**Health Systems Flagship 2021– Presenters and Biography**

**Adanna Chukwuma** is a Senior Health Specialist at the World Bank Group, where she leads the health team in Armenia, implementation support for a primary health care reform project in Romania, and the COVID-19 vaccine procurement and deployment team in Moldova. She has led and supported the design, implementation, and evaluation of reforms to improve access to high-quality health care, through service delivery organization, strategic purchasing, revenue mobilization, and demand generation, in Sri Lanka, Sierra Leone, India, Moldova, Tajikistan, the South Caucasus Countries, and Romania. Adanna obtained a medical degree from the University of Nigeria, a Master of Science in Global Health from the University of Oxford, and a Doctor of Science in Health Systems from Harvard University.

**Ajay Tandon** is currently Lead Economist with the World Bank. He works on several countries including most recently on India, Indonesia, Bhutan, and Laos. He received a PhD in economics from Virginia Tech with a dissertation that focused on the intersection of macroeconomics and population dynamics. Previously, over 2004-2007, he worked with the research department of the Asian Development Bank in Manila where he worked on issues related to human development. He also worked with the Evidence and Information for Policy department of the World Health Organization in Geneva from 1998-2003, primarily on measurement challenges including those related to correcting biases in self-reported responses in household survey data and on health system performance. He has held visiting research appointments at both Oxford University and Harvard University. He has written several publications on the issues of statistical methodology, health systems efficiency, health financing, domestic resource mobilization, and universal health coverage. He is co-author of several books, including most recently of ‘Going Universal: How 24 Countries Are Implementing Universal Health Coverage from the Bottom-up’.

**Andrew Myburgh** is a senior economist in the International Finance Corporation (IFC), which is the private sector arm of the World Bank Group. Andrew’s work at the IFC focuses on how to better leverage the contribution of the private sector to health care systems in developing countries. Andrew focuses on regulatory reform, market development and the impact of IFC’s investments. He has over ten years’ experience advising leading private sector companies, as well as governments. He has worked in Latin America, Africa, and Europe. Andrew received a Master’s in Public Administration and International Development from Harvard University. He has a number of publications in this field including in the Journal of Law and Economics.

**Charles Dalton** is the Senior Health Specialist, International Finance Corporation. Charles has more than 30 years of operational and strategic management experience in public, private health services and health insurance settings. He has applied this knowledge in both emerging and developing markets around the world. His expertise and experience range from designing and evaluating investment opportunities in the private health sector through to "whole health system design" and operational implementation of policy/ strategy in the public sector. He has a practical understanding of challenges facing health systems in emerging markets and the opportunities presented for relevant and sustainable public-private collaboration as well as insight to the nuances of successful private health business growth in emerging markets.

**Christoph Kurowski** is the Global Lead for Health Financing at the World Bank Group. In this role, he directs knowledge initiatives to enhance the Bank’s support to country reforms and to inform the global policy debate on financing for health. Christoph has advised governments at all stages of development in the design and implementation of health financing and health system reforms. He has researched and written on health financing and system issues and contributed to global health initiatives, among others, the Commission on Macroeconomics and Health. Prior to his career in international finance and development, he gained hands-on experience in the delivery of health services working as a pediatrician for Doctors without Borders as well as at the Children’s Hospital of the University of Cologne/Germany.

**David Wilson** is a Program Director in the Health Nutrition and Population practice. He is Team Leader for the COVID-19 Fast Track Facility and the Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Fund. David has worked in approximately 65 countries on all continents. He has published over 100 scientific papers.

**Dhawal Jhamb** leads IFC’s Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Transaction Advisory Services in the health and education sectors for the East Asia and Pacific region. He is a physician and has an MBA from the Indian School of Business. Prior to joining IFC, he worked in private equity and for an outpatient surgery chain startup in India.

**Enis Barış** is a Senior Advisor in Global Health, with a wide range of experience over three decades as director, manager and technical expert in development and research with the World Bank, World Health Organization and the International Development Research Centre (Canada), in Europe, East Asia and the Pacific, Middle East and North Africa, Sub Saharan Africa and Latin America. He was also heavily involved in the governance structure of several global health initiatives, notably UN Interagency Coordination Group on Anti-Microbial Resistance, International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Diseases, and others. Enis holds a Ph.D. in Epidemiology and a M.Sc. in Public Health, both from the Université de Montréal, and a medical degree from Turkey. He is the author, co-author and editor of several books and publications on health policy, health systems, AMR, indoor air pollution and Tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS and Malaria.

