



Speaker biographies



Patricia Antwi

Patricia Antwi is the District Director of Health Services for the Ghana Health Service.

She has over twenty years' experience in the field of public health and extensive experience in managing district health services and reproductive and child health programmes. She supported the replication of the Mobile Technology for Community Health (MoTeCH) project in the Awutu Senya district from the pilot district in the Upper East Region.

Patricia played a leading role in establishing the Community Based Health Planning and Services (CHPS) initiative. She was the regional CHPS coordinator for the Central Region of Ghana. She taught public health at the Nurses' Training College in Cape Coast and epidemiology at University of Cape Coast. She has been involved in a number of research projects.

Patricia graduated from the University of Ghana in 1985 with a degree in Nursing and Psychology. In 1998, she completed Master of Public Health training at the University of Ghana. She also holds a certificate in Project Management from the Titgen Business College in Denmark.

Christina Bethke



Christina Bethke currently serves as the Director for National Partnerships at Last Mile Health, an organisation committed to saving lives in remote communities through the development of sustainable remote health systems.

Based in Liberia, Christina liaises with government agencies, donors and key stakeholders to mobilise support for the Ministry of Health's national community health worker programme. Currently in her second "tour of duty" in Liberia, Christina previously served as Last Mile Health's Country Director from 2010 to 2013 during which time she stewarded the launch of a Frontline Health Worker program in Konobo, Grand Gedeh County, Liberia as well as an emergency response during the Ivorian Refugee influx in 2011.

Christina previously worked with International Medical Corps (IMC) in Beirut, overseeing IMC's health assistance to Syrian refugees in Lebanon and the Global Health Delivery Project at Harvard.

She holds dual Master of Social Work/Master of Public Health degrees from Boston University and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Vanderbilt University.



Paul Biondich

Dr Paul Biondich is a senior medical informatics researcher and paediatrician. He is currently leading the Global Health Informatics programme at the Regenstrief Institute, where he participates in a wide variety of strategically important R&D health informatics initiatives for PEPFAR, Gates Foundation, CDC, USAID, WHO, and GIZ.

Paul's research interests include informatics interventions in resource-constrained environments, decision support systems and open communities of practice.

He is the co-founder and leader of OpenMRS, an open source medical record system platform to support underserved populations, which is currently deployed in over 80 countries throughout the world.

Paul is also very active in international health information architecture development efforts, both through his leadership of a WHO Collaborating Centre in Medical Informatics, and in the formation of a new adaptive technical assistance community that supports national planning and implementation of health information sharing architectures (OpenHIE).

Daryl Burnaby



Daryl Burnaby is the Global Community Partnerships Manager at GlaxoSmithKline (GSK). He has held a number of roles in finance, commercial and R&D strategy before joining GSK's Africa and Developing Countries Unit in 2011.

This team is focussed on improving access to healthcare in the world's poorest countries through a range of interventions. Daryl project manages one such intervention whereby GSK reinvests 20% of profits generated in the world's Least Developed Countries back into those countries to develop health infrastructure through training frontline health workers.

GSK has recently expanded its commitment to train health workers to Kenya, Nigeria and Ghana. As well as this, GSK also funds the Operation Room, part of the 1 Million Community Health Worker Campaign, led by Jeffrey Sachs at the Earth Institute and Columbia University.

Daryl has a passion for developing innovative private/public/NGO partnerships to improve access to health and champions GSK's approach to responsible and sustainable business.

Daryl has a degree in Natural Sciences from the University of Cambridge and a PhD in Chemistry from the University of Southampton.

Magnus Conteh



Magnus Conteh is the Director of Global Health Programmes, Strategic Partnerships and Innovation at World Vision.

Magnus is originally from Sierra Leone and joined World Vision Ireland in 2011. He is currently responsible for providing strategic leadership and oversight for the implementation and management of global health programmes. He is also responsible for conceptualising new strategic initiatives that could be developed into innovative global health programmes to benefit from corporate, foundation, government, multilateral and bilateral funding opportunities and other strategic partnerships.

Magnus is health adviser and technical lead for community and health systems

strengthening with World Vision Ireland and a member of World Vision International's mHealth Steering Committee.

Magnus has a BSc, MHS Honors, MA (Health Policy & Management).

