Mandela Washington Fellow in Public Management at Syracuse University and holds postgraduate qualifications in Global Health Procurement and Supply Chain Management, as well as in Management and Leadership. She is passionate about strengthening public sector supply chains, building local capacity, and promoting evidence-based decision-making to improve health outcomes in Zambia and across the region.



Richard Mugahi

Ministry of Health, Uganda

- Commissioner responsible for Reproductive, Maternal and Child Health at the Ministry of Health, Uganda
- Email: rmugahi99@gmail.com

Biography

Richard is a medical doctor and public health leader serving as Uganda's Commissioner for Reproductive, Maternal, and Child Health, driving national and regional strategies to reduce maternal and newborn mortality and strengthen health systems across Africa.

- Dr. Richard Mugahi is the Commissioner responsible for Reproductive, Maternal and Child Health at the Ministry of Health, Uganda. He is a medical doctor with specialization in Public health with over 20 years' experience in clinical care and health management at national and sub-national level. He has provided leadership for the development and implementation of context specific Intervention frameworks for the major causes of Maternal and Newborn Mortality in Uganda.
- He has also setup and coordinated regional accountability and care Networks to improve Maternal and Newborn Outcomes. These efforts contributed to substantial reduction in maternal mortality. He has also supported Policy development and capacity building initiatives in Reproductive, Maternal, Adolescent and Newborn health in many countries across Africa. He has previously worked World Health Organization as member of steering committee for the Global Postpartum Hemorrhage Summit.



Angela Muriuki

Independent Consultant

- Email: muriuki.angela@outlook.com

Biography

Angela is a public health physician and translational scientist with experience in women's and girls' health, spanning policy, research, clinical practice, and diagnostic product development across Africa and South Asia.

- Dr. Angela Muriuki is a public health physician and translational scientist with nearly 20 years of experience working in women's and girls' health. Her work spans policy, programs, clinical practice, research, and product development and introduction.
- She has lived and worked in humanitarian and development contexts across East, West, and Central Africa and South Asia. In her most recent role as Director of Women's Health at FIND, she led a team developing novel diagnostics for HPV, preeclampsia, anaemia, and imaging for women's health. Dr Muriuki is currently an independent diagnostic R&D consultant working with product development partnerships, academic institutions, and funders.



Angela Nguku

Founder, White Ribbon Alliance

- Email: angelan@whiteribbonkenya.org

Biography

Angela is a midwife and global maternal health advocate, founder of White Ribbon Alliance Kenya, and a leader driving community-led action, accountability, and policy change to amplify women’s voices and advance maternal and newborn health

- Angela Nguku is a graduate midwife and global maternal health equity advocate and thought leader with over 20 years of experience advancing maternal and newborn health, dignity in care and the rights of women and girls, especially mothers in all their diversity, as well as advancing the realities of frontline health workers. She is the Founder and Executive Director of White Ribbon Alliance Kenya, a national women led organization advancing maternal and newborn health and wellbeing through community driven action, accountability and policy influence, and serves as Co Chair of the White Ribbon Alliance global movement.
- Angela is one of the driving forces behind the unprecedented What Women Want campaign, a global listening effort capturing the lived experiences and demands of millions of women and girls, especially mothers in all their diversity, with close to 4 million of those voices from Kenya alone. Through the unique Ask Listen Act Power Approach, which she has helped shape and advance, she has contributed to shifting how systems engage with women from assumptions to listening and from listening to action and accountability. Her work bridges lived realities with practice, policy, programming, funding and product development, ensuring that what is designed, funded and delivered reflects what women and frontline health workers actually need. She brings lived realities into decision making spaces, challenges systems that fail women and pushes for accountability where it is often avoided.



Sunita Tandulwadkar

Head of Department, Ruby Hall Clinic,
Pune, India

- Email: sunitart@hotmail.com

Biography

Sunita is a pioneering obstetrician and gynaecologist from Pune, India, is renowned for India's first stem cell baby and decades of leadership in reproductive medicine

- Dr. Sunita Tandulwadkar is a highly acclaimed Obstetrician and Gynaecologist from Pune, India, with more than 35 years of distinguished experience in women's health, reproductive medicine, high-risk obstetrics, gynaecological endoscopy, and regenerative medicine. She is widely recognized as India's first female gynaecological endoscopic surgeon. She is the Head of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at Ruby Hall Clinic, Pune, and Chief of the IVF and Endoscopy Centre, positions she has held since 1996. She is also Director of Solo Clinic, a Centre of Excellence for IVF, Endoscopy, and High-Risk Obstetrics, since 1992, and Medical Director of Alive – Stem Cells Research and Application Centre since 16 April 2018.
- She obtained her MD in Obstetrics and Gynaecology from Dr. Vaishampayan Memorial Medical College, Solapur. Her honours include FICS, FICOG, and Honorary FRCOG (Honoris Causa) from the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, London. Her landmark achievements include India's first stem cell baby and the world's first baby born to a 45-year-old woman through stem cell-based therapy. She has served as President of IAGE, President of FOGSI, and is currently President of ISAR. She has authored 25 books, 95 chapters, and 85 scientific papers.



Eleni Tsigas

CEO, Pre-eclampsia Foundation

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Biography

Eleni Tsigas is a visionary maternal health leader and CEO of the Pre-eclampsia Foundation, championing patient-centered advocacy, research, and policy to prevent pre-eclampsia and protect mothers and babies worldwide.

- Eleni Tsigas is the CEO of the Preeclampsia Foundation, where she leads a U.S.-based team of 25 and serves as a founding board member of Preeclampsia Foundation Canada. A recognized leader in maternal health, she has contributed to the development of state, national, and international guidelines on preeclampsia in collaboration with organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO), the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG), and multiple state task forces, including those in California, Florida, and Texas.
- Eleni is widely sought after to represent the patient and consumer perspective, delivering keynote addresses to healthcare professionals, briefing members of Congress, and engaging with federal agency leaders. She currently serves as a patient ambassador for the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and is on the steering committee for the National Hypertension Control Roundtable, a CDC initiative.
- In addition to her advocacy, Eleni has contributed to numerous research studies, authored peer-reviewed publications, and serves as Principal Investigator for the Preeclampsia Registry. Across all her work, she remains a passionate advocate and visionary, committed to a future where preeclampsia no longer threatens the lives of mothers and babies.