**Federica Secci** is a senior health specialist in the Health, Nutrition and Population Global Practice of the World Bank. She joined the Bank as a Young Professional in 2013 and has supported and led operations and analytical work across different countries in Latin America, Europe and Central Asia, East Asia and South Asia, mainly related to primary health care strengthening and to COVID-19 emergency response. She leads the Primary Health Care Performance Initiative (PHCPI) at the World Bank, aimed at promoting better measurement of primary health care to support improvement in service delivery and quality of care. Prior to joining the Bank, she was a research fellow at Imperial College London, focusing on quality of care and behavior change related to infection prevention and control in hospitals. Her doctoral research was a comparative, qualitative analysis of the PHC reforms in Estonia and Lithuania, drawing from sociology and institutional theory.

**Dr. Feng Zhao** has more than 20 years of experience in public health, medicine, economics and demography at global, regional and country levels. He has extensively worked on health policy dialogues, technical work and operations particularly in Africa and Europe and Central Asia. As the World Bank Practice Manager, he oversees the Bank global health engagement program and is leading a strategy refreshing exercise for Bank’s Health, Population and Nutrition program. Before his current role, he served in different positions at the World Bank including Program Leader for the Bank’s Human Development programs for Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova. Task Manager for a number of African countries. From August 2009 to July 2011, he was based in World Bank’s Ethiopia country office, also serving as Chair of the Health Partner Group in Ethiopia. He also had experience to be the Health Manager at the African Development Bank, responsible for health operations in 54 African countries from 2011 to 2014. He holds a Ph.D. in population and health economics from the Johns Hopkins University, a Master of Public Health from University of California at Berkeley, a Medical Degree from China. He serves as a faculty member for a number of universities including as a faculty member for Harvard Finance Minister Executive Leadership Program.

Jeremy Veillard is a Senior Health Specialist in the Latin America and Caribbean Region of the Health, Nutrition and Population Global Practice at the World Bank. Jeremy is a former health care executive in Canada and France, with deep expertise in quality of care, service delivery performance and health systems research and analytics. Jeremy has a PhD in public health (health systems research) from the University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands and a masters in hospital administration from the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Santé Publique, France.

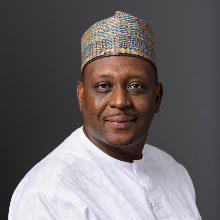
**Manuela Villar Uribe** is a Health Specialist of the Health Nutrition and Population Global Practice of the World Bank. Manuela currently works with the Primary Health Care Performance Initiative of the World Bank, supporting countries in their efforts to measure and improve their Primary Health Care systems. For over a decade, Manuela has worked across countries in Latin America, Africa and Asia supporting efforts to improve measurement, monitoring and evaluation of health systems. Manuela has a PhD in Health Systems from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, a Master in Public Health degree from Tulane University, in the United States and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology and International Development Studies from McGill University, Canada.

**Marwa Ramadan**, MD, PhD, MHS, MSc is a short-term consultant (STC) at the Health, Nutrition and Population Global Practice of the World Bank. Marwa supports the analytic activities of the Primary Health Care Performance Initiative (PHCPI) since September 2019. Prior to the Bank, Marwa worked as a researcher at the Centre for Humanitarian Health, Johns Hopkins University, an epidemiologist at Doctors Without Borders, and a physician and lecturer of Community medicine at Alexandria University, Egypt. Marwa is specialized in health risk assessment as well as monitoring and evaluation in emergencies and challenging settings. She is a medical doctor by training and holds a Ph.D. in International Health systems from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Unites States, with a thesis on disparities in primary health care services in conflict-affected fragile states, an MHS in Environmental Health Epidemiology from Johns Hopkins University, and an MSc in Occupational Medicine and Injury prevention, Alexandria University, Egypt.

