Faces of 2017

MOVING TOWARDS BETTER HEALTH FOR ALL
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Put your future in good hands — your own.

Don’t live down to expectations. Go out there and do something extraordinary.

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Welcome note from Dr Vivian Lin

Dear fellows and national professional officers,

I am very pleased to welcome you to the 2017 Global Health Learning Centre programme hosted by the WHO Regional Office for the Western-Pacific.

Over the years we have seen how this course has helped fellows build on their work experience to better understand and interpret global health issues and to contribute to forums of discussion nationally and internationally. The nature of the course helps you all to foster collaborative partnerships and networks, both professionally and through friendship across the region.

This year we are hosting exciting interactive sessions on a range of topics including health systems strengthening and quality improvement, health security and emergencies, food safety, non-communicable diseases, gender, equity and human rights mainstreaming, tobacco control and many more. It is also the first year that National Professional Officers from WHO Country Offices across the Western-Pacific are participating in the programme.

I look forward to welcoming you to the GHLC Alumni-Connect. I hope you embrace every opportunity of the GHLC with both hands and make the most of your time here in this beautiful country.

Wishing you all a productive and happy programme ahead.

Dr Vivian Lin
Dean, Global Health Learning Centre
CHEANG Kannitha

Ms Cheang has worked with the WHO Cambodia country office as a National Professional Officer (NPO) for Making Pregnancy Safer since 2007. Prior to this (1999 — 2007), she worked with a non governmental organization called the Reproductive and Child Health Alliance that works at the community and implementation level. During her 10 years with WHO, Ms Cheang Kannitha has supported the National Maternal and Child Health Center (NMCHC) of the Ministry of Health to ensure the incorporation of evidence-based recommendations and interventions.

To support implementation, Ms Cheang Kannitha manages two grants supporting maternal and newborn care services. She has provided support for monitoring and advocacy work. Ms Cheang Kannitha is actively involved in the Ministry of Health’s coordination/national committees and working groups, including working groups for maternal and child health, newborn and integrated management of child illness, the National Maternal Death Audit (MDA) Committee.
CHUON Vibol

Mr Chuon has been working as a technical officer in the Department of Drugs and Food, Ministry of Health, since 2012. His work involves a number of activities, particularly essential medicines and pharmacovigilance. He is also a part-time university lecturer on pharmaceutical sciences. He has a keen interest in working with local and international partners to enhance collaboration for pharmaceutical policy and global health.

Mr Chuon Vibol holds a Doctor of Pharmacy from the University of Health Sciences (Cambodia), Master of Arts in International Relations from Waseda University (Japan) and Master of Science in Nutrition from the National Institute of Public Health (Cambodia).

KEO Somony

Mr Keo is a clinical psychologist and has been working in the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse within the Cambodian Ministry of Health for four years. His responsibilities include assisting the Director in preparing health protocols and guidelines for mental health and substance abuse. He also monitors mental health and substance abuse services within Cambodia’s provinces.

Prior to the Ministry of Health, Mr Keo Somony worked at the University of Health Sciences nursing school for 19 years. He holds a Bachelor of Mental Health in Nursing, and a Master of Clinical Psychology and Trauma Treatment.
Mr Tong is a technical officer for data on road traffic accidents, injuries and administration in the Office of Disaster Management and Environmental Health, Preventive Medicine Department, Ministry of Health. He graduated from Asia Euro University (Cambodia) and has a background in information technology. He has been working in the health sector for two years.

Mr Tong Ratha is grateful for the opportunity to be part of the Global Health Learning Centre (GHLC) as the programme has helped improve his language skills and knowledge of global health issues. He hopes the experience with the GHLC will help improve his employment opportunities in the health-care sector. He aims to work on a project relating to the work of the Preventive Medicine Department and to share information about achievements and challenges of global health faced by the health sector.
CHEN Qi

Ms Chen graduated from Nanjing Medical University (China) with a master’s in occupational and environmental health. She is a public health physician of Jiangsu Provincial Center for Disease Control and Prevention. She is also one of the leading members of the National Environment and Health Epidemiology Project and National Human Biomonitoring Project in Jiangsu province.

