

5th ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM ON DIABETES IN HUMANITARIAN CRISES



Image: Democratic Republic of Congo, February 2025, © Jospin Mwisha

October 16-17, 2025
Geneva, Switzerland

Sponsored by
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SYMPOSIUM 2025

BACKGROUND

Humanitarian crises are increasing in scale and complexity, and people living with diabetes (PLWD) remain among the most at risk. Disrupted care, medication shortages, and fragile health systems make survival and long-term health far more difficult— yet diabetes is still not systematically prioritized in emergency response.

Since its founding, the International Alliance for Diabetes Action (IADA) has worked to close this gap through research, advocacy, and collective action. The annual Symposium serves as the leading global forum for driving practical, coordinated solutions.

With the 2023–2025 Strategic Plan concluding and recent shifts in funding and policy reshaping the global health landscape, the Symposium offers a critical opportunity to review progress, address emerging challenges, and set priorities for the next strategic cycle (2026–2030).

PURPOSE

To convene global stakeholders working on diabetes in humanitarian contexts for shared learning, strategic dialogue, and joint action to advance equitable and sustainable solutions in humanitarian settings.

OBJECTIVES

1. Review progress and gaps – Assess achievements and remaining challenges in diabetes care in humanitarian settings since 2023, to help shape IADA's 2026–2030 Strategic Plan.
2. Address funding challenges – Identify practical strategies to sustain and strengthen diabetes care in the face of changing global health and humanitarian financing.
3. From commitments to action – Identify opportunities to align with and build on recent global declarations, ensuring the needs of PLWD in humanitarian settings are addressed, and set clear research priorities.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Agreed strategic priorities for the 2026–2030 plan.
- Actionable strategies for sustaining diabetes care under current and future funding realities.
- A shortlist of priority actions for operationalizing global commitments, including PLWD engagement and targeted research areas.

8:00 | REGISTRATION & COFFEE

8:30 | **WELCOME**, Sylvia Kehlenbrink (IADA, Mass General Brigham) & Lilian Kiapi (IADA)

8:45 | **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**, Bente Mikkelsen (St. Jude Children's Research Hospital)

9:00 | **PLENARY 1:**

GLOBAL FUNDING CHANGES AND IMPLICATIONS FOR DIABETES CARE IN CRISES

Moderated by Paul Spiegel (Johns Hopkins Center for Humanitarian Health, IADA)

Speakers: Teresa Zakaria (World Health Organization (WHO))

Allen Maina (UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR))

Herb Riband (Access Accelerated)

Estrella Lasry (Global Fund)

10:30 | COFFEE BREAK

11:00 | **PLENARY 2:**

TURNING GLOBAL COMMITMENTS INTO ACTION

Moderated by Rachel Nugent (University of Washington, IADA)

Speakers: Oria James (WHO Global Diabetes Compact)

Hicham El Berri (WHO Libya)

Mahmoud Tharwat (International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC))

Alison Cox (NCD Alliance)

12:30 | GROUP PHOTO & LUNCH

13:30 | **PLENARY 3:**

ADDRESSING DIABETES IN PREGNANCY DURING EMERGENCIES

Moderated by Philippa Boule (Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), IADA)

Speakers: Chloe Zera (Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center)

Cyrine Farhat (Positive on Glucose)

Doris Chou (WHO)

Reham Jaffal (UNRWA)

Nelly Staderini (MSF)

15:00 | COFFEE BREAK

15:30 | **WORKSHOP:**

ENGAGING PEOPLE LIVING WITH DIABETES IN THE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

Moderated by Emma Klatman (Life for a Child, IADA) & Kiran Jobanputra (IADA)

In-person only, see page 5 for more information

17:00 | **CLOSING**, Sylvia Kehlenbrink (IADA, Mass General Brigham)

8:00 | REGISTRATION & COFFEE

8:30 | **WELCOME**, Sylvia Kehlenbrink (IADA, Mass General Brigham)

8:45 | **WINNING RESEARCH ABSTRACT PRESENTATION**, Shatha Albeik (UNRWA)

9:00 | **SHAPING THE RESEARCH AGENDA FOR DIABETES IN HUMANITARIAN SETTINGS**

Moderated by Éimhin Ansbro (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), IADA)

