

**TECHNICAL WORKSHOP:
AN ECOSYSTEM FOR LOCAL PRODUCTION OF DIAGNOSTICS IN LMICs**

8 July 2021, 14:00–16:30 CEST

Speaker biographies

(in alphabetical order)



Adriana Velazquez Berumen

Group Lead on medical devices and in vitro diagnostics

WHO

Adriana is the team lead for medical devices and in vitro diagnostics in WHO, where she has been for the last 12 years. She is a biomedical engineer and has led the work on innovation, selection, procurement, management, and safe use of priority medical devices including in vitro diagnostics and personal protective equipment. Before joining WHO she led the National Center for Health Technology Excellence in the ministry of health in Mexico and worked in private and public hospitals as clinical engineer.



Dr Emanuele Buratti

Group Leader, Molecular Pathology Lab

International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB)

Dr Emanuele Buratti is currently Group Leader of the Molecular Pathology Lab at the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB) in Trieste and professor at the University of Trieste. Previously, he studied at the University of Trieste for a B.Sc. in Biology and a Ph.D. in Biochemistry. In 1995, he moved to ICGEB as a Staff Research Scientist. Dr Buratti principal areas of expertise are the investigation of RNA binding proteins and RNA metabolism in neurodegeneration and metabolic diseases. On these subjects, Emanuele Buratti is the author of more than 180 research papers in peer-reviewed publications and of book articles on these subjects (orcid.org/0000-0002-1356-9074). He is Associate Editor at Frontiers in Genetics, Academic Editor at PLOS ONE, and part of the Editorial Board at Journal of Biological Chemistry and Molecular and Cellular Neurosciences. He is also the president of the Scientific Committee of the Italian FTD Patient association (AIFTD, www.frontotemporale.it) and Chairperson for Research Foundation Flanders (FWO). Homepage: <http://www.icgeb.trieste.it/molecular-pathology.html>

**Dr Debojyoti Chakraborty****Senior Scientist, CSIR-Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology**

Dr Debojyoti Chakraborty received his master's degree in molecular biology from West Bengal and his PhD from the Max Planck Institute of Molecular Biology and Genetics and Technical University, Dresden. After 2 years of post-doctoral work at Biotechnology-Zentrum, Medical Faculty, Technical University Dresden he joined CSIR-Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology, New Delhi as a Scientist Fellow in 2016. Dr Chakraborty is presently Senior Scientist at CSIR - IGIB, Delhi. His lab is dedicated to basic and translational research using CRISPR-Cas technology for developing point-of-care diagnostics and gene editing-based treatment of monogenic diseases like sickle cell anaemia. The lab also focuses on understanding neurodevelopmental diseases using organoids or mini brains. He was awarded the CSIR young investigator award for 2020 and became one of the 30 EMBO Young Investigators of 2020. He is a renowned sitar player as well.

**BK (ByungKi) Cho, DVM, PhD****CEO****Bionote, Inc.**

BK Cho was formerly CEO Abbott Korea, CEO of Alere Korea and CEO of Standard Diagnostics, Inc.

**Dr Stijn Deborggraeve****Diagnostics Advisor Infectious Diseases****MSF Access Campaign**

Dr Stijn Deborggraeve is the Diagnostics Advisor Infectious Diseases at Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) Access Campaign (www.msfacecess.org). Together with MSF, global health actors, civil society and country governments, he works to improve access to essential diagnostics for low resource settings through advocacy for affordable and transparent pricing, sustainable procurement, and influencing R&D to meet the needs of low resource settings. Dr Deborggraeve has formal MSc training in Engineering (2001) and Cellular Biotechnology (2002) and a PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences (2009). Before joining MSF in 2019, Dr Deborggraeve has worked at the Institute of Tropical Medicine Antwerp (Belgium) and the University of California (USA) on the development and evaluation of innovative diagnostics for neglected tropical diseases and bacterial blood infections.