Human respiratory and cardiovascular functions and how to evaluate individual exposure are among topics of her current research. Ms Chen appreciates being part of the GHLC 2017, which is a great opportunity to learn about the latest advances in public health and to have academic discussions with people from different countries as well as to contribute more in the area of public health.

LI Hongjun

Ms Li is a member of the Bureau of Inspection and Supervision of the National Health and Family Planning Commission of the People’s Republic of China. She is in charge of creating the design of a health supervision system that includes improving institution infrastructure and equipment, strengthening information systems and establishing random check mechanisms.

She is looking forward to discovering more about methods to strengthen the inspection and supervision procedures in the health field. Through the GHLC programme, she hopes to learn what is being done in other countries, their experiences, tools used and effects. She would also like to explore international cooperation in health supervision and conduct research that combines China’s national conditions under the guidance of a WHO mentor. Ms Li graduated from North China Coal Medical College with a master’s degree in medicine.
**PI Wandi**

Ms Pi joined the Chinese Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in July 2013. She assisted the project team to collect and analyse data to complete the report of China’s Health Strategy and she assisted the anti-drink-driving programme in Shenyang. She participated in organizing the epidemiology training programme in Nanning and Xian. She assisted the general analysis of cancer data in the Huai River Basin and helped write the technical manual of the health report of Chinese residents. She started working at the Division of African Affairs (Foreign Aid), Department of International Cooperation, National Health and Family Planning Commission in 2016. As a programme officer, she is responsible for the discussion on the protocol of the Chinese medical team with the ministers of health in African countries and for the bilateral communication and cooperation in health with African countries. She assisted in organizing the 9th Global Conference on Health Promotion in Shanghai and the China-Africa Ministerial Conference on Health Cooperation in Pretoria, South Africa. Ms Pi graduated from Peking University.

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**TIAN Na**

Ms Tian obtained a bachelor’s degree in nursing from Hunan Normal University School of Medicine and is currently studying for a master’s degree in internal medicine in Peking Union Medical College. Her primary areas of specialization include large-scale population studies, primary health care and health literacy promotion. In 2013, she was invited by the Clinical Trial Service Unit from the Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine of the Medical Sciences Division at Oxford University to join the Oxford-China Fellowship Programme and attend the two-week comprehensive training course on epidemiology and clinical trials. She also participated in the health literacy and Ophelia Masterclass in Deakin University in April 2017. Using the latest health literacy research and practices, this masterclass demonstrates how to develop fit-for-purpose interventions to reduce inequalities in health service access and engagement.
WANG Ning

Since 2004, Ms Wang has worked in the Tianjin Health and Family Planning Inspection Bureau. She is the deputy director of the drinking water hygiene inspection department that takes the lead in water and hygiene quality supervision and investigations. She also leads the implementation of health laws, regulations and standards relating to the prevention and control of infectious disease in health care, school sanitation and drinking-water safety. Her work also focuses on hygiene management of water treatment and delivery, quality of drinking-water-related products and health promotion activities to ensure safe water for the population. Ms Wang also serves as chief supervisor of Tianjin provincial school health. In this role, she conducts sanitation inspections to improve disease prevention, drinking-water safety and environmental hygiene in local schools.