In-person only, see page 5 for more information

10:30 | COFFEE BREAK

11:00 | **PLENARY 4:**

NUTRITION AND FOOD SECURITY FOR PLWD IN EMERGENCIES

Moderated by Shelley Walton (Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health)

Speakers: Maysaa Hellani (MSF Lebanon)

Omar Haji (IRC Somalia)

Lamis Jomaa (University of North Carolina Gillings School of Global Public Health)

Caroline Wilkinson (Independent)

12.30 | LUNCH

13:30 | **BREAKOUT SESSION:**

LOOKING BACK— ACHIEVEMENTS AND UNMET NEEDS

In-person only, see page 5 for more information

15:00 | COFFEE BREAK

15:30 | **GROUP SYNTHESIS:**

LOOKING AHEAD— SETTING PRIORITIES FOR THE FUTURE

Moderated by Kiran Jobanputra (IADA)

16:50 | **VOTING: COMPLETION OF RESEARCH PRIORITIZATION EXERCISE**

17:00 | **CLOSING REFLECTIONS**, Alarcos Cieza (WHO)

18:45 | **CULTURAL DINNER**: Edelweiss Restaurant (Place de la Navigation 2, 1201 Geneva)

Please note: a shuttle coach will depart promptly at 18:15 from the hotel lobby for those registered.

IN-PERSON WORKSHOP & BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Delegates attending in person will have the opportunity to take part in an interactive Workshop on Day 1 and two Breakout Sessions on Day 2. Group assignments will be noted on the back of your badge. Each session will begin in the main meeting room, where facilitators will provide instructions before groups convene in their assigned spaces.

Day 1 – Thursday, October 16 | 15:30

WORKSHOP: ENGAGING PEOPLE LIVING WITH DIABETES IN THE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

- **Group 1 – Service Delivery**
Facilitators: Philippa Boulle (MSF, IADA); Mohammed Seyam (IADA)
- **Group 2 – Medicine & Diagnostics**
Facilitators: Beatrice Vetter (IADA); Emma Klatman (Life for a Child, IADA)
- **Group 3 – Data & Research**
Facilitators: Éimhín Ansbro (LSHTM, IADA); Cyrine Farhat (Positive on Glucose)
- **Group 4 – Financing & Policy**
Facilitators: Eiman Hag (IADA); James Elliott (Voices in Action)

Day 2 – Friday, October 17 | 9:00

RESEARCH BREAKOUT: SHAPING THE RESEARCH AGENDA FOR DIABETES IN HUMANITARIAN SETTINGS

- **Group 1 - Data & Research Innovation**
Facilitators: Paul Spiegel (Johns Hopkins Center for Humanitarian Health, IADA), Pablo Perel (LSHTM)
- **Group 2 - Health Systems**
Facilitators: Bayard Roberts (LSHTM, IADA), Philippa Boulle (MSF, IADA)
- **Group 3 - Care Delivery Models**
Facilitators: Beatrice Vetter (IADA), Jing Luo (University of Pittsburgh, IADA)
- **Group 4 - Active Communities**
Facilitators: Helena Legido-Quigley (Imperial College London), Kiran Jobanputra (IADA)
- **Group 5 - Empowered People**
Facilitators: Rachel Nugent (University of Washington, IADA), Emma Klatman (LFAC, IADA)

Day 2 – Friday, October 17 | 13:30

STRATEGIC BREAKOUT: LOOKING BACK— ACHIEVEMENTS AND UNMET NEEDS

- **Group 1 – Service Delivery**
Facilitators: Philippa Boulle (MSF, IADA); Sylvia Kehlenbrink (IADA, Mass General Brigham)
- **Group 2 – Medicine & Diagnostics**
Facilitators: Beatrice Vetter (IADA); Jing Luo (University of Pittsburgh, IADA)
- **Group 3 – Data & Research**
Facilitators: Éimhín Ansbro (LSHTM, IADA), Kiran Jobanputra (IADA)
- **Group 4 – Financing & Policy**
Facilitators: Eiman Hag (IADA); Jay Bagaria (IADA)

ABSTRACT LIST

(To see all submitted abstracts, [click here](#))

1. Insulin Supply in Gaza: Lessons from Three Critical Cold-Chain Incidents Across the Humanitarian Supply Chain

*WINNER (Oral Presentation) - Albeik S, Mummar W, Elkhatib Z, Seita A.