Pape Gaye



Pape Gaye is the President and Chief Executive Officer of IntraHealth International where he continues to pursue his lifelong commitment by collaborating with leaders in developing countries to encourage sustainable development in vulnerable communities.

He also continues to advocate for family planning, especially in his native West Africa, as a high-impact solution to address health and population challenges.

Pape was previously the director of IntraHealth International's regional office for West, Central, and North Africa, where he focused on improving the performance of health workers and health systems to more effectively serve clients and communities with quality care.

Pape began his career in international development as a trainer of Peace Corps volunteers in Senegal and Benin. He has also previously worked for the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Committee and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Pape holds an MBA from the University of California at Los Angeles.

Berhane Gebru



Berhane Gebru is Director of Programs, TechLab at FHI 360. He oversees programmes on the application of mobile information and communications technologies for health, education, climate change adaptation, and other development disciplines .

Over the past twelve years, he successfully led over 30 initiatives in 28 countries involving the development, use, management and rollout of mobile solutions for improving health and education systems, climate change adaptation and improving the efficiency and cost effectiveness of data collection processes.

Berhane provided long term technical assistance to local NGOs and government ministries in Africa and Asia for enhancing their capacity to deploy and manage ICT solutions for development including the design, development of curriculum for the delivery of technical and end user training, and writing user guide documentation.

Peter Johnson



Dr Peter Johnson has worked for Jhpiego, an international NGO affiliated with Johns Hopkins University since 2006.

He serves in two roles as Director of Global Learning and Director of Nursing and Midwifery.

Peter leads and manages the International Headquarters Department responsible for development and implementation of innovative strategies to strengthen Jhpiego's learning activities worldwide. This includes: (a) working with ministries of health and education to strengthen the policy framework supporting professional education; (b) providing leadership toward the improvement of faculty/trainers' competency-based teaching and instructional design skills and (c) pursuing innovative learning strategies including the appropriate use of

appropriate learning technologies; (d) strengthening educational infrastructure and academic administrative frameworks; (e) standardising student assessment methods; and (f) design of curriculum aimed at promoting learning outcomes which are consistent with those needed upon deployment.

As Director of Nursing and Midwifery, Peter leads global nursing and midwifery priorities for Jhpiego. His leadership role includes coordination with the International Council of Nurses, International Confederation of Midwives, WHO, UN agencies and other global and regional partners interested in promoting a high quality nursing and midwifery workforce in low and middle income countries.

Peter provides supportive leadership to over 300 Jhpiego nurses and midwives positioned in countries throughout Sub Saharan Africa, Asia and the Caribbean.

Peter has PhD in Educational Psychology.

Evelyn Lewis



Evelyn Lewis is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of SBTS Group, an ICT consulting firm for the last 16 years.

He has been involved in numerous technology initiatives including many recent firsts in positioning technology as the missing piece in the war against Ebola as one of the early adopters of using technology against the Ebola war.

Under his leadership, SBTS group implemented the first full scale call centre and case management turnkey software solution, staff recruitment training and floor support amongst the three hard hit Ebola countries and reduced the time it took to respond to Ebola cases in Sierra Leone. SBTS Group provides numerous support services to the EOC which later transformed to NERC and also provided additional solution to The Ministry of Health. Their current initiative also has them deploying technology solutions for Ebola survivors monitoring.

He was a core functionary in formulating the Sierra Leone Presidential ICT task force which further wrote Sierra Leone's ICT policy and lobbied to connect Sierra Leone to the outside world through submarine fibre optics. Evelyn was responsible for implementing the first commercial e-learning solution in Sierra Leone and online jobs portal and also the first biometric pension system in West Africa.

Prior to founding SBTS Group, Evelyn earned valuable experiences through proprietorship experiences in many forms of ICT and executive experiences with Companies such as Computer Consultants Corporation in Washington DC with prior experiences in corporate IT recruitment such as MacArthur Associates.

Evelyn concluded a BA in Integrative Studies with a concentration in International Relations and a focus on Technology and Law from GMU and AA International Studies from NVCC.

He is currently a member of the National ICT Council of Sierra Leone and was the Chairperson for The Internet Society (ISOC) Sierra Leone chapter.



Lesley-Anne Long

Lesley-Anne is the Global Director at mPowering Frontline Health Workers (Washington, DC), a public-private partnership focused on ending preventable child and maternal deaths.

