FROM RESEARCH TO IMPACT IN THE HUMANITARIAN SECTOR: LEARNING FROM R2HC CASE STUDIES

WEDNESDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2023, 2:00-3:30PM (BST)

About the speakers

PROFESSOR ALASTAIR AGER (PANEL CHAIR)
Emeritus Professor, Institute for Global Health and Development, Queen Margaret University; Adjunct Professor, Columbia University and R2HC Advisory Group member.

From 2017 to 2020 Prof Ager served as the Deputy Chief Scientific Adviser to the UK Department for International Development. He has worked as a consultant and researcher across sub-Saharan Africa, south Asia, the Middle-East, Europe and North America, with a broad range of agencies including UNICEF, UNHCR, WHO, Save the Children and World Vision. His research interests include the evaluation of humanitarian programming; health systems resilience in contexts of crisis; the engagement of local faith communities in humanitarian response; the adjustment and well-being of humanitarian workers; and health research capacity strengthening.

DR JUNAID RAZZAK MBBS PH.D. FACEP
Director of Research in the Department of Emergency Medicine at Weill Cornell Medicine and Director of the Center of Excellence for Trauma and Emergencies at the Aga Khan University.

Dr Razzak previously served as the founding Director of the Center for Global Emergency Care and Professor of Emergency Medicine at Johns Hopkins University. In addition, he has served as the Director of the World Health Organization Collaborating Center for Emergency Medicine and Trauma, chair of NIH’s Collaborative on Enhancing Emergency Care Research in LMICs (CLEER), and CEO of a non-profit health system in Karachi, Pakistan. Dr Razzak’s research has focused on the intersection of emergency care and public health. He has received numerous awards for his global health contribution, including the Presidential
Lifetime Achievement Award by the Global Emergency Medicine Academy. Dr Razzak did his MBBS from Aga Khan University in Pakistan, completed his residency in Emergency Medicine at Yale University, and Ph.D. in Public Health from Karolinska Institute.

Dr Seruwagi has over 15 years’ experience in policy and health systems; working with disadvantaged, vulnerable and/or marginalised (DVM) populations; Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child, Adolescent Health and Nutrition (RMNCAH+N). Dr Seruwagi is a behavioural scientist with graduate training in public health, working with stakeholders in the social and health sector. Dr Seruwagi has worked mostly on community-based programmes in humanitarian and development contexts within the Great Lakes Region; and on the design, implementation and evaluation of multiple interventions in Protection including SGBV/VAC/VAW, SRH including HIV/AIDS, MNCH, Nutrition, WASH, adolescents and youth, quality improvement and system strengthening. In addition to Uganda, Dr Seruwagi’s work has covered Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), South Sudan, Ethiopia, Malawi, Bangladesh and the UK. She is currently leading research uptake on the Population Council’s Baobab Research Programme Consortium (RPC) on SRHR in humanitarian settings.

Dr El Chammay is a psychiatrist and is the founder and head of Lebanon’s National Mental Health Programme which aims to reform the Mental Health System through a comprehensive Mental Health Strategy aligned with WHO recommendations and guidelines. Dr El Chammay has been working on global mental health, specifically refugee mental health and health system strengthening regionally and globally for more than 15 years on the regional and global level with various UN agencies, universities and
iNGOs. He is currently involved in several international research projects focusing on policy, service delivery, and developing and implementing mental health interventions. Recently he has been appointed the chairperson of the newly established Strategic and Technical Advisory Group on Mental Health, Substance Use and Brain Health by the World Health Organization. This group composed of around 20 experts is tasked to advise the WHO Director-General on matters relating to mental health, neurological disorders, substance use and addictive behaviours.

LAURA MILLER
Senior Technical Advisor, Health Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, and Learning (MEAL), Health Unit, International Rescue Committee (IRC)

Laura Miller’s team leads the development and use of standardised monitoring and evaluation tools, systems and processes, and supports high quality program evaluations and research. Previously Laura worked in various IRC positions providing technical assistance to health programs in Bangladesh, Liberia, Libya, Myanmar, Serbia, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Syria, Thailand, and Zimbabwe, and managing the health and Ebola response programs in Sierra Leone. She also previously worked for the New York City Department of Health and the International Women’s Health Coalition (IWHC).

ALIOCHA SALAGNAC
Global WASH Cluster Advocacy and Knowledge Management Specialist, UNICEF

Aliocha Salagnac has over 15 years of experience in advocacy, information, knowledge, coordination and project management in humanitarian and donor organizations including UNICEF, SDC and various INGOs (Save the Children, CRS, NCA). This includes over 8 years of cluster coordination and advocacy global and field work in WASH and Child Protection in Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Kenya, Somalia, Ukraine, Palestine, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Bangladesh, Thailand. Aliocha is a Swiss national, a happy young father and old school rapper, always trying to bring convincing ideas to life in English, French, Spanish, or German.