2. Experiences of Adolescents with Type 1 Diabetes in Palestine: Exploring Challenges to Diabetes Care

*RUNNER-UP - Sadder F, Nemer M.

3. A Study of Pharmaceutical Supply Dynamics for People with Type 1 Diabetes in Ukraine During Martial Law

Vlasenko I.

4. Access restricted, rationing prevalent: Conclusions from T1International's Out-of-Pocket Expense Survey of people living with type 1 diabetes globally 2024

Toavs C, Kasper S, Mitchell C, Tahir M, Kamau Y, Pereira e Silva Gaspar SH, Gomez P, Braune K, Pfiester E.

5. Cardiometabolic Disease Care and Prevention Innovations in Humanitarian Settings

Patel S.

6. Evaluating Integrated NCD-MH Primary Care Services for Type II Diabetes: A Retrospective Quantitative Study in Conflict-Affected Settings in Iraq and Nigeria

Fuhs A, Melaku Y, Melis S.

7. Evaluation of the National Diabetes Prevention Program in Palestine: Implementation, achievements, outcomes and lessons Learned

Allabadi H, Aghabekian V, Eita RA, Shahin Y, Shakhra K, El Din LN, Khammash U.

8. Health system barriers and facilitators to support integrated diabetes care in North and South Kivu provinces, Democratic Republic of Congo: A Rapid Appraisal Study

Nyalundja AD, Muhanzi GA, Lukula MA, Bahizire E, Munane SB, Bapolisi A, Cikomola FG, Shindano TA, Lubambo G, Perel P, Roberts B, Cikomola JC.

9. Insulin Regimen Patterns in UNRWA Fields: Gaps and Opportunities in Type 1 Diabetes Care

Elkhatib Z, Ballout G, Alfudoli H, Seita A.

10. Interinstitutional training on diabetes and diabetic foot management in LMIC and humanitarian settings

Perone SA, Castellsague-Perolini M, Bourgeois A, Chappuis F, Savoy C, Jornayvaz F, Gariani K, Pataky Z, Vuagnat H, Benyaich A, Perrier A, Ha Van G, Kleinebreil L, Nair HKR, Abbas ZG, Cruzado Castro L.

11. No diabetic patients left behind: UNRWA's emergency response to ensure diabetic care in north of West Bank of Palestine amid the escalations

Ramadan M, El-Khatib Z, al-Baik S, Akihiro S.

12. Outcomes and Lessons from the Integrated NCD–Humanitarian Response in Jordan (2020–2025)

Ireifij A, Saket S, Nsour A, Royal Health Awareness Society.

13. Living with Diabetes in a Conflict Zone: Mothers' Voices from Gaza

Abdo S, Jaffal R, ELour I, Najjar S, Musadder H, Albeik S, Seita A.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Shatha Albeik holds a Doctor of Pharmacy and a Master of Public Health from the University of Jordan and has been a dedicated member of the UNRWA Health Program since 2017. She plays a central role in humanitarian crises by coordinating emergency health responses, particularly the procurement and distribution of critical supplies. Shatha also leads research collaborations with academic partners to strengthen evidence-based practices and develop innovative strategies for refugee health. In addition, she mentors young professionals through UNRWA's internship program, inspiring the next generation to address pressing health challenges in refugee communities with responsibility and compassion.



Dr. Éimhín Ansbro, MBBCh BAO, PhD, is a practicing primary care physician and public health researcher based at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM). Clinically trained in Ireland, she spent several years developing non-communicable disease (NCD) services with Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) before joining LSHTM in 2016. She holds an MSc in Tropical Medicine and International Health (TMIH), a PhD in the epidemiology of NCDs and the DTM&H. She focuses on implementation research on NCD care delivery in humanitarian settings. She currently serves as the Co-Team Lead for the Data & Research working stream in IADA.



Dr. Jay Bagaria, MD, DTMH, MPH, is a global health professional with nearly 20 years of experience in public health, specializing in reducing health inequalities, addressing the social determinants of health, health system strengthening, and tackling NCDs, including in complex and fragile settings. She has extensive experience working with the UK Government (Department for International Development and Department of Health), the NHS, WHO, and civil society organizations, including the oversight and governance of large-scale health programs. She currently serves as the Co-Team Lead for the Financing & Policy working stream in IADA.