She provides strategic and technical leadership to mPowering and coordinates across mHealth and maternal and child health advisers, programme implementers, government officials, private technology companies, NGOs, academic institutions, and others focusing on sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.

A former family law barrister, and Dean of a Faculty of Health and Social Care, she has a strong track record of academic publications in law, global health, social justice, and child rights.

Garrett L Mehl



Dr Garrett L Mehl is a Scientist in the Department of Reproductive Health and Research at the World Health Organisation (WHO) in Geneva. He leads work on mHealth and innovations for reproductive and child health at WHO, evidence synthesis through the WHO Technical and Evidence Review Group on mHealth for Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (mTERG), and facilitates the scale-up of mHealth solutions as technical lead of the WHO supported 'United Nations Every Woman Every Child (EWEC) Innovation Working Group (IWG) Catalytic Scale-up Grant Program for mHealth' in collaboration with the United Nations Foundation.

Additionally, Garrett is a Principal Investigator of the 'Dristhi' mHealth research study that is developing and assessing the impact of a tablet-based mHealth smart registry solution within the Indian rural health system, on maternal and child health outcomes.

He is the principal scientist coordinating the THRIVE (Technologies for Health Registries, Information, and Vital Events) Consortium multisite research trial of the Open Smart Register Platform (OpenSRP) for improving quality and coverage of essential Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child Health (RMNCH) interventions across the continuum of care. Additionally, Garrett is a member of the WHO Health Taskforce on the Post-Ebola Safe Reactivation of Essential Health Services, focusing on Information and Communications Technology (ICT) systems.

Previously, he coordinated research and evaluation on adolescents in the WHO Department of Child and Adolescent Health and contributed to the development of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. He has also worked at the Rockefeller Foundation, the World Bank, Johns Hopkins University and the International Eye Foundation.

Garrett holds doctoral and masters degrees in International Health from the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health and has lived and worked on health in developing countries for over 15 years.



Nicholas Mellor

Nicholas Mellor has worked extensively in the global response to public health challenges with a particular focus on infectious diseases. He is the Co-founder and Programme Director of the Masanga MENTOR Ebola Initiative (MMEI). MMEI aims to transform training for infection prevention and control (IPC), through technology enhanced learning which will improve knowledge retention, confidence and ultimately competence, and to make quality assured training accessible across the developing world.

MMEI is developing a digital interactive training tool, e-buddi, to teach unskilled and often illiterate healthcare workers to perform medical tasks efficiently, safely and reliably, enabling countries to rapidly improve their quality of care without the need for large external interventions.

Previously Nicholas led the Lassa Fever Initiative, established to build operational and research capacity in West Africa to respond to the challenge of haemorrhagic fevers and emerging pathogens after the civil war. He has founded a number of start-up businesses, humanitarian ventures, foundations and international organisations, including Merlin, one of the world's leading agencies involved in emergency public health programmes, now partnered with Save the Children. He was a member of the team that developed and launched the World's first genetically engineered vaccine.

Nicholas has advised international organisations including the World Bank, the World Health Organisation, the United Nations Development Programme, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the Rockefeller Foundation.

Nicholas is Managing Principal of the Life Sciences Network Ltd and a Life Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society. He holds Masters Degrees in Biochemistry from Oxford University, Business Administration from Cranfield School of Management and International Development from the Open University, with a special focus on education.

Perry Nelson



Perry Nelson is the Chair of the African Network for Digital Health and the Director responsible for ICT at the National Health Insurance Authority in Ghana, where he has oversight responsibility for a network of over a thousand sites across the country.

Until recently, Perry was the Director of Claims at the National Health Insurance Authority (NHIA) with responsibility for claims management at all the 160 mutual health insurance schemes across the country, in addition to the management of the pilot Claims Processing Centre in the capital, Accra. He joined the NHIA in September 2009 as ICT Consultant and assumed his current role in May 2013.

Perry is a Computer Science graduate with over 25 years working experience in the IT industry. Over the years he has been involved in all roles of the entire cycle of IT systems review, system requirements definition, design, development, implementation and support. Perry has played critical roles in several major IT projects across the USA, United Kingdom, Africa, and continental Europe.

He has been an ICT consultant for blue chip companies such as IBM, Universal Music Group, Toyota Motor Company, Bombardier, Royal Bank of Scotland and

Lloyds TSB Bank.

