



## Ubuntu 2024 Workshop

### Title

Equity is Essential for Closing the Women's Health Gap and Improving Lives and Economies

### Facilitators:



Dr. Khalifa Elmusharaf, MBBS, PgCert, PgDip, FRSPH, FFPH, MRSTMH, IPMA®C, PhD, is an Associate Professor in Public Health and Director of Public Health Programme, University of Birmingham, Dubai Campus. Dr. Elmusharaf's research focuses on maternal health and economics of non-communicable diseases. He serves as an associate editor for academic journals, including the BMC Public Health, BMC Health Services Research, and International Health. He serves on the Board of Directors of WHTF and has been a member since he was a student.



Prof. Shakuntala Chhabra, MBBS, DGS, MD, Senior Obstetrician and Gynaecologist at Shree Vile Parle Kelwani Mandal Mumbai Hospital at Shirpur in Jalgaon of Western Maharashtra India, Ex Dean, OSD Melghat Center of MGIMS and ex-CEO Aakanksha Shishu Kalyan Kendra. KHS Sevagram Wardha

Maharashtra. Prof. Chhabra is a well known and experienced leader in women's health, she is one of the Founding members of WHTF, a WHO consultant and has published extensively.



Beverly Essue, MPH, PhD, is an Associate Professor of Global Health in the Institute of Health Policy, Management and Evaluation at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto. She has published well over 100 academic papers. She is a global health systems researcher and health economist who leads interdisciplinary research focused on strengthening financial risk protection, supporting effective and equitable priority setting and advancing equity, including gender equity, across global health systems.



Prof. Judy Lewis is an emeritus faculty in the Department of Public Health Sciences at the University of Connecticut School of Medicine. She has a long history of community-based education and program development locally and globally. She is currently working on women's health in Haiti and Afghanistan. She has received two major awards from the International Health Section of the American Public Health Association based on her academic and community work. Prof. Lewis is one of the original four founders of WHTF.

## Synopsis

Although there is substantial evidence of economic and social gains achieved by equality in health, women are still underrepresented in positions of power in health disciplines, including leadership in research, health care systems and delivery, health professions, education and research. Equity must be established in all domains. Investment in women, as highlighted in the World Economic Forum's 2024 report "Closing the Women's Health Gap: A \$1 Trillion Opportunity to Improve Lives and Economies", underscores the need for actionable interventions. 3.9 billion women would benefit from healthier lives based on improvements in the science, data, care delivery and investment for women. This would also improve global, national, and local economies. This workshop, led by experts

in women's health and policy, offers practical strategies to promote equity and bridge these gaps to improve women's health globally.

## Learning Outcomes

1. Generate innovative ideas for improving women’s health through collaborative brainstorming.
2. Analyze their local context to identify opportunities for impactful interventions.
3. Develop action plans for driving positive change in women's equity and health outcomes.

## Workshop Outline

Time	Activities
3 minutes	Welcome comments Ubuntu 2024 Moderator
3 minutes	Welcome Prof. Judy Lewis
10 minutes	1. Overview of Findings: The "Closing the Gap" report's key findings will be presented to participants, providing essential context for the discussion. Dr. Beverley Essue
15 minutes	2. Strategies: Facilitators will lead discussions on effective strategies for tackling the four root causes identified in the report. Dr. Khalifa Elmusharaf and Prof. Chhabra
15 minutes	Small Group Discussion 3. Brainstorming: Attendees will be divided into small groups to brainstorm innovative approaches to enhance women's health through science, data, care delivery, and investment, equity for women from delivery to policy. All four faculty
20 Minutes	Small Group Discussion 4. Case Study: Engaging case studies will be used to stimulate discussion and deepen understanding within the small groups. any research findings, gender inclusive, changes in all tiers of health systems. Equality is not enough, equity is essential—brainstorming will include equity for women in making policies, programs and service delivery. All four faculty
20 minutes	Small Group Discussion 5. Contextual Analysis: Each group will analyze their national/local context to identify opportunities for collaboration with policymakers, academics, and community members to effect change. All 4 faculty
25 minutes	6. Action Planning: The session will conclude with a prioritization of strategies derived from group discussions. Each group will leave with a personalized action plan tailored to their setting, ready for implementation. All four faculty

5 minutes	Wrap-Up by Dr. Elmusharaf
3 minutes	Closing comments Ubuntu 2024 Moderator