**Mickey Chopra**, MD PhD MPH is currently the Global Solutions Lead for Service Delivery in the Health Nutrition and Population Global Practice of the World Bank. He leads its work around the organization, management, and quality of health services. Previous to this he was the Chief of Health and Associate Director of Programs at UNICEF’s New York Headquarters. Additionally, he has chaired the Evaluation and Research Group at the Global Fund for HIV/AIDS, TB, and Malaria to ensure that their investments are reaching those most in need and chaired the Special Committee for Large Countries for GAVI that worked on ensuring increased coverage of vaccines for Nigeria and India in particular. He led the technical team that oversaw the UN Commission on Essential Medicines and Commodities. Dr. Chopra is qualified as a medical doctor with an additional degree in medical sociology from the University of Southampton, England, MPH (Primary Health in Developing Countries) at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and a PhD from Faculty of Medicine, University of Uppsala in Sweden.

**Miriam Schneidman** has more than 40 years of experience working on health and human development issues in the Africa and Latin America regions of the World Bank. Up until recently she worked as a Lead Health Specialist in the Africa Region of The World Bank where she managed a portfolio of health, nutrition and population investment operations and analytical work. She has led the design and development of a wide range of health systems and communicable disease investment operations, and worked extensively on HIV/AIDS, family planning/reproductive health, and demographic issues early in her career, and most recently on non-communicable diseases, including cancer control. Schneidman represented the World Bank on the Stop TB Partnership Coordinating Board and on the Inter-Agency Task Force on NCDs. In the past she served as a member of the Global Task Force on Expanded Access to Cancer Care and Control and co-managed a knowledge exchange with the Lancet NCDI Poverty Commission.

**Muhammad Ali Pate** is the Global Director, Health, Nutrition and Population

(HNP) Global Practice of the World Bank and the Director of the Global Financing Facility for Women, Children and Adolescents (GFF), based in Washington DC. Dr. Pate was until recently the Chief Executive Officer of Big Win Philanthropy, based in the UK, and prior to that held several senior positions, including that of Minister of State for Health in the Federal Republic of Nigeria.  He was previously in the World Bank Group where he joined as a Young Professional in 2000 and worked on health issues in several regions including Africa and the East Asia and Pacific. Dr. Pate is an MD trained in both Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases, with an MBA from Duke University. Prior to this he studied at the University College London. He also has a master’s in health system management from the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, UK.

**Naomi Rupasinghe**, DrPH, MA is a Health Specialist with the Health Nutrition and Population Global Practice. She has over 10 years of experience on a wide range of topics including health system sustainability and financing, antimicrobial resistance, non-communicable disease prevention and management and early childhood development. She currently manages analytical and operational World Bank projects in the Europe and Central Asia region. Prior to the World Bank, Naomi was a Manager in the Health and International Development practice at Strategy&/Price Waterhouse Coopers, held research and teaching positions at Harvard University and led work on drug quality, as part of the Life Sciences team of The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. She was trained as a public health specialist at Harvard, Columbia and Oxford Universities.

**Nedim Jaganjac** (MD, MPH) is the Team Leader for the Global Flagship Program. Over more than 20 years in the Bank, he guided global initiatives in reforming delivery systems through innovative approaches to public health, mental health, immunization, HIV/AIDS and health systems approach. He pioneered health systems approach to policy dialog and capacity building as a member of health and multi-disciplinary teams in over 60 countries.

**Rialda Kovacevic** has been team of Health Nutrition and Population Global Practice since 2018. She has worked on various corporate initiatives, including the Health Systems Strengthening the Flagship Program, HNP’s Strategy Refresh and Primary Health Care, Mental Health Global Task Force, Access to Covid Tools Accelerator – Health Systems Connector, to name a few. She presented technical content to high-ranking officials at the Global, Regional, and Country level on the persuasion and behavior change as policy levers that can be leveraged using regulation, organizational structure, financing, and payment mechanisms to improve health outcomes. In addition to health systems, Rialda has an extensive background in medicine, public health, clinical as well as epidemiological research and data analysis. Rialda is a Doctor of Medicine; she obtained her degree from American International Medical University and Master of Public Health graduate degree from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Her primary areas of interest are preventative medicine, health care, and public health integration, along with mental and behavioral health in developing and developed countries.

