

- SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES -

Dr Isaac T. Chikwanha

Senior Director for Access and Delivery at the Global Health Innovative Technology (GHIT) Fund

Dr Isaac T. Chikwanha is Senior Director for Access and Delivery at the Global Health Innovative Technology (GHIT) Fund. He has more than 20 years' experience as a clinician, public health specialist and in the 7 years, an advocate for equitable access to medicines. Prior to joining GHIT, he worked with Médecins Sans Frontiers (MSF) for nearly a decade in numerous countries, first as a frontline field doctor and then in various project management positions, including 2 years working on Access to Medicines at the MSF Access Campaign.



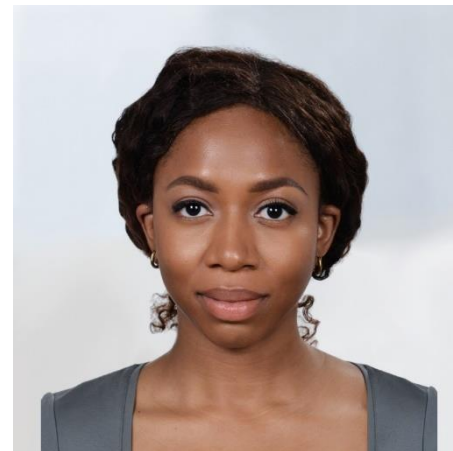
Isaac started his medical career in 1997 as a general medical practitioner with a special interest working with underprivileged communities in his native Zimbabwe. He holds a Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery (MB,ChB) degree from the University of Zimbabwe and a Master's in Public Health (MPH) from the University of Sheffield School of Health and Related Research in the United Kingdom.

Dr Ngozi Erondu

Technical Director, GLIDE

Ngozi Erondu PhD MPH brings her nearly 15 years of experience and leadership in global public health experience to GLIDE.

Ngozi has spent her career researching and supporting global health governance and health systems strengthening in more than 40 countries, primarily in the sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East and North Africa regions. Through her work at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law she has conducted operational research and contributed to policy advocacy for malaria and HIV disease programmes. Ngozi also brings her experience working with US Centres for Disease Control, the UK Health Security Agency, and the World Health Organisation.



Dr Erondu is a senior scholar and co-chair for an upcoming Lancet Commission exploring the health impacts of discrimination in global public health with the O'Neill Institute and is a Fellow with several policy and governance entities including Chatham House, John Hopkins University, and the Aspen Institute New Voices Fellowship. Ngozi is also the Health Security co-editor for the PLOS Global Health academic journal.

Dr Béatrice Greco

Head of R&D and Access, Global Health Institute of Merck (KGaA Darmstadt Germany)

Béatrice is responsible for the R&D and Access strategy of the Global Health Institute of Merck, and for steering and advancing the pipeline. She drives dialogues with key stakeholders to define new mechanisms for equitable and sustainable access to innovations for neglected tropical diseases. She also drives exchanges with experts in the field of infectious diseases, defining partnerships and collaborations as well as identifying funding opportunities for the Institute.



Beatrice has over 25-year experience in academia and industrial translational drug discovery and development with a strong background in neurological therapeutic areas. She has held several managerial positions and led a number of preclinical development programs. She is also the co-founder of EspeRare, a non-for-profit organization dedicated to develop new therapeutic options for patients suffering from rare diseases.

Beatrice has studied neurosciences at Pierre and Marie Curie University in Paris, she holds a Ph.D. from Emory University (USA) that was followed by a post-doctoral position and an assistant professor position at the University Medical School of Massachusetts (MA, USA).

Dr Brenda Waning, PhD, MPH, RPh

Chief, Global Drug Facility at Stop TB Partnership

Brenda Waning is the Chief of the Stop TB Global Drug Facility – the world’s largest procurer of tuberculosis medicines and diagnostics for the public sector. She has been active in the field of access to medicines for over 25 years, focusing on the intersection of pharmaceutical policy, market shaping, and access to all types of essential medicines. Her prior experience transverses donor, academic, and implementor roles, serving as the Coordinator of the Market Dynamics Team at Unitaid, and serving on the faculties at Boston University Schools of Medicine and Public Health.



Optimizing access to medicines in failed markets - like Neglected Tropical Diseases – requires more than pooled procurement; and is best managed through an end-to-end approach that identifies and addresses market shortcomings along the entire product life cycle.

Mae Shieh

Head of Business Development, DNDi

Mae Shieh joined DNDi in October 2018 as Head of Business Development, covering the partnership needs of the NTD Initiative (Neglected Tropical Diseases) and managing the overall BD operations for DNDi.

Mae has over 20 years of industry experience in medical devices, pharmaceuticals, and vaccines product development, with a focus on partnerships and business development. Before joining DNDi, she was part of the senior management teams for two of Novartis' R&D institutes dedicated to neglected diseases, in Singapore and Siena, responsible for business development and subsequently research operations. Mae has also worked as a consultant for DNDi and MSF on Access and R&D projects.

Mae has an MBA from INSEAD and Masters in International Health from University of Basel (tropEd programme).



