



MAKERERE UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
MakSPH



ANNUAL
REPORT
2023

This annual report was prepared by the MakSPH Communications Office
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CONTENT

This report represents a collaborative effort in which all MakSPH departments and related projects provided content. We are grateful to all units, individuals who contributed to this work.

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All photos in this report were taken by the MakSPH Communications Office unless where cited otherwise.

MakSPH through the years...



Prof. Rhoda Wanyenze
Dean, Makerere University
School of Public Health
2017 – To Date



Prof. William Bazeyo
Dean, Makerere University
School of Public Health
2009 – 2017



Prof. David Musoke Serwadda
Dean, Makerere University
School of Public Health
2003 – 2009



Prof. Fred Wabwire-Mangen,
Director, Institute of
Public Health 1995 – 1998
& 1998– 2003



Prof. Gilbert Balibaseka Bukenya
Director, Institute of
Public Health
1991 – 1994



Prof. John Tuhe Kakitahi
Director, Institute of
Public Health
1988 – 1991



Prof. Josephine Namboze
Director, Institute of
Public Health
1978 – 1988



Capt. Prof. Virginio Lachora Ongom
Director, Institute of
Public Health (the late
1960s – 1975)



Prof. Suleiman Jabir Farsey
Director, Institute of
Public Health (the late
1960s – 1975)



Dr. Francis John Bennett
Second Head,
Department of
Preventive Medicine
1962 – 1967



Prof. George W. Gale
First Head, Department
of Preventive Medicine
1957 – 1962

Makerere University School of Public Health (MakSPH) is a leading public health training and research institution in Sub-Saharan Africa and one of the schools under the College of Health Sciences, a constituent College of Makerere University. The school is mandated to provide training, community services, and research in the public health field. The origin of MakSPH dates back to the early 1950s when preventive medicine was introduced as an academic discipline of medical sciences in the faculty of medicine of the University of East Africa that later transformed into Makerere University. Later in 1957, the public health discipline evolved into a fully-fledged department of preventive medicine. At the onset, the department was headed by Professor George W. Gale and manned by a few expatriates.

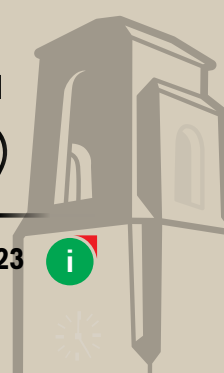
In July 1975, the department was elevated to an Institute of Public Health (IPH), the first public health institute in Sub-Saharan Africa, although it continued to operate as a department of the Faculty of Medicine. In 2001, the Institute of Public Health was granted semi-autonomous status within the Faculty of Medicine. It started off with four departments: Epidemiology and Biostatistics (EPIBIO), Health Policy Planning and Management (HPPM), Community Health and Behavioural Sciences (CHBS) and Disease Control and Environmental Health (DCEH). In July 2007, the Institute of Public Health changed its name and status to “Makerere University School of Public Health (MakSPH)” and in 2008, it became a constituent School of the Makerere University College of Health Sciences.

The School conducts research and provides consultation services to the Government of Uganda Ministry of Health, various national and international health organizations, as well as bilateral and multilateral agencies involved in health. The School provides graduate, undergraduate and in-service training in public health. MakSPH's major research and capacity building areas are: infectious and non-infectious diseases; sexual, reproductive, maternal and child health; health policy and systems research; environmental and sustainable health.

MakSPH

@69

MakSPH Annual Report 2023





Vision

To be a leader in public health training and knowledge generation for societal transformation.



Mission

To promote better health for the people of Uganda and beyond through public health training, research and community service.



Core Values

- Professionalism
- Integrity
- Innovativeness
- Responsiveness
- Collaborations
- Equity & social justice

Contents

Message from the Dean	1
2023 by Numbers	2
Leadership of the School	3
Pillars of MakSPH 2020–2030 Strategic Plan	9
Transformative Education	11
Knowledge Generation and Translation	29
Partnerships	63
Institutional Capacity Enhancement	69
MakSPH List of Academic Staff	76
Publications	79





Message from the Dean



I am delighted to once again share with you our work and contribution to public health in 2023. We aim and hope to make and continue to make an impact on the health of individuals and communities through our teaching and learning, research and community engagement activities

It is my sincere pleasure to take you on a journey of our key operations and outputs in line with our 2020-2030 strategic plan as well as the hurdles and aspirations going forward.

For transformative education, the school has, successfully conducted all scheduled teaching, examinations, new student orientations, field attachments, and graduation ceremonies. During the Makerere University's 73rd graduation ceremony held in February 2023, we presented 167 graduates, 2 of them were PhDs, 44 bachelor of environmental health sciences, and 121 awarded Masters degrees. We are dedicated to supporting every student and ensuring their timely graduation. We also continue to review

and update our programs to keep them up to date and relevant.

To attain a high level of knowledge generation and translation, the school continues with the culture of engagement of communities and key actors in the design and implementation of our research and innovation projects. We celebrate our contribution to various decisions and improvements in health in Uganda and the African region. I extend my congratulations and appreciation to our staff for these significant contributions.

The School has grown tremendously in partnerships locally and globally and has widely impacted public health. We extend gratitude to all our partners, funders, stakeholders, staff and students for their contribution to a successful 2023.

Sincerely,
Dr. Rhoda Wanyenze.
Professor and Dean, MakSPH

2023 by Numbers



160

Students and staff from Makerere University and NTU participated in the exchange program, with durations ranging from one week to three months.



65

Students, undergraduates and postgraduates, participated in a two-month research training program conducted by Makerere University.



17

17 doctoral students participated in a 3-month NTU Researcher Development Training program.



11

non-teaching staff from Mak visited NTU in the UK for experiential learning and knowledge exchange for 2 to 3 weeks.



1000+

Students' population
80% of whom are graduates



167

graduands presented from the School for the 73rd Graduation ceremony



45

health professionals, researchers and policy makers trained in health technology assessment



38

enrolled and completed the inaugural health informatics course



27

participants received training in fundamental level course in medical statistics in collaboration with University of Bergen, CISMACH and Makerere University School of Public Health.



140

Research protocols reviewed



306

Peer reviewed publications

Leadership of the School



DEAN

**Dr. Rhoda
Wanyenze**
(Professor)



Deputy Dean

**Dr. Elizeus
Rutebemberwa**
(Professor)



Dr. Christine Nalwadda
(Senior Lecturer)

*Head, Department of Community
Health and Behavioral Sciences*



Dr. Esther Buregyeya
(Associate Professor)

*Head, Department of Disease
Control and Environmental Health*



Ms. Gladys Khamili
(Principal Registrar)

*Office of the Academic Registrar,
Makerere University*



Dr. Suzanne Kiwanuka
(Senior Lecturer)

*Head, Department of Health
Policy Planning and Management*



Dr. Joan N. Mutyoba
(Senior Lecturer)

*Head, Department of
Epidemiology and Biostatistics*



CPA Elizabeth N. Nambi
(Finance Manager)

Finance Management Unit

The School is headed by the Dean, who is assisted by the Deputy Dean, and comprises of four academic departments; Health Policy, Planning and Management, Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Disease Control and Environmental Health, Community Health and Behavioural Sciences , centers of excellence and administrative units.

CENTERS AND RESEARCH GROUPS



Center of Excellence for Maternal Newborn and Child Health (MCMNH)



Alcohol, Drugs and Addictions Research Center (ADARC)



Center for Health Policy and Systems Development (CHPSD)



Center of Excellence for Sustainable Health -CESH



Center for Tobacco Control in Africa (CTCA)



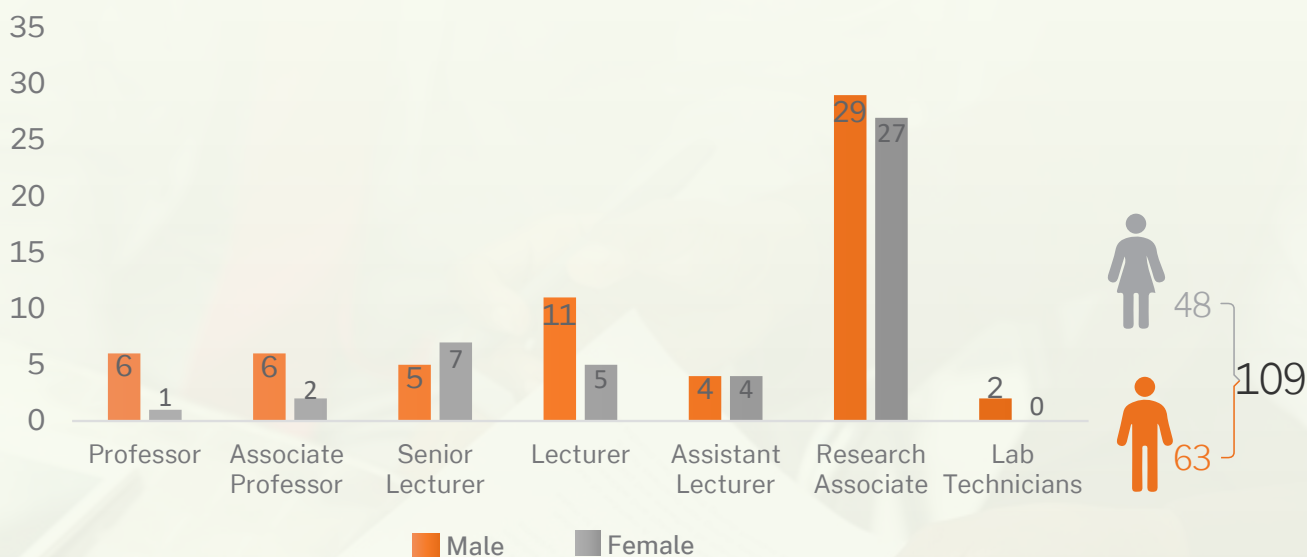
Trauma, Injuries and Disability (TRIAD) Unit



Scan QR code for more details about the MaKSPH Centers of Excellence or visit the link below

<https://bit.ly/ResearchCentres>

MAKSPH ACADEMIC STAFF BY RANK AND GENDER



Academic Staff Categorization by Appointment

	University Appointed Faculty	Research Associates
Male	34	29
Female	19	27
Total	53	56



Members of
MakSPH-CHBS
department during
the Staff Retreat at
Munyonyo, December,
2022.

Department of Community Health and Behavioral Sciences

The Department of Community Health and Behavioral Sciences (CHBS) Department has made substantial progress toward MakSPH's 10-Year Strategic Plan. Departmental highlights in 2023 include coordinating and teaching all departmental courses and increasing enrolment in Master of Public Health Disaster Management (MPHDM), Master of Public Health Nutrition (MPHN), and the PhD program.

It has attracted international students from the UK, Yemen, Sudan, Somalia and Kenya, conducted follow up masters, mock presentations, and established a department PhD student group. This is in addition to implementing initiatives to enhance student completion, exemplified by the MDM Cohort 2021's 100% on-time completion. Moreover, the department has bolstered its faculty, with a majority now holding PhDs, while also recruiting new staff, a public health nutritionist and research associates.

One faculty, Dr. Dathan Byonanebye Mirembe, completed PhD studies and returned. Ten out of 12 (83%) university appointed staff in the department have PhDs. Meanwhile, one faculty, Dr. David Lubogo is at the tail end of the PhD journey. A new faculty, Dr. Edward Buzigi has joined to replace Dr. Henry Wamani, who retired last year and 3 Research Associates were recruited. The research associates are graduates of MDM, and MPHN. They are Ms Sandra Mwima, Ms Hajara Nakitende and Mr Michael Wagaba.

The Department's Administrative assistant Ms. Hanifah Bukirwa ended her tour of duty in December 2023 and we thank her for her tremendous work. As we await the university appointment processes to replace her, Ms. Shajeah Ndagire was assigned in the interim to support the department with administrative issues.

The Department is spearheading the development of a graduate program; the Master of Health Promotion and Communication (MHPC), in collaboration with the School of Languages, Literature, and Communication's Department of

Journalism and Communication (DJC). The efforts are led by Dr. David Musoke, Dr. Christine Nalwadda, Allan Ssemuusi, Agnes Nyabigambo, Carol Esther Nabbanja and Davidson Ndyabahika from MakSPH. From DJC, the efforts are championed by Dr. Aisha Nakiwala Sembatya, Dr. Marjorie N. Kyomuhendo and Dr. Ivan Nathanael Lukanda. The curriculum to be submitted for university approvals is expected to be ready in early 2024.

Curricula for existing the programs have been revised. The department secured funding for mobility programs with Universidad de Málaga (UMA) that has supported four (04) faculty, Dr. Arthur Bagonza, Dr. Henry wamani, Dr. Lynn Atuyambe and Dr. Simon Kibira and eight (08) PhD students in expediting their research. The PhD students are; Esther Bayiga, Jimmy Osuret, James Mbabazi, Rukia Namaganda, David Lubogo, Paskariodoi, Rebecca Nuwematsiko and Olivia Nakisita. We thank Dr. Arthur Bagonza for spearheading this partnership.

The department's grant portfolio has grown, with now over 36 projects, including seven (07) collaborative research projects that are student-led initiatives.

Furthermore, CHBS has greatly contributed to knowledge dissemination through publications and community engagement activities such as the establishment of Wakiso District as the Community Lab (ComLab) for students, staff and the operation of the Health Pot TV show in partnership with Church of Uganda's Family TV. Faculty and students hit a record 80+ publications in 2023.

With respect to community service, the department has been actively involved in supporting Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF), local government through several Districts, Refugee hosting communities and other institutions with research and participating in Technical Working Groups. Department staff belong to several School Committees and are supporting activities of the school.



Members of
MakSPH-EPI-BIO
department during
the Staff Retreat at
Munyonyo, December,
2022

Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics

In 2023, the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics prioritized enhancing population health, promoting social justice, and informing evidence-based public health policy through rigorous quantitative research methods. Program-specific orientations were conducted for students enrolled in the Academic Year 2023/2024. As part of the MPH-FT and MBIO offering in Interventional Epidemiology, students gained hands-on experience in clinical trials at Kitebi HC III on October 20, 2023, coordinated by Dr. Victoria Nankabirwa.

The department-maintained collaborations with institutions supporting graduate students' field placements and teaching, including HISP and the College of Computing and Information Sciences (CoCIS). External examiners were outsourced for the School, and department faculty

served as external supervisors for other universities.

This year, Mild Day Uganda selected Dr. Babirye Doreen and Dr. Muhwezi Julius for mentorship in healthcare delivery research at Mildmay Uganda to prepare them for their field attachments. Weekly progress tracking of students continued, along with meetings to discuss strategies for accelerating progress.

The department developed the curriculum for the Master's of Health Data Science and awaits Senate approval for the revised MHSR curriculum. Similarly, the revised curricula for MHI, MPHDE, and MBIO have been submitted for approval to relevant offices.

In capacity building projects and student sponsorship, a D43 training program selected three Master's fellows to conduct research on the application of

digital mobile technologies in studying TB or TB/HIV. The ARISE NUTRINT project awarded a PhD studentship to Buyinza Thomas, while two MBIO students received tuition support from the PAMAfrica consortium Initiative.

Under the SSACAB-DELTAS Sponsorship Applications 2023, 15 applicants from the MBIO 2023/2024 Cohorts were interviewed, with shortlisted candidates recommended to the funder.

The department's faculty published over 29 manuscripts as first authors or co-authors. Former head of Department, Dr. Noah Kiwanuka, was appointed as the new Chairperson of the National Biosafety Committee (NBC). Short courses conducted include a Health Informatics Short Course, an Intermediate Level Course in Medical Statistics, and an Introduction to Mathematical Modelling Short Course.

Some of the new projects within the last one year





Members of
MakSPH DCEH
department during
the Staff Retreat at
Munyonyo, December,
2022

Department of Disease Control and Environmental Health

The Disease Control and Environmental Health Department (DCEH) registered great milestones in 2023, including the approval and implementation of a revised curriculum for the Bachelor of Environmental Health Sciences (BEHS), MakSPH's sole undergraduate course since 2000. The department developed online learning materials for the occupational health and safety course.

In its second year, the Master of Environmental and Occupational Health (MEOH) program is garnering attention from students and researchers, aiming to develop future professionals in the field. The first cohort of 12 students is currently in their final semester, focusing on research projects. This cohort also collaborated with students from Columbia University (Mailman School of Public Health) on academic assignments in the Water and Sanitation module. Meanwhile, the second cohort of 12 students has successfully completed their first semester. This program featured in the International Commission on Occupational Health (ICOH) newsletter of April 2023, as the only graduate program offering occupational health in Uganda.

With respect to PhD by research training, four PhD graduands successfully defended their doctoral thesis and ready for January 2024 graduation. These are; Charles Ssemugabo, Frederick Oporia, James

Muleme and Celestine Banamwana. Also, four new PhD students enrolled in the department.

Regarding the taught PhD program, progress has been made in obtaining UNCHE approval for the Taught PhD in Public Health. Implementation is slated to commence in 2024, with preparations underway across MakSPH for the program's launch.

For other master's students, three (03) MPH students received funds to support their dissertation; Eunice Ekyokunda-PEER Project, Irene Wobusobozi, Lydia Nakanjako and Emma Balinda -EDCTP, and Aisha Nalugya-RISK-WASH project. Additionally, three (3) more graduate students at MakSPH will receive financial support in the next 3 years-RISK-WASH Developing curriculum for Master of Health Promotion and Communication together with CHBS and Department of Journalism.

Regarding the Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility, 59 students (undergraduate, masters and PhD) and faculty (teaching and non-teaching staff) from Mak travelled to NTU for between 2 weeks and 2 months. Students and faculty were from CHS (Environmental / Public Health, Nursing, Pharmacy, and Microbiology), COVAB, and CAES.

In 2023, the department recorded at least 120 peer-reviewed publications, comprising 35 first-author, 39 last-author, and 6 student-led (masters/

bachelors) papers. This marks a notable increase compared to the previous three years, which saw 114 publications in 2022, 107 in 2021, and 96 peer-reviewed publications in 2020.

In respect to community service, the Department through the Mak-NTU partnership trained over 900 VHTs and 500 local leaders in Wakiso district on increasing demand and uptake of COVID-19 vaccination. In addition, over 19,000 people in the district were vaccinated against COVID-19 through outreaches including among schools. Supported the Ministry of Health to review and update the occupational health guidelines for the health workforce in Uganda and trained two (2) Red Cross volunteers in conducting environmental monitoring through the RISK-WASH project. Additionally, the KTBAir project trained community health volunteers in the use of air quality monitoring equipment and subsequently sensitize the community in Namuwongo and beyond about tuberculosis, air quality and health.

Four members of department started their PhDs on projects in 2023. They are Ruth Mubeezi-Nebye, Dr. Marianna Agaba, Winnie Kansime and Tonny Ssekamatte. One postdoc attached to the WaterPath project and Dr. Rawlance Ndejjo enrolled for a Post-doctoral fellowship through the Africa Research Excellence Fund at the Brighton and Sussex Medical School, UK.



Members of
MakSPH-HPPM
department during
the Staff Retreat at
Munyonyo, December,
2022

Department of Health Policy, Planning and Management (HPPM)

The Department of Health Policy, Planning, and Management (HPPM) has registered significant milestones in 2023 across various areas. Faculty members actively participated in teaching and field supervision, reviewing Master of Public Health (MPH) and Monitoring and Evaluation (MPME) curricula, as well as advancing the proposed Master's in Health Economics program. The MPH and the MPME curriculum have been approved by NCHE. Notably, the development of the Master's in Health Economics program has reached the senate level. This program is a collaborative effort with the School of Economics in the College of Business and Management Sciences. The department also currently hosts 12 PhD by research students at various stages of their studies. The department also provided support for courses within and outside the school, notably, conducting short courses on Health Systems Research, Health Impact Assessment, and Health Technology Assessment.

In terms of research and grantsmanship, HPPM has established two main research groups including the Health Economics and Policy Research Group and the Health Systems

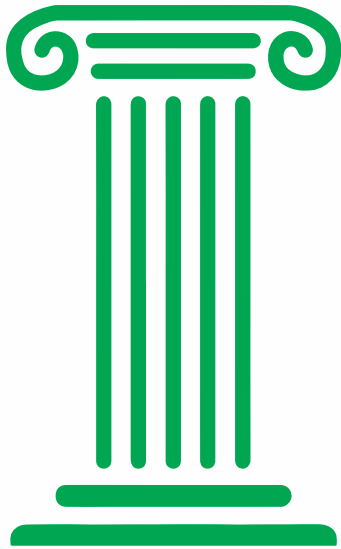
Leadership and Governance Research Group. The department has also maintained strong collaboration with strategic partners in various universities and institutions, contributing to projects such as African Leadership and Management Training for Malaria Eradication (ALAMIME), Digital Health Payment Initiative and Research in Africa (DHPI-R), and AFRHiCARE. The department secured eight new grants in 2023 and recorded over 128 peer-reviewed scientific publications.

Faculty members played active roles in corporate boards, Technical Working Groups, and community efforts, and MPH officers have conducted surveillance activities and engaged in risk communication and community engagement initiatives. For instance, with support from the African Field Epidemiology Network (AFENET), the Department conducted surveillance of the Namugongo Martyrs Day mass gathering event from May to June 2023, engaging 10 MPH officers. Sixteen MPH officers supported districts in surveillance of a mumps outbreak during their recess term in Kabarole, Jinja, Wakiso, Kampala, and Kabale. In response to the Ebola outbreak, eight MPH officers, who are alumni, were

engaged to work with the Ministry of Health and Red Cross Uganda for Risk Communication and Community Engagement in affected districts.

