CIH LMU Symposium on
Availability of and Access to Quality Data in Health
Friday, 18th March 2022, 09:00 -16:00 (CET), Online Event

Speaker Bios

Dr. Chacha Mangu, Tanzania

Dr. Chacha David Mangu is a Senior Researcher, Epidemiologist and Head of Unit of the Epidemiology and Operational Research, NIMR - Mbeya Medical Research Center, Mbeya, Tanzania. He holds a Master's of Science in Epidemiology from London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and Doctor of Medicine from Hubert Kairuki Memorial University. Dr. Mangu has more than 12 years of research experience, including 8 years of research leadership in epidemiological, operational and clinical research in infectious diseases, especially TB and emerging diseases. Some of the projects he has been involved in as a researcher included analyzing Tanzania's national 10 years mortality data and supporting hospitals in analyzing routine data for healthcare planning in the Southern Highlands. As an appointed member of several technical committees, he actively participates in the implementation and communication of research findings to policy as a fundamental element of scientific research for policy change, decision making, and healthcare planning in Tanzania.

Dr. Andrews Akwasi Agbekle, US

Dr. Agbleke graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biochemistry from the University of Ghana, Legon, in 2006. From 2006-2007, he was appointed as a Teaching Assistant in the Department of Pharmacology at the University of Ghana Medical School. In Fall 2008, he began his studies at the University of Alabama in Birmingham, USA, where he earned his Doctorate degree in Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics. Immediately after graduation, Kwasi joined the Kleckner Laboratory at Harvard University to study homologous chromosome interaction by tracking cells over many generations at short time intervals using live cell imaging. He now works as an imaging specialist at the Harvard Center for Biological Imaging. Dr. Agbleke is the co-founder and current president of the Sena Institute of Technology. He is passionate about building an institute of higher learning dedicated to research in Ghana and across the African continent.

Dr Samson Kiware, Tanzania

Samson Kiware holds a Ph.D. in Computational Sciences (2014) and M.Sc. in Computer Science (2009) from Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI and a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science and Mathematics (2007) from Carthage College, Kenosha, WI. He is a Principal Research Scientist at the Ifakara Health Institute (IHI), Tanzania, where he heads the department of Advanced Statistics & Mathematical Modelling. Dr. Kiware holds courtesy appointments as Research Assistant Professor at Marquette University and as Adjunct Professor at the Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology. His expertise includes infectious diseases modeling and machine learning algorithms with applications to infectious diseases, particularly malaria. He is active in disease modeling and currently serves as Advisory Board Chairman for the Malaria Modeling Consortium, a global collaboration funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. He also oversees extensive field research at IHI in malaria surveillance, vector control, and other public health areas. He has led several projects funded by international organizations such as USAID, Gates Foundation, and Wellcome Trust. Dr. Kiware supports the Pan African Mosquito Control Association's (PAMCA) knowledge management portfolio, data management and analysis for various National Malaria Control/Elimination Programs across sub-Saharan Africa. He developed and manages the Mosquito Database Management System that can be used to manage diverse mosquito data. During the COVID-19 pandemic, he was appointed as a member of the Tanzania's COVID-19 Surveillance Sub-Committee and provided COVID-19 forecasting and analysis for Tanzania. He has mentored M.Sc. and Ph.D. students and established a program funded by the Gates Foundation to strengthen data science capacity in Tanzania and other sub-Saharan African countries.

Mr. Shiv Lal Sharma, Nepal

Mr. Shiv Lal Sharma is a Senior Statistical Officer in the Integrated Health Management Information System (IHMIS) Section of the Department of Health Services of Nepal's Ministry of Health and Population (MOHP). He holds a Master's Degree in Mathematics. Mr. Sharma has more than 20 years of experience working with the Nepal Central Bureau of Statistics and the MOHP, and also serves as a resource person for statistics courses at various universities in Nepal. Mr. Sharma has an excellent academic profile and has been awarded special prizes and medals. He is keen to apply his mathematical and statistical skills in health research activities and information management.
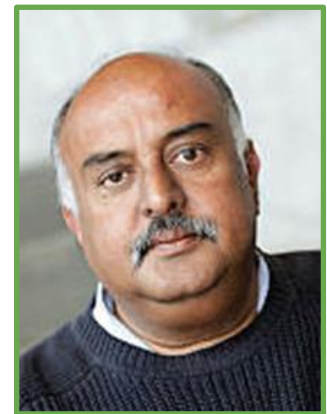
PD Dr. Daniela Koller

Dr. Daniela Koller is a research scientist at the Institute for Medical Data Processing, Biometry and Epidemiology at LMU Munich. Before joining LMU, she worked at the University of Bremen and at the Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice (as a Bosch/Harkness Fellow). She has a background in geography and a Ph.D. in public health. Her current research focus is healthcare research with a strong focus on regional differences in health care. From a methodological perspective, her strength lies in secondary data analysis. As the current coordinator of the Munich Network for Health Care Research, her focus is on building and maintaining the multidisciplinary network and ensuring quality in data generation and analysis.

Prof. Sundeep Sahay

Prof. Sundeep Sahay is a Professor of Digitalization at the Department of Informatics, University of Oslo. His research focuses on the design, development, integration, use, and sustainability of health information infrastructures in low- and middle-income countries, with a primary focus on the Indian public health system. His studies are mostly based on action research conducted in collaboration with public health managers, policy makers, health program managers, and field-level health functionaries. He has extensive expertise in leading research projects involving university and public health sector partners, and in managing an NGO. His main areas of interest are: Integrated health information architectures from a social systems perspective; Standardization processes of technology and work practices in public health; Integration strategies for portfolios of health information systems and the underlying platforms such as web-based, offline, paper-, and mobile-based; institutionalization of health information systems and related processes; Enabling networking processes within south-south-north universities, researchers, and practitioners; and capacity Building in free and open-source public health software applications in developing countries.

Dr. Deogratias Mzurikwao

Deogratias earned his Ph.D. in Artificial Intelligence Applications from the University of Kent. Prior to his Ph.D. studies, he earned his master's degree in AI at Tianjin University in China. Deogratias has been researching and practicing machine learning, deep learning, image and voice signal processing, which are the core elements of Artificial Intelligence, since 2012. During his time in China, he also worked for GTA, a big data analytics company based in Shenzhen, China. The company recruited him while he was still pursuing his master's degree. While in China, Deogratias and his friend formed a team that became second runners in the *international innovation competition for automation and UAV* in 2014. In 2019, he was among 15 AI researchers to receive the *IEEE Outstanding Young Investigator Research Visit award* of the Sapienza University, Italy. His research interests are in the application of deep learning, machine learning, data analysis, including explainable AI systems, virtual and augmented reality. He has published several papers in peer-reviewed journals, including *Nature* and *IEEE*. Some of his published work has been featured in global media houses such as *Forbes* and *BBC*. Deogratias has done AI-based consultation work for UNDP and UNICEF. Recently, Deogratias received a grant from Google to implement some of his AI projects.