



A GLOBAL HEALTH FUNDING CRUNCH? TRENDS AND IMPLICATIONS

19 September 2024
Geneva Graduate Institute
Auditorium A2, 13:00-14:30, with reception following
In person and online on Webex

Co-host: Graduate Institute Centre for Finance and Development

SPEAKERS' BIOGRAPHIES

Moderator

Stéphane Bussard

Journalist - International Affairs, *Le Temps*



Stephane Bussard is a senior journalist and editorialist at *Le Temps*. He is today responsible for the coverage of international Geneva. He has written extensively about the Covid-19 pandemic, global health issues and the WHO. He was *Le Temps* US correspondent in New York from 2011 to 2016. He graduated in international relations from the Graduate Institute in Geneva. He's also a translator.

Welcome/Opening Remarks

Nathan Sussman

Professor and Pictet Chair in Finance and Development, International Economics/
Director, Center for Finance and Development, Geneva Graduate Institute

Nathan Sussman is Full Professor of International Economics and Director of the Institute's Centre for Finance and Development. He was Associate Professor of Economics in the Department of Economics and in the integrated Philosophy, Economics, and Political Science Programme (PEP) at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. He was the Director of the Research Department at the Bank of Israel and a voting member of the Monetary Policy Committee. His fields of expertise are monetary and financial economic history. He has



written numerous articles and co-authored a book on emerging markets and financial globalisation.

Professor Sussman earned his PhD in Economics from the University of California, Berkeley. He was Full Professor and Economics Department Chair at the University of Western Ontario in Canada, and served as Chairman of the Economics Department, Director of the Maurice Falk Institute for Economic Research, and Associate Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences at the Hebrew University

Speakers

David Evans

Visiting Professor, Interdisciplinary Programmes, Geneva Graduate Institute



David Evans is a Visiting Professor at the Graduate Institute of Geneva teaching a course on Health Financing. He has over 40 years of experience in economics, health economics and health financing. He began professional life as an academic, initially in economics departments then in a medical school. He subsequently spent 25 years in the World Health Organization including as the inaugural director of the Department of Health Systems Governance and Finance. After retiring from WHO, he has worked as a consultant in health financing, mostly with the World Bank. He has over 200 publications including being lead author of the World Health Report 2010 "Health systems financing: the path to universal

coverage".

Erika Placella

Head of Health, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)



Erika Placella received her Master degree in History of Medicine at the University of Geneva. She completed her education with a specialization in Public Health and various additional trainings, including at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and ICRC/WHO.

Erika Placella has over 20 years of experience in public health and global health. She is currently the Head of the Global Program Health of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

Before joining the SDC, Ms Placella worked for various medical and public health organisations in Africa, Asia and the Middle East, in the field of zoonoses, sexual, reproductive and child health, food security/safety and NCDs (including mental health).

Ms Placella has a thorough understanding and knowledge of health trends, health reforms, health systems and related challenges, with a focus on primary health care and prevention and control of major NCDs, in Africa, Asia, and Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

Ms Placella leads the development of health at SDC (Head of Health), as well as global initiatives aiming at contributing to major health challenges, including global health governance issues.

Ms Placella also provides health policy and policy influencing guidance and contributes to positioning the SDC/Switzerland in global health debates.

Alegnta Gebreyesus

Health Diplomat, Permanent Mission of Ethiopia to the UN Office in Geneva and Other International Organizations



Alegnta Gebreyesus Guntie is a health diplomat at the Permanent Mission of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to the United Nations Office at Geneva and other International Organisations in Switzerland.

Alegnta has served as the health coordinator of the Africa group in Geneva for the last 1 year and has been at the forefront of the very recent amendments to the International Health Regulations (2005) and the ongoing negotiations of the Pandemic Agreement.

Prior to her role in Geneva, Alegnta has served in various capacities as a policy maker, clinician and educator. She led the national emergency, injury and critical care directorate at the Ministry of Health-Ethiopia, developing national strategies, designing and implementing programs and partnering with regional and international stakeholders to make advancements in the acute care continuum. She also has immense experience in leading and coordinating national preparedness and response, including incident management.

Alegnta has been a strong advocate of resilient health systems and impact in countries throughout her career as an emergency physician, a global health advocate and a diplomat. She continues to bring strong leadership and a unique perspective into the multilateral discussions in health.

Joyce Nganga

Senior Policy Advisor, WACI Health, Kenya



Joyce Nganga serves as a Senior Policy Advisor, at WACI Health, an African regional advocacy organization. Joyce is based in the Nairobi regional office. WACI Health works to create the political will to end life-threatening epidemics and improve health outcomes for all in Africa. With over 15 years of experience as a champion for healthy communities particularly for women and girls., Joyce brings a wealth of knowledge and dedication to her role.

At WACI Health, Joyce leads various advocacy Programmes to meet the organization's objectives of increased and effective resources for health,

enhanced accountability in health governance and delivery, adoption of regional and national policies and reforms that improve health and equity, and health systems that are equitable and responsive to people's needs.

Joyce actively contributes to various regional and global health platforms, including Coalition to Accelerate and Support Prevention Research (CASPR), Africa free of new infections (AfNHi) Coalition for Health Research and Development (CHReaD), Africa Free of New HIV Infections (AfNHi), Global Fund Advocates Network (GFAN Africa), Civil Society Platform on Health in Africa (CiSPHA), African Women Community Accountability Board (AWPCAB)

Closing Remarks

Vinh-Kim Nguyen

Co-Director, Global Health Centre/ Professor, Anthropology and Sociology,
Geneva Graduate Institute



Vinh-Kim Nguyen is an HIV and Emergency physician and medical anthropologist. As both practitioner and researcher, he is concerned with the relationship between science, politics and practice in global health. He practices Emergency Medicine at Avicenna Hospital in Paris and the Jewish General Hospital in Montréal, currently holds an ERC Consolidator Grant (Research Chair) on the science and politics of a world without AIDS and heads a team of anthropologists researching the Ebola epidemic in West Africa. He is Professor in the School of Public Health the University of Montreal where he leads the PhD track in Global Health, and Professor of Anthropology and Sociology of Development in the Graduate Institute for

International and Development Studies in Geneva; he also holds an honorary chair at the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme in Paris which hosts researchers working on global health issues.

Since 1994 he has worked extensively with community organisations responding to the HIV epidemic in West Africa as a trainer and physician. This work informed his anthropological research on the global response to HIV with a concern for the forms of triage and sovereignty they embody. He continues to follow the evolving scientific and political response to HIV and Ebola in his current work. He draws on molecular epidemiology, global health and social theory to argue for a paradigm shift in eliminating infectious diseases.

He is the author of *The Republic of Therapy: Triage and Sovereignty in West Africa's Time of AIDS*; coauthor, with Margaret Lock, of *An Anthropology of Biomedicine* and also the co-editor, with Jennifer Klot, of *The Fourth Wave: Violence, Gender, Culture, and HIV in the 21st Century*, as well as numerous articles in biomedical and anthropological journals.