Okey Okuzu



Okey Okuzu is the Chief Executive Officer of InStrat Global Health Solutions. He is a healthcare visionary and entrepreneur who is focused on driving improved healthcare delivery to underserved markets and populations through emerging technologies. Okey founded InStrat Global Health Solutions in 2010 to identify and deploy technologies capable of overcoming barriers to effective healthcare delivery in Africa. He has introduced and inspired multiple breakthrough applications of SMS and 3G mobile health technology in Nigeria.

Okey's professional career spans over twenty years in leading financial and healthcare companies including JP Morgan Chase, Pfizer and Novartis.

He holds a Bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of Lagos and an MBA in Finance and Strategy from Columbia Business School, New York.

Okey has served on the board of several non-profit organisations and associations and currently serves as the President of Oando Foundation USA, an independent charity formed by Oando PLC (Nigeria's Largest Indigenous Oil Company). In addition Okey serves on the Advisory Board of the Nigerian policy think tank Center for Public Policy Alternatives and Medical Education and the Skills Resource Company Trigen HealthCare.

Olasupo Oyedepo



Olasupo Oyedepo is the ICT Pillar Lead at the Saving One Million Lives Project Delivery Unit. He has held this position since 2014 and works on the team that is driving the development of a Health ICT Framework for the country and provides ICT technical assistance to the programme teams of the organisation.

Olasupo has supported government services over the years and has also worked extensively in development. While running his web development firm he consulted to the Federal House of Representatives in his home country Nigeria, in that time he managed the web presence for the three principal officers of the House (Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Majority Leader). He then had an internship with the British Parliament in Westminster and returned to Nigeria to work on the website for the eighth All African Games COJA in 2003.

Olasupo consulted to the National Agency for the Control of AIDS (NACA) in Nigeria and then joined Voxiva Inc, a US based technology firm as its Nigeria Country Director. While with Voxiva, he led the development (from requirements gathering to configuration and testing) and deployment of a revolutionary multi-channel (phone, web) platform for HIV/AIDS data collection, aggregation and management.

Following that he joined the John Snow Integrated Office in Abuja as a Senior MIS Advisor where he had oversight of the conceptualisation, development and deployment of information systems to support public health interventions such as HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Reproductive Health.



Nikhil D Patil

Nikhil D Patil is the Monitoring, Evaluation, and Research (MER) Department Manager at eHealth Africa, an international non-governmental organization that provides technical and data-driven solutions to strengthen local health systems, based in Kano, Nigeria.

In his role, he is responsible for driving eHA's research strategy and overseeing the development of monitoring & evaluation systems to assess the impact of eHA's internal projects.

Nikhil has provided technical MER support to eHA's Ebola Emergency management program in Nigeria, Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia including the development of electronic data collections tools and gathering behavioural data on health care worker and health facility Ebola preparedness in Lagos.

Prior to moving to Nigeria, Nikhil managed the behaviour change component of a large water, sanitation, hygiene, & nutrition randomized control trial in Kenya with Innovations for Poverty Action. He has also previously consulted for several development organizations including RTI International, CARE, and Save the Children.

Nikhil holds a Bachelor of Science from the Georgia Institute of Technology, and a Master's in Public Health from the Gillings School of Global Public Health at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Amanda Puckett



Amanda Puckett is IntraHealth's technical adviser for HRH and knowledge management and leads the organisation's work on the USAID-funded K4Health Project.

She also serves as the mHero Global Coordinator, working with local and international stakeholders to support the mHero platform in West Africa. mHero allows ministries of health to communicate with frontline health workers through basic mobile phones. Currently, Amanda is currently working with governments of the Ebola outbreak countries to implement mHero, both to support health workers amid the Ebola crisis, and to facilitate the recovery efforts to ensure health systems are stronger and more resilient in the future.

Amanda is also committed to using data from health information systems as evidence for decision making, bridging digital health with improved service delivery and health outcomes. She has supported field programs throughout sub-Saharan Africa for the USAID-funded human resources for health Capacity Project and CapacityPlus project. Amanda's areas of expertise include health informatics, family planning, knowledge management, and health workforce development.

