

E-release
Witness seminar reports
Wednesday, May 25, 2022 | Time: 630 – 745 pm (IST)

Proceedings Report titled
Tracing the historical trajectory of community engagement in TB-related public health interventions in India |

Held (virtually) on Thursday, October 21, 2021

And

Proceedings Report titled
Community engagement and patient-centered care in TB-related public health interventions in India: perspectives of survivors, champions and community-based organisations | Held (virtually) on Saturday, December 18, 2021

Panelists' Bio-sketches

Asha Frederick, Additional Director of Medical & Rural Health Services, Tamil Nadu



Asha Frederick currently serves as Additional Director of Medical and Rural Health Services, Tamil Nadu, India, and as State TB Officer, National TB Elimination Programme, State TB Cell, Tamil Nadu. She currently is responsible for the implementation of the Revised National TB Control Programme (RNTCP) in Dharmapuri District, Tamil Nadu, India.

She is also entrusted with the responsibility of capacity building of all cadres of health staff, coordinating inter-departmental Welfare services for TB patients, and responsible for administration and reconciliation of District Health Society Funds.

She has done her medicines (MBBS) and holds post-graduate degree in public health and health systems. Additionally, she has done her Diploma in Tuberculosis and Chest Diseases.

Jim Lavery, Conrad N. Hilton Chair in Global Health Ethics, Emory University, Center for Ethics, Atlanta, USA



Jim Lavery is the inaugural Conrad N. Hilton Chair in Global Health Ethics, professor in the Hubert Department of Global Health in Rollins School of Public Health, and faculty of the Ethics Center. Prior to joining the Emory faculty, he was a research scientist and managing director of the Centre for Ethical, Social & Cultural Risk at the Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute of St. Michael's Hospital and an associate professor in the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, Institute of Medical Science, and Joint Centre for Bioethics at University of Toronto.

Lavery received MSc and PhD degrees from the Institute of Medical Science and Centre for Bioethics at University of Toronto and held a postdoctoral fellowship in applied ethics and health policy at the Queen's University Health Policy Research Unit. He then spent three years at the Fogarty International Center and Warren G. Magnuson Clinical Center, Department of Clinical Bioethics at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. From 2005 to 2015, Lavery was the co-principal investigator of the Ethical, Social, and Cultural Program for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Global Health and Global Development programs. He is currently leading the development of a global learning platform for community and stakeholder engagement to support funders and implementation partners in global health and global development, in partnership with the Gates Foundation. He is also an associate of the Council on Health Research for Development in Geneva, a technical adviser for its Research Fairness Initiative, and a member of the Bioethics Advisory Panel of Pfizer, Inc.

His areas of expertise include Global health, Research ethics, Stakeholder engagement and organizational learning, Fair partnerships, Ethics in organizational strategy, *Brokered Dialogue*

Manan Ganguli, Ekta Niketan TB Centre, District Deoghar, Jharkhand, India



Manan Ganguli is a medical doctor with longstanding work in public health. He has worked in the area of health programmes and especially tuberculosis programmes in India, and in a number of other countries in South, South-East and Central Asia. He has actively participated in health impact studies that looked into the health of people living close to coal mines in the states of Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh in India. Dr Ganguli is closely involved with a community-based TB programme in a remote village in Jharkhand — a programme that is managed by a group of villagers that cures TB patients, provides diagnosis and treatment of TB patients in the surrounding marginalised indigenous communities. Currently, he is engaged in setting up similar TB programmes in other parts of Jharkhand and Odisha.

Michael (Mihai) Mihut Head, Programme Innovation and Management (PIM), WHO-TDR, Geneva, Switzerland



Dr Michael Mihut is leading TDR's Programme Innovation and Management unit, effectively combining the management of technical and financial performance of the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical diseases, co-sponsored by UNICEF/UNDP/World Bank/WHO. In addition, he is also bringing forward innovation in organisational management, fostering social innovation in low-and middle-income countries, studying community engagement to implementation

research and ethics and supporting innovative ways of collaboration for TDR Global, a network of 4000+experts. He graduated from EU's Online campus with an MBA in 2015, having already earned the title of Doctor of Medicine in 1997. Originally from Romania, he has also lived in Canada and now lives and works in Switzerland. He speaks Romanian, French, English, a bit of Spanish and Italian. Outside of work, he loves music and is interested in history, photography, continuous improvement and research ethics.

Santosh Kumar Giri, Director, Kolkata Rista



Santosh Kumar Giri is a trained clinician and is the Director of Kolkata Rista, a transgender community-based organisation working for gender and sexual minority (LGBTH) communities in India. She is the first transgender activist working for issues concerning women and girls and is deeply engaged with men and boys for gender justice.