XU Lin

Ms Xu is the Chief of the Institute for Tuberculosis (TB) Control and Prevention in the Yunnan Provincial Center for Diseases Control and Prevention (CDC) in China. She is responsible for the TB control project serving 43 million people across 129 counties of Yunnan province, and supervising TB control fieldwork of junior staff. Under local government support, she is trying to manage the establishment of a TB surveillance and reporting system and organize professional training for local clinical doctors and health workers from 15 prefectures and 129 counties. As the team leader, she is responsible for applying and carrying out TB operational research from a World Bank loan and local government funding.
ZHAO Yanhui

Ms Zhao is a programme officer at the Beijing Municipal Commission of Population and Family Planning. Her work aims to build a whole-process health-care system to protect people’s health throughout the life course. More specifically, her work focuses on developing relevant plans and policies, establishing indicators for health development, distributing medical resources and assessing health performance. As a government officer, Ms Zhao believes that she has a responsibility to make people healthier. The GHLC programme is like a window through which she can experience new visions of health improvement. It helps her keep up-to-date with the latest information and learn many new ideas about global health, health development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). She hopes to take what she has learnt back to China and work with other partners, under the frameworks of the United Nations and WHO, to participate actively in global health promotion, and to share Chinese experiences and friendship as well as providing assistance to other developing countries.

ZUO Shuyan

Mr Zuo graduated from Harbin Medical University and worked as an epidemiologist in the National Immunization Programme, Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention from 2001 to 2006. Since 2006 he has been working in the WHO country office in China as a National Professional Officer, responsible for coordinating and providing technical support for Expanded Programme on Immunization activities relevant to poliomyelitis, measles and vaccine safety and for strengthening the capacity of national regulatory authorities for vaccine and WHO vaccine prequalification.
PHIMMASANE Maniphet

Ms Phimmasane is a technical staff within the Department of Health Personnel at the Ministry of Health. She is responsible for research on human resources for health (HRH) and health personnel management. In addition, she also assists in the development of health workforce planning, and the implementation of a health staff and facility productivity assessment tool. Ms Phimmasane has previous work experience in many fields including maternal and child health, tuberculosis, epidemiology and research. Ms Phimmasane graduated as a medical doctor in 2007 from the University of Health Sciences (Lao People’s Democratic Republic) and received a Master of Public Health and Tropical Medicine in 2009 from Francophone Institute for Tropical Medicine (Lao People’s Democratic Republic). Her current interest is in how to improve health professional productivity. Ms Phimmasane believes the GHLC is an important programme to gain further knowledge and skills in global health work, to improve her work at the Ministry of Health.
THOCHONGLIACHI Douangkeo

Mr Thochongliachi is a National Professional Officer for the Tobacco Free Initiative in the Lao People’s Democratic Republic WHO country office. Since 2014, he has supported the government to implement the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC). He assists the government, especially the Ministry of Health, to develop tobacco control regulation, including smoke-free environment regulation.

In addition, Mr Thochongliachi is a focal person for noncommunicable diseases in the WHO country office. In particular he focuses on alcohol control, road safety, disability and rehabilitation. Mr Thochongliachi graduated from the University of the Philippines Los Baños, Laguna, in 2010.

SIHARSOUK Souwanhna

Mr Siharsouk has been working at the Welfare Division Department of Health Personnel at the Ministry of Health since 2010. During this time, Mr Siharsouk has been responsible for several management tasks including disseminating the annual reward certificate to health workers, adjusting the level of stipend and organizing health worker pensions.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts from the National University of Laos and a Bachelor of Business Administration from the Europe-Asia College.

Mr Siharsouk would like to express his appreciation and thanks to WHO for giving him a great opportunity to study and improve his English communication skills: “I promise that, when I return home I will share my new experience and knowledge with my colleagues and use my new skills gained from this programme to improve and develop my work.”
Seri Rukiah bt MOHAMAD FARID

Ms Seri Rukiah has been working as a food technology officer in the Food Safety and Quality Division of the Malaysian Ministry of Health since 2011. At present, she is serving in the Codex and International Section and has been extensively involved in the area of food safety at the national and international levels. She is the national secretariat for the ASEAN Consultative Committee on Standards and Quality-Product Working Group on Prepared Foodstuff. Ms Seri Rukiah’s role also includes the coordination of Malaysia’s bilateral engagements. She is also the lead auditor for Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) and the Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) certification.