The Department also facilitated external training sessions benefiting numerous participants on VERSE equity tool, Costing and Pricing of Health Services (50 individuals), ALAMIME (196 individuals), and Health Services Research (22 participants). The department has plans to roll out more short courses in the next reporting period and expand capacity of its staff within their core mandate of health systems management, policy, economics and financing.

HPPM continues to coordinate various programs, including Master of Public Health courses and to support Makerere University School of Medicine in delivering health systems management training for undergraduate and post graduate students. The department also maintained local and international collaborations, supporting community services through partnerships with districts, organizations like UNHCO and EPRC, and specialized community-focused partners like ACODE.



This Annual Report highlights the School's objectives, accomplishments, and ambitions aligned with our strategic plan's four pillars.

Our 2020-2030 Strategic Plan describes aspirations of the School of Public Health and how the School will promote public health to address today's socioeconomic concerns. It holds that public health must be flexible to address society's ever-changing public health issues.

These commitments address current and future public health issues through three main functions:

- **Research** (advancing public health knowledge and translating it into policies and programs),
- **Education** (preparing quality public health human resources), and
- **Community Service.**

In addition to our daily operations, this Plan aims to upend the status quo and preserve excellence in communities and health systems.



Pillars of MakSPH 2020-2030 Strategic Plan



Transformative
Education



Knowledge Generation
and Translation



Partnerships



Institutional Capacity
Enhancement





Transformative Education

Within our teaching mission, we aspire to maintain leadership in producing outstanding, innovative and diverse human resources for health. We pride ourselves on having produced high-quality graduates who oversee the entire healthcare system in Uganda and who are highly sought after in other countries in the region.

We are committed to providing education that challenges convention and develops diverse leaders who can transform the health of communities and who possess the knowledge and skills necessary to adapt in a rapidly changing world.







Teaching and Learning

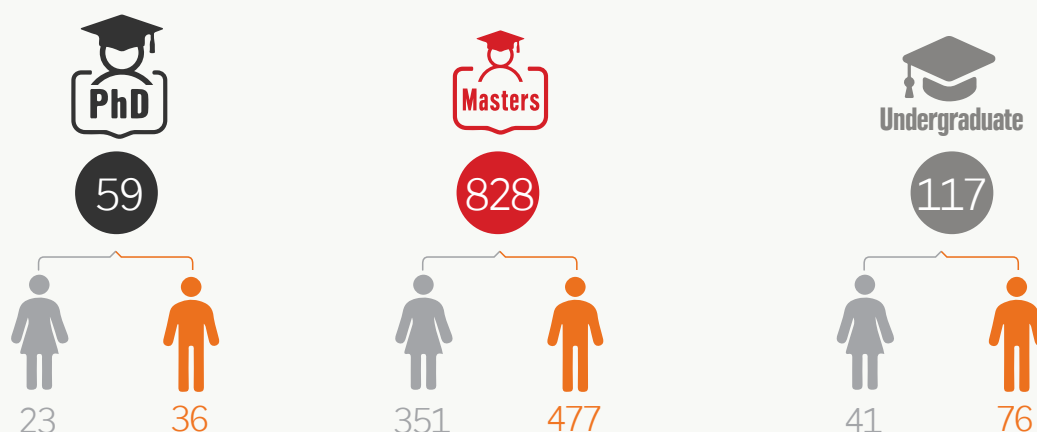
Teaching, learning, research, and innovation remain at the heart of MakSPH, presenting significant growth over the years. From one academic program to eleven, with student numbers rising from 40 to over 1,000, MakSPH Strategic Plan speaks to a Decade of Transformation in public health education, research, and innovation to match the fast changing and complex context. Our goal is to build visionary leaders and turn research into tangible solutions that improve health, well-being, and development.

Student Enrolment

Eighty percent of our student population are graduate students with a five percent of these, representing international students. Academic programmes increased from 01 Diploma in 1969 to one undergraduate programme, 9 masters programs and a PhD in public health.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT 2022/2023 ACADEMIC YEAR

PROGRAMME	ACADEMIC YEAR		
	2022/2023		
	F	M	TOTALS
Bachelor of Environmental Health Science (BEHS)	41	76	117
Master of Public Health Nutrition (MPH)	68	70	138
Master of Public Health (Distance Education (MPH(DE))	165	250	415
Master of Public Health Nutrition (MPHN)	26	13	39
Master of Health Services Research (MHSR)	18	24	42
Master of Public Health Disaster Management (MDM)	11	24	35
Master of Health Informatics (MHI)	21	42	63
Master of Biostatistics (MBIO)	19	22	41
Master of Public Health (Monitoring and Evaluation) (MPH (M&E))	20	26	46
Master of Environmental and Occupational Health (MEOH)	3	6	9
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)	23	36	59
GRAND TOTAL	415	589	1004



Academic Program Curriculum Reviews and program development.

- 1) The Bachelor of Environmental Health Science was reviewed and accredited by the NCHE in September 2023.
- 2) Master of Health Services Research and Master of Public Health Nutrition programs are currently under review by the National Council for Higher Education (NCHE), a statutory agency and semi-autonomous Government regulatory agency, responsible for the regulation of higher education in Uganda.
- 3) The curricula for Master of Public Health Full Time, Master of Public Health Distance Education, Master of Public Health Disaster management, Master of Biostatistics, Master of Health Informatics and Master of Public Health Monitoring and Evaluation are at the University Senate level for review.

In the pipeline, the School has developed curriculum for new academic programs; a taught PhD and Master of Health Economics and a Master of Health Promotion and Communication.





73rd Graduation Ceremony

Shaping Public Health Leadership through Capacity Building

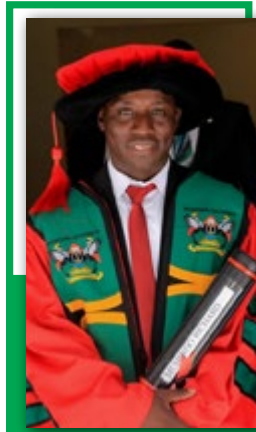
The first session of Makerere University's 73rd Graduation Ceremony began with the Chancellor, Professor Ezra Suruma conferring degrees and diplomas to candidates from the College of Health Sciences (CHS), College of Natural Sciences (CoNAS), and School of Law. MakSPH through its four Departments, Epidemiology and Biostatistics (EPIBIO), Health Policy Planning and Management (HPPM), Community Health and Behavioural Sciences (CHBS) and Disease Control and Environmental Health (DCEH) continues to offer high quality transformative education to strengthen health systems and outcomes. During the 73rd Graduation

Ceremony, the School graduated a total of 167 graduands in the 73rd Graduation.

On January 13, 2023 two outstanding students Ms. Carol Esther Nabbanja and Mr. Allan Ssemuusi from the Bachelor of Environmental Health Sciences (BEHS) degree programme received first-class honours. Also, we presented to the Chancellor two PhD students Dr. Muhindo Richard and Dr. Nanteza Barbara Marjorie upon satisfactory completion of their PhD journey. Congratulations to all graduands for the outstanding performance and achievement.

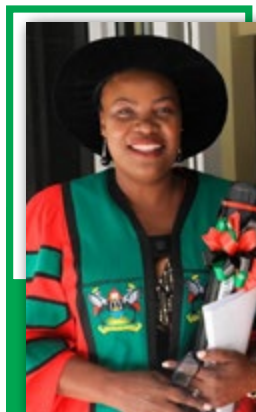
Program	Graduands
PhD	2
Masters	121
Bachelors	44
Total	167

PhD graduands



Dr. Muhindo Richard
Dean, School of Health Sciences, MakCHS

Regular STI and HIV Screening intentions and Practices among Sex Workers in Uganda: The effect of text reminders and peer education.



Dr. Nanteza Barbara Marjorie,
HIV Prevention Officer, AIDS Control Program, Ministry of Health, Uganda

Correlates of Safe Male Circumcision uptake in Gulu District, Mid Northern Uganda.

Outstanding BEHS Students

Two outstanding students from the Bachelor of Environmental Health Sciences (BEHS) degree programme have distinguished themselves by achieving first-class degrees. We congratulate them.



NABBANJA Carol Esther
CGPA 4.61



SSEMBUUSI Allan
CGPA 4.42





Mentorship and Students Activities

Professor Rhoda Wanyenze speaking to graduate students during a dissertation workshop.

Graduate Students Dissertation Writing Workshop

MakSPH's annual Graduate Student's Dissertation Writing workshop, held from April 13th-14th, 2023, at the Kololo Annex, aimed to expedite students' dissertation completion. With guidance from faculty, students receive important guidance into research methodology and dissertation writing. The interactive sessions equip students with essential skills and fostered practical discussions on their dissertations. This year, reflecting on the workshop, students like Kawanga Ketu Joseph have praised the enlightenment gained, highlighting its critical role in facilitating dissertation writing. The Dean, Professor Rhoda Wanyenze, emphasizes that such dissertation workshops underscore MakSPH's commitment to academic excellence and student support, setting a model for other university units to follow.



“Graduate training support is what we aspire for and wish for every unit of the university to meet our strategic ambition of a research led university by 2030. The School of Public Health has set an example that other units have a lot to learn from and replicate”—**Dr. Edward Bbaale**, Professor of Economics and Director of Research and Graduate Training at Makerere University.



Student Field Visits



Education field visits and internship enrich students, faculty, and facilitates learning. These trips provide hands-on learning, cultural exposure, social skills, self-confidence, academic performance, curriculum enrichment, and lifelong memories.

Since environmental health is a practical course, students frequently participate in field trips in addition to theory sessions to acquire the practical knowledge necessary to overcome obstacles in the field. For this reason, students visit the many MakSPH annexes, labs, construction sites, and communities for some real-world experiences related to environmental health.

The Jinja team at AgroWays (U) Ltd during internship July 2023



Internship

MakSPH internship students being briefed on Occupational Health Safety (OSH) measures in place at the food processing industry, AgroWays (U) Ltd during internship in Jinja, July 2023.



Students can gain real-world experience and job preparation through internships, which is crucial for their personal and professional growth. At the conclusion of each academic year, our second-year BEHS students take part in internships where teams are sent to different districts for two months. Forty six students in the undergraduate class were allocated to districts this year, including Jinja, Nansana, Mbale, Tororo, and others to apply what has been learned in the classroom to real-world situations, with an emphasis on tasks like immunization, health education, and premises inspection. Lecturers evaluate student performance and offer feedback after the internship.

This is also done for our graduate programs and students learn required skills acquired for their professional success. See photos around internship

MakSPH students engaged in several activities including community service, drowning prevention and school inspection as part of their internship placement in Jinja.



Exchange Programme

The Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility Programme 2018 -2023

A model of exceptional training and mobility under the NTU-Mak partnership led by Dr. David Musoke, Department of Disease Control and Environmental Health, School of Public Health, Uganda, and Professor Linda Gibson, School of Social Sciences, Nottingham Trent University, Nottingham, UK.

In five years, the partnership facilitated a robust exchange of students and staff between the College of Health Sciences (CHS), College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CAES), and College of Veterinary Medicine, Animal Resources and Bio-security (COVAB) at Makerere University and Nottingham Trent University in the UK.

- 115 Makerere University students and 45 NTU students and staff joined the exchange program, lasting from 1 week to 3 months.
- 32 undergraduates, 33 postgraduates, and 22 academic staff from Mak completed a 2-month research training program.

- 17 doctoral students participated in a 3-month NTU Researcher Development Training program.
- 11 non-teaching staff from Mak visited NTU in the UK for experiential learning and knowledge exchange for 2 to 3 weeks.

Other Highlights

- The engagement of non-teaching staff has been beneficial, introducing them to the latest technology and initiatives, boosting motivation for improved performance.
- The Erasmus+ program highlights the partnership's contribution to Makerere University's strategic goals in teaching, capacity building, and research. By engaging students across all levels in research, it supports Mak's ambition to become a research-led university and solidifies its status as one of NTU's key international partners.





18th Annual Scientific MUEHSA Conference

The Makerere University Environmental Health Students' Association (MUEHSA) holds annual conferences and exhibitions for professional growth and advocacy among students and practitioners.

This Students' Association was established in 2003 to advocate for Ugandan and international environmental health professionals. Its 18th Scientific Conference held on April 27th and 28th, 2023, under the theme; "Environmental Health and its Contribution in Combating Emerging and Re-Emerging Diseases," attracted more than 400 professors, researchers, policymakers, and students from Makerere University and beyond. The conference often includes plenary talks, panel discussions, presentations, exhibitions, and networking opportunities for

our students to showcase environmental health solutions' importance in global health as well as mentorship.



Delegation from Nottingham Trent University sharing a light moment during the 18th MUEHSA Conference

Health Communication, Promotion through Family TV



MakSPH through the Department of Community Health and Behavioural Sciences, has for the third-year-in a row, been supporting the health pot, a weekly show aired on Family TV, a Ugandan Church of Uganda TV station. This is a platform that allows students and faculty to engage in topical discussions on human health, climate change, antimicrobial

resistance, communicable and non-communicable diseases, road safety, solid waste management, waste water management and one health among other issues.

In 2023, students under their association MUEHSA were involved in a series of talk shows where they engaged in topical issues.



The health pot is a weekly show aired on Family TV, a Ugandan Church of Uganda TV station.



Students' Involvement in Sports



Sports are said to improve students' well-being by fostering character, physical fitness, mental alertness, and discipline. Sports activities provide education, self-expression, fulfillment, skill gain, social contact, employment, and excellent health and well-being. Sports can also contribute to excellent health. Fitness tests studies have revealed better

brain function, energy levels, bodybuilding, self-esteem, and academic achievement.

In this regard, MakSPH students organize yearly college sports and inter-year turf contests outside of class. Students from the college of health sciences, which includes Public Health, compete at the intercollege sports gala. Football, volleyball, board games,

scrabble, and video games are played. However, the student body organizes inter-year events that pit different years against each other. SPH tournaments feature only football. The 2021/22 year threes are the reigning champions and have never lost a game. The students excelled in volleyball and chess in college.

Students Participate in World Environmental Health Day in Gulu City



MakSPH students under their umbrella Association MUEHSA joined partners and other environmental health practitioners and students from across Uganda gathered at Kaunda Grounds in Gulu City on September 26, 2023, to celebrate World Environmental Health Day organized by Environmental Health Workers Association of Uganda - EHWAU.

"Global Environmental Health: Standing Up to Project Everyone's Health Each and Every Day" was the celebration theme.

Former Makerere University lecturer Professor Opudo-Asibo John gave the keynote address, stressing the importance of public health and environmental health and the need for a multidisciplinary approach to achieve targets.





MakSPH's Student Life Approach to Fostering Holistic and Professional Growth

MakSPH creates well-rounded, socially beneficial people through mentorship, community engagement, and spiritual growth.

To build community and collaboration, student leaders organize internal and external mentorship meetings to foster students' relationships with our partners. Students and professors at the School of Public Health attend internal meetings to share experiences, explore opportunities, and learn from each other. The Makerere University Environmental Health Students' Association executive and Guild Representative Councillors lead new student orientations at these events.

MakSPH's Christian Union offers spiritual enrichment programs like Sseguku Prayer Mountain tours and leadership changes. These outings strengthen the union's aim of connecting students to faith and community by offering spiritual nourishment and meditation. The patron for the MakSPH CU is Dr. Geoffrey Musinguzi, a Research Fellow at MakSPH.



MakSPH
Scripture Union
Students engaged
in praise and worship.
Above is Dr. Geoffrey
Musinguzi, Scripture
Union patron.





Trainings, Short Courses and Capacity Building

Integrating Community-based Participatory Research and Design: Approach in Promoting Healthier Societies short course

Makerere University School of Public Health (MakSPH), Design without Borders, and The George Institute of Global Health UK held the three-day short course from March 13–15, 2023. The training was designed to help injury prevention researchers and practitioners use community-based participatory research (CBPR) and human-centered design (HCD) strategies to help individuals, communities, and health systems create healthier societies.

Participants learned how to describe the burden of unintentional childhood injuries, including risks and hazards in the home, develop a strong foundation in community-based participatory research and human-centered design frameworks and concepts,

distinguish between CBPR and HCD methods and their integration in unintentional injury prevention programs, and apply mixed methods.



Participants show certificates received after the three-days Human-centered design training.

MakSPH Support Effort to Improve Road Crash Injury Data in Health Facilities

The Trauma, Injury, and Disability (TRIAD) Unit of MakSPH visited Kawolo Hospital and Our Lady of the Sick Hospital in Nkozi to identify data capture and management challenges. Following the situational analysis, staff from each of these sites were identified and given a three-day training on data quality, with a particular emphasis on road traffic injuries. The team also noted the need to improve crash data handling and storage at Our Lady of the Sick Hospital, Nkozi, along Kampala Masaka Road in Kayabwe - Mpigi area, so they handed one desktop computer to the health facility. The Federal Ministry of Education and Research

(BMBF) provided financing through the Collaboration for Evidence-Based Healthcare and Public Health in Africa (CEBHA+) project.



TRIAD Unit team, Bonny Balugaba (R) and Charles Ssemugabo (L), handing over the desktop computer to Our Lady of the Sick Hospital, Nkozi.

MRI-Kampala Study Donates Medical Equipment to Kawempe National Referral Hospital

In collaborative spirit to address community healthcare needs, MakSPH's MRI-Kampala Study housed in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, with funding from the Gates Foundation, extended support to Kawempe National Referral Hospital with vital medical equipment aimed at enhancing the Hospital's ability to deliver quality care to patients, valued at 10 million Ugandan shillings.

Dr. Victoria Nankabirwa, the Principal Investigator of the MRI-Kampala Study, presented the donation on behalf of the

Project. It consisted of two portable oxygen cylinders (45 liters) with accessories, an Oxygen concentrator (5 liters), six laryngoscope sets, and an electronic XSZ microscope.



Dr. Victoria Nankabirwa, the Principal Investigator of the MRI-Kampala Study on behalf of the project handed the donated items to the Kawempe National Referral Hospital.

Vital medical equipment valued at UGX 10 million

MakSPH Delivers a Short Course on Health Technology Assessment

MakSPH organized a Health Technology Assessment (HTA) short course aimed at equipping health professionals, policy-makers, and researchers with essential skills in making informed healthcare decisions. Held in collaboration with the Ministry of Health (MoH), International Decision Support Initiative (IDSI), and Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI), the course spanned five days from April 17th to April 21st, 2023, at the Golf Course Hotel, Kampala.

Forty-five stakeholders involved in selecting, evaluating, implementing, and financing health technologies in Uganda participated in the training. Given the country's challenges

in providing quality healthcare due to limited resources and infrastructure, healthcare decision-makers often face difficulties in resource allocation to maximize health outcomes effectively.

Dr. Freddie Ssengooba, an Associate Professor of Health Economics and Health Systems Management at MakSPH, emphasized the importance of HTA in aiding evidence-based decision-making. He highlighted existing structures within the health sector, such as Technical Working Groups in the Ministry of Health and specialized committees for immunization, as avenues for decision-making on technology adoption and stressed the need for

comprehensive HTA training to ensure efficient resource allocation and equitable healthcare services.

Recognizing HTA's significance, the World Health Assembly in 2014 underscored its role in systematically evaluating the safety, efficacy, and cost-effectiveness of healthcare technologies. Despite some improvements noted in Uganda's HTA capacity, such as the establishment of National Immunization Technical Advisory Groups (NITAG), further training and capacity-building remain essential. With the growing demand for healthcare technologies and limited resources, effective HTA utilization is crucial for maximizing health outcomes nationwide.

Participants pose for a group photo after a short training in Health Technology Assessment (HTA)



Enhancing Research Skills with Advanced Medical Statistics Course

The Centre for Intervention Science in Maternal and Child Health (CISMAC) at the University of Bergen, in collaboration with MakSPH, the Centre for Fertility and Health at the Norwegian Institute of Public Health, and the HKDir-funded NORPART Project “Improving Health Professional Education and capacity in Experimental Epidemiology – (HePed)” organized and conducted a free Intermediate Level Course in Medical Statistics from June 7th - 13th, 2023. This course aimed to enhance the statistical skills of graduate students and researchers with prior knowledge and experience in statistical methods applied to clinical and epidemiological

research. Covering a range of topics such as significance testing, confidence intervals, linear regression, correlation, and more, the course introduced essential techniques for analyzing clinical and epidemiological data. Participants delved into methodologies for analyzing randomized controlled trials (RCTs), including sample size calculations and handling baseline covariate imbalances. The course explored the modeling and interpretation of interactions between exposure and other covariates, emphasizing effect measure modification assessment on both multiplicative and additive scales. Open to PhD students, postdoctoral fellows, and faculty

members across various disciplines, including medicine, epidemiology, biology, dentistry, statistics, mathematics, and social and health sciences, the course also welcomed Masters students recommended by their institutions who had adequate competence in epidemiology and/or statistics.

This course aimed to enhance the statistical skills of graduate students and researchers...