Dr. Philippa Boule, MBBS, MPH, DTMH, is the NCD Advisor and leader of the Chronic Conditions Team at MSF Switzerland. She has led MSF's international working group on NCDs and previously oversaw humanitarian interventions for the organization in Africa, the Middle East, and Central America. She publishes and lectures widely on NCDs in humanitarian settings. She serves as the Co-Team Lead for the Service Delivery working stream in IADA.



Dr. Doris Chou, MD, is a Medical Officer on the Maternal Perinatal Health Team of the Department of Sexual and Reproductive Health of the World Health Organization. In this capacity, she is responsible for the overall coordination of maternal and perinatal health norms and standards development; she serves as the normative lead on maternal health and non-communicable diseases and also leads on pre-eclampsia research and development. Previously, with WHO, she coordinated the maternal mortality estimation exercise to develop national, regional, and global estimates of maternal mortality for SDG monitoring; and causes of maternal mortality.



Dr. Alarcos Cieza is Head of the Unit on Management of Noncommunicable Diseases at the World Health Organization, where she provides strategic leadership for WHO's work on NCD management and integrated service delivery. Previously, she led WHO's global efforts on vision, hearing, disability, and rehabilitation, advancing these areas as public health priorities. Before joining WHO, Dr Cieza was Chair and Professor of Medical Psychology at the University of Southampton and led a research unit for over a decade at Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich. Originally from Spain, she holds degrees in Psychology, Human Biology, and Public Health.



Alison Cox is the Policy and Advocacy Director at the Noncommunicable Disease Alliance, where she leads strategy development to advance global efforts in NCD prevention, care, and financing. Previously, she directed advocacy at the Framework Convention Alliance (now Global Alliance for Tobacco Control) and the Global Climate and Health Alliance, driving initiatives for global public health. At Cancer Research UK, Alison spent eight years as Prevention Director, successfully campaigning for plain tobacco packaging and restrictions on junk food advertising to children. She also founded their Cancer Policy Research Centre, enhancing policy and research impact in cancer prevention and control.



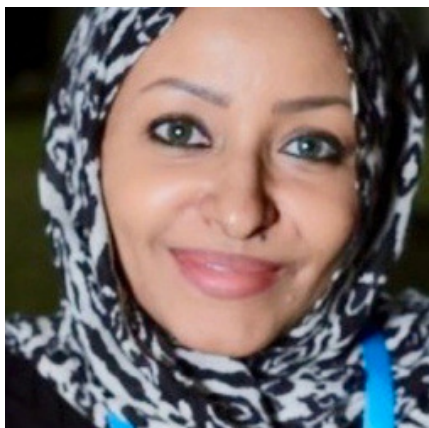
Dr. Hicham El Berri is a public health physician and global health specialist with over 26 years of experience in noncommunicable disease and health systems strengthening. He currently serves as Senior Strategy and Policy Advisor and Officer-in-Charge at the WHO Country Office in Libya. Dr. El Berri has worked extensively with governments and partners across the Eastern Mediterranean to strengthen NCD care, especially in primary health care and humanitarian settings. His expertise has been instrumental in developing policies and operational guidance for NCDs in humanitarian settings, advising countries across the Eastern Mediterranean on how to ensure continuity of care during crises.



James Elliott is the founder of Voices in Action: People Living with Diabetes in Global Health. He is a researcher, activist, and champion of the importance of patient advocacy. He lives with type 1 diabetes, as well as other disabilities. He is on the board of the Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases. He has worked as a consultant with the WHO, Médecins Sans Frontières and other groups. He has a BSc in Biomedical Science from the University of Guelph in Canada and a Master of Medical Sciences in Global Health from the Karolinska Institute of Sweden.



Cyrine Farhat is a global diabetes advocate and person living with type 1 diabetes from Lebanon. She is the founder of Positive on Glucose and Publications Lead for the Parliamentary Diabetes Global Network. A PhD candidate at CEDS Paris, her research focuses on ethical access to insulin and community-led NCD advocacy.



