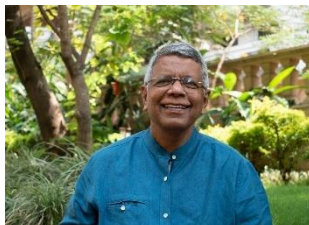


SPEAKERS



Dr. Venkatraman Chandra-Mouli, Independent expert

I retired from WHO in August 2023 after 30 years in the organization. For 18 years I led the work on adolescent health in the Department of Child and Adolescent Health (2005-2011) and then the work on adolescent sexual and reproductive health in the Department of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Research (2012-2023). During this time, I contributed to building the epidemiological and evidence base for adolescent health and supporting countries in translating this data and evidence into action through well-designed and well-managed policies and programmes.

Over the last two years, I have received three awards, which honour my contribution to the field of adolescent health – the USA's Society for Adolescent Medicine and Health's *Lifetime Achievement Award*, the Rotary International Award for *outstanding leadership, scholarship and service in adolescent sexual and reproductive health*, and the World Association of Sexual Health *Gold Medal for a lifetime of work on sexual health and rights*. Currently, I continue to work on adolescent sexual and reproductive health, with a number of organizations but not for any one of them.



Violet Chifunda, Young Women With A Vision (YWWAV)

Violet Chifunda is a journalist by profession, dedicated to amplifying voices and advocating for issues related to sexual reproductive health and rights. As a Program Coordinator for the youth-led organization, Young Women with a Vision (YWWAV), Violet channels her passion for community-driven change into innovative initiatives aimed at empowering young people.

With a fervent commitment to youth development, Violet leverages her expertise in journalism to raise awareness and foster dialogue around critical issues affecting youth, particularly in the realms of sexual health and reproductive rights. Her role within YWWAV allows her to spearhead impactful projects that address the diverse needs of young people and drive positive change within her community.

Violet's multifaceted approach, combining her roles as a journalist, advocate, and program coordinator, reflects her unwavering dedication to creating a more inclusive and empowered future for young people. Through her dynamic leadership and collaborative efforts, she continues to inspire meaningful progress and champion the rights and well-being of youth nationwide.



Dr Nutsa Chikvaidze-Aladashvili, Enfants du Monde, Maternal, neonatal, child and adolescent health projects and health education.

Dr Nutsa Chikvaidze-Aladashvili, Medical Doctor, PhD in Medicine. Winner of Under 34 Competition on 17th World Congress of the International Society of Gynecological-Endocrinology. Member of National Association of Nutritionists of Georgia. Author of several peer-reviewed research publications in scientific medical journals. Over seven years of research and development in human reproduction. Currently working at Enfants du Monde on maternal, neonatal, child and adolescent health projects and health education.



Karolin Pfeiffer, SolidarMed

Medical Doctor and Public Health specialist with clinical, programmatic, strategic and management experience in West, East and South Africa and Haiti. MPH at Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine. Joined SolidarMed in 2010, currently Program Manager for Tanzania and Focal Point Integrity



Dr. Walter C. Millanzi, Lecturer & Head, Department of Nursing Management and Education, The University of Dodoma

I am Dr. Walter C. Millanzi, serving as a Lecturer (PhD) and Head, Department of Nursing Management and Education at The University of Dodoma (UDOM). My specialization is on Sexual and Reproductive Health among adolescents, Curriculum Development, Teaching & Pedagogical approaches and Methodology, Developmental/ implementation and Evaluation research/projects.