Dr Erika Dueñas
Medicines and Health Products
WHO

Dr Erika Dueñas works at WHO HQ/ Medicines and Health Products Department providing technical advice on issues related to innovation, access to treatments, and Intellectual Property (IP). She also supports activities to build and strengthen national and regional capacities in the intersections between public health, trade and IP. She worked at the Medicines Patent Pool and has more than 20 years of experience in the field of access to medicines, innovation and IP. As a career diplomat, she worked many years for the Bolivian government, participating in international negotiations related to IP at the Andean Community, WHO, WTO, and WIPO. After her diplomatic mission at the Embassy in Washington as Chargée d’Affaires, she was Vice-Minister at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Bolivia. Erika holds a master’s degree in International Law and Economics (LLM) from the World Trade Institute / Universities of Bern, Fribourg & Neuchâtel – Bern, Switzerland.



Spring Gombe
Health Policy Advisor
UNDP

Spring Gombe has over 20 years of experience of multilateral policymaking, strategic advocacy and programme development for medically under-served and neglected people. Much of her professional life has been with the global movement for innovation of and access to medicines for neglected infectious diseases. In the context of the COVID pandemic, she managed the Tech Access Partnership, a joint incubation project of the UN Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries, UNDP, UNCTAD and WHO, with the ambition to bring PPE, medical devices and Diagnostics to low-and middle-income countries on an equitable basis. It was out of this initiative that the Diagnostics Working Group was born. Immediately before that, she worked with the Drugs for Neglected Disease initiative, as a Policy Advocacy Manager. She has worked with the key civil society organizations advocating for access to health technologies, including Knowledge Ecology International, the MSF Access Campaign and Oxfam International. She was trained in biology at Cornell University and in Global Health Policy at New York University.



Sharonann Lynch
Senior Scholar, Global Health Policy and Politics Initiative
O’Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law at Georgetown University

Sharonann Lynch is currently a Senior Scholar at the Global Health Policy and Politics Initiative at Georgetown University’s O’Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law. She is also a Senior Visiting Fellow at the Yale Global Health Justice Partnership. Prior to joining Georgetown, Sharonann worked with Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) for 15 years, including four years in MSF HIV and TB projects in southern Africa and as the Senior HIV and TB Policy Advisor of MSF’s Access Campaign. Over the past 20 years in the global health field, Sharonann has engaged national governments, bilateral and multilateral donors, pharmaceutical corporations, diagnostic companies, and other global health actors towards realizing the goal of equitable and sustainable access to medical innovations, including for HIV, TB, and more recently, Covid-19.



Felipe Maricondi
Maricondi Group President

Felipe Maricondi brings his expertise of working in the M&A sector of an investment bank, before assuming the presidency of the Maricondi Group. He has more than 10 years of experience in the clinical diagnostic sector, starting on a clinical laboratory of the Maricondi Group, Medical Laboratory Dr Maricondi, structuring services to supply other laboratories in different Brazilian states. He was the project owner for restructuring the entire operational management of the Group before focusing his efforts in WAMA Diagnóstica, in which he also promoted several changes from financial to operations management. Nowadays, Mr. Maricondi is focused on transforming WAMA Diagnóstica, to better position the company in the world and towards the company goals for continuous improvement.



Dr Jenny Molloy
Senior Research Associate
University of Cambridge

Dr Jenny Molloy is a Senior Research Associate at the University of Cambridge, researching the potential for local, distributed manufacturing of enzymes to improve access and build capacity for biological research and innovation. She has an undergraduate degree from the University of Cambridge and a DPhil from the University of Oxford. Since 2015 she has co-founded four social enterprises and nonprofits making open-source tools more accessible to researchers and building communities for open-source tool developers. Dr Molloy is Chair of the independent Local Production and Diagnostics Working Group which grew from the UN Technology Access Partnership and is also the 2020-21 Fellow of the World Economic Forum Global Futures Council on Synthetic Biology.



Cecilia Oh
Programme Advisor, HIV, Health and Development Group
UNDP

Cecilia Oh is the Programme Advisor with UNDP's HIV, Health and Development Group, based at the UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub. Since 2014, she has coordinated the Access and Delivery Partnership, a global project led by UNDP in collaboration with TDR, WHO and PATH, aimed at supporting health systems in low- and middle-income countries through strengthened institutions and human capacities. Before joining UNDP, Ms Oh was consulting on development, trade and intellectual property issues. In 2010, she joined Duke University's Program on Global Health and Technology Access and was appointed Adjunct Associate Professor of the University's Global Health Institute. Ms Oh has held other positions on trade and health: Asia-Pacific Trade Policy Advisor at the UNDP Regional Centre in Colombo (2006-2008) and Technical Officer at WHO's technical cooperation programme on trade agreements, intellectual property rights and public health. Between 1998-2003, she was a Senior Researcher and Legal Advisor of Third World Network.