Eiman Hag, BDS, MPH, MD, is a public health professional with over a decade of experience in health systems strengthening, NCDs, and healthcare management in low- and middle-income countries. She has worked with the Public Health Institute in Sudan, the WHO Country Office in Sudan, and the WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean. She has led efforts to integrate NCD care into emergency response plans across 22 countries, including the development of the Regional Framework for Action on NCDs in Emergencies. She has supported critical NCD interventions in crises, including establishing a Regional Expert Network for chronic kidney disease and advocacy for renal dialysis as a life-saving intervention in emergencies. She currently serves as Co-Team Lead for the Financing & Policy working stream in IADA.



Omar Abubakar Haji serves as the Deputy Health and Nutrition Coordinator for the International Rescue Committee (IRC) in Somalia. With over 13 years of progressive experience, he has led the design, implementation, and management of health and nutrition programs, specializing in health systems strengthening, capacity development, and multi-sectoral coordination. Currently, Omar leads the IRC's NCD initiatives, focusing on improving care for people living with diabetes and hypertension in humanitarian and fragile settings. He holds an MBBS and an MPH in Epidemiology and Disease Control.



Maysaa Hellani is a clinical dietitian and nutritionist specialist, working with MSF as Dietitian since 2021. She focuses on raising awareness about healthy eating for individuals and families living with diabetes through developing personalized plans. Aiming to make daily nutrition more practical and sustainable, she shares evidence-based guidance in an engaging and accessible way, helping communities better understand the role of nutrition in managing diabetes. She is passionate about public health and education, consulting many people around the world with different clinical cases. Having lived closely with the challenges faced by people with diabetes especially children and adolescents. She has inspired and supported many to succeed and as a mother of twins aged 8 months, she believes that every difficulty can be turned into strength.



Dr. Reham Jaffal has been working with UNRWA since 2010, bringing over 15 years of experience in public health, with a strong focus on primary health care services. Throughout her career, she has led initiatives centered on maternal and child health, nutrition, and service delivery across Palestinian refugee communities. Currently serving as the Chief of Health Protection & Promotion at UNRWA Headquarters, Dr. Jaffal oversees the implementation of health protection and promotion programs. In addition to being a medical doctor by profession, Dr. Jaffal is recognized for her strategic leadership, community engagement, and commitment to strengthening health systems through collaboration, innovation, and stakeholder coordination.



Oria James is a consultant with the WHO Global Diabetes Compact, where she drives advocacy and communications efforts to advance global diabetes care. Diagnosed with type 1 diabetes in childhood, she has long been passionate about health equity and chronic disease advocacy. Her communications and research background includes roles with the United Nations University International Institute for Global Health, the UK Health Security Agency and the Canadian healthcare system. Oria holds an MSc in Public Health from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, where her research examined the lived experience of managing type 1 diabetes in humanitarian settings.



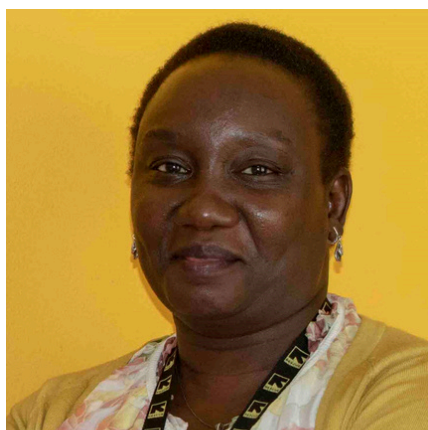
Dr. Kiran Jobanputra, MBChB, MRCP, MPH, is a medical doctor and public health practitioner, and is the Chief Strategy Officer at IADA. He has worked for 14 years in humanitarian field programs including as NCD Advisor and Deputy Medical Director for MSF. He currently works as a family physician and as a consultant with WHO on strengthening NCD integration in humanitarian responses. He is a member of MSF's Reflection and Analysis Network, focusing on health equity and the health needs of internally displaced people.



Dr. Lamis Jomaa is a Teaching Assistant Professor in the Department of Nutrition at the Gillings School of Global Public Health and a research fellow at the Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention at UNC-Chapel Hill. She also serves as an adjunct professor at the American University of Beirut. With more than 15 years of experience in higher education in the U.S. and the Middle East, her research, teaching, and service focus on food and nutrition security, refugee health, and sustainable diets. She uses mixed-method approaches to examine the burden and determinants of food insecurity among women, children, refugees, and underrepresented groups, while designing evidence-based interventions to reduce health disparities. She is an active member of several professional and scientific organizations.