Amanda has a MPH from the Maternal and Child Health Department at the Gillings School of Global Public Health at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



Merrick Schaefer

Merrick Schaefer is the Real Time Data Lead at USAID's innovation lab, the US Global Development Lab, where he helps lead the Lab's Ebola efforts in using technology to improve disaster response and recovery.

Before joining the USAID he was a Senior Innovation Specialist at the World Bank and a Technical Lead at UNICEF where he was a founding member of the UNICEF Innovation Team.

His work focuses on the intersection of technology and international development and ranges from strategic programme design to managing software development, as well as implementing programmes in the field and the monitoring and evaluation of ICT4D projects. Two defining projects of his career were managing the development of the RapidSMS software framework and leading Programme Mwana in Zambia, one of the first mHealth programs to be scaled nationally.

Merrick started working as a web developer in 1995, having a front row seat to the explosive growth of the World Wide Web. He has worked on enterprise systems while consulting to Accenture, as well as creating websites for small businesses and non-profits while running a web development consultancy.

He graduated from the University of Chicago where he earned a BA in Medical Ethics, when not hacking on web projects.

Suzanne Taunton

Suzanne Taunton is Acting Head of the Health and HIV team within the Programme, Policy and Quality Department of Save the Children UK. This team supports Save the Children country offices to develop, expand and improve the quality of their maternal, new born and child health programmes. Suzanne is currently leading the strategic development process for health which ensures the effective integration of mHealth and technology for programming across all Save the Children UK programmes.

Suzanne has worked within international development for over ten years, both within Save the Children and for other organisations in the UK and also overseas, most recently in the Somali Region of Ethiopia. Suzanne has significant experience in large scale programme design and development, management and implementation and monitoring and evaluation.

Deborah Theobald



Deborah Theobald is Co-Founder of Vecna and Executive Director of Vecna Cares.

In 2009, Deborah established the Vecna Cares Charitable Trust to extend Vecna resources in IP, engineering capacity and programmatic expertise to developing countries and under-served areas. Vecna Cares supports ongoing initiatives in East Africa, West Africa and Haiti as well as Special Olympics and AmeriCares in the United States.

Deborah has brought to market QC PathFinder for electronic outbreak surveillance of hospital acquired infections and Patient Self Service Kiosk, Portal and Mobile solutions. Other products include Vecna's Department of Defense funded BEAR (Battlefield Extraction and Recovery) and the QC Bot Hospital Logistics Robots.

Deborah obtained her SB in Aerospace Engineering from MIT and her Masters from University of Maryland's Space Systems.



Blake Tye

As a Government Affairs Manager for Qualcomm Incorporated, Blake Tye directs global mHealth strategy for the company's Wireless Reach™ initiative. Wireless Reach supports programmes and solutions that bring the benefits of connectivity to underserved communities worldwide. By working with stakeholders, Wireless Reach invests in projects that foster entrepreneurship, aid in public safety, enhance the delivery of health care, enrich teaching and learning and improve environmental sustainability. The goal of Wireless Reach is to create strategic, sustainable programmes that not only align with the Company's business objectives, but also strengthen economic and social development in local communities.

To help drive the mHealth ecosystem forward and to demonstrate how advanced wireless communications technologies can serve as effective tools for both the clinician and the patient, Wireless Reach is supporting a number of programmes that investigate various methods of overcoming the barriers to technology adoption in resource scarce health care settings.

Blake holds a Master's degree in International Management focused on Latin America from the University of California, San Diego (UCSD)'s Graduate School of International Relations (IR/PS). She has expertise in international technology programme management for emerging markets, mobile health, programme evaluation and public-private partnership development. Blake also holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with International Studies and Spanish Literature.

Jeffrey Villaveces



Jeffrey Villaveces served as the Chief of Information Management for the United Nations Mission for Emergency Ebola Response (UNMEER) between October and December of 2014, during the ramping up of UN response to the Ebola crisis in West Africa.

Among his responsibilities was the supervision of information flows from UN agencies including WHO, UNICEF, IFRC, WFP and UNDP, among others, for presentation to decision-makers, as well as the initiation of a program to provide gap-filling capacity in a number of Agency efforts to collect mobile data on the ground in the three most affected countries.

Jeffrey currently works with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, and has led information management efforts for humanitarian crises in Colombia, Mexico, Haiti, Central African Republic, Iraq, Libya and Yemen.