Before joining the Ministry of Health, she worked as a quality assurance executive for three years with Malaysia’s food manufacturing companies. Ms Seri Rukiah hopes to gain knowledge and experience on food safety through the GHLC programme. She is also looking forward to meeting participants from various countries to exchange knowledge and experiences in global health, in particular food safety issues. Upon completion of the GHLC programme, she expects to be able to contribute more in national and international health-related forums and discussions. Ms Seri Rukiah holds a bachelor’s degree in food science and technology from MARA University of Technology, Malaysia.
Purevjav BAATARSUREN

Ms Baatarsuren works for the Mongolian Ministry of Health. She is working on the coordination and implementation of policy to prevent injury, violence, drug use, and the harmful use of alcohol. She has been working as an intensive care unit pediatrician and deputy director of a general hospital in Mongolia for 16 years. Dr Baatarsuren graduated from the National Medical University and the Public Administration Academy. She would like to express her deepest appreciation to the WHO Regional Office for the Western Pacific and the Mongolian Ministry of Health for giving her an opportunity to improve her English language skills and to enhance her knowledge on global health through the GHLC programme. She would like to implement what she learns with the other fellows when she returns to her job in Mongolia.

Oyungerel NANZAD

Ms Nanzad has been working at the Mongolian Ministry of Health since 2005 as an officer in charge of policy and planning issues, including health insurance, hospital care policy, hospital autonomy, medical care quality and safety. In particular, she has contributed to developing the State Health Policy Document, the Health Sector Strategic Master Plan, the Health Insurance Law and regulatory documents such as the Ministry’s orders and guidelines. She was previously employed by the National Center for Health Development from 1998 to 2005 as an officer, researcher and head of department, where she worked on health management training, public health and health economics research. Mrs Nanzad graduated from the National Medical University of Mongolia with a medical degree and a master’s in medical science in 1998. She completed an International Health Economics course at the University of York in the United Kingdom in 2002 and then obtained a Master of Public Health at Flinders University in Australia in 2011.
Fellows from the Philippines

Maricel CASTRO

Ms Castro is a technical officer for the Expanded Programme on Immunization at the WHO country office in the Philippines. She provides technical and programme support on policies, guidelines and strategies aiming to prevent, control and monitor vaccine-preventable diseases. She is the technical lead for the maintenance of the Philippines’ polio-free status and Maternal and Neonatal Tetanus Elimination (MNTE). She also provides support on strengthening vaccine-preventable disease surveillance systems and routine immunization service delivery, through a high-risk approach using the WHO Reaching Every Child platform. She also supports evidence-based decisions for the introduction of new vaccines and immunization technology. Ms Castro graduated from the University of the City of Manila with a bachelor’s degree in nursing and she is currently a Master of Public Health candidate at the University of the Philippines, Manila.

Karina DALUZ

Ms Daluz is a programme manager for food safety, under the Environmental and Occupational Health Cluster of the Local Health Support Division in the Department of Health, Philippines. She leads in conducting training for food safety among sanitation inspectors in Metro Manila. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Nutrition and Dietetics from the University of Santo Tomas and a Doctor of Medicine at the Far Eastern University - Nicanor Reyes Medical Foundation. She also took up a certificate course on Basic Occupational Medicine and hopes to pursue further studies regarding Occupational Health. Being a former clinician who underwent training for general surgery as well as in the field of obstetrics and gynaecology, her experiences have taught her to appreciate basic occupational health and safety.
Mary Ruth POLITICO

Ms Politico is a medical officer at the Department of Health within the Health Human Resource Development Bureau working under the Planning and Standards Division. As the assistant chief in her unit, she supervises the activities of human resources development and management teams and projects. She sees the relevance of the GHLC programme in her work especially in connecting policies and programmes with global health issues and trends and in aligning with international commitments. She expects this to be an enriching experience that will widen her perspectives on health systems, not only through knowledge sharing but also cultural exchange. Ms Politico obtained her Master in Public Management major in Health Systems and Development at the Development Academy of the Philippines. She graduated with a Doctor of Medicine from the University of the City of Manila and has a bachelor of science in nursing from the University of the Philippines.
Athena MATALAVEA

Ms Matalavea is the Senior Information Analyst for the Ministry of Health in Samoa. Her responsibilities include the collection, analysis and dissemination of health information for annual reporting, policy review and formulation as well as reporting on national indicators. By extension her role also involves providing assistance in initiatives aimed at improving health information systems in Samoa.