2024 – Present Co-investigator, THP-2 Project (Minnesota & MUHAS) that focuses on training health students about how to handle SRH matters to patients and clients

2023 – Present Private Consultant of Adolescents' Health in Adolescents' Hands (AHA) Project by Enfants Dumonde in collaboration with SOLIDARMED, Tanzania

2023 – Present Private Consultant of a school-based sexual and reproductive health project, Tanzania

2022 – Present Co-facilitator, Doctoral Education for Health in Tanzania

2022 – Present Co-Facilitator of Research Ethics, Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) in collaboration with Doctoral Education for Health Research in Tanzania (DOCETHA)

July 16-30, 2021 Trainer of Education for Effective Nutrition in Action (ENACT), University of Dodoma/Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

2018 – Present Lecturer, Academic Faculty; School of Nursing and Public Health; The University of Dodoma



Michael André Hobbins, Head of Unit, Research, Quality and Development, SolidarMed

I am field epidemiologist and public health expert for >20 years with a history of working in Asia, South America, Africa and Switzerland in University, NGO and with private industry. Employed at SolidarMed Switzerland since 2011, I am strengthening the pillar of Research, Quality, and Innovation within the Organisation to improve the health of the most vulnerable more effectively and through unconventional approaches.

In my hometown, in Zug, I co-founded a Fablab (digital fabrication laboratory) to allow general access to digital tools, machines and knowledge building a hub for community innovation (www.fablab-zug.ch).



Selina Baumberger, Programme Officer at the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

Within the SDC Health Section, she is responsible for the priority area “gender equality and human rights for health” and related health priorities, especially sexual and reproductive health and rights. Before taking up her current position, she worked at the Swiss Embassy and Cooperation Office in Bolivia, where she was responsible for the SDC Cultural Fund, which mainly focussed on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. She has a background in sociolinguistics and literature (M.A. University of Bern, University of Seville, University Toulouse II Le Mirail), sustainable development (CAS University of Bern), diplomacy and human rights. Before joining SDC, she worked at the State Secretariat for Migration and in a Swiss NGO active in the field of One Health.



Laura Ruckstuhl, Health Programme Manager, Zimbabwe, SolidarMed

Laura has been leading the Zimbabwe programme at SolidarMed as the Health Programme Manager since 2020, where she oversees a variety of projects including adolescent health, non-communicable diseases, and HIV/TB research, collaborating closely with diverse partners. With a background as a field epidemiologist, Laura brings experience in operational management, team training, and operational research from her work in challenging settings, including the Central African Republic, Chad, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Holding a PhD in epidemiology from the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, Laura is driven by a commitment to leveraging her expertise in disease control and health system strengthening in resource-limited settings in Africa. Her previous engagements include roles at FIND, The MENTOR Initiative and consultancies for UNHCR. She is also a board member of the Swiss Malaria Group.



Tayson Mudarikiri, Co-Programme Coordinator – Zimbabwe, South Africa, Mozambique and Tanzania

Tayson Mudarikiri is co-Desk for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and co-Programme Coordinator for Zimbabwe, South Africa and Mozambique at terre des hommes schweiz. He is based in Zimbabwe. He has been working with terre des hommes schweiz for the past 10 years and has over 16 years' experience working with youth on various areas of youth development. He holds Masters in Public Sector Management and an MSc. Public Health from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.



Hafid Derbal, terre des hommes Schweiz

Tayson Mudarikiri and Hafid Derbal are the co-Desks for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and co-Programme Coordinators for Zimbabwe, South Africa and Mozambique at terre des hommes schweiz. Hafid Derbal is based in Basel, Switzerland. He joined the team of terre des hommes schweiz in 2015 after having coordinated the youth programs of the European Union in Switzerland. He holds a degrees in global studies with specialization in international development studies and regional studies (Latin American and African Studies).