Inaugural Health Informatics short course launched

MakSPH conducted its inaugural Health Informatics Short Course from June 26th to July 28th, 2023. This comprehensive program drew participants from various backgrounds, including researchers, healthcare professionals, IT experts, and graduate students. Designed to improve service delivery in healthcare, the course covered key topics such as Health Information Technology, Electronic Medical Records, Digital Health, and Big Data Analytics. Led by the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at MakSPH, this initiative aligns with Makerere

University's commitment to building capacity in the health sector, providing participants with essential skills for implementing and utilizing health information systems, thereby enhancing overall service delivery.

“For the period of time I have been the in-charge of Maziba Health Center IV in Kabale District, I could say to some of my colleagues I used to work with, the health information assistants; that I didn't understand what they were doing. I didn't really appreciate so much on my side the work these people were doing not because it was in bad faith but majorly because I for one, I did not

understand the technicalities and the aspects of their work within the facility. With this short course, I really appreciated how important it is to carefully have your data collected, to carefully analyze it and to select what makes sense to the facility and what doesn't. It was a very big learning point for me. I am pondering about pursuing this at a master's level” said Dr. Denis Masiko Kasigeire.



Participants of the short course in a group photo with facilitators shortly after completion of the course.



MakSPH Offers Introductory Mathematical Modelling Course with Gates Foundation



Participants and facilitators of a 3-day introductory course on Infectious Diseases Modelling using the Python programming language.

From July 4th to 7th, 2023, the Epidemiology and Biostatistics Department at MakSPH in partnership with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation hosted and conducted an introductory course on Infectious Diseases Modeling. Led by Dr. Joan Mutyoba and supported by faculty members; Dr. Simon Kasasa, Professor Nazarius M. Tumwesigye, and Research Fellow Abel Walekhwa, alongside Dr. Cliff Kerr and Dr. Robyn Stuart from the Institute for Disease Modeling (IDM). The three-day training aimed to equip participants with essential skills in mathematical modeling using the Python programming

language. It was attended by students enrolled in the Masters of Biostatistics Program, select MakSPH alumni, and staff members from the Division of Health Information at the Ministry of Health Uganda.

MakSPH hopes to establish an Infectious Diseases Epidemiology and Modelling Unit to facilitate training and capacity building in mathematical modeling and contribute to various aspects of public health, including future projections of disease prevalence, transmission dynamics, control and elimination strategies, cost-effectiveness analyses, and more.

The unit will also foster knowledge exchange, mentorship, and collaboration among modelers in Uganda.

Prior to the training, representatives from IDM at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation met with Prof. Rhoda Wanyenze, the Dean of MakSPH, to discuss ongoing collaboration and partnership. Professor Wanyenze expressed appreciation for the fruitful relationship between the School of Public Health and the Foundation, highlighting the importance of such initiatives in advancing public health research and practice in Uganda.

Cohort 8 of the WASH Short Course Receive Certificates at MakSPH

The eighth cohort of the Department of Disease Control and Environmental Health's (DCEH) short course on Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) was run and graduated on the 11th of August 2023. For eight weeks, officers in the WASH sector (local government, NGOs, or private sector) received training in this aspect of environmental health as Continuous Professional Development (CPD). This equipped them with the right attitudes, necessary skills, and scientific knowledge to manage and handle tasks and technical procedures in the WASH sector. This cohort brought together a multidisciplinary team

from several disciplines within the WASH sector, resulting in rich knowledge-sharing sessions. These included, among others, local government representatives from districts like Kole, Kasese, Koboko, and Kiryandongo, social scientists, water and mechanical engineers, environmental health workers at all levels, and officers of non-

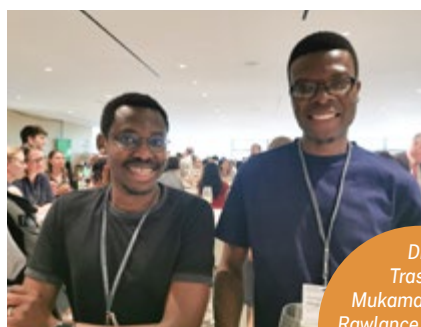
governmental organizations.

Under the coordination and leadership of Dr. David Musoke, Senior Lecturer at DCEH, MakSPH, along with Emmanuel Balinda of MakSPH, and Mrs. Irene Nassazi serving as the Course Administrator, the 9th cohort is scheduled to commence next year from May 27, 2024, to July 19, 2024.

Representatives of 8th Cohort of the WASH shortcourse join in cake cutting with the Dean, MakSPH (center).



MakSPH faculty attend Nobel Laureates meeting in 2023



Dr. Trasias Mukama and Dr. Rawlance Ndejjo at the Lindau Nobel Laureates meeting in June 2023.

Following their nomination in 2020, Dr. Rawlance Ndejjo, an Assistant Lecturer, and Dr. Trasias Mukama, a Research Associate, in the Department of Disease Control and Environmental Health at MakSPH were able to physically attend the 72nd Lindau Nobel Laureates meeting in Lindau, Germany from the 25th to 30th June 2023 as young scientists. The 2023

meeting was focused on Physiology and Medicine and brought together 40 Nobel Laureates and 600 young scientists from across the globe. The meeting is meant for young scientists to engage with the Nobel Laureates to learn and get inspired by their work and experience. At the meeting, Drs. Ndejjo and Mukama attended several

lectures and participated in walks and dinners with the Nobel Laureates. To attend the meeting, Dr. Ndejjo was nominated by the African Academy of Sciences, a not-for-profit pan-African science organization while Dr. Mukama's nomination came from Helmholtz Association – a network of 18 research centers in Germany. The

duo was nominated to attend the 70th meeting in 2020 but due to COVID-19 physical meetings were not held until recently in 2023.

Dr. Rawlance Ndejjo (second from right) together with other young scientists at a dinner with Prof. Joachim Frank (third right) of Columbia University (USA) who won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 2017.



Strengthening Partnership for Disaster Data Collection among Disaster Management Practitioners

Twenty participants, including academics, decision-makers in disaster management, and students from the Master of Public Health Disaster Management (MPHDM) and Biostatistics program at MakSPH took part in training sessions for disaster data management in September 2023.

Collaboration with the Centre for Research on Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED) at the University of Louvain in Belgium has made this educational opportunity possible with funding from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).

The workshop facilitators included Dr. Cinzia Lanfredi Sofia, a Geographer and Postdoctoral researcher at CRED, Mr. Ogwanga Jimmy, a Disaster Preparedness Officer at Office of the Prime Minister, Dr. Christine K. Nalwadda, the head of Community Health and Behavioural Sciences department, Justine Bukenya, a senior lecturer and Mykaél Toskinz Wagaba from MakSPH.

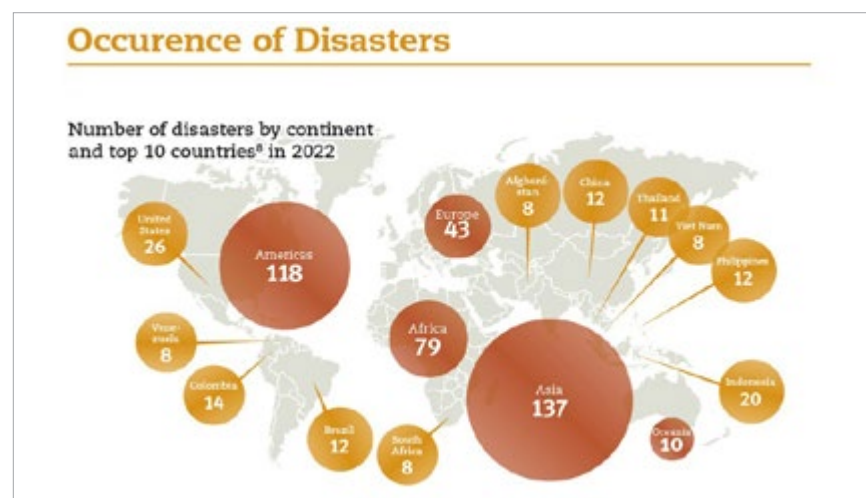
A disaster, according to the

CRED, is “a situation or event that overwhelms local capacity, necessitating a request at the national or international level for external assistance; it is an unforeseen and often sudden event that causes great damage, destruction, and human suffering.”

In 2022, 387 disasters were reported on a global scale. A total of 185 million people affected, 30704 individuals lost their lives, and there was a \$223.8 billion economic cost, the Emergency Event Database EM-

DAT report, a product of CRED since 1988 stated.

The main goal of EM-DAT is to give information to aid in humanitarian action at the local, national, and international levels, facilitating informed decision-making in disaster preparedness. The database provides unbiased, factual data that may be used to evaluate communities' susceptibility to disasters, helping politicians establish priorities.





Awards and Appointments for Staff and Students



Professor Fred Nuwaha

Professor of Disease Control and Prevention, Makerere University, Uganda

Appointed to be a member of the selection committee for NIHR Research and Innovation for Global Health Transformation (RIGHT) Call 6

Dr. Nuwaha serves as the chairman for the Ugandan Ministry of Health Expert Committee for Schistosomiasis and Soil Transmitted Helminths, a member of the infectious disease institute scientific review committee, member editorial board for BMC Public Health as well as committee member NIHR Research and Innovation for Global Health Transformation (RIGHT-5).



Dr. David Musoke

Dr. David Musoke, Senior Lecturer at MakSPH's Department of Disease Control and Environmental Health received a Global Public Health Award as the Best Oral Presenter at the 11th International Festival of Public Health held at the University of Manchester-UK



Dr. Rawlance Ndejjo

Dr. Rawlance Ndejjo named among 18 outstanding Research Development Fellowship awardees by the Africa Research Excellence Fund. His fellowship will be at the Brighton and Sussex Medical School, UK. He will analyse data from a stepped wedge cluster randomised trial to evaluate the effectiveness of community programmes in promoting lifestyle changes that will prevent cardiovascular disease.



Prof. Rhoda Wanyenze

Prof. Rhoda Wanyenze, Dean of the School of Public Health was appointed a Member of the WHO Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Advisory Group and Alternate Board Member of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, representing Research and Technical Health Institutes.



Dr. Noah Kiwanuka

...was appointed as the new Chairperson of the National Biosafety Committee (NBC) that provides technical advice to the UNCST on all matters regarding the safe conduct of research in modern biotechnology.



Dr. Joan N. Mutyoba

The African Oxford Initiative (AfOx) Visiting Fellowship Programme is designed to provide exceptional African researchers an opportunity to build international networks and focus on a project of their choice, away from teaching and administrative duties at their home institutions.

While at Oxford, Dr. Mutyoba will be working on a project that focuses on developing models to link and retain hepatitis B-infected patients in long-term care in a high-burden region of Uganda.



Best Abstract

Research team (Douglas Bulafu, Lesley Rose Ninsiima, Filimin Niyongabo, Bridget Nagawa Tamale, Baguma James Natweeta, Lydia Namakula Nabawanuka, Rawlance Ndejjo & David Musoke) awarded best abstract for the study titled Biohazard awareness and Personal Protective Equipment utilisation among sanitation workers in nine cities of Uganda at The UNC Water and Health Conference in North Carolina (October 2023).



Divine Katiiti

received the award for best early career researcher at the 11th International Festival of Public Health (IFPH) at the University of Manchester, UK. Her research on unsafe abortion among female students at Makerere University was praised for its originality and impact in Public Health. Despite awareness of risks, many participants expressed willingness to undergo unsafe abortions in case of unwanted pregnancies.



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MakSPH Ensures Ethical Research Practices

To ensure ethical standards in research involving human participants, Makerere University College of Health Sciences emphasizes rigorous review processes overseen by its Research and Ethics Committees (RECs).

MakSPH boasts of an independent REC that was established in 2001 and accredited by the Uganda National Council of Science and Technology (UNCST) in 2011. The SPHREC is dedicated to safeguarding the interests, rights, and welfare of human participants. Led by Chairperson Dr. Joseph Kagaayi and Vice-Chair Dr. Dinah

Amongin, with administrators Ms. Ruth Victoria Nagawa and Ms. Joanita Nansubuga, the committee boasts competent leadership and support staff.

The SPHREC diligently reviews research proposals from students, staff, and collaborators, ensuring adherence to both ethical and scientific standards. With a total of 21 members, including three community representatives, the committee embodies diverse perspectives and expertise.

Meetings are held monthly, with protocols for consideration required to be submitted by the

14th of the preceding month. Full board meetings, convened every last Tuesday, primarily assess staff collaborations and Ph.D. research studies. Ad hoc meetings are also conducted to expedite the review of select protocols with favorable risk/benefit balances.

The sustainability of SPHREC is facilitated through review fees, following UNCST's recommended fee structure. This financial model enables the committee to maintain its operations while prioritizing ethical research practices.

Protocol review by SPHREC by the numbers

140

Protocols reviewed
at Initial review

89

Protocols reviewed
at Continuing
review

32

Full board

69

Expedited

24

Fast Track



Research Studies and Seminars

MakSPH Conducts Study on Nutritional Habits of Urban Adolescents

In 2023, the Urban Adolescents' Nutrition Formative Research Study, a joint Project between the Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA), MakSPH, Save the Children Uganda in the United States kicked off to learn more about the urban adolescent population in Kampala Capital City, specifically the dietary habits and food choices of youths residing in informal settlements, between the ages of fifteen and nineteen.

This six-month study used a peer-led methodology, with the goal of developing a theory of change that to guide policies and programs aimed at improving the nutritional status of teenagers living in informal settlements. The establishment of an Adolescent Advisory Group was a step toward ensuring the active engagement

and input of the teenagers. Questions like "why do teenagers eat the foods they do?" and "what factors impact their food choices and sedentary behaviors?" informed the backbone of the research. To further understand the variables and causes that impact these teens'

eating habits, the research mostly used qualitative methodologies. In all, 300 teenagers from throughout Kampala's five districts were involved in the initiative.

The study was led by Dr. Richard Kajura.

Winnie & Joshua with the adolescents for the Dyad Adolescents in Banda



BIGRS' Stakeholder Workshop Focuses on Risk Factor Observational Data for Decision-making

The Bloomberg Initiative for Global Road Safety (BIGRS) Stakeholder Workshop focuses on risk factor observational data for decision-making

BIGRS team at MakSPH's Trauma, Injury, and Disability (TRIAD) Unit and Johns Hopkins International Injury Research Unit facilitated a stakeholders' engagement workshop on August 3, 2023. The workshop discussed observational cross-sectional study findings on road safety risk factors like speeding, motorcyclist helmet use, and seatbelt and child-restraint use with stakeholders and sought input on if the data is relevant to different sectors and how it can inform decision making. Around 30

people from the Ministry of Works and Transport (MoWT), Makerere University, Parliament of Uganda, Uganda Road Accident Reduction Network Organization (URRENO), Safe Way Right Way Uganda, Centre for Policy Analysis (CEPA), Uganda Traffic Police, Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA), and World Resources Institute attended the workshop.

Participants in a group photo shortly after the workshop at Hotel Africana, Kampala -Uganda.



Improved Health Care Information Systems for HIV care and treatment through HISTAC

The Health Information Systems Technical Assistance Consortium (HISTAC), a five-year CDC Atlanta HQ-funded project to improve clinical outcomes and HIV surveillance in PEPFAR-supported countries by improving health information adoption and use has revolutionized health information systems under the leadership of Ugandan scholars Dr. Simon Kasasa, Pius Rubangakene, Arthur Davies Mugume, and Jonathan Ajal Odora.

With strategic collaborations with University of California San Francisco (UCSF) as the prime recipient and Makerere University School of Public Health (MakSPH) and the University of Nairobi (UON) as sub-grantees, the project seeks to improve

healthcare information systems, improving clinical outcomes and HIV surveillance worldwide.

The main goal is to establish Health Information Systems (HIS) to help countries meet the 95-95-95 targets, especially in high-risk and important groups. HISTAC works in Haiti, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, Uganda, Rwanda, and Ethiopia to improve data linkage, develop sustainable HIS and eHealth initiatives, collaborate, and evaluate.

The reporting period saw tremendous development in OpenMRS HIV Reference Implementation (OHRI), OHRI Form Builder and Engine, MambaETL, and Country Level Implementation Support.

A pioneering OpenMRS-based HIV care and treatment initiative, OHRI's structure



HISTAC Team
at a Hackathon
to Implement
EthIOHRI

supports HIV, COVID-19, the prevention of mother to child transmission (PMTCT), also known as vertical transmission, cervical cancer tracking, and tuberculosis therapy modules.

HISTAC developed OpenMRS 3.x-based tools to create user-friendly data collecting interfaces. These effective patient data collection tools are being used in Uganda, Namibia, and Ethiopia. MambaETL, an innovative approach simplifies data reporting by flattening

data models, saving time. It worked in Rwanda, Uganda, and Ethiopia. In Rwanda for example, it reduced the reporting time from more than 12 hours to under 2 minutes at the facility.

With major contributions in Namibia, Uganda, and Ethiopia, HISTAC continues to assist country-level partners. HISTAC streamlines HIS adoption for every country by training technical staff and customizing solutions.

Bloomberg Philanthropies' Head of Public Health, Visits Makerere

The Trauma, Injuries and Disability -TRIAD Unit at MakSPH hosted Dr. Kelly Henning, Bloomberg Philanthropies Head of Public Health, between April 24–26, 2023. Dr. Kelly, Dr. Olive Kobusingye (former Head of TRIAD Unit), Dr. Frederick Oporia (Head

of TRIAD Unit), and Dr. John Bosco Isunju (Ag. Head of Department-Disease Control and Environmental Health) met with Dean MakSPH, Prof. Rhoda Wanyenze, to discuss turning the Trauma, Injury, and Disability Unit into a Centre of Excellence for Injury

Prevention. The delegation also met with Uganda's Deputy Speaker, Rt. Hon. Thomas Tayebwa, and the Parliamentary Forum on Road Safety (PAFROS) leaders to discuss road and water crisis solutions.

A meeting
with the
Deputy Speaker of
Parliament, Rt. Hon.
Thomas Tayebwa
and the PAFROS
members.



A photo
taken after a
meeting with Dean,
MakSPH. (R to L) Dr.
Olive Kobusingye, Dr. Kelly
Henning, Prof. Rhoda
Wanyenze, Dr. Frederick
Oporia and Dr. John
Bosco Isunju.



Laboratory Leadership Fellowship Launched

The Ministry of Health (MoH) through the Uganda National Institute of Public Health in partnership with Makerere University School of Public Health (MakSPH) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (U.S CDC) in July 2023 launched the Uganda Public Health Fellowship Program -Laboratory Leadership track to strengthen laboratory workforce in Uganda.

The Laboratory Leadership Program is a comprehensive two-year, in-service training fellowship. During this period, participants dedicate their efforts to enhancing their competencies in various aspects of laboratory leadership. These aspects include lab-based surveillance, lab quality management systems, policy and management, as well as outbreak investigation and coordination.

The five fellows Martha Nankya, Anthony Kiyimba, Priscilla Atim, Shem Mwebaza, and Leah Naluwaga Baliruno met the selection criteria the first cohort of the laboratory leadership program.

The quintet was posted to Central Public Health Laboratories/ National Health Laboratory and Diagnostic Services, Uganda Virus Research Institute (UVRI), Infectious Diseases Institute (IDI), National Animal Disease Diagnostics and Epidemiology Centre (NADDEC) and Mildmay Uganda (MUG).

Hon. Margaret Muhanga, the Minister of State for Health in Charge of Primary Health Care launched Uganda Public Health Fellowship Program -Laboratory Leadership track to strengthen laboratory workforce in Uganda on July 25, 2023



Using ReLAB-HS findings to improve rehabilitation services for vulnerable Ugandans

The World Health Organization (WHO) says that a country's top priority should be to include rehabilitation in its basic health care (PHC) system so that people who have trouble functioning can get the care they need when they need it.

Because of this, the Trauma, Injury, and Disability (TRIAD) Unit at Makerere University School of Public Health was home to part of the Learning, Acting, and Building for Rehabilitation in Health Systems (ReLAB-HS) consortium, which was run by Johns Hopkins University and funded by USAID. The project's goal was to make the health systems stronger so they could handle the growing number of people who need physical therapy at all stages of life. When rehabilitation is part of primary health care (PHC), it can help the whole care process by spotting rehabilitation needs early on, sending people to the right place for help, and offering follow-up services close to home. But it's not clear how to combine therapy with PHC, and there isn't much advice

available. In each situation, health systems and rehabilitation services are different, so we need models for merging that are tailored to each situation.

In March 2023, study assistants were trained and sent to Lira and Gulu in the north, Kampala and Kyotera in the center, and Mbale, Iganga, Jinja, and Mayuge in the east. The goal was to gather evidence for the integration and mapping of rehabilitation services in Uganda. The data gathering and analysis are done. The data gathered will help create and use rehabilitation models and technologies that will make up the networks of care that will make sure everyone can get affordable and effective rehabilitation services.

A detailed analysis was used in the Clubfoot study to find out how the National Clubfoot Program Uganda (NCPU) fits into the health

system. Key informant interviews were done with hospital managers, caregivers, health care providers, and other important people. The results were put together using the WHO's health systems building blocks framework. Community involvement was added as an important part of service delivery.

The results of the ReLAB-HS study will change how vulnerable people in Uganda get rehabilitation services, ensuring that the right care is given at the right time and in the right way by helping local leaders and health workers gather evidence and turn that evidence and fresh approaches into changes that will last.



