Achieving Health For All: Lessons from Strengthening Health Systems in the COVID-19 Response

Tuesday, December 12, 2023
9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

OPENING REMARKS

Nidhi Bouri is the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Global Health at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Nidhi has 17 years of field-based experience in global health, humanitarian response, and national security positions, focused on building partnerships, driving strategy, and leading dynamic teams in complex environments. Prior to her time in government, Nidhi worked in the non-governmental sector, leading development and humanitarian assistance programs and research efforts, with a focus on health system collapse, humanitarian protection, and mass migration. She has worked on the frontlines to deliver emergency assistance in several countries, including Afghanistan, Iraq, Ukraine, and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

MODERATOR

Sarah B. Barnes is the Director of the Maternal Health Initiative (MHI) at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, in Washington, D.C., where she leads the programs' research and programming. Barnes works closely with practitioners, researchers, donors, international development agencies, and policy makers to connect issues of gender, maternal and global health, and women's leadership to foreign policy. She is also the editor of the Dot-Mom column on *New Security Beat*.

PANELISTS

Yordanos Molla is the Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) Lead for USAID's global flagship Local Health Systems Sustainability (LHSS) Project. She is trained in Public Health and Epidemiology, and has accrued over 15 years of experience managing, implementing, and evaluating health and development projects in low- and middle-income countries. She possesses technical expertise in MEL, geospatial studies, basic clinical medicine, and a range of public health program implementation.

Megan Ivankovich is a program director at Population Reference Bureau (PRB), where she also serves as Senior Learning Director for MOMENTUM Knowledge Accelerator. Megan has more than 17 years of experience working in public health and international development, specializing in applied research; capacity building and training; and program design, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation. Ivankovich previously worked for the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, WI-HER LLC, and a number of nonprofit organizations, academic institutions, and DC-based small businesses.

Adele Waugaman is Senior Digital Health Advisor at USAID where she supports implementation of the USAID Digital Health Vision, the Agency's first policy covering its investments in digital technologies and data systems used to support country-based health programs. Adele brings 15+ years of experience building and leading digital transformation initiatives for governments, civil society, multilateral organizations, and the private sector. She serves on the board and advisory committees for a variety of organizations including the Humanitarian Innovation Fund and Global Digital Health Network.