Karin Stierlin, Founder Taboobreaker Association and Initiator Love Land

I am Karin Stierlin, the founder of the Taboobreaker Association and initiator of *Love Land – supporting young people to safely transition into adulthood*. My career began as a teacher and learning therapist, where I discovered the transformative power of playful learning and realistic environments to engage and inspire young minds. Driven by my passion for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), I earned a degree in this field. Frustrated by the lack of innovative, evidence-based teaching materials tackling sensitive SRHR topics in an age-appropriate and gamified manner, I created *Love Land - the board game*, which has been successfully tested and integrated in Swiss schools. A key experience came with a pilot project in Indonesia and South Africa, demonstrating Love Land's adaptability across diverse cultural and religious backgrounds. Motivated by this global potential, I founded the Taboobreaker Association. My goal with the Taboobreaker Association is to collaborate with experts and develop digital globally accessible SRHR programs such as mobile apps with which we can reach and empower young people on a large scale. Me in three words: passionate – creative - persistent



Vithika Yadav. Co-founder and Head of Love Matters India / Development Consortium

Vithika Yadav is the Co-founder and Head of Love Matters India / Development Consortium and is based in Gurugram, India. Love Matters is the first ever website in India to give complete, honest and unbiased information on love, sex and relationships in India in both Hindi and English. Through the project, she has articulated the value of work on sexuality and sexual health issues in order to address a specific community's need and establish a sustainable program. In 2016, Vithika was awarded as one of the '120 Under 40: The New Generation of Family Planning Leaders,' an initiative by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. In 2013, Love Matters won the Award for Excellence & Innovation in Sexuality Education from the World Association for Sexual Health. She is also the Founder of TeenBook - India's first comprehensive life skills resource hub for adolescents, teenagers, parents and educators. Both nationally and internationally, Vithika is seen as an expert on sexual health, sexual rights, gender rights and trafficked survivors' care and protection. In this context, she is focused on designing, advising and training organizations on how to create rights-based programs through which women and girls can emerge as human rights advocates themselves.



Adila Odobašić (Association Zemlja djece in Bosnia and Herzegovina)

Adila Odobašić is a volunteer and an activist who has proudly served as a long-standing certified peer-educator for the Be a Man Club. Her journey into activism began with a fervent dedication to addressing the pervasive issue of violence in our society, particularly gender-based and peer violence. Through her work with the club, she has honed her skills in education and advocacy, striving to empower individuals and communities to stand against these injustices. Currently, she's pursuing a degree in psychology at college, a path she embarked on after discovering her passion for understanding human behavior and promoting mental well-being through her volunteer activism. Interacting with a diverse range of people and hearing their stories has fueled her commitment to making a positive impact in the lives of others. While she has a wide array of interests, her central focus remains on utilizing the platform of non-governmental organizations to effect meaningful change. She firmly believes that through education, community engagement, and strategic collaboration, we can create a society where everyone feels safe, respected, and empowered.



Selma Ćatibušić (Association Zemlja djece in Bosnia and Herzegovina)

Selma Ćatibušić is employed in the Association Zemlja djece in BiH in the position of coordinator for gender-transformative work with young people. She's also a dedicated coordinator at the Be a Man Club, a vital program under the Association of Zemlja Djece in Bosnia and Herzegovina. With over a decade of experience as a stalwart activist in the non-governmental sector, she has been a driving force behind numerous initiatives aimed at empowering youth and advocating for human rights. Passionate about working with young people, she finds inspiration and motivation in their energy and potential. As a coordinator, she plays a pivotal role in nurturing the next generation of leaders by empowering them to become peer educators. Through her guidance and support, these young individuals learn to address critical issues facing their communities, including gender equality and violence prevention. In addition to her work with youth, she is deeply committed to supporting immigrants, particularly in educating them about the crucial distinctions between smuggling and human trafficking. Through workshops and educational sessions, she provides valuable insights and resources to help immigrants navigate their new surroundings safely and confidently. Currently, Selma is spearheading a groundbreaking project focused on the prevention of human trafficking. Collaborating with project partners, she is actively involved in advocating for amendments to the law on residence in Bosnia and Herzegovina, aiming to strengthen protections for vulnerable populations and combat trafficking more effectively.



