

GLOBAL HEALTH EQUITY LECTURE SERIES COVID 19 PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE: PERSPECTIVES FROM AFRICA

PANELISTS



Alex Riolexus Ario MD, Epidemiologist and Public Health Specialist Uganda

Dr. Alex Riolexus Ario is a Medical Doctor, Epidemiologist and Public Health Specialist with extensive knowledge in disease prevention and control, health policy, management and planning, health systems reform and quality improvement models for health service delivery. Dr. Ario holds a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBChB), Advanced Diploma in Health Services Management (ADHSM) and Master of Public Health (MPH) from

Makerere University. He has a Master of Business Administration (MBA) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) from California University.

He has worked in various capacities in government and non-governmental organizations including as Hospital Medical Superintendent and District Health Officer as well as Health Advisor with the Health Sector Support Program, Ministry of Health. Dr. Ario also worked as Care and Treatment Manager in the Uganda Ministry of Health, STD/AIDS Control Programme; and served as a member in numerous Technical Working Groups and Steering Committees.

Dr. Ario is currently the Program Director, Uganda Public Health Fellowship Program (a.k.a Advanced FETP) and Director, Uganda National Institute of Public Health.



Patrick Mboya Nguku MD, MBChB, MSc (Applied epidemiology), PGD AFENET

Dr. Patrick Mboya Nguku is a Field Epidemiologist by training who's a Regional Coordinator for African Field Epidemiology Network (AFENET) covering the Anglophone West Africa.

He focuses on public health work force development, public health surveillance, public health emergency response, delivery of epidemiological services and solutions for prevention/control of infectious diseases, noninfectious and priority public health challenges as well as improving health

security in Africa. He also **s**upports the Nigeria CDC (NCDC) COVID-19 data/epidemiology pillar of the National EOC.



Khozya D. Zyambo, MMed, MBChB, Cert M&E, Zambia Moh

Dr. Khozya D. Zyambo *is* a National pediatric HIV mentor. He is the Co-lead HIV/TB tele-echo clinical mentor & facilitator with the Infectious Diseases Unit of the Zambia Ministry of Health. He has massive experience in disease outbreak management, coordination and response; use of primary health care approach in the delivery of health services to the marginalized & poorly serviced areas; health systems strengthening programs in primary health care particularly maternal, child & newborn health services

He currently provides technical assistance to the national COVID19 response

developing protocols and guidelines; leads and coordinates national pediatrics HIV care and treatment program; leads and coordinates tele-ECHO clinical mentorship program. He is also actively involved in HIV/TB & COVID19 research and supports training of Medical Students, MMed Students and Specialty Training Program



Herbert Brian Kazoora MD | Ag Head of Programs African Field Epidemiology Network (AFENET)

Dr. Kazoora is a Senior Epidemiologist & Ag Head of Programs at the AFENET Secretariat in Kampala, Uganda. Since 2015, he has been serving as a Technical coordinator for Field Epidemiology training programs at AFENET, spearheading the initiation & implementation of frontline and intermediate FETPs in close to 20 African countries.

These programs started with support from the US CDC under the GHSA aimed at strengthening public health surveillance and response capacities in the Ebola

affected countries in West Africa and at risk neighboring countries. To date these programs have trained close 3500 health workers at the national and subnational levels across many countries in sub Saharan Africa. As Ag Head of Programs, he has coordinated AFENET's response to infectious diseases such Ebola virus disease in Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic in AFENET member countries.

MODERATOR



Maria Thacker Goethe, Executive Director, GGHA

Maria Thacker-Goethe is the Executive Director of the Georgia Global Health Alliance. She has over 14 years of experience in non-profit management and development. In addition, Maria is CEO for the new Atlanta-based Center for Global Health Innovation formed from the merger of Georgia's major global health and life science organizations. CGHI was established as an impartial, leading organizer of the global health, life sciences and health technology community which embraces cross-sector collaboration.

Maria has a diverse background including environmental health, women's health and health communications and marketing. She continues to serve as President and CEO for Georgia Bio, the state's life sciences trade association.

Maria received her Master in Public Health in health education/communication, and maternal and child health from Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, and her Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies from Sweet Briar College. Maria is a board member of the CJD Foundation, SE Life Sciences Association, and KSU Research Foundation, and is vice chair for the Council of State Bioscience Associations. She has volunteered for 10 years with the Junior League of Atlanta.