Evidence-informed country-level policymaking - Profiles of participants
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In alphabetical order by last name.

HIFA profile: Olayinka Akanke Abosede is consultant in Community Health (Primary Health Care) at the Lagos University Teaching Hospital, an Associate Professor at the College of Medicine, University of Lagos, Nigeria and was Chairman of the Lagos State Primary Health Care Board. She is a Fellow of the Nigerian College of Physicians and the West African College of Physicians. She is also a Hubert Humphrey Fellow Alumnus (International Health at the Johns Hopkins University) and has been Resident Advisor to US based International Partners, Project Hope and Wellstart International. She is interested in sustainable community-based health interventions, poverty amelioration and early life education for under-fives. She is a HIFA Country Representative.  yinkabosede02 AT yahoo.com

HIFA profile: Tara Ballav Adhikari is MSc. Public Health Candidate at the University of Southern Denmark. He was awarded the HIFA Country Representative of the Year award for 2012 and is a young public health professional from Nepal. He is currently working as Editor-in-Chief at Journal Health For All. Professional interest, passion and perception of Adhikari is peoples health needs and problems. He advocates for health rights of people for ending unjust and inequality for which he initiated and led the People’s Health Movement Nepal Student’s Circle as Focal Point Incharge for 3 years and now he is aligned to the global movement of People’s Health Movement. He has worked in some of the organizations like International Medical Corps, Association of Youth Organisation Nepal, YUWA, Global Health Alliance Nepal etc. to contribute to the national health systems and its workforce. He was one of the core actors of award winning humanitarian youth action "Act4Quake" after the mega-earthquake of Nepal. He has been a part of research based on sexual reproductive health, nutrition and adolescent health issues. Mr. Adhikari is also working as co-founder and secretary of Young Earth, an International volunteering initiative dedicated to serving remote communities of developing countries. He is the founding directorial board member of Visible Impact, and also served as vice-president of the Nepal Public Health Students Society. He wants to see people educated, empowered and healthy. For achieving these he works for them, believing in advocacy. Never be afraid to raise your voice for honesty and truth and compassion against injustice, lying and greed". Tara is currently studying for a Masters degree in Public Health at the University of Southern Denmark. He is also on the HIFA Steering Group and the Facebook Coordinator for HIFA. adhikaritaraballav AT gmail.com

HIFA profile: Javed S Ahmad is a self-employed Health Communication Consultant based in the USA, and retired from the ILO a specialised agency of the United Nations. Professional interests: Health communication, promotion, behavior change communication, programming, evaluation and research.  javedsahmad AT gmail.com

HIFA profile: Jackeline Alger works in the Parasitology Service, Department of Clinical Laboratories, Hospital Escuela Universitario, and at the Faculty of Medical Sciences, Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Honduras, Tegucigalpa, Honduras. She is a Country Representative for HIFA and CHIFA. jackelinealger AT gmail.com
HIFA profile: Joseph Ana won the Award of Excellence for establishing 12-Pillar Clinical Governance, Quality and Safety initiative in Nigeria and as the Chairman of the Nigerian Medical Association (NMA) National Committee on Clinical Governance and Research in May 2015. He is Chairman / CEO of HRI West Africa Ltd, Publisher of BMJ West Africa edition; J. of Health Practice, and J. of Primary Health Care. He is Chairman of the Quality & Performance subcommittee of the Technical Working Group for the implementation of the Nigeria Health Act. An adjunct Associate Professor in the Faculty of Health Sciences, Cross River University of Technology; he has held several senior positions in the past in Nigeria and Overseas: GP Principal, Trainer & Clinical Governance Lead at Europa House Surgery, Leighton Buzzard, UK; Commissioner for Health Cross River State of Nigeria 2004-2008; Member of the Medical & Dental Council of Nigeria (MDCN) 2009-2011. He is a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons Edinburgh; Fellow of the Royal Society of Public Health; Associate Member Royal College of GPs UK; Diploma of the Institute of Urology, UK; Diploma in Family Planning of the RCOG UK; and he is a pioneer Trustee-Director of the NMF (Nigerian Medical Forum) which took the BMJ to West Africa in 1995. He is particularly interested in strengthening health systems in LMICs. He has written five books on the 12-Pillar Clinical Governance for LMICs. He established a Department of Clinical Governance, Servicom & e-health in the Cross River State Ministry of Health, Nigeria in 2007. Joseph is a member of the HIFA Steering Group. Website: www.hriwestafrica.com jneana AT yahoo.co.uk.

HIFA profile: Soumyadeep Bhaumik was the HIFA Country Representative of the Year for 2012, and is a medical doctor from India working in the field of evidence syntheses. He has previously worked as a Senior Research Scientist at the South Asian Cochrane Network and Centre, India and as a Biomedical Genomics Fellow in BioMedical Genomics Centre, Kolkata. He has also consulted for evidence synthesis projects for Evidence Aid, Oxford UK and Public Health Foundation of India. He currently studies international public health in the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine. In addition he has experience in science and research communication and has written for British Medical Journal, Canadian Medical Association Journal, Lancet and Lancet Oncology and National Medical Journal of India. drsoumyadeepbhaumik AT gmail.com

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HIFA profile: Neil Pakenham-Walsh is the coordinator of the HIFA campaign (Healthcare Information For All) and current chair of the Dgroups Foundation (www.dgroups.info). Twitter: @hifa_org FB: facebook.com/HIFAdotORG neil@hifa.org

HIFA profile: Geoff Royston is an independent health analyst and researcher, former Head of Strategic Analysis and Operational Research in the Department of Health for England, and Past President of the UK Operational Research Society. His work has focused on informing the design, implementation and evaluation of policies and programmes in health and social care, and on fostering the capabilities of others to work in these areas. Associated activities have included modelling for understanding the performance of complex systems, analysis and communication of risk, and horizon scanning and futures thinking. He has also worked on information and communication technology in the health sector, notably in leading the design and national launch of the telephone and online health information and advice service NHS Direct. He has served on both scientific and medical UK Research Council panels, and as an impact assessor for the UK higher education Research Excellence Framework. He is a member of the editorial board for the journal Health Care Management Science and in 2012 was Guest Editor for its special issue on Global Health. He has been a consultant for the World Health Organisation, is a long standing member of the EURO Working Group on Operational Research Applied to Health Services, and is an expert adviser to the mHIFA (mobile Health Information for All) 2015 programme. geoff.royston AT gmail.com

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HIFA-Zambia profile: Craig Wilson is Professor and Director at University of Alabama at Birmingham/Sparkman Center for Global Health, USA. Professional interests- Pediatrician and HIV clinician by training; experience in rural and urban clinics in Zambia since 2004. Worked with Zambian MOH/GNC on development and now delivery of an HIV Nurse Practitioner program; Now focused on medical education capacity building for all health care worker programs, mainly at UNZA but also with LSN, Chainama, CBU SOM, LAMU and Cavendish; Working on further development and dissemination of eGranary platform within health care worker training programs and in collaboration with VVOB education training programs; Co-Director for Medical Education Partnership Initiative (MEPI) at UNZA and also new CDC ZEPACT project (HIV NP and HIV resistance surveillance). cwilson AT uab.edu