Dr Michelle Teo
Chief Investment Officer, MedAccess

Michelle Teo is the Chief Investment Officer at MedAccess, a social enterprise that has improved access to medical innovations for more than 375 million people in over 90 countries since it was founded in 2017. In her role, she has overall responsibility of MedAccess' guarantee portfolio (comprising volume and procurement guarantees) and capital investments.

Michelle's experience spans both finance and healthcare. Before joining MedAccess, Michelle was a Managing Director at Bank of America Merrill Lynch and Vice President at AIG Financial Products. Her career first began in the field of medicine, after graduating from the University of Oxford with a BA in Physiological Sciences and a BM, BCh.



Dr Dirk Engels, MD, PhD
Retired Director of the Department of Control of Neglected Tropical Diseases, World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland

Dr Dirk Engels is a Global Health Consultant and Senior Adviser to Uniting to Combat NTDs (www.combatntds.org). He has worked for the World Health Organization in Geneva for 20 years and retired as Director of the Department of Control of Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) at the end of 2017. In WHO, he has worked on infectious and tropical diseases. He has been instrumental in developing norms and standards for the large-scale implementation of NTD interventions, in developing the first NTD roadmap with a focus on elimination, and in steering the global expansion of interventions for the control and elimination of tropical diseases. During the first half of his professional career he successively



worked in clinical tropical medicine, public health, and disease control, in East, Central and West Africa. Dirk Engels is a medical doctor, and holds additional diplomas in tropical medicine and hygiene, epidemiology, a master's degree in health services research, and a PhD in parasitology. He has published over 100 peer-reviewed scientific and public health papers.

Sam Mayer

Vice President, Public Affairs

Sam is the Vice President, Public Affairs at the END Fund. He is responsible for the organization's global external engagement, including advocacy and communications that advance the neglected tropical disease (NTD) platform and attract additional resources and attention to the NTD sector. Sam leads the END Fund's efforts to mobilize a growing ecosystem of NTD champions across governments, the pharmaceutical industry, and a coalition of other cultural, private sector, and community-based organizations.



Previously, Sam was Executive Director, International Programs at the M·A·C AIDS Fund where he oversaw a grant portfolio that supported 130 HIV/AIDS service organizations across 50 countries. There, he devised public private partnerships and strategic health programs that reached over 26 million people affected by or at risk of HIV/AIDS.

Prior to that, Sam led global fundraising efforts for a leading sport-for-development organization, Grassroot Soccer. He was also previously Chief Operating Officer for Millennium Promise, and Global Operations Manager at the Clinton Health Access Initiative where he helped establish the organization's health financing division.

Sam currently serves on the board of the National Jazz Museum in Harlem. He holds a Master's degree in Development Economics from the University of London's School of Oriental and African Studies, and a BA in Economics from the University of Strathclyde in his native Scotland. Sam lives in New York with his wife and two children and enjoys competing in triathlons and marathons.

Dr Brian Adu Asare

Head of Health Technology Assessments (HTA) in Ghana and a Senior Technical Officer at the Pharmacy Directorate of the Ghana Ministry of Health.

He also heads the National Drug Information, Research and Monitoring and Evaluation Unit of the Ministry of Health under the Pharmacy Directorate. He joined mainstream health policy in 2008 at the Ghana National Drugs Programme and currently advises on technical issues in relation to pharmaceuticals in the Ghana Ministry of Health.



He has led and contributed to several technical initiatives in

- Formulation and review of National Medicines Policy
- Development and review of Standard Treatment Guidelines (STG) and Essential Medicines Lists (EML) including COVID-19 treatment guidelines for Ghana
- Institutionalization of Health Technology Assessment (HTA)
- Evidence-based medicine (EBM)

- Pricing systems, Health systems strengthening, Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and health information systems

He currently serves on the

- National Medicines Selection Committee,
- National Medicines Price Committee,
- National AMR policy platform,
- National Medicines Policy Technical Working Group, among others.

Christopher Lim

Chief, PAHO Strategic Fund, Health Systems and Services (HSS), Pan American Health Organization.

Christopher is a national of Singapore, obtained his Degree in Computer Science & Information Systems with a double major in Economics & Corporate Finance, a Master's degree in Business Administration, and a post-graduate degree in Public Health Leadership.

He is currently Chief, Strategic Fund for Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO), and is responsible for spearheading the development and execution of strategies to enhance equitable access to quality strategic public health supplies to Member States in the Region of the Americas; through inter-programmatic initiatives to strengthen Member States' priority public health programs.

Christopher has more than 20 years of management consulting experience across various industries including Pharmaceutical, Oil & Gas, Advance electronics manufacturing, and Fast Moving Consumer Products, across continents of Americas, Europe, and Asia with wide-ranging cultures. He was also the Head of Strategic Sourcing and Supply Chain Management for various pharmaceutical companies prior to joining PAHO/WHO.

Christopher is a certified Supply Chain Operating Reference Model (APICS-SCOR) trainer and consultant, Certified Six Sigma Black Belt consultant, Certified Program and Project Management Professional (PMI-PMP-PgMP), and Agile Practitioner (PMI-ACP).

He was also an Adjunct Lecturer with the University of London, the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, Murdoch University, and Victoria University.