**Ricardo Bitran** is a Senior Health Economist from Chile with over 35 years of experience as a policy advisor, researcher, and professor in Chile, the US, and over 40 developing countries. He holds an M.S. in Industrial Engineering from the University of Chile and an MBA in Finance and a Ph.D. in Health Economics from Boston University. He specializes in the development and evaluation of health sector financing reforms. Over the past 10 years Mr. Bitran has participated in various projects around the world involving priority setting in health. He is founding partner of Bitran y Asociados (B&A), an international consulting firm based in Santiago, specializing in health policy. Through B&A he has advised the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, the US Agency for International Development (USAID), the World Health Organization, the Global Fund, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and other development agencies. Previously he was Senior Scientist at Abt Associates Inc. in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where he worked for 10 years. He was Research Director of the USAID-financed Health Financing and Sustainability Project. He has taught health economics at the University of Chile’s Master’s in Public Policy Program and has been a member of the core faculty of the World Bank’s Flagship Program in Health System Strengthening since its inception. He is author of academic articles, book chapters, and research papers.

**Sameera Al Tuwaijri** is the Global Lead on Population and Development at the Health Nutrition and Population Global Practice of the World Bank. She is a board -certified OB/GYN with over 10 years of experience in clinical practice before she embarked on studying Public Health. She has a master’s in public health from Harvard University, a Ph.D. in health policy and a post-doctoral fellowship from Johns Hopkins. For over a decade now, she has been working on reproductive health and women empowerment. Prior to joining the World Bank in 2010, she was the regional adviser, RH policy for UNFPA, Arab States, the director of the ILO's program on Public Health and Safety and just returned from an external service assignment where she served as the first regional director, Arab States, UN Women.

**Sarah Alkenbrack** is a Senior Health Economist with the Health Nutrition and Population Global Practice at the World Bank, based in Washington, DC, and is Co-Lead for this year’s Health Systems Flagship course. She leads a program of work that examines the financing of priority programs within the context of universal health coverage, covering more than 30 countries. Sarah received her PhD (Public Health and Policy, with focus on Health Economics) in 2011 from London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and holds a Master of Public Health (International Health) degree from Boston University and a joint undergraduate degree in biology/geography from Queen’s University in Kingston, Ontario. She has more than 20 years of experience in health financing, working specifically on financing for universal health coverage and improving effectiveness of development assistance. Prior to joining the World Bank, she served as technical director of health finance/economics at Futures Group (now Palladium), implementing projects for USAID and the US Government’s President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). She has published several articles and reports on the financing of health in low- and lower-middle income countries.

**Soonman KWON, Ph.D,** is the President of the Korea Health Industry Development Institute (KHIDI), which allocates and manages government R&D funding for the health sector in south Korea. Prior to leading the KHIDI, Soonman was Professor and Dean of the School of Public Health, Seoul National University (SNU). He received the Academic Excellence award of Seoul National University in 2020. He has held visiting positions at the Harvard School of Public Health, London School of Economics, University of Toronto, University of Tokyo, Peking University, and University of Bremen. He was the Chief of the Health Sector Group in the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in 2016-2017. He is the president of the Korean Society of Health Policy and Management and has served as president of the Korean Health Economic Association, Korean Association of Schools of Public Health, and the Korean Gerontological Society. He holds PhD from the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania (1993) and taught at the University of Southern California School of Public Policy until 1996.

**Vincent Petit** is currently the global chief of Communication for Development (C4D) in UNICEF headquarters. He holds a Master’s degree in Socio-Economical Sciences and a PhD in Sociology.Social and Behavior Change expert with extensive experience in organizational strategy, partnerships and program management. Evidence-driven and innovative thinker interested in transforming society and institutions, linking local realities to policy discussions, enhancing efficiency and technical standards. Sweet tooth for conceptual thinking and problem solving. Worked across a range of 40 countries with diverse groups of people and stakeholders, in humanitarian and development contexts alike. Core skills on integrated programming, behavioral analysis, community engagement and bottom-up approaches, capacity development, research and use of evidence for strategy design and monitoring.