Research Assistants during one of the ReLAB-HS trainings.

PARES Study Advancing International cooperation for Community-Led Crisis Responses

The Building Partnerships for Resilience (PARES) research initiative, a major step toward enhancing community resilience and public health crisis responses locally and globally continues to create and strengthen international collaborations to educate policy and practice in community-led public health crises with support from the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR).

In Katakwi and Kasese districts, the project will combine knowledge on community, local health system, and other formal and informal entity health emergency responses to evaluate their effectiveness. Plans call for completion in

2025. The study seeks to gather knowledge, generate grassroots initiatives, evaluate community-led response approaches, provide recommendations, and strengthen partner research and management.

The study completed a narrative synthesis review of Ugandan community responses to drought and cholera in 2023. The research team held its second National Advisory Committee (NAC) to discuss progress, share findings, and get fieldwork and responder input. Data was collected at the

district and community levels in Katakwi and Kasese by well-trained research teams. Officials from the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry, and Fisheries (MAAIF), Red Cross Uganda, the Ministry of Health (MoH), and the Office of the Prime Minister were interviewed nationally.

The project uncovers shared principles for community-led sickness reduction, behavioral change, and resilience building in health emergencies, which has practical and policy implications. PARES drives grassroots crisis response activities using evidence-synthesised data.

PARES training of research assistants: Kasese Team presenting disease outbreaks in the area over the past 5 years.

R: Male Focus group discussion in Magoro Subcounty, in Katakwi District



BASYC Project Advances Understanding of Infection Prevention Control in Uganda

The Institute for Global Health and Development at Queen Margaret University and the School of Public Health at Makerere University in Uganda are leading the “Balancing safety and good care” (BASYC) project to improve infection prevention control (IPC) in a world with complex infectious diseases. In Uganda and elsewhere, BASYC helps people understand IPC and act, demonstrating how important it is to work together on research to improve health systems and prepare for epidemics.

BASYC studies IPC practices, meanings, and impacts in clinics and community-based care using Joint Health Systems Research Initiative support. The project prepares individuals for epidemics via learning health systems. It examines how Ugandan health professionals handle unique health system issues such as periodic

and novel epidemic outbreaks like COVID-19 and Ebola.

The study examines epidemic history, health system readiness, and the impact of regional and social hierarchy on IPC practices. It investigates caregiver roles and risk reduction during outbreaks in order to improve learning health systems in IPC for infectious disease epidemics. We conducted nationwide key informant interviews, document checks, and substantial fieldwork in Wakiso and Arua districts during the past year. This research included hospital inspections, community and household in-depth interviews, and group discussions. These activities show caregiver experiences,

epidemic perspectives, and multi-level IPC system modifications.

The study’s results have an immense impact on policy and practice. For instance, they include how IPC is used and treated during and after epidemics, how it could be changed for future outbreaks, and how people feel about IPC in different situations.

Researchers from the project meet with boda-boda drivers in the Wakiso district for a roundtable discussion.



Charting the Course for Neonatal Health through ELMA Project

The Uganda Newborn Program, also known as the ELMA project, with funding from the ELMA philanthropies is an investment by four partners; Baylor Uganda, Adara Uganda, Nsambya hospital, and the Makerere University School of Public Health and the Ministry of Health to combine and repeat the best newborn interventions in 20 districts across three regions of Uganda: The Western, Kampala, and North-Central. The purpose of this program is to improve care for 120,000 sick and small babies over three years, from July 2022 to June 2025, and lower the death rate for newborns at target health facilities by 40%.

Led by Dr. Peter Waiswa, at MakSPH, the project focused on increasing infant care services in the first year. Expansion of newborn care facilities, health worker training, national situation analysis, neonatal mortality reduction, policy contributions, capacity building, and visibility activities are some of the project highlights in the past year. The programme worked with 32 hospitals and Health Centre IVs in the three regions to institutionalize infant care. In 2023, 274 health workers received intensive training in infant care, infection control, and lifesaving techniques like Helping Babies Breathe.

MakSPH together with strategic partners including; The National Planning Authority (NPA), UNICEF, FHI360 undertook a countrywide neonatal health scenario analysis, uncovering current practices and challenges. This is critical to MoH since infant mortality has stagnated for 20 years since the previous document of this kind was produced in 2008. The findings will help government mobilize partners, create and implement interventions, and allocate newborn care resources. The findings will also help create a Sharpened RMNCAH/ N-aligned national newborn care strategy and implementation plan. The approach successfully reduced neonatal mortality from 10.6/1000 live births to 9.1/1000 between July 2022 and June 2023. The program actively advocated for evidence-based national infant care recommendations. This represents a 14.2% reduction in mortality and demonstrates that the project's package of interventions is capable of lowering newborn mortality in Uganda, which has remained stagnant for the past two decades. The project had a bigger effect when health workers from outside the target area were trained and supervised. The National Newborn Steering Committee trained and supervised health workers in four

health facilities in the Mityana district, which is not part of the project area. These were Mityana hospital, Mwera HC IV, Ssekayonyi HC IV, and Kyantungo HC IV. A total of 43 health workers were trained and mentored in kangaroo care alias skin-to-skin contact -a method of care of preterm infants, Asphyxia management, Helping Babies Breathe (HBB), and Essential Care for Every Baby (ECEB). Neonatal care awareness campaigns included documentaries and evidence briefs.

The Uganda Newborn Programme's Regional Care approach, which advocates a hub-and-spoke model and has improved access, quality, and referral networks to reduce avoidable mortality, has significant implications for policy and practice. The project's report on newborn health in Uganda includes a Situation Analysis to guide strategic planning, resource allocation, and intervention design to minimize neonatal death. The program's low newborn mortality rate encourages evidence-based scaling and advises government policy on cost-effective therapy worldwide.

L: The Newborn Steering committee national trainers taking nurses through advanced newborn care practicals.

R: State of the art Newborn Care Unit at Kiwoko Hospital



The approach successfully reduced neonatal mortality from 10.6/1000 live births to 9.1/1000 between July 2022 and June 2023.

Cultural Identity and Peer Pressure, Key Influencers of Tobacco Use in Karamoja

Tobacco use study team with Moroto District stakeholders during a dissemination meeting at Moroto District Local Government in the Northern Region of Uganda. Photo by Davidson Ndyabahika.



A big proportion of Moroto youths and young adults (10–24) consume tobacco. This can reach 25% for not-in-school youth and adults. Research on “Reducing Tobacco Use Among In- and Out-of-School Youths in Moroto District, Uganda,” funded by the Government of Uganda through the Makerere University Research and Innovation Fund investigated this alarming trend. Makerere University School of Public Health (MakSPH) championed this effort, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, the Center for Tobacco Control in Africa, and Moroto District Local Government, to reduce young people tobacco use and its health risks.

Prof. Elizeus Rutebemberwa, Dr. Raymond Tweheyo, Dr. Richard Kajura from MakSPH, Dr. Allen Kabagenyi from the Department of Population Studies at the College of Business and Management Sciences (CoBAMS), Dr. Hasfa

Sentongo from the Ministry of Health, Dr. Jim Arinaitwe and Harriet Namata from the Center for Tobacco Control in Africa (CTCA), and Johns Hans Lokale and Walter Owiny from the Moroto District Local Government were the investigators.

The team discovered key tobacco usage challenges in Moroto district after a thorough data collecting and analysis process. One notable result was that out-of-school youth had higher rates of tobacco experimentation and regular use. The research also found that men use tobacco more than women. Due to this gender disparity, tobacco addiction therapies for young men and women must be tailored to their unique challenges.

Besides individual behaviors, the study examined societal and cultural factors that affect tobacco smoking in Moroto district. Cultural identity and peer pressure were essential, underlining the

need for community-based tobacco prevention and cessation interventions.

The study offered several key tobacco control strategies. Community leaders and health workers should be involved in focused health promotion activities to make quitting and preventing smoking easier. The research also recommends district-level reforms including translating tobacco bans into local languages and addressing community problems like unemployment and food insecurity which are associated with tobacco use.

On November 28, 2023, the study’s results were shared with stakeholders in Moroto and action plans were created giving hope for reducing youth smoking. Community collaboration can help create a healthy, tobacco-free future for future generations.

Pandemic Pushes Women into Risky Coping Methods in Uganda Slums

The MakSPH-led Women Rise COVID-19 Slum Study is making progress in understanding how the pandemic has affected urban poor Ugandan women over the past two years. With funding from IDRC, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council and implemented alongside the University of Waterloo, the Uganda AIDS Commission (UAC), and Afrislum Uganda, the study is investigating how COVID-19 impacted employment, economic status, and HIV risk in informal settlements in Kampala and Mbale.

Susan Babirye from MakSPH's Department of Health Policy and Management, Dr. Craig Janes from the University of Waterloo, Canada, and Dr. Daniel Byamukama from the Uganda AIDS Commission are leads on the initiative. Starting

in October 2022 and ending in September 2024, the study will shed light on urban poor women's struggles and propose inclusive and equitable COVID-19 recovery options.

It began with a detailed analysis of how COVID-19 has affected urban poor women's health and income. Researchers have since discovered the many challenges informal settlement women face through community surveys and focus group talks. Preliminary findings show widespread job losses, food insecurity, educational interruptions, and poor healthcare.

Many women were forced to engage in risky social networks and coping methods, including sex work and substance abuse to cope. The researchers have also assessed how well COVID-19 recovery programs serve impoverished urban women.

Participatory quick appraisals and in-depth interviews with community people and program administrators identified gaps and improvement opportunities. Community validation sessions ensured that intervention design and implementation met target population health and socioeconomic needs.

At the 23rd Canadian Conference on Global Health in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, from October 16th to 18th, 2023, findings from this work presented stirring a conversation on equitable and inclusive COVID-19 recovery strategies. The study incorporated one Master of Public Health student who gained excellent experience through the study and used part of the data for her research.



MakSPH Participates in Eighth AFENET Scientific Conference

The 8th AFENET Scientific Conference, themed; “Strengthening Public Health Systems in Africa Towards Enhanced Global Health Security. The Role of Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Programs,” was held in Mombasa from November 5-10, 2023. With 33 abstracts submitted and 14 selected, Makerere University School of Public Health residents and Uganda Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Program (FETP) alumni presented their findings.

The papers included important public health topics like outbreak preparedness and response, outbreak investigations, implementation and evaluation of public health programs or

surveillance activities, and public health practice.

Dr. Suzanne Kiwanuka, Uganda FETP Director, conducted the opening plenary session on “Public Health System Strengthening Initiatives.” Graduate Ms. Deborah Aujo was named second runner-up for best poster presentation, adding to Makerere’s pride.

The abstracts showed Makerere’s FETP cohort’s diverse research. Rural

adults’ willingness to accept the COVID-19 vaccine, diabetes treatment non-adherence, and masculinity norms in late HIV care were among the research topics. These studies contribute to global public health awareness and demonstrate MakSPH’s dedication to community-beneficial research. The conference enabled knowledge sharing, collaboration, and public health advancement throughout Africa and beyond.

Dr. Suzanne Kiwanuka moderating at the conference (R) and Ms. Deborah Aujo one of our MPH graduate students who won the second runner up award for best poster presenter.



Urban Thrive Project Increases Family Planning Uptake in Uganda Through Drama

In a bid to address the unmet need for family planning (FP) and reinforce FP uptake in urban settings, MakSPH embarked on the Urban Thrive Project in partnership with Busoga Health Forum in Jinja city and Iganga town, and with funding from the John Templeton Foundation, in July 2021.

Dr. Peter Waiswa, Ms. Catherine Birabwa, Dr. Kananura Ronald, and Dr. Kakaire Othman lead the Urban Thrive Project, which co-designs and implements health system strengthening interventions using a human-centered approach. These interventions address social behavior change, service delivery, and governance and management capacity.

The project focused on demand generation and health system strengthening in urban Jinja and Iganga in 2023 and a total of 30 CHWs and 118 health professionals were trained on FP provision and side effect management to improve FP service delivery. In addition, 18 commodities managers got FP commodity management training to ensure holistic

service delivery. The project’s strategy emphasized community engagement. Community group facilitators trained in FP hosted monthly sessions in 18 community groups to promote FP discourse and education. Local drama groups, radio talk shows, WhatsApp groups, and SMS transmission increased FP education to varied demographics.

Quarterly review sessions with municipal and city health authorities improved governance capacity and system performance through evidence-based planning and collaborative problem-solving. The first phase of deployment ended in December 2023,

and preliminary results showed significant FP service accessibility and uptake. Community and supportive supervision reports showed greater client satisfaction, client-provider interactions, and client understanding of FP approaches. These results and strategic quarterly review meetings provide the groundwork for urban FP policy and practices.

The Project’s preliminary findings suggest that it could increase FP service delivery and adoption in Jinja city and Iganga, improving public health outcomes. The official project review and end is scheduled for early 2024.

Left: Using drama to educate communities in Jinja City about family planning. Right: A community group meeting in Jinja City Mechanics, one of the community groups that holds monthly meetings to share information about family planning



MakSPH Receives a Completion Award for the UKAID Rise Program

Together with partners MSI Reproductive Choices, Population Media Center, Reach A Hand Uganda, FHI360, Partners in Population and Development Africa Regional Office, and Options Consultancy Services, MakSPH started a journey that would change their lives in November 2018. All of them worked together on the RISE project, which stands for Reducing High Fertility Rates and Improving Sexual Reproductive Health Outcomes in Uganda.

Tasked with generation of evidence, MakSPH provided a necessary research component to help guide policymaking and action. Specifically, two important goals were emphasized: lowering the death rate among mothers and growing the use of modern birth control across Uganda. Through thorough research and strategic partnerships, MakSPH hoped to shed light on the causes of the country's high fertility rates and poor reproductive health. The RISE program, led by Prof. Nazarius M. Tumweisgye, brought together Marie Stopes International, Family Health International (FHI 360),

Population Media Center, Reach A Hand Uganda (RAHU), Partners in Population Development African Region office (PPD ARO), and Options Consultative Services to revolutionize reproductive health services.

The program's main objectives were to improve reproductive health services, strengthen the public sector, and raise family planning (FP) knowledge through social and behavioral communication change tactics.

MakSPH, a key consortium partner in 2023 published two impactful studies: one examining factors influencing contraceptive service uptake among Ugandans of reproductive age, and another exploring socio-economic and education-related disparities in modern contraceptive use across seven sub-regions in Uganda. To assure data accuracy and integrity, the MakSPH team conducted rigorous endline survey operations, including training 136 research assistants and 10 supervisors and collected data in seven UDHS 2011 regions. This required mapping 63 enumeration

zones, listing households, sampling individuals, gaining authorization, and interviewing them using Open Data Kit (ODK) and thorough survey data analysis and report authoring to gain insights.

As a result of these efforts, MakSPH was honored with an award for the team's outstanding completion of the UKAID-funded RISE Program 2018 - 2025. This recognition underscores their dedication to enhancing reproductive health outcomes in Uganda through robust and successful implementation. In the same year, the MakSPH team was awarded a costed extension to produce two more publications and lead the national dissemination of RISE endline survey findings due to their expertise and impact. MakSPH's ability to effect meaningful change and inform reproductive health policy is reinforced by this extension. MakSPH continues to shape Uganda's reproductive health services to improve community well-being and access to family planning resources.



The Rise study team present the award to the Dean, Prof. Rhoda Wanyenze and the Head of Department Epidemiology and Biostatistics Dr. Joan Eron Mutyoba.



MakSPH Study Advances Registration of Births and Deaths in Uganda

In line with Sustainable Development Goal 16.9, MakSPH continues to lead the way in civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) in Uganda, recognizing its vital role in legal identification and access to rights and services for all citizens. The Registration of Persons Act (ROPA) of Uganda established the National Identification and Registration Authority (NIRA) in 2015, entrusting it with the crucial task of registering vital events such as births and deaths. Under the Uganda Reproductive Maternal and Child Health Services Improvement Project (URMCHIP), efforts were intensified to scale up birth and death registration across the country.

A dedicated team of researchers led by Dr. Simon Kasasa, Ass. Prof. Fredrick Makumbi, Dr. Joseph Akuze, Dr. Dan Kajungu, Dr. Doris Kwesiga, Mr. Julius Kiwanuka, and Mr. Phillip Wanduru conducted an analytical study to evaluate birth and death registration processes from June 2022 to November 2023. The team assessed data generation, transmission, reporting, and use utilizing mixed-methods data

collecting.

The study found that over a third of births were registered during the first month and 19.8% of deaths were registered on time in 2022. Despite these advances, upcountry health facilities face structural issues such as inadequate human resources and logistical gaps. Duplication of data collection and inadequate usage of ICD-11 for cause of death are also issues.

The survey found great opportunities for progress, with many development partners, government agencies, and the private sector supporting birth and death registration programs who

have demonstrated an interest to support birth and death registration in Uganda hence a need for NIRA to coordinate them. Harnessing these opportunities and addressing data quality and timeliness deficiencies requires stakeholder coordination, coordinated by NIRA.

Policy and practice will be informed by this analysis to improve civil registration in Uganda. Makerere University School of Public Health is committed to public health activities, and coordinated efforts and strategic interventions are needed to promote accurate, timely, and inclusive civil registration for all Ugandans.

The study team with stakeholders during the validation meeting at Esella Country Hotel, Kampala, March 2023.



NIHR, MakSPH Advance Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Prevention

The National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) Global Health Unit, based at Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine UK, collaborates with researchers from Africa, Asia, and the UK to tackle stillbirths and neonatal deaths in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. In Uganda, it partners with MakSPH

to fulfill its mission. With a focus on ending preventable stillbirths and newborn deaths, the unit aims to provide support to grieving parents and families while combating associated stigma.

With a clear focus on high-burden settings, the unit's objectives are ambitious yet

attainable. Through sustainable, cost-effective interventions and strengthened research capacity, the team seeks to make tangible improvements in maternity and newborn care. Additionally, the unit aims to provide comprehensive support to parents, families, and healthcare providers affected

by stillbirths and neonatal deaths, thus reducing associated stigma and fostering a supportive environment.

In 2023, the unit has made significant steps towards achieving its goals. Stakeholder engagements, including meetings with key healthcare providers and community leaders, have laid the groundwork for collaborative efforts and knowledge-sharing. These interactions have not only raised awareness about

The study team pose for group photo with the Principal Nursing Officer and the Head of Maternity ward at Kayunga Hospital.



the unit's research objectives but also garnered support for its implementation. The unit's commitment to capacity building is evident in its investment in training programs for midwives, nurses, and other healthcare professionals. By equipping local teams with the necessary skills and resources, the unit purposes to empower communities and drive sustainable change.

Validation of assessment tools and peer supporter training demonstrate the unit's commitment to evidence-based practice. These initiatives will illuminate the complicated issues of stillbirths and neonatal mortality, informing policy and practice.

In early 2024, the team focuses on conducting a Cluster Randomized Trial with funding from the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) and

hopes to bereavement care and support for women and families affected by stillbirths and neonatal losses.

The Makerere University-NIHR Global Health Unit collaboration offers communities affected by stillbirths and newborn mortality hope as the unit continues its pioneering work. Together, the teams are creating a future where every pregnancy and childbirth is safe and supported, leaving no family behind.

Pictorial from the stakeholder engagement meeting held at Kabira country club



MakSPH Tackling Alcohol Regulation in Africa through Research

MakSPH is working with the University of Stirling (UoS), the University of Malawi, the South Africa Medical Research Council, the University of Cape Town, and the University of Edinburgh on a research initiative. The Medical Research-funded study "Regulating alcohol packaging and supply to protect health in Sub-Saharan Africa: evidence from policy systems in Malawi and Uganda-RAPSSA" examines the complexity of alcohol regulation in the region.

The project sets out to unravel the adoption and formulation of bans on alcohol sachets and small plastic bottles/single-use containers (SUC) with a view of understanding the mechanisms put in place for implementation, enforcement practices, and stakeholder and public perceptions regarding the intended and unintended consequences of these bans. The study also endeavors to identify contextual factors crucial for the applicability of its findings to other Sub-Saharan countries, thereby informing alcohol policy development and implementation across the region.

In the course of 2023, substantial

progress has been made. The study protocol and research tools received ethical approval from the relevant boards and institutions, including the Uganda National Council for Science and Technology (UNCST). Key informant interviews and in-depth interviews were conducted to gain insights into stakeholders' perspectives on the alcohol sachet ban and the Gulu alcohol control ordinance.

Moreover, the team from

MakSPH participated in the Global Alcohol Conference of 2023 held in Cape Town, South Africa. At this event, they disseminated the study's preliminary findings to a diverse audience. Prof. Nazarius Tumwesigye and Ms. Namanda Cissie were among the presenters representing MakSPH, showcasing the initial strides made in understanding and addressing the intricate dynamics of alcohol regulation in Sub-Saharan Africa.



PARSSA study team members who attended GAPC 2023

Climate Change Health Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment for Uganda Conducted

MakSPH engaged stakeholders during the Validation of the Climate Change Health Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment (VAA) and Co-Design Workshop for the Health National Adaptation Plan (H-NAP) at Ridar Hotel - Seeta, Mukono, on November 21 and 22, 2023.