Dr Analía Porrás

Unit Chief

Medicines and Health Technologies Department of Health Systems and Services (HSS)

Analía Porrás Unit Chief Medicines and Health Technologies Department of Health Systems and Services (HSS) porrasan@paho.org Dr Porrás is the Unit Chief of Medicines and Health Technologies Unit, Department of Health Systems and Services (HSS/MT) at PAHO/WHO. She leads the team responsible for providing technical cooperation to Latin America and the Caribbean to improve equitable access to quality, safe and effective medicines, and other health technologies. HSS/MT provides support to member states in a vast array of areas, from regulation to rational use of medicines and other health technologies, pharmaceutical policies, and innovation and manufacturing, among others. In addition, the team plays a critical role in ensuring the quality of pharmaceuticals, vaccines and in vitro diagnostics procured through the PAHO revolving funds. Dr Porrás, a national of Argentina, has held several clinical, research and academic positions before joining PAHO in 2007. She received her Medical Degree (1989) from the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina, a PhD in Molecular and Cellular Biology (1997) from Northwestern University, Illinois, USA, and a master's in science in Health Economics, Policy and Management (2013) from the London School of Economics and Political Science, London, United Kingdom.



Dr Bill Rodriguez

CEO

FIND

Dr Bill Rodriguez joined FIND as Chief Executive Officer on 1 July 2021, following an earlier tenure as Chief Medical Officer between 2015 and 2017. He was previously Managing Director at the Draper Richards Kaplan Foundation, a global venture philanthropy firm supporting early-stage, high-impact social enterprises. A physician and entrepreneur, he has extensive experience across both private and public sectors, founding his own diagnostics company, Daktari Diagnostics. As a faculty member at Harvard Medical School, he established a research programme on diagnostics and operational research in global health. He left Harvard in 2003 to become the Chief Medical Officer of the William J. Clinton Foundation, where he helped broker pricing agreements of HIV drugs and diagnostic tests between African and Asian governments and the major suppliers. Bill is a highly respected figure in the global health community, serving as advisor to the World Health Organization, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, national governments on global HIV, tuberculosis, Ebola and COVID-19, as well as numerous established and start-up for-profit and not-for-profit social enterprises focused on global health. Bill is a graduate of Brown University and the Yale University School of Medicine and trained in infectious disease medicine at the Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston, where he served as chief medical resident.

**Dr Taslimarif Saiyed*****CEO and Director
C-CAMP***

Dr Taslimarif Saiyed is the CEO and Director of C-CAMP. His initial training has been in neurosciences, where he received his PhD from Max-Planck Institute for Brain Research, Germany and followed it up by postdoctoral training at University of California San Francisco (UCSF). At the same time, he also underwent training in management for Biotech and Innovation from QB3 at UC Santa Cruz, UC Berkeley, and UC San Francisco. He has also completed a biotech management program for biotech executives at Wharton School of Management. In the Bay area, he served as a Management Consultant with QB3 New Biotech Venture Consulting and in an individual capacity, he also consulted for many biotech firms in the US. Dr Saiyed is an Adjunct Faculty at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras and Amrita Institute - School of Biotechnology. He also heads the Discovery to Innovation Accelerator program at C-CAMP. He is actively involved in promoting innovation in life science / healthcare by supporting translation of discoveries to application, entrepreneurship, and technology development.

**Judit Rius Sanjuan*****Policy Specialist on Health Technologies Innovation and Access
UNDP***

Judit Rius Sanjuan is a Policy Specialist on Health Technologies Innovation and Access with the UNDP HIV, Health and Development Group in New York. Judit is an attorney and policy expert with over 20 years of experience implementing strategies to create and disseminate global public goods including medicines, diagnostics and other health technologies. Prior to joining UNDP in 2017, she was the US manager and legal adviser of the Access Campaign for Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) and staff attorney at Knowledge Ecology International (KEI) in Washington, DC. In addition, Judit is an Adjunct Professor at The New School in New York. She was an adjunct professor at Georgetown Law School and has also worked in the legal departments of pharmaceutical company, software and IT companies. Judit has a law degree and a master on international relations from University Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona, Spain and an LLM in Law, Science and Technology from Stanford Law School in the USA.