**Xiaohui Hou** is a Senior Economist in the World Bank. Joined as a Young Professional, she has since worked in Human Development department and Poverty Reduction and Economic Management department across the East Europe and Central Asia region, the South Asia region, and most recently the East Asia and Pacific region. She also spent a number of years in the World Bank Institute, the capacity building arm of the World Bank, focusing on face-to-face training and network development. Her fields include health economics, social safety net, labor economics and impact evaluation. She has published a dozen of papers in both economics and medical peer reviewed journals. She also teaches as a visiting scholar. A Peking University graduate, she obtained her Ph.D. in the Health Services and Policy Analysis and a Master’s degree in Economics from the University of California, Berkeley, and a Master’s degree in Health Policy and Administration from the Washington State University.

**Contributing authors:**

**Abdo Yazbeck** PhD currently works as an independent consultant and economic advisor supporting work by the World Health Organization, The Global Fund, The World Bank and USAID. He was a World Bank Lead Health Economist in the team working on the Middle East and North Africa. Earlier positions in the World Bank included managing the Bank's health programs in Europe and Central Asia and in Africa, and Program Leader for WBI's Health and AIDS Team. He spent 7 years in South Asia supporting health projects and enjoying wonderful food in Bangladesh, India, Maldives, and Sri Lanka. For 3 years before that he worked as a health economist in the private sector focusing on Africa, the Middle East and the former Soviet Union. Abdo was part of the WDR 93: Investing in Health Team and taught economics at Rice University and Texas A&M University. He is author/editor of five books, including "Better Health Systems for India's Poor," "Health Policy Research in South Asia," "Reaching the Poor with HNP Services", and “Attacking Inequality in the Health Sector”

**Christopher H. Herbst**, PhD, is a senior health specialist in the World Bank’s Health, Nutrition and Population Global Practice. He is currently based in Saudi Arabia, where he is leading the World Bank’s engagement in the health sector, providing support in the areas of noncommunicable diseases, health financing, human resources for health, and pharmaceutical systems, among other areas. Throughout his career at the World Bank, Christopher has worked in more than 25 low-, middle-, and high-income countries in Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. His research and publications focus on health systems strengthening and health workforce issues. He obtained his bachelor's from King’s College London (KCL), his master's from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), and his PhD from Lancaster University (LU).

**Thomas J. Bossert** (PhD) is a Senior Lecturer and the Director of the International Health Systems Program of the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health. He has many years of experience in international health in Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, Asia and Central and Eastern Europe. His specialties include health reform, decentralization, sustainability and implementation science, social capital, and human resources strategic planning and political feasibility analysis. His publications have appeared in Social Science and Medicine, Health Policy and Planning, WHO Bulletin, The Lancet among other journals and monographs. His pioneering work on sustainability of donor funded projects was published in Social Science and Medicine in 1990. His innovative “decision space” approach to decentralization has appeared in many peer reviewed journals and recently in an edited book on decentralization. His responsibilities have included providing technical assistance, conducting research and project management for contracts with various donors including USAID, DfID, World Bank, WHO and the Inter-American Development Bank. At Harvard, he teaches courses on health system reform and political economy of health systems and was the recipient of a Teaching Citation Award based on student evaluations for the academic year 2013-14. He also teaches in the Harvard/World Bank Flagship Course on Health System Strengthening in Washington and in various countries around the world. Dr. Bossert earned his A.B. from the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University and Ph.D. in political science from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He is fluent in Spanish and has a working knowledge of French.

**Zlatan Šabić,** Ph.D., Senior Public Information Systems Specialist. Prior to joining the Bank as a Senior Public Information Systems Specialist, Zlatan was Associate Professor at the School of Business and Economics at the University of Sarajevo, with more than 20 years of experience as both practitioner and scholar in strategic use of information technologies and planning of information systems development. Dr. Šabić is one of the South East Europe regional leaders in introducing the eGovernment concept within the context of public administration reforms (co-author of SEE eAgenda and eAgenda+, regional information society strategic development protocols), experienced in policy formation, strategic planning, but also managing the information systems implementation. He has an experience of consulting the World Bank in more than 20 countries in Europe, Central Asia, South Asia, East Asia, Middle East and Caribbean, for more than 15 years in supporting the preparation and implementation of health, social protection and education projects, additionally specialized in eHealth systems, social protection registries, and use of IT in education as well.