MakSPH presented the summary findings of the Climate Change Health Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment (VAA) during a workshop held on November 21st and 22nd, 2023 at Ridar Hotel in Mukono, Uganda. The comprehensive assessment, conducted in partnership with the Ministry of Health (MoH) and with support from the Rockefeller Foundation, aimed to inform the development of Uganda's Health National Adaptation Plan (H-NAP) in response to climate change challenges.

Uganda has been grappling with the impacts of climate change, evident in increasing rainfall, shifting precipitation patterns, prolonged droughts, and rising temperatures. These changes pose various health risks, both directly and indirectly, by altering environmental factors sensitive to climate. In response, the government enacted the Climate Change Act in 2021, reflecting its commitment to mitigating climate-related health risks.

At the Conference of Parties (COP26) in Glasgow, UK, held in December 2021, the Uganda Ministry of Health pledged to the United

Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to conduct a comprehensive national health climate change vulnerability and adaptation assessment. This commitment laid the foundation for the VAA, designed to assess health facilities' vulnerability to climate hazards such as floods, storms, droughts, heatwaves, and cold waves.

The workshop convened by MakSPH provided a platform to validate the findings of the VAA, crucial for informing the formulation of Uganda's Health

National Adaptation Plan. Using the World Health Organization's methodological approach, the assessment evaluated various dimensions, including the health workforce, water and sanitation facilities, energy infrastructure, and technology readiness in health facilities in Uganda. Findings from the assessment across 43 districts showed that almost half of the 726 health facilities surveyed faced drought vulnerability, with 39.7% exposed to floods, 31.1% to storms, 12.0% to rising water levels, and 11.7% to landslides.



Dr. John Bosco Isunju presenting findings to stakeholders at the workshop.

MakSPH Completes Surveys for Family Planning and Public Health Actions

In November 2018, the Reducing high fertility rates and improving sexual reproductive health outcomes (RISE) program kicked off to increase the uptake of modern contraceptive use in seven major regions of Uganda. With support from the UK Embassy in Uganda, the program was led by Marie Stopes International, together a consortium of six organizations, including MakSPH, Family Health International (FHI 360), Population Media Center, Reach A Hand Uganda (RAHU), Partners in Population Development African Region office (PPD ARO), and Options consultative services (OPTIONS).

MakSPH monitored and evaluated the project activities centered on providing high-quality services, strengthening the public sector, and enhancing awareness of family planning (FP) services

through social and behavioral communication change. MakSPH achieved considerable progress toward these goals in 2023. The team published two articles on Uganda's contraceptive uptake. One study examined fertility-age persons' uptake of contraceptive services, while the other examined socio-economic and education-related inequalities in modern contraceptive use across seven Ugandan subregions.

The team also completed endline surveys, an important part of program evaluation. This involved rigorous training of 136 research assistants and 10 supervisors to obtain reliable data. Seven Uganda Demographic and Health Survey (UDHS) 2011 regions

were considered. From mapping enumeration areas to sampling households and participants, the team systematically collected data using Open Data Kit (ODK). MakSPH conducted comprehensive data analysis and report writing to inform family planning and public health actions. MakSPH led reproductive health and social transformation in Uganda via their dedication.

Research assistants with their supervisor and guide in the Yumbe district during the process of mapping and listing the enumeration area.



WEBSA Project Launched to Address Alcohol And Substance Abuse

MakSPH in 2023 began the Web-Based Intervention for Alcohol and Substance Abuse (WEBSA) project, aimed at addressing the rising prevalence of Alcohol and Substance Use Disorder (ASUD) among university youth aged 18-24 in Uganda. Traditional face-to-face approaches have been insufficient in tackling this issue, prompting the need for innovative interventions. WEBSA seeks to revolutionize the approach by utilizing web-based platforms, offering a convenient, reliable, and cost-effective solution to prevent and treat ASUD among university students.

The project set out several objectives: first, to assess the prevalence of ASUD among the target demographic in selected universities; second, to develop a tailored web-based intervention for ASUD prevention and treatment; and third, to evaluate the feasibility and effectiveness of this intervention among university students.

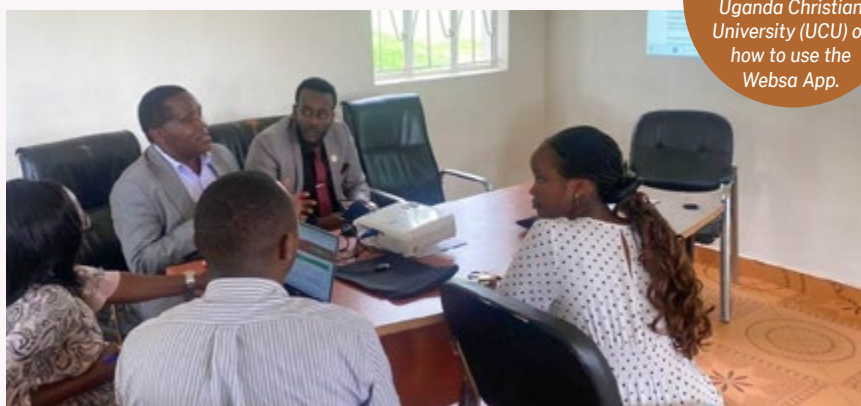
So far, a lot has been achieved including the development of a comprehensive study protocol and tools. Ethical clearance has been

obtained from the MakSPH ethics committee, with the submission to the Uganda National Council for Science and Technology (UNCST) currently underway. Planning meetings have been conducted extensively, alongside the assessment of the project's online app, websaonline.com.

Site visits to various universities have been conducted to introduce the project and seek collaboration. Training sessions for student mobilizers and research counselors have been held to facilitate the project's implementation. Research counselors have been recruited to provide online counseling services,

contributing to the comprehensive support system of the project. Acceptance letters have been secured from six universities, including Makerere University Business School (MUBS), Makerere University, Kyambogo University, Uganda Martyrs University, Ndejje University, and Uganda Christian University. With this, the project team hopes to successfully implement the WEBSA, a pioneering effort in harnessing digital solutions to combat ASUD and safeguard the health and well-being of university youths in Uganda.

The project team members training student leaders from Uganda Christian University (UCU) on how to use the Websa App.



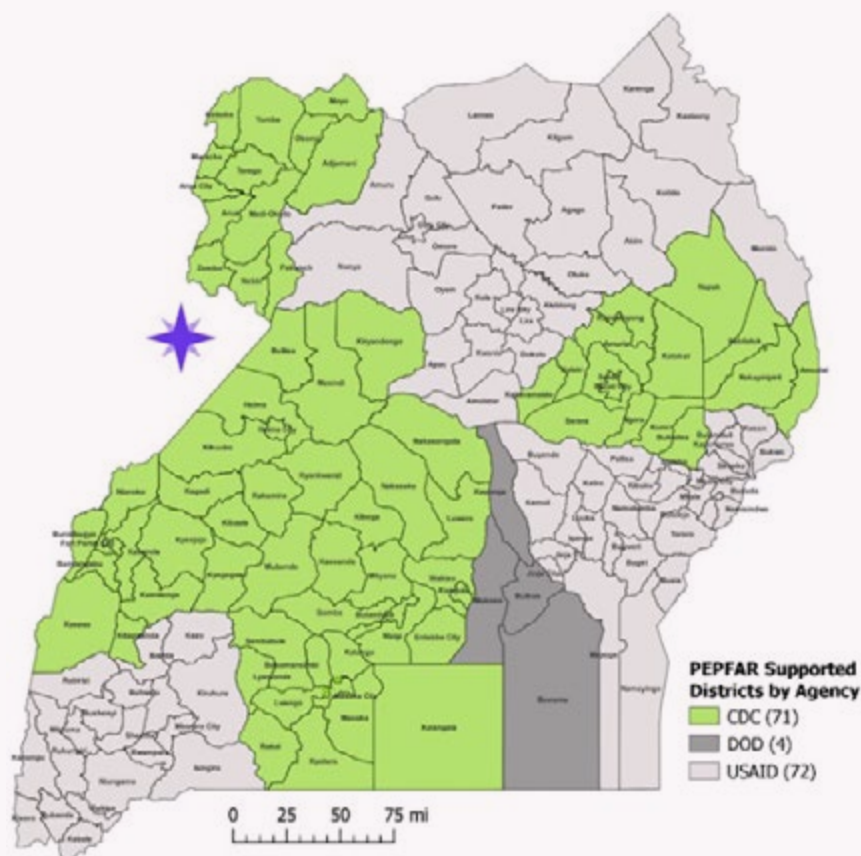
Transforming Healthcare in Uganda through Innovative Solutions

MakSPH is spearheading a transformative initiative through the Monitoring and Evaluation Technical Support (METS) Program, funded by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Running from 2020 to 2025, the METS program aims to bolster Uganda's healthcare system, particularly in HIV and TB programming, by enhancing Health Information Systems, Case-Based Surveillance, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Quality Improvement support.

The METS Program extends its support to various departments and divisions within the Ministry of Health (MoH), including the AIDS Control Program, Division of Health Information, Standards, Compliance, Accreditation and Patient Protection, National TB and Leprosy Program, Pharmacy, Information, Communication and Technology, and the national laboratory at Central Public Health Laboratory (CPHL). Moreover, it collaborates with all 71 CDC-supported districts and 10 Regional Referral Hospitals (RRHs), providing

additional assistance to implementing partners.

In 2023, many milestones have been achieved under the METS Program under the stewardship of Professor Rhoda Wanyenze, the Dean MakSPH and Principal Investigator.



METS Program Supports Hospitals with Health Management and Information Systems Tools

METS facilitated the coordination, printing, and distribution of approved COP HIV/TB priority HMIS tools, with mid-term reviews conducted to enhance their effectiveness and relevance. This included updating and integrating new programs, ensuring comprehensive coverage of relevant data elements. METS provided financial and technical support for this process, preparing the tools for pilot testing before nationwide implementation. Additionally, METS supported the rollout of revised standard operating procedures (SOPs) for HMIS report compilation.



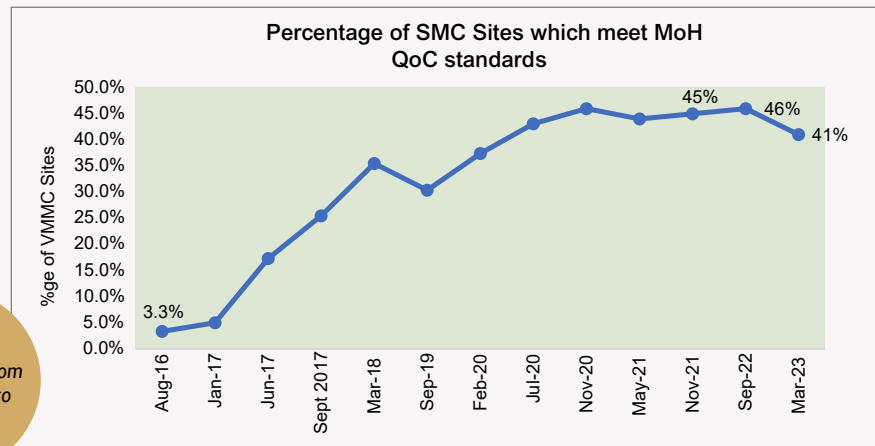
*Cross-referencing
HMIS tools allocated
to the RRHs*

METS Collaborates with Ministry of Health to Conduct Regular Data Quality Assessment



METS collaborates with the Ministry of Health (MOH) to conduct regular Data Quality Assessments (DQAs) ensuring accurate, complete, and timely reporting. These assessments cover various program areas including cervical cancer, Prevention of Mother-To-Child Transmission (PMTCT), recent infection surveillance, Gender Based Violence (GBV), key populations, Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP), DREAMS, Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC), and Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision (VMMC). In 2022, eight DQAs were

conducted, revealing improved data quality but persistent challenges such as under-reporting and over-reporting for specific indicators. METS continues to collaborate with district teams and partners to address these challenges through site-specific action plans.



SMC Performance from August 2016 to March 2023

METS Supports Generation & Dissemination of Routine National HIV & TB Reports With Support From PEPFAR

The program is instrumental in producing key national and PEPFAR reports, offering essential insights for Uganda's HIV response. Also, METS has enhanced the UgandaEMR system, introducing version 4.X with improved user interface and data exchange capabilities.

Collaborating quarterly with MoH and PEPFAR partners, METS generates crucial national HIV and TB reports, informing the country's response. Moreover, METS is driving efforts to ensure interoperability among

various health information systems, enabling seamless communication for patient care, laboratory services, and program management. Notable initiatives include facilitating information exchange between Community Retail Pharmacy Drug Distribution Points and Facility EMRs, supporting improved turnaround time for viral load test results transmission, integrating patient medical records and laboratory investigations

management systems, synchronizing patient demographics and identification data between UgandaEMR and the national client registry, enabling data sharing between UgandaEMR

and EAFYA systems used in outpatient clinics at Regional Referral Hospitals, and supporting MoH in establishing a centralized data source for streamlined storage, accessibility, and analysis.



In May 2023, representatives from CDC, JHPIEGO, and METS convened at the Ministry of Health to discuss data warehousing.

METS Expands HIV Recency Infection Surveillance in Uganda

METS plays a pivotal role in expanding HIV recency infection surveillance, highlighting 'hot spots,' and directing targeted public health interventions. This effort, alongside capacity building, policy development, and quality improvement initiatives, significantly enhances Uganda's healthcare landscape. Through strategic partnerships and innovative approaches, MakSPH-METS spearheads positive change, laying the groundwork for a more resilient and efficient healthcare

system in Uganda.

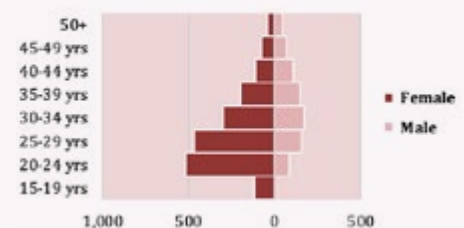
Over the past year, METS implemented recency HIV infection surveillance in approximately 1,104 facilities nationwide, identifying clusters of recent infections and informing public health responses, particularly among young females aged 15-29. Additionally, METS has increased

EMR coverage in ART implementing sites from 53% in 2021 to 78% in 2022, improving data management and patient outcomes. Utilizing a Progressive Model for health system capacity assessments, MakSPH-METS has enhanced Regional Referral Hospital capacity, contributing to efforts to end the HIV

and TB epidemic. Quality improvement initiatives, including a collaborative effort at 879 health facilities, resulted in significant improvements in TB treatment outcomes. METS also supported the development of key policies and standards, fostering improved policy guidance and coordination across sectors.



Recent HIV infections by age and gender

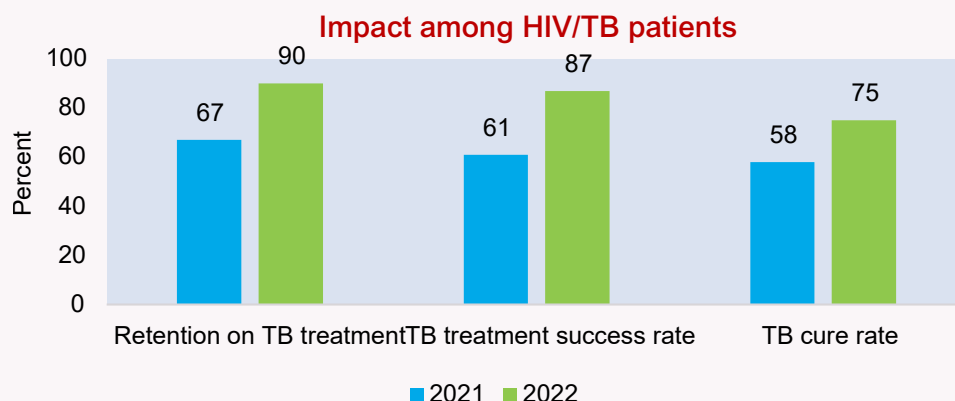


Hot spot mapping and a chart showing recent HIV infections by age and gender in the country

Paul Mbaka, a Statistician and M&E Specialist at MoH speaking during the handover ceremony of ICT equipment to MoH held at the Ministry of Health headquarters in April 2023. The ceremony was graced by representatives from the office of the Minister, CDC, USAID-SITES, and the media.



METS team with the Minister of Health, Hon. Dr. Jane Ruth Aceng, and the Mubende Woman MP during the End of Ebola declaration in January 2023



SIHI Uganda Advances Health Through Social Innovation



Innovators, facilitators, and the SIHI Uganda team in a group photo on the final day of the 4-day Capacity Building Training Workshop, November 23, 2023.

Under the leadership of Dr. Phyllis Awor, a Lecturer and Researcher in the Department of Community Health and Behavioural Sciences at MakSPH, the Social Innovation in Health Initiative (SIHI) Uganda embarked on a TDR funded gender and social innovation project, a special program for research and training in Tropical Diseases. The project's focus was to probe into the gendered aspects and dimensions of social innovations in health at the community level.

Engaging with seven social innovation health projects across Uganda, including initiatives like AWARE Uganda, Amani Family Center, and Bwindi Mothers Waiting Hostel, SIHI Uganda employed a mixed methods approach for data collection and analysis. This involved conducting 28 key informant interviews with project staff, 30 in-depth interviews with beneficiaries, and a cross-sectional survey involving 500 beneficiaries, all while adhering to strict ethical guidelines.

Also, in 2023, SIHI Uganda, through the "Uganda Social Innovation Health Program: Strengthening Capacity, Innovation, and Linkages of Community-Based Health Projects," funded by the Swedish Embassy in Uganda, launched two core program activities. Firstly, the second Capacity Building Fellowship Program commenced,

aiming to equip participants with various skills, including innovation, project planning, and management, entrepreneurship, monitoring, evaluation, and fundraising. The fellowship, conducted over six months, featured face-to-face workshops and continuous online support, engaging participants from 12 social innovation projects.

Secondly, SIHI Uganda initiated a small grant funding program to support existing community-based health innovation projects. This involved an internal funding call, attracting 16 applications from previously identified

social innovation projects across Uganda. These applications are currently under review by external reviewers.

The Social Innovation in Health Initiative (SIHI) is a network of partner institutions and a community of stakeholders established in 2014 through a partnership between TDR, the Bertha Centre for Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship at the University of Cape Town, the Skoll Centre at Oxford University, and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. As of today, Makerere University is one of the 30 partner institutions.

Dr. Phyllis Awor, SIHI Uganda PI, engages in pre-meeting discussions during the SIHI Global Meeting 2023, celebrating 10 years of Social Innovations in Health in Cape Town, South Africa, on November 7, 2023.



HIV Population Viral Load Data For Africa Disseminated in a MakSPH Seminar

MakSPH proudly hosted a seminar on “The epidemiology of HIV population viral load in 12 sub-Saharan African countries.” The seminar, held on Thursday, November 30th, 2023, was a great platform for sharing knowledge and fostering collaboration in the pursuit of ending the HIV epidemic. The event, moderated by Dr. Fredrick Makumbi, saw esteemed guest speaker Dr. Wolfgang Hladik, Branch Chief of Epidemiology and Surveillance at the Division of Global HIV and TB, CDC, Atlanta, shed light on this critical subject.

Dr. Hladik provided invaluable insights into the HIV viral load landscape in sub-Saharan Africa, drawing from the Population-based HIV Impact Assessment (PHIA) project. This

ongoing initiative conducts nationally representative surveys to measure progress toward UNAIDS’ 95-95-95 targets, pivotal in the global fight against HIV/AIDS.



Guest speaker Dr. Wolfgang Hladik in a group photo with the Makerere University School of Public Health staff and students shortly after delivering his lecture.

Empowering Evidence-Based Decision-Making with IEED Project

The Impact Evaluation for Evidence Based Decisions (IEED) project, a collaborative effort amongst academics and researchers affiliated to the Schools of Public Health and Statistics and Planning within Makerere University and policy makers in the sectors of health, education and agriculture is transforming decision-making by reinforcing Impact Evaluation (IE) capabilities in academic and government sectors. Through collaborative efforts with key stakeholders, IEED addresses capacity gaps and advocates for evidence-based policies. Various training programs equip researchers, academics, and officials with essential IE methodologies. Flagship IE projects are identified, stakeholder engagements conducted, and Evidence Gap Maps generated to prioritize research investments. Notably, nearly 100 trainers have been

trained, and over 200 individuals reached through short courses and webinars, showcasing IEED’s commitment to evidence-based policy development.



HSD Team during the Validation Meeting held at Hotel Africana on 26th October 2023.

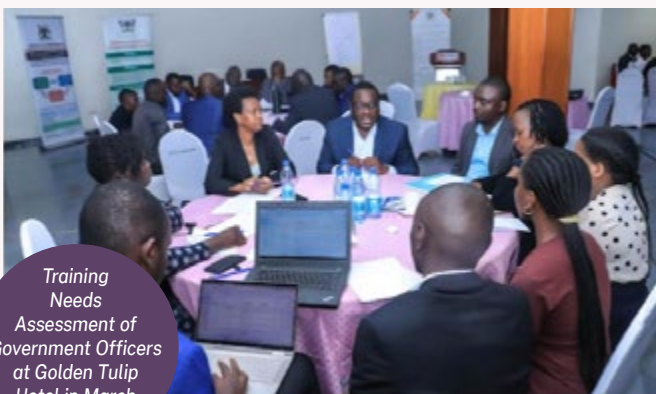
Led by Prof. Rhoda Wanyenze and Dr. Fredrick Makumbi from the School of Public Health, and Dr. Kizito Omala and Dr. John Bosco Asiimwe from the School of Statistics, IEED collaborates with policymakers in health, education, and agriculture sectors. Funded by The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the project aims to strengthen IE usage in policy decisions and program implementation.