Dr. Sylvia Kehlenbrink, MD, serves as the Executive Director of IADA and Co-Team Lead of the Service Delivery working stream. She is an endocrinologist and Director of Global Endocrinology at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Assistant Professor at Harvard Medical School, and leads the NCDs in Conflict Program at the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative. Her work focuses on improving diabetes care and insulin access in humanitarian and low-resource settings. She led the first inter-agency study on diabetes in humanitarian contexts and collaborates with WHO on type 1 diabetes guidelines. In 2019, she organized the first Symposium on Diabetes in Humanitarian Crises at Harvard, which led to the Boston Declaration and formation of IADA.



Dr. Lilian Kiapi, MBChB, MPH, serves as the Chair of the IADA Board. She is a global public health leader with over 25 years of experience establishing programs and projects, providing short- and long-term technical assistance, and leading strategy development, implementation, and evaluation of public health projects in both emergency and development settings. Her work has supported refugee, internally displaced, and underserved communities across 26 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East and North Africa, Asia, and Latin America. She also brings extensive experience in fundraising and capacity building for health workers.



Emma Klatman, MSc, is the Global Advocacy and Policy Manager for Life for a Child, a program of Diabetes Australia that supports young people living with diabetes in less-resourced settings worldwide. She has lived with type 1 diabetes for most of her life and has been a visible advocate since childhood. Emma holds a Master's degree in International Public Policy and is a recognized leader in global diabetes advocacy, with expertise in health system strengthening, access to care, and rights-based approaches. She serves as the Advocacy & Engagement Officer at IADA, where she leads efforts to embed lived experience across humanitarian diabetes initiatives and shape strategic approaches that reflect the realities and voices of people living with diabetes.



Dr. Estrella Lasry, MD, MSc is a family practitioner and emergency doctor with a master's degree in Tropical Medicine and International Health from LSHTM. She has worked at MSF in different capacities in the field and HQ including serving as Tropical Medicine Advisor supporting Malaria, Neglected Tropical Diseases, and Haemorrhagic Fevers. She has experience tackling malaria prevention and care among the hardest to reach populations and complex situations. She has been Senior Malaria Advisor at The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, supporting multiple country portfolios and transversal topics, including Complex Operating Environments, and has recently transitioned to a Senior Integration Specialist position within the Resilient and Sustainable Systems for Health team at the Global Fund.



Dr. Jing Luo, MD, MPH, is an Associate Professor in the Division of General Internal Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh. Prior to joining Pitt, he was a faculty member at Harvard Medical School. He completed his residency in primary care internal medicine at Yale-New Haven Hospital and earned his MPH from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. He currently serves as the Principal Investigator for the HumAn-1 Study and is the co-Team Lead for the Medicines & Diagnostics working stream at IADA.



Helena Legido-Quigley is Professor and Chair in Health Systems Science at The George Institute UK and the School of Public Health. She also holds an Associate Professorship in Health Systems at the Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health, National University of Singapore, and is Associate Professor in Global Health at LSHTM. Her research focuses on global health systems, policy reform, and antimicrobial resistance (AMR), notably the governance, implementation, and equity dimensions of AMR in Asia. She is editor-in-chief of Elsevier's Journal of Migration and Health, an Associate Fellow of Chatham House, and serves on the Council of the World Economic Forum. Committed to mentorship and capacity building, she also plays an active role in Women in Global Health in Spain, advocating for equitable leadership and strengthening the next generation of global health researchers.



Dr. Allen G.K. Maina is a medical doctor and has a Masters degree in Public Health. He has close to two decades work experience, including as a government clinician in a refugee camp in northern Kenya in the early years and subsequently joining international organizations working in various portfolios. He has coordinated public health responses in various complex humanitarian emergencies primarily in Africa, Europe, Asia and the Middle East and has contributed to different publications, some of which have informed key policy and operational reforms in public health. He is currently overseeing UNHCR's global public health programs as the Chief of Public Health Section.