Santosh has extensive experience in facilitating workshops and trainings for the community on issues such as health, sex, sexuality and gender, human rights, sexual health and gender-based violence. She also works on issues related to empowering women, combating trafficking and various campaigns, including Zero Tolerance, Stop Gender-based Violence, Right to Food, One Billion Rising ,16 Days of Activism and Fortnight Activism.

She serves on the steering committee of Men Engage Alliance South Asia (MESA), member of the Global Men Engage Alliance, CBO representative on the Steering Committee of UHC 2030, member of INFOSEM, member of Wada Na Thodo Abhiyan, Right to Food Campaign, GCTA (global coalition of TB activists), focal person for India Eastern Region of TBT (Touched by TB) and many more.

Organisers' biosketches

Anurag Bhargava, Center for Nutrition Studies, Yenepoya (Deemed to be University)



Dr Anurag Bhargava is a physician and epidemiologist, and is currently a Professor in the Department of Medicine, at Yenepoya Medical College in Mangalore, Karnataka, India, and Adjunct Professor in the Department of Medicine at McGill University, Montreal, Canada. He is an advisory group member of the following technical groups: the SAGE-IVD (WHO Geneva); STAG-TB (WHO SEAR), the Indo-US REPORT-India consortium, and the National Technical Working Group on TB and Comorbidities of the National TB Elimination Programme.

He has three decades of experience in delivery of healthcare at all levels of care in India, including a decade spent as one of the founders of a large community health programme and rural hospital in rural central India. His research interests are in the field of tuberculosis, nutrition, acute febrile illnesses, and non-communicable diseases. He has led the development of 2 national guidelines and co-authored a third. He has led research which established undernutrition in adults in India as the major driver of the TB epidemic in India and undernutrition as a major reversible risk factor for mortality in patients with TB. His epidemiologic analysis of the historic Papworth socio-medical experiment in TB control (1918-43) showed that TB incidence in a high-risk group could be reduced by more than 80% with social interventions including adequate nutrition. He is currently leading the largest field-based cluster randomised trial of nutritional support in TB affected households (the RATIONS study in eastern India) which aims at reducing TB incidence in household contacts and improving outcomes in patients.

Anant Bhan, Independent Researcher



A medical graduate with a master's (MHSc) in Bioethics from the University of Toronto in Canada. He is a researcher in global health, health policy and bioethics with over 20 years of experience and numerous publications to his name. Anant Bhan is currently one of the leading voices on issues related to medical ethics and social justice in India. He is also the immediate past president of the International Association of Bioethics (2017-19),

serves as an Adjunct (Visiting) Professor, Yenepoya (deemed to be University), and is a member of several committees, and serves as Principal Investigator/Site-Principal Investigator for Sangath, a leading health research organization for its Bhopal hub.

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Madhavi Bhargava, Center for Nutrition Studies, Yenepoya (Deemed to be University)



Dr Madhavi Bhargava, Associate Professor in the Department of Community Medicine, Yenepoya Medical College, and Deputy Head, Center for Nutrition Studies, Yenepoya (Deemed to be University), Mangalore, Karnataka, India.

After having worked as a full-time surgeon and clinician in tribal areas of Chhattisgarh for more than 10 years, she

got trained in research at McGill University, Himalayan Institute of Medical Sciences, and St John's Research Institute. Her work focuses on primary care, public health in low resource settings and social determinants of health. Of the social determinants, nutrition and its intersection with communicable diseases like tuberculosis is the major work she is currently involved. She is Co-PI for a large ICMR supported cluster randomised trial, the RATIONS (Reduced Activation of Tuberculosis by Improvement of Nutritional Status) trial in Jharkhand, and has also analysed national level data sets of adolescents to identify important nutrition problems such as stunting, thinness, and tuberculosis in them. Using operational research approach, she investigated the preparedness in primary care for nutritional assessment, screening disease severity and risk stratification for TB. Maternal diet and nutrition are other areas of work. She has collaborations with UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund), NIN (National Institute for Nutrition), NIRT (National Institute for Research in Tuberculosis), Karnataka State TB Task Force, and the Lady Irwin College, New Delhi. She is Academic Editor for PLoS One, PLOS Global Public Health and Associate Editor for Heliyon.

Sunita Sheel Bandewar, FMES-HEaL Institute



Sunita Bandewar has training in Anthropology (PhD, University of Pune) and Bioethics (MHSc, University of Toronto). Her engagement with health as a field of enquiry over these past 30 years is primarily via empirical research in health and allied thematics, training, and advocacy in the areas of women and health, global health, public policy, and bioethics. Currently she holds the office of Secretary General,

the Managing Committee, Forum for Medical Ethics Society (FMES), Mumbai, serves on the core editorial board of the *Indian Journal of Medical Ethics*; and serves as Director, Health, Ethics and Law Institute, a programmatic platform of FMES. She is one of the founding trustees of Vidhayak Trust, Pune.