In 2023, a Training Needs Assessment (TNA) involving 40 government officials identified specific IE needs, guiding the design of future training programs. IEED offered certificate courses like the IE Advanced and Applied Impact Evaluation (AIE) courses, attracting over 55 researchers. Through Training of Trainers (TOT), a network of skilled IE professionals is being built, contributing to evidence-based decision-making and sustainable development goals. Over 100 TOTs have been trained, marking a significant milestone in IEED’s journey.

IEED Advisory Board meeting the IEED Project team and members of the Advisory Board.



Training Needs Assessment of Government Officers at Golden Tulip Hotel in March 2023.





Group photo at the December 2023 Regional Partners' Meeting in Harare, Zimbabwe. Photo has PERSUADE partners from the 12 national universities and their Ministries of Health officials, Other African government officials, the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria and the MakSPH Secretariat staff.

PERSuADE Strengthens Data Utilization in Africa

MakSPH, along with 11 partner universities [University of Nairobi, Muhimbili University, Agostinho Neto University, University of Eswatini, National University of Lesotho, Eduardo Mondlane University, University of Antananarivo, Kinshasa School of Public Health, University of Malawi, University of Zambia, University of Zimbabwe] and Ministries of Health across Eastern and Southern Africa, spearheaded the Partnership to Enhance Technical Support for Analytical Capacity and Data Use (PERSuADE). This initiative, funded by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria, aimed to strengthen analytical capacity and data utilization in combating Tuberculosis, HIV, and Malaria.

In-service professionals and staff from academic and public health institutions from Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Lesotho, Eswatini, Malawi, and Zambia attending a training on HIV KP Surveillance, Health Information Management, and Analysis and Use for HIV Programs at the MakSPH in Kampala.

PERSuADE II built upon the success of its predecessor, starting with a design phase from August to December 2021 and implementation from March 2022 to December 2023. The focus was on enhancing analytical capacity and facilitating data-driven

decision-making in 12 countries. During the implementation phase, key objectives included skills transfer training for health workers, supporting National Programs with analytical outputs, managing a Community of Practice webinar, piloting a self-assessment Maturity Index Model tool, launching a capacity development program for HIV Key Populations, and conducting subnational capacity development workshops.

In 2023, supplementary activities aimed to amplify impact across the region. Notably, a self-assessment Maturity Index Model tool was piloted in five countries, while a week-long HIV Key Populations capacity

development program was conducted by MakSPH in seven countries. Subnational capacity development workshops were also held in eight countries.

Network members participated in capacity development training events organized by the Global Fund and the World Health Organization's Global Malaria Program. And convened for the annual Regional Partners meeting in Zimbabwe to assess progress and discuss sustainability strategies. Through these efforts, PERSuADE II not only strengthened analytical capabilities but also fostered collaboration and continuous learning among member countries in the ongoing fight against infectious diseases.



MakSPH Cluster on Pandemics selected under ARUA and The Guild initiative



Vice Chancellors of the ARUA and The Guild institutions following their meeting to select clusters of research excellence.

The MakSPH-led Africa-Europe Cluster of Research Excellence (CoRE) for Preparedness and Response to Pandemics and Shocks was selected as an African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA) and The Guild of European Research-Intensive Universities (The Guild) CoRE in June 2023. This followed a call for clusters of research excellence by ARUA and The Guild in January 2023. The vision of the CoRE for Preparedness and Response to Pandemics and Shocks is to generate evidence and innovations and strengthen capacities aimed at minimizing the devastating impact of pandemics and shocks worldwide. The Africa-Europe CoRE for Preparedness and Response to Pandemics and Shocks is led by the Makerere University School of Public Health in Uganda with the Université Catholique de Louvain Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED) in Belgium as Co-Lead. The ARUA partners of the CoRE are: the University of Cape Town, South Africa; the University of Cheikh Anta Diop, Senegal; and the University of Ibadan, Nigeria; while the University of Oslo, Norway is the Guild partner. The other partner institutions are Karolinska Institutet, Sweden and the University of Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo.

The CoRE builds on the successful work of the COVID-19 Assessment Project that was led

by MakSPH and implemented in five African countries. In 2023, the project continued to disseminate its research findings at different fora including at the World Bank Knowledge Series dubbed Health System Resilience in Action in April (online), the WHO Preparedness and Resilience for Emerging Threats (PRET) meeting in Geneva, Switzerland (April), Kofi Annan Leadership Fellowship programme in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (May), Brown University Pandemic Center launch in May (online), and the George Institute for Global Health Policy Roundtable in May (online). The project also disseminated its findings at the 5th Uganda

Health Communication Network Annual Scientific Conference in Kampala (July) and the 3rd International Conference on Public Health in Africa in Lusaka, Zambia (November).

The Africa-Europe Clusters of Research Excellence (CoRE) brings together distinguished researchers from universities and research institutes across both continents, from ARUA, The Guild and beyond the two networks to address key societal challenges. A total of 20 clusters of excellence were selected overall.

Dr. Rawlance Ndejo (Extreme left) discusses the project's work at a panel session at the 3rd International Conference on Public Health in Africa in Lusaka, Zambia.



Spotlight on R4S—Advancing Family Planning Research in 2023



MakSPH is proud to be part of the Research for Scalable Solutions (R4S) project, a five-year funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and led by FHI 360. This project aims to conduct implementation science research to enhance the efficiency, cost-effectiveness, and equity of family planning programs in Africa and Asia. The R4S project focuses on achieving three main results including expanding adoption and implementation of client-driven approaches in family planning programs; ensuring access to voluntary family planning through innovative channels like direct-to-consumer and self-care approaches; and enhance understanding of the cost-effectiveness and efficiency of scaling proven and promising high-impact practices (HIPs) in family planning to improve equitable access to high-quality voluntary family planning services, particularly for marginalized populations such as adolescents and the rural poor.

Working alongside partners like Evidence for Sustainable Human Development Systems in Africa (EVIHDAF), Population Services International (PSI), and Save the Children, MakSPH's R4S team

actively engaged in advancing family planning research and implementation throughout 2023. In January, the research team shared preliminary analysis findings during the ESC quarterly meeting, while February witnessed a dissemination meeting for PMA-Self-C findings. The month also saw MakSPH hosting a webinar on decolonization and collaboration. Subsequently, the Self-care Trailblazers Group (SCTG) Measurement Framework for Self-care under the self-care expert group in which MakSPH-R4S is a member. Validation meetings for FP-HIV integration study findings virtually held in March. In April, MakSPH-R4S team presented Uganda's journey to addressing inequities to the Global Equity Working Group, among other activities. Additionally, a joint dissemination of FP-HIV integration and Self-care Acceptability studies was conducted on 26th May 2023, followed by presentations to USAID-Washington and countrywide stakeholders. MakSPH R4S team also presented findings from the decolonization study to USAID-Tanzania and partners. The team participated FP2030 Anglophone Focal Points Workshop held from June 5th -8th June 2023, at Speke Resort Hotel, Kampala, Uganda, to

The R4S Highlight

MakSPH is secretariat to the Uganda's Family Planning Equity Steering Committee (ESC) established by the MoH in collaboration with partners in 2021. The ESC is chaired by the Director of Curative Services at MOH, Co-chaired by the UNFPA with multisectoral representation. It serves as a lead advocacy body to guide measurement and actions to address inequities for family planning in the country. It holds quarterly meetings for dissemination of research activity findings, accountability and advocacy.





discuss HIPs implementation challenges. R4S study team at MakSPH engaged in a panel discussion on equity during the Women Deliver Conference in Kigali between 17th-20th July.

The R4S study also showcased work research outputs during the celebrations for National Self-care Day on the 11th of August 2023 in the Dokolo district, during which the self-care acceptability study technical briefs were shared with the stakeholders. On the 22nd of August 2023, the MakSPH team presented to the Uganda Health Activity (UHA) team on the background and the activities done under the R4S project over the four years. This was done to generate discussions on collaboration and how R4S can feed into the UHA's work and apply some of the R4S studies' findings to the programming. MakSPH participated in the Self-care Learning and Discovery series, presenting findings and sharing Uganda's journey in developing self-care guidelines. Dr Charles Olaro participated in a panel discussion where he shared Uganda's journey of developing the Self-care guidelines and the Selfcare Measurement Framework.



MakSPH Leads Uganda's NCD Risk Factors Survey



MakSPH, in partnership with the Ministry of Health, embarked on data collection for the National Non-Communicable Diseases (NCD) Risk Factors Survey, funded by the World Health Organization. The primary objective of this survey was to gather current data on NCD risk factors in Uganda, a critical update since the last survey conducted in 2014.

Led by Principal Investigators Prof. David Yawe Guwatudde, Dr. Gerald Mutungi from the Ministry of Health, and Dr. Silver Bahendika from Nsambya Hospital, the survey categorized NCD risk factors into behavioral and physiological categories. These included dietary habits, physical inactivity, tobacco use, alcohol use, blood pressure levels, blood sugar levels, and body weight. Additionally, for the first time, researchers measured sodium concentration in participants' blood and urine to assess dietary sodium consumption.

Key findings revealed a mixed bag of results: while there was a slight improvement in some NCD risk factors like raised blood pressure and physical inactivity, others saw

an increase, such as raised blood sugar, alcohol use, and inadequate fruit and vegetable consumption. Prof. Guwatudde emphasized the importance of continued efforts to promote physical activity, especially in urban areas where unhealthy habits are on the rise and the importance of these surveys in evaluating the effectiveness of interventions and proposed the next survey to be conducted in 2027/2028.

The survey conducted between January and March 2023, with MakSPH playing a leading role as the implementing partner, providing technical support for its execution underscores the need for regular monitoring, prompting WHO's recommendation for conducting national NCD Risk Factor surveys.



Prof. David Guwatudde, the PI takes a photo with research assistants during one of the field visits in Kakumiro District, one of the districts in the study area.

Investigating Climate Change Impacts on Refugee and Host Communities in Northern Uganda

Makerere Team together with colleagues from other universities posing for a photo during the workshop held in Ardhhi University in Dar es Salaam.

The Makerere University School of Public Health is looking into how climate change affects refugee and host populations in the northern parts of Uganda. Professor Christopher Garimoi Orach is leading the study, alongside Prof. Deo Mwaka. This work started off in June 2023 to November 2024 with funding from USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance. The project is managed and coordinated with support from the Humanitarian



Assistance Technical Support initiative at the University of Arizona, the Center for Collaboration in Africa, and the PERIPERI-U secretariat at Stellenbosch University.

The principal objective of this research project is to investigate the perspectives of both refugee and host communities in the Adjumani and Lamwo districts of Northern Uganda with respect to climate change challenges, adaptation strategies, and mitigation measures. Through the identification of interconnected variables, the project endeavors to generate empirical data that may guide the formulation of policies and interventions designed to alleviate and accommodate the hazards of climate change. Following its inaugural meeting with key project partners in Dar es Salaam, the team is presently undergoing the necessary procedures to acquire clearance from the ethics committee in order to begin data collection.

MakSPH Study Reveals High Epilepsy Prevalence in Uganda

MakSPH in collaboration with the Ministry of Health (MoH) and Duke Global Neurosurgery and Neurology, conducted a study that reveal concerning findings regarding epilepsy prevalence in Uganda, underscoring the urgent need for heightened awareness and resource allocation to tackle this significant public health issue.

The study results shared during a dissemination workshop at the Golden Tulip Hotel in Kampala on April 5th, 2023, highlighted alarming statistics, indicating that approximately 80% of individuals with epilepsy reside in low and middle-income countries, with 75% lacking access to treatment due to stigma and fear of discrimination.

Lead Investigators of the study, Professor Anthony Fuller from the USA and Dr. Fredrick Edward Makumbi from MakSPH, the study shows that out of 35,056 individuals screened, 2,284 were found positive for epilepsy, resulting in a prevalence rate of 6.52% in the primary phase. Further validation through clinical tests

confirmed a final prevalence rate of 1.69%, equivalent to over 770,000 Ugandans living with epilepsy.

Regional disparities were also noted, with prevalence rates varying across different regions of Uganda. The Eastern region showed a higher prevalence rate in females compared to males, sparking considerations for specialized studies to investigate underlying factors contributing to this trend, as emphasized by Dr. Angelina Kakooza Mwesige, a Co-Principal

Investigator for Uganda and Senior Lecturer in Pediatric Neurology at Makerere University School of Medicine.

Dr. Fredrick E Makumbi highlighted the gap in community awareness regarding epilepsy treatment, pointing out specific age groups with higher prevalence rates. Researchers call for further studies and equitable action to offer support, and intervention for individuals affected by epilepsy in Uganda.



MakSPH Spearheads Gender Equality Landscaping in East African University Leadership

Gender disparities persist in higher education across East Africa despite ongoing interventions. While progress is evident, leadership roles remain predominantly occupied by men in the region.

MakSPH in collaboration with Higher Education Resource Services-East Africa (HERS-EA), and Makerere University Gender Mainstreaming Directorate (GMD), supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, conducted a landscaping in 30 universities in East Africa over 12 months (January–December 2023).

The study sought to examine women's academic program completion rates, staff engagement, and leadership in academia and research across East African universities. Additionally, it evaluated policies, procedures, and support services promoting gender equity and women's leadership while identifying drivers and barriers to gender equality in the region's higher education.

Utilizing a comprehensive approach, the investigation encompassed a scoping review of literature, a rapid online survey involving 207 women faculty members, and 75 key informant interviews with stakeholders in seven East African countries. Benchmarking against institutions in South Africa and the United States provided valuable insights for potential interventions.

The findings underscored a shortage of women in

senior positions, attributed to both personal challenges such as difficulties with work-life balance, socio-cultural demands and institutional barriers. Institutional challenges included policy gaps, favoritism towards male leaders, gender biases, toxic environments, and sexual harassment. Also, junior women faculty faced capacity development limitations, such as restricted local PhD training opportunities and age-related barriers to scholarships, hindering those balancing family responsibilities early in their careers.

Identified intervention areas span institutional policy, career development, and addressing socio-cultural norms. For instance, it was discovered that there were gaps in sector policies and accountability frameworks, good practices that are not institutionalized and gender equality policies that are not implemented.

Drawing from the findings, seven overarching intervention domains have been pinpointed: institutional policy and culture, policy implementation, pipeline interventions, career and socio-cultural initiatives, individual networking, institutional networking, and measurement and accountability.

To foster gender equality and strengthen women's engagement in university leadership roles, initiatives must integrate these domains using a catalytic, institutionally and nationally driven approach to ensure their relevance, ownership, and long-term viability.



Members of the project team discussing study findings and co-creating a robust and feasible program that will enhance gender equality and women's participation in university leadership in East Africa.

Advancing Women's Reproductive Health through the ICAN Project

The Innovations for Choice and Autonomy (ICAN) project, a five-year initiative running from November 2019 to November 2024, is focused on investigating the implementation and effects of self-injection (SI) of subcutaneous Depot medroxyprogesterone acetate (DMPA-SC) in empowering women's contraceptive decisions. This project centers on two key inquiries: firstly, how can SI of DMPA-SC be efficiently implemented to cater to women's preferences, using qualitative research and human-centered design methods? Secondly, can self-injection enhance contraceptive autonomy for women facing significant barriers, as assessed through the development of measures of contraceptive autonomy and a longitudinal cohort study.

The project registered notable achievements in the period spanning January 01 to June 31, 2023. A longitudinal observational cohort study, involving 2,422 women including both users and non-users of contraception, was conducted to evaluate the impact of self-injection. A total of 15 mentors were recruited per district (Mayuge and Oyam) and each mentor provided continuous one-on-one social support to at least 10 women over a period of 6 months. Also, a pilot implementation of a social support program aimed at bolstering women's contraceptive agency was executed, with comprehensive



ICAN Mentors, BACHII, UCSF & MakSPH team in Mayuge district during Mentors' training

evaluations to measure its effectiveness and implementation factors.

This research endeavors to enhance self-care options in family planning and mitigate access challenges, ultimately fostering improved contraceptive autonomy and informed decision-making among women.

The introduction of DMPA-SC self-injection presents a significant opportunity to enhance women's autonomy in family planning while addressing accessibility challenges. Under the umbrella of the ICAN project, efforts are underway to deepen our understanding and measurement of contraceptive autonomy.

Leading the charge are renowned experts in the field, with Assistant Professor Kelsey Holt and Associate Professor Jenny Liu from the University of California, San Francisco, USA, serving as Principal Investigators (PIs). Joining them are

esteemed Co-Principal Investigators (Co-PIs) including Dr. Peter Waiswa, Dr. Lynn Atuyambe, and Dr. Dinah Amongin from Makerere University, Uganda.

By bringing together this diverse and accomplished team, the ICAN project is poised to make meaningful advancements in advancing women's reproductive health and autonomy.



A woman self-injecting while demonstrating to fellow women in Oyam district



A woman self-injecting while demonstrating to fellow women in Oyam district

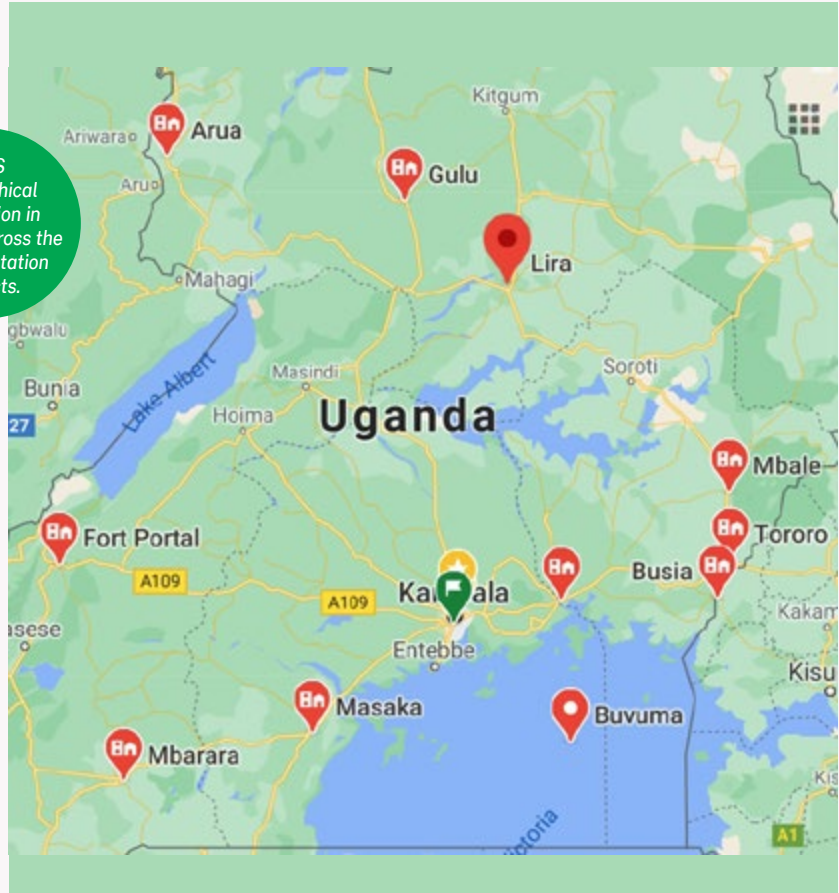
HIV Programming and Policy Impact Among Female Sex Workers in Uganda

In 2023, the Crane Survey project, collaborative effort involving MakSPH and partners with funding from the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), conducted a survey that covered 12 selected districts, including Jinja, Arua, Busia, and Kampala. This is part of the Crane Survey's Integrated Biobehavioral Surveillance (IBBS) conducted among Female Sex Workers (FSWs) in Uganda between 2021 and 2023.

To ensure survey quality, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) conducted study site activations to meet IBBS implementation standards. The survey aimed to inform HIV programming and policy by assessing HIV burden, sexually transmitted infections (STIs), service uptake, risk behaviors, and population sizes among FSWs. Respondent-Driven Sampling (RDS) methodology was predominantly employed, with 9691 respondents selected from FSW social networks, of which 7963 were eligible for the study. Questions spanned various themes such as demographics, sexual behavior, stigma, HIV characteristics, reproductive health, outreach, HIV prevalence, antiretroviral therapy (ART) characteristics, pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), substance use, mental health, and violence against children. Results, summarized in tables, provide comprehensive insights crucial for informing interventions targeting FSWs and advancing HIV prevention and treatment efforts in Uganda.

The prevalence of HIV among FSW was lowest in Busia district at 29% and highest in Mbarara district at 55%. We also observed that although HIV prevalence was highest in Mbarara and Masaka, we note that viral load suppression was also highest in the districts at 88% and 89% respectively. This is an important finding. Viral load suppression is one of the most important tools in the global fight against the HIV epidemic. Suppression improves quality of life, survival and significantly reduces transmissibility.

IBBS geographical distribution in Uganda across the implementation districts.



On the other hand, districts like Kampala, though have low HIV prevalence, the extremely low level of viral load suppression among FSWs requires urgent attention. Similarly, districts like Arua, Lira and the rest with viral load estimates far below the UNAIDS global targets require innovative strategies to improve treatment and viral load suppression among FSWs. Our study also revealed that human papillomavirus is prevalent with a very high burden reported among FSWs in Arua, Buvuma and Gulu. Increasing screening services for HPV and instituting measures to address the burden is critical given the role of HPV in the epidemiology of cervical cancer.