Bente Mikkelsen, MD, is Director of Global Engagement Strategies in the Department of Global Pediatric Medicine at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. A physician specialized in Obstetrics and Gynecology, she earned her medical degree from the University of Oslo and a Master's in Health Management and Health Economics. Dr. Mikkelsen has been a leading voice in global health, notably serving as Director of the NCD Department at the WHO and previously at WHO Europe. She has also led Norway's South Eastern Regional Health Authority as CEO. Her work centers on strategic planning, health systems management, and large-scale public health reform. She currently serves on the Board of the World Diabetes Foundation, as Senior Advisor at Oslo Science City, and as Chair of the Advocacy Steering Committee of the World Heart Federation.



Rachel Nugent, PhD, is an affiliate associate professor in the Department of Global Health at the University of Washington and served as Director of the Center for Global NCDs at RTI International until 2023. She has over 30 years of experience in global development as a researcher, practitioner, and policy advisor to governments. She served on the U.S. Institute of Medicine Committee on Economic Evaluation, the International Expert Group for the Global Nutrition Report, and The Lancet Commissions on Global Health 2050 and Women, Power, and Cancer. She led the Lancet Task Force on NCDs and Economics in 2018 and received the Global Health Luminary Award from the Washington Global Health Alliance in 2021. She currently serves on the IADA Board of Directors.



Pablo Perel is Professor of Clinical Epidemiology at LSHTM and Senior Science Advisor to the World Heart Federation. He currently co-leads the NIHR-funded IHCoR-Africa Group and CARiSA project to improve the management of cardiovascular diseases in Kenya and The Gambia, and leads a collaboration with the Danish Red Cross to improve the care of people with cardiometabolic conditions in humanitarian settings. He also collaborates on projects addressing cardiometabolic diseases in West Africa and Peru. He has led several large international research initiatives, including the MRC-funded PIC4C Scale-Up Study in Kenya, and serves in leadership and advisory roles with the WHO, Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases, Medicines Patent Pool, and as Executive Editor of Global Heart Journal.



Herb Riband is the Executive Director of Access Accelerated, a unique collective of pharmaceutical companies working to help countries improve prevention and quality care for NCDs through a technical partnership with the World Bank. In 2024, in collaboration with Results for Development (R4D) and other global and country stakeholders, the partners launched the Financing Accelerator Network for NCDs (FAN) to help LMICs improve health financing for NCDs. With 38 years of international experience, Herb has held senior leadership roles at Amgen and Medtronic, where he led initiatives in innovative healthcare delivery, market access, policy, government affairs, and strategic partnerships. His current work focuses on supporting LMICs in designing and implementing sustainable, locally led financing solutions to improve peoples' access to quality products and services for NCDs.



Bayard Roberts, PhD, is a Professor of Health Systems and Policy at LSHTM. His work focuses on mental health and NCDs in settings affected by war and forced displacement. He co-organizes the 'Management and Evaluation of Public Health Projects in Humanitarian Crises' module for LSHTM's Distance Learning MSc in Public Health in Humanitarian Crises and teaches on the Conflict and Health module and the Diploma in Tropical Nursing. He served as Guest Editor for the Journal of Migration and Health's series on internal displacement and health (2021-2022), and for The Lancet's series on public health in humanitarian crises (2017). He also serves on the IADA Board of Directors.



Dr. Mohammed Seyam, MD, MSc, is a medical doctor and global health professional working in policy, advocacy, and health systems strengthening for NCDs in humanitarian and development settings. He is currently pursuing a PhD in Digital Diabetes Care Policy, combining clinical training, policy expertise, research capability, and lived experience with type 1 diabetes to bridge the gap between global policy discussions and practical implementation. Mohammed has collaborated with WHO, MSF, and civil society networks across the Eastern Mediterranean and beyond to improve access to care in emergencies, including co-leading the development of an implementation guide for the Regional Framework for Action on NCDs in emergencies. He currently serves as Project Officer at IADA.



Dr. Paul B. Spiegel, MD, MPH, is a physician and epidemiologist with over 30 years of experience in humanitarian health. He serves as Director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Humanitarian Health and Distinguished Professor at the Bloomberg School of Public Health. He previously held leadership roles at UNHCR, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Médecins Sans Frontières, and Médecins du Monde. His work spans global health, migration, and human rights, and he has authored more than 200 publications. He currently chairs the CHH-Lancet Commission on Health, Conflict and Forced Displacement, co-chairs Lancet Migration, serves as Associate Editor for the journal Conflict and Health, sits on the editorial board of the Journal on Migration and Human Security, and is Co-Technical Director of EQUAL. He also serves on the IADA Board of Directors.