Ms Matalavea is a graduate from Victoria University of Wellington.
HOANG Khanh Chi

Ms Hoang has been working as a lecturer and researcher at the Department of Health Policy and Integration at Hanoi University of Public Health since 2003. Her great passion is sharing knowledge and skills with people who are going to serve the community and work in the health system. Ms Hoang has taught subjects including health policy, policy communication, global health, presentation skills and ethics for undergraduate and graduate students. She has developed and implemented public health interventions including the “Smoke-Free-Workplace” into various settings including schools, universities, workplaces and the community. She is also a member of the Viet Nam Task Force on Global Health at the Ministry of Health. She holds a Master of Public Health in health promotion from Mahidol University (Thailand) and a Doctor of Public Health from the University of Queensland (Australia). She has a Bachelor of Laws from Phuong Dong University (Viet Nam).

NGUYEN Ngoc Anh Tuan

Mr Nguyen is the deputy head of the Biomedical, Food Analysis and Health Service Department within the Pasteur Institute. He has worked in the Pasteur Institute in Ho Chi Minh City for 17 years. He is a medical doctor and studied public health in 2011 at the University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Ho Chi Minh City. Previous to the Pasteur Institute, Mr Nguyen was heavily involved in epidemiological health research and clinical trials. Mr Nguyen decided join the global health course to improve his skills and widen his knowledge of global health issues, especially in noncommunicable diseases and patient safety.
NGUYEN Phuong Hang

Ms Nguyen has been an environmental health researcher at the Center of Environmental Monitoring in the Viet Nam National Institute of Occupational and Environmental Health for nine years. Her main responsibility is as coordinator of the annual project Assessment of Hospital and Industrial Zones Environment. This project focuses on data processing, performance evaluation and report writing. Ms Hang is always eager to learn new practical and effective methods for her work. She expects that the GHLC will give her further knowledge and skills to help her current project as well as for other preventive activities for better health in Viet Nam. She graduated from Hanoi University of Industry with a chemical engineering degree in 2007 and a master’s degree in environmental science from Vietnam National University in 2017.

NGUYEN Phuong Nam

Mr Nguyen is a technical officer in the area of noncommunicable diseases, violence and injury prevention at the WHO country office in Viet Nam. Mr Nguyen coordinates injury prevention programmes in Viet Nam with a focus on road safety and the prevention of drowning and alcohol-related harm. In his role he provided support on the establishment of the first forum on drowning prevention in Viet Nam, which brought together government agencies and other key partners. He also provided technical support for the implementation of Viet Nam’s road safety programme between 2007 and 2016. Mr Nguyen holds undergraduate degrees in economics and English language and culture as well as a Master of Public Policy from the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore.
NGUYEN HUY Cuong

Mr Nguyen has been working in the field of preventive medicine within Viet Nam’s Ministry of Health since 2001, as a part of the Environmental Health Management Agency. He is currently the deputy head of the Community Health Division of Health Environmental Management Agency. He has participated in building health policies, regulations and guidelines on water quality and household latrines. Specifically, he has developed and compiled technical guidelines on sanitation. Mr Nguyen has published articles on hygiene. His interests include household sanitation, hygienic drinking water and climate change and health. He holds a Bachelor of Science in environmental sciences from Hanoi National University and graduated with a Master of Science in environment management from Vietnam National University in Hanoi in 2013.
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Building leaders for a healthier, brighter future

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