IBBS implementation Site activation monitoring visit by MakSPH study Principal Investigator Dr. Geoffrey Musinguzi and the CDC team prior to active data collection.



Electronic Health Services by Audio-Computer Assisted Self-Interview

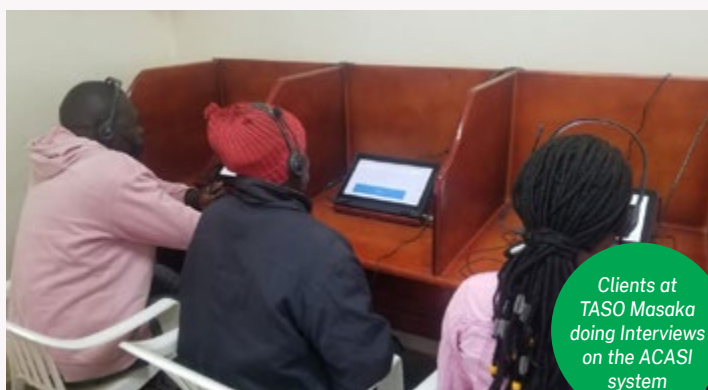
The Project, initiated by Makerere University School of Public Health in collaboration with CDC, DOD and USAID implementing partners, aims to scale up Electronic Health Services (eHES) by ACASI in Uganda since October 2019. The eHES utilizes the Audio-Computer Assisted Self-Interview (ACASI) method, nested within HIV Testing Services (HTS) points, to anonymously identify and counsel HIV-negative individuals, key and priority populations regarding their risk profiles. Supported by PEPFAR funding, the project operates in 27 sites across Uganda, including healthcare facilities such as Buwama HC III, Jinja Main prison, Kalangala HC IV, Kalisizo Hospital, Kassanda HC IV, Kityala Mini Max Prison, Kyazanga HC

IV, Kyenjojo Hospital, Lukaya HC III, Lyantonde Hospital, Mateete HC III, Mubende RR HOSPITAL, Murchison Bay Main Hospital, Mutukula HC III, Nakasongola DIC, TASO Masaka, TASO Soroti Clinic, UHRN-Makindye DIC, UHRN-Mutungo DIC, Wobulenzi DIC, Kasese HC III, Masindi Hospital, Kiryandongo Hospital, Kagote HC III, Oli HC IV, Kagadi Hospital, and Fort Portal RRH. Key activities included site assessments for feasibility, technical Assistance support, system upgrades, trainings& capacity building, and system deployment/activation. The objectives encompass routine data collection, classification of key populations, flagging indicators for interventions, profiling risk behaviors, and supporting HTS linkages and ART initiation.

Notably, 2023, out of 10,643

enrolled individuals, 10,277 completed interviews (97% completion rate). Among the enrolled individuals, 1,168 were key populations, including 942 Female Sex Workers, 126 People Who Inject Drugs (PWIDs). A total of 1,063 clients were identified as priority populations, such as Discordant Couples and clients of Sex Workers, among others. Furthermore, among the 948 negative key populations identified through the project, 48% initiated Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP), while 33% of HIV negative priority populations were offered and initiated PrEP. These statistics demonstrate the project's effectiveness in providing comprehensive HIV prevention and control services in Uganda.

Orientation training of Baylor staff and health workers from Bunyoro region on ACASI



Clients at TASO Masaka doing Interviews on the ACASI system

Addressing Legal and Structural Barriers to Key Population health Services in Uganda

Efforts to enhance access to services for Key Populations (KPs) are underway in Uganda, with a focus on tackling legal, policy, and structural impediments. A program spearheaded by the School of Law and the School of Public Health has been working to address these barriers, including stigma and discrimination, through stakeholder engagement.

Throughout 2023, engagement meetings were convened in five major cities across Uganda, including Kampala, Masaka, Kasese, Mbale, and Gulu. These sessions aimed to spotlight the

legal challenges faced by KPs, such as Female Sex Workers, Persons who Inject Drugs, and Persons with Disabilities, in accessing HIV/AIDS services. The discussions underscored the marginalization caused by discriminatory laws and emphasized the urgent need for tailored interventions to ensure equitable access to HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment services for these vulnerable populations.

The initiative seeks to propose innovative solutions to

combat health provider stigma and discrimination, while advocating for KP-appropriate services. By addressing these systemic barriers, the program aims to pave the way for more inclusive and effective HIV/AIDS interventions in Uganda.

Advocacy meetings were attended by stakeholders from government departments, ministries, agencies, and CSOs. Here are some of the participants from the police.



MakSPH, AWAC Uganda Organise Legal Awareness Day

In August 2023, a Legal Awareness Day was organized by the Makerere School of Law in collaboration with the School of Public Health and Alliance of Women Advocating for Change (AWAC). This event aimed to educate female sex workers, particularly those with disabilities, on their rights. The primary goal was to disseminate information to mitigate the spread of HIV among sex workers and those with disabilities, aligning with the broader objective of ending AIDS by 2030. The sessions during this day highlighted the human rights violations faced by sex workers, discussed preventing and responding to violence, and provided a platform for legal advice through a legal aid clinic conducted by the legal aid unit of PILAC.

The discussions during these activities identified several challenges, including the criminalization and stigmatization of drug users, sex workers, and prisoners, which hamper HIV

prevention and treatment efforts. Key suggestions from these dialogues included the need for legal reforms, particularly to decriminalize sex work, and continuous sensitization programs to change societal attitudes towards KPs. Moreover, strengthening collaborations between legal institutions and organizations like AWAC and advocating for

more inclusive and supportive environments for KPs were seen as essential steps forward. Through these activities, the goal was to pave the way for a more inclusive and supportive environment, emphasizing the importance of understanding and respecting the rights of KPs in the fight against HIV/AIDS and the quest for justice.



MakSPH Survey Assesses Tuberculosis, COVID-19, HIV in Ugandan Prisons

In 2023, a national survey was executed to determine the prevalence of latent and active tuberculosis, COVID-19, and HIV among inmates and staff in Uganda's prisons. The study aimed to generate evidence that would inform future health interventions within the prison system. The specific objectives achieved included estimating the prevalence of latent TB infection, determining the rates of active TB, documenting integrated respiratory screening outcomes and the burden of COVID-19, establishing the extent of past COVID-19 infections, ascertaining HIV prevalence, and assessing the achievements and gaps in the HIV programs relative to the UNAIDS 95-95-95 targets. The survey



successfully enrolled 6,025 participants from 37 prisons across all country regions. A series of sample tests were conducted, which included HIV, COVID-19, GeneXpert Ultra for TB, IGRA for latent TB, X-ray using CAD4TB score, and culture

with DST. This data collection was completed over a 45-day period, which commenced in the first week of June and concluded on July 25th, 2023. The report for this survey and dissemination are planned for Q2 of the year 2024

DHPI-R, WHO Africa Regional Office Partner to Develop a Global Research Agenda on Digital Payments for Campaign Health Workers in Sub-Saharan Africa



DHPI-R team together with Seth Garz a representative from BMGF during a project update meeting

The Digital Health Payment Initiative and Research in Africa (DHPI-R) project embarked on a pioneering journey, driven by a vision to improve healthcare worker payments digitally. Funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, this initiative aimed to shape the future landscape of healthcare in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) by harnessing the potential of digital payments.

Collaborating with the World Health Organization (WHO) digital finance team and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the project took proactive steps in developing a Global Research Agenda on digital payments tailored for unsalaried healthcare workers. This agenda, accurately crafted, aimed to identify key priorities that would inform and guide future investments in digital health payments across the continent.

With a mission rooted in generating evidence, the DHPI-R project focused its efforts on assessing the impact of digital payments on the quality and

coverage of vaccination campaigns across Africa. Recognizing the significance of this endeavor, the project laid out a comprehensive research agenda, across five areas: adoption and acceptance, financial inclusion and economic empowerment, efficiency and accountability, impact on health worker motivation and retention, and campaign effectiveness.

To ensure the research agenda resonated with the needs of the healthcare community in SSA, the project engaged stakeholders extensively, sourcing questions from existing knowledge gaps and stakeholder interactions. A meticulously curated survey/questionnaire garnered responses from 150 stakeholders carefully selected based on their roles in digital health payments, resulting in over 200 pertinent questions.

Efforts were tirelessly devoted to synthesizing and prioritizing these questions, recognizing their potential to shape the future trajectory of healthcare in the region. The project's commitment

to advancing knowledge was further underscored by its collaboration with WHO AFRO, culminating in the planning of a supplement comprising eight research papers and an editorial. Scheduled for publication in 2024, this supplement aimed to shed light on the contextual factors influencing the uptake and scale-up of digital payments for campaign health workers in SSA.

Collaborating with the World Health Organization (WHO) digital finance team and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, MakSPH undertook proactive steps in developing a Global Research Agenda on digital payments tailored for unsalaried healthcare workers.



Catalyzing Policy Improvement in Africa for Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health

Despite many improvements in maternal, newborn, sexual and reproductive health (MNSRH) in Sub-Saharan Africa, the overall progress remains low. Some of the reasons for this include inadequate investment and funding for health, fragmented healthcare systems, gaps in evidence-based policy and guidelines, policy acceptability, ownership, and weaknesses in policy dissemination and implementation.

In response to these challenges, the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada and the United Nations University International Institute of Global Health (UNU-IIGH) agreed to co-fund an 18-month (October 2022 - April 2024) multi-country programme of work a program

of work (Catalyzing Policy Improvement in Africa - CPIA) aimed at promoting MNSRH policy improvement and development in five countries: Uganda, Senegal, Burkina Faso, Tanzania, and Mozambique. It is hoped that CPIA will establish the basis for a broader and longer-term collaboration between IDRC and UNU-IIGH to strengthen the health systems research and policy ecosystems in low- and middle-income countries.

CPIA aims to promote and produce maternal, newborn, sexual and reproductive health policy improvement using an approach that is nationally led and considerate of the need to strengthen local research and policy making systems and institutions. It will also



Engagement meeting with MoH and development partners

aim to be positively synergistic with other externally driven initiatives and committed to prioritizing equity in terms of both processes and outcomes. CPIA adopts a context-specific approach and operates slightly differently in each country and is being led by the Makerere University School of Public Health in Uganda.

RMNCAH assessment findings will be used to understand the differences between selected well performing

and poorly performing districts in Uganda through a rapid formative study that will provide further insights towards improving implementation of RMNCAH Policies/ guidelines at facility level; collaboration between regional referral hospitals and district health facilities; coordination between RMNCAH policy makers, implementers and researchers; and partnerships between the Ministry of Health and RMNCAH partners.



Principal Investigator (PI) Prof. Charles Ibingira giving overview of CPIA during engagement meeting with Ministry of Health officials and development partners.



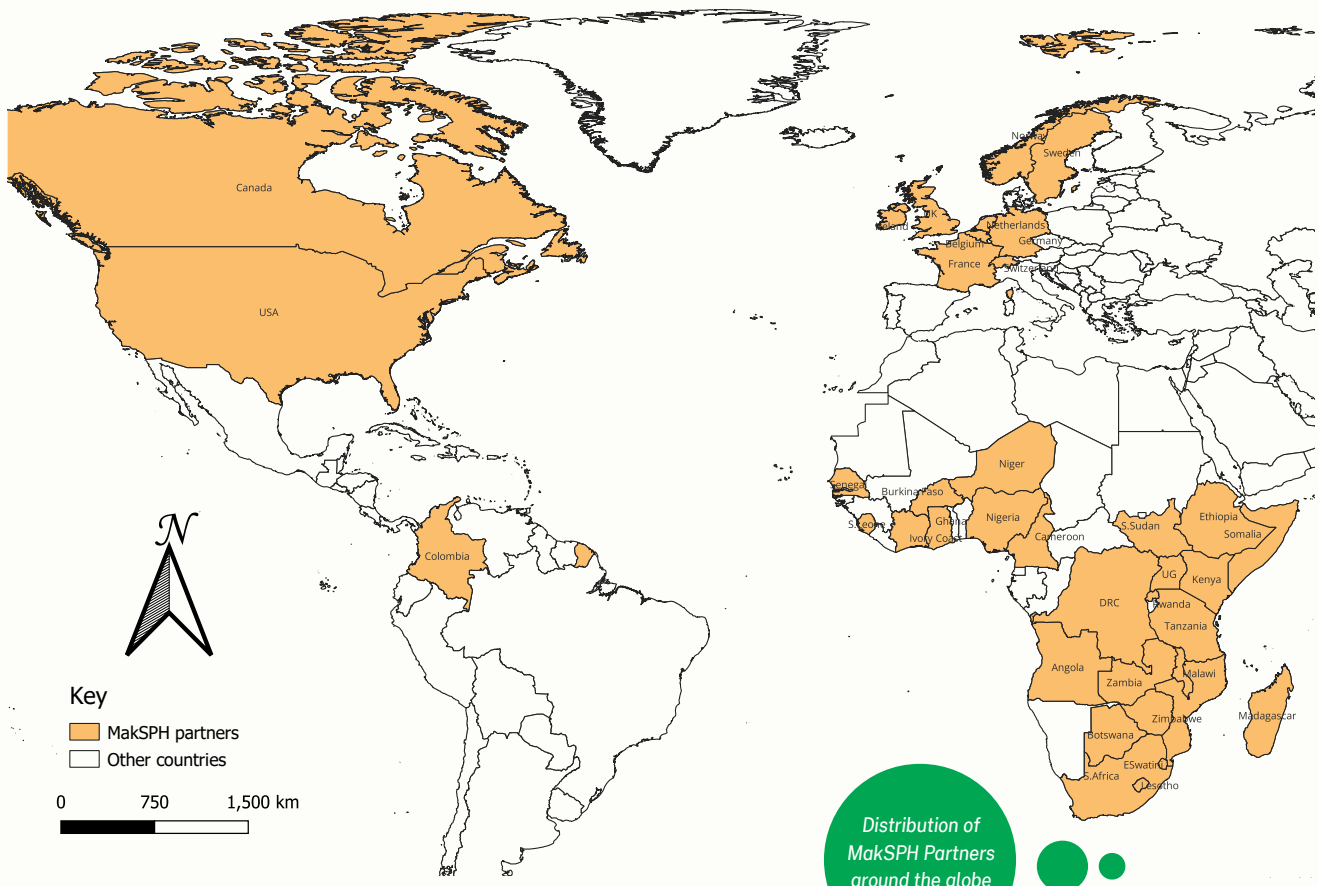


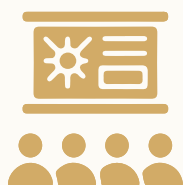
Partnerships

MakSPH makes a conscious effort to preserve, grow, and fortify its connections and collaborations in community service, research, and teaching. Partners have played a crucial role in the growth and influence of the School since its establishment in 1954. These initiatives have encompassed local, national, regional, and global contexts, and have contributed to expanding the School's collaborative research at both regional and international levels.

The School fosters partnerships with universities, research institutes, and NGOs to engage its PhD staff in research, service, and capacity building. It also coordinates regional projects within Africa and implements a field-based teaching model in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, district health services, and exchange programmes for students. To that purpose, MakSPH has maintained solid ties in more than 30 countries over the last decades

Distribution of MakSPH Partners around the globe





Some partnership highlights for 2023

The Partnership to Enhance Technical Support for Analytical Capacity and Data Use in Eastern & Southern Africa (PERSuADE)



Partners	Impact	Policy impact
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> University of Nairobi Muhimbili University Agostinho Neto University University of Eswatini National University of Lesotho Eduardo Mondlane University University of Antananarivo Kinshasa School of Public Health University of Malawi University of Zambia University of Zimbabwe Ministries of Health in Eastern and Southern Africa 	<p>Technical support and analytical capacity and data use in TB, HIV and Malaria.</p> <p>12 countries; 1500 program staff; including 934 at the subnational level with skills transfer in routine data analytics and use; over 80 analytical outputs using key MOH and global indicators for the 3 disease programs</p>	<p>Changes in National Strategic Plans in 7 countries; program strategies and operations in all 12 countries and change management of M&E function in 1 country.</p>

Innovations for Choice and Autonomy (ICAN)

Partners	Impact	Policy impact
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Centre for Disease Control (CDC) & Ministry of Health 	<p>5 cohorts completed the training program on Frontline Field Epidemiology Training Program (F-FETP), the Intermediate Field Epidemiology Training Program, the Advanced Field Epidemiology Training Program and the Global Laboratory Leadership Program (GLLP). 143 trainees were enrolled and 117 completed yielding a completion rate of 82% in 2023</p>	<p>Policy impact- Trained in service health workers on frontline field epidemiology to enable implementation of response in emergency disease outbreaks</p>



Innovations for Choice and Autonomy (ICAN)

Partners	Impact	Policy impact
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> University of California, San Francisco, USA Bill and Melinda Gates 	<p>Deeply understand contraceptive decision-making & women's experiences seeking, accessing and using contraception to understand for whom self-injection may benefit. 2,422 women screened (users and non-users of contraception- with Self -injection users)</p>	<p>The project has potential to help women improve on their self-care options in family planning and do away with access hurdles. Expand understanding and measurement of contraceptive autonomy and allow characterization and robust assessment of the association between self-injection use</p>

Electronic health services by ACASI

Partners	Impact	Policy impact
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CDC, DOD USAID 	<p>PaProject operates in 27 sites across Uganda, including healthcare facilities such as Buwama HC III, Jinja Main prison, Kalangala HC IV, Kalisizo Hospital, Kassanda HC IV, Kityala Mini Max Prison, Kyazanga HC IV, Kyenjojo Hospital, Lukaya HC III, Lyantonde Hospital, Mateete HC III, Mubende RR HOSPITAL, Murchison Bay Main Hospital, Mutukula HC III, Nakasongola DIC, TASO Masaka, TASO Soroti Clinic, UHRN-Makindye DIC, UHRN-Mutungo DIC, Wobulenzi DIC, Kasese HC III, Masindi Hospital, Kiryandongo Hospital, Kagote HC III, Oli HC IV, Kagadi Hospital, and Fort Portal RRH. Key activities included: site assessments for feasibility, technical assistance support, system upgrades, training & capacity building and system deployment/activation.</p>	



Awards received from partnerships

Professor Barnabas Nawangwe held productive collaboration meetings with counterparts at Nottingham Trent University, including Professors Cillian Ryan, Richard Emes, Mazeda Hossain, Neil Mansfield, and Linda Gibson, as well as Jonathan Conway and Chris Crabot.



Nottingham Trent University – Makerere University partnership

...winner of the Multi-Country Collaborations category for the Strengthening Antimicrobial Stewardship in Wakiso District project during the UK Antibiotic Guardian Awards 2023 (May 2023).



In 2020, Makerere University became the 4th strategic International Partner and only African University partner.



Vice Chancellor Prof Barnabas Nawangwe hosted a team from Nottingham Trent University led by Prof Neil Mansfield the Executive Dean of Research and International Reputation and former Head of Engineering at Nottingham Trent University.

Integrating CARTA Innovations in Graduate Research and Training at Makerere University



Makerere University, as a member of the Consortium for Advanced Research Training in Africa (CARTA) is looking forward to particularly integrate CARTA innovations into graduate research and training programs. Through the CARTA program, a lot has been achieved and already efforts in fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, mentorship, and networking among African researchers, aligning with Makerere University's vision of becoming a research-led institution are underway.

During the 6th Vice Chancellors and Head of Research Institutions Forum hosted by CARTA at the University of the Witwatersrand in September 2023, Makerere University Vice Chancellor Professor Barnabas Nawangwe acknowledged the incredible contributions of CARTA and its focal persons in advancing research and graduate training at Makerere University. Professor Edward Bbaale, the new Director of the Directorate of Research

and Graduate Training (DRGT), emphasized the position of CARTA initiatives with Makerere's mission and vision. He highlighted successful collaborations, including Training of Trainers workshops supported by the NORHED II Project on institutionalizing CARTA innovations (iCARTA).

Dr. John Bosco Isunju, a CARTA focal person, provided intuitions into CARTA's impact on producing high-quality African researchers and its unique graduate training model. Challenges such as the absence of a structured framework for the PhD by research program and funding gaps were identified, prompting discussions on adopting a cohort model for progress tracking and enhancing cross-cutting courses alignment.

The main goal of CARTA is to produce a critical mass of high-quality African researchers who can address the complex health and development challenges facing the

continent, which is done through a unique model of graduate training that integrates interdisciplinary and inter-institutional collaboration, mentorship, and networking.

According to Dr. Isunju, the CARTA Alumni at Makerere University are uniquely prolific and are making significant impacts on society; a number of them have won big grants, post-doctoral fellowships, and appointments to professional bodies. The graduates apply the CARTA pedagogy in teaching, supervising, and mentoring other students and staff. Some of the graduates and

In 2023, CARTA researchers showcased during the NORHED week at Makerere University and

the active participation of CARTA graduates in shaping postdoctoral research and training guidelines. Professor Barnabas Nawangwe emphasized the importance of African governments to invest in postgraduate training and create supportive research environments. Makerere University and CARTA are committed to advancing research excellence and capacity building in Africa.