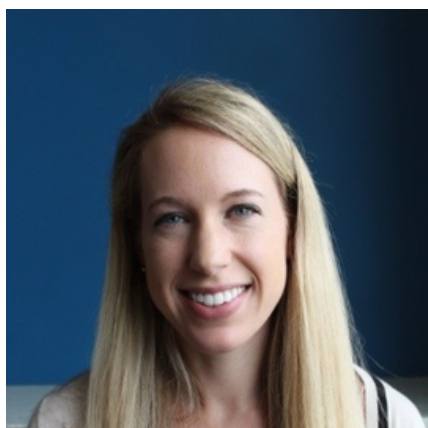
Nelly Staderini is a French Midwife with a Public Health diploma. She has extensive field experience with different organizations in various humanitarian contexts. For more than 10 years, she has been the Sexual, Reproductive Health and Sexual Violence Advisor and since 2019, took on the role of Medical leader of the Women and Children's Health Unit, in the Medical Department of MSF-Switzerland Headquarters. She is the author of various publications. She is also in the advisory board of different initiatives, and in the Geneva Center for Humanitarian Studies for the training on addressing Sexual Violence in conflict and humanitarian settings.



Mahmoud Tharwat is a medical doctor specialized in psychiatry and a global public health professional, currently serving as the Global NCD Officer at the IFRC Headquarters in Geneva. With more than a decade of experience in humanitarian and public health work, he brings both clinical insight and field experience to his role. He has worked across mental health, NCDs, and community health, contributing to humanitarian and public health efforts across the MENA and Africa regions.



Beatrice Vetter, PhD, is the Co-Team Lead for the Medicines & Diagnostics working stream at IADA. She currently acts as Global Health Advisor to NGOs, Think Tanks and entrepreneurs, supporting them with ecosystem intelligence, strategic direction and market access intelligence. Prior to this, Beatrice served as Director of the NCD programme at FIND, an international NGO working to improve access to medical diagnostics in low- and middle-income countries.



Shelley Walton, MPH, RDN, is a Senior Research Associate at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (JHBSPH), in the Department of International Health. She brings over 15 years of research and technical experience in humanitarian and development contexts across Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. Her work focuses on generating and applying evidence to improve nutrition and health outcomes for vulnerable populations. Her research portfolio includes maternal and child nutrition, wasting and stunting, nutrition and non-communicable diseases, food security, and the effectiveness of food assistance programs. She uses mixed methods approaches, with a focus on implementation science, evaluation, and measurement to address complex nutrition and health challenges.



Caroline Wilkinson is a Public Health and Emergency Nutritionist with over 30 years of experience of working in and supporting Humanitarian Nutrition Programmes across Africa, Asia and Europe. She has worked with Action Contre la Faim (ACF), The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Her experience spans the fields of both prevention and treatment of all forms of malnutrition. Caroline has been part of the Humanitarian Interagency Non-Communicable Disease working group, where the focus was often on Diabetes for the last 7 years.



Dr. Teresa Zakaria is an Indonesian medical doctor and public health expert with over 20 years of experience in humanitarian and public health emergencies globally. She currently serves as Unit Head for Department of Health Emergency Interventions, WHO Health Emergencies Programme. Previously, she served as Incident Manager for WHO's Incident Management Support Team (IMST), overseeing the response to the humanitarian crisis in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory. She has also held roles as Technical Officer and Officer in Charge of the Humanitarian Interventions Unit within WHO's Health Emergencies Programme, and as Deputy Incident Manager for Ukraine (2022–2023). Earlier in her career, Dr. Zakaria worked with the International Organization for Migration (IOM). She holds degrees from the University of Indonesia and the University of Sydney.



Chloe Zera, MD, MPH, is the Chief of the Division of Maternal-Fetal Medicine (MFM) at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. She is also Associate Professor of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductive Biology at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Zera is board certified in OB/GYN, MFM, and obesity medicine, and is a recognized expert in the care for people with diabetes in pregnancy. She is an advocate for comprehensive and equitable reproductive health care delivery and policy through research, clinical practice, and quality improvement initiatives as well as her leadership roles in the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and the Society for Maternal Fetal Medicine.

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