**Dr Mariângela Batista Galvão Simão*****Assistant Director-General Access to Medicines and Health Products
WHO***

Dr Mariângela Simão joined WHO in November 2017, as part of Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General's leadership team. She previously worked for UNAIDS since September 2010 and prior to that, she worked for the Ministry of Health in Brazil as the Director of the Sexually Transmitted Diseases, HIV/ AIDS and Viral Hepatitis department. She worked in the Brazilian public health system since 1982, from the primary health care level to a series of managerial positions throughout the years. As a public health professional, at municipal, state and national levels, she played an active role in the decentralization of the national health system, acquiring an extensive experience in health system strengthening. She has also served on the boards of several organizations and government committees related to public health and HIV. Heading the National Sexually Transmitted Diseases/HIV/AIDS Department (including Viral Hepatitis from 2009), she had the responsibility of overseeing

and implementing the national Sexually Transmitted Diseases/AIDS/Viral Hepatitis policies, including universal and free of charge access to treatment, care and comprehensive prevention programs. Dr Simão attended medical school in Brazil, with degrees in Paediatrics and Public Health, and a MSc in Mother and Child Health in the UK.



Dr Marta Fernández Suárez

Senior Director, R&D

FIND

Dr Marta Fernández Suárez serves as the Senior Director of R&D. She joined FIND in 2017 as a product development consultant, with increasing responsibilities to lead FIND innovation and R&D activities. In her current role, Marta is responsible for the overall strategic direction and management of the technical and scientific programs within FIND, serving as the center point between FIND's technology and innovation needs, including digital health solutions, and disease programme priorities. Previously, Marta served as the VP of Assay R&D at Daktari Diagnostics. She has more than 10 years of experience in in vitro diagnostics (IVD) product development, both in academia and in industry, and has led teams through the entire product development process, from proof-of-concept through clinical validation. Her work has been published in high-impact journals and she serves on expert panels and review boards for federal agencies and foundations. Marta is passionate about improving health around the world and has more than 15 years of experience in the design and on-the-ground implementation of international development projects in Africa and Central and South America. She obtained her B.S. in Chemistry and M.S. in Chemical Engineering at the Institut Quimic de Sarria (Barcelona, Spain), and her Ph.D. in Biochemistry at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT, Cambridge, USA).



Dr Yenew Kebede Tebeje

Head of Division of Laboratory Systems

Africa CDC

Dr Yenew Kebede Tebeje is a medical microbiologist and public health expert with 20 years of clinical, teaching, laboratory science, research, capacity building, and programme design and management experience. His achievements include building laboratory systems in low-income countries, human resource capacity development, and development of policy frameworks and guidelines that impact laboratory programmes in Africa. Dr Kebede currently serves as Head of Division of Laboratory Systems at Africa CDC where he leads programmes to strengthen public health laboratory systems and networks in Africa. In this capacity, he coordinates the establishment and strengthening of regional integrated surveillance and laboratory networks, creation of frameworks for cross-border specimen transportation, application of pathogen genomics for public health surveillance, geo-mapping of laboratory functions, implementation of biosafety and biosecurity standards, use of point of care technologies and connected diagnostics to strengthen surveillance at community level, and implementation of laboratory quality management systems. He also leads initiatives by Africa CDC and partners to advance the use of laboratory diagnostics for universal health coverage and implementation of health security in Africa. Before joining Africa CDC, Dr Kebede worked for more than 12 years as Technical Officer and later as Branch Chief for Laboratory at the US CDC in Ethiopia, where he provided strategic leadership for one of the most successful laboratory systems development programmes of the US CDC. He also worked as assistant lecturer, lecturer and later as assistant professor at Gondar College of Medical Science, University of Gondar and was recognized several times for his outstanding contributions. He has written lecture notes on microbiology, immunology and parasitology and authored and co-authored more than 35 articles in peer-reviewed journals. Dr Kebede holds a Doctor of Medicine degree from Gondar College of Medical Sciences, a master's degree in medical microbiology from Addis Ababa University, and a Master of Public Health from the University of Gondar.