Currently, ongoing institutionalization efforts through the iCARTA project include supporting local capacity enhancement via Training of Trainers workshops and organizing a CARTA Day for graduates to showcase research projects, expand outreach, and inspire other doctoral fellows through mentoring sessions.

CARTA hosted partner institutions' VCs and Research Heads to engage them in discussions toward enhanced synergies on Sept 13, 2023. Photo by CARTA



Karolinska-Makerere Partnership Building capacity and mobilizing actions for sustainable health



Prof. Annika Östman Wernerson, President Karolinska Institutet and the Vice President Prof. Martin Bergö hosted the CESH Working Group at KI Campus Solna, Sweden.

For over twenty years, Makerere University in Uganda and Karolinska Institutet in Sweden have forged a strong partnership, conducting various research and capacity-building initiatives. In 2020, they marked a milestone with the launch of the Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Health (CESH), enhancing their collaborative efforts and deepening their relationship.

To support ongoing development and collaboration within the Centre, Makerere University and Karolinska Institutet organized a series of activities, workshops, and meetings. Makerere University representatives visited Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm from August 30th to September 1st, 2023.

Karolinska Institute team was to visit Makerere University for cross-learning opportunities in early 2024 in a reciprocal arrangement to foster and strengthen collaboration within CESH.

The Centre brings together diverse expertise and perspectives to address the complex interplay between health, environment, and society. Its activities are carried out in collaboration with other partners, and span across different areas through core funding from both universities. The Centre fosters partnerships for sustainable health with key institutions like the University of Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Benadir University in Somalia,

University of Nairobi in Kenya, University of Malawi, University of Gondar in Ethiopia, and Tinkr, an innovation company in Norway.

In 2023 the Centre continued to deliver MISH and MIDWIZE training programs to public sector officials and managers in DRC, Somalia, Uganda, Kenya, Malawi and Ethiopia. New partners added in 2023 include Kampala Capital City Authority, Charité - Berlin University Medicine, and Global Sustainable Futures platform at Chalmers University of Technology and University of Gothenburg in Sweden.

The Centre has four research areas which capitalise on the collaboration between Karolinska Institutet and Makerere University. These research areas aim to improve health and well-being for all. They are Sexual and reproductive health and rights, Research on children and adolescents, Non-communicable Diseases (NCD), Climate change and health

The Centre hosts quarterly webinars to exchange innovative ideas and discuss sustainable health. These Global Conversation sessions feature guest speakers addressing global challenges and emphasizing the need for collaboration across sectors, connecting climate, environment, and advanced healthcare solutions.

Impact of the Centre

MIDWIZE program has improved maternal and child health, and contributed to higher satisfaction with care among women, and better medical outcomes.

SDGCap capacity-building program has united local and national stakeholders to focus on sustainable development and health. The program has contributed to positive changes through implementing cost-effective and innovative solutions, increasing gender equality, and promoting multisectoral collaboration

66 managers in the health sector of DR Congo, Somalia and Uganda have completed the leadership program in innovation for sustainable health (MISH)

4 tools for action have been developed and are increasingly being used across countries and settings. Users rate them as relevant and friendly to use

The Centre has contributed to important research results in children's health, sexual and reproductive health and rights, noncommunicable diseases, climate change and health

4



Institutional Capacity Enhancement

This pillar centers on our commitment to operational excellence, ensuring our capacity to deliver top-tier teaching, research, and community service, while proactively tackling operational challenges. We will prioritize human resources, resource mobilization, and infrastructure. Here are the highlights for 2023.





Human Resources

Higher education cannot function without human resources, which help academics and staff develop new abilities. MakSPH, a pioneer in public health education, supports NDPH by producing highly qualified personnel. We train skilled workers for the regional and international health sector. We maintain this through our robust, highly skilled and motivated staff.

In 2023, MakSPH experienced notable changes in our faculty and staff. We celebrate promotions, recognizing dedication to teaching, research, and service. We welcome you to our community and celebrate our staff members who have completed their studies and can contribute to our academic community. As we say goodbye, we thank retirees and those continuing on for their work and wish them well.

Promotions



Dr. Roy William Mayega

Promoted from Lecturer to **Senior Lecturer** position.



Ms. Irene Wanyana

Appointed new **Assistant Coordinator** for the Master of Health Informatics



Dr. Aloysius Ssenyonjo

Promoted to from Lecturer **Senior Lecturer**



Dr. Chrispus Mayora

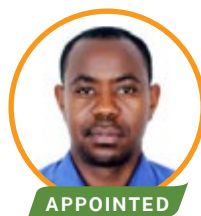
Promoted to from Assistant Lecturer to **Lecturer**



Dr. Elizabeth Ekirapa

Promoted from Senior Lecturer to **Associate Professor**

Appointments



Dr. Edward Buzigi

Appointed **Lecturer**, CHBS



Dr. Dathan Mirembe Byonanebye

completed his **PhD**

New Research Associates



Serubugo James, Nakibuuka Joan, Gichuhi Haron, Simon Kigozi Balwanaki Chris and Kusolo Ronald - Masters in Health Informatics (MHI)



Moving on



Ms. Hanifah N. Bukirwa, Administrative Assistant Department of Community Health and Behavioral Sciences (CH&BS) ended her tenure at MakSPH



Esther Nakasiko, Assistant IT Officer E-learning, End user Support MakSPH ended her tour of duty at MakSPH



Duncan Mugisha, an accountant at MakSPH from 2014 to 2023, transitioned to a new role at AFROHUN



Infrastructure

Progress on MakSPH New Building Construction and Phase 2 Commencement



The ongoing construction works of the new MakSPH building marks a significant step forward in our infrastructure development and our long-time desire to have sufficient space to support our teaching, learning and research environment. Lecture halls, state-of-the-art labs for innovation, environmental health, and other key areas, and specialized institutes like a sexual reproductive health center will make this modern infrastructure, a focus for academic excellence and scientific innovation. It will also have a library, auditorium, and offices.

The School of Public Health extends its gratitude to USAID American Schools and Hospitals Abroad (ASHA) for their generous contribution of USD One Million towards the construction project through the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health (BSPH) in Maryland, USA.

The expansion is a testament to the enduring partnership between JHU and MakSPH, aimed at fostering bi-directional learning and knowledge exchange between Ugandan and American scholars.

Key achievements have been registered from January to December 2023 particularly in the completion of Phase One and progress on Phase Two of the construction project.

The Breakdown Phase One



Phase one of the project included the completion and handover of the complete and fully fitted auditorium. Progress was made in preparation for the launch of the auditorium in March 2024.

Phase Two



On July 6, 2023, Makerere University handed over the site for the construction of Phase 2 of the new MakSPH building at the Makerere University Main Campus.



"We would like to thank you for the trust. We are going to deliver the quality you expect. The good thing we have the same team that will be executing the work and this means that we have a known working relationship and in terms of institutional memory we are also good. This should help us to coordinate the project progress faster. We don't expect any time overlap, 12 months is enough for the three floors, external works and it is definitely possible to finish in 12 months. As a matter of fact, if we finish earlier than the 12 months, then it is an advantage on our part in terms of costs of running the site and we are committed."

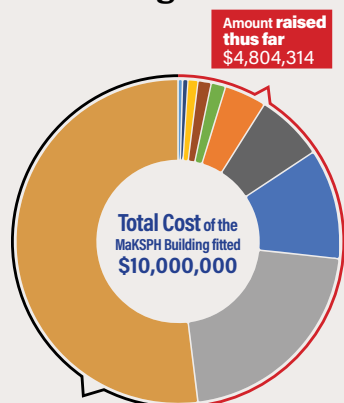


Mark Koehler

ROKO Construction Limited Chairman.



Fundraising effort thus far



Outstanding Deficit
\$5,195,686

Makerere University	\$675,000
ASHA grant from USAID	\$1,100,000
Nuffic through the SET-SRHR project	\$420,000
Rockefeller Foundation	\$100,000
MakSPH internally generated funds	\$2,133,822
MakSPH departments	\$144,972
MakSPH Staff community Contribution	\$46,043
Private Institutions/Companies	\$52,528
Other individuals	\$131,949

Progress so far

Third Level: Completion of masonry block work and plastering, enhancing both structural integrity and aesthetic appeal. Electrical fixes were also conducted in line with specifications.

Fourth Level: Milestones included formwork construction for columns, pouring of vibrated concrete, and commencement of block work.

Fifth Level: Activities focused on formwork, beam decking, steel fabrication, and casting of the slab.



“Congratulations Prof. Wanyenze and your team. The infrastructure expansion definitely lies at the Centre of the strategic focus of the University. We talk lately about being research-led but as well the strategic plan of the University that we are operationalizing now, requires that we continue creating an enabling environment for our activities, the smart labs, convergence facilities will definitely have to be in a building.”

Dr. Eria Hisali

Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor,
Finance and Administration



We extend our sincere gratitude to the Netherlands Government, the Rockefeller Foundation, USAID ASHA grant and our diverse network of Ugandan and international partners whose support has been instrumental in raising part of the \$10 million required for this project. The 8-storey office building measuring 12.614 square metres will provide the much-needed space for lecture and tutorial rooms, demonstration and innovation laboratories, auditoria as well as space for research fellows, doctoral students and postdoctoral trainees. We call upon more partners to support the completion of this project.



Finance & Resource Mobilisation

Optimizing Grants Management, Financial Excellence

The Makerere University School of Public Health (MakSPH) Finance Management Unit (FMU) was formed in 2012 and has continued to meet its desired objectives through the years with a very high level of expertise in Finance and Grants management. By maintaining a very strong internal control environment and a very high level of compliance, the unit has continued to register growth in the year 2023. The Unit currently has a team of 14 well-experienced and skilled personnel.



Head of Finance
 Ms. Elizabeth Nambi,
 the Internal Auditor witness
 the handover of office of Mr.
 Duncan Mugisha, an accountant
 at MakSPH from 2014 to 2023,
 who transitioned to a new
 role at AFROHUN to
 Ms. Lydia Itaaga.

Excellent Audit Reports - Due Diligence and Spot Checks

The FMU's success can be ascribed to its continuous dedication to maintaining a strong internal control environment while also assuring strict compliance with

regulatory requirements and donor criteria. A Consolidated Audit was conducted by Deloitte & Touché.

Additionally, the following project-specific audits were conducted; METS Project Audit, CDC Fellowship Grant Audit, KPSCO grant Audit, MISH Project Audit, SIDA Capacity Building Grant Audit.



Finance
 team led by
 CPA Elizabeth
 Nambi receive a newly
 developed grants
 management system
 from the developer.

Support and exchange Programs with other institutions

In August 2023, the FMU hosted a team of five grants and finance officers from the Kinshasa school of Public Health (KSPH) on a 3-day learning visit. The KSPH led by Dr. Joël Konde Nkiama Numbi, Deputy Director of KSPH highlighted that strengthening their finance management office is critical to attracting more research funding and further research development.

Because of the remarkable and outstanding unit with unique abilities, MakSPH's finance management unit has become a hub for benchmark and learning processes for finance and grants management in the region.

Also, two staff from the University of Ghana's Research Grants and Innovations Department joined MakSPH Finance in September 2023 as part of a staff exchange program. They exchanged notes on grants, resource mobilization, and technical issues on finances during this time. The delegation also visited Makerere University's Directorate of Research and



Professor Elizeus Rutebemberwa, the Deputy Dean, MakSPH speaking during one of the sessions with a team from KSPH.

Graduate Studies to examine graduate education and research practices.

As MakSPH looks to the future, the Finance Management Unit is well-positioned to maintain its reputation for financial competence, encouraging continuous growth and success in grant and financial resource management.



"These discussions hold great value for us as KSPH. The opportunity to learn from MakSPH is key to shaping our efforts towards sound finance and grants management practices for our externally funded projects. We are taking back home many lessons that we believe shall yield positive outcomes for our department"

Dr. Joël Konde Nkiama Numbi, Deputy Director, Kinshasa School of Public Health (KSPH)

Two Mak Staff Honored among Best Grants Administrators

Two members of the Finance Management Unit, Ms Stella Kakeeto (Grants Manager) and Ms. Edna Kalungi (Accountant) were recognized by the Society for Research Administrators International (SRAI) as promising leaders in research administration. This took place at the SRAI 2023 Annual Conference in October 14-18, in Seattle Washington. In addition, Ms. Stella Kakeeto was also awarded the Research Management Professional (RMP) designation by the International Professional Recognition Council (IPRC) based in Pretoria, South Africa. These recognitions are important acknowledgements of the teams' professional contributions not only to the FMU, but also to the field of research administration globally.



"I am eager to venture into pre-award management, enhance post-award processes, explore new funding opportunities, and contribute to research administration's advancement through innovation. My passion for this field keeps on growing,"

Ms. Edna Angelique Karungi, Grants Accountant, MakSPH



"I believe in the power of research to transform communities positively. It brings me great joy to contribute towards fostering an empowered research ecosystem"

Ms. Stella Kakeeto, Grants manager, MakSPH

MakSPH SACCO Records 279 Members in 7 Years of Growth

The Makerere University School of Public Health Cooperative Society Limited celebrates seven successful years of operation. It remains dedicated to empowering school staff to achieve their investment goals. Over time, the MakSPH SACCO has established itself as a dependable provider of financial solutions for small-scale investors, offering loans at favorable rates to support their aspirations.

The staff initiated the establishment of this SACCO due to the challenges faced by many, particularly those in lower cadres, who struggled to access bank loans. Traditional banking requirements such as collateral and bureaucratic procedures posed significant obstacles.

Since its inception, the MakSPH SACCO has experienced remarkable growth, now comprising 279 members as of December 31st, 2023. This diverse membership includes all subscribed staff of the Makerere University School of



Public Health, encompassing both government-employed personnel and project-based staff. Annually, the MakSPH Sacco convenes its mandated General Meeting, providing shareholders with vital

information for approval, electing board members, appointing auditors, and ensuring transactional accountability. The upcoming AGM is slated for May 31st, 2024.





MakSPH List of Academic Staff

Makerere University School of Public Health List of Staff

Department of Community Health and Behavioural Sciences (CHBS)			
S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION	
1	Dr. Christine Nalwadda Kayemba	Senior Lecturer	F
2	Dr. Christopher Garimoi Orach	Professor	M
3	Dr. Lynn Atuyambe	Associate Professor	M
4	Dr. Juliet Kiguli	Senior Lecturer	F
5	Dr. Simon Peter Sebina Kibira	Senior Lecturer	M
6	Dr. Justine Bukenya	Senior Lecturer	F
7	Dr. David Lubogo	Lecturer	M
8	Mr. Saul Kamukama	Assistant Lecturer	M
9	Dr. Dathan Mirembe Byonanebye	Lecturer	M
10	Dr. Phyllis Awor	Lecturer	F
11	Dr. Edward Buzigi	Lecturer	M
12	Dr. Elizabeth Nabweya	Lecturer	F
13	Dr. Kajura Richard	Research Associate	M
14	Dr. Arthur Bagonza	Research Associate	M
15	Ms Agnes Nyabigambo	Research Associate	F
16	Ms Florence Tushemerirwe	Research Associate	F
17	Mr Steven Kabwama	Research Associate	M
18	Ms Olivia Nakisita	Research Associate	F
19	Mr Andrew Tusubira	Research Associate	M
20	Ms Esther Amulen	Research Associate	F
21	Ms Christinah Nuwahereza	Research Associate	F
22	Ms Sandra Mwima	Research Associate	F
23	Ms Hajara Nakitende	Research Associate	F
24	Mr Michael Wagaba	Research Associate	M
25	Ms Pamela Kihembo	Research Associate	F
26	Mr Henry Komakech	Research Associate	M
Department of Disease Control and Environmental Health (DCEH)			
S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION	
1	Dr. Esther Buregyeya	Associate Professor	F
2	Dr. Rhoda Wanyenze	Professor	F
3	Dr. Juliet Babirye	Senior Lecturer	F
4	Dr. Fred Nuwaha	Professor	M
5	Dr. John Bosco Ddamulira	Lecturer	M
6	Mr. Ali Halage Abdullah	Assistant Lecturer	M
7	Ms. Ruth N. Mubeezi	Assistant Lecturer	F
8	Dr. David Musoke	Senior Lecturer	M
9	Dr. Richard Mugambe	Senior Lecturer	M
10	Dr. John Bosco Isunju	Lecturer	M

11	Dr. Adoke Yeka	Lecturer	M
12	Dr. Rawlance Ndejjo	Assistant Lecturer	M
13	Prof. David Serwadda	Professor	M
14	Dr. Agaba Marrianna Nyangire	Assistant Lecturer	F
15	Dr. John C. Ssempebwa	Associate Professor	M
16	Dr. Charles Ssemugabo	Research Associate	M
17	Mr. Jimmy Osuret	Research Associate	M
18	Ms. Winnie Kansiime	Research Associate	F
19	Ms. Edwinah Atusingize	Research Associate	F
20	Dr. Frederick Oporia	Research Associate	M
21	Mr. Solomon Wafula	Research Associate	M
22	Ms. Rebecca Nuwematsiko	Research Associate	F
23	Mr. James Muleme	Research Associate	M
24	Dr. Joseph Matovu	Research Associate	M
25	Dr. Violet Gwokyalya	Research Associate	F
26	Mr. Andrew Kayondo	Laboratory Technician	M
27	Mr. Michael Omodo	Laboratory Chief Technician	M

The Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics (EPIBIO)

S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION	
1	Dr. Joan Nankya Mutyoba	Senior Lecturer	F
2	Dr. Noah Kiwanuka	Associate Professor	M
3	Dr. Barbara Kirunda Tabusibwa	Lecturer	F
4	Dr. Roy William Mayega	Senior Lecturer	M
5	Dr. Edith Nakku Joloba	Senior Lecturer	F
6	Dr. David Guwatudde	Professor	M
7	Dr. Fred Makumbi	Associate Professor	M
8	Dr. Nazarius Mbona Tumwesigye	Professor	M
9	Dr. Simon Kasasa	Senior Lecturer	M
10	Dr. Victoria Nankabirwa	Lecturer	F
11	Dr. Aggrey Mukose	Lecturer	M
12	Dr. Joseph Kagaayi	Lecturer	M
13	Dr. John Ssenkusu	Lecturer	M
14	Ms. Juliana Namutundu	Assistant Lecturer	F
15	Ms. Irene Wanyana	Assistant Lecturer	F
16	Dr. Kiberu Vincent	Research Associate	M
17	Mr. Gichuhi Haron	Research Associate	M
18	Mr. Chris Balwanaki	Research Associate	M
19	Ms. Cissie Namanda	Research Associate	F
20	Ms. Nabukeera Sarah	Research Associate	F
21	Mr. James Serubugo	Research Associate	M
22	Mr. Julius Kiwanuka	Research Associate	M
23	Mr. Kusolo Ronald	Research Associate	M
24	Ms. Kaakyo Mary	Research Associate	F
25	Ms. Biribawa Claire	Research Associate	F
26	Ms. Joan Nakibuka	Research Associate	F
27	Dr. Simon Kigozi	Research Associate	M
28	Ms. Muhumuza Christine	Research Associate	F
29	Mr. Ronald Ssenyonga	Research Associate	M

30	Mr. Jonathan Kizito	Research Associate	M
31	Mr. Anthony Ssebagereka	Research Associate	M
32	Mr. Nathan Tumuhamy	Research Associate	M

Health Policy Planning and Management (HPPM)

S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION	
1	Dr. Suzanne Kiwanuka	Senior Lecturer	F
2	Dr. Elizabeth Ekirapa	Associate Professor	F
3	Dr. Freddie Ssengooba	Associate Professor	M
4	Dr. Elizeus Rutebemberwa	Professor	M
5	Dr. Mayora Chrispus	Lecturer	M
6	Dr. Peter Waiswa	Associate Professor	M
7	Dr. Ssenyonjo Aloysius	Lecturer	M
8	Dr. Dinah Amongin	Lecturer	F
9	Mr. Perez Ochanda	Assistant Lecturer	M
10	Ms. Angela Kisakye	Research Associate	F
11	Ms. Christine Aanyu	Research Associate	F
12	Ms. Martha Akulume	Research Associate	F
13	Mr. Noel Namuhani	Research Associate	M
14	Mr. Phillip Wanduru	Research Associate	M
15	Dr. Doris Kwesiga	Research Associate	F
16	Dr. Justine Namakula	Research Associate	F
17	Dr. Rornald Kananura	Research Associate	M
18	Dr. Juliet Aweko	Research Associate	F
19	Ms. Brenda Nakimuli	Research Associate	F
20	Mr. Aloysius Mutebi	Research Associate	M
21	Ms. Susan Babirye	Research Associate	F
22	Ms. Catherine Birabwa	Research Associate	F

Total faculty

Department	HPPM	CHBS	DCEH	EPIBIO	Male	Female	Totals
Professor	1	1	3	2	6	1	7
Associate Professor	3	1	2	2	6	2	8
Senior Lecturer	1	4	3	4	5	7	12
Lecturer	3	5	3	5	11	5	16
Assistant Lecturer	1	1	4	2	4	4	8
Research Associate	13	14	12	17	29	27	56
Lab Technicians	-	-	2	-	2	-	2
Overall Total Academic staff	22	26	29	32	63	48	109

Categorization by appointment

	University Appointed Faculty	School Appointed
Male	34	29
Female	19	27
Total	53	56



Publications

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