Ejnxxh Pepa (Counselling Line for women and girls/ Counselling Line for Men and Boys in Albania)

Ejnxxh Pepa is the Program Coordinator of the Counselling Line for Women and Girls in Albania (National Helpline for Victims of Abuse 116117), one of the pioneer women's rights organization in the country, dealing with issues of domestic violence, gender-based and sexual violence. She has also lectured at the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Tirana. Ms. Pepa has a degree in Psychology from the University of Sussex, United Kingdom and a master degree in Health Economics, Policy and Law from Erasmus University Rotterdam in the Netherlands. She is an expert in women's rights and healthcare, and her efforts lie in developing and implementing projects aimed at addressing gender- based violence in Albania, including working with women, youth, relevant institutions, as well as designing and implementing advocacy campaigns.



Dr Leah F. Bohle, MD, MA, BA, Sexual and Reproductive Health Specialist Lead Social Scientist, Tools for Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (TIMCI)

Dr. Bohle is a Maternal and Child Health Expert with a professional background in Medicine and Social Anthropology. Employed at the Digital Health Unit at Swiss TPH her recent work focused on acceptability related to digital health solutions in low-resource settings. She is equipped with 15 years of work experience in managing and coordinating projects and conducting evaluations and implementation research globally. Leah has worked in over 25 countries; clients include UN agencies, Ministries, INGOs and academia. She is also co-founder of a maternal health start-up in Kenya, providing remote digital midwifery care to pregnant women. Leah is passionate about innovation and improving maternal health; and is currently pursuing a certificate in Human-Centered Design.

Rebeca Revenga Becedas (IAMANEH Switzerland in Switzerland)



Rebeca Revenga Becedas, MA, DAS, BA, is a gender equality, health and gender-based violence specialist at IAMANEH Switzerland and a systems health researcher at Swiss Tropical Public Health Institute. Her work lies at the intersections of gender, systems research, policy and development praxis, with a particular interest in the diverse determinants of health, and the rights and equity implications of global policy. She holds a particular interest in understanding the diverse determinants of health and exploring the rights and equity implications of global policies. Rebeca led a multicountry implementation project integrating GBV, psychosocial, and health prevention and response strategies. She also spearheaded a community of practice together with partner women led organisations focused on the integration of an intersectional systems approach in implementations. Her expertise extends to the application of gender transformative approaches, with a proven track record in engaging men, boys, and people of all diversities. Within her research portfolio, she is working on the adaptation of systems thinking tools to strengthening the referral and respond mechanisms, along with redesigning systems to ensure they Leave No One Behind.

Olga Cambaco, PhD Candidate, Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute/University of Basel



Olga Cambaco is a last year Ph.D. student in Epidemiology and Public Health at the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (Swiss TPH)/University of Basel in Switzerland. She holds a Master's degree in Public Health and undergraduate degree in Sociology. Before moving to Switzerland, Olga has worked as a research assistant in the Social Research Unit at the Manhica Health Research Centre (CISM) in Mozambique, where she has been involved in coordinating multiple qualitative studies on topics ranging from malaria, vaccines, antibiotic resistance, to environmental health in Low and Medium Human Development Index (LMHDI) countries in Africa and Asia. Olga is driven by a deep commitment to understanding and improving the lives by exploring creative tools to give voice to vulnerable and marginalized population groups in sub-Saharan Africa. Olga will present her current research, which focuses on the application of innovative qualitative participatory and visual approaches to investigate "Adolescent Health and Well-being in the Context of Natural Resource Extraction Projects in Mozambique." The highlight of the presentation will be "The Application of the Photovoice Method to Explore Sexual and Reproductive Health Among Adolescents in Rural Mining Areas in Mozambique: Critical Reflections and Lessons Learned".

Carine Weiss, Medicus Mundi Switzerland, Host



Carine Weiss has been project leader at Medicus Mundi Switzerland since 2014. She holds a master's degree in clinical psychology and a master's in international health from the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute where she worked for over seven years. She has worked in the field for three years, spending six months in Cambodia, six months in Haiti and two years in Myanmar (2010 – 2013). At Medicus Mundi Switzerland she